

Oceania's Health Hotspots: Polio Outbreaks, Super Flu Strains, and Dengue D

Global Health · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What specific strain of influenza virus has been causing extended flu seasons and global outbreaks in Australia and New Zealand in 2025?

- A) Influenza A(H1N1) subclade P
- B) Influenza B/Victoria lineage
- C) Influenza A(H3N2) subclade K**
- D) Influenza D

2. In which Pacific Island nation was the first human case of paralytic poliomyelitis (cVDPV2) confirmed in August 2025, leading to a nationwide immunization campaign?

- A) Fiji
- B) Papua New Guinea**
- C) Samoa
- D) Tonga

3. Which Pacific island nation declared a dengue outbreak in May 2025, with a significant rise in cases reported by December 2025, predominantly affecting the 10-19 age group?

- A) Vanuatu
- B) Kiribati
- C) Tuvalu
- D) Cook Islands**

4. According to WHO reports for 2024-2025, which region is actively working to advance policy actions on tobacco, alcohol, and unhealthy diets to tackle noncommunicable disease risk factors?

- A) Southeast Asia
- B) Eastern Mediterranean
- C) Western Pacific**
- D) Africa

5. What is a major public health concern in Fiji, declared an outbreak in 2024 and exacerbated by rising methamphetamine use and needle-sharing?

- A) Malaria
- B) Tuberculosis
- C) HIV**
- D) Hepatitis C

6. Which of the following is a key priority for the WHO Multi-country Cooperation Strategy (2024-2029) in Pacific Island countries?

- A) Developing space exploration programs
- B) Reducing the burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)**
- C) Expanding fossil fuel industries
- D) Promoting large-scale tourism infrastructure

7. In Vanuatu, which WHO-developed tool has been adopted by the Ministry of Health to strengthen its outbreak response and digital surveillance capabilities?

- A) MyHealth App
- B) Go.Data**
- C) HealthKit
- D) Digital Health Passport

8. Which Pacific island nation is implementing a new multi-hazard strategy for risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) for 2026-2030, building on lessons from a severe dengue outbreak in 2025?

- A) Solomon Islands
- B) Palau
- C) Tonga**
- D) Marshall Islands

9. What is the primary reason cited for the 'Super-K' flu strain's effectiveness in Australia and New Zealand, causing it to be less recognized by immune responses?

- A) Lack of vaccination
- B) Genetic 'drift' accumulating mutations in hemagglutinin**
- C) Overcrowded living conditions
- D) Increased travel between islands

10. What health issue is of particular concern in Fiji, with national data showing that over 60-70% of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by a male intimate partner in their lifetime?

- A) Eating disorders
- B) Gender-based violence**
- C) Substance abuse
- D) Domestic abuse