



Developing Remote & Rural Nursing /Midwifery Workforce for Today & Tomorrow

Professor Sabina Knight

Centre for Rural and Remote Health, Mount Isa

James Cook University



Continuing the age old CRANA tradition

- What should go into education programs?

Old is new again- Generalism

- A RAN is a generalist specialist who provides care across the lifespan, acute, chronic, public health, prevention and emergency in the context of family and community alone or as a member of a small team in a remote or isolated location. 1985, 1991

Drivers of subspecialisation

- Increase funds
- Vertical programs: disease specific
- Patch protection, scope of practice wars
- Unintended impact of education & credentialing
- Education creep
- Loss of public health skills

Features of Remote and Rural Practice & Skill sets

- Procedural District Hospitals
- Multipurpose Services
- Remote Hospitals
- Remote Primary Health Care Clinics

Core skills

- Remote & Indigenous Health
- PHC
- Self Care
- Advanced assessment & management, EBP
- Diagnostics /technology
- Remote communication & telehealth
- Population health
- Shared care, building health literacy, therapeutic partnerships, ethics in practice
- HPE

Hospitals

- Match activity
- Theatre, post op, anaesthetics etc
- ED
- Paediatrics, Maternity
- Oncology

- Aged Care
- Mental Health
- Addiction

- Inpatient & inhome

Emerging – augmented by telehealth & technology

- Oncology
- Palliative Care
- Mental Health
- Transplant – prep & post or dialysis

Emerging – augmented by telehealth & technology

- Oncology
- Palliative Care
- Mental Health
- Transplant – prep & post or dialysis

Post grad & microcredentialling

- CPD
- Short courses
- Worldwide access to courses, campuses
- Multidisciplinary courses
- Reconfigured masters programs – carousel model

Driven and owned by the Remote & Rural Professions

- Authentic, Credible
- Socially accountable
- Portable

- Improve health outcomes
- Continue to build community of practice
- Foster curiosity & build evidence
- Commitment to Sustainable Development Goals

Serves the Torrid Zone – think local, act global

Rural Generalism – build on success

- Structured vocational training programs / pathways for Medicine, organized supervision
- Structured vocational training programs for AHWs, no organised supervision.
- Structured vocational and post grad training programs for allied health-self funded, some supervision
- Structured post grad program for RANs – self funded no supervision
- Nursing and Midwifery pathways to come
- Developing evidence supporting Remote Supervision models

