

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 23 January 2017

RFDS Port Augusta Clinic gains AGPAL Accreditation

RFDS Central Operations is pleased to announce that the Port Augusta Primary Health Care Services, incorporating RFDS clinics in Marla, Andamooka and Marree, has been awarded full AGPAL accreditation (Australian General Practice Accreditation Limited - AGPAL).

RFDS Central Operations Acting Chief Executive Officer Tony Vaughan said that achieving independent accreditation against the RACGP (Royal Australian College of General Practitioners) Standards shows our patients in the bush that the RFDS is serious about providing high quality, safe and effective care to standards of excellence determined by the general practice profession.

The Port Augusta Primary Health Care Service and associated remote area clinics are supported by a Practice Manager and administration staff and in 2016 medical staff adopted the Best Practice digital patient record management program.

"This means that RFDS patients have one single patient record that can be accessed by medical staff in all locations for scheduled 'fly-in' consultations, telehealth and emergency care," Mr Vaughan says.

"While these advances add to the professionalism of the delivery of our primary health care services, they also help us to provide our patients with a higher level of health care by better documenting and anticipating their health care needs.

"In addition to our doctors we have Community Midwife and a Chronic Disease Coordinator who take part in the clinics, serving these outback communities."

To achieve accreditation, a practice team works over a 12 month period to implement the RACGP Standards for general practices, (the recognised national standard), which provides a template for quality care and risk management.

Read more about the RFDS Port Augusta Clinic here: <http://bit.ly/2k8XNFb>

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