



# Royal Flying Doctor Service Trivia Questions

**1** Nationally, how many kilometres (on average) does the RFDS fly in a year?

- A. 10 million +
- B. 20 million +
- C. 25 million +
- D. 30 million +

**2** How many RFDS emergency roadstrips are there in Australia?

- A. 1
- B. 3
- C. 4
- D. 6 +

**3** Across Australia, the RFDS interacts with a patient...

- A. Every 2 minutes
- B. Every 5 minutes
- C. Every 10 minutes
- D. Every 20 minutes

**4** How much water will you need each day when travelling through the outback?

- A. 500ml - 1 Litre
- B. 1 - 3 Litres
- C. 3 - 5 Litres
- D. 5 - 7 Litres

**5** Today, how many aircraft does the RFDS operate nationally?

- A. 40 +
- B. 60 +
- C. 80 +
- D. 100 +

**6** Which of these inventions is the RFDS credited for?

- A. Pedal-powered radio
- B. Body chart
- C. Medical chest
- D. All of the above

**7** True or False?  
The RFDS operates as many aircraft as Jetstar? (in Australia)

- True
- False

**8** There are \_\_\_\_\_ road-related injuries in remote areas compared to towns and cities.

- A. Less injuries
- B. 2x more injuries
- C. 3x more injuries
- D. 4x more injuries

**9** From which Australian town did the Australian Inland Mission Aerial Medical Service (later becoming the RFDS) take off on its first mission in 1928?

- A. Broken Hill
- B. Kalgoorlie
- C. Cloncurry
- D. Longreach

**10** True or false?  
The idea of using aviation to bring medical help to the Outback was first coined by a medical student.

- True
- False



# Royal Flying Doctor Service

## Trivia Questions - Answers

**1** Nationally, how many kilometres (on average) does the RFDS fly in a year?

**Answer: 25 million+**

The RFDS flies the equivalent of 35 times to the moon and back: 27,286,414 kilometres.

**2** How many RFDS emergency roadstrips are there in Australia?

**Answer: 6+**

There are a number of designated RFDS emergency airstrips across Australia - several in Queensland and NSW. There are two in South Australia (Stuart Highway and Eyre Highway) and one in Western Australia (Eyre Highway), which are used by RFDS SA/NT.

**3** Across Australia, the RFDS interacts with a patient...

**Answer: Every 2 minutes**

The RFDS interacts with more 380,000 patients across Australia every year, whether it be an emergency retrieval or primary health care – one patient every two minutes!

**4** How much water will you need each day when travelling through the outback?

**Answer: D - 5 - 7 Litres**

You should carry a minimum between 5 - 7 litres of water per person per day when travelling in remote or rural outback areas.

**5** Today, how many aircraft does the RFDS operate nationally?

**Answer: 80+**

The RFDS operates more than 87 aircraft across the country, making it Australia's third largest airline.

**6** Which of these inventions is the RFDS credited for?

**Answer: All of the above**

As communications and aviation were still in their infancy, Rev John Flynn commissioned inventor Alfred Traeger to develop a pedal radio. It allowed people in the bush to communicate with the new Flying Doctor Service. The medical chest program, introduced in 1942, enabled people in the outback to offer treatment for minor injuries/ailments, and the body chart, which came in 1951, allowed patients to more accurately identify medical issues for doctors over the radio.

**7** True or False?  
The RFDS operates as many aircraft as Jetstar? (in Australia)

**Answer: True**

The RFDS manage a fleet of 87 aircraft and Jetstar manage a fleet of 81 in Australia.

**8** There are \_\_\_\_\_ road-related injuries in remote areas compared to towns and cities.

**Answer: 4x more injuries**

It may have less traffic and more parking space than the cities, but that doesn't make driving in the Outback easy. There are four times as many road-related injuries in remote areas than in towns and cities.

**9** From which Australian town did the Australian Inland Mission Aerial Medical Service (later becoming the RFDS) take off on its first mission in 1928?

**Answer: Cloncurry**

The service answered its first call on 17 May 1928. From Cloncurry, the plane flew 137 kilometres (85 mi) to Julia Creek in central Queensland.

**10** True or false?  
The idea of using aviation to bring medical help to the Outback was first coined by a medical student.

**Answer: True**

In 1917, Reverend John Flynn received an inspirational letter from Lieutenant Clifford Peel, a Victorian medical student and young airman in the Australian Airforce, suggesting the use of aeroplanes, which at the time were very novel machines, to bring medical help to the Outback. Peel didn't live to see how successful his idea was, tragically, only 13 months after he sent the letter and weeks before the end of WW1, he died in battle at the age of 24.