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## **RACGP Joins Regional Health Professionals Network as Associate Partner**

The Royal Australian College of GPs is delighted to join the WA Health Professionals Network as an Associate Partner. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to strengthening collaboration across the health system and ensuring that high-quality, evidence-informed care is accessible to all Western Australians.

RACGP is particularly excited about the opportunities this partnership provides to support rural and remote GPs, who play a critical role in delivering comprehensive and continuous care in communities with unique challenges.

Through HPNs, RACGP aims to foster stronger connections between GPs and practice team members, share resources and expertise, and promote innovative models of care tailored to the needs of rural practice.

By joining this partnership, the RACGP looks forward to working alongside other health professionals to enhance education, research, and professional support for GPs.

“We are excited to be joining the WA Health Professionals Network as an Associate Partner. For us, this is a wonderful opportunity to connect with like-minded organisations that share our passion for supporting health professionals and strengthening care across Western Australia,” RACGP Vice President and Western Australia Chair Dr Ramya Raman said.

“We look forward to learning from our new partners, contributing our expertise, and working together to ensure that every community in Western Australia benefits from strong, well-supported general practice.”

“I am enthusiastic about how this partnership can make a real difference for rural and remote GPs, practice teams, and the patients they care for. These GPs are often the first point of contact for their communities, working across vast distances and with limited resources. By being part of the Network, we hope to amplify their voices, share practical support, and collaborate on initiatives that make their work more sustainable and rewarding,” RACGP Rural Chair Associate Professor Michael Clements said.

Rural Health West General Manager Education and Engagement, Leesa Thomas, said RACGP's involvement was an important addition to the HPN program.

"We are delighted to welcome RACGP as an Associate Partner," Leesa said.

"Their involvement demonstrates a strong commitment to rural general practice and will help us deliver even greater value to health professionals across the State.

"The HPN program is built on collaboration, and this partnership further strengthens our ability to support and connect the rural health workforce.

"GPs are the backbone of healthcare in many rural communities, and GPs are presently the second largest profession represented among the HPN membership. The involvement of RACGP will ensure the communities of practice being nurtured through the HPN program will continue to meet the needs of rural medical professionals."

The HPN program continues to grow with the support of sector-wide partners including Rural Health West, WA Country Health Service, WA Primary Health Alliance, St John WA, AMA (WA), the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the Rural Clinical School of WA, and University Departments of Rural Health, alongside numerous local and regional organisations.

For more information about the Health Professionals Network, visit [www.ruralhealthwest.com.au](http://www.ruralhealthwest.com.au)

## **ENDS**

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*Rural Health West aims to improve access to quality healthcare for rural communities through the provision of a highly skilled, motivated and sustainable medical and allied health workforce. We are a not-for-profit organisation primarily funded through the WA Country Health Service and the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.*