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**MEDIA STATEMENT**

DATE: 22 June 2016

**AUSTRALIAN CLINICAL LABS TO ACQUIRE ST JOHN OF GOD PATHOLOGY**

Australian Clinical Labs (Clinical Labs) announces that it has entered into an agreement to acquire St John of God Pathology (SJGP) from St John of God Health Care (SJGHC). As part of the agreement SJGHC will acquire a minority stake in Clinical Labs. The transfer of ownership of SJGP to Clinical Labs is expected to take place by the end of September 2016 following discussions with the regulator.

Clinical Labs is Australia’s third largest specialist pathology provider with 2,500 employees across 50 laboratories and 600 collection centres operating in Victoria, NT and NSW. The vision of Clinical Labs is to establish a leading pathology provider with the scale and reach to enable greater investment in leading technology specialist services in a rapidly changing healthcare environment. SJGP is the fourth largest pathology provider in the nation with 19 laboratories and 1,243 employees operating in Victoria and Western Australia.

This transaction will create a leading provider in pathology by bringing together two well respected businesses with over 80 years of operating history and by extending geographic reach throughout Australia, excluding QLD and Tasmania. Of particular significance the combined business will be a leader in specialist hospital pathology, providing laboratory services to 64 hospitals across Australia.

Clinical Labs and SJGHC are now working together to satisfy all requirements to complete the transaction as quickly as possible. Further announcements can be expected at completion of the acquisition.

Commenting Melinda McGrath, CEO of Clinical Labs says;

‘Clinical Labs is building an iconic focussed pathology provider of scale, specialisation, and expertise. The acquisition of SJGP represents an exciting and significant step in extending both our presence and specialist capability so that we can best serve our referring medical practitioners and patients. Pathology will be front and centre in the development of modern healthcare service with the clear trend towards greater personalisation of medicine, new diagnostic testing and earlier disease management programmes. Meeting future needs requires both investment and scale and the bringing together of Clinical Labs and SJGP represents an important step on that journey’

ENDS.

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