



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care



RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK

**phn**  
WESTERN NSW

An Australian Government Initiative

## **Interim arrangements for access to medical care in Balranald**

### **Community Update: New GP Services in Balranald**

Dear Community Members,

We hope this message finds you well. We want to inform you of recent developments regarding GP services in Balranald.

#### **Dr Zotov's Departure and New GP Services**

As many of you are aware, Dr Zotov concluded his long-standing practice at the Balranald Multipurpose Service (MPS) on Friday, 31 May 2024. In response, the following arrangements have been made to ensure continued healthcare access:

- **Emergency and Acute Services:** The Far West Local Health District (FWLHD) has organised virtual coverage for emergency department, acute beds, and aged care residents at Balranald MPS. This service will be managed by experienced emergency medicine doctors, available 24/7. The dedicated nursing staff at Balranald MPS will provide essential support for this virtual medical service.
- **Dr Sujay:** Dr Sujay will be holding a virtual clinic on Saturday 20 July 2024. To make an appointment for this clinic please phone Deakin Medical Centre on (03) 5022 1488.
- **Medical Records and Continuity of Care:** Dr Sujay is actively working to gain access to all retained medical records from Dr Zotov's practice, ensuring seamless continuity of care. The Western NSW Primary Health Network (WNSW PHN) is assisting in the transition of these records.
- **Permanent Doctor for Balranald:** The WNSW PHN and the Rural Doctors Network (RDN) are working with a doctor from Melbourne who is interested in taking on the General Practice in Balranald. Further discussions are being held between the interested party to ascertain the level of support required to establish this service.

We are grateful to the RDN for their partnership in attracting a potential new doctor to Balranald. Their expertise and connection are invaluable to securing ongoing GP services to the community.

#### **Additional Support and Contact Information**

For medical advice or assistance outside of regular hours, Healthdirect is available 24/7 at 1800 022 222 or online at [www.healthdirect.gov.au](http://www.healthdirect.gov.au).

#### **Contact Details for Queries**

For inquiries regarding emergency department or acute services at **Balranald MPS**, please contact:

- Phone: (03) 5071 9800

For questions about **Balranald GP services** or related matters, please contact the WNSW PHN on 1300 699 167.

We will provide updates on progress towards a permanent solution on a weekly basis. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this period of transition.