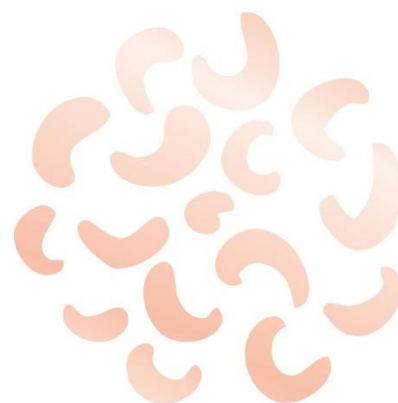


# Health Profession Classification System



Government of Western Australia  
WA Country Health Service

Rural Health West is proudly funded by the  
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Aged Care and WA Country Health Service.

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## **Version**

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## **Grouping health professions**

Rural Health West has conducted extensive research into existing methods of classifying and grouping health professionals for workforce reporting purposes. The variety of different systems investigated included those used by:

- The World Health Organisation
- The Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
- The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH)
- Health Victoria
- Allied Health Professionals Australia
- The Australian Health Workforce Advisory Committee
- National and international journals and papers

Research found that there was no single classification system which captures the breadth of health professional services available in rural WA in a way that sufficiently respects differences between professions while collating those professions with similarities.

To make comparative reporting possible (without individually listing all 38 health professions and sub-specialties) Rural Health West has created the following health profession classification system.

## Health profession groups



### Allied Health

Audiologist; Audiometrist; Chinese Medicine Practitioner; Dietitian/Nutritionist; Occupational Therapist; Optometrist; Speech Pathologist; Allied Health - Other



### Dental Health

Dental Hygienist; Dental Therapist; Dentist; Orthodontist



### Diagnostic Professionals

Radiographer; Sonographer; Pathologist



### Indigenous Health

Aboriginal Health Worker; Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner



### Mental Health

Clinical Psychologist; Counsellor; Mental Health Professional; Psychologist; Social Worker



### Nursing and Midwifery

Enrolled Nurse; Midwife; Nurse & Midwife; Nurse Practitioner; Registered Nurse



### Paramedicine

Paramedic



### Pharmacy

Pharmacist



### Physical Therapies

Chiropractor; Exercise Physiologist; Osteopath; Physiotherapist; Podiatric Surgeon; Podiatrist; Remedial Therapist