

Australia announces world first framework for rural and remote nursing

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This Framework is about fostering best practice to improve health outcomes: Assistant Minister, Ged Kearney



A world first guide addressing the unique demands and challenges for Registered Nurses in rural and regional Australia has been released.

Communities across Australia rely on Registered Nurses to provide primary care, acute care and aged care. They are skilled, capable and trusted healthcare practitioners often working in some of the most rural and remote parts of the country.

The National Rural and Remote Nursing Generalist Framework 2023-2027 is a guide for Registered Nurses working outside urban areas, as well as employers, mentors, and educators.

As well as describing skills and capabilities, the Framework emphasises the importance of clinical decision-making judgement of the patient's situation, culturally safe practice, collaboration, and partnerships with clients, families and communities.

The Framework was developed by the Office of the National Rural Health Commissioner, Adjunct Professor Ruth Stewart, and Adjunct Professor Shelley Nowlan, with guidance and contributions from members of a national steering committee.

The steering committee includes members from research, industry, unions, and First Nations groups.

Assistant Minister, Emma McBride said, "The Framework will assist in matching rural and remote communities with nurses who understand the challenges of their unique health care context and want to make a difference."