



22 March 2021

Professor Margaret Harding
Chair, National Imaging Facility Board

Dear Professor Harding

RE: Support for establishment of an Alpha Radioisotope and Radiopharmaceutical Facility at ANSTO

I am writing in support of ANSTO's submission to establish an alpha radio chemistry facility. The Australasian Association of Nuclear Medicine Specialists (AANMS) is the body representing nuclear medicine specialists throughout Australia and New Zealand. Our members provide almost the entirety of radionuclide therapy in this country and have been central to research within the field of theranostics.

Theranostics is a potential boom area within the therapy field and indeed has been garnering a lot of financial support overseas.

Australia is almost uniquely positioned to create a globally beneficial industry which will benefit patients in the forms of better targeted therapy and benefit the country in terms of export dollars. Australia has access to raw materials for alpha production as well as the expertise at ANSTO and CSIRO to develop the industry and required infrastructure. We have a solid research base with proven ability to work in this space. Research in this area has developed skilled radiochemistry and radiophysics resources in this country which would be available to support the development of this industry.

Alpha emitters will be critical in the development of theranostics providing dramatic cell killing which, if targeted well, avoids many of the side-effects of standard chemotherapy.

Hence, we strongly support this application and believe that it should be given a high priority for the betterment of our population's health and to strengthen our export industry.

Yours sincerely

Dr Geoff Schembri FRACP FAANMS
President