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Training and retaining doctors in rural, remote and First Nations communities across Australia





ABOUT RVTS

The Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) is a national training program for doctors seeking General Practice Fellowship.

Funded by the Australian Government, RVTS delivers General Practice and Rural Generalist training for medical practitioners in rural, remote and First Nations communities throughout Australia. RVTS is an accredited vocational training pathway to Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and/or the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM).

The three-year (RACGP) or four-year (ACRRM) program delivers structured distance education and remote supervision to doctors while they continue to provide general medical services to their community. The program aims:

- To facilitate access to vocational training by all doctors across Australia
- To contribute to the recruitment and retention of doctors in rural, remote and First Nations communities
- To improve the quality of services available to rural, remote and First Nation communities by enabling access to vocational training and ensuring continuity of medical services

RVTS has been training doctors for over 20 years, and in that time has supported more than 400 doctors who have delivered primary health care in over 300 rural, remote and First Nations communities.



THE RVTS EXPERIENCE

The RVTS program is renowned for its high-quality training and support.

RVTS registrars receive personalised supervision and comprehensive support, with a dedicated:

- Registrar Training Co-ordinator
- Medical Educator Mentor
- Supervisor

and have access to the RVTS team of Cultural Educators and Cultural Mentors The RVTS program is delivered via a combination of remote and face-to-face training, including:

- Weekly webinars
- Educational workshops including procedural skills training
- Clinical teaching visits
- · Online e-learning modules, resources and forums
- Exam support



THE RVTS ADVANTAGE

The program is designed to meet the needs of doctors working in rural, remote and First Nations communities.

• RVTS registrars stay in the one location while training

 it is a win-win situation for the doctors and their communities. Registrars can continue to provide the essential, quality local medical care that their communities need, while still completing their specialist training and gaining access to the latest advances in rural General Practice.

- RVTS has a high fellowship rate – FACRRM and/or FRACGP
- RVTS provides a supportive learning environment – with personalised supervision
- RVTS registrars are eligible for the A1 Medicare schedule
- RVTS is fully funded by the Australian Government
- No application fee!

Find out more at rvts.org.au



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WHAT DOCTORS SAY ABOUT THE RVTS



Dr Fiona Watson Childers, QLD

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"RVTS provided great support throughout my training. I completed my AST in Paediatrics in 2020, and have remained working in Childers as a GP and provide on-call support at the local hospital. With the support of the RVTS program, I navigated the Fellowship exams with ease -I am pleased now to have joined the RVTS ME team as a FACRRM Medical Educator. With RVTS. I am committed to supporting Registrars to achieve Fellowship, while being able to continue the vital role they play in their community."



Dr Rif Qamar Peak Hill, NSW

"I am a specialist as a result of the help from RVTS - I am so lucky to be part of this great organisation, they helped me all the way throughout the program and were a great support to me. RVTS is a wonderful organisation and I would fully recommend it."



Dr Chameera Akuruqoda **Barham, NSW**

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"Thanks to RVTS. I have been very fortunate to be able to stav in Barham. on the beautiful Murray River, while undertaking my specialist GP training. RVTS has the best teaching model for rural doctors in Australia, and really understands the needs of rural doctors and their communities."



Dr Alison Jones Walcha, NSW

"Trying to get my specialist GP qualifications was very difficult before I joined RVTS. I was travelling hours to get to and from my work as a doctor and distant training workshops. I am so grateful to now be on a program that will support me to stay in the Walcha community. closer to friends and family. I plan to stay long-term. With such a significant shortage of doctors in rural areas, I believe the RVTS remote training model is crucial in helping improve rural doctor recruitment and retention rates."

Find out more



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