**Obstetrics & Gynaecology**

2016 Factsheet

Obstetrics and Gynaecology are specialist branches of medicine concerned with health care specific to women. Obstetricians provide medical care before, during, and after childbirth. Gynaecologists diagnose, treat, and aid in the prevention of disorders of the female reproductive system. A minimum of six years full-time advanced training through the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists is required to specialise in this area.

# Workforce

In 2016, there were 1,742 obstetricians and gynaecologists employed in Australia, of whom 61.1% worked in the private sector. Nearly 95% of obstetricians and gynaecologist who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.

# Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 55.4% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 55.6 years. Females represented 44.6% of clinicians and were on average 8.5 years younger than male clinicians.

# Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, most clinicians (82.2%) were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system.

New South Wales had the highest number of clinicians in 2016 followed by Victoria.

The Northern Territory had the highest ratio of clinicians in 2016 with 7.7 per 100,000 population. By contrast, Western Australia had the lowest ratio with 6.2 per 100,000 population.

# New fellows

The number of obstetrics and gynaecology new fellows fluctuated between 2013 (81) and 2015 (94) increasing to 101 in 2014. Female new fellow numbers increased by more than 50% from 2013 to 2015 from 31 to 69.

# Vocational training

The number of obstetrics and gynaecology trainees in 2016 (539) was 5.1% less than the number in 2013 (568).

# Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 325 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in obstetrics and gynaecology. A HNS is a medical practitioner employed in a salaried position mainly in a hospital. They do not hold a specialist qualification and are not training to obtain one. They include career medical officers, hospital medical officers, interns, principal house officers, resident medical officers and registrars.

# References

1. National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS): Medical Practitioners 2016.
2. Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide.
3. Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
4. ABS 3101.0 – Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.
5. National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) – Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

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