Appendix C  General interview guide
Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed and to contribute to the evaluation of the Rural Clinical Schools (RCS) Program and the University Departments of Rural Health (UDRH) Program.

Urbis has been contracted by the Department of Health and Ageing to evaluate the RCS Program and the UDRH Program. The project has two objectives:

- To evaluate the current effectiveness, and future role, of each Program within the context of the current national approach to improving rural and remote health services in Australia; and
- To evaluate the degree to which RCSs are satisfying RCS Program parameters and UDRHs are achieving UDRH Program objectives.

We are very interested in your perspective regarding the current operation of the two Programs and their impact on rural health workforce capacity. Our discussion will focus on the following broad areas of interest, and will allow opportunity for you to speak about the Programs in their national scope as well as their implementation within your region.

We would also be glad to receive any documents or other evidence you can provide in support of your perspective regarding the impact of the Programs on workforce and research capacity. Your comments will remain confidential to our team and comments will not be directly attributed within the final report without your permission.

Should you have any further comments, concerns or questions following our interview today, please contact the lead evaluator, Dr Linda Kurti, at Urbis on (02) 8233 9947, or lkurti@urbis.com.au.

1. National rural health workforce outcomes
   a. the current operation of the RCS and/or UDRH and its contribution to increased rural health workforce capacity;
   b. the extent to which the RCS and/or UDRH has increased training and support for the rural health workforce, and increased rural health research capability and output; and
   c. the impact of the RCS and/or UDRH on rural health providers, and the local community.

2. Relationships between the Programs and between Programs and related initiatives
   a. the way in which the regional RCS and UDRH work together;
   b. the relationship between the RCS or UDRH and other national rural health initiatives (ie RUSC, AGPT), and examples of coordination or integration; and
   c. the relationship between the RCS or UDRH and other local health service providers, educational institutions, and other programs supporting rural health, including Indigenous health.

3. Enabling and limiting factors
   a. those factors which have contributed to meeting the objectives of the Program; and
   b. those factors which have limited the ability to meet Program objectives.

4. Future
   a. the sustainability of the university rural health training infrastructure, risks to sustainability, and potential for improvements to current operational models; and
   b. potential future impacts of the Programs on rural health including Indigenous health, the rural health workforce, and local communities.

5. Any other issues