

MEDIA RELEASE

30 June 2025

Longreach RG to champion ‘growth’ and ‘connection’ for rural doctors

Longreach-based Dr David Walker has taken the helm as President of the Rural Doctors Association of Queensland (RDAQ) after being duly elected at the organisation’s Annual General Meeting.

Dr Walker addressed conference delegates as incoming RDAQ President on Saturday afternoon to close proceedings at the RDAQ2025 conference held at RACV Royal Pines Resort on the Gold Coast.

The rural generalist and GP supervisor with advanced skills in mental health officially accepted the presidential pin from outgoing president Dr Danielle Allan at Saturday evening’s David Horn Memorial Gala Ball and RDAQ Awards.

“It’s a privilege to take on this important role as part of an organisation which means a lot to me,” Dr Walker said.

“RDAQ has, for decades, provided a sense of connection for rural doctors as well as long-standing advocacy for equitable healthcare for our communities,” he said.

“I’m grateful for Dr Allan’s heartfelt and principled leadership over the past 12 months, steering RDAQ’s agenda through both the State and Federal elections and driving the delivery of our important Coercive Control and Domestic Violence Policy Position.”

Dr Walker is Executive Director of Medical Services for Central West Hospital and Health Service and lives and works in Longreach with his wife Clare – also a rural generalist (Obstetrician) and RDAQ Past-President – and their four children.

David and Clare are the second couple to have both served as RDAQ President, following on from Drs Sue and Matt Masel.

“Clare and I fell in love with rural medicine after doing 12 months GP training in Longreach early in our careers,” Dr Walker said.

“I think we have an opportunity now to reimagine RDAQ’s service offerings and how we connect with existing and potential members in a meaningful way that will also help to grow our organisation and strengthen our already impressive advocacy voice.”

Outgoing RDAQ president Dr Danielle Allan will move into the role of Immediate Past-President while Dr Helen Fraser was elected as President-elect, Dr Elizabeth Clarkson to the role of Treasurer and Dr Felicity Constable was re-elected as Secretary.

The meeting also acknowledged the extraordinary commitment of Professor Tarun Sen Gupta who retired from his role on the Management Committee after serving for many years across numerous positions including President and Treasurer. The association also acknowledged the contributions of outgoing Treasurer Dr Ulrich Orda after he chose not to nominate for the position in 2025-26.

Both are stepping away from their roles with RDAQ in an official capacity but are still very much committed to their 'professional family' that is RDAQ.

2025-2026 RDAQ Executive Management Committee

Executive

President	Dr David Walker - Longreach
President-elect	Dr Helen Fraser - Townsville
Immediate Past-president	Dr Danielle Allan - Esk
Treasurer	Dr Elizabeth Clarkson – Theodore
Secretary	Dr Felicity Constable - Toowoomba

Photos:

RDAQ President Dr David Walker receiving the presidential pin from RDAQ Immediate Past President Dr Danielle Allan

2025-2026 Executive Management Committee (L-R): RDAQ President Dr David Walker, President-elect Dr Helen Fraser, Treasurer Dr Elizabeth Clarkson, Immediate Past-president Dr Danielle Allan, Secretary Dr Felicity Constable.

Download photos: [HERE](#)

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