

Gastroenterology and Hepatology



The Workforce

Gastroenterology and Hepatology are branches of internal medicine that are concerned with the prevention, investigation and treatment of and research into illnesses involving the liver and gastrointestinal tract.

In the 2010 calendar year, there were 233 Gastroenterologists who primarily worked within NSW. This workforce had the following characteristics:

- Average Age:** 48.9 years
- Females:** 19.3% of the workforce
- Average Hours:** Gastroenterologists worked an average 41.6 hours per week (of a standard 40 hour week)
- Over 50s:** Approximately 45% were aged 50 years and over 20% of the workforce were older than 60 years

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts for NSW (unpublished data)



Trainees and New Fellows

Advanced Trainees (AT)*: 39 ATs in NSW in 2012 with an average of 37 ATs between 2011 and 2012

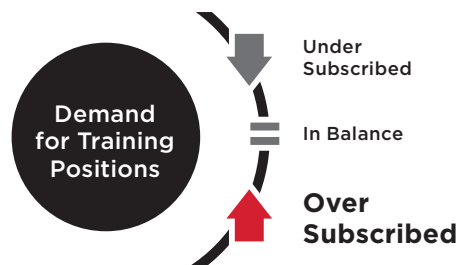
Females: In Australia, 7.1% of ATs were female

New Fellows: Nationally, an average of 30 new Fellows per year from 2011-2012 (56% Female)

Medical Specialty College: Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) (www.racp.edu.au)

HETI Supported Training: Not part of Health Education and Training Institute Training Networks (www.heti.nsw.gov.au)

Source: Medical Training Review Panel (MTRP) * Basic Physician Training must be completed before entering Advanced Training



Retirement Intentions in NSW

1-2 Years: 1.3% of Gastroenterologists intend to retire within 1-2 years

3-5 Years: 12% of Gastroenterologists intend to retire within the next 3-5 years

6-9 Years: 2.6% of Gastroenterologists intend to retire within the next 6-9 years

Source: AIHW (2012) 2010 Medical Workforce Profile extracts (unpublished data)



Supply and Distribution



Distribution: The Gastroenterologist workforce is located mainly within Local Health Districts (LHDs) in metropolitan Sydney and Hunter New England LHDs.

Rural & Regional: There are small workforces with less than 10 specialists in any one location providing services in rural and regional LHDs.

The Future in NSW – Workforce Planning to 2025

Estimated Demand Growth: Between 1.7% to 2.4% to 2025

Estimated Workforce Size: In 2025, between 312 to 328 Full Time Equivalents

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

Range: Up to 5 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

- Changes to the bowel cancer screening program may impact on workforce requirements
- Addressing rural and regional workforce maldistribution