

Medicine Kits for Non-Medical Personnel



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Background

- The majority of the Northern Territory (NT) land mass is sparsely populated with small, isolated communities ranging from less than 100 to around 5,000 people that are often cut off from road transport during flooding.
- A specialist police cell often operates remotely, handling high-risk, search and rescue, and dangerous training operations far from medical services.
- Police medics are trained to provide essential medical care to both team members and the public.

Purpose

To describe the licensing process and governance of medicine packs for the specialist police cell.

Method

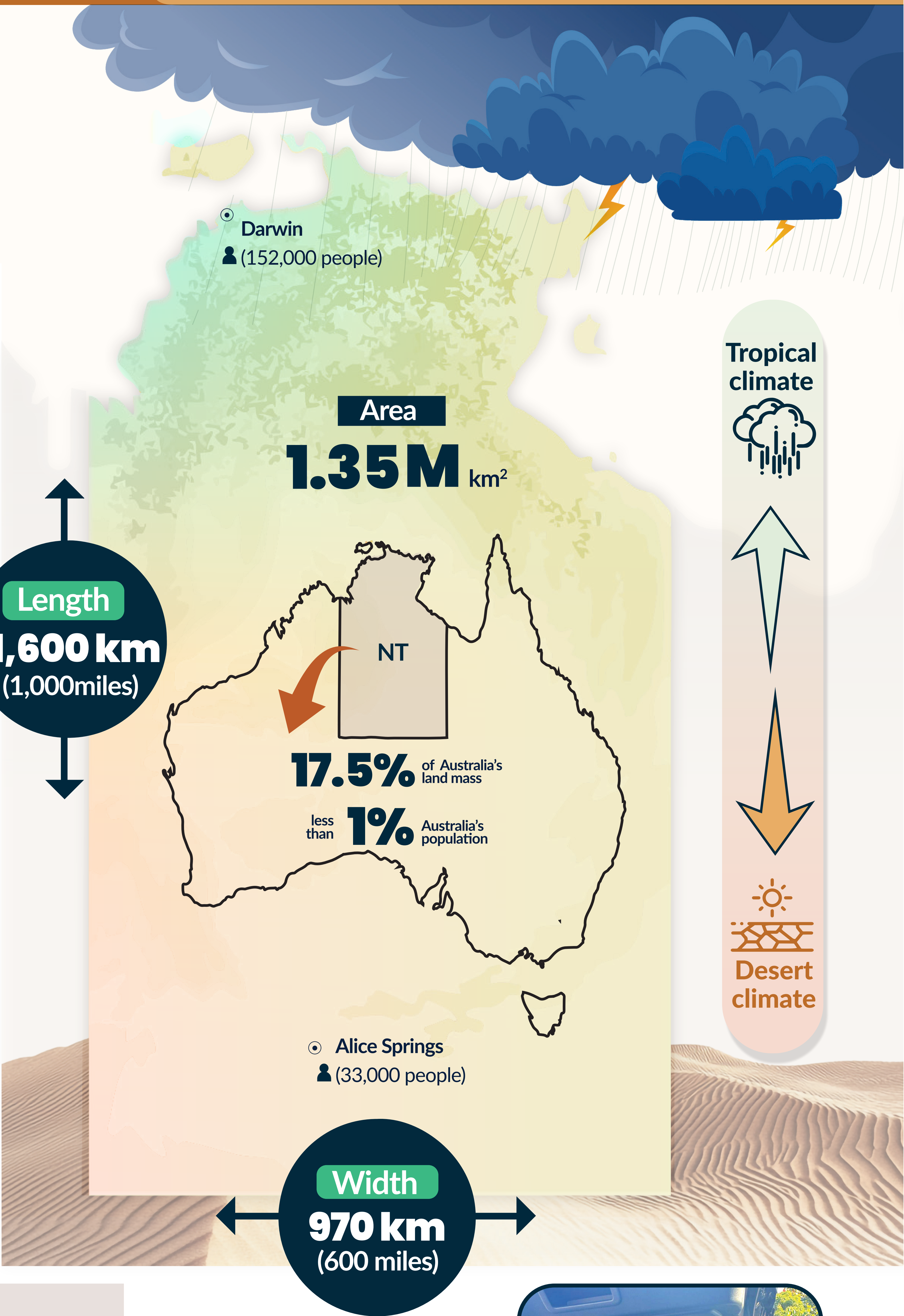
- Police medics complete a week-long emergency response training program led by clinicians, combining lectures, simulations and hands-on practice.
- Annual reaccreditation ensures continued competency in key clinical areas.
- The NT emergency system allows non-health practitioners in remote areas to hold an Emergency Medical Kit (EMK), authorised by doctors, for use during emergencies.

Results

- Specialist police cells licensed to hold custom EMKs.
- Medicine use requires prior approval from medical officer, except in urgent scenarios.
- Usage is monitored quarterly to ensure appropriate use, check stock expiry and assess for changes needed.



Police medics on simulated search and rescue



Two kits developed



Kit contents

- 1 Adrenaline injections & auto-injector
- 2 Ibuprofen tablets
- 3 Methoxyflurane inhaler (whistle)
- 4 Ondansetron tablets
- 5 Paracetamol tablets
- 6 Naloxone nasal spray

Conclusion

- EMKs issued successfully to non-medical police personnel using existing legal framework.
- EMKs enable timely, life-saving care while awaiting emergency services or hospital transfer.



Police medics treating heat exhaustion in the back of a vehicle