

# Accreditation Report

## Limestone Coast Local Health Network

### Accreditation Report Details

<b>Date of Assessment Visit:</b>	<b>Wednesday, 23 October 2025</b>
<b>Accreditation Surveyors:</b>	<b>Dr Ben Teague (Lead Surveyor) Dr Kirrily Holton Dr Luke Vater Ms Emanuela Horne Ms Colleen Cryans (SA MET Unit Representative) Ms Simone Bradey (SA MET Unit Representative)</b>
<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b>	<b>Ms Emma Poland</b>
<b>Executive Director of Medical Services:</b>	<b>Dr Sue Abhary</b>
<b>Director of Clinical Training:</b>	<b>Dr Sathiaselalan 'Preggie' Nair</b>
<b>Medical Education Officer:</b>	<b>Ms Mary Harvey</b>
<b>Date endorsed by the SA MET Health Advisory Council:</b>	<b>24 February 2026</b>
<b>Accreditation Expiry Date:</b>	<b>29 February 2028</b>

### Accreditation Decision

**Approved, 2 years with 26 conditions**

## Executive Summary

Limestone Coast Local Health Network (LCLHN) is currently accredited for thirteen prevocational graduate year one (PGY1) positions and ten prevocational graduate year two plus (PGY2+) positions. LCLHN is one of ten Local Health Networks in South Australia. LCLHN was established in 2019 after SA Health's governance reforms.

The LCLHN Strategy Plan, established in 2021, and currently under review to align with the Distravis, Clinical Services Plan, highlights LCLHN priorities, including ensuring the community it serves receives best practice care and services, close to home and safely. LCLHN aims to strengthen their workforce in several ways, one being that they aim to develop a *'regionalised, staff-centred workforce plan, and innovative learning, development and training programs that focus on improving career pathways and supporting retention.'*

LCLHN plays an integral role in regional medical training. Primary Care/General Practice is recognised as a training service, with rotations in Emergency, Anaesthesia, and hospital-based GP roles contributing to the Rural Generalist pathway. Accreditation has also been achieved with multiple specialist colleges, including ACRRM, RACP, RACS, ANZCA, and ACEM. Mount Gambier is also a part of Flinders University's landmark new South Australia Rural Medical Program, which commenced in 2025, with a larger student cohort commencing in 2026, enabling longitudinal training pathways and supporting the development of a whole-of-career training model across generalist and emerging subspecialties.

The Medical Administration team has been expanded to 12.4 FTE, with strengthened medical leadership through a permanent Executive Director of Medical Services (EDMS), Director of Medical Services (DMS), Deputy Director of Medical Services (DDMS), Director of Clinical Training (DCT), and a newly appointed Medical Education Officer (MEO). Despite workforce pressures in 2024 and 2025, both the Medical Workforce and Medical Education Unit (MEU) have been rebuilt, ensuring ongoing support for prevocational doctors.

A major organisational focus has been the deliberate development of a sustainable senior medical workforce. Targeted recruitment in General Medicine, Paediatrics, Anaesthesia, Emergency Medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology has improved clinical consistency, reduced reliance on locums, and expanded training capacity. Stabilisation of the General Medicine workforce has already resulted in state-level recognition for excellence in rural training.

LCLHN is committed to improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and ensuring culturally safe, responsive care. This work is guided by the Reconciliation Action Plan 2023–2025 and supported by a Reconciliation Working Group of staff, executives, community members, and Pangula Mannamurra Aboriginal Corporation. A formal Partnership Agreement will be finalised by December 2025. Aboriginal support workers and Aboriginal Navigators play a central role in connecting community members with hospital and community services.

In January 2025, LCLHN commissioned Distravis to develop a Clinical Services Plan to ensure the effective use of resources, enhance service delivery, and improve population health outcomes across the region. The development of the Plan has involved extensive staff and community consultation.