

THE ROLE OF PERSONALITY AND TEMPERAMENT IN STUDENTS' INITIAL INTENTION AND SUBSEQUENT DECISION TO ENTER RURAL PRACTICE EARLY IN THEIR MEDICAL CAREER.

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Project Description

While there is no doubt about the shortage of medical practitioners in rural and remote areas and structural factors have been studied extensively, little is known about characteristics of the individual doctor that influence physicians' decisions on whether to work in rural areas or other areas of workforce need. This project will considerably expand our knowledge about the role of individual factors, particularly personality, temperament and background on medical student intentions and practitioner choice of whether to work in rural areas or not. This will, to our knowledge, be the first prospective longitudinal study of this question. The information gained from this study will be of use to agencies involved in rural doctor recruitment as well as medical school admission units, particularly schools with a rural mission.