

Pathology results in My Health Record

Information for pathology laboratories

2025 – v1.2

Patients can now choose to view **most** pathology results as soon as they are uploaded to My Health Record. This is consistent with the approach being adopted within a number of public and private sector health services to provide people with immediate access to their results, and responds to changing community expectations, enabling people to better engage with and manage their health.

This is the next step in providing patients with Faster Access to their pathology results and builds on changes implemented several years ago to provide more timely access to diabetes-related pathology (HbA1c), anticoagulant monitoring tests (INR) and respiratory infection test results.

Will all test results be available for patients to access immediately?

No. Some test results, including anatomical pathology, cytopathology and genetic test results will be subject to a 5-day delay before patients can access them. The delay commences from the time of upload and is based on the type of test, not the result. Healthcare providers will continue to have access to all results, once uploaded to My Health Record.

Further details are available on the [Better and Faster Access to health information](#) webpage.

What happens if a report includes a combination of results?

If a report includes any results that are subject to a delay, access to the entire report will be delayed.

Do I need to do anything to apply access timeframes to test results?

No. Changes to the access timeframes for patients will be managed automatically within My Health Record.

Are all results uploaded to My Health Record?

New rules have been approved by the Minister which outlines which healthcare providers are required to upload information—starting with pathology and imaging services—as well as the types of information that must be uploaded and the timeframes for doing so. Pathology reports must be uploaded to My Health Record, unless an exception applies or an extension of time to comply has been granted. See the [Better and Faster access guide](#) for more information.

The Share by Default rules are now registered and available on the Federal Register of Legislation:

- [Health Insurance \(Share by Default\) Rules 2025](#)
- [My Health Record \(Share by Default\) Rules 2025](#)

What changes do I need to make to my pathology laboratory system?

For *faster access* (changes to when patients can access their results), no technical changes are required within pathology laboratory systems. The removal or reduction in the access delay will be managed automatically within My Health Record itself.

For *better access* (sharing to My Health Record by default), laboratories will need to ensure they are using software that supports uploading to My Health Record. If you are unsure, check with your software provider. The requirement to share by default will transition into effect during 2026.



What consultation has been undertaken to inform these changes?

These changes have been directly informed by a group of clinicians, health sector representatives and healthcare consumer representatives, known as the [Clinical Reference Group](#) (CRG). Insights from members of the pathology and diagnostic imaging sectors were an integral part of the CRG, with members providing valuable contributions. The work of the CRG will continue through the establishment of a National Clinical Governance Committee for Digital Health, with ongoing involvement of representatives from healthcare organisations, jurisdictions and those with lived experience (consumers and carers).

In addition, the changes respond to the [Strengthening Medicare Taskforce Report](#) and were informed by public consultation undertaken by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

How are amended reports managed?

When an amended report is uploaded to My Health Record, it replaces the previous version in the patient's list of pathology reports (only the current version is listed). The patient can find previous versions of the report via the 'Show history' function, and the amendment is also reflected in the access history for the record.

If a report includes any results that are subject to a delay, the 5-day delay will commence when the original version of the report is uploaded. The delay does not recommence when amended reports are uploaded.

Further information

Download the [guide for pathology and diagnostic imaging service providers](#) and visit the [Better and Faster Access to health information](#) webpage for additional details, including a high-level list of test categories. Information is also available on the [Department of Health, Disability and Ageing](#) website.

Updates regarding pathology information in My Health Record will be provided as these reforms progress.

If laboratories require further information, including advice on when specific tests will be available to patients, they can contact the Australian Digital Health Agency: DigitalAdoptionSupport@digitalhealth.gov.au.