

3 October 2013

Rural doctors prepare for major national conference

Rural Medicine Australia 2013, 31 October – 3 November 2013, Cairns

Rural doctors from across Australia are preparing to gather in Cairns next month, to update their medical skills and knowledge, and discuss key rural health policy issues at their major national conference, *Rural Medicine Australia 2013* (RMA 2013).

Over 500 doctors, registrars, other rural health professionals and medical students are already registered to attend this major annual conference of the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA) and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM).

The three-day conference is the peak national event for rural doctors. It features [influential keynote speakers](#) from Australia and abroad, a health policy discussion session, and a wide range of clinical training workshops, discussion forums, workshops and skills updates.

In conjunction with RMA 2013, there will be one-day and two-day clinical workshops, both before and after the conference to help delegates meet their continuing medical education commitments for the current triennium, which ends 31 December 2013. Workshops¹ will cover critical skill areas such as Rural Emergency Obstetrics Training, Ultrasound Use in Rural Anaesthetics & Emergency Medicine, Advanced Life Support, Musculoskeletal Medicine and Introduction to Ultrasound Use in Obstetrics.

Winners of the prestigious annual Telstra RDAA and ACRRM awards for Rural Doctor of the Year, Rural Registrar of the Year and Medical Student of the Year will also be announced at a gala dinner.

Held alongside RMA 2013 will be the first ever World Summit for Rural Generalist Medicine.

At a time of increasing challenge for health systems across the world, generalist medicine is a critical strategy in achieving better access to health care for rural, remote, and other underserved near-metro communities. The Summit will bring together rural doctors, health planners, policy makers, researchers and educators from around the world to celebrate, share and plan for the future of rural generalism in health care.

For more information on this must-attend conference, including the full program, visit www.ruralmedicineaustralia.com.au.

Media are strongly encouraged to attend *Rural Medicine Australia 2013*. Please contact Ineke Kuiper on 0408 669 638 or Patrick Daley on 0408 004 890 for further details and to provide notice of your attendance.

Available for interview: RDAA CEO Jenny Johnson on 0429 931 120

Alternative media contacts: Patrick Daley on 0408 004 890 (Monday to Wednesday)
Ineke Kuiper on 0408 669 638 (Thursday and Friday)

¹ Note: some of these were already full at 26 September.