



Statewide Research Pricing

Version 3.1

August 2025

pathology.health.nsw.gov.au



Acknowledgement of Country

NSW Health Pathology acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we work and live. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that contributed to the development of this pricelist.

We advise this resource may contain images, or names of deceased persons in photographs or historical content.

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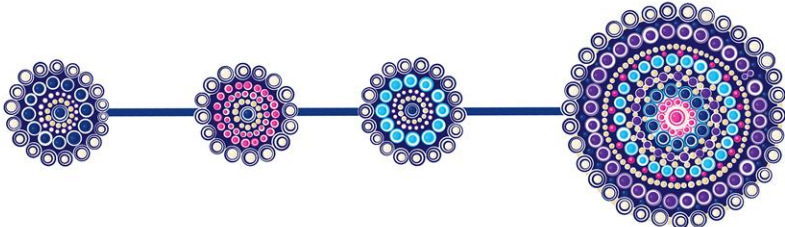
This artwork was created by Aboriginal artist, Elsie Randall, a proud Yagel/ Bundjalung woman from Maclean and Yamba on the NSW Far North Coast.

Definitions

Commercial External Sponsor means a commercial entity which is the sponsor of a clinical trial, such entities include all pharmaceutical and medical device companies.

Non-commercial External Sponsor means a non-commercial entity external to NSW Health which is the main sponsor of a clinical trial, such entities include independent medical research institutes, collaborative or cooperative research groups and universities.

No research activity can be funded in any part by the MBS.



Description of inclusions in pricing

Description	Inclusions
PROJECT START-UP	
Establishment fee	eResearchWithUs application review, discussions with clinical directors and lab managers, drafting of quote, ICT and billing system setup. Ongoing administration including access to current Accreditation documents (NATA, Medicare, IATA), access to current Reference Interval documentation, monitoring and troubleshooting, as well as laboratory access for site visits & audits (where necessary).
PROJECT RELATED ACTIVITIES	
Data analytics/informatics	Includes any additional insight performed on data extracted from Laboratory Information Systems, e.g. analysing patterns and trends, machine learning/predictive analytics, visualisation or responding to specific requests in support of decision making.
Data entry	Specimen registration and tracking in the Laboratory Information System.
Data extraction	May include data retrieval, cleaning, collation and standardisation of data from various Laboratory Information Systems to support research objectives.

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Description	Inclusions
Specimen collection	Collection of specimens by NSW Health Pathology staff, including participant self-collection under guidance or direction of NSW Health Pathology staff.
Specimen processing	The performance of a mechanical or chemical operation on a specimen to change or preserve it.
Specimen receipt	Receipt of specimens into a NSW Health Pathology laboratory.
Specimen retrieval	Specimen retrieval from an on-site or off-site location. This covers the time it takes to locate and retrieve the specimen from storage. Off-site means from a location different to the laboratory where services are being provided.
Specimen testing	Diagnostic tests performed by NSW Health Pathology.
Specimen collection, data entry & transport to NSW Health Statewide Biobank	Specific to the Statewide Biobank collections. Samples to be collected by NSWHP collection staff, tracked, and transported to the Statewide Biobank.
Toxicology and therapeutic drug monitoring	The cost to conduct toxicology testing or therapeutic drug monitoring in urine, blood, serum, or oral fluid specimens.
MICROBIOLOGY/VIROLOGY	
Microbic isolation	Separation of a single species of pathogen from other species present in a patient specimen.
Retrieval of isolates	Retrieval of microbic isolates generated from patient specimens .
TISSUE PATHOLOGY	
A. Processing	
Bone marrow in formalin	Bone marrow is placed in formalin for preservation.
Cryo sectioning	Cutting of frozen tissue sections.
Cytology processing	Processing of non-gynaecological specimens onto glass slides, stained and covered or cytology specimens for cell block. May be direct smears from specimens or smears prepared via cytocentrifugation or centrifugation.
Microtomy	Cutting thin sections of tissue from the block
Snap freezing of tissue	Selection of fresh tissue and snap freezing via individual laboratory processes e.g., liquid nitrogen, CO2 etc. To include short term storage until collection arranged.
Time-critical specimen	Means a specimen that has a requirement so important that if it is not met immediately, the outcome will become or approach a state of material risk.
Tissue processing & embedding	The process to prepare and embed tissue into a paraffin block.

Description	Inclusions
B. Staining	
H&E Staining	Standard histological stain. Hematoxylin and eosin stain includes cutting and mounting thin sections of tissue from the block and staining with haematoxylin and eosin stain.
IHC Ab Optimisation	Immunohistochemistry (IHC) involving anything outside standard IHC staining requires specialised skills for optimisation / value-add. This is time it takes a specialist to optimise the antibody.
IHC staining <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - including Ab - excluding Ab 	Immunohistochemistry (IHC) is dependent on antibody/clone repertoire. The costs in the pricing are only for a standard test repertoire.
ISH staining <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - including probe - excluding probe 	In situ hybridization (ISH) staining preparation depends on the probe being used. The probe is a high-cost consumable and in some cases, researchers may supply their own probe. This price enables with or without NSWHP probes.
Special Staining	Includes staining of tissue as part of slide preparation with a non-routine stain
C. Slide Scanning	
Whole Slide Imaging (at NSW Health Statewide Biobank)	Imaging of clean, good quality slides. Note: additional costs apply if slides are poor quality (e.g., dirty, broken cover slips etc).
D. Reporting	
Assessment of adequacy by pathologist	For a pathologist to review the block or slide to ensure there is adequate tissue available for the research project.
Macroscopic dictation	Cut-up of the fresh tissue and dictation of the description of the collected specimen including measurements etc.
Microscopic report	Review of the tissue slide, and description of the pathology present at the cellular level. This may include microscopic photography at extra cost.
Additional services	
Packaging & dispatch	Costs to package the specimen and prepare it for transport. Does not include courier fees.
Storage	Storage of research specimens for a maximum of 6 months. NSWHP has limited space available to store specimens in local laboratories. If long-term storage is required NSWHP encourages specimen storage within the Statewide Biobank.
Transport by NSWHP	Cost for NSW Health Pathology staff to transport the specimen(s) to the research group.

Statewide Research Pricing

Description	Unit	Commercial (excluding GST)	Non-Commercial (excluding GST)
PROJECT START-UP			
Establishment fee	Per application	\$1000	\$300
Amendments to executed research agreements (addition of tests, sites, extension, etc.)	Per request	\$200	\$50
PROJECT RELATED ACTIVITIES			
A. Specimen collection¹			
Simple	Per case ²	\$30	\$25
All the following must be met:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All participants are 5 years or older - The total number of tubes to be collected from each participant is 4 or less 			
Intermediate	Per case ²	\$40	\$35
The same as Specimen collection – simple except:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total number of tubes to be collected from each participant is 5 or more 			
Complex	Per case ²	\$75	\$60
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One or more of the participants are less than 5 years old 			

Description	Unit	Commercial (excluding GST)	Non-Commercial (excluding GST)
B. Specimen handling, data entry and processing			
Specimen handling and data entry (no processing) ³	Per case ²	\$20	\$15
Local Lab			
Specimen handling, data entry and specimen processing in preparation for testing by NSWHP			
	Per case ²	\$30	\$20
Central Lab			
Specimen handling, data entry and processing of blood and other fluids in preparation for testing by a non-NSWHP lab (e.g. central lab) (note: tissue processing is dealt with in a separate section below)			
- Simple (routine specimen fractionation with a single spin, break on)	Per case ²	\$36	\$24
- Intermediate (non-routine specimen fractionation with double spin or >5 tubes)	Per case ²	\$50	\$30
- Complex (non-routine specimen fractionation with double spin or >9 tubes or PBMC processing)	Per case ²	Minimum \$72	Minimum \$54
Additional Services			
Storage ⁴ (up to 6 months)	Per case ²	\$18	\$10
Packaging and Dispatch Fee	Per shipment	\$30	\$20
Transport by NSWHP	Per case ²	\$15	\$10
Transport by external courier	Per shipment	At cost	At cost
Provision of dry ice for transport	Per kg	\$5	\$5

Description	Unit	Commercial (excluding GST)	Non-Commercial (excluding GST)
C. Specimen Retrieval			
Retrieval of specimens stored onsite	Per specimen	\$10	\$7.50
Retrieval of specimens stored offsite (including in another NSWHP lab)	Per retrieval	\$90	\$50
Retrieval and culturing of microbic isolates	Per case ²	\$132	\$42
D. Tissue Pathology			
Processing of histology specimens			
- Assessment of adequacy	Per case ²	\$120	\$70
- Histology processing and embedding	Per biopsy	\$29	\$20
- Additional embedding	Per block	\$9	\$5
- Histology (time-critical)	Per case ²	\$96	Minimum \$65
- Microtomy	Per slide/scroll	\$10	\$7.50
- Cryo sectioning	Per slide/scroll	\$36	\$20
- Snap freezing of tissue	Per case ²	\$18	\$10
- Fresh specimen triage	Per case ²	\$42	\$30
- Macroscopic dictation (Project-based, no images)	Per case ²	\$90	\$50
- Microscopic report (Project-based)	Per case ²	\$540	\$300

Description	Unit	Commercial (excluding GST)	Non-Commercial (excluding GST)
Histology staining (including microtomy)	Unit	Commercial (excluding GST)	Non-Commercial (excluding GST)
H&E Staining (including microtomy)	Per slide	\$12	\$7
Special Staining	Per slide	\$36	\$20
IHC staining			
- Excluding Ab	Per slide	\$48	\$25
- Including Ab	Per slide	\$120	\$70
IHC Antibody (Ab)			
- Optimisation	Per Ab	\$240	\$100
- Additional slides	Per Ab	\$48	\$25
ISH staining			
- Excluding probe	Per slide	\$120	\$70
- Including probe	Per slide	\$240	\$120

E. Specimen Testing	Unit	Commercial	Non-Commercial
Pathology testing as per <u>test catalogue</u>	MBS	120%	100%
	Non-MBS	Contact local Research Coordinator	

F. NSW Health Statewide Biobank ⁵	Unit	Commercial	Non-Commercial
Collection, data entry, and transport to the NSWHSB	Per case	\$40	\$25
Collection, data entry, simple local processing and transport to the NSWHSB	Per case	\$76	\$59
Collection, data entry, complex local processing and transport to the NSWHSB	Per case	\$132	\$94

Description	Unit	Commercial (excluding GST)	Non-Commercial (excluding GST)
For other charges researchers are referred to the NSWHSWB price list:	https://biobank.health.nsw.gov.au/researchers/biobanking-services/		
Whole Slide Imaging	Per image	\$5.22	\$2.90

SPECIALISED RESEARCH SERVICES

G. FORENSIC

Forensic toxicology and therapeutic drug monitoring on urine, blood, serum, and oral fluids.

Environmental testing in water and other environmental specimens.

Drug and pharmaceutical screening, identification, and purity.

Chemical and unknown materials identifications and comparisons.

Biological fluid and DNA testing, and expert systems.

Per test

Contact local Research Coordinator

H. CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY

Toxicology and therapeutic drug monitoring on urine, blood, serum, and oral fluids

Per test

Contact local Research Coordinator

Forensic medical imaging

Contact local Research Coordinator

Other forensic & analytical science services for research

Contact local Research Coordinator

I. GENOMICS

Genomic Services, Whole Exome Sequencing (WES), Whole Genome Sequencing, Genomics Panels, Data Storage and Transfer

Per case or project

Contact Clinical Genomics Operations Manager

Description	Unit	Commercial (excluding GST)	Non-Commercial (excluding GST)
J. POINT OF CARE TESTING (PoCT)			
New or established technology: technology verification, validation, and pilot evaluation		Contact local Research Coordinator	
K. DATA RETRIEVAL SERVICES			
Data management		Contact local Research Coordinator	
Data analytics/informatics		Contact local Research Coordinator	
L. STAFF TIME			
For consultation, analytical work and/or administration not covered by above			
Senior Staff Specialist	Per hour	\$264	\$220
Senior Scientist	Per hour	\$180	\$150
Scientific Officer	Per hour	\$120	\$100
Technical Officer	Per hour	\$60	\$50
Technical Assistant	Per hour	\$48	\$40
Out of hours (where possible)	Per hour	Contact local research coordinator	

¹Collection fee is for NSWHP to collect specimens regardless of whether collected as part of standard of care or not.

²Per case refers to a specific patient episode.

³ If you require data entry and handling outside of normal business hours, please contact your local Research Coordinator to discuss applicable fees and availability.

⁴Storage is only available in some laboratories.

⁵NSW Health Statewide Biobank offers a range of additional research services incl. slide imaging, PBMC preparation & DNA extraction, please contact NSWPATH-biobanking@health.nsw.gov.au for further information.

NSW Health Pathology Research Coordinators

Our Research Coordinators process online [Access Request](#) (eResearchWithUs application) which have to be submitted for NSW Health Pathology to provide you with access to biospecimens, data and/or research services. If you need to contact any of them, please check out their contact details on our website [here](#).

Version History

The approval and amendment history for this document must be listed in the following table.

Version No	Effective Date	Approved By	Approval Date	Document Author	Risk Rating	Sections Modified
1.0	01/01/2021	Roger Wilson	01/07/2020	Amanda Koegelenberg	Low	New pricing model for research services
2.0	05/09/2022	Robert Lindeman Paul Dunn	12/08/2022	Bente Talseth-Palmer	Low	Updated pricing guideline
2.1	03/01/2023	Shaun Roman	31/03/2023	Bente Talseth-Palmer	Low	Minor updates to section 3 and 5
2.2	09/01/2024	Shaun Roman	09/01/2024	Bente Talseth-Palmer	Low	Minor updates in section 4 and 5
3.0	05/05/2025	Tammy Boone	01/05/2025	Shaun Roman	Medium	Pricing updates Removal of data pricing
3.1	20/08/2025	Tammy Boone	20/08/2025	Bente Talseth-Palmer	Medium	Pricing updates

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