



Chemical Pathology

The Workforce

A Chemical Pathologist is involved in detecting changes in a wide range of substances in blood and body fluids (electrolytes, enzymes and proteins) in association with many diseases.

In the 2010 calendar year, there were 17 Chemical Pathologists who primarily worked within NSW. This workforce had the following characteristics:

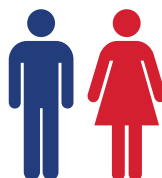
Average Age: 58 years

Females: 23.5% of the workforce

Average Hours: Chemical Pathologists worked an average 34.9 hours per week (of a standard 40 hour week)

Over 50s: Approximately 76% were aged 50 years or over

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts for NSW (unpublished data)



17 Chemical Pathologists



23.5% Females

Trainees and New Fellows

Trainees: 3 trainees in 2012 with an average of 3 trainees in NSW between 2008 and 2012

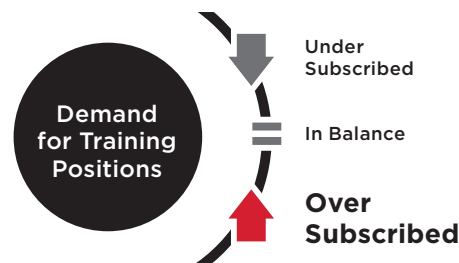
Females: No data available on the number of female trainees

New Fellows: Nationally, an average of 3 per year from 2008-2011 (73% female)

Medical Specialty College: The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (www.rcpa.edu.au/)

HETI Supported Training: Not part of Health Education and Training Institute Training Networks (www.heti.nsw.gov.au)

Source: The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia



Retirement Intentions in NSW

1-2 Years: 0.0% of Chemical Pathologists intend to retire within 1-2 years

3-5 Years: 23.5% of Chemical Pathologists intend to retire within the next 3-5 years

6-9 Years: 23.5% of Chemical Pathologists intend to retire within the next 6-9 years

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts (unpublished data)



Supply and Distribution



Distribution: Chemical Pathologists are located mainly within Local Health Districts (LHDs) in metropolitan Sydney and Hunter New England LHDs.

Rural & Regional: There are no Chemical Pathologists located in rural and regional LHDs.

The Future in NSW – Workforce Planning to 2025*

Estimated Demand Growth: Not applicable

Estimated Workforce Size: Not applicable

Additional Fellows: All demand scenarios suggest a large number of additional trainees required

Range: Not applicable

*Workforce Planning to 2025 incorporated the workforces Chemical, Forensic, General Pathology (which includes Genetics), Immunology and Allergy (including Physicians undertaking clinical immunology), Microbiology (including Physicians undertaking clinical microbiology), and Infectious Diseases. These sub-specialties were grouped and modelled together due to small workforce size in the individual sub-specialties.

Workforce Planning Priority and Risk Rating



Ageing: The risk associated with the workforce aged over 60 and 70.

Small Workforce Size: The risk associated with the sustainability of small workforces.

Retirement Intentions: The risk associated with the retirement intentions of the current workforce.

New Fellow Requirements: The risk associated with the requirement to recruit additional trainees, based on workforce planning to 2025.

Training Supervision: The risk associated with the availability of the existing workforce to provide supervision to new trainees.

Future Workforce Considerations

Addressing rural and regional workforce maldistribution