



## An Informed Consent

# Participant Information

### ***Research study: Medical educators' roles and responsibilities.***

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Download a copy of this information [here](#).

#### **1. What is this study about?**

We are conducting a research study about the roles and responsibilities of Medical Educators in a rural environment. Taking part in this study is voluntary. The study is being carried out by:

- Dr. Christopher Hayward

Senior Lecturer and Academic Lead

The University of Sydney, School of Rural Health, Orange

- Dr. Paul Lunney

Senior Lecturer and Year 3 Coordinator – Doctor of Medicine (MD) program

The University of Sydney, School of Rural Health, Dubbo/Orange

General Practitioner, Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS), South Eastern Section.

- Dr David Schmidt

Senior Lecturer

The University of Sydney, School of Rural Health, Dubbo.

## **2. Who can take part in the study?**

We are seeking medical educators, those employed in formal medical education positions as well as those who teach medical students and vocational trainees as part of their roles in general practice. You must be based in a rural area of Australia.

## **3. What will the study involve for me?**

If you decide to take part in this study, you will be asked to complete an online survey. The estimated time commitment is 15-20 minutes.

## **4. Can I withdraw once I have started?**

By submitting your survey, you are consenting to take part in the study. If you decide to withdraw, we will stop collecting information from you. You can withdraw by contacting David Schmidt at [david.schmidt@sydney.edu.au](mailto:david.schmidt@sydney.edu.au). If you don't want the information already collected to be in the study results, please tell us at the time you withdraw.

If you do not provide any identification information in the survey, we won't be able to tell which one is yours. This means you cannot withdraw after submitting the survey.

## **5. Are there any risks or costs?**

Aside from giving up your time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study.

## **6. Are there any benefits?**

We will provide a \$100 voucher to reimburse you for your time. You will need to provide contact details so that we can send the voucher to you.

We believe exploring these roles and responsibilities will benefit rural organisations like ACRRM, RACGP, medical schools and primary healthcare services, and ultimately lead to better support for rural medical educators.

## 7. What will happen to information that is collected?

Your information will be securely stored, and results may be published. You will not be identifiable in these publications.

Sharing research data is important for advancing knowledge and innovation. A de-identified set of the data collected in this study may be made available for use in future research, subject to ethics approval.

## 8. Will I be told the results of the study?

You have the right to hear the results of this study. If you would like to receive a short summary of the study's results, please answer the relevant question in the online survey. This feedback will be provided as a plain language summary.

## 9. What if I would like more information?

For any questions or further discussions, please contact Dr Christopher Hayward at [c.hayward@sydney.edu.au](mailto:c.hayward@sydney.edu.au)

## 10. What if I have a complaint or any concerns?

The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) of The University of Sydney [ethics identifier: insert ethics identifier] according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research.

If you have any concerns about the study procedures or would like to make a complaint to someone not involved in the study, please contact the University's Human Ethics Manager ([human.ethics@sydney.edu.au](mailto:human.ethics@sydney.edu.au) or +61 2 8627 8176).

|                                                            | I confirm the following : |                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                                            | Yes                       | No                    |
| I consent to complete the survey                           | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| I consent to being contacted for a follow-up interview     | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| I would like feedback on the overall results of this study | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |

|                                                          | I confirm the following : |                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                                          | Yes                       | No                    |
| I would like to receive a gift card to reimburse my time | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |

If you answered yes to receiving feedback, receiving a gift card or being contacted in the future, please provide your preferred contact details (email/telephone/postal address).

Name

Email address

Telephone number

Postal Address

## Block 9

Medical education can be titled in a number of ways. Which of the following would you use to describe roles in medical education? (Select all that apply)

- Medical educator
- Clinical teacher
- Clinical supervisor
- Trainer

Other (please specify below)

## Education

Did you complete your primary medical degree in Australia?

Yes

No (please specify where you completed your primary medical degree below)

Which registration do you hold with AHPRA?

Specialist, GP

Specialist, non-GP

General

Provisional

Other (please specify below)

How long have you held specialist registration with AHPRA?

Number of years (please specify below)

Not applicable

Do you have a teaching qualification in addition to your primary medical degree (e.g., Certificate/Diploma in medical education, Clinical Teaching Fellowship)?

No

Yes (please specify below)

Working towards/Completing (please specify below)

How many years did you spend rurally during the following stages of your career? (For part years please round up to a whole year)

Your medical degree

Your JMO training

During GP training

As a fellow

What defined *tasks* do you have as a medical educator? (Select all that apply)

Support registrars and/or students in understanding their training program requirements

Provide pastoral care to registrars and/or students

Provide feedback to registrars and/or students

Provide career planning guidance to registrars and/or students

Provide support to registrars and/or students for assessment preparation

Provide remediation guidance and support following assessment outcomes

Act as a coach and mentor to registrars and/or students

Provide feedback on education programs

Ensure progression of registrar and/or student portfolio

Maintain awareness of curriculum and support programs

Scheduling for registrars and/or students

Engaging with external networks and stakeholders to share information and encourage cooperation

Other (please specify below):

What are your *responsibilities* as a medical educator?

What do you see your *role* as a medical educator as being (apart from the above tasks and responsibilities)?

Are you formally employed as a medical educator?

Yes

No

Workloads

How many years have you worked:

In your current clinical role?

In your current medical education role?

In an average week, how many hours are you currently spending on the following activities?

Medical education

Clinical work

Other work (please specify below)

Total

In an average week, how many hours would you spend in a medical education role in the following settings?

University

College (e.g. ACRRM, RACGP)

Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

General Practice



Health service

Other

If you work clinically, how many medical educators do you work with in your clinical workplace? If unsure, please estimate.

Full-time medical educators

Part-time medical educators

What is your academic title/role?

What is your medical specialty? If you have more than one, please list all

### Career Goals as a medical educator

How important were the following factors in your choice to become a medical educator?

|                                                             | Very Important<br>(3) | Somewhat Important<br>(2) | Not a Impo<br>(1)     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| An interest in helping medical students                     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| The intellectual challenge of teaching in medical education | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| The intellectual challenge of research in medical education | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| Increased remuneration                                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| Job security                                                | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
|                                                             | Very Important<br>(3) | Somewhat Important<br>(2) | Not a Impo<br>(1)     |
| The status and prestige associated with the role            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| The independence associated with teaching                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| The independence associated with research                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| An interest in helping doctors in training / registrars     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |
| Working in a non-clinical setting                           | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>     | <input type="radio"/> |



In regards to your career choice as a medical educator, please rank the following in terms of the most important influencing factors, with 1 being the most important.

People in your life (e.g, family and friends)

Flexibility in scheduling your work week

Financial opportunities

Opportunities to teach

Addressing the needs of medical students / doctors in training in rural areas

Enjoyment of teaching

Opportunities to do research

Workplace conditions (e.g. job security, salaried position)

Opportunity to work in a non-clinical role

Other (please specify below):

## Job Satisfactions

In your current medical education role, how satisfied are you with the following?

|                                                                                                                            | Very Satisfied        | Somewhat satisfied    | Neither satisfied or dissatisfied |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Your access to senior academics or colleagues for work related discussion                                                  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |
| The degree to which you are accepted by other academics in metropolitan medical medical schools/health services/workplaces | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |
| Your access to continuing medical education opportunities                                                                  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |

|                                                                           | Very Satisfied        | Somewhat satisfied    | Neither satisfied or dissatisfied |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| The quality of the teacher-student relationships you encounter            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |
| Your earning income from your current medical education employer          | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |
|                                                                           | Very Satisfied        | Somewhat satisfied    | Neither satisfied or dissatisfied |
| The amount of personal time away from your work                           | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |
| Your opportunities to achieve professional goals and academic achievement | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |
| Your proximity to family members (other than those living with you)       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |
| Your opportunities to enjoy recreational activities in rural areas        | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>             |

## Burnout

**How often do the following statements apply to your role as a medical educator?**

|                                                                                              | Everyday              | A few times a week    | Once a week           | A few times a month   | Once a month or less  | A few times a year    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| I deal very effectively with the problems of my students/learners.                           | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel I treat my students/learners as if they were impersonal objects.                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel emotionally drained from my medical education work.                                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel fatigue when I get up in the morning and have to face another day on the job.         | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|                                                                                              | Everyday              | A few times a week    | Once a week           | A few times a month   | Once a month or less  | A few times a year    |
| I've become more callous towards people since I started in medical education.                | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel I'm positively influencing other people's lives through my work in medical education. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

|                                                                     | Everyday              | A few times a week    | Once a week           | A few times a month   | Once a month or less  | A few times a year    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Working with people all day is really a strain for me.              | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I don't really care what happens to some students/learners.         | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
|                                                                     | Everyday              | A few times a week    | Once a week           | A few times a month   | Once a month or less  | A few times a year    |
| I feel exhilarated after working closely with my students/learners. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I am thinking of giving up medical education for another career.    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I reflect on the satisfaction I get from being a medical educator.  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I regret my decision to have become a medical educator.             | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

## Obstacles and Barriers

What statement best describes your plans in medical education for the foreseeable future?

I plan to continue working as a medical educator in my current rural location

I plan to continue working as a medical educator in another rural location

I plan to continue working as a medical educator in an urban setting

I plan to practice medicine but I do not intend to work as a medical educator

I plan to retire and stop practicing altogether

Don't Know

Other (Please specify below)

If planning on leaving medical education, please list the most important reasons.

Reason 1

Reason 2

Reason 3

Do you have anything else you would like to add about your experiences of being a rural medical educator?

## About you

What is your gender?

Man

Non-binary

Woman

Prefer to self-describe (please describe below)

Prefer not to say

What is your age (years)?

Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

No

Yes, Aboriginal

Yes, Torres Strait Islander

Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Other (please specify below)



What is your current relationship status?

Married / de facto

Divorced, separated, or widowed

Never married/Not currently living with partner

Other (please specify below)

What is your residency status?

Australian Citizen

Permanent Resident

Temporary Resident

Other (please specify below)

How many years post graduation from your primary medical qualification are you? (eg PGY year)

How many years post fellowship are you?

What is your approximate annual income(after tax)?

<\$100 000

\$100 000 - \$199 999

\$200 000 - \$299,999

≥ \$300 000

Prefer not to answer

What is the postcode of your current residence?

## Block 8

I consent to my survey responses being used for research purposes.

Yes

No

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