Dipping a toe in the waters of public health

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GP Registrars get to do all sorts of cool stuff!

NTGPE – the Northern Territory RTP and AMSANT – the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the Northern Territory partnering to offer a brand new post sharing public health and clinical practice in the context of Aboriginal health.
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• Clinical work is all very well but there’s a lot more to health, and to working in Aboriginal Health....
How does it work?

We started with Dr David Corbet in a PGPPP placement and now have Dr Fran Squires – an ESP Registrar with NTGPE.

Each has split their role between AMSANT and Danila Dilba Health Service (a large community controlled health service in Darwin).
How do we hope it will work?

• Develop an integrated understanding of how health systems and policy impact on practice
• Use this experience in health leadership roles in Aboriginal Health
• Experience diversity of options available within General Practice
So – how’s it going from their point of view?

- Experiencing primary care and public health in context of Indigenous Health
- Exposure is key – orientation, reflection, development, inspiration, passion
- Flexibility – travel, family, culture
Outreach services

- Underserviced population
- High needs
- Opportunistic
- Difficulties of follow up
- Rewarding, challenging, eye-opening
AFL Health checks

- Opportunistic screening
- Health promotion
- Multidisciplinary approach
- Follow-up and medicare
Communication

• Information management
• Social media
  – Developing policy, templates, guidelines
  – Improving distribution
  – Generating and providing examples of use
• STI Contact Tracing Guidelines
New experiences

- Culture
- Environment
- Medicine
- Politics
- Policy
Possibilities

• Gateway to public health
• Increased leadership
  – Liaising between primary care and hospitals
  – Sharing of knowledge with peers
• Improved understanding of barriers to effective primary care for hospital doctors