



[REDACTED]

4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Executive Officer  
Medical Board  
Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency  
GPO Box 9958  
**MELBOURNE VIC 3001**

Via email: [medboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au](mailto:medboardconsultation@ahpra.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

East Grampians Health Service (EGHS) supports the recognition of the new field of speciality practice: Rural Generalist Medicine.

EGHS is a high performing rural health service according to the Victorian Department of Health's key measure – People Matter Survey results and the Victorian Healthcare Experience Survey of our patients.

EGHS medical services are largely provided by rural generalists with extended skills in anaesthetics, obstetrics, urgent care and medical inpatient. The advanced skills these practitioners have allows them to be flexible to provide their skills in the areas that are most needed at the time. This is critical to the services of a rural health service, which very often do not have the critical mass to warrant employment of multiple specialists.

While a specialist provides high quality service in their own craft, they are unable to provide meaningful support in other areas e.g. a FRANCA in Urgent Care.

This is where rural generalists excel in being able to provide a broad range of services.

This has been the missing link in medical workforce of rural areas and now needs to be filled with this new breed of specialists, the rural generalist.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED] or via email [REDACTED]

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NICK BUSH  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



Integrity



Excellence



Community



Working Together



Learning Culture