

Research Governance

Our responses to your questions

Date: February 2019

Thank you for your feedback during our meetings to discuss research governance in NSW Health Pathology. Below is a summary of our responses to the key questions raised during our discussions with Local Health Districts' Human Research Ethics Committees.

<p>How will services for non-NSW Health Pathology researchers be provided?</p> <p>Will there be service Level Agreements (SLAs)?</p>	<p>NSW Health Pathology defines services for non-NSW Health Pathology researchers as research activity where there is no NSW Health Pathology employee involved as an investigator in the research project. In these situations, NSW Health Pathology will provide the service under a Service Level Agreement (SLA).</p> <p>NSW Health Pathology is working towards developing an overarching agreement similar to a Charter of Services, which will link to the SLA. We will be in touch in the coming months to notify you of developments in your area.</p> <p>Similar to arrangements for services from private pathology providers, NSW Health Pathology's SLAs should be able to replace 'Supporting Department' sign-off.</p>
<p>How will service agreements be handled in REGIS?</p>	<p>REGIS has the capability for research service agreements, such as SLAs, to be uploaded as an electronic document in the following formats; PDF (.pdf), Word (.doc, .docx) and Excel (.xls, .xlsx).</p>
<p>Will NSWHP being in REGIS affect start/stop timelines?</p>	<p>We will monitor any impact on the start/stop timelines in REGIS closely as we begin implementation. If there are any questions, please contact our Research Governance Office.</p>
<p>Is NSWHP moving to a statewide fee structure?</p>	<p>NSW Health Pathology is currently working on developing a standard statewide fee structure for its services. More information will be shared once the project nears completion.</p>
<p>Will there be fees for data requests?</p>	<p>There are currently no fees for data. We'll notify you of any plans to change this, including the introduction of a statewide fee structure.</p>

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Do you have a workflow diagram for researchers?	We've included more information to assist your workflow in the enclosed research information sheet, and we also have a workflow diagram on our website at www.pathology.health.nsw.gov.au/research-and-innovation/research-governance
When is a Site Specific Assessment (SSA) required for the Biobank?	<p>An SSA will be required for the NSW Health Statewide Biobank (with the Biobank listed as a site) when one or more of the investigator(s) on the research project are employees of the NSW Health Statewide Biobank.</p> <p>In the case where NSW Health Statewide Biobank does not have an employee involved in the research project, this will be treated as a service for non-NSW Health Pathology researchers and a Service Level Agreement (SLA) will be put in place. An SSA for the NSW Health Statewide Biobank will not be required.</p>
Will there be communication with Medical Research Institutes?	We will be reaching out to Medical Research Institutes in the coming weeks to inform them NSW Health Pathology and the NSW Health Statewide Biobank are now sites in REGIS and of our new research governance process.
Will a generic research consent be embedded into the NSW Health Pathology request form?	NSW Health Pathology is exploring this concept with our Research Coordinators across the State.