

# Austpath Privacy Principles

## Where we collect information

- You and your doctor
- Responsible person
- Other health service providers, including hospitals, medical clinics, other pathology practices and radiology practices
- Your previous biopsy results

## Why we collect information

- Link pathology reports to you and your health care providers
- Ensure appropriate testing
- Make a diagnosis and interpret results
- For billing and payments
- Fulfil regulatory and public health requirements
- For presentation at clinical meetings (MDT) to determine health management

## Sensitive information

- Sensitive information is collected, stored, used and accessed with due regard for privacy, in accordance with the 'Privacy Policy in Community Pathology' published by Pathology Australia
- An individual can choose to suppress some information and to limit the transfer of reports to specified parties
- In some circumstances, responsible persons can give consent on behalf of another individual

## How we store information

### Data quality

- We make every effort to keep your information accurate, up-to-date and complete
- Please note that you are entitled to see your records and request changes to improve the accuracy of the information. This request should be made in writing

### Data security

- Access to the collected information is restricted and any changes are tracked
- We fulfil the requirements for physical and electronic security of information as required by The National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA).

## How you can access your results

### After 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2019

All results are uploaded to “My Health Records” and can be accessed by you and your doctor unless you have specified that your report should not be sent to My Health Record

### Before 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2019

- Ideally you should obtain your results from your doctor who can explain the results in the context of your health management
- You have the right to access your pathology results.
- A written request is required and, depending on how old the information is, there may be a charge.
- To protect your privacy, individuals may require positive identification.

## When do we disclose information to third parties?

### Within the laboratory

Information is used for producing results and advice and delivering these to health providers.

### Disclosure to other providers

- (1) Your health information may be disclosed to another provider for the purposes of getting a second opinion
- (2) When a special test, (which is not done by us), is required. In these instances, your health information will be disclosed to another provider who performs this test.
- (3) In rare cases if the expertise to perform the test is not available in Australia, we will provide your information to an overseas expert.

### Statutory requirements

We are legally required to send information to registries such as National Cancer Screening Register and My Health Record.