



National Pathology Week

3–9 November 2008

## Health testing - what's in it for you?



Full body 'MOTs', well-man and well-woman screening, DIY testing kits from blood sugar and cholesterol to genetics and allergy; they're all now part of the armoury for well people who want to protect their health. Surely it makes sense to adopt the 'better safe than sorry' attitude when it comes to something as important as your future well-being? But many doctors and scientists don't agree with this increasingly promoted idea that well people need to be tested for diseases – in fact, they say that testing for a disease before symptoms appear can even harm in ways people may not have considered. So can tests really give peace of mind? Are risks involved in our quest to safeguard our health? Whose responsibility is it to ensure that doctors and the public are informed about the benefits and limitations of tests?

*Join our panellists for this pressing and topical discussion:*

**Dr Danielle Freedman**, Consultant Chemical Pathologist

**Dr Evan Harris MP**, Liberal Democrat Science Spokesperson and doctor  
formerly working in Public Health Medicine

**Dr Margaret McCartney**, GP and columnist at the Financial Times

**Dr Andrew Valance-Owen**, Medical Director, BUPA

**Doris Ann Williams**, Director General, The British In Vitro Diagnostics Association

**Chair: Professor Peter Furness**, Vice-President, The Royal College of Pathologists

You will be welcome to stay for a wine reception once the discussion comes to a close.

For more information and to book a place,  
please contact  
Ruth Semple  
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020 7451 6701

**6 November 2008, 6.30–8.30pm**

The Royal College of Pathologists  
2 Carlton House Terrace  
London SW1Y 5AF

This is a FREE event, part of National Pathology Week ([www.nationalpathologyweek.org](http://www.nationalpathologyweek.org)),  
supported by The Royal College of Pathologists and Sense About Science.



The Royal College of Pathologists  
Pathology: the science behind the cure

