

Australia's Latest Health Headlines: Diphtheria Outbreak, Medicare Reforms, a

Australian Health · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What serious bacterial infection, preventable by vaccination, has seen Australia's worst outbreak in decades spreading across multiple states?

- A) Tetanus
- B) Diphtheria**
- C) Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
- D) Meningitis

2. As of May 2026, which Australian states have recorded cases of the diphtheria outbreak?

- A) New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, ACT
- B) Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland, Northern Territory**
- C) New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia
- D) Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory, Victoria

3. What significant change is being implemented to Medicare bulk billing incentives to support general practice?

- A) A decrease in the standard consultation rebate.
- B) The introduction of a new Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program.**
- C) A freeze on all bulk billing incentives.
- D) A reduction in the number of eligible bulk-billed services.

4. According to recent research, what has been the impact of Australian guidelines recommending early egg introduction into a child's diet?

- A) A significant increase in egg allergy rates.
- B) No discernible change in egg allergy rates.
- C) A 17% drop in childhood egg allergy rates.**
- D) A slight increase in severe egg allergies.

5. Which initiative has the Australian Government launched to invest in health for the Pacific and Southeast Asia, particularly for COVID-19 recovery?

- A) Regional Health Security Initiative
- B) Global Health Preparedness Plan
- C) Partnerships for a Healthy Region**
- D) Asia-Pacific Health Resilience Program

6. What is the primary focus of Australia's collaboration with the WHO regarding health security?

- A) Developing new vaccine technologies
- B) Strengthening resilience to infectious diseases and emerging outbreaks**
- C) Regulating international travel for health purposes
- D) Establishing global health tourism standards

7. Australia is in the process of establishing which new national health agency to build on existing strengths and protect against health threats?

- A) The National Health Institute
- B) The Australian Centre for Health Security
- C) The Australian Centre for Disease Control (Australian CDC)**
- D) The Public Health Response Agency

8. What is the new maximum cost for a prescription under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) as part of the 'cheaper medicines' initiative?

- A) \$31.60
- B) \$25.00**
- C) \$7.70
- D) \$42.85

9. What health condition has seen a mysterious rise in rates among young people, leaving doctors stumped?

- A) Type 2 Diabetes
- B) Bowel Cancer**
- C) Rheumatoid Arthritis
- D) Osteoporosis

10. What is being done to address the issue of vaping in Australia?

- A) The ban on non-therapeutic vapes is being reversed.
- B) Vapes must now use plain packaging and include information leaflets.**
- C) Vaping is being promoted as a cessation tool.
- D) Stricter regulations are being considered for therapeutic vapes only.