



NATIONAL RURAL
HEALTH
ALLIANCE INC.

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Rural Interest Group of Pharmaceutical Society of Australia joins NRHA

Following a ballot of existing Alliance members, the Rural Special Interest Group of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has been admitted this week to membership in the National Rural Health Alliance. The Special Interest Group consists of over 120 pharmacists working in rural and remote areas in the States and the Northern Territory.

The PSA's Rural Special Interest Group represents those pharmacists, provides them with a forum for discussion of the issues and problems unique to rural areas, and works with them on the development of policy positions and submissions. The PSA's Chief Executive Officer, Liesel Wett, said that membership in the Alliance will increase the group's capacity for these activities and the national effectiveness of its involvement in policy issues.

"The rural interest group will provide the Alliance's policy development and advocacy work with the professional views of rural pharmacists working in a range of rural and remote settings," Ms Wett said.

Chair of the Alliance, Lesley Barclay, said today from Lismore that the Alliance was delighted to have the pharmacists' professional association contributing to its work.

"Pharmacists play unique and highly-valued roles in health care and management wherever they are to be found," she said.

This week's decision brings to 33 the number of national organisations in the Alliance and strengthens the voice of rural pharmacy in its work. Rural Pharmacists Australia, now representing the rural and remote interest of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia, is a long-standing member of the Alliance.

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