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MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE USE

## **Lab charge decision welcomed**

The Health Funds Association (HFANZ) has welcomed the Government's decision today to end the practice of district health boards charging private patients for lab tests.

HFANZ executive director Roger Styles said the move was a sensible one, which would improve people's access to health services while lowering New Zealand's total health expenditures.

"We supported the Minister of Health's moratorium on this, and were confident that a review of the charges would lead to the right outcome," he said.

ENDS

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