Pathology AUSTRALIA

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## Media Release

# *Pathology supports changes to cervical screening*

Support for the Government's investment in a National Cancer screening register and a new test for cervical cancer which will benefit all women in Australia has been reiterated today by Pathology Australia.

Australia leads the world in cervical screening and the investment announced by the Minister for Health, Sussan Ley, regarding the changes to cervical screening for Australian women further cements this reputation and is another example of world best-quality healthcare in this country.

Pathology Australia Chief Executive Officer, Liesel Wett, said the announcement was a very positive outcome for women and would help to reduce the number of invasive procedures over a woman's lifetime.

"Not only are we leading the way in the early detection and treatment of cervical cancers, but also in the implementation of these changes to our health system," Ms Wett said.

Ms Wett said pathology was an essential medical service necessary to ensure a high-quality health system – and would continue to deliver for patients in the screening of women with new effective testing.

"The role that pathology plays in medical diagnoses is essential to treatment and care of patients, particularly in the early diagnosis of cancer. " Ms Wett said.

"Pathology Australia member laboratories are critical to the successful implementation of this program.

"The private pathology sector supports the changes to the National Cervical Screening Programme and looks forward to working with patients and their treating doctors to introduce the new, more-streamlined and less-invasive testing system.

"This has the potential to save many lives.

"Given the pathology sector's role in cervical screening, we are very much looking forward to working with the government to ensure a smooth transition to the new program."

*Pathology Australia is the peak body representing private pathology in Australia.*

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Representing private pathology in Australia