

**COVID-19 – Trusted technology manufacturers and suppliers are more important than ever.**

Pathology Technology Australia represents the developers, manufacturers and suppliers of the pathology technology so vital to human healthcare testing in laboratories, hospitals, community clinics and for home testing.

The companies represented by Pathology Technology Australia employ scientists, engineers and medical experts to design, manufacture and supply products that meet patient healthcare needs. Our members and their suppliers are certified to the highest global standards and undergo rigorous quality checks. Products are thoroughly quality controlled and validated in real world situations. In addition, substantial post market monitoring of products is carried out by trained technical specialist; to ensure they meet expectation.

Such attention to innovation, quality and performance is never more critical than in times of crisis.

More than 20 Pathology Technology Australia members are directly involved in providing technology for fighting COVID-19; and all members are vital in supporting continuing care of the more than 50% of Australians with a chronic illness. Not to mention the more than 70% of healthcare conditions dependent of pathology technology.

These 20 members provide almost 100% of the platforms and equipment needed to prepare samples and test for COVID-19. In addition, they provide about 60% of all PCR platforms, test kits, reagents and consumables. So, what we do makes a huge difference to how we defeat this pandemic.

Our members not only provide the vast majority of the viral RNA sample preparation technology, they also provide almost all of the PCR platforms and much of the test and consumable requirements to make these work. These virus preparation and detection technologies are the most critical front-line weapons we have in the fight against COVID-19.

Our members continue to innovate. There is a huge effort already under way to ramp up production of platforms and tests. One of the striking advantages our member companies have is that they are very well established and have substantial manufacturing capabilities. This means that they leverage their existing manufacturing processes, validation and supply chain systems to maintain the quality of their products.

There are significant efforts going into optimising current technologies, validating new sample types and adjusting to the changing nature of the virus. And, innovative new applications are being validated for more accurate and sensitive virus detection. We are proud to represent some of Australia's best innovators in this space, producing world's best technology and ideas.

Our members provide the highest quality antibody tests and the high-volume platforms on which these run. Antibody detection is a critical part of tracking immunity within individuals and in the population. To be effective, antibody tests need to be highly accurate, specific and have sensitivity to reliably detect very low levels. This is best achieved with the highest quality tests run by scientists in our hospitals and laboratories.

Pathology Technology Australia supports our member companies by engaging with the Department of Health, the TGA and with the Biosecurity Division of the Department of Agriculture. We regularly provide input TGA regulations and guidelines, optimising these for safe and efficacious human health testing. We regularly engage with Biosecurity to ensure our imported products cannot contaminate our precious agricultural industries or our environment. We provide briefings and updates on products and technologies in development, that are likely to benefit the healthcare of all Australians.

To win the fight against any major health threat is a challenge. We need a fit and healthy pathology technology sector to give us the best chance of success. Pathology Technology Australia and its members represent a commitment to sustainable, high quality testing in Australia.

To be sure your testing products meet the highest of standards in quality, sustainability, responsibility and service; ask if they come from a company represented by Pathology Technology Australia.

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