



Australian Government

Department of Health

Therapeutic Goods Administration

# From Research to Public Service

What do scientists and engineers do at the TGA

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**TGA** Health Safety  
Regulation



# Who is the TGA?

- The Therapeutic Goods Administration was established in 1990 to “**safeguard and enhance** the health of the Australian community through **effective** and **timely regulation** of therapeutic goods”
- It provides a national system of controls relating to the **quality, safety, efficacy** and timely availability of therapeutic goods used in, or exported from, Australia





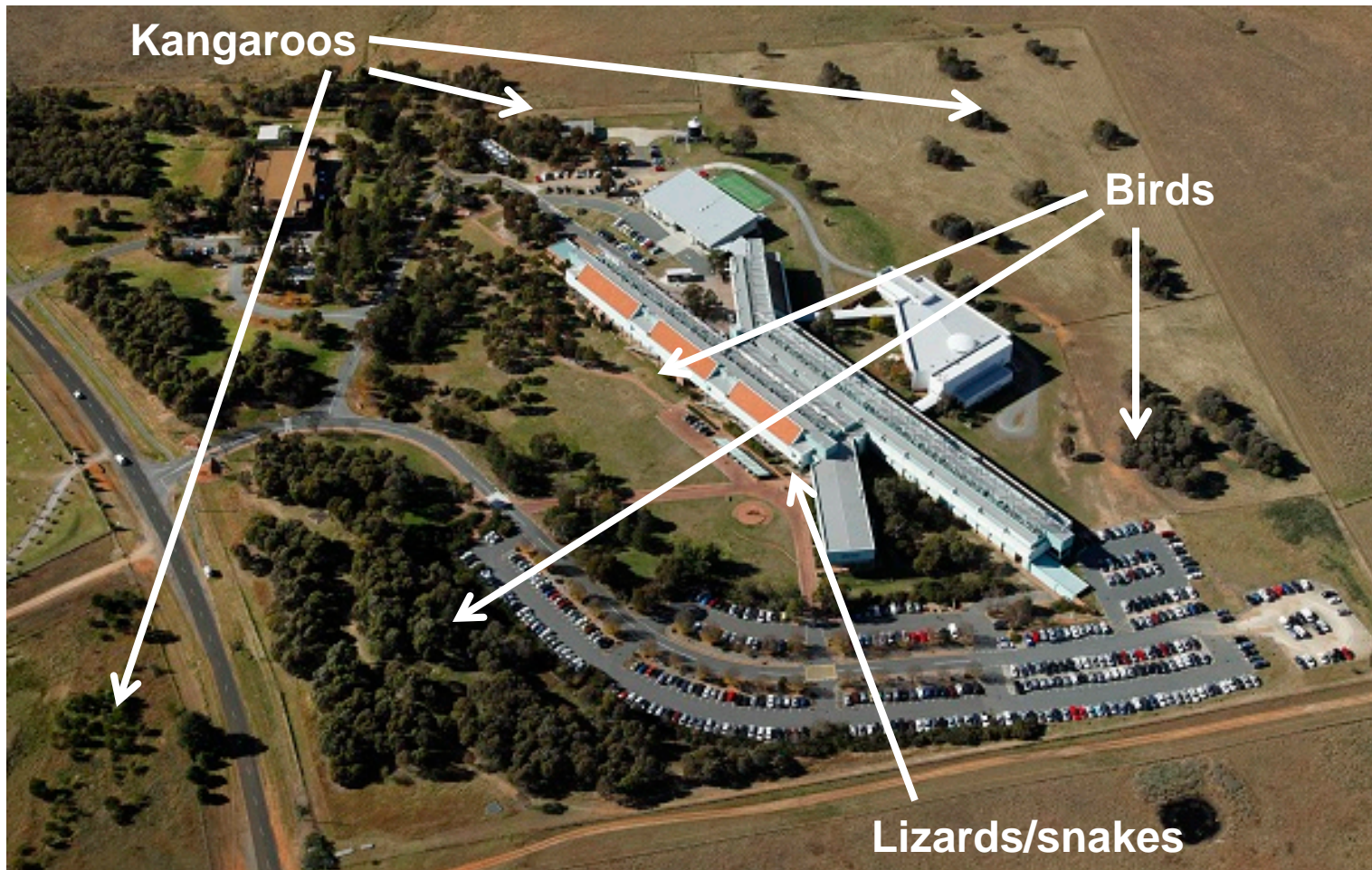
# Who is the TGA?

- We are part of the Australian Government Department of Health
- Every decision the TGA makes is based on the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*
- Main offices in Canberra – satellite offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane
- Operations are primarily cost recovered (98%) industry pays fees for making applications and annual charges for products they are responsible for





# Where is the TGA?







# Where is the TGA?



**Purpose built  
science and  
engineering  
building**



# Who works at the TGA?

Approximately 750 staff made up of:

Biomedical  
scientists

Engineers

Physiotherapists

Medical officers

Pharmacists

Nurses

Toxicologists

Lawyers

Nutritionists

Dieticians

Scientists

Administrative staff



# What Sci/Eng do at the TGA



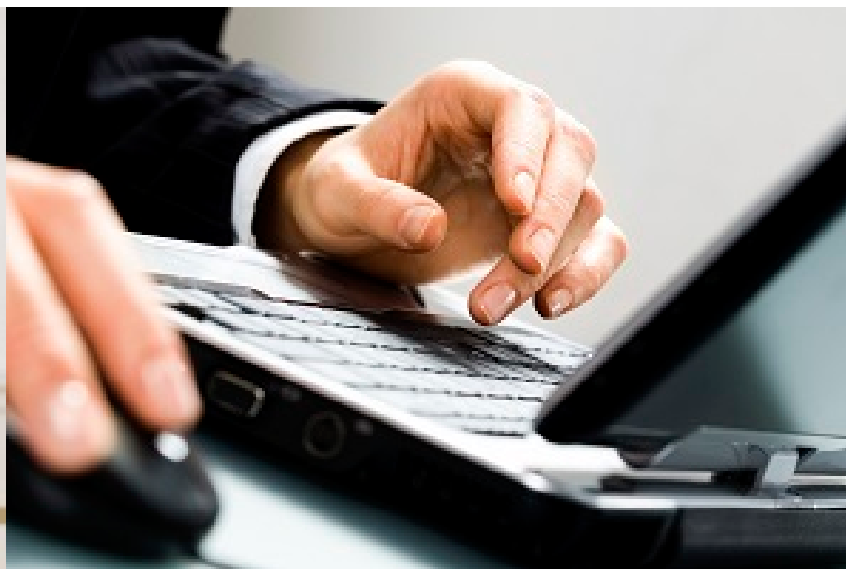
## Lab work





# What Sci/Eng do at the TGA

## Reading and writing







# What Sci/Eng do at the TGA

## Analysis





# What Sci/Eng do at the TGA



**Advise &  
collaborate**



# What Sci/Eng do at the TGA



**Make recommendations  
and decisions**



# My roles at the TGA

## Medical devices

### Pre-market (device assessor)

- Technical expert
  - Assess new devices for safety and performance
  - Make recommendations to decision makers
  - Learn about new devices
  - Write expert reports
  - Develop internal policy and systems
  - Provide technical expertise

### Post-market (laboratories)

- Technical leader
  - Design testing programs
  - Laboratory testing
  - Technical assessments
  - Develop methods and standards
  - Learn about devices
  - Write lab and expert reports
  - Develop internal policy and systems
  - Provide technical expertise





# Advantages of being an APS

- Job security
- Good salary (vs research)
- Excellent working conditions

# Advantages of working at the TGA

- High impact work
- The work is technically and professionally challenging
- Variety of work relating to medicines and medical devices
- Work with a variety of experts (technical, medical, legal)
- Technical skills, expertise, and experience are highly valued



# Where would neuroscientists fit?

Biomedical scientists

Engineers

Physiotherapists

Medical officers

Pharmacists

Nurses

Toxicologists

Lawyers

Nutritionists

Dieticians

Scientists

Administrative staff



# Where to find positions at the TGA?

- The usual places
- TGA Employment and job vacancies
  - <https://www.tga.gov.au/employment-job-vacancies>
  - Navigate from the TGA website footer
- APS Jobs
  - <http://www.apsjobs.gov.au>
  - Search under Dept/Agency: Therapeutic Goods Administration



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