

## Australian government injects \$3 M for dust disease education & training

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### **Building skills in earlier diagnosis and management of dust disease**

The Australian government is providing \$3 million for training to health professionals to better support workers affected by silicosis and other occupational dust diseases.

The Prioritising Improved Care for People with Dust-Related Diseases grant programme will improve the medical approach to silicosis, build the capability of doctors, radiologists, and multi-disciplinary teams, enhancing their expertise, diagnostic accuracy and knowledge of treatment options.

Grant applications are sought for proposals to develop online training to support general practitioners (GPs) and other doctors to use National Guidance material; Targeted education and training for health professionals who support people affected by occupational respiratory diseases; Radiologists and other health professionals to build their skills in chest imaging; Training materials for multi-disciplinary teams to support diagnosis and treatment, develop a national community spirometry program, and review and update National Guidance.

These grants are part of the Albanese Labour Government's national approach to the prevention, early identification, control, and management of dust diseases.

The government is also creating a National Occupational Respiratory Disease Registry to help detect new and emerging health threats, and support research, intervention and prevention strategies.