

Media release

19 May 2023



Rural doctors converge on Geelong for Victoria's peak rural health conference

Victorian Rural Health Conference
Geelong, Victoria
19-21 May 2023

The Victorian Rural Health Conference (VRHC) kicks off tomorrow in Geelong, featuring sessions to inspire, educate and inform on key topics affecting rural health care in Victoria

Convened by the Rural Doctors Association of Victoria (RDAV), VRHC brings together rural doctors from across Victoria, along with delegates from nearly every Australian state.

Dr Dan Wilson, RDAV President, said that the conference was one of the most looked-forward to events of the year for many rural doctors.

“With a heavy hitting program and CPD hours on offer, VRHC is one of the best ways for our rural doctors to connect, learn and grow,” Dr Wilson said.

“Practicing rural medicine can be professionally isolating when compared to working in large tertiary hospitals with many staff, so having the opportunity to learn and share together is vitally important for our rural doctors.

“This year we will be hearing from keynote speaker Prof Ruth Stewart, Australia’s Rural Health Commissioner, and Dr Tim Duncan, an aeromedical retrieval doctor and film maker, with personal experience after suffering a near-fatal accident in Kakadu National Park.

“Dr Duncan will build on our theme of #RuralAdventures, which will include sessions with Prof Lucie Walters on Clinical Courage, Medicine in the Extremes: Tropical, Alpine and Remote, and a keynote address from Dr Anne Creaton, a retrieval medicine expert who trains and mentors clinicians in Pacific countries such as Samoa and Fiji.”

Other concurrent session themes are Good Governance, Doctors in Training, and a Clinical stream which includes women’s health, sexual health and toxicology updates.

The opening plenary will feature an address from the Victorian Shadow Minister for Health Georgie Crozier, and there will also be a Gala dinner on the Saturday night for delegates and their guests.

“With pre-conference workshops Point of Care Ultrasound (provided by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners), and Advanced Life Support 2 (provided by the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine), delegates have a great opportunity to complete essential training combined with attending VRHC,” Dr Wilson said.



“We are excited to welcome all our delegates and looking forward to showcasing the great location and venues on offer in Geelong.”

[Click here for more information and the full program](#)

Available for interview:

RDAV President, Dr Dan Wilson

RDAV Conference Convener, Dr Claire Arundell

VRHC23 Conference Organiser, Peta Rutherford RDAA CEO

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