



Safety alert

April 2026

Medical Event at Remote Site

1. What Happened?

During a multi-party debrief at a remote site, a work party member became unwell and displayed symptoms consistent with hypoglycaemia.

Immediate actions were taken:

- They were assisted to sit down and rest.
- Fluids were provided (Powerade sourced from a vehicle).
- They were transported to their vehicle for privacy and recovery.
- Once at their vehicle, they ate food and advised they were diabetic.
- Their condition stabilised quickly and was monitored for approximately 30 minutes using their glucose monitoring app.

No further medical assistance was required.

2. How Did it Happen?

The work party had been operating outdoors in hot conditions at a remote location.

Access to and from the site required walking through bush and farmland, involving physical exertion.

3. What Did We Learn?

- Medical events can occur without warning.
- Early recognition and simple actions (rest, fluids, food) can prevent escalation.
- Remote locations increase reliance on immediate peer response.
- Not all medical conditions are known by others or visible.

4. How Can We Improve?

- Encourage workers to manage known medical conditions, disclose them to their work party and carry required medication.
- Stay alert to signs of medical distress and pause work where needed.
- Ensure vehicles and remote sites have basic first-aid supplies, including fluids.
- Consider remoteness and emergency response arrangements when planning site activities.

