

Policy

Subject: **Suspension or Withdrawal of Pathology Laboratory Accreditation**

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Review By: BPPQ

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All pathology laboratories should be accredited to international standards (*ISO 15189:2013 Medical laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence*) and their local supporting documents (such as National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council standards). In Australia, accreditation is jointly provided by the National Association of Testing Authorities and the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia, whilst in New Zealand accreditation is provided by the International Accreditation New Zealand.

Laboratories whose accreditation has been partially/fully suspended or withdrawn must address the very specific conditions that led to the suspension or withdrawal before reapplying for accreditation.

Such laboratories should immediately cease to perform tests for reasons of patient safety, including quality of the test results and possible medico-legal or legislative implications. Unaccredited laboratories should forward specimens to an accredited laboratory for testing and notify the requestor.

Laboratories where accreditation has been partially/fully suspended or withdrawn must not use accreditation logos or endorsement certificates. Laboratories with partial suspension or partial withdrawal are only permitted to use the logos or certificates in relation to work covered by accreditation.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with College Guidelines
[Pathology Testing Outside the Normal Request-Test-Report Cycle](#)