

FRAME - Rural Clinical School Evaluation

About this Survey

Aim

The aim of this survey is to find out about your Rural Clinical School (RCS) or rural rotation experience. **We are interested in your feedback and your thoughts about whether attending an RCS affected your interest in rural practice.** This information is important as it will help to improve RCS/regional programs to better suit students' needs.

Students at **Rural Regional Medical Schools (Deakin University, James Cook University, Australian National University and University of Wollongong)** should interpret the term **"RCS Experience"** as the most senior year-long rural placement they completed during their medical course, and answer **"RCS"** questions in relation to this long-term experience. Additional rural (and regional) clinical experience should be recorded in Section 27 of the questionnaire.

Student input and support for the project

This questionnaire was developed with review by, and input from, student representatives from Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) and National Rural Health Students' Network (NRHSN). AMSA and NRHSN representatives have attended a presentation regarding the confidentiality aspects of this study and are fully supportive of the project.

Confidentiality

While we would greatly appreciate you filling out this questionnaire, your participation is completely voluntary, and you are able to withdraw at any stage. **Clinical and teaching staff will not have access to any individual's information.** Your academic progress will not be affected in any way by the information that you provide, or if you choose not to participate in this study.

Your data will be de-identified by research staff and will be collated with feedback from all other students, so no individual responses can be identified. The data will be compared with that collected from the other Rural Clinical Schools around Australia. The data will be analysed and presented for publication in journals and at conferences. Your agreement for use of the data from your participation in this survey is implicit if you complete this survey.

Thank you for helping us gain insight into the experiences of rural medical students and thus helping improve the rural medical/health workforce.

If you have any questions concerning this survey, please contact:

Professor Dawn DeWitt
ddewitt@unimelb.edu.au



**Or, who you can contact from your University
if you have any concerns or complaints**

University	Contact Name	Contact Telephone	Ethics Approval No.
University of Melbourne	Professor Dawn DeWitt	02 5823 4582	0722686
Australian National University	Professor Amanda Barnard	02 6125 1419	2007/2246
University of Queensland	The Ethics Officer Dr Jennifer Moffatt	07 3365 3924 07 4631 5455	2006000958
University of Tasmania	Prof. Timothy Skinner HREC Executive Officer	03 6430 4564 03 6226 7479	H0009137
University of South Australia	Ms Sabine Schreiber	08 8303 6028	H-199-2004 RM Code 6208
Flinders University	Associate Professor Lucie Walters	08 8726 3914	4098
University of New South Wales	Dr Lee Krahe	02 6582 7540	HREC 07070
Monash University	Ms Laura Major	03 9905 1521	CF 083235 2008001570
University of Sydney	Ms Julia Wild	02 6885 7990	20100618
University of Wollongong	Professor Nicky Hudson	02 4221 4111	NSA10/002
University of Western Australia	Mrs Rhonda Worthington	08 9022 5667	RA/4/1/4579
Deakin University	Associate Professor Ruth Stewart	03 5227 2611	2011-133
University of Notre Dame	Ms Natalie Giles	03 94330943	011061F

FRAME Survey ID Number:

Q1. Your Student University ID

We are requesting this information to enable you to participate in the MSOD FRAME substudy successive surveys. This information is stored securely and is not linked to your name to ensure confidentiality

Q2. Gender: 1. Male 2. Female

Q3. Date of Birth: ___/___/___ e.g. 31/08/1984
Day Month Year

Q4. Medical School: (Please select one)

- 1. Australian National University
- 2. Flinders University (Flinders University Rural Clinical School)
- 3. Flinders University (NT Rural Clinical School)
- 4. Monash University
- 5. University of Adelaide (SGRHS)
- 6. University of Melbourne (Undergraduate)
- 7. University of Melbourne (Graduate)
- 8. University of Newcastle
- 9. University of New England
- 10. University of New South Wales
- 11. University of Queensland
- 12. University of Sydney
- 13. University of Tasmania
- 14. University of Western Australia (Undergraduate)
- 15. University of Western Australia (Notre Dame)
- 16. University of Western Sydney
- 17. University of Wollongong
- 18. Deakin University
- 19. James Cook University

Q5. Please indicate if you have a... (please select one response only)

- 1. Commonwealth Supported (HECS) Place
- 2. Medical Rural Bonded Scholarships (MRBS)
- 3. Bonded Medical Place (BMP)
- 4. Commonwealth Bonded Place
- 5. State Bonded Place
- 6. International Fee-paying Place
- 7. Australian Fee-paying Place

Q6a. Income support/Debt: I expect my accumulated educational debt at graduation from medical school to be:

- none
- \geq \$49,000
- \$50 – 99,000
- \$100 – 199,000
- \geq \$200,000

Q6b. I expect my debt level to influence my career specialty/career path significantly

1. No 2. Yes

If so, how?

In the following section we are interested in your plans for future medical practice

Q7. On completion of your training, where would you most like to practise medicine?

Please rank up to three options by writing 1 in the box next to your most preferred, 2 next to your second preference and 3 next to your third preference:

1. NSW		2. SA		3. NT		4. VIC	
5. TAS		6. WA		7. ACT		8. QLD	
9. Country other than Australia				Please specify:			

Q8. In which geographical location within Australia would you most like to practise on completing your training? Please rank up to three options by writing 1 in the box next to your most preferred, 2 next to the second preference and 3 next to your third preference:

ARA Classification	
1. Capital or Major City	
2. Inner regional city or large town in Australia (25,000 – 100,000)	
3. Smaller town in Australia – outer regional (10,000 – 24,999)	
4. Small rural or remote community in Australia (<10,000)	
5. Very remote centre/area	

Q9a. Please rank your top 3 areas of career interest at this time below by writing 1 in the box next to your most preferred, 2 next to the second preference and 3 next to your third preference.

1. Adult Medicine/ Internal Medicine		2. Anaesthesia	
3. Dermatology		4. Emergency Medicine	
5. General Practice		6. Intensive Care Medicine	
7. Obstetrics and Gynaecology		8. Occupational Medicine	
9. Ophthalmology		10. Paediatrics and Child Health	
11. Pathology		12. Psychiatry	
13. Public Health Medicine		14. Radiology	
15. Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)		16. Surgery	
17. Medical Administration (e.g. managing a hospital)		18. Non-Specialist Hospital Practice (e.g. career as a medical officer in a hospital)	
19. Rehabilitation Medicine		20. Other:	
21. Other Subspecialty		22. Other:	

Q9b. If you plan to subspecialise, would you like to practise rurally if the speciality post-graduate training and jobs were available in rural areas?

1. No 2. Yes

Q10. During medical school, how many months did you spend outside a capital city or major urban centre (e.g. Gosford-Wyong, Newcastle, Wollongong, Queanbeyan, Blue Mountains, Geelong, Gold Coast-Tweed Heads and Townsville- Thuringowa)

_____ months

Q11a. Were you *required* to spend more than 4 – 6 weeks in your medical school’s rural or regional programme e.g. outside your medical school’s central facility?

1. No 2. Yes

Comment: _____

Q11b. What was the longest time in weeks you were based in the same primary clinical attachment that promoted continuity of community and supervision

_____ weeks

Q11c. Did you participate in a longitudinal integrated clerkship experience where your learning was in multiple specialties in the same placement (rather than in “single specialty” blocks such as paediatrics OR general practice)?

1. No 2. Yes

In the following section we are interested in how you came to a decision to attend a Rural Clinical School (RCS)

Q12. Was your Rural Clinical School (regional placement) enrolment your first choice?

1.No 2.Yes 3. N/A

Q13. How important were each of the following in deciding whether to spend an extended part of your medical school training in a regional or rural setting?

		not at all important				very important	N/A
		1	2	3	4	5	6
13a	My immediate family’s needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13b	Other family members’ needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13c	My friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13d	Extracurricular activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13e	Cultural/religious issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13f	Academic reputation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13g	Patient access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13h	Transportation costs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

		not at all important				very important	N/A
		1	2	3	4	5	6
13i	Availability of paid part-time employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13j	Scholarship support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13k	Cost of accommodation at rural campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13l	Cost of accommodation at city campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q14. In your decision to spend an extended part of your medical school training in a regional or rural setting, please indicate whether the following factors had a positive influence (increased the desirability) or negative influence (decreased the desirability) of attending the RCS:

		In your decision this factor was a:			
		Positive influence	Neutral	Negative influence	N/A
		1	2	3	4
14a	My immediate family's needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14b	Other family members' needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14c	My friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14d	Extracurricular activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14e	Cultural/religious issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14f	Academic reputation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14g	Patient access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14h	Transportation costs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14i	Availability of paid part-time employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14j	Scholarship support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14k	Cost of accommodation at rural campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14l	Cost of accommodation at city campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In the following section we are interested in feedback on your experiences at a Rural Clinical School (RCS)/or in your rural rotations

Q15a. Would you recommend your RCS/rural/regional experience to other medical students?

1. No 2. Yes

Q15b. Why/why not?

Q16. Please respond to each of the following items concerning your rural clinical school experience:

	strongly disagree 1	disagree 2	neutral 3	agree 4	strongly agree 5
16a I saw a sufficient number of patients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16b I was able to achieve my learning goals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16c I was able to participate actively in patient care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16d I had access to postgraduate trainees to assist my learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16e Given my time over I would select the RCS/ regional clinical training again	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16f I would spend more time in rural and regional settings if I could	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16g My clinical school experience increased my interest in rural training and rural practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16h I would prefer a rural internship/basic training after my clinical school experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16i I would consider rural practice after my clinical school experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16j I was able to develop my knowledge base	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16k I was able to develop my procedural skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16l I was able to develop my written/oral case presentation skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16m I was able to develop my physical examination skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

My clinical supervisors:

16n Were excellent role models	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16o Provided me with appropriate clinical responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16p Provided opportunities for continuity of patient care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16q Facilitated the development of my decision-making about patient management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16r Provided appropriate supervision of my clinical decisions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16s Gave constructive feedback	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16t Assisted me in identifying my learning needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16u Overall my clinical school provided an excellent clinical education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q17a. Was there an important role model who significantly influenced your specialty/career path?

1. No 2. Yes

Q17b. If yes, please specify from which setting:

1. Rural 2. Metro 3. Rural & Metro

Q17c. If yes, what was important about that experience? (e.g. toward or away from rural or a particular specialty)

Q18a. Have other rural medical experiences influenced your specialty/career paths?

1. No 2. Yes:

Q18b. If yes, please give details:

Q19. Please respond to the following statements concerning your beliefs about rural practice:

		strongly disagree 1	disagree 2	neutral 3	agree 4	strongly agree 5
19a	Working in a rural area provides more opportunity to practise a variety of skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19b	There are good career opportunities in rural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19c	Staff are more supportive of each other in rural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19d	Professional isolation is a problem when working in rural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19e	There are things I enjoy doing in rural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19f	People in rural areas are very friendly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19g	Working in a rural area means being too isolated from friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19h	Rural practice will be too isolated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19i	Rural practice is too hard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In the following section we are interested in finding out about your background

Q20. Place of Birth:

1. NSW 2. WA 3. SA 4. ACT
 5. NT 6. QLD 7. VIC 8. TAS
 9. Country other than Australia: Please specify: _____

Q21. Do you consider yourself to come from a rural background?

1. No 2. Yes

Q22. Are you an:

1. Australian citizen (including Australian citizens with dual citizenship)
 2. New Zealand citizen
 3. Australian permanent resident status (excluding those who have New Zealand citizenship)
 4. Temporary entry permit (e.g. international students)
 5. Status other than one of the above: Please specify: _____

Q23. Do you identify yourself and do others identify you as?

1. Of Aboriginal origin 2. Of Torres Strait islander origin 3. Not applicable

Q24. Please indicate the type of location, within Australia, you have lived in the longest:

1. Capital city 2. Major urban centre (>100,000) 3. Regional city/large town (25,000-100,000)
 4. Smaller town (10,000-24,999) 5. Small rural community (<10,000) 6. Remote centre/area

Q25a. Was your principal home address in Australia outside of a capital city or major urban centre during your secondary/high school years? (e.g. Gosford-Wyong, Newcastle, Wollongong, Queanbeyan, Blue Mountains, Geelong, Gold Coast-Tweed Heads, and Townsville-Thuringowa)

1. No 2. Yes:

Q25b. If yes, please indicate the number of years you lived there: _____

Q26a. Did you attend a secondary/high school in Australia outside of a capital city or major urban centre? (e.g. Gosford-Wyong, Newcastle, Wollongong, Queanbeyan, Blue Mountains, Geelong, Gold Coast-Tweed Heads and Townsville- Thuringowa)

1. No 2. Yes:

Q26b. If yes, please indicate the number of years: _____

Q27. Please list the details of any University degrees you have completed in the table below:

<i>Name of completed degree(s)</i>	<i>Year of Completion</i>	<i>Name of University</i>
1.		
2.		
3.		

Q28. Your partnership status:

1. Single 2. Partnered

Q29. Occupation of partner (partner employment in rural areas is an issue for doctors): (if applicable)

Q30a. Do you have any dependants?

1. No 2. Yes

Q30b. If yes, number of children for whose care you are financially contributing: _____

Q30c. Number of other dependants for whose care you are financially contributing (eg. parents, siblings):

In this section we would appreciate it if you could give us more detailed feedback on your experience at your Rural Clinical School or during your rural rotations

Q31. What was the best thing about your rural/regional clinical school experience?

Q32. What was the worst thing about your rural/regional clinical school experience?

Q33. What might improve the rural/regional clinical school experience in the future?

Q34. Compared with your peers at other metro Clinical Schools, your rural/regional Clinical School experience was.....?

Q35. What would encourage you to choose a rural hospital for some/most of your post medical school training?

Q36. What things would encourage you to consider further rural practice?

Q37. Do you have any additional comments concerning your rural/regional clinical school experience that would help us address the rural/regional doctor shortage (e.g. educational experience, supervision etc)?

Some of the questions are taken or adapted from the Council of Deans of Australian Medical Schools (CDAMS) "Medical Schools Outcome Database Project", 2007; or adapted from Adams M, Dollard J, Petkov, J. "Development of a questionnaire measuring student attitudes to working and living in rural areas" EJRHH 5:327 (online) 2005. Used with the author's express permission.

**Thank you for your time and input - it is greatly appreciated.
Please return the Questionnaire in the self-addressed, postage paid envelope provided**