



The Royal College of **Pathologists**

Pathology: the science behind the cure

**Response from the Royal College of Pathologists to  
Consultation ECR0186 from UK National Screening  
Committee (UK NSC) Consultation on screening of  
neonates and adults for thrombophilia**

**The Royal College of Pathologists' written submission**

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## **1 About the Royal College of Pathologists**

**1.1** The Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH) is a professional membership organisation with charitable status. It is committed to setting and maintaining professional standards and to promoting excellence in the teaching and practice of pathology. Pathology is the science at the heart of modern medicine and is involved in 70 per cent of all diagnoses made within the National Health Service. The College aims to advance the science and practice of pathology, to provide public education, to promote research in pathology and to disseminate the results. We have over 10,000 members across 19 specialties working in hospital laboratories, universities and industry worldwide to diagnose, treat and prevent illness.

**1.2** The Royal College of Pathologists response reflects comments made by Fellows and members of the College during the consultation, which ran from 14th February 2017 until the 21st April 2017 and collated by Dr Rachael Liebmann, Registrar.

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**2.1** In response to the proposals the Fellows pointed out the current consultation maintains the position adopted in its guidance by the British Society for Haematology/ British Committee for Standards in Haematology.

**2.3** In general the responses to the consultation were favourable. Fellows of the College, for whom the subject matter falls within their area of expertise and clinical practice, were satisfied that these were well-conducted reviews and that the conclusions reached took into account all appropriate and relevant evidence.

**2.4** Some Fellows considered that thrombophilia should not be part of a routine screening tool but used for selected patients whose management would change or be influenced by such a test. Others pointed out that routine screening should not take place as no prophylaxis would be given if the person was on screening to have a thrombophilic condition.