**Presentation title:**

Rural Health Advocacy for students and junior doctors

**Abstract** (max. 300 words):

Students and junior doctors represent the future of the rural health workforce, reliant on effective policy and advocacy efforts for improvements to training opportunities, working conditions and patient outcomes. As young medical professionals, there are a range of ways in which they themselves can be powerful advocates, through extracurricular groups and organisations, within their health networks and the wider community.

To ensure that rural practice continues to evolve with knowledge and technology, we need to empower our future rural health practitioners, ensuring that they have the skills necessary to 1) identify key issues for advocacy, 2) understand the level or levels of advocacy required, and 3) formulate an advocacy action plan.  
  
This workshop aims to give medical students and junior doctors the opportunity to explore ways in which you can construct an effective advocacy plan. After a presentation, participants will be split into small groups to discuss a topic important to rural health. This interactive workshop will help participants identify the key issue, the level/s of advocacy required, and formulate specific steps that could be taken to address the issue. The workshop will conclude with a synopsis of each topic and presentation of the small group action plans that were created.