

30 March 2012

McKeon Review Secretariat  
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Dear Secretariat

**RE: Strategic Review of Health and Medical Research in Australia**

Thank you for asking The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (the College) to provide input into the above document.

The College has no specific comment to make in relation to questions raised but would like to make a number of points:

1. The College considers research is vital to the Australian community and that pathology and pathologists play an essential role in the majority of clinical research. Further, with the genetics revolution in medicine, pathologists are even more at the forefront of research.
2. There are difficulties in translating research into diagnostic practice and more support for this is required in this area.
3. Issues such as Tissue Banking and the retrieval of tissue kept by pathology laboratories needs to be addressed as tissue is vital to most major research projects being undertaken in Australia today. Better systems and retrieval for funding these activities are needed.

Yours sincerely



Dr Debra Graves  
**Chief Executive Officer**