



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Monday, 3rd February 2025

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian \(page 6\)](#)** reports that Premier David Crisafulli has said on Sunday that Queensland plans to go ahead with its planned review into gender dysphoria treatments despite warnings from Health Minister Mark Butler not to continue during the national review.
- The **[Sydney Morning Herald \(page 5\)](#)** reports that NSW patients awaiting beds in aged care facilities stay at hospitals an estimated 42 days longer than what is necessary, and comes as 455 patients await discharge to aged-care facilities. A spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler and Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said that the federal government had invested \$200 million into aiding NSW patients to move into aged-care facilities.
- **[The Australian \(page 15\)](#)** reports that the Australian Private Hospitals Association has said that its members will not be contributing to the hospital data collection framework, saying that the data is sensitive and that there has not been a short-term measure raised to address shortfalls in the private hospital sector.
- The **[Herald Sun \(page 1\)](#)** reports that the Australian Medical Association will pitch today an overhaul of the Medicare rebate system which would raise the bulk-billing rates for doctors, expand the types of items covered, and inject an extra \$4.5 billion into the system.

- [The Australian \(page 6\)](#) reports that Headspace chief executive Jason Trethowan has called for changes to the Medicare funding model for his organisation, instead calling for dedicated funding for long-term staff to help reduce the organisation's backlog and increase its clinical capacity.
- The [West Australian \(page 3\)](#) reports that the Royal Australian College of GPs have called for additional state funding for incentives to boost the number of GPs in Western Australia, which only has 99 GPs per 100,000 people, less than the national average of 112.
- The [Courier Mail \(page 13\)](#) reports that real-time data from the "Open Hospitals" website showed patients are waiting longer on average for treatment at satellite hospitals compared to emergency wards in traditional hospitals.
- [Northern Territory News \(page 7\)](#) reports that the federal government is investing \$174.5 million under the National Immunisation Program to provide eligible pregnant women with vaccines for respiratory syncytial virus, starting Monday.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### State defies Labor pause plea on trans probe

The Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, Rhiannon Down, Page 6

[...] After federal Health Minister Mark Butler cautioned the Queensland government against continuing with its own probe of hormone therapy, Premier David Crisafulli vowed on Sunday to push ahead with the evidence review of gender dysphoria treatments across the state.

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### Gender decision a welcome step

The Australian, Editorials, 03/02/2025, Page 10

[...] In calling a national review, Health Minister Mark Butler has taken a brave stand that has proved too difficult for successive state health ministers.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

### We must check the impact of puberty blockers on kids

The Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, Patrick Parkinson, Page 11

[...] Assistant federal Health Minister Ged Kearney said on social media the purpose of its inquiry was to "update" existing standards developed at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

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### Hospitals slam data demand 'insult'

The Australian, Business News, 03/02/2025, Cameron England, Page 15

[...] And despite the health check finding that margins in the industry had almost halved in five years due to factors such as cost inflation, Health Minister Mark Butler told health insurers and hospitals they would have to deal with the sustainability issue themselves.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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### Elderly left waiting for care beds

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 03/02/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 5

[...] A spokesperson for Butler and Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said the federal government had invested more than \$200 million to get older people in NSW out of hospital beds, and had funded 1500 transition packages providing care after discharge from hospital.

Also reported by: [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

## March goes on as LGBTQ movement stares down hate

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 03/02/2025, Page 12

[...] Domestically, federal Health Minister Mark Butler has announced Australia's peak medical body will review the healthcare provided to transgender and gender-diverse children.

Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## Midsumma Pride marchers don't sweat dark times

Age, General News, 03/02/2025, Ashleigh Mcmillan, Page 10

[...] Following Queensland's announcement, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said on Friday he was launching a review into Australia's treatment of transgender children and adolescents, with nationally consistent guidelines to be created.

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## Albo should heed doctors' solution to save Medicare

Adelaide Advertiser, Editorials, 03/02/2025, Page 20

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler insists rates are rising.

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## \$10.7m for parenting

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 03/02/2025, Page 14

[...] Triple P which stands for Positive Parenting Program had already helped 400,000 parents and carers across the country, Aged Care Mark Butler said.

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## Expect access to a specialist doctor if you need one? Don't be so sure

The Australian, Other, 02/02/2025, Steve Robson

[...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler told the ABC in November that "demand for health is growing and will grow, as long as I can see into the future, and workforce is hard to come by.

[Read More](#)

## PM deluded if he thinks 'more Albo' is key to winning election

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/02/2025, Peta Credlin

[...] The move by Queensland has got the gender-affirming activists fired up, worried about what we might actually learn about these practices, so in a shock move on Friday, federal Health Minister Mark Butler rushed out a press release announcing a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) review of gender treatment guidelines.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## 'I spent a decade going down the wrong path': Mel's regret after transition

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/02/2025, Lisa Wachsmuth

[...] The response from the federal government was swift, with Health Minister Mark Butler on Friday announcing that a medical inquiry would be held into the safety and effectiveness of the treatments for children with gender dysphoria - with national guidelines to be developed.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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## Queensland to push ahead with its own hormone therapy review

The Age, Other, 02/02/2025, Cloe Read

[...] On Friday, federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced a landmark review would be carried out by Australia's peak medical research body, the National Health and Medical Research Council.

[Read More](#)

## 'Unacceptable': Doctors raise alarm as Covid runs rampant in Aussie aged care facilities

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/02/2025, Angira Bharadwaj

[...] Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler says the tripling of the bulk billing incentive has encouraged "many GPs" to return to the practice.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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## Beauty industry flooded with unregistered practitioners and illegal chemicals

The Mercury, Other, 02/02/2025, Eliza Barr, Elizabeth Pike and Briana Domjen

[...] On Friday, Health Minister Mark Butler said authorities were "alive to the unregulated market that operates in these areas and making sure that Australians are kept safe".

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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## Puberty blockers and trans kids' care to be reviewed

HealthTimes, Other, 02/02/2025

[...] The review led by the National Health and Medical Research Council will examine aspects of children's gender-affirming care including the use of puberty blockers, Health Minister Mark Butler announced on Friday.

[Read More](#)

## Internationally qualified nurses to be fast-tracked to work in Australia

PS News, Other, 02/02/2025, Andrew McLaughlin

[...] Assistant Minister Ged Kearney said: "As a former nurse, I know all too well that Australia's healthcare system is powered by the sweat, hearts and expertise of nurses.

Also reported by: [About Regional \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Health Minister Mark Butler announces review of gender care

Q News, Other, 02/02/2025, Jordan Hirst

[...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the review would develop new national guidelines for the treatment of trans and gender-diverse children and adolescents in Australia.

[Read More](#)

## 'Timely': Labor MP and mother-of-two Amanda Rishworth welcomes review into gender-affirming care

Sky News Australia, Other, 02/02/2025, Patrick Hannaford

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler announced the review on Friday, just one day after news broke that more than 100 public figures had signed a petition calling for a pause on all medical transitions for children until an independent inquiry was held.

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## MINISTER WELLS

### Elderly left waiting for care beds

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 03/02/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 5

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

### We must check the impact of puberty blockers on kids

The Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, Patrick Parkinson, Page 11

[...] Assistant federal Health Minister Ged Kearney said on social media the purpose of its inquiry was to "update" existing standards developed at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

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Also reported by: [About Regional \(Online\)](#).

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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## DEPARTMENT

### Govt allocates \$100 million in CHSP growth funding to 133 providers

Inside Ageing, Other, 02/02/2025, Amy Clarke

[...] According to a spokesperson from the Department of Health and Aged Care, the grants will enable approximately 28,000 people to access new or additional CHSP services.

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## Channel 9, Nine News at 5pm, 02/02/2025, Unspecified

New data from Department of Health and Aged Care has revealed nearly twice as many Australians in aged care have died from COVID-19 in the past two and a half years than at the peak of the pandemic.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Adelaide\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

## FIVEAA, 09:00 News (Weekend), 02/02/2025

There are concerns poor COVID-19 vaccination rates in aged care facilities may be contributing to a surge in outbreaks and deaths. Data from the Department of Health and Aged Care has revealed 70% of aged care residents have received a booster dose in the past 12 months.

Also reported by: [3AW \(Melbourne\)](#).

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## VACCINES

### Charles Darwin University has begun a study into Artificial Intelligence and how it can help diagnose diseases.

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/02/2025, Thomas McLean

Artificial Intelligence could soon become a radiologist's best friend, with researchers from Charles Darwin University training the technology to accurately diagnose pneumonia, Covid-19 and other lung diseases.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Too many mandarins a challenge to our culture

The Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, Nick Cater, Page 11

Say what you will about the productivity of commonwealth public servants, but between them they signed off on 1045 grant applications in the past fortnight.

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### Driving change to combat workforce shortages

Shepparton News, General News, 03/02/2025, Taylah Baker, Page 6

A new training program is tackling the workforce shortage in Victoria's aged care sector, with the goal of leaving this critical issue in the rear-view mirror.

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### No excuse for rise in aged care neglect

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 03/02/2025, Julie Cross, Page 29

What the hell is happening in our aged care homes? The number of notifications about neglect have increased by a quarter in the 12 months since September 2023, according to the latest report from the aged care watchdog.

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## Worried about developing dementia? Making these four changes could delay its onset

SBS, Other, 02/02/2025, Abbie O'Brien and Liz Maddock

Dementia is expected to soon become Australia's leading cause of death. But a world-first trial has found making lifestyle changes in just four key areas could help prevent it.

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## Is the aged care ocean liner beginning to turn around?

The Mandarin, Other, 02/02/2025, Bernard Keane

Major changes to aged care amount to a huge overhaul of the role of the federal government in looking after Australian seniors.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Uni student rents through the roof

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 03/02/2025, Nicholas Osiowy, Page 3

[...] The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare classifies spending above 30 per cent of income on rent as rental stress.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).

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### Glass is half full for teetotallers

Daily Telegraph, General News, 03/02/2025, Julie Cross, Page 9

For years Amy Armstrong was a binge-drinker who could easily put away a couple of bottles of wine during a boozy lunch.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).

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### Kids in cars cases soar

Herald Sun, General News, 03/02/2025, Alex White, Page 9

Parents told to be vigilant amid shock figures Alarming figures have revealed that at least two children a day are reportedly being locked in cars in Victoria.

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### 'Exposed to harm'

Canberra Times, General News, 03/02/2025, Connor Pearce, Page 1

Emergency services top the list of least safe Commonwealth agencies NEW data has revealed the agencies that are the least safe to work in across the Commonwealth public service and the most common form of workplace injury.

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### Lethal heat warning

Herald Sun, Editorials, 03/02/2025, Page 24

There is no excuse for leaving babies or young children in cars, especially on hot days when death or permanent injury can quickly result from searing temperature.

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## Australia's Health of the Nation report reveals state of our wellbeing, our fears and hopes

More than 3000 Aussies have revealed the state of our nation's wellbeing. It's changed — with many saying we lose 11 minutes of sleep a night.

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## Denied a 'proper education', two former homeschoolers call for home visits

ABC Online, Other, 02/02/2025, By Kate Ashton

[...] Child protection reports most common from schools Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data shows that in Victoria, schools were the most common sources of child protection reports in 2022-23 (25 per cent), followed by police (22 per cent) and organisations (13 per cent).

[Read More](#)

## Contraceptive device Alyra developed in Adelaide could revolutionise the treatment for period pain

7news.com.au, Other, 02/02/2025, Jasmin Teurlings

'I think it's going to change a lot of women's lives.' Adelaide researchers have developed a world-first contraceptive device that could revolutionise the treatment for period pain.

[Read More](#)

## Abortion in Queensland in the 21st century

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 03/02/2025

It is hoped that the incoming Queensland Government keep Queensland on the path to safe and fully accessible reproductive health care for all women and pregnant people within the public sector.

[Read More](#)

## Experts have advised us to eat less salt for decades. Now, there's a new alternative

SBS, Other, 02/02/2025, Xiaoyue Luna and Bruce Neal

Advice to eat less salt has been part of international and Australian guidelines for decades.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Tassie turns teal to create cancer centre

Hobart Mercury, General News, 03/02/2025, Elise Kaine, Page 9

[...] The Cancer Council website said often there were no obvious signs of ovarian cancer but there may be one or more of the following symptoms; abdominal bloating, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, frequent or urgent urination, back, abdominal or pelvic pain, pain during intercourse, constipation or diarrhoea, menstrual irregularities, tiredness, indigestion and unexplained weight loss or weight gain.

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### Top-class cancer treatment

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 03/02/2025, Tennille Bradley, Page 29

Having spent most of my life growing up in regional NSW, I understand the shared frustration and experience of spending 10 hours or more in emergency department waiting rooms and the general lack of quality services outside of major cities.

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### Millie's brave battle



The first day of school brought a flood of emotions for a young girl and her family after being told 18 months prior she may not see her next Christmas.

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## Australian mum with deadly brain tumour ignores Charlie Teo critics for risky surgery in China

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/02/2025, Cydonee Mardon

An Australian mum of six with a deadly brain tumour has ignored critics and followed her gut, travelling to China for surgery with "banished" neurosurgeon Charlie Teo.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#)

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## 'Run out of options': Melbourne woman's miraculous cure after battling terminal cancer

NEWS.com.au, Other, 02/02/2025, Lucie Morris-Marr

Like countless Aussies, Lucie Morris-Marr's family loved their snags, bacon and ham – until she made a horrifying discovery.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Palestinian Authority backs cross-faith NGO

The Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, Alexi Demetriadi, Page 5

The Palestinian Authority has given a rare but "significant" seal of approval to an Australian crossfaith NGO working to build bridges between Israeli and Palestinian doctors, and fund equipment and training, in the first formal approval of a "cross-border" organisation in years.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#)

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### Confusion over Liberal plan to cut public service

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 03/02/2025, Dominic Giannini, Page 16

Tens of thousands of public sector workers will need to wait until after the federal election to see if they will still have a job under a Coalition government.

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### Hospital plans reveal raft of improvements

Daily Telegraph, General News, 03/02/2025, Eilidh Sproul-Mellis, Page 2

Master plans for a \$350m hospital redevelopment in Sydney's southwest have been revealed to include a massive new wing, extra surgical theatres and a significant expansion of its intensive care unit.

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### Bulk bills boost shot

Herald Sun, General News, 03/02/2025, Clare Armstrong, Page 1

[...] The Australian Medical Association will on Monday launch an ambitious pitch to "modernise" the funding model, arguing current settings, designed more than 40 years ago, are no longer fit for purpose.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#)

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## Surgeries, bookings cancelled

Courier Mail, General News, 03/02/2025, Page 6

Townsville Hospital and Health Service has cancelled all surgeries and outpatient appointments due to the dangerous weather and road conditions.

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## Hospital data reveals satellite emergency

Courier Mail, General News, 03/02/2025, Isabella Pesch, Page 13

Patients are waiting significantly longer for treatment at the state's controversial satellite hospitals than at emergency wards in real hospitals, new real-time health data shows.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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## Healthcare dispute patched

Northern Territory News, General News, 03/02/2025, Gera Kazakov, Page 5

A healthcare feud which affected patients nationally including more than 50,000 Territorians has ended with a temporary agreement being reached, in an effort to keep private health "affordable".

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## Focus of assisted dying laws must be on alleviating suffering

West Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, Steve Walker, Page 30

As WA moves towards the election of a new Parliament in March, now is a good time for voters to tell candidates that they want a new and comprehensive parliamentary inquiry into the effectiveness of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act. It was passed in December 2019, more than five years ago.

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## Downs link to faulty knee replacements

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 03/02/2025, Michael Nolan, Page 6

Queensland patients who received one of the thousands of defective knee, hip, or shoulder replacements will learn in a fortnight if they will receive a payout from the failing US manufacturer, as lawyers leading a class action sit down for an 11-hour round of mediation.

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## Surgeries postponed

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 03/02/2025, Page 8

Townsville Hospital and Health Service have cancelled all surgeries and outpatient appointments due to the dangerous weather and road conditions.

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## WA-developed AI technology to monitor patients' vitals hopes to address Perth hospital staffing shortages

West Australian, Other, 02/02/2025, Claire Sadler

A wearable band that uses artificial intelligence technology to monitor hospital patients' vital signs in real-time could be key to addressing healthcare staffing shortages across WA.

Also reported by: [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#).

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## MP Sandy Bolton seeks public opinion on fluoridation and state control

Cairns Post, Other, 02/02/2025, Andrew Hedgman

Noosa MP Sandy Bolton is launching a public survey to gather community opinion on whether water fluoridation should remain a local council matter or be managed at the state level.

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## Young WA families focus of duelling education and health election promises

ABC Online, Other, 02/02/2025, Courtney Withers

Young families grappling with the cost of living are the focus of policies announced by WA Labor and the Liberals targeting education and health ahead of the March state election.

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## Too many Australians miss out on essential medical care every year. Here's how to fix 'GP deserts'

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 03/02/2025

Some communities are "GP deserts", where there are too few GPs to ensure everyone can get the care they need when they need it.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Headspace flails under demand

The Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, James Dowling, Page 6

Australia's leading youth mental health service, headspace, is under strain, structurally inadequate and delivering no tangible difference to health outcomes in the majority of cases, research shows.

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### Epic ride for great mate

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/02/2025, Agnes Gichuhi, Page 17

It was the tragic death of a close friend that changed Lenny Deacon's life propelling him to turn his pain into purpose to help other men tackle their mental health.

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### Support Delaney's 21 Twenty Ones form men's mental health

Ballarat Courier, General News, 03/02/2025, Page 3

Support Delaney's 21 Twenty Ones form men's mental health Ballarat teen Delaney Troon is set to embark on a massive undertaking in over a week: running 21 half-marathons across 21 days for men's mental health.

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### Initiative connecting people, saving lives

Daily Advertiser, General News, 03/02/2025, Tahlia Sinclair, Page 1

In the weeks immediately following the painting of Big Springs' blue tree, Brad Collins received several phone calls.

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### Join in for the Black Dog Ride

Shepparton News, General News, 03/02/2025, Georgia Tacey, Page 3

Registrations are open now for the Black Dog Ride's 2025 One Dayer. The One Dayer is a one-day motorcycle ride that's held in more than 100 communities across Australia on Sunday, March 16, raising funds for mental health.

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## Grandad fears social media ban will stop him reaching his grandchildren

Ballarat Courier, Other, 02/02/2025, Anthony Caggiano

Grandfather Lee Pettersson has spoken out about how he'll have fewer opportunities to communicate directly with his young grandchildren once new social media laws start.

Also reported by: [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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## National Autism Strategy is neuro-affirming, but autism advocates say autistic children have been left in an NDIS gap

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 03/02/2025

Autism organisations are choosing a "glass-half-full" attitude towards the new National Autism Strategy. But its arrival — in the same month as the treatment of autistic children being removed from the NDIS — has been a cause of frustration for many.

[Read More](#)

## Social media needs a public health approach, not a blanket ban

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 03/02/2025

Australia has passed new rules banning children under 16 years from social media, yet University of Queensland researchers have found little evidence linking social media to youth mental illness.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### WA facing doctor shortage

West Australian, General News, 03/02/2025, Claire Sadler, Page 3

WA will not have enough general practitioners to service the State's growing population, statistics have revealed. According to the Royal Australian College of GPs, there are 15 per cent less doctors per person compared with Eastern States, prompting calls for urgent State Government funding.

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### Psychiatrists in NSW threaten to resign over a pay dispute

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 03/02/2025

Potential resignations of psychiatrists in the public health system in New South Wales may force the closure of hospital beds over what has been referred to as a "system constantly on the verge of collapse".

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

### Not just a Blip in sick kids awareness program

The Australian, Business News, 03/02/2025, Danielle Long, Page 21

A national initiative to generate funds for children's healthcare is set for "exponential growth" this year as it launches creative TV advertising and expands its partner platform.

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### What Aussies are paying to stay fit to help reduce stress and lose weight

The Courier Mail, Other, 02/02/2025, Julie Cross

Aussies are doing less exercise but the amount of time and money we spend to get fit has also changed. See who pays the most, why and what you can do to get your family fit for free.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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### Just one more: campaign looks to boost veg consumption

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 02/02/2025, Elizabeth Anderson

Eating an extra serve of vegetables every day could add an extra \$4.86 billion to the economy, create more than 13,000 jobs and reduce health spending.

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## SPORT

### Wallabies could bank millions with new TV win bonus

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 03/02/2025, Zoe Samios, Page 19

Rugby Australia could receive a multimillion-dollar cash boost if the underperforming Wallabies win more matches under a proposed broadcast deal with Nine Entertainment to run until the end of the decade.

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### 'One game and he ends up dead'

Herald Sun, General News, 03/02/2025, Fergus Ellis, Page 10

The heartbroken parents of an aspiring AFL L player who took his own life want Victorian authorities to investigate the drug culture in local football.

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## 'Don't let self-doubt hold you back': school leaders

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 03/02/2025, Christine Schindler, Page 10

Darling Downs students have joined the ranks of the some 890,000 Queensland students who headed back to the classroom last week, with thousands of students heading into their final year.

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## Local sport feeling the heat as temperatures rise

Daily Liberal, Other, 02/02/2025, Poppy Johnston

Dark clouds and a clap of thunder often spell the end of a game of soccer or tennis. But what about when the mercury spikes?

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

No relevant coverage

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Malarndirri McCarthy warns of unintended consequences to CLP's seven point wishlist

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/02/2025, Fia Walsh

A plan to reform welfare payments in the Territory could have unintended consequences, the Commonwealth warns.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### Measles health alert for NT

Northern Territory News, General News, 03/02/2025, Harry Brill, Page 5

Territorians are being urged to be on the alert for signs and symptoms of measles after a confirmed case in the Greater Darwin region last week.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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### Vaccine free to protect babies

Northern Territory News, General News, 03/02/2025, Fia Walsh, Page 7

Pregnant women across the Northern Territory now have free access to protection against the leading cause of hospitalisation for babies, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

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## Geelong Advertiser Health officials have released a public health alert warning residents of the potential for measles exposure from the January long weekend

Geelong Advertiser, Other, 02/02/2025, Emma Cam

The Cairns Post 0 Comments Cairns residents are being urged to stay alert after a case of a highly contagious disease was reported from the January long weekend.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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## 2GB, Healthy Living, 02/02/2025, Dr Ross Walker and Ned Green

Interview with Professor Steve Robson, ANU, about pregnant women in Australia being offered RSV vaccine for free. Robson says children and newborns are the most vulnerable to RSV infection, so it is a great initiative to protect young Australians.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Why paracetamol pack size and availability has changed

Newcastle Herald, General News, 03/02/2025, Page 14

[...] An expert review commissioned by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) found there were about 40-50 deaths every year from paracetamol poisoning between 2007 and 2020.

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### New blood test could revolutionise dementia diagnoses

SBS, Other, 02/02/2025, Allan Lee

[...] Leqembi has not been approved for use in Australia by the Therapeutic Goods Administration because it was felt that the risks of potential side effects outweighed the benefits.

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## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### Be safe, not sorry, with seafood

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 03/02/2025, Page 10

Australians consume about 350,000 tonnes of seafood a year. That's enough to fill 140 Olympic swimming pools.

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### Seafood industry fears broken promise on labelling

The Australian, Other, 02/02/2025, Charlie Peel

The fishing industry fears a Labor pledge to require all hospitality venues to indicate the origin of the

fish on their menus has been overlooked by the Albanese government.

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## Iconic Sydney restaurant The Eight is forced to close after mass 'food poisoning' incident which also affected a baby

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 03/02/2025, David Southwell

A popular yum cha restaurant has been shut down by food safety authorities during one of its busiest weeks of the year after a dozen diners, including a baby, fell ill with suspected food poisoning.

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## AICIS

### 'Forever chemicals' committee to vist city

Newcastle Herald, General News, 03/02/2025, Matthew Kelly, Page 4

A NSW Upper House select committee will conduct site visits and public hearings in Newcastle this week as part of an inquiry into PFAS contamination in waterways and drinking water supplies.

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