



How the RCGP is recognising Rural General Practice (& the threat to business viability) as services are centralised.

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About Me:

Declarations of Interest:

GP Partner

LMC Representative (SSLMCs)

Chair: RCGP Rural Forum



What are the RCGP priorities?

- Tackling the Workforce and Workload Crisis
- Reducing Health Inequalities
- Responding to the Climate Emergency
- Broader Goals

How well are rural doctors represented?

- Rural patients make up 18% of the UK population
- There has been a feeling of frustration that our needs aren't being recognised as systems are based on Westminster models
- Taking up Chair of Rural Forum 18 months ago with the aim to tackle this from within
- My main priority was to ensure all college policy papers had been presented to the forum prior to Council meeting, so we had the opportunity as a group to suggest adjustments for rural proofing

What is the Rural Forum Special Interest Group (SIG)?

- ▶ A group of like minded rural doctors trying to work together to invoke change to serve the needs of both practices and their patients
- ▶ We are run by a steering group that meets both online and in person to work on different rural projects
- ▶ Come and join us, or tell us what your priorities are?

Here's what some of my colleagues
have to say:



Written a textbook:



- ▶ RURAL HEALTHCARE-
- ▶ 2nd Edition published 2023
- ▶ The first textbook of rural medicine in the UK
- ▶ Written by members of the steering group
- ▶ I have a copy with me!

Collaborated to run conferences:

NCRRM Conference 2023 & 2026

“Changing Practice, Changing Outcomes”



EURIPA Conference 2024:

“Tackling Health Inequalities in Rural and Remote Communities”



Delivered a webinar series-nominated for a national award

- ▶ **Autumn 2024**
- ▶ **Practice Emergencies Webinar Series**
- ▶ **Professor Stuart Maitland –Knibb**
- ▶ GP, Consultant in pre-hospital emergency medicine, and a specialist in remote and hostile locations.
- ▶ **Dr Tim Sanders**
- ▶ GP, Clinical Lecturer in Rural Medicine UCLan, and volunteer Penrith Mountain Rescue
- ▶ **Dr Emma Watts**

- ▶ The free webinar series aimed to inspire urban GPs to come and try rural general practice with confidence. The practical aspects of how to start treatment whilst awaiting a delayed ambulance, what extended kit needs to be on the emergency trolley and how you train yourself to use it will have a positive impact on patient care in those areas. The series received positive feedback and hope it encourages more GPs to consider rural general practice and be excited, rather than scared by the wider scope of practice required.

Collaboration:

Rural Research Projects & Publications

- ▶ Currently working on 'The 10 year plan- fit for the future of rural healthcare?'
- ▶ Miriam/Rebecca

BMA-GPC Negotiation

- ▶ Although the role of the RCGP is not contract negotiation, I am lucky enough be able to attend regular meetings with the above and the DDA, where I can contribute to ensuring that contract negotiations are fit for the needs of rural General Practice.

Farm Workers: ongoing projects

House of Commons-Farmer
Health Project-RCGP with partners such
as DEFRA, RABI, NFU, NCRRM



RCGP Endorsement of VR
Farmer Suicide Educational

Dr Dan James, Dr Jordan Tsigarides
& Dr Richard West MBE



Join us to improve remote, rural and humanitarian healthcare globally.



Founding Fellows of Faculty of Remote, Rural & Humanitarian Healthcare Royal College of Surgeons (Edinburgh)

FRRHH MEMBERSHIP | RCSED

What are you waiting for? Come and join us?



► ANY QUESTIONS?