



NATIONAL RURAL  
HEALTH  
ALLIANCE INC.

## Network News

26 June 2006

### Stand up for Rural Health – by 14 July if you please

Up to a thousand people will Stand Up for Rural and Remote Health at the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference in Albury next March. And if they want to present a paper they will have to sit down and send in an abstract by 14 July please.

Conference themes are:

- 1 **Health across borders** - State and professional (including developments along the Murray River). How teamwork is being developed across professional and disciplinary boundaries, and how quality is assured in inter-disciplinary work.
- 2 A focus on **regional and local success stories** in rural and remote health. What are their key characteristics and what contribution is made to them by IT and transport? Those relating to Indigenous health are of particular interest. And what have been the key issues where services have not been effective?
- 3 The **politics and economics of early intervention**: what are the political or professional constraints and where are the successes? What is the evidence for the benefits of early intervention, and are sufficient resources being directed to it?
- 4 How do we measure up in rural and remote areas on **evidence, access and equity**? What is the status of the evidence base in rural and remote health and what are the appropriate measures to be used? Where are the key research gaps? How do rural and remote health services compare across regions and with other nations?
- 5 What are the particular characteristics of **chronic disease in rural and remote Australia**: diabetes, obesity, oral and dental disease, mental illness and heart disease? What intervention and management systems work well, including for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people? What are the roles of screening and self-management systems? Can we overcome skill shortages relating to chronic disease?
- 6 Preparation for and community response to **natural disasters**. What are (or would be) the rural and remote aspects of drought, flood and fire, avian flu, foot and mouth? How prepared are we in country areas? What are the characteristics of communities and health services which make some regions more resilient?

To submit an abstract, go to [www.ruralhealth.org.au](http://www.ruralhealth.org.au) - from the front page choose "Visit the Conference website" and then "Call for Papers".

Or email [conference@ruralhealth.org.au](mailto:conference@ruralhealth.org.au)