

REFUGEE HEALTH SPECIFIC INTEREST GROUP (RHSIG)

The Refugee Health Specific Interest Group (RHSIG) of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners National Faculty of Specific Interests (RACGP NFSI) is a group of general practitioners around Australia with an interest in primary healthcare provision for refugees and asylum seekers.

GPs caring for patients of refugee background face a number of specific challenges. The individuals and families come from traumatic backgrounds and may initially have many unmet health needs. The patient's culture, language and health belief system is likely to differ from that of the doctors they see, and the spectrum of health issues presented may be unfamiliar. Providing quality, holistic and culturally sensitive long term primary healthcare to this vulnerable group is extremely rewarding but requires specific knowledge, support and resources.

Aims

- Facilitation of excellence in, and improved access to, services for refugees by general practitioners
- A peak organisation in the area of refugee and asylum seeker health to which the College and others can refer for advice
- The provision of clinical leadership and advocacy in the areas of education, research and policy relating to care of refugee and asylum seekers in Australia.

Contacts

If you are interested in joining the group, or have any questions or suggestions please contact the Chair, Dr Christine Boyce, on christine.boyce@quince.com.au

Should you wish to enquire more about the RACGP National Faculty of Specific Interests or join as a member contact nfsi@racgp.org.au