



# FELLOWSHIP OF ACRRM

BROADEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND YOUR SKILLS IN THE SPECIALTY OF GENERAL PRACTICE WITH A FOCUS ON RURAL GENERALISM

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ON YOUR ROAD TO RURAL GENERALIST MEDICINE, CHOOSE ACRRM

To find out more, visit us online at [acrrm.org.au](http://acrrm.org.au)

Australian College of  
Rural & Remote Medicine  
WORLD LEADERS IN RURAL PRACTICE



## BECOMING A GP WITH THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF RURAL AND REMOTE MEDICINE

ACRRM's vision is to deliver the right doctors, in the right places, with the right skills, providing rural and remote people with excellent health care. We fulfil this vision through the breadth and depth our competency-based, skills-focused curriculum, developed by rural doctors for rural doctors.

Choosing the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) for Fellowship means choosing Rural Generalism. Rural Generalists (RG) are highly skilled GPs. Embarking on a career as a RG is exciting, dynamic and stimulating, where no two days are the same.

Our Australian Medical Council accredited Fellowship program provides Rural Generalists with the skills and knowledge to competently and confidently deliver services in settings such as ambulatory care, home, hospital, retrieval and long-term residential care facilities.

Deepen your knowledge and gain further specialist skills with Advanced Specialised Training (AST) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, anaesthetics, emergency medicine, mental health, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, surgery, and more.

Successful completion of the program results in Fellowship of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine, or FACRRM, achieving specialist general practice qualification and Medicare registration.



**A GLOBALLY RECOGNISED QUALIFICATION, FACRRM IS YOUR PASSPORT WITH RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIPS IN CANADA, NEW ZEALAND, SOUTH AFRICA, SINGAPORE, UNITED STATES, UNITED KINGDOM AND JAPAN.**

# THE ACRRM TRAINING PROGRAM

All pathways lead to Fellowship of ACRRM, vocational recognition with Medicare Australia, and specialist registration as a General Practitioner through the Australian Medical Council. The ACRRM program is designed as a four-year program, with registrars required to spend a minimum of 12 months of training, living and practising in a rural or remote setting to ensure a strong understanding of the context of rural medicine.

## PRIMARY CURRICULUM

## AST CURRICULUM

### CORE CLINICAL TRAINING

### PRIMARY RURAL & REMOTE TRAINING

### ADVANCED SPECIALISED TRAINING

12 MONTHS

24 MONTHS

12 MONTHS

In an **accredited Hospital**, terms in:

- General Medicine
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Anaesthetics
- General Surgery
- Paediatrics
- Emergency Medicine

In posts **accredited** by ACRRM; these may include:

- General Practices
- Hospitals
- Aboriginal Medical Service
- Retrieval Services
  - *Minimum 6 months: community primary care*
  - *Minimum 6 months: hospital & emergency care*
  - *Minimum 12 months: rural and remote context*

In **one** of the following disciplines:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- Academic Practice
- Adult Internal Medicine
- Anaesthetics
- Emergency Medicine
- Mental Health
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Paediatrics
- Population Health
- Remote Medicine
- Surgery (24 months)

ASSESSMENT, ACRRM ONLINE LEARNING, EM COURSES

# CHOOSING A PATHWAY

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There are multiple pathways you can choose from to achieve Fellowship. The primary differences between the pathways is the funding mechanism and mode of delivery.

## THE INDEPENDENT PATHWAY

The Independent Pathway is a self-funded program with Commonwealth funded support available to eligible non-vocationally registered (non-VR) medical practitioners.

The education program is delivered directly by ACRRM through face-to-face workshop and facilitated and self-guided online modules. It offers registrars flexibility to plan and manage their own learning.

Registrars can also select their own teaching posts, enabling flexibility to choose your own adventure around Australia!

The Independent Pathway provides:

- individualised case management from a dedicated training officer
- personalised medical educator guidance
- an established education and training program

- modality-specific assessment support programs
- recognition of prior learning (RPL)

## THE AUSTRALIAN GENERAL PRACTICE TRAINING (AGPT) PROGRAM

AGPT is fully Government funded program with education and support delivered in-person and online through Regional Training Organisations (RTOs). Training on AGPT is tailored to the individual registrars' needs and supported with a team of case managers. This pathway is suited for people who prefer structured learning.

During the application process, registrars elect their preferred RTOs and upon being selected onto the program, train in the respective region for the duration of the program.

Supervision on AGPT is undertaken primarily onsite.

# CHOOSING A PATHWAY

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## THE REMOTE VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHEME (RVTS)

Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) is an independent, Government-funded program with training provided via distance education and supervision facilitated remotely. The program delivery is flexible and designed to meet a registrar's individual needs, allowing training to be completed without leaving your community (in an accredited post). It is suited to doctors living and working in remote and isolated communities, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

## OTHER AVENUES

### SPECIALIST PATHWAY

Specialist Pathway is an avenue for International Medical Graduates (IMG), who hold recognised overseas general practice qualifications, to achieve Fellowship.

## RURAL EXPERIENCED ENTRY TO FELLOWSHIP (REEF)

REEF is designed for doctors who hold an Australian general practice qualification and have extensive rural or remote experience, to achieve entry onto Independent Pathway.

## AD EUNDUM GRADUM

Ad eundum gradum is a reciprocal Fellowship pathway for Fellows of the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (FRNZCGP) and holders of the Certificate in Family Practice from the College of Family Physicians Canada awarded post 1992 (CCFP).

I REALLY BELIEVE IF YOU WANT TO WORK AS A RURAL GP, ACRRM GIVES YOU A BETTER AND BROADER SKILLSET, PLUS ALL THE PROCEDURAL SKILLS YOU ACTUALLY NEED. ACRRM IS FLEXIBLE AND CAN OPEN MANY DOORS.

*Dr Anthony Rengel, AGPT Registrar*

# THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

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The ACRRM assessment process ensures you have acquired the right mix of knowledge, skills and attitudes to work safely and competently in an unsupervised general practice setting in Australia, especially in more challenging rural and remote contexts.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQ)

Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) assessment is a reliable method to test your applied knowledge, recall and reasoning across the ACRRM primary curriculum content. You are required to complete 12 months of training to be eligible to undertake this assessment, and the standard expectation is that of a GP practicing safely and independently in a rural and remote community.

## MULTI SOURCE FEEDBACK (MSF)

The Multi-Source Feedback (MSF) is a well-recognised, valid, and reliable method of assessing interpersonal and professional behaviour, development, and clinical skills. We recommend the MSF is completed early in training, providing an opportunity to learn from feedback provided.

## FORMATIVE MINICEX

The miniCEX is a workplace-based assessment used to evaluate your direct

contact with patients. The miniCEX aims to guide your learning and improve clinical performance through structured feedback from an assessor. It can help identify ways to improve practice in areas such as communication, history taking, physical examination and professional practice.

## CASE BASED DISCUSSION (CBD)

Case Based Discussion (CBD) is an assessment of clinical reasoning and knowledge application using case notes from your own clinical context.

CBD can be undertaken while you are in an accredited primary rural and remote teaching post, providing continuity of care, and you are required to have completed 24 months of training to be eligible to complete this assessment.

## STRUCTURED ASSESSMENT USING MULTIPLE PATIENT SCENARIOS (StAMPS)

The Structured Assessment Using Multiple Patient Scenarios (StAMPS) is a unique assessment which blends



the formats of an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) and a traditional viva voce examination. Primary Curriculum (PC) StAMPS is designed to test your performance across the primary curriculum with consideration of the seven domains of practice. It assesses that you are able to practise safely as an independent practitioner in a rural or remote context. You are required to complete 12 months of training to be eligible to undertake this assessment.

### ADVANCED SPECIALISED TRAINING (AST)

Advanced Specialised Training (AST) broadens your skills and capacity beyond the standard scope of GP training. With these supplementary skills, your expanded professional scope can include clinical privileging in hospitals, access to additional Medical Benefits Scheme item

numbers, and contributing to the pool of medical services in your community. AST requires a minimum of 12 months training.



I FELT THAT THE ACRRM INDEPENDENT PATHWAY BETTER REFLECTED THE WORK WE DO AS RURAL GPs. THE WAY THE PROGRAM IS STRUCTURED AND DELIVERED ACKNOWLEDGES THE CHALLENGES AND COMMITMENT OF A RURAL GP.

*Dr Abdullah Akram, Independent Pathway Registrar*



I CHOSE ACRRM AS IT RECOGNISES THAT BEING A GP IN AN URBAN SETTING IS ESSENTIALLY A DIFFERENT CAREER COMPARED TO BEING A RURAL OR REMOTE GP. EACH TYPE OF GP, WHETHER URBAN OR RURAL BASED, FACES UNIQUE CHALLENGES AND I FELT FROM THE OUTSET THAT ACRRM WERE DEDICATED TO A TRAINING PROGRAM THAT DIFFERENTIATES THESE CHALLENGES AND PREPARES YOU FOR THOSE YOU FACE IN THE RURAL AND REMOTE SETTINGS.

*Dr Alice Fitzgerald, ACRRM Fellow*

## SEE MORE. DO MORE. BE MORE.

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ACRRM membership connects you with a network of professional, adventurous and visionary Rural Generalists committed to their careers and the health of the communities they serve.

Whether you are based in the tropics, the bush, the outback or the highlands, ACRRM will provide professional development, advocacy and networking opportunities

to equip you with the specialised skills and knowledge you need to confidently provide world-leading rural and remote health care.

Go to [acrrm.org.au/register](https://acrrm.org.au/register) and create an account. Once logged in, simply complete the membership application form, make payment through our secure payment system and start enjoying the benefits of your membership.

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PREFER TO TALK TO SOMEONE?

Call our Membership Team 1800 223 226  
or email [membership@acrrm.org.au](mailto:membership@acrrm.org.au)

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