



SESSION 304

Access to Specialist Care in Rural and Remote Communities - The Royal College's Role in Improving Access to Specialty Care in Rural and Remote Settings

A patient's geography is a powerful determinant of their health. Canadians living in rural and remote communities have poorer health status and higher overall mortality rates than those living in larger centres. [Fleming, 2018] The Royal College has acknowledged the critical importance of this issue and has identified it as part of the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan. Conversations in this area to-date have identified many of the issues facing rural/remote communities. The Royal College is focused on producing concrete actions for both its Fellows and other stakeholders to consider for the improvement of access to specialty care in rural and remote settings.

1. Understand how access to specialty care in rural remote settings aligns with the RC strategic plan.
2. Explain how the Royal College is working to provide better support for those Royal College specialists working in rural/remote locations.
3. Understand what the role of technology may play in improving access.
4. Understand the role of intra and inter professional care.