

MEDIA RELEASE

20 June 2024

Championing the future of rural medicine

The Rural Doctors Association of Queensland (RDAQ) has announced a significant partnership which will boost its ability to support prevocational rural doctors personally and professionally.

[MDA National](#) has been named as the partner for [RDAQ's Prevocational Support Program](#) which helps build the professional, physical and mental well-being of doctors in training.

The partnership announced as part of RDAQ's prevocational doctors' welcome events ahead of the RDAQ2024 conference getting underway in Brisbane this afternoon.

"Those initial years where you are transitioning from student to doctor, while exciting, can also be some of the most challenging and isolating of your medical career," said Dr Alex Dunn.

"We know that we need more rural doctors to keep our communities healthy and we also know that training rurally is a key factor in doctors staying rural.

"Our Prevocational Support Program not only delivers benefits for the individual prevocational doctors through online resources, access to counselling, reflective learning, networking and upskilling, but also aims to help address rural workforce issues over time as well," he said.

"MDA National's support will allow us to better assist more young doctors in their formative years and help connect them with our strong and supportive RDAQ network."

MDA National provides timely, practical and expert medico-legal support and advice when doctors need it most.

"RDAQ is renowned for its ability to build genuine belonging and provide a welcoming and supportive professional family for rural doctors," MDA National Business Development Manager (Qld) Sam Clark said.

"That aligns with our commitment to providing our members with unwavering care and support in the moments that matter, so they can keep practising with confidence.

"We're excited about our partnership with RDAQ and helping support rural doctors on their journeys."

RDAQ Rural Prevocational Champion Dr Maggie Monckton is a Medical Officer (Intern) at the Sunshine Coast Hospital and says it takes a village to raise a doctor.

RDAQ 35 Years

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“The privilege of practising medicine does come with its challenges, especially when you’re still finding your feet.

“But having the backing of the RDAQ family makes such a difference both personally and professionally,” Dr Monckton said.

RDAQ2024 is being held 20 – 22 June 2024 at BCEC.

More information:

[View program](#) | conference.rdaq.com.au

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