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Title:
“CHALK OR CHEESE?” Distinguishing between Access Disadvantage and Geographic Location in Australia

Author:
Dr. D.A Griffith

Abstract:
The paper explains the fundamental differences between models that attempt to quantify service access disadvantage in Australia. The paper specifically addresses the differences between a service access model such as the Griffith Service Access Frame (GSAF) and geographic models produced by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing such as ARIA and the Rural Remote Metropolitan Classification. The paper examines the efficacy of these two distinct approaches to quantifying service access disadvantage and their respective potential impact on the recipients and deliverers of policy implementation strategies together with the respective capacity of the two approaches to equitably measure of the effectiveness of policy strategies targeting access disadvantage.