

WHERE DO RURAL SPECIALISTS FIT IN THE RURAL ROAD MAP?

A joint Task Group of the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada and the College of Family Physicians of Canada produced the Rural Road Map (https://srpc.ca/Rural_Road_Map_Directions). There was one representative from the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons on that Task Group. While the Road Map refers to rural healthcare writ large, there has been little input from rural specialists. This session is intended to bring rural specialists into the ongoing discussions & initiatives to improve health delivery for rural Canadians. During the session we will: 1) review and discuss efforts to map Canada's specialist workforce and measure medical care in rural settings; 2) review the Rural Road Map with participants to identify key areas for input and decision-making from this group; 3) identify concrete actions that can be taken to improve rural specialist care as well as the collaboration between rural specialists and rural family physicians/general practitioners.