

# Media Release



## DEED OF STANDING OFFER FOR THE SUPPLY OF DIAGNOSTIC REAGENT PRODUCTS COMMENCING 1 NOVEMBER 2007

The National Blood Authority (NBA) today announced the establishment of a Deed of Standing Offer arrangement for the supply of diagnostic reagents to Australian public pathology laboratories. This Deed of Standing Offer replaces a similar arrangement that was in place since 2005, but with a range of further service improvements.

Australian Governments have agreed to continue to subsidise the purchase of diagnostic reagents up to a defined limit for a further period 2 year period with optional extensions. The Deed of Standing Offer lists around 110 red cell diagnostic reagents, which are used in laboratory tests known as blood typing and cross matching. These tests ensure that when a person needs a blood transfusion, they receive blood that is compatible with their own.

The Standing Offer will continue to provide public pathology laboratories with a wide choice of products and the ability to procure the most appropriate diagnostic blood products at competitive prices, quality and service levels. Service levels under the new deeds have been further improved with a more definitive delivery time of 20 days and strengthened Key Performance Indicators (KPI). The new deeds also provide a flexible procedure for the addition of new products as they become available. In total, the new deeds provide a highly flexible and competitive standing offer arrangement.

The NBA is pleased to confirm that the new arrangements have been established with four suppliers- Australian Laboratory Services Pty Ltd; CSL Limited; DiaMed Australia Pty Ltd; and Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics.

A copy of the deed and other documentation associated with the operation of the new arrangements can be found on the NBA website at [www.nba.gov.au](http://www.nba.gov.au). Operating procedures to access the new Standing Offer are identical to current arrangements with the exception of some product additions and deletions and price changes. Laboratories should refer to the Operating Procedures and attached product list for details of these changes. These documents are available at the NBA website at [www.nba.gov.au](http://www.nba.gov.au). Changes to the product list or other arrangement updates will be posted on the NBA website as they occur.

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