

Media Release

September 20, 2015

Pathology Australia welcomes confirmation Sussan Ley to remain Health Minister

Pathology Australia today welcomed the announcement by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull that the Hon Sussan Ley MP is to retain the portfolio of Minister for Health.

Pathology Australia Chief Executive Officer, Liesel Wett, said the confirmation provided continuity and stability for the pathology sector which in turn would ensure Australian consumers continued to receive world-class pathology services.

“Pathology Australia has enjoyed a consultative and productive relationship with the Minister and her office, as well as with the Department of Health, and we look forward to continuing and growing these relationships under the first Turnbull Ministry,” Ms Wett said.

“The Minister has always taken a very pragmatic and considered approach to the health sector and has balanced the needs of the nation’s budgetary constraints with the need to provide the best possible health care for all Australians.”

Ms Wett said the Minister recognised that pathology was an essential medical service which underpinned Australia’s high-quality health system.

“Some 70 per cent of medical diagnoses are based on pathology testing and 100 per cent of cancer diagnoses use pathology testing,” Ms Wett said.

“The private pathology sector has delivered enormous productivity gains over the past 15 year with the result that real pathology fees today are less than 50 per cent of pathology fees 15 years ago.

“These productivity gains align with the Government’s aims and they have enabled pathology to provide more, and better, testing to support our high-quality health care delivery.”

Ms Wett said Pathology Australia looked forward to continuing to work with the Minister and help her to achieve the goals of an efficient healthcare system while also improving the health outcomes of everyone in the community.

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

For further comment:
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