
POSTER ABSTRACT**The Archipelago Academic Health Hub (AHH): A Model for Integrated Workforce Development in Remote Island Clusters**

International Conference on Integrated Care (ICIC26), Birmingham, 13-15 April 2026

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Context: and Problem The Maluku Islands, Indonesia, exemplify the critical challenge of healthcare service delivery in archipelagic regions, facing severe geographical fragmentation and a chronic shortage of medical professionals (over 40 Primary Health Centres—Puskesmas—currently operate without a general practitioner). Traditional urban-centric medical education has failed to produce graduates with the necessary commitment and contextualised skills to sustain service in these remote and very remote areas.

Intervention: The Archipelago Academic Health Hub (AHH) Model

The Faculty of Medicine at Universitas Pattimura (Unpatti) developed the Maluku Rural Clinical School (RCS) as a prototype for the Archipelago Academic Health Hub (AHH). The AHH is an innovative, policy-integrated model for longitudinal clinical education and service strengthening, built upon three core pillars:

Extended Rural Immersion: Medical students relocate for 1-2 years of clinical clerkship to accredited District General Hospitals (RSUD), designated as RCS Clinical Spokes.

Infrastructure Catalyst: RCS accreditation mandates a minimum standard of essential specialist staffing (4-6 core specialists) at the Clinical Spokes, directly functioning as a catalyst for infrastructure and service quality upgrade in the host hospital.

Policy and Community Integration: The model is formally synchronised with regional referral governance (Pergub Maluku No. 23/2018) and national policy on remote care (Permenkes No. 90/2015). Crucially, the curriculum mandates community immersion rotations, involving local leaders and individuals with lived experience to inform student training and ensure cultural competency and service relevance to the specific needs of archipelagic communities.

Results: and Impact (Planned) The AHH model creates a robust, closed-loop pipeline for workforce retention:

Capacity Building: It transforms sub-regional hospitals into dual-purpose teaching and service nodes, strengthening the local referral chain within the island clusters.

Skills & Inclusivity: The curriculum focuses on archipelagic health issues and prepares graduates to manage resource constraints and utilise tele-consultation infrastructure, essential for remote integrated care.

Sustainable Funding & Retention: A key component is the collaboration with the regional government to mandate a Binding Commitment/Scholarship scheme, linking subsidised education to mandatory post-graduation service in the most underserved Maluku KTS areas, thus ensuring accountability and long-term retention.

Conclusion: The Archipelago Academic Health Hub (AHH) provides a replicable, policy-integrated solution to the global challenge of workforce instability in remote regions. By embedding medical education directly into the underserved island clusters and mandating policy-aligned infrastructure development, the AHH will strengthen local health systems, grow necessary clinical capacity and skills, and fulfil the social accountability mandate of the university within the framework of integrated care.