



# Diagnostic Radiology

## The Workforce

**Diagnostic Radiologists use plain X-ray radiology, computerised tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), ultrasound and nuclear medicine imaging techniques to obtain images that are interpreted to aid in the diagnosis of disease. Interventional radiologists treat disease using imaging equipment.**

In the 2010 calendar year, there were 507 Diagnostic Radiologists who primarily worked within NSW. This workforce had the following characteristics:

**Average Age:** 51.9 years

**Females:** 21.7% of the workforce

**Average Hours:** Diagnostic Radiologists worked an average 32.1 hours per week (of a standard 40 hour week).

**Over 50s:** Approximately 55% were aged 50 years and over and 30% of the workforce were older than 60 years

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts for NSW (unpublished data)



## Trainees and New Fellows

**Trainees:** 112 Trainees in NSW in 2012 with an average of 100 trainees between 2009 and 2012

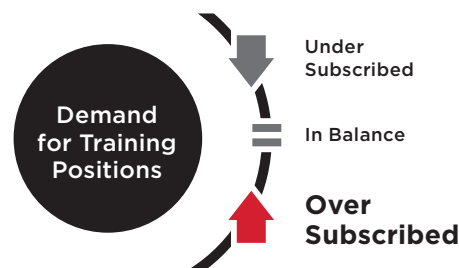
**Females:** Trainee numbers in NSW have increased from 30 in 2006 to 46 in 2012 (41% of total)

**New Fellows:** An average of 19 per year in NSW from 2008-2011 (26.3% female)

**Medical Specialty College:** Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) ([www.ranzcr.edu.au](http://www.ranzcr.edu.au))

**Training Network:** Not part of Health Education and Training Institute Training Networks ([www.heti.nsw.gov.au](http://www.heti.nsw.gov.au)) (under review)

Source: Medical Training Review Panel (MTRP)



## Retirement Intentions in NSW

**1-2 Years:** 5.5% of Diagnostic Radiologists intend to retire within 1-2 years

**3-5 Years:** 13% of Diagnostic Radiologists intend to retire within the next 3-5 years

**6-9 Years:** 5.3% of Diagnostic Radiologists intend to retire within the next 6-9 years

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts (unpublished data)



## Supply and Distribution



**Distribution:** The Radiologist workforce is located mainly within metropolitan Sydney, Illawarra Shoalhaven and Hunter New England Local Health Districts (LHDs).

**Rural & Regional:** There is a small workforce (<=15) of radiologists located outside of these LHDs. Services provided by Tele-health and Fly-in Fly-out services to rural and regional areas.

## The Future in NSW – Workforce Planning to 2025

**Estimated Demand Growth:** Between 3% to 4.5% to 2025

**Estimated Workforce Size:** In 2025, between 550 to 616 Full Time Equivalents

**Additional Fellows:** All demand scenarios require additional trainees as of 2014

**Range:** Up to 40 additional new trainees per annum

## Workforce Planning Priority and Risk Rating



**Ageing:** The risk associated with the workforce aged over 60 and 70.

**Small Workforce Size:** The risk associated with the sustainability of small workforces.

**Retirement Intentions:** The risk associated with the retirement intentions of the current workforce.

**New Fellow Requirements:** The risk associated with the requirement to recruit additional trainees, based on workforce planning to 2025.

**Training Supervision:** The risk associated with the availability of the existing workforce to provide supervision to new trainees.

## Future Workforce Considerations

- Growth in interventional radiology
- Currently few training positions outside of metropolitan Sydney. Need to grow training positions in rural and regional NSW
- Role of tele-radiology in providing services in rural and regional areas