

# GPET Update

**2 December 2008**

## **Ongoing additional AGPT places announced**

General Practice Education and Training Limited (GPET) welcomed the additional AGPT program training places announced on Saturday 29 November by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG).

The COAG package includes a boost to the AGPT program of 212 ongoing training places for GP registrars, to more than 800 places per year from 2011 onwards.

This follows on from the announcement last month by the Rudd Government of 75 new AGPT places for 2009 and 100 new places for 2010.

GPET also welcomed COAG's additional support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health training. Further details about this support will be forwarded by GPET once available.

GPET's workforce projection modelling indicates the AGPT program has the capacity to train at least 800 registrars per year via the training network of 21 regional training providers (RTPs).

GPET Chairman Associate Professor Simon Willcock said the ongoing places for the AGPT program would be a shot in the arm for the training program. GPET received many more applications this year than there were available places for 2009 entry.

"This will also go a long way in helping to meet the demand from the Australian community for access to high quality general practice services," Assoc Prof Willcock said.

"And it will give some security for medical graduates coming through the system, who will now have more opportunities to undertake vocational training in general practice on an ongoing basis.

"In addition, the increased commitment from the Government to general practice training in Indigenous health will help to meet the critical need for high quality primary care."

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