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RAMSAY ON TRACK FOR SIGNIFICANT YEAR PROFIT GROWTH

Leading Australian private hospital operator Ramsay Health Care Ltd gave an update on trading and its profit outlook at its annual general meeting in Sydney today.

Ramsay Managing Director Pat Grier told the meeting Ramsay is on track to exceed its earlier expectation that net profit after tax in the 2001/2002 financial year would increase by 50% over the previous year's result.

Mr Grier said benefits were continuing to flow to Ramsay from its strategy to focus on its strong hospital management, the general improvements in the private hospital market, and its acquisition of Alpha Healthcare earlier this year.

"Market estimates are for Ramsay to record a net profit of between \$24 million and \$27 million. Based on trading in the first quarter, we believe we are tracking towards the high end of these estimates," Mr Grier told the meeting.

Mr Grier's presentation is available on the Ramsay website www.ramsayhealth.com.au.

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