



MEDIA RELEASE
1 February 2007

Australian Medical Council Gives ACRRM Initial Accreditation

The Australian Medical Council has given Initial Accreditation to the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) to provide general practice training.

This form of accreditation admits the College to the AMC accreditation process. It will enable ACRRM to work towards a full assessment by an AMC accreditation team in the future, subject to ACRRM providing the AMC with satisfactory annual reports on its training, assessment and continuing professional development programs in the meantime.

The AMC assesses and accredits training programs in the recognised medical specialties. Rural and remote medicine is not a recognised medical specialty, and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine provides training within Australian General Practice Training, so the Initial Accreditation relates to ACRRM as a standards body and provider of specific training and professional development programs for the specialty of general practice.

The AMC's Specialist Education Accreditation Committee considered the ACRRM accreditation application in detail, after a separate AMC Advisory Group assisted ACRRM to complete its accreditation application by advising on AMC requirements. The full Council of the AMC granted the Initial Accreditation to ACRRM. As is usual for AMC accreditation decisions, the Council has identified specific areas that future reports to the AMC will need to address. These include:

- The process and outcomes of the ACRRM review of the curriculum statements, and the review of ACRRM's goals, structure and duration of training against comparable countries and training programs, including those of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
- Evidence of the College's capacity and educational expertise to develop, manage and sustain education, training, assessment and continuing professional development activities of high quality

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- Outcomes of the assessment pilots, and review and refinement resulting from these pilots
- ACRRM's review of standards, documentation and processes related to accreditation of teaching posts and practices and the proposed National Workshop for Regional Training Providers
- Success in filling the Rural Medical Advisor posts in Regional Training Providers, alternate sources of support for registrars where these posts are unfilled, and the training of Advisors to meet ACRRM standards
- The outcomes of the review of ACRRM's existing selection goals, position statements, processes and procedures
- The development of more specific assessment processes to assist in determining the quality and relevance of prior qualifications and experience of overseas-trained doctors.

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