



Australian Government  
Department of Health

RMA17

# BONDED BUT NOT ALONE?

## Translating policy into practical support

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Health Workforce Division  
Department of Health, Canberra



## Workshop Outline

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2.00 Welcome, introductions

Dr Paul Cutting: Workforce numbers & distribution,  
bonded medical programs, the Rural Workforce  
Agencies

Jennie Della: Rural Training Hubs

2.20 Workshop – discussion in small groups

2.45 Feedback & recommendations from groups

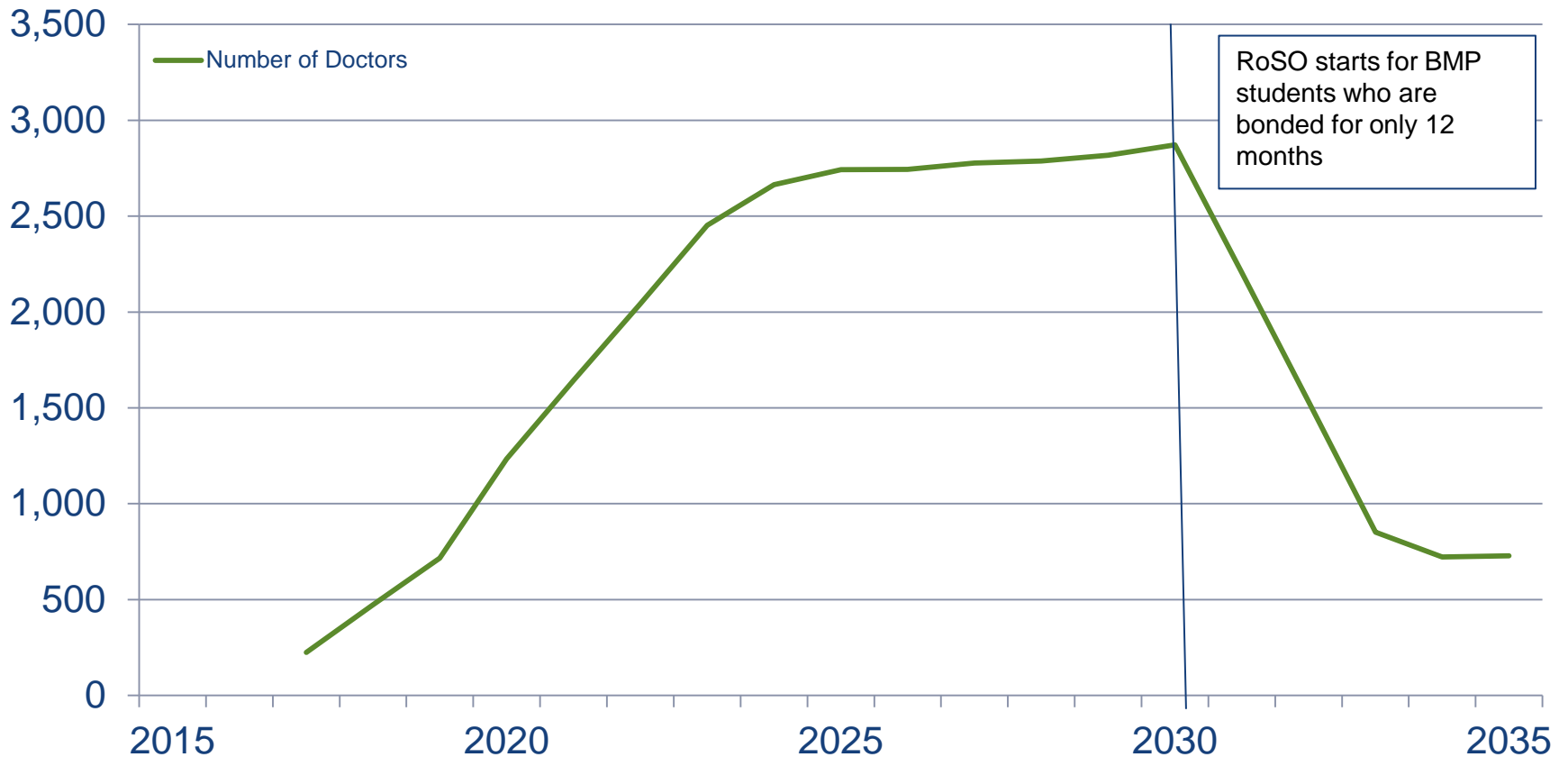


# Current status of participants in the BMP and MRBS

Milestones	Original BMP participants (4-6 years RoSO)	New BMP participants (1 year RoSO)	Total BMP participants	Total MRBS participants	Total BMP + MRBS	% BMP + MRBS
<b>Pre-return of service</b>	6,247	1,638	7,885	1,158	9,043	91%
· Scholars at university	2,570	1,638	4,208	282	4,490	45%
· Training (PGY and fellowship)	3,596	-	3,596	822	4,418	44%
· Pre-Work (completed fellowship)	81	-	81	54	135	1%
<b>Undertaking return of service</b>	151	-	151	232	383	4%
<b>Completed return of service</b>	9	-	9	23	32	<1%
<b>Withdrawn, breached, terminated, deceased</b>	414	2	416	102	518	5%
<b>Total participants</b>	6,821	1,640	8,461	1,515	9,976	100%



# Doctors with return of service obligations (RoSO) – preliminary assessment





# Supporting the bonded scholars into practice

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- The Rural Workforce Agencies have been tasked to provide assistance to the bonded scholars in preparing for, and completing, their return of service obligations.
- The more recent contracts provide permission for contact details of bonded scholars to be provided to the RWAs.
- Key considerations are:
  - ensure the bonded scholars have exposure to rural medical work;
  - provide opportunities for bonded scholars to engage with the rural doctor community through, for example, the rural health clubs;
  - help bonded scholars to find training placements, and positions once Felloved, in the type of rural area that suits them as professionals.



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# REGIONAL TRAINING HUBS AND MEDICAL STUDENTS

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Jennie Della, Director  
Professional Entry and Rural Training Section  
Health Training Branch



# Integrated Rural Training Pipeline for Medicine

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## **Creating new rural training opportunities**

- Expansion of the STP
- Rural Junior Doctor Training Innovation Fund

## **Regional leadership, coordination and collaboration**

- Regional training hubs



# Regional Training Hub Locations





# Regional Training Hubs

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## Leadership, coordination and collaboration

- 26 regional training hubs across Australia
- Funded through RHMT program universities.
- What is a regional training hub?
  - A team of people, both clinical and academic at existing RHMT sites
  - Providing leadership for rural medical training within their region
  - Building relationships
  - Identifying, supporting, guiding and mentoring students and trainees interested in a rural career



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# Support for bonded scholars

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## **Student and trainee support**



# Workshop Discussion

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- Who's here
  - ACT/NSW, NT, QLD, SA, Tas, Vic, WA, overseas
  - Students, RWAs, Rural Hubs, RCS, RTOs, Colleges, Rural GPs, others
  - Allocate to groups
  - Please nominate a spokesperson from each group
- 
- Please maintain anonymity of individual cases if using them to inform your discussion



## Workshop Questions:

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- 1. What support works best for rural bonded scholars?
- 2. What support can Rural Workforce Agencies provide?
- 3. What support can Rural Training Hubs provide?
  
- 4. How can rural bonded scholars link with Rural Workforce Agencies and Rural Training Hubs?
- 5. Who else should be involved in this discussion?

## Plenary discussion & recommendations



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# THANK - YOU

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