



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 private GP services in Balranald.

Dr Zotov's Departure and New private GP Services

As many of you are aware, Dr Zotov concluded his long-standing private General Practice, run from rooms leased 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 Medical Coverage Balranald MPS:** The Far West Local Health District (FWLHD) is providing 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 virtual clinics. To make an appointment for this clinic please phone Deakin Medical Centre on (03) 5022 1488. In addition, Dr Sujay will also accept patients from Balranald that wish to have a face-to-face appointment however, patients may be required to travel to Deakin Medical Centre. The Western NSW Primary Health Network (WNSW PHN) is in negotiation around a Service Level Agreement which will see Dr Sujay providing some face-to-face sessions in Balranald.
- **Private GP Practice Medical Records and Continuity of Care:** The WNSW PHN is working to facilitate access to all retained medical records from Dr Zotov's practice, ensuring seamless continuity of care. If you require a copy of your medical records, please contact Nadia Zotov on 0412 377 664.
- **Permanent Private General Practice Doctor for Balranald:** Rural Doctors Network (RDN) are working with an interested party that has expressed an interest in 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. In addition, the WNSW PHN is also having discussions with a corporate organisation as they have also shown some interest in supporting Balranald to establish a primary care service.

We are grateful to 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. In addition, the FWLHD have previously leased the General Practice rooms to a private GP and are actively working with the potential interested party to continue this lease agreement.

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.

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 private 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.