



Compulsory Components of RVTS Program

Introduction

The RVTS is a vocational training program, which is available to isolated doctors who under ordinary circumstances could not complete vocational training except by leaving their communities and to medical practitioners in Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services. The program offers training towards Fellowship of the RACGP and ACRRM and by extension, for Vocational Recognition (VR) with Medicare Australia.

The program has been specially designed to accommodate the circumstances of remote practice and to offer the best possible educational experience within the practical constraints that this presents. It is characterised by its remote supervision model, use of innovative information and telecommunication technologies, individualised learning programs, population health focus and community involvement.

Upon successful completion of training, participants will:

- have attained comprehensive knowledge, skills and attitudes for unsupervised generalist practice in Australia;
- be awarded the FRACGP and/or the FACRRM;
- for the majority of their training, have remained in an RVTS eligible location;
- be confident and competent to provide services and leadership in healthcare in an isolated setting and, with all other things being equal, motivated to continue to practice in such settings with well established lifelong learning skills; and
- have provided comprehensive high quality medical care to communities throughout their experience and therefore will be better able to maintain/sustain such services in the future.

In assisting registrars to meet these goals, the RVTS will deliver training that:

- includes access to high quality education and teaching and support networks offering learning experiences that develop the appropriate skills and attitudes required for professional practice of medicine;
- facilitates education and training experiences that comply with the standards of both the RACGP and ACRRM and integrate experiential learning, curricula objectives and the registrar's educational and professional goals;
- meets the educational and training eligibility criteria for Fellowship of the RACGP and ACRRM; and
- complies with current government policy.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide an outline of the compulsory components of the RVTS program.

Policy

RVTS training is a four-year Australian Government funded program of vocational education and training leading to awards of FACRRM and FRACGP. The program also enables activities leading to FARGP to be undertaken.

It is a mandatory requirement that all registrars complete three years of full time equivalent training, in an approved ACCHS for the AMS Stream, or approved rural or remote location for the Remote Stream. A further 12 months training is available to registrars in advanced skills curricula such as Anaesthetics, Obstetrics, Emergency Medicine, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Child and Adolescent Health, Mental Health, Adult Internal Medicine, Surgery and Rural and Remote Health.

Required training time for FACRRM is 4 years full time equivalent (FTE) and for FRACGP 3 years full-time plus an optional additional year to complete the FARGP. Recognition of prior learning can reduce this time. A registrar must attend a maximum of 6 workshops and 3 years of webinars over the duration of their training. In exceptional circumstances training time with RVTS can be extended to 4 years for FRACGP and to 5 years for FACRRM/FARGP.

While it is acknowledged that registrars may have difficulty in attending all RVTS educational activities it is mandatory that registrars attend at least 80% of all webinars and 100% of all education workshop sessions.

The following program activities are mandatory for all RVTS registrars:

- 80% participation in the dedicated program of weekly webinars throughout the duration of the program;
- 100% attendance at all compulsory bi-annual education workshop sessions provided by the program¹;
- Regular supervisor contact;
- Participation in twice yearly training reviews with the registrar's supervisor and training coordinator;
- Participation in clinical teaching visits: minimum of 2 CTVs in the first year of training; twice in the second year of training; and in subsequent years as required or specified by Director of Training;
- Participation in cross cultural awareness activities; and
- Successful completion of two approved Emergency Medicine Skills courses, e.g. EMST, APLS, and ALS. (An emergency course completed in the 12 months prior to acceptance into the RVTS program, may be considered towards meeting part of this requirement).

Further requirements for first year cohorts:

- Participation in a 360-degree Multi-Source Feedback (MSF) during first year of training as a formative learning opportunity. The MSF Survey will be independent of the summative assessment requirement for ACRRM Registrars and will be applicable to Registrars completing either, or both, College pathways. The MSF survey will be fully funded by RVTS, and will be conducted by an external organisation, Client-Focused Evaluation Program (CFEP); and
- Completion of an Early Training Appraisal (ETA) during the first year of training as a formative assessment. The ETA will be conducted as an online test as soon as possible after enrolment. Information gained from the test will assist RVTS to allocate resources to support registrar learning.

¹ Non-attendance at an RVTS workshop and/or workshop session may impact training, please refer to the RVTS Registrar Attendance at Workshop Policy and associated procedures

Responsibilities for the policy

The CEO, Medical Educators, Registrar Training Coordinator Team Leader and Registrar Training Coordinators are responsible for the day-to-day implementation of this policy.

Related documents

RVTS Handbook
RVTS Website
RVTS Education Plan
RVTS Registrar Attendance at Workshop Policy

Document control:

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