

The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine StAMPS Community Profile for AST examinations

The exam candidate is the most senior doctor for their nominated specialty (Paeds, Mental Health, Surgery or AIM) at this hospital

Demographics and geography

- Rural hospital located in the city that services a vast district
- 4,000 in the city plus another 1500 in the district
- Across the district
 - 35% identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People
 - Male: Female ratio = 2:1
 - Age <16 = 24%; age >55 = 20%, 300 births per year
 - Post secondary education: 32%
- District is mostly semi-arid scrubland, savannah plains, extending to sandy desert in the west.
- The predominant industries are cattle grazing, mining and tourism
- There are a number of remote Indigenous communities in the district
- The climate is mostly dry and hot with flooding rains in summer, cold and dry in winter

Rural hospital (Where the examination candidate is currently working): 24/7 medical staffed ED, 26 adult inpatient beds, 4 paediatric inpatient beds, 4 obstetric beds, operating theatre (scheduled and emergency)

- Medical team: led by FACRRM including ED, paediatrics, general surgery, adult internal medicine, mental health, obstetrics and anaesthetics; supported by junior house officers, no other local based specialists
- Hospital services: Emergency Department, General ward, Antenatal, birthing and postnatal services, Operating Theatre for visiting specialists, Outpatients, General Medical Practice, Palliative care, Wound management, Telehealth, Outreach to district
- Other services: Radiology (including onsite ultrasound and CT; staffed 0700 - 2300 and on call 24/7; bedside ultrasound machine with cardiac (1-5MHz) probe), visiting echocardiography service, Pathology Laboratory / Blood bank (staffed 0700 - 2300 and on call 24/7), Pharmacy (staffed office hours and on call 24/7)
- Visiting specialist services: Flying surgeon, Flying Obstetrician/Gynaecologist, Ophthalmologist, Flying Physician, Flying Paediatrician, ENT specialist
- Community and Allied Health Services: Physiotherapy, Occupational therapy, Speech therapy, Social work, Podiatry, Dietetics and nutrition, Child protection, Dentistry, Diabetes education, Early intervention parenting program, Mental health – adult and child, Immunisation clinics, Child health, Cardiac nurse, Women's health, Aged care assessment, Drug and alcohol services, Indigenous health, Health promotion/prevention
- Home and Community Care services (HACC): Frail aged, People with disabilities and carers
- The regional hospital provides outreach and telehealth services to a number of towns, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and tourist centres within 300km, many of which are only accessible by unsealed roads or by air services (scheduled and charter).

Access

- 600km from nearest base hospital, 700km from nearest major hospital
- Aeromedical retrieval with fixed wing aircraft for transfers, subject to availability; does not use hospital medical or nursing staff
- Fully qualified paramedic staffed road transport services based near the hospital
- Nurse run road ambulance services in those towns in the district with nurse only clinics
- Main arterial roads in the district are mostly sealed, minor roads are mostly unsealed and access subject to weather

Other health services in this rural city

- 1 x private general practice clinics
- 1 x private dentist
- 1 x private optometry
- 1x private pharmacy
- 1 x private pathology collection centres

Other health services in the district

- Four towns in the region with health centres: ED 24/7, no inpatient beds, nurse directed model, GP clinics run by visiting teams, connected by video /Telehealth infrastructure