



Australian Government
Department of Health

Integrated Rural Training Pipeline for Medicine

Fay Holden
Assistant Secretary
Health Training Branch
20 October 2017



Long term rural training opportunities encourage students and trainees to choose to practise rurally once they are qualified

What is being done?



Regional leadership, coordination and collaboration

- Regional training hubs

Creating new rural training opportunities

- Expansion of the STP
- Rural Junior Doctor Training Innovation Fund

How are we doing it?



Leadership, coordination and collaboration

- 26 regional training hubs have been established across Australia, funded through RHMT program universities
- A regional training hub is a team of people, both clinical and academic. Some key hub tasks include:
 - providing leadership for rural medical training within their region
 - building relationships to coordinate existing rural training opportunities and develop new capacity
 - identifying students and trainees interested in a rural career and providing support, guidance and mentoring

How are we doing it?



Regional training hub locations



Creating new rural training opportunities

- Junior Doctor Training Innovation Fund
 - Rotations for rurally-based interns into general practice primary care settings
 - When fully implemented, around 240 rotations will be supported annually
 - Works with state and territory junior doctor training networks

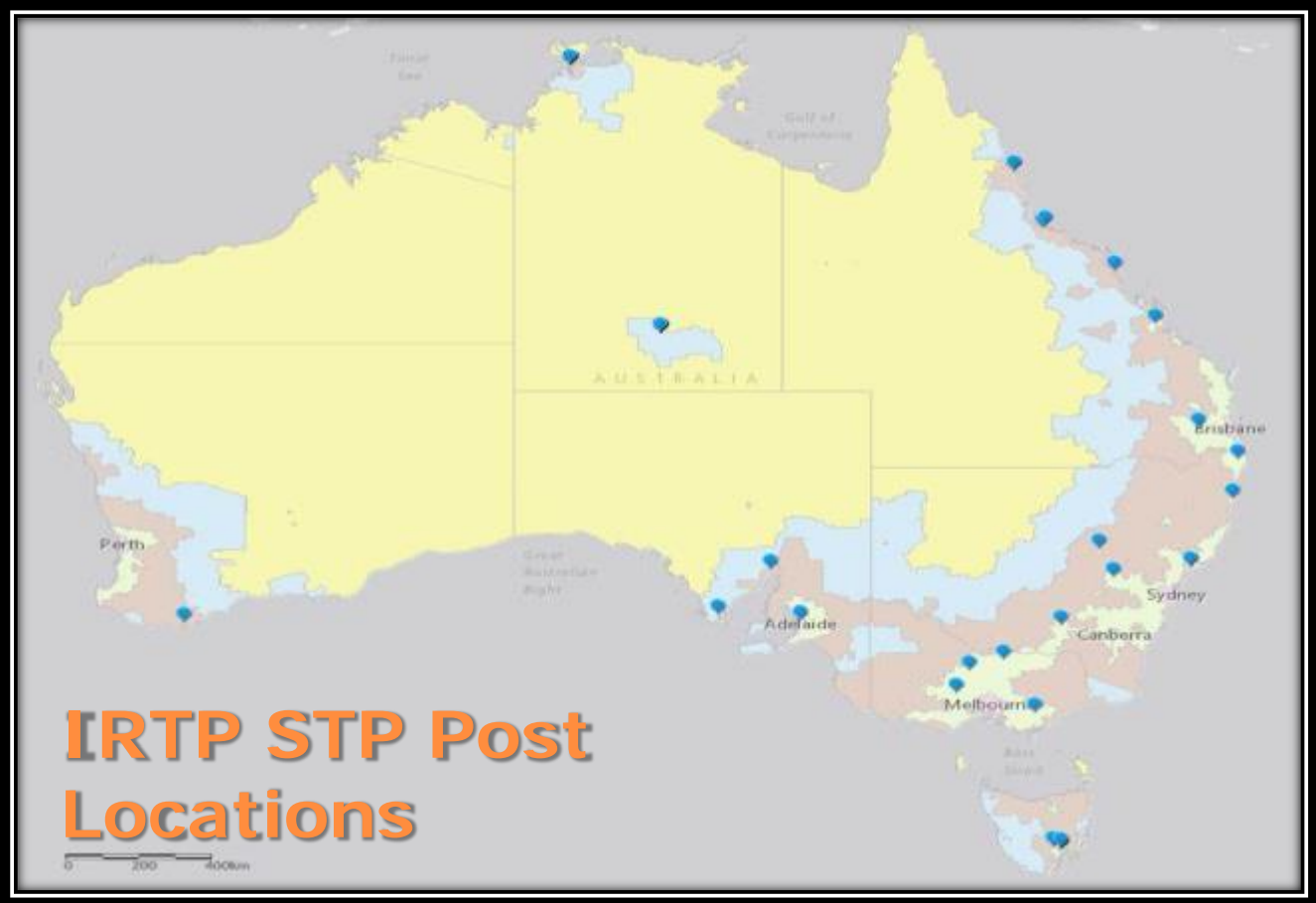
How are we doing it?



Creating new rural training opportunities

- Expansion of the STP with 100 IRTP STP rural places
 - Funded through specialist colleges
 - Additional requirement for IRTP STP posts – trainee must spend 66% of specialist training in rural areas
 - 50 posts for 2017 are allocated
 - 50 posts for 2018 to be allocated

How are we doing it?



IRTP STP Post Locations



Collaboration and partnership

State and
territory
government

Hospitals
and health
services

Primary
Health
Networks

Medical
peak
bodies

Universities

Accrediting
organisations

Specialist
colleges

Health
Workforce
Agencies



- More doctors working in regional, rural and remote Australia
- More rural medical training
- Enhanced networks to support health professionals working in rural areas

How might it affect rural practice?



How will we know it is working?

- Long term - medical workforce data
- Program data and information to monitor progress
- Linking together data to track where doctors train and then eventually choose to practice

Evaluation