Appendices 1

**STUDENT PERSPECTIVES OF EXTENDED CLINICAL PLACEMENTS IN OPTOMETRY: A QUALITATIVE STUDY**

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**Appendices 1**

**Semi-structured interview guide for focus groups**

How was your extended placement experience?

* What were the positive/negatives of the experience?
* Was it what you thought it would be?
* Did you feel prepared for it?
* How do you think it could have been improved?
  + Reasonable teaching alterations/suggestions?
* How did you rural placement differ from your urban placement?
* Did the placement influence where you wish to work after graduation?

How important is it that students are exposed to rural optometry through placements?

* How do you feel about compulsory rural placements?
* How long do you think rural placements should be and why?
  + What benefits do you see to a short placement (I.e.; 1 to 7 day placements)
  + What benefits do you see to an extended placement (I.e.; 2 to 6 month placements)
  + What differences do you think there are between a short and extended placement?
* Where, in terms of location, did you complete your extended placement and what are the reasons for this?
  + How did you choose to structure your extended placement? (I.e.; did you complete the full 6 months in one practice location or split it into different locations?)
    - What benefits/negatives did you see to this?
* Do you think a placement could altered your future practice intentions?

How interested in working in rural areas are optometry graduates? Elaborate.

* What reasons make students more or less likely to work rurally?
* What incentives would increase student interest in working in rural areas?
* How do you feel about living in a rural area?
* How do you feel about working in a rural area?
* In what way has where you have grown up influenced your future practice intentions?