



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

**BreastScreen Australia Evaluation
Progress Report – September 2007**

The following progress has been made on the evaluation:

Progress of Phase 1 Evaluation Projects

- **Mortality Study (part 2):** An ecological study examining the relationship between participation in BreastScreen and mortality from breast cancer. The Department conducted a Tender Evaluation in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines. Based on the recommendations of the Tender Evaluation Committee the National Breast Cancer Centre has been contracted to complete this project.
- **Submissions for the Policy Analysis Project:** A review of evidence for the most appropriate screening policy for women of average and high-risk of breast cancer, and an examination of current application of policy across jurisdiction closed on 31 July 2007. The Department is currently conducting a Tender Evaluation to select an appropriate consultant in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines.
- **Participation and Performance Trends Project:** A study examining the trends in participation and performance, as measured by Program performance indicators, of BreastScreen Australia over time and across population sub-groups. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has been engaged to complete this project.
- **Review of BreastScreen Australia Infrastructure and Capacity:** A study examining the current infrastructure, available workforce and capacity of BreastScreen Australia, and identification of future needs. The Request for Tender for this project is currently being developed by the Department of Health and Ageing in consultation with project sponsors.

Progress of Phase II Evaluation Projects

- **BreastScreen Australia Accreditation System:** A review of the current accreditation system in the light of Australian and international best practices, and identify rigorous, transparent and cost-effective options that would ensure the safety and quality of the screening and assessment services provided under the Program. The Request for Tender for this project is currently being developed by the Department of Health and Ageing in consultation with project sponsors.

- **Participation and Qualitative Study:** A qualitative survey of participants and non-participants within and outside the target age group, and also health practitioners to determine the Program's availability and acceptance and barriers to participation. The Department is currently conducting a select tender process to appoint an appropriate consultant in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines.
- **Economic Evaluation and Modelling Study:** A model will be developed to estimate the impact of BreastScreen Australia on breast cancer mortality. In addition, the model will be used to estimate the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of differing screening policies in comparison to current screening policies. The Request for Tender for this project is currently being developed by the Department of Health and Ageing in consultation with project sponsors.
- **Program Governance and Management:** This project will document current jurisdictional practices relating to Program management and governance arrangements with a view to identifying good practices. The project will also seek to identify any variations in policies and protocols that have the potential to impact on the policy intent of the Program. The Request for Tender for this project is currently being developed by the Department of Health and Ageing in consultation with project sponsors.