From: AHPRA Consultation
To: medboardconsultation
Cc: AHPRA Consultation

Subject: FW: My opinion on recognition of Rural Generalist Medicine

Date: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 4:51:18 PM

Attachments:

From:

Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 4:39 PM

To: AHPRA Consultation <AHPRAConsultation@ahpra.gov.au> **Subject:** My opinion on recognition of Rural Generalist Medicine

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To whom it may concern in AHPRA,

As an Australian who lives in a remote area, I am writing to fiercely support the recognition of Rural Generalist Medicine (RGM) as a specialist field.

Too many rural and remote Australians don't have equitable access to appropriate health care and the situation has been deteriorating in recent years.

We **know** that the advanced skills training embedded in Rural Generalists training (especially those trained by ACRRM) will enhance the standard of care available to rural and remote Australians for several reasons including:

- Added confidence and skills capacity for staff within rural/remote medical teams
- Easier access (geographically) for r/r Australians to more focused and specialist face to face consultation
- Increased confidence in the skills of available medical teams for r/r Australians
- More effective access to specialist emergency care especially when RG's ASTs are anaesthetics, emergency medicine or O&G
- Better supervision opportunities for doctors wanting to train as RGs in rural/remote locations = more doctors likely to choose RGM
- Much more attractive professional pathways for doctors considering future careers in rural/remote.
- Much more attractive choices for young rural and remote Australians considering medicine as a future career pathway.
- RGM recognition will give much needed hierarchy and leadership within the rural and remote healthcare system.
- The recognition of the value of rural and remote experienced broadly skilled medical professionals means that patients will have a high level of whole of patient care, this I consider more valued and important especially in remote areas.
- It is relatively easy to build a competent healthcare team around an RG, a good leader in a remote area is priceless.

This is a great step towards encouraging and supporting more professionals into rural and remote parts of Australia, I look forward to seeing other initiatives that will ensure that we have fit for purpose health professionals working at all levels right across our country.

Yours sincerely



Angus Whyte

