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Media Release

23 November 2015

Aspen Medical to continue providing health professionals to remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory following tender win

Following a lengthy and highly competitive tender process, Canberra-based Aspen Medical has won the contract to place urban-based doctors, nurses, oral and allied health professionals on short-term placements in the Northern Territory.

The contract has been awarded by the Australian Government Department of Health and will be delivered by the Remote Area Health Corps (RAHC), an Aspen Medical subsidiary company. RAHC will recruit, culturally orientate, clinically orientate, place and support health professionals to assist in the provision of increased primary healthcare services in an effort to address the shortfall in health service delivery in remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. The award of this contract is seen as yet further evidence of the Federal Government's faith in Aspen Medical to deliver critical healthcare services in challenging environments to support patients with urgent needs.

"Health services in the NT have made significant strides in closing the gap in Indigenous health outcomes in remote communities and we are proud to have assisted them in that work," said Glenn Keys AO, Aspen Medical's Executive Chairman and Founder.

"It is exciting to know that RAHC will continue to be a part of the effort into the future and we are looking forward working closely with our partners and stakeholders including the NT Department of Health, AMSANT, Aboriginal Medical Services and the communities where we work," he added.

RAHC was established in 2008 and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing under The Indigenous Australians' Health Program to "address persistent challenges to accessing primary healthcare services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Northern Territory".

To date RAHC has provided 3,500 placements in more than 100 communities in the NT. The repeat rate amongst those who have undertaken a placement is over 80 per cent.

RAHC has recently won an iAward for its online eLearning program. The eLearning program consists of a suite of 15 free learning modules covering clinical topics tailored to the Territory setting. The modules are available to all health professionals across Australia and are accredited by various professional health bodies for continuous professional development (CPD) purposes.

In the coming weeks RAHC will launch an app to provide further support to health professionals on placements in the NT.

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