

Training for Rural and Remote Procedural GPs Program

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The Training for Rural and Remote Procedural GPs Program commenced in March 2004 and the HIC commenced making payments under the program in June 2004. The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the HIC assist the Department of Health and Ageing to administer the program.

The objective of the program is to financially support GPs who provide procedural services in rural and remote areas, in recognition of the importance of maintaining local access to obstetric, surgical

and anaesthetic services and providing safety and continuity of care. This program supports procedural GPs in rural and remote areas to attend relevant education opportunities focused on both maintaining and expanding their skills.

The support is in the form of a grant for the cost of up to two weeks of training, to a total of \$15,000 per GP per financial

year. This is calculated at a flat rate of \$1,500 per day regardless of the duration or cost of the course or charges relating to the provision of a locum.

We made 946 payments totalling \$3.7 million to 639 medical practitioners participating in the Training for Rural and Remote Procedural GP's Program in 2004–05.

Training for Rural and Remote Procedural GPs 2004–05

Number of registered providers	723
Total number of providers paid	639
Total number of payments	946
Total amount of payments	\$3.7 million