

## **COMMUNIQUE**

### **JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON RURAL GENERALIST MEDICINE MAY 2026**

The Joint Consultative Committee on Rural Generalist Medicine (JCCRG) held its inaugural meeting on 19 May 2026, marking an important milestone in the ongoing development and implementation of Rural Generalist Medicine in Australia.

Established jointly by the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), and chaired by the National Rural Health Commissioner, Professor Jenny May, the Committee has been formed to provide national leadership, collaboration and advice on matters relating to Rural Generalist Medicine, including standards, education and training, accreditation, advanced skills, workforce development and professional recognition.

The Committee brings together senior clinical, professional and policy leaders from both Colleges and the Office of the National Rural Health Commissioner, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing Rural Generalist Medicine and strengthening healthcare access and outcomes for rural, remote and First Nations communities.

Membership of the Committee comprises:

#### **Chair**

- Professor Jenny May, National Rural Health Commissioner

#### **Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)**

- Associate Professor David Campbell
- Dr Marita Cowie
- Dr Jillann Farmer
- Associate Professor Shannon Nott

#### **Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP)**

- Associate Professor Michael Clements
- Ms Georgina van de Water
- Dr Karin Jodlowski-Tan
- Dr Ken Wanguhu

At its inaugural meeting, the Committee endorsed its Terms of Reference and agreed on a forward work program focused on supporting the implementation of the Rural Generalist specialty, strengthening nationally consistent standards and accreditation arrangements, progressing work on Rural Generalist curriculum and Advanced Skills Training, and supporting transition arrangements associated with the Rural Generalist specialist register.

The Committee also reaffirmed its commitment to working collaboratively with governments, health services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, specialist medical colleges and other key partners to ensure Rural Generalist Medicine continues to evolve in a way that meets the needs of communities across Australia.

The establishment of the JCCRG reflects the shared commitment of ACRRM and RACGP to collaborative leadership and a coordinated national approach to Rural Generalist Medicine.

The Committee will meet bi-monthly throughout 2026 and will provide updates on its work and priorities as they progress.

**The next meeting is scheduled for July 2026.**