

## Values Statement



### Commitment:

## Values of Members of the Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice

*As members of the Wonca Working Party on Rural Practice, we affirm that:*

We believe everyone has the right to effective, comprehensive and quality healthcare irrespective of where they live and work, and this should provide a mantle of protection for the whole population.

We are a community of practice, committed to the provision of the best possible quality healthcare in rural and remote health, and to primary healthcare.

We are resilient, resourceful and relentless. We continue in spite of the constraints we may experience in the healthcare delivery system.

We care for and serve, firstly and most importantly, our patients, secondly, one another and lastly, our healthcare system.

We recognise the most fundamental relationship in our work is that between the patient and the doctor, occurring in any location where healthcare takes place – from the home to the hospital – for the benefit of the patient, in the context of the family and community.

We work with governments, policy makers and health managers at all levels, for varying reasons. We recognise that building health systems based on peoples' needs, regardless of level of development or income, requires collaboration amongst health professionals, communities, health administrators, policymakers and academic institutions (the partnership pentagram), and a commitment to strengthening the integration of women in the healthcare workforce. We seek partnership with others who have the same goals.

We recognise the multiple causes of ill-health, including social determinants of health, in our patients. We strive for social justice to tackle the inequity experienced by most of the rural communities we serve. We often advocate internationally, strategize nationally and plan locally, responding to our particular contexts.

We acknowledge our social accountability arising from the privileged position accorded to us in society, and specifically seek to engage with and be accountable to the communities we serve. We recognise that this accountability includes a responsibility to support and be involved in the education and training of future generations of healthcare professionals, striving to ensure that such training is focused on meeting the needs of rural communities.

We are not pre-occupied with riches and comfort, but we thrive on challenge, hard work and making a difference. We equip ourselves to deal with most problems likely to surface in the course of our work, we are ready to assist each other, and we seek to grow as professionals, as individuals and as a community.

April 25, 2018



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We strive to provide the best care in the most unlikely of places, we generate solutions where others might think this impossible, and we do not give up on our patients, one another or the facilities we work in.

We strive to offer access to healthcare for those who are rural and remote, those who have little choice and limited options in this life, those who opt for the quieter side of life, those who have been marginalised for many different reasons, including people from indigenous groups or ethnic minorities, and communities who suffer the consequences of natural disasters, political and ethnic conflicts, displacement, famine and poverty. We advocate for our patients, both locally and further afield, and try to be a voice for them, especially when their voices are not heard. We also leverage the support and voice of our partners in rural health across a range of professions.

Our work demands strength of character. We seek to support those who do not yet feel strong enough, knowing that one cannot stay rural and not be tested. We therefore need one another, for guidance, support and inspiration. We are a community of practice, brought together by rural and remote healthcare, and the reality of our healthcare systems.

We also acknowledge our need for our rural health care colleagues; we work collaboratively in teams with nurses, therapists, allied health professionals, community health workers and many others. We can achieve little without them.

### *Conclusion*





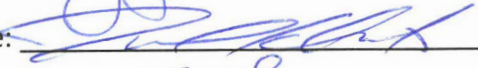


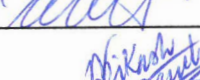
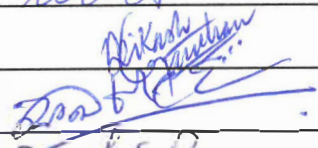



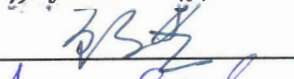
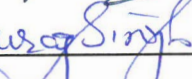
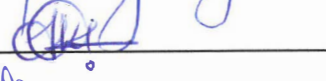




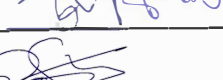


Rural Wonca is a working party comprised of **rural practitioners, rural educationalists, rural researchers and rural students** of all backgrounds, regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, and public or private practice. Ethical patient-centred care for rural patients, households and communities is the common thread that defines us and brings us together. We strive together towards Health for All Rural People in partnership with Wonca and all other like-minded groups

***By being a member of the Wonca Rural Council, I affirm the above values and commit myself to supporting Wonca Rural in achieving its aims.***

Signed on this day: 25/04/2018 at Delhi (place)

April 25, 2018

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Name: <u>JOHN WYNN-JONES</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>Alan Bruce WATER</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>IAN COUPER</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>Joseph Selt - Jim</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>DAVID SCHMITZ</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>Santosh K. Dhingana</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>Karice Kersting Puls</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>MARDA ARAEIDA</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>BIKASH GAUCHAN</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>Sankha Randenikumar</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>GOBITH RATNASINGHAM</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>Ewen McPhee</u>	Signature: 
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Name: <u>Anurag Singh</u>	Signature: 
Name: <u>Jay Mugumbi</u>	Signature: 
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Name: <u>MARYAM FLOSS</u>	Signature: 
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Name: <u>Roger Strasser</u>	Signature: 

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