

**From:** [Jeremy Lappin](#)  
**To:** [Scott.Jansson@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Scott.Jansson@health.nsw.gov.au)  
**Cc:** [Gwenny Asimus](#)  
**Subject:** NSW Health Pathology Microbiology – John Hunter Laboratory  
**Date:** Tuesday, 11 January 2022 11:19:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear Mr Jansson

**RE: NSW Health Pathology Microbiology – John Hunter Laboratory**

We write in response to the temporary implementation of night shift in the Microbiology Laboratory area of John Hunter Laboratory commencing yesterday. We understand that one employee has volunteered to undertake night shift this week.

Members have raised a number of serious issues in relation to this ad hoc arrangement, particularly with regard to staff safety, overwork, stress, reduced quality of work, the likelihood of serious errors, no risk assessments being undertaken in relation to the change, issues within machines running 24/7, and the potential for NSW Health Pathology to use this as a precedent to introduce night work permanently.

Given the lack of consultation with employees and the HSU, and the serious nature of the issues raised by members, the HSU does not support the temporary implementation of night shift. Further, we reserve our right to challenge this short-term arrangement in the NSW Industrial Relations Commission, as well as any other changes to shift work not implemented in accordance with the relevant Award.

The HSU will continue to seek and provide feedback from members as it becomes available.

Yours sincerely

**Jeremy Lappin**

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