

## Articles of interest

### Social determinants of rural health workforce retention: A scoping review

A systematic search of literature was undertaken to identify current gaps and formulate a guide for future rural health workforce retention research.

Findings suggest place-based social processes affect and influence the retention of health workforce, but these are not well understood.

The study provides a thematic analysis of literature. Themes include (1) rural familiarity and/or interest, (2) social connection and place integration, (3) community participation and satisfaction, and (4) fulfillment of life aspirations.

[Link to full report](#)

### Female doctors in the bush: national estimates of mobility among female general practitioners in Australia across the urban-rural gradient

Recruitment and retention of female doctors in rural and remote areas has been a challenge in many jurisdictions. The article reports an acute shortage of female general practitioners (GPs) in rural and remote Australia which has been linked to poorer health outcomes among women in these areas.

Using publicly available data, it shows that female GPs stay in their current practice for less time than male GPs. The remote/very remote had the highest rates of movement, and during a three-year period, 186 female GPs moved from rural to the city with only 112 moving in the opposite direction.

[Link to full report](#)

### Customised approaches to vocational education can dramatically improve completion rates of Australian Aboriginal students

Completion rates for Aboriginal students in vocational education are < 30% poorer than other non-Indigenous Australians. This study evaluates a scholarship program which introduced five enablers of success previously identified for Aboriginal preregistration tertiary nursing students.

A total of 20 students and six staff participated in the study using the enablers for success.

In contrast with the state average, the completion rate of 96.8% was achieved. The study recommends broadening implementation and evaluation to inform policy, funding, design and delivery of vocational training for Aboriginal students in the future.

[Link to full report](#)

### Evaluation of a peer group model of supervision for the allied health workforce in Queensland: a descriptive overview

A peer group model of professional supervision was conducted to inform service planning and guide policy and practice.

Responses from 248 participants indicated that the model was easy to use, allowed professional supervision needs to be met in a group setting without expert supervision, and was adaptable to a range of professions, settings and needs.

Evaluation demonstrated implementation can be used in a diverse and geographically dispersed allied health workforce.

[Link to full report](#)

## The Orange Declaration on rural and remote mental health

A group of health researchers, service providers, and other stakeholders from across Australia explored issues relating to rural mental health and well-being.

In October 2018, the group declared that rural residents experience a series of interconnected geographical, demographic, social economic, environmental, and technological challenges which are not adequately being addressed by the current mix of services.

Strong consensus identified ten problems and potential solutions that would benefit from further examination.

The group invites readers to consider, discuss, and join organisations to endorse the declaration.

[Link to the full report](#)

## Long work hours, weekend working and depressive symptoms in men and women: findings from a UK population-based study

The study indicates that interventions could be considered aimed at reducing women's burdens without restricting full participation in the workforce.

Analysis shows that working long hours, that is more than 55 hours per week, increases the risk of poor mental health in women.

The study shows a higher emotional exhaustion and job stress among weekend workers compared with non-weekend workers, and poor psychosocial work conditions for men appeared to play a role in the link between weekend working and depressive symptoms.

[Link to the full report](#)

## Contact

We welcome your comments and contributions. Please contact us at

[healthworkforce@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:healthworkforce@health.qld.gov.au)

## Events

### 45<sup>th</sup> International Mental Health Nursing Conference

8-10 October 2019  
Sydney

[Find out more](#)

### ACHSM Asia-Pacific Health Leadership Congress

9-11 October 2019  
Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre

[Find out more](#)

### Rural Medicine Australia 2019

23-26 October 2019  
Adelaide

[Find out more](#)

### Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium

28-30 October 2019

[Find out more](#)

## Food for thought

### The rural health impacts of climate change

<https://www.ruralhealth.org.au/news/rural-health-impacts-climate-change-0>

### Research to support evidence-informed decisions on optimising gender equity in health workforce policy and planning

<https://human-resources-health.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12960-019-0380-6>

### Mental health still the number one reason people visit their GP, report finds

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/health/2019-09-19/depression-anxiety-key-reasons-people-see-gp/11527298>

### Health workers go to extreme lengths to locate Indigenous patients who need help in outback Queensland

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-09/health-workers-track-down-indigenous-patients/9947782>