

Professor of Remote and Rural Health Services Research appointed in Alice Springs

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Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) announces the appointment of Professor John Wakerman to lead remote and rural health services research based in Alice Springs.

Menzies Director Professor Alan Cass says Prof Wakerman brings years of practical experience as a Public Health Medicine specialist who has worked in remote primary health care as a clinician, senior health services manager, educator and researcher.

“Professor Wakerman is a remarkable NT health leader and we are delighted he is taking up this senior appointment at Menzies.

He will play a key role in our work with the Central Australia Academic Health Science Network, a partnership between health services, medical research organisations and educational institutions in Central Australia” said Prof Cass.

Prof Wakerman says he is excited to take up his new role at Menzies where he will lead the development of a sustainable health services research program.

“I have had the privilege of 30 years experience working with dedicated remote and rural health professionals and health services in order to increase access to primary health care services, and to train the health workforce to work in this tough and rewarding environment.

For our research we now know a lot about how to improve access to services and how to train and retain the health workforce. A focus of my research is to use this evidence for advocacy to inform health policy and practice.

I look forward to working collaboratively with Aboriginal Community Controlled and government health service to improve health outcomes in the bush” said Prof Wakerman.

Professor Wakerman joins Menzies this week. He previously held the position of Associate Dean, Flinders NT, responsible for the NT Medical Program, Centre for Remote Health and Poche Centre for indigenous Health.

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Media contact:

Paul Dale, senior communications officer

Phone: 0439 108 754 or (08) 8946 8658 | Email: communications@menzies.edu.au

Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia’s leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving Indigenous, global and tropical health. Menzies has a history of over 30 years of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the frontline, joining with partners across the Asia-Pacific as well as Indigenous communities across northern and central Australia. Menzies collaborates to create new knowledge, grow local skills and find enduring solutions to problems that matter.