

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000671

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Integrated Rural Training Pipeline

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

How will the allocation of the Regional Training Hubs and the additional Specialist Training Programme posts be matched to medical workforce needs in different regions?

Answer:

Integrated Rural Training Pipeline for Medicine (IRTP) – Regional Training Hubs
Under the IRTP measure announced in the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook statement on 15 December 2015, a competitive process, targeted at universities participating in the Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training (RHMT) Program is currently underway. This process is to establish up to 30 regional training hubs at existing rural clinical school and university department of rural health sites.

The role of the hubs will be to work with other education providers to help coordinate activities at all stages of medical training, creating pathways that allow medical graduates to complete the different stages of their training in a rural area. The intention of this measure is to achieve a distribution of hubs that provides national coverage. Hubs will be responsible for responding to workforce need within their catchment area and prioritising activity accordingly.