**Paediatrics & child health**

2016 Factsheet

Paediatricians specialise in the treatment of neonates, infants, children and adolescents. A minimum of six years full-time advanced training through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians is required to specialise in this area.

# Workforce

In 2016, there were 2,059 paediatricians employed in Australia, of whom 26.4% worked in the private sector. Nearly 90% of paediatricians who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.

# Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 51.8% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 52.2 years. Females represented 48.2% of clinicians and were on average 5.5 years younger than male clinicians.

# Distribution of clinicians

The majority (85.3%) of clinicians were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system in 2016.

In 2016, New South Wales was listed as the principal place of practice for 33.5% of clinicians and Victoria for 24.1% of clinicians.

The Northern Territory had the highest ratio of clinicians with 10.6 per 100,000 population, followed by New South Wales and Western Australia with 8.0 and 7.8 per 100,000 population respectively.

# New fellows

In 2013 and 2015, the number of paediatrician and child health new fellows increased from 134 to 158; however, there was a decrease to 102 new fellows in 2014. The total number of new fellows in 2015 was 17.9% higher than in 2013.

# Vocational training

In 2016, there were 1,604 vocational trainees. Between 2013 and 2016, the number of female trainees increased by 26.3% from 953 to 1,204, whereas male trainees decreased by 3.6% from 415 to 400.

# Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 305 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in paediatrics and child health. 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 Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).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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