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Rural GPs pay tribute to nursing colleagues on International Nurses Day

Today, on International Nurses Day, the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) gives a shout out to nurses for the integral role they play in health care teams and in providing medical services in outback communities.

“While it shouldn’t take an international day to recognise the contribution of nurses in rural and remote health care, it is an ideal opportunity to stop and reflect on the work they do,” ACRRM President Dr Ewen McPhee says.

“We specifically thank them for their contribution to providing first-class health care in a range of locations and multidisciplinary teams across general practice clinics, hospitals, outreach services, remote area nursing, and aged care facilities.

“Their dedication and commitment to the welfare of their patients and colleagues is undeniable, and it is on days like today they should be acknowledged.”

This year, which is also the International Year of Nurses and Midwives, celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing and a great influencer in sanitation and quality of care.

Dr McPhee says the COVID-19 pandemic has showcased the value of nurses in the fight to protect all Australians.

“The theme for International Nurses Day is Nursing the World to Health.

“In Australia alone, there are more than 430,000 registered nurses and midwives all playing their part in protecting individuals and communities from the COVID-19 pandemic. “

“They work across all areas of practice, including general nursing, primary care, obstetrics, public health, aged care, emergency care and rural nursing.

“As we continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and search for solutions and strategies that will ensure health care remains sustainable and of the highest quality in the future, it is timely to renew our appreciation,” he says.

“It is essential governments and decision makers support and invest in jobs, education and leadership to ensure all communities, particularly in rural and



remote regions, can continue to have access to highly skilled and dedicated nurses and health care workers.”

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ABOUT ACRRM

The [Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine](http://www.acrrm.org.au) is the only College in Australia entirely dedicated to training and supporting rural General Practitioners and Rural Generalists to serve rural and remote communities.

The College vision is to have the right doctors, in the right places, with the right skills, providing rural and remote people with excellent health care.

For more information, [visit acrrm.org.au](http://www.acrrm.org.au).