Loddon Mallee Rural Generalist Program

Gemma Bilardi, Rural Generalist Co-Ordinator, Loddon Mallee

and

Dr Kate Schultz

( Director of Clinical Training- Echuca Regional Health)
Our Rural Generalists

Dr Shannah Mousaco
RG Pathway- Year 2

Dr Ali Maudarbocus
RG Pathway- Year 2
Loddon Mallee
What's on Offer
living in the Loddon Mallee region

Restaurants/ Cafes
Wineries/ Wine Bars
Art Galleries
Festivals
Sporting events
Outdoors and Nature
Nightlife
What is a Rural Generalist?

A Rural Generalist is a medical practitioner who is trained to meet the specific current and future healthcare needs of Australian rural and remote communities, in a sustainable and cost-effective way.

They provide both comprehensive general practice and emergency care and required components of other medical specialist care in hospital and community settings as part of a rural healthcare team.
A Rural Generalist is different to a General Practitioner

- Recognised as a specialist
- Ability to work both in General Practice AND the Health Service
- Medicare currently reviewing the ability for Rural Generalist to bill as specialists in their chosen fields of specialty

According to *The Australian*, the proposed remuneration increase is linked to the successful creation of a new rural generalist specialty that already has the tacit support of the Federal Government.

A joint application submitted by the RACGP and Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) is currently being assessed by the Medical Board of Australia (MBA). If successful, it would see formal recognition for the specialised skills of rural generalist doctors trained in obstetrics, anaesthetics, mental health and emergency medicine.

Doctors recognised as rural generalists could then be able to access higher Medicare rebates for certain specialty services, such as mental health assessments, in some instances at more than double the rate of their city counterparts.
Loddon Mallee
Our Health Services
(Previously RCIT)

Echuca Regional Health Rotations:

- Emergency Medicine
- General Medicine
- General Surgery
- Community Medicine- General Practice
- RAP (Rehab, Aged Care, Palliative Care)
Rural Generalist Pathway

Previous training programs

- RCIT
- General PGY2 year
- GP-RG program
- AGPT
- AGPT
- Fellowship

2021 Victorian Rural Generalist Program

- Rural Generalist Year 1
- Rural Generalist Year 2
- Rural Generalist Advanced Year 3
- AGPT – Rural Generalist Year 5
- AGPT – Rural Generalist Year 6
- Fellowship/Employment in rural Victoria

Rural Generalist Consolidation

Lateral entry
concurrent, fractional

Fellowed GP pathway

- Fellowship/Employment
- Rural Generalist Advanced
- Rural Generalist Consolidation

optional, fractional

May also be completed post-AGPT training
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intern - RG Year 1</th>
<th>RG Year 2</th>
<th>RG Year 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bendigo Health</strong></td>
<td><strong>GP Pathway Stream (4 positions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Advanced Skills</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>General surgery (core)</td>
<td>Anaesthetics/HDU at Echuca Regional Health</td>
<td>Emergency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency medicine (core)</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine at Swan Hill District Health</td>
<td>Obstetrics and Gynecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General medicine (core), Cardiology (non-core), Renal (non-core), Geriatric medicine (non-core), Oncology (non-core), Rehabilitation (non-core), Psychiatry (non-core), Orthopaedics (non-core), Urology (non-core), Orthogeriatrics (non-core)</td>
<td>Obstetrics and Gynaecology Paediatrics</td>
<td>Paediatrics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Echuca Regional Health (5 positions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>GP Pathway Stream (2 positions)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Advanced Skills</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>General surgery (core)</td>
<td>General surgery</td>
<td>Emergency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency medicine (core)</td>
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<td>Obstetrics and Gynecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General medicine (core), Community Medicine - General Practice (non-core)</td>
<td>RAP (Rehabilitation/Aged Care/Palliative Care)</td>
<td>Paediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynaecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAP (Rehabilitation/Aged Care/Palliative Care) (non-core)</td>
<td>Paediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynaecology</td>
<td><strong>Advanced Skills</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mildura Base</strong></td>
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<td>Emergency</td>
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<td>Anesthesics</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Orthopaedics (non-core)</td>
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<td>Psychiatry (non-core)</td>
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What have the benefits been of having an RCIT and then RG pathway available to you with support?

I have the opportunity to work alongside seniors who are in similar roles to the career path I want to take, so this has allowed me to draw on their experience and have a mentor.

Having RG pathways has also alleviated some of the stress and confusion surrounding training programs and has allowed me to map out my career pathway of where I want to be and what I need to do to get there.
Shannah’s Journey

Year 1

Echuca Regional Health
- Emergency Medicine
- General Medicine
- General Surgery
- RAP (Rehab, Aged Care, Palliative Care)
- Community Medicine - General Practice

Year 2

Echuca Regional Health
- Emergency Medicine
- Paediatrics and Obstetrics/Gynaecology
- General Surgery
- Application to GP Training

Year 3

Bendigo Health
- Advanced Skills- Obstetrics and Gynecology
Shannah’s Journey

Year 4

- General Practice Term 1
- And
- Consolidation of skills
- Loddon Mallee
- General Practice Term 2

Year 5

- General Practice Term 3
- General Practice Term 4
- Fellowed Rural Generalist
Loddon Mallee Rural Generalist Pathway: WHY?

“You will be valued and have a team of dedicated professionals working with you to achieve your goal to becoming a highly competent regional/rural doctor.”

Dr Ali Maudarbocus
RG Pathway- Year 2 (Bendigo Health)
What we offer

• A supportive environment

• Case Management - one on one case management in order to prioritise placements and rotations through the Rural Generalist pathway.

• We work with - Monash and Melbourne University, General Practices, Health Services and GP Colleges MCCC- RTO, to navigate your pathway and support you to achieve your career goals

• Education and Supervision Support

• Mentorship

• A sense of community and connection

• Potential for two to three year contracts

Loddon Mallee Program
Thank You

For further information please contact

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