

# PALLIATIVE CARE PATHWAY

## WHAT IS THE NSW RURAL GENERALIST MEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAM?

The NSW Rural Generalist Medical Training Program is for doctors who join General Practice (GP) Training and wish to obtain an advanced skill in a medical discipline. The Program is integrated with the GP training pathway and is up to four (4) years in duration (depending on the year of entry).

The Program aims to provide junior doctors with a supported training pathway to a career as a rural general practitioner providing primary care in a community general practice setting and advanced services in a NSW rural hospital.

The Program is managed by the Health Education and Training Institute. The Program includes a foundation year (which may be in either hospital practice or community practice), a year of advanced skills training and two years of support to consolidate advanced skills while training in community general practice or other approved training positions.

## RURAL GENERALIST PALLIATIVE MEDICINE PATHWAY

The Rural Generalist Palliative Medicine Pathway aims to increase the number of GPs with advanced skills in Palliative Medicine who may work in rural communities to support the delivery of a co-ordinated palliative care service.

The Program provides orientation and learning opportunities, exposure to clinical experiences in a range of rural Palliative Medicine care settings and supervision by expert Palliative Medicine specialists and mentors

## RURAL GENERALIST PALLIATIVE MEDICINE TRAINING

Training will initially be determined by the services

in the training location, while allowing for flexibility in training experiences. A trainee may undertake Palliative Medicine learning opportunities including inpatient care, oncology and community based care.

Following successful completion of the Rural Generalist Foundation Year, trainees may progress to the Advanced Skills Training year. This is undertaken full time over twelve (12) months in a NSW rural hospital setting with some community experience e.g. specialist palliative care unit and community palliative care service.





## PRE-REQUIREMENT FOR ADVANCED SKILLS TRAINING

Trainees must be enrolled, or made application and working towards enrolment, on a general practice training pathway during the Rural Generalist Foundation Year.

Proof of enrolment is required prior to commencement of the Advanced Skills Training Year. Trainees may be enrolled in either:

- A) Australian General Practice Training (AGPT)

[agpt.com.au](https://agpt.com.au)

*Note: If enrolled in the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) trainees are required to be enrolled with a regional training organisation. In NSW this is GP Synergy. Further details may be accessed at: [gpsynergy.com.au](https://gpsynergy.com.au)*

- B) Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS)

[rvts.org.au](https://rvts.org.au)

OR

- C) Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) independent pathway.

[acrrm.org.au](https://acrrm.org.au)

## PALLIATIVE MEDICINE CURRICULA

Trainees undertaking the advanced skills year will undertake the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) Clinical Diploma of Palliative

Medicine. The curriculum for the Clinical Diploma was developed by a joint party from a number of postgraduate medical education providers, including the general practice colleges.

**RACP curriculum for the Clinical Diploma of Palliative Medicine available at:**

[racp.edu.au](https://racp.edu.au)

Please note the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) does not offer an advanced specialised training curriculum in palliative medicine.

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

Scholarships to attend additional education may be available depending on the course and relevance to training.

## LOCATIONS FOR TRAINING

Training on the Palliative Medicine Pathway may be undertaken in a combination of regional and rural NSW Health facilities and community general practice.

Locations for Advanced Skills Training are determined each year in consultation with rural Local Health Districts, and are dependent on availability and vacancies. The Health Education and Training Institute cannot guarantee a specific post will be available.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

**Entry to Program:** Recruitment to the Program is conducted annually. Applications for the Rural Generalist Foundation Year open mid-September each year. For information on dates and to register for updates, visit the Program website.

### Subsequent vacant posts:

Rural Generalist Foundation Year trainees are allocated to advanced skills training positions in June each year. Vacant posts available following the Rural Generalist Foundation Year allocation are advertised for eligible general practice trainees through the NSW Junior Medical Officer Recruitment Campaign opening in late July. See [health.nsw.gov.au](https://health.nsw.gov.au)

