INQUIRY INTO HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ACCESS TO HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES IN RURAL, REGIONAL AND REMOTE NEW SOUTH WALES

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Partially Confidential

A couple of main issues:

There are a lot of medical graduates with more medical schools opening in the last 10 years. Where are these graduates going? There are limited roles available for staff specialists in metro hospitals, are there more graduates doing unaccredited roles in the hospital, more SRMO's, more doing part-time, more just doing private practice? How do we make the best use of these doctors? As a minimum we need to make sure that a graduate on a training pathway is able to complete the majority of their training in a regional city/hospital. That way they can establish roots, maybe meet a partner and have kids and settle down there.

The distribution of GPs in Australia is all over the place. You can have similar sized town on the coast with 3 to 4 times as many doctors compared to somewhere inland. Without IMGs rural Australia wouldn't have a medical workforce. Can we implement something like the rural teacher incentive but for the medical workforce to help encourage people inland?