



# Understanding the financial implications of entering general practice training for junior doctors in South Australia- Executive Summary

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## Context

General Practitioners (GPs) provide a key role in Australian healthcare and are expected to well into the future. The supply of GPs is of concern, however nationwide, and in South Australia, there has been a decline in interest in GP training. While this decline is likely not attributed to a single factor, one factor regularly proposed to negatively impact interest in General Practice as a career is the difference in employment arrangements between hospital-based junior doctors and GP registrars in community practice.

## Aims and Objectives

This primary purpose of this project was to explore the evidence regarding employment differences for doctors choosing to enter GP training, with a focus on the Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) pathway. Secondly, we sought to explore the GP earning potential using existing data and research compared with other specialties. This project was designed to inform advocacy, communication, and local quality improvement.

## Method

### Phase 1: Environmental Scan, literature review and analysis of existing data

An environmental scan was undertaken and involved reviewing relevant literature, policies, documents, data, and interviews with key informants. This scan then informed our survey in Phase 2.

### Phase 2: GP Registrars survey and analysis

- o There is extremely large variation in the gross earnings of GP registrars compared with non-GP registrars.
- Comparisons between entitlements and benefits are difficult as they are complex:
  - o Hospital-based registrars are entitled to additional supports such as professional development, relocation, as well as maintaining access to accrued annual leave ( ) - 1