

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

### US Supreme Court Gene Patenting Decision a Positive for Benitec

**Key points:**

- **US Supreme Court found that synthetic DNA is patentable**
- **Benitec Biopharma's technology utilises synthetic DNA constructs**
- **US Supreme Court decision therefore is supportive of Benitec Biopharma's technology**

**Sydney, 14 June 2013.** Benitec Biopharma Limited (ASX:BLT) and its patent attorneys have reviewed the decision by US Supreme Court announced overnight on the issue of patenting of genes.

The Court concluded that a naturally occurring DNA segment is a product of nature and not patent eligible merely because it has been isolated. Synthetically produced DNA however is patent eligible. This decision therefore is not expected to have any adverse effects on Benitec Biopharma's commercial activities in the US or its US patent portfolio. The Court's affirmation that synthetically produced pieces of DNA are patentable supports Benitec Biopharma's patents and technology.

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**About Benitec Biopharma Limited:** Benitec Biopharma Limited is an ASX-listed biotechnology company (ASX Code: BLT) based in Sydney, Australia. The company has a pipeline of in-house and partnered therapeutic programs based on its patented gene-silencing technology, ddRNAi. Benitec is developing treatments for chronic and life-threatening human conditions such as hepatitis C, hepatitis B, wet age-related macular degeneration, cancer-associated pain, drug resistant lung cancer and oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophy based on this technology. In addition, Benitec has licensed ddRNAi technology to other biopharmaceutical companies who are progressing their programs towards the clinic for applications including HIV/AIDS, retinitis pigmentosa and Huntington's disease. For more information on Benitec refer to the Company's website at [www.benitec.com](http://www.benitec.com).