

Lay Advisory Committee Appointed

Australasia's peak medical diagnostic body, the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA), has appointed a Lay Advisory Committee to provide input to the College on matters related to the accessibility of pathology to the public.

President of the RCPA, Dr Bev Rowbotham, says the RCPA a Lay Advisory Committee was selected to complement the College's current communications program, and to provide insights into the community's true understanding of pathology.

"The Lay Advisory Committee ensures our actions and communications are accessible to the general public, and are not solely stakeholder focussed," says Dr Rowbotham.

"We have been working for some time to increase the general public awareness of Pathology through a consistent media relations campaign, and events such as museum displays, public lectures and lab tours.

"We also spend a significant amount of time lobbying the Governments regarding issues in Pathology – workforce, funding agreements, quality assurance and frameworks around new areas of Pathology such as genetics.

"We felt it important to receive public feedback on our efforts to date, and to continue working proactively to ensure we provide the public information they want and need about this vital basis of medicine."

Potential participants of the Lay Advisory Committee had to apply to become part of the Committee, and were reviewed by a panel of judges.

Four Advisors have been appointed nationally. They will convene four times a year, in addition to providing ongoing advice as required on an ad hoc basis.

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