**Dermatology**

2016 Factsheet

Dermatologists specialise in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of skin diseases and cancers. A minimum of four years full-time training through the Australasian College of Dermatologists is required to specialise in this area.

# Workforce

In 2016, there were 484 dermatologists employed in Australia, of whom 94.2% worked in the private sector. The majority (97.5%) of registered dermatologists who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.

# Demographics of clinicians

Males made up 55.5% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 53.6 years and worked on average 42.6 hours per week. Females represented 44.5% of clinicians and were on average 6.8 years younger and worked 8.3 fewer hours per week than males. The total average hours for the dermatology clinician workforce were 39 hours per week.

# Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, most clinicians (92.4%) were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system. There were no clinicians located in an area classified above MMM3. Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au.

Over 36% of clinicians reported their principal place of practice was in New South Wales and over 26% indicated that their principal place of practice was in Victoria.

In 2016, South Australia had the largest ratio of clinicians with 2.6 for every 100,000 population. New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria were the only states with a ratio higher than the national average of 1.9 clinicians per 100,000 population. The NT was the lowest, with 0.4 dermatologists per 100,000 population.

# New fellows

In 2015 there were 20 new fellows. The number of new fellows from the Australasian College of Dermatologists reached a peak of 31 in 2014 where 7 were overseas trained. Between 2013 and 2015 the number of new fellows who were overseas trained and obtained their specialist qualification outside of Australia fell to zero.

Females represented over half of all new fellows in every year between 2013 and 2015.

# Vocational training

Trainees in dermatology increased by 8.4% between 2013 (95) and 2016 (103). During this period the number of female trainees increased by 19.3% from 57 to 68.

# Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 79 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in dermatology. 63% were aged 20-29 years of age. A HNS is a medical practitioner employed in a salaried position mainly in a hospital. They do not hold a specialist qualification and are not training to obtain one. They include career medical officers, hospital medical officers, interns, principal house officers, resident medical officers and registrars.

# Workforce projections

Assuming a static intake of trainees, there is a projected shortage of 60 full-time equivalent (FTE) dermatologists for 2025 and a shortfall of 90 FTE in 2030.

Supply and demand forecasts were calculated based on figures from the Australia’s Future Health Workforce dataset.

# References

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