

Media Release: New Doctors for Inverell

Inverell is one of many towns in the New England/Northwest region of New South Wales to benefit from the successful recruitment of doctors into the General Practice Training Program by local training provider, GP Synergy.

Several new doctors have recently commenced their training as General Practitioners (GPs) in the New England/Northwest region. Known as GP registrars, these doctors are fully qualified having completed university and hospital training. They are now undertaking further training so that they can work independently as GPs. These doctors will spend up to 18 months of their training moving around the region, working in a number of teaching practices, under the supervision of experienced local GPs and supported with education and resources by their training provider, GP Synergy.

One of these doctors is Dr Lauren Cone, who has recently commenced her GP training in a local Inverell practice. Lauren grew up in nearby Gunnedah and completed the majority of her training in rural locations, with a large portion of her hospital training undertaken in Tamworth Hospital.

Lauren said after series of positive experiences with General Practice during her training, she soon decided she wanted to become a rural GP. 'During my rural training I was mentored by excellent GPs and I really liked the friendliness of small communities', says Lauren, 'The variety of the rural GP profession and ability to use multiple skill sets also really appealed to me'.

Another major reason Lauren became a rural GP was to help small communities access to General Practitioners. 'Coming from a family of farmers, I have seen first hand the common man's plight for primary health care access and I want to be a part of that solution to try and help the community' says Lauren.

GP Synergy Regional Business Manager, Mr Pat Worthing, says the future of GP training in the region looks bright. 'It is encouraging to see increasing numbers of doctors coming into the New England/Northwest region to train. Many of these doctors, like Lauren, are coming from the local area and increasing numbers are selecting to move to train here recognizing the high quality training experience the region can offer'.

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