

14 May 2009

Australian General Practice Training Program

Federal Budget Measures Support GP Training

General Practice Education and Training Limited (GPET) has welcomed the Australian Government's Federal Budget decisions to provide recurrent funding for additional GP training places in the Australian General Practice Training Program (AGPT), funding for more places in the Pre-vocational General Practice Placement Program (PGPPP), and further funding support for indigenous health training.

"GPET welcomes the increased funding and the new opportunities that will result by more closely linking the PGPPP with the AGPT program under GPET's administration", GPET Board Chair, Associate Professor Simon Willcock said.

GPET will work closely with key stakeholders to further expand and develop the PGPPP as a quality general practice training experience for pre-vocational doctors.

"Bringing prevocational and vocational general practice training together offers greater opportunities for the vertical integration of general practice training and the provision of integrated supervisor support", Associate Professor Willcock said.

The commitment by the government to provide recurrent funding for an increased number of GP training places will facilitate improved planning and coordination for training delivery and the growth and development of training capacity, including support for medical educators and supervisors.

"Increasing GP registrar training places is a positive step in meeting the growing demand for general practice as a vocation and the health care needs of Australian communities. This announcement will be welcomed by many stakeholders within the health sector", Associate Professor Willcock said.

Enhanced funding and support for indigenous health training will offer more opportunities for GP registrars to gain exposure to indigenous health while helping meet the primary health care needs of indigenous communities.

"GPET is working with stakeholder organisations to refine an indigenous health training strategy that will increase the pool of GP registrars with specialist skills in indigenous health".

"The collective effect of the budget measures will lead to streamlining of GP training in Australia and make general practice a more attractive option for pre-vocational doctors", Associate Professor Willcock said.

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