

## **Evaluation of the Royal Australian College of Physicians (RACP) Advanced Training Program in Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine (2017-2023)**

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### **Background:**

Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine (AYAM) is a new area of specialist medical practice with growing interest nationally and globally. The RACP has offered accredited Advanced Training in AYAM since 2017 and it must be conjointly undertaken with another specialty area. Growing demands from other specialist training areas means it is increasingly challenging to complete the demands of dual-training in a timely manner. It is also unknown what proportion of trainees would prefer to train in AYAM alone - were it available. Undertaken in collaboration with the RACP, we set out to evaluate current training in AYAM, with an overarching objective to grow the field of AYAM.

### **Methods:**

A mixed methods approach was used for data collection and analysis. Online surveys were developed and distributed to all AYAM trainees since 2017, and their supervisors, to identify experiences of the AYAM advanced training program. Focus group interviews were used to explore these themes in greater depth (results not presented). Descriptive analysis was used for ordinal data in the surveys and thematic analysis was used for survey comments and focus group data.

### **Results:**

34 AYAM supervisors and 24 AYAM trainees completed the surveys. Eighteen (75%) trainees rated their overall satisfaction with the AYAM Training Program as either satisfied or very satisfied compared to 18 (53%) supervisors. Fourteen of 34 (41%) supervisors and 12 of 24 (50%) trainees would like AYAM training to be available as a stand-alone Advanced Training pathway. 14 (41%) supervisors disagreed or strongly disagreed that they were adequately recognized by the RACP or their employer for their supervisory role.

### **Conclusions:**

Respondents were overwhelmingly positive about the RACP AYAM Training Program. Many suggestions for improvements were made, including aspects of the curriculum, trainee assessment, and supervisor recognition. This work will inform future considerations of AYAM curriculum renewal by the RACP.

### **Disclosure of Interest Statement:**

Shearer N is a current trainee with the RACP AYAM training advanced training program. Denny S, Farrant B, Reveley C and Sawyer SM are current or past members of the RACP AYAM Advanced Training Committee (ATC). Lucas G is employed by the RACP.