Calling all Rural Pharmacists in Australia

Register today for a focus group at 10th National Rural Health Alliance Conference in Cairns

Do Rural Pharmacists Enjoy Greener Pastures?

The services provided by rural and remote pharmacists are vital to the health and well-being of their communities. Yet despite multiple incentives, the shortage of pharmacists in rural and remote Australia continues to be a major problem.

As a result, The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has commissioned RhED Consulting Pty Ltd, in collaboration with Health Workforce Queensland and Kristine Battye Consulting Pty Ltd, to undertake a landmark national rural research project.

The outcome will be a landmark report that provides the Guild and the Department of Health and Ageing with evidence to assist them in future policy and program development. Our aim is to understand what fulfils and motivates a pharmacist to work and stay in rural practice, so we can ensure rural Australians continue to receive the best access to pharmacists and the vital services they provide.

WE SEEK YOUR ADVICE AND INPUT!

Register today for a focus group at 10th National Rural Health Alliance Conference in Cairns.

We will be holding a focus group on Monday 18th May at 5:30pm, in Conference Room 4, 5 at the Cairns Convention Centre.

If you are a rural pharmacist, a student, a pharmacy manager or an academic pharmacist from Cairns or anywhere else in Australia – we urge you to participate.

The focus group will seek your input on the origins, attractors, detractors, barriers and drivers of pharmacists to rural practice. We will also solicit your feedback on 3 existing Guild programs: the Rural Pharmacy Placements program, the Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Program and the Rural Pharmacy Pre-Registration Incentive Allowance, and whether the location of Pharmacy Schools has any impact on rural retention.

We want to speak with rural pharmacists, students, pharmacy managers and academic pharmacists. Please take this opportunity to have your say and contribute to this important study. To register for a focus group, simply email Robyn Lynch at robyn.lynch@rhed.com.au or call (02) 6680 3998, or simply rock up on the day.

Please mark your diary with the details below:

**What:** Rural Pharmacist Workforce Research Project - Focus Group

**When:** Monday 18th May

**Time:** 5:30pm

**Where:** Conference Room 4, 5 at the Cairns Convention Centre, Corner Wharf and Sheridan Streets, Cairns.

For more information or to speak with Dr Janie Smith, Director RhED Consulting, while at the conference please call 0409 587 578.

For more information on this important national rural pharmacy workforce research project, please visit www.rhed.com.au/pharmacy

This Research to track the rural pharmacy workforce and identify the role that rural programs have on the retention of the rural pharmacy workforce, is funded by the Rural Pharmacy Workforce Program Commissioned Project/Research Scheme as a component of the Rural Pharmacy Workforce Program. The RPWP is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and managed by The Pharmacy Guild of Australia.