

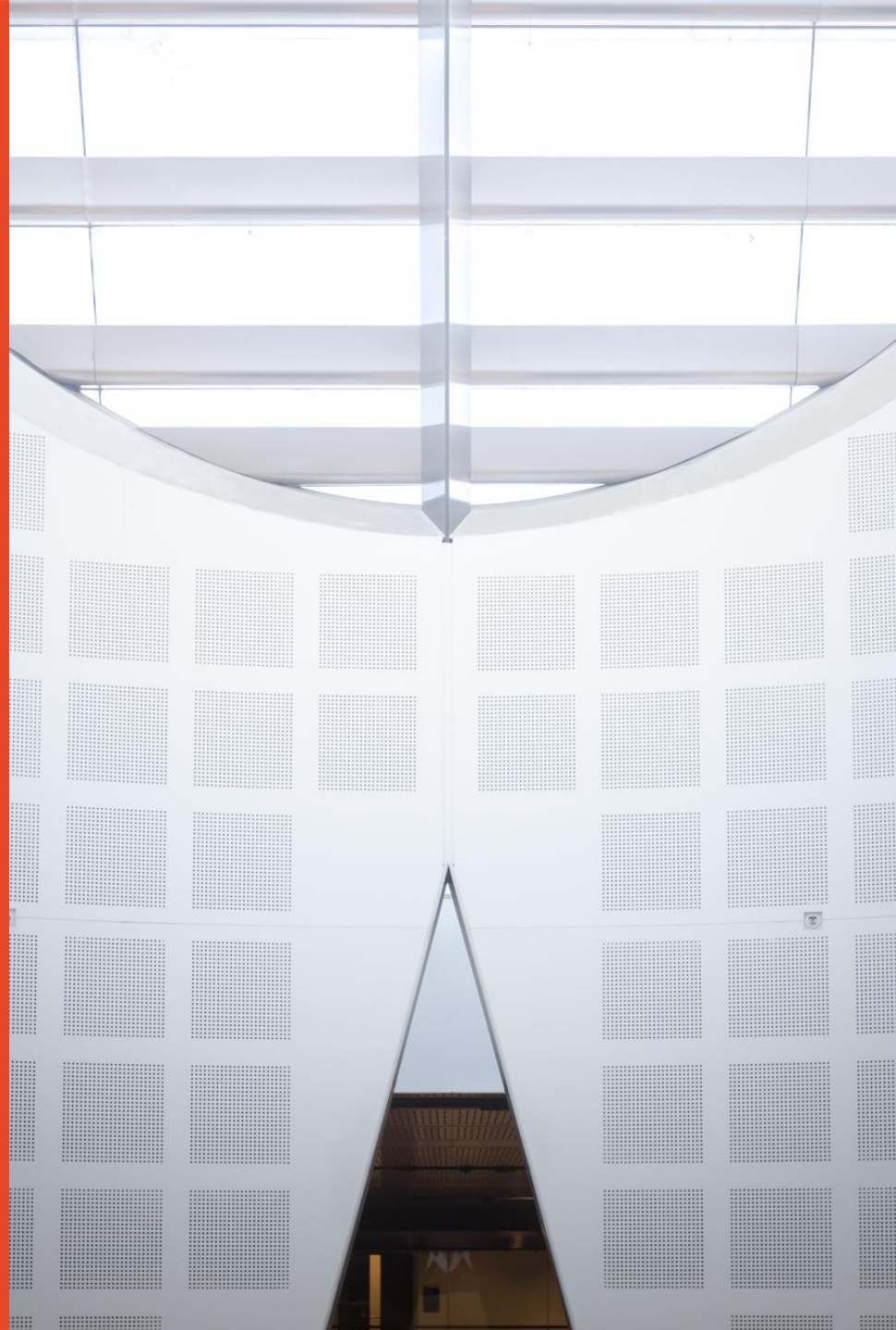
Evidence review for the renewal of the National Cervical Screening Program

Seminar hosted by Rachael Dodd

HPOL5000



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Panel members (left to right)

- Dr Megan Smith: Program Manager, Cancer Council NSW
- Dr Deborah Bateson: Medical Director, Family Planning NSW
- Dr Sally Wortley: Research Fellow, Menzies Centre for Health Policy

Renewal of National Cervical Screening Program

| Change | New program (2017 -) | Old program (1991-2017) |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Test technology | The Cervical Screening Test takes cells from the cervix to test for HPV infection | The Pap test took cells from the cervix and examined these cells for physical changes |
| Interval | The Cervical Screening Test is every 5 years | A Pap test every 2 years |
| Age | Women will be invited for a Cervical Screening Test from the age of 25 years | Cervical screening began at 18 years of age |
| Age | Women will have their last Cervical Screening Test ('exit test') between 70 and 74 years of age | Cervical screening ended at 69 years of age |

Glossary

- **HPV:** a sexually transmitted infection passed through sexual contact and the main cause of cervical cancer
- **HPV types:** there are over 100 types; 16 and 18 are high risk types
- **Partial genotyping:** this checks for what type of HPV you have as if HPV16 or HPV18 is found, the risk of abnormal cells is higher and so this is managed differently to other HPV types

Glossary

- **Co-testing:** testing the sample from the cervix for both HPV and abnormal cells. The sample would only usually be tested for abnormal cells if HPV is found.
- **Self-collection:** this is an option available to women who are under-screened or who have never been screened. A woman takes a vaginal swab for HPV testing. This still needs to be done in a healthcare setting under supervision of a healthcare professional who also offers cervical screening.