Dear Editor

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this valuable comment by the Rural Generalist team on my recent publication. Part of the great success of this program has been the collegial nature of effort between the employer, training provider and placement, as evidenced in these considered comments. © S Kitchener, 2013.

One point on which more discussion is clearly needed is the nature of merit-based selection. Comments regarding coaching for very junior doctors were raised in relation to the manner in which we currently select. Selection for programs should be based on merit, specifically motivation and commitment to rural practice, and the ability to learn. Whether the current system of selection for the Australian General Practice Training is consistent with these is open to discussion.

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References