

University of Sydney and Northern NSW Local Health District join forces to build rural health workforce in Australia

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To support the development and delivery of student placement programmes



The University of Sydney and Northern NSW Local Health District (NNSWLHD) have reaffirmed their longstanding partnership through their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a further three years, continuing their shared commitment to building a sustainable regional health workforce.

The ongoing agreement supports existing clinical placements, medical training pathways and workforce development for medical, allied health and nursing students, as well as research collaboration across key areas of rural and regional health.

It also supports the development and delivery of student placement programmes across medicine, dentistry, allied health, and nursing and midwifery, helping to strengthen local workforce pipelines and support health services across the Northern Rivers and surrounding regions.

The MoU is a continuation of the 25 years of collaborative work between the University of Sydney and NNSWLHD, including through the Regional Training Hub, student simulation training, and collaborative research projects.

Research is another area of significant collaboration, including Doctor of Medicine (MD) research projects and broader ongoing research projects, including topics like natural disaster management and preparedness.

Current research projects involving collaboration with NNSWLHD include the HeLP-R clinical trial, which is testing whether virtual, multidisciplinary pain care can be as effective as in-person care for people living with chronic musculoskeletal pain, while also examining how these models can work in real hospital settings.