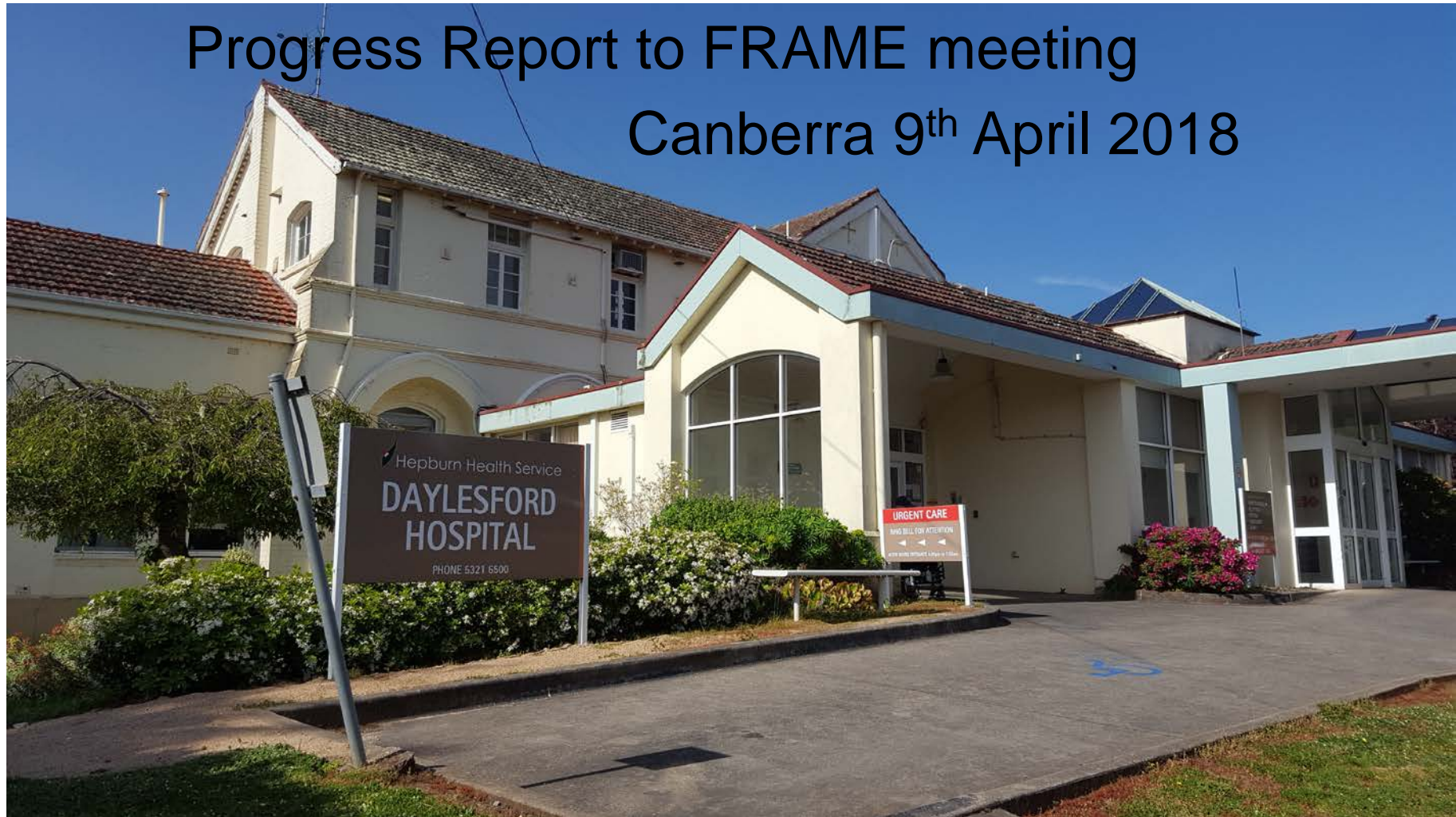


National evaluation of the Regional Training Hubs program

Progress Report to FRAME meeting

Canberra 9th April 2018



Who's doing the evaluation?

- 26 Hubs, 15 universities
- University commitment, through FRAME, to a co-ordinated evaluation of the effectiveness of the RTHs program
- Led by John Wakerman
- Steering group meeting every 1-2 months to advise the working group
- Smaller working group: Deb Russell (FNT), Matthew McGrail (UQ), Denese Playford (UWA), David Atkinson (UWA), Kathryn Stonestreet (ANU), Belinda O'Sullivan (Monash), Sareth Burgis-Kasthala (ANU)

Broad Aims

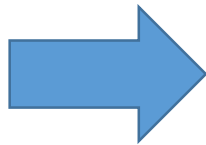
1. To determine the effectiveness of the RTH program in addressing the inequitable geographical distribution of the medical workforce in Australia
2. To quantify the economic benefit of the RTH program



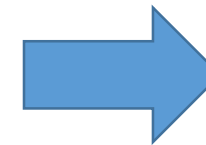
Study design

- The extent to which RTH resources are able to improve the distribution and increase the size of a well-prepared rural and remote medical workforce will vary
- The evaluation seeks to identify factors associated with variation in outcomes using a program logic evaluation framework:

Increased
Resources
(RTHs)



- Enhanced workforce needs assessment;
- Optimal number, quality and location of rural and remote training places;
- Improved coordination between training agencies and health services of the different stages of training;
- Better support for rurally-interested medical students/junior doctors



Bigger supply and better
distribution of well-
trained doctors working
in rural and remote
locations

Contexts

- Geographical; socio-economic; cultural; population

Inputs

- Linkages with stakeholders; existing workforce; infrastructure; support activities undertaken eg. mentoring, supervisory capacity building; prioritisation of community needs

Outputs

- Changes in training capacity at different levels; linking of pathways

Outcomes

- Changes in supply, distribution & skills of medical students, interns, JMOs, specialists-in-training, qualified specialists; changes in addressed/unmet community need

Study methods

- Mixed methods
 - Questionnaire & spreadsheet (repeated annually)
 - How many, where, filled/unfilled, duration: medical student, intern, prevocational & service positions, vocational training posts, specialist staff
 - Qualitative interviews (hub staff, key stakeholders, junior doctors)
 - Functions and activities of hub staff, number and nature of existing and new connections with stakeholders, processes involved in creating newly accredited training positions and the barriers and enablers to their creation

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1	Career Pathway discipline/specialty	Name of town/hospital where trainee is based	PGY 2 & 3 (service positions, not accredited for specialty training)			PGY4+ (service positions: posts not accredited by specialty college for specialty qualifications)			Basic/Core/Introductory/Provisional/Foundation term (Registrar training program, accredited post)			Advanced/Transition/Proficient/Provisional fellowship/Final year/Other training term (Registrar training program, accredited post)			Existing specialists in each facility/location			Estimated unmet need for specialists		NI ST
			Total no. positions	No. filled positions	Rotation length (months)	Total no. positions	No. filled positions	Rotation length (months)	Total no. positions	No. filled positions	Rotation length (months)	Total no. positions	No. filled positions	Rotation length (months)	Number	FTE	Resident (R) or Outreach (O) service	FTE	Source of estimate (eg. PHN, RWA, local GPs, local health service manager etc.)	
3	Emergency	RDH Darwin																		
4		ASH Alice Springs																		
5		Katherine																		
6		Tennant Creek																		
7		Gove																		
8		Other (please specify)																		
9	Other (please specify)																			
10	General Surgery	RDH Darwin																		
11		ASH Alice Springs																		
12		Katherine																		
13		Tennant Creek																		
14		Gove																		
15		Other (please specify)																		
16	Other (please specify)																			

Regional Hosp non-GP STPs

GP training posts



Generic STP template_NT 4April.xlsx - Excel

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	A	B	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	
1			Basic term/s (Registrar training program, accredited post)		Advanced term/s (Registrar training program, accredited)			Existing GPs		Estimated unmet need			
	Specialty/Department	Name of town where junior doctor is based	Number of positions	No. filled positions	Rotation length	Number of positions	No. filled positions	Rotation length	Number	FTE	FTE	Source of estimate (eg. PHN, RWA, local GPs, local health service manager etc.)	
2													
13	General Practice (vocational training, excluding extended skills)	Darwin											
14		Alice Springs											
15		Katherine											
16		Tennant Creek											
17		Gove											
18		Other (please specify)											
19		Other (please specify)											
20	Other (please specify)												
25	Extended skills posts O&G	Darwin											
26		Alice Springs											
27		Katherine											
28		Tennant Creek											

Regional Hosp non-GP STPs GP training posts



Help needed!

- Information reported under core requirement relating to RTHs from each university's RHMTTP report submitted March 2018
 - to help inform development of questionnaire, spreadsheet & semi-structured interviews
- Endorsement and support
 - Steering group discussions eg. Inconsistencies/variation in needs analyses available for RTHs to draw upon
 - Feedback on data collection tools
 - Active involvement in providing data
- Researcher/s with strong qualitative skills
- Health economist

