

# Hot weather and bowel cancer screening

## Hot tips for healthcare professionals

- Temperatures over 30°C can affect stool samples and cause incorrect or inconclusive results
- There are 85 ACCHOs based in hot zone areas across various months of the year

### Advice to give to community members about collecting samples in hot weather:

Use an insulated container (like a lunch bag or esky) to store samples or to carry completed samples to the ACCHO or post box

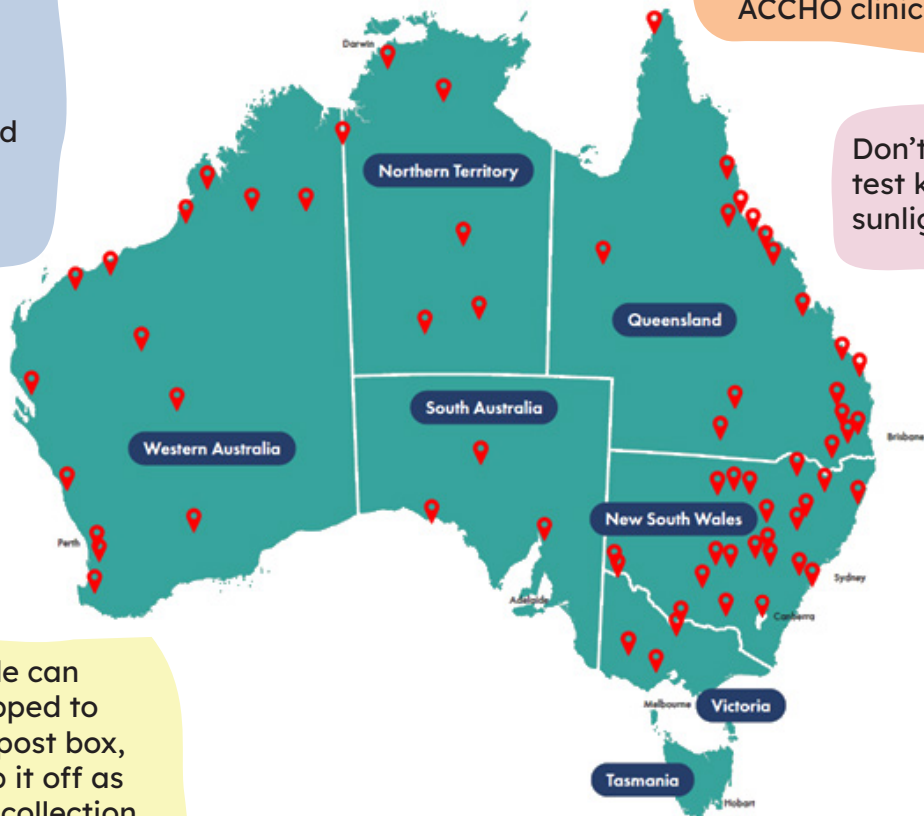
If the clinic has capacity, ask the community member to bring their samples back to the clinic to store

Try to drop samples off at a post office counter or to the ACCHO clinic

Don't leave the test kit in direct sunlight

Store samples in the fridge or an esky but not in the freezer

If the sample can only be dropped to an outdoor post box, try and drop it off as close to the collection time as possible (the collection time is usually displayed on the post box)



Key


 ACCHO hot zone area postcodes

Figure 1. ACCHOs located in hot zone areas