

New Horizons
Expanding PA Programs into Rural and Remote Queensland

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The purpose of this talk is to inform the PA Education community about the development of the PA profession in Queensland, Australia. At the end of this talk, participants will have an understanding of the rural healthcare scene in Queensland and how the development of the PA profession is progressing.

The talk opens with some general facts about Australia, rural Queensland, and Australia's Indigenous population. It goes on to discuss challenges of providing healthcare to Queensland's rural population including recruitment and retention of the healthcare workforce. After a short discussion on the health care system in Queensland, there will be an exploration of health care delivery in remote areas and the role of nurses in rural primary care.

Once the scene has been set, the discussion progresses to legislation supporting the delegated practice model, major players in PA development in Queensland, and a short spotlight on the Queensland Ambulance Service Officers Graduate Certificate training program to support an expanded role for paramedics in primary care as this model is an important example of delegated practice for non-nurse mid-level providers in Australia.

The talk wraps up with a timeline for PA activities in Queensland.