

# Australian Rural Health Game

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## Education

### Problem

**Social determinants of health differ significantly between people from rural areas versus suburban. As such clinicians in rural settings need to be aware of these determinants in order to provide the best possible care for their patients. However, current education systems for clinicians and healthcare workers have no integration of this information into their programming.**

### Potential Commercial Applications

- Education programs for student doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, and allied health members.
- Continued learning and professional development trainings for doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and allied health members active in the healthcare system.

### Inventors

The Rural Health Game was developed by Dr Heather Russel, Dr Christopher Harrison, Lisa Hampshire, Dr Marguerite Tracy, Professor Annette Burgess, Dr Matthew Tyne.

### Solution

The Australian Rural Health Game is a board game developed by the University of Sydney School of Rural Health. The purpose of the game is to educate future health professionals on the social determinants of health and health inequity experienced by people living in rural Australia.

Students are assigned a patient profile at the commencement of the game. Patient profiles describe fictitious patients from a wide range of backgrounds and includes information on gender, race, sexual orientation, education, insurance status and their connections within the community. As students progress through the game, which represents one year in the life of their patient profile, they engage with the health system and also receive random risk and protection cards to demonstrate the unpredictability of life.

The game is designed to be played as a traditional board game, encouraging students to engage with each other and discuss their patients experiences and reflect on how their future actions could improve the system.



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