

Dr Anna Kelly

Testimony for Rural Adult Physician Training, Opportunities and Rotations (RAPTOR Training Pathway)

"I am currently a Medical Registrar commencing my first year of Basic Physician Training (BPT) in Bunbury for WACHS. I have been lucky enough to work for WACHS since the very beginning of my career as a doctor having completed my internship in Albany at Albany Health Campus. Completing junior doctor years in Albany is a no brainer, and a great learning experience. As the teams are reasonably small you get to work closely with senior clinicians (both GP and non-GP Specialists) who are very supportive, keen to teach and interested in extending both your skills as a clinician but also your personal development in the community (whether that be sporting, culinary, arts related or otherwise). Importantly working regionally doesn't mean less exposure, the range of pathology that you will see and be involved in managing will surprise you, as there aren't onsite dedicated subspeciality teams you get a real breath of experience.

I was lucky enough to undertake the RAPTOR Program, which is specifically aimed to prepare junior doctors to enter BPT. Through this program I had a dedicated physician mentor, access to many amazing professional development opportunities (ALS2, Teaching on the Run, WACHS Leadership Program and more), close support from WACHS MEU, as well as the opportunity to undertake a service development program setting up a Penicillin Allergy De-labelling Clinic. I have subsequently started my first BPT and registrar year in Bunbury (don't let anyone tell you that to get onto training you have to be at a tertiary!).

Bunbury so far seems like a great place to work as well, again the variety and complexity of pathology is astounding, the senior clinicians are very approachable and supportive, and very receptive to suggestions for service improvement. There is also a fantastic junior doctors organisation BDITs who provide support for junior doctors as well as snacks (!) and additional learning opportunities. Bunbury (or Funbury) also has the benefit of being a lovely place to live, close to the beach, and plenty of restaurants, bars and wineries around, not to mention Margaret River & the Ferguson Valley!

So, if you're thinking about making the move to WACHS, you won't regret it!"