

RURAL DERMATOLOGY GOES WEST

The 5th Rural Dermatology Meeting of the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD) kicks off this Friday in Broome, Western Australia.

The Convenor of the Meeting, Associate Professor Prasad Kumarasinghe says: “We have arranged an academically enriching, practically useful academic program and an exciting social program for the Rural Dermatology Meeting. We are focusing on various aspects of delivery of dermatological services to rural Australia, including workforce issues, tropical infectious diseases and indigenous dermatological health issues.”

Many dermatologists provide critical dermatology outreach services to regional, rural and remote areas of Australia on a regular basis. President of the ACD, Dr Andrew Miller is presenting on rural workforce planning and the Federal Government’s Integrated Rural Training Pipeline at the event.

Dr Andrew Miller, President of the ACD says: “By 2030, Australia will have a dermatology workforce shortage of 90 dermatologists. This deficit will be most felt in rural areas. We need to increase the number of trainee positions available to fill this gap and build the regional workforce. The College is working with Government to enable this to happen.”

The meeting program highlights important interactions between dermatology and other disciplines, such as infectious diseases. The keynote speaker, Professor Bart Currie, is speaking on infectious diseases in the tropical North of Australia.

Professor Bart Currie says: “Working from the Global and Tropical Health Division at the Menzies School of Health Research and the Royal Darwin Hospital, I have collaborated across Central and Northern Australia and with clinical and scientific colleagues elsewhere in Australia and overseas. The Northern Territory has a unique environment that enables the study of tropical infectious diseases and the expertise of dermatology colleagues has been invaluable in both our clinical work and our research efforts.”

Dr Bernadette Ricciardo leads the focus on indigenous dermatology with her presentation on medicinal plants used by Aboriginal Australians and there will also be a post congress workshop on native bush medicines.

Dr Bernadette Ricciardo says: “There is much we can learn from traditional Aboriginal medicinal knowledge and the use of medicinal plants in skin disease. Establishing a collaborative research engagement with indigenous communities is the way forward.”

A/Prof Kumarasinghe says: “An eminent panel of guest speakers and several distinguished Fellows of the ACD will deliver the presentations. An array of free papers and case reports will also be presented. We have no doubt that the 5th Rural Dermatology Meeting in the picturesque coastal town of Broome will be a memorable event.”

Links to further information

[5th Rural Dermatology Meeting web page](#)



[5th Rural Dermatology Meeting final program](#)

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For further information on the ACD, visit www.dermcoll.edu.au, or see our updates on [Facebook](#) or Twitter at [@DermatologyACD](#) #dermcoll or [LinkedIn](#)

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About the Australasian College of Dermatologists (ACD):

The ACD is the peak medical college accredited by the Australian Medical Council for the training and professional development of medical practitioners in the specialty of dermatology. They provide authoritative information about dermatology to Government, the media, other health professionals and the general public.

Media enquiries:

For more information, images, or to arrange an interview with a dermatologist, please contact:

Roshan Riddell
Marketing and Communications Specialist
Australasian College of Dermatologists
+61 2 8741 4150
roshan@dermcoll.edu.au