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Deans welcome new federal funding

The Medical Deans of Australia and New Zealand has welcomed the Federal Government's announcement of clinical training funding details for 2010.

'We are pleased with Minister Roxon's announcement and in particular welcome the recognition for infrastructure support,' said Medical Deans' President, Professor James Angus.

The Rudd Government today announced it would invest \$157 million in clinical teaching and training infrastructure, and to support undergraduate health professional students, in a bid to address Australia's critical shortage of health professionals.

'The increased numbers of medical students over the last few years has meant significant pressure has been placed on the traditional clinical training settings for students such as teaching hospitals. These new funds seek to support innovation in terms of both the location and nature of the clinical training for students, not only in medical programs but across health disciplines more broadly' Professor Angus said. 'Supporting clinical training in private hospitals, regional and community settings will ultimately benefit the health of all Australians.'

Professor Jim Angus can be contacted on 03 8344 5894 or through Medical Deans Secretariat on 02 9036 3363