Title: Does General Practice Training Influence Registrar Scope of Practice and Location?

Introduction:
Generalist Medical Training (GMT) is an innovative, regionally distributed training provider for general practitioners and is part of the James Cook University College of Medicine and Dentistry (JCU-CDM). The strategic intent of the GMT program is 'better health for regional Queensland communities through excellent General Practice training'.

Objective: To monitor and evaluate the GMT General Practice training program.

Method: Cross-sectional surveys of registrars at entry and exit to determine practice intent, training experiences and self-assessment of 'work-readiness' on program exit. Fellows will be tracked to determine scope of practice, distribution, retention and impact on their communities over the longer term.

Results:
A comprehensive logic model evaluation framework based on THEnet framework for social accountability has been developed. Baseline data on key indicators has been collected from the 2016 graduates. Preliminary data found that 83% of respondents thought their training had influenced their attitude to working in rural and remote communities and that they had made an impact on local health care. All said they were confident/very confident their training had prepared them to work anywhere in their region. All had been in their current location over a year because of job satisfaction or family reasons and 50% thought their training had impacted their own values. 74% were in rural or remote areas and 50% intended to continue working in outer regional and remote areas.

Conclusions:
The evaluation framework will identify key graduate characteristics, their career intentions and the impact of the GMT training program. These findings have broader implications as evidence that socially accountable health professional institutions can produce graduates with the ability and commitment to work in medically-underserved areas. Given the world-wide difficulties attracting and retaining a health workforce in rural areas this study may inform strategies to reduce the maldistribution of doctors.

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