



## Release Note

### Pathology Industry – Environment Scan

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2009

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#### Overview

The National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) is collaboratively developing specific foundational services and e-health solutions to enable the secure exchange of reliable and meaningful information between health care professionals. These incorporate clinically endorsed specifications and supporting material. Once implemented they aim to improve operational efficiencies, population health outcomes and patient safety with respect to integrated identification protocols and the availability of reliable and accurate information in clinical systems.

The Environment Scan describes the current and foreseeable future state of the Australian Pathology industry. It specifically describes the various clinical business problems within the Pathology Request-Test-Report cycle, which may be solved using a national approach to e-health. The document includes recommendations for identified clinical business problems. Solutions designed to address these form the basis of NEHTA's e-Diagnostics program of work for July 2009 - June 2012.

NEHTA is pleased to publish the Environment Scan undertaken within the Pathology industry for your information.

#### Next Steps

It is NEHTA's intention to collaboratively work with stakeholders of the Pathology industry to investigate solutions to the clinical business problems which were identified during the execution of this Environment Scan. Our next steps include:

- Assessments of opportunities;
- Further examination of Pathology standards and relevant legislative policies;
- A further Environment Scan of the notification of Pathology Results to clinical registries; and
- Investigation of adoption incentives and support mechanisms to assist Pathology providers and requesters with their e-health journeys.

#### Feedback process

This Environment Scan was developed collaboratively with a range of pathology industry stakeholders and by attendance at pathology industry agenda-setting events. The document was reviewed by stakeholders to validate its content prior to it being published. However, should you have specific comments or concerns regarding this document, your feedback can be provided to:

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Or by email to [diagnostics@nehta.gov.au](mailto:diagnostics@nehta.gov.au)