




'Being in a place where it matters' – A Qualitative Investigation into the Factors Motivating GPs to Work in Aboriginal Health Services



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- In the face of these barriers, participants reported employing a variety of strategies, including:
 - Drawing on the support and knowledge of others, both internal and external to the AHS
 - Undergoing self-reflection and change practices, including developing cultural sensitivity and awareness, assertiveness and self-reliance
 - Making an effort to engage with the community
 - **Being empathetic to their clients' needs by taking their perspective on health issues**
 - When asked about areas where the training provider could have improved, participants gave suggestions in five domains:
 1. Providing more AHS placements and offering extended (i.e. 12 month) placements
 2. **Establishing specific orientations for each AHS to familiarise registrars with the local community's history and culture**
 3. Providing more advanced public health, mental health and drug/alcohol management training
 4. Establishing specific mental health support services for AHS registrars
 5. Establishing a specific mentorship program for AHS registrars
 - A variety of similarities in the career motivating factors for RUA and AHS registrars were identified, including strong social justice values and exposure to working in the sector
 - Nevertheless, there were new career motivating factors identified for AHS registrars, including building relationships.
 - Although there were few overlaps between the barriers and strategies to overcome barriers identified by participants in this research and the RUA literature, there has been little investigation of these factors generally