



Sunday, 9th February 2025

Minister Butler | Minister Wells | Assistant Minister McBride

| Assistant Minister Kearney | Assistant Minister Thwaites | Department

| Vaccines | Ageing and Aged Care | Population Health

| Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions | Primary Care

| Mental Health and Suicide Prevention | Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office

| Health Workforce | Technology Assessment and Access

| Medicare Benefits and Digital Health | Benefits Integrity

| Health Systems Strategies | Sport | Health Economics and Research |

First Nations Health | Interim Australian CDC | Therapeutic Goods Administration

| Office of Drug Control | Food Standards | AICIS

LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The <u>Sun Herald</u> (page 1) reports Minister for Health Mark Butler, Minister for Women Katy
 Gallagher and Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney will today unveil a \$573 million package
 of measures for women's health, including PBS subsidies for oral contraceptives and hormone
 replacement therapies, new Medicare items for menopause assessments, more specialist
 pelvic pain clinics and targeted training and development in healthcare for women. Also
 reported by: <u>Sunday Telegraph</u>, <u>The Australian</u>, <u>Sunday Times</u>, <u>ABC News</u>, <u>NEWS.com.au</u>
- The <u>Sun Herald</u> (page 1) reports that Football Australia has barred 55,000 amateur soccer players in NSW from courses, competitions and awards until they sign up to new a registration platform that associations have rejected as unusable.
- The <u>Sunday Times</u> (page 1) reports that WA Premier Roger Cook has pledged a \$97 million redevelopment of the Royal Perth Hospital emergency department, while Opposition Leader Libby Mettam has announced a \$91 million plan to redirect low-priority cases from Perth emergency departments to St John Urgent Care clinics. *Also reported by:* <u>Sunday Times</u>. <u>Sunday Times</u>
- The <u>Sunday Mail Adelaide</u> (page 1) reports that seven "sentinel events" causing death or serious harm to patients were recorded in South Australian public hospitals in 2022-23, two more than the previous year.

- The <u>Sunday Mail Brisbane</u> (page 3) reports that the federal electorates of Brisbane and Fairfax on the Sunshine Coast contain no GP clinics that offer bulk-billing to all patients, a Cleanbill analysis found.
- The <u>Sun Herald</u> (page 4) reports that advocates are seeking an urgent meeting with Health Minister Ryan Park to address a lack of care for NSW hospital patients with a disability.
- The <u>Sunday Age</u> (page 4) reports that Melbourne City Council says it has lost more than 70 hectares of open sports grounds in the last 20 years.
- The <u>Sunday Telegraph</u> (page 4) reports that staff at Northern Beaches Hospital say their time and resources are being misused to accommodate film and television crews hiring an unused maternity ward.
- The <u>Sunday Territorian</u> (page 5) reports that alcohol-related injuries across the Northern Territory, and especially in Central Australia, declined significantly between 2017 and 2022.
- <u>ABC News</u> (online) reports that 70 of the 206 psychiatric specialists who resigned from NSW's
 public health system in a dispute over pay and conditions have come back as independent
 contractors.

MINISTER BUTLER

\$573m pledge for women's health

Sun Herald, General News, 09/02/2025, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 1

Australian women will save hundreds of dollars a year on hormone replacement therapies and contraceptive pills under the first new subsidies for reproductive health treatments in decades, as the Albanese government makes a \$573 million pledge on women's health ahead of the election. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said it was clear the PBS wasn't working for women, given no new contraceptives or hormone therapies had been added to the scheme in decades even though these often had fewer side effects than older drugs. [...] Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said women's health had long been shrouded in shame and stigma.

Also reported by: <u>Sunday Age (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Sydney Morning Herald (Online)</u>, <u>The Age (Online)</u>, <u>Brisbane Times</u> (<u>Online</u>), <u>WA Today (Online)</u>

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PM has \$570m of love for women

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/02/2025, Angira Bharadwaj, Page 4

Anthony Albanese will head to the polls looking to woo female voters of all ages with a \$570m bundle of new promises to support women's health including cheaper contraceptives and new menopause checks. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the investments were long overdue. [...] Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney added that women were forced to feel ashamed of their health issues.

Also reported by: Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne), Sunday Mail Brisbane (Brisbane), Sunday Mail Adelaide (Adelaide), Sunday Tasmanian (Hobart), Daily Telegraph Australia (Online), Herald Sun (Online), The Courier Mail (Online), Adelaide Now (Online), The Mercury (Online), Northern Territory News (Online)

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\$500m splash for women's health

Sunday Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Hannah Cross, Page 11

Hundreds of thousands of women stretching their budgets to afford birth control or menopause therapies will soon save, the Federal Government says, with plans to list several medications on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. [...] Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler, Minister for Women Katy Gallagher and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney will make the announcement on Sunday as part of a half-a-billion-dollar package to lower costs and increase choice in women's health care.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online)

Labor invest in female health, argue system 'wasn't working for women'

The Australian, Other, 08/02/2025, James Dowling

[...] On Sunday, Minister for Women Katy Gallagher, Health Minister Mark Butler and Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney will announce a \$573 million swath of policies including new subsidised oral contraceptives, more endometriosis clinics, access to intra-uterine contraceptive devices and greater Medicare support for menopause treatments. [...] The Health Department estimates one in three Australian women currently pay for birth control outside of the PBS, citing a lack of new subsidies in more than 30 years.

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Birth control pills and menopause drugs made cheaper

Canberra Times, Other, 09/02/2025, Rachael Ward

Australians are set to have a greater choice of cheaper birth control pills and menopause medications within weeks, as the government pledged more Medicare rebates in a pre-election women's health boost. [...] It marked the first time these types of medications had been added to the PBS in decades which showed the system had not been working for women, Health Minister Mark Butler said. [...] Assistant Health Minister and former nurse Ged Kearney said it would "shift the dial on an entrenched culture of medical misogyny".

Also reported by: West Australian (Online), Perth Now (Online), Daily Mail Australia (Online), Yahoo! News Australia (Online) and syndicated widely online

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Federal Labor promises half a billion dollars for women's health, including better access to long-term contraceptives

ABC Online, Other, 08/02/2025, Tom Lowrey

Medicare rebates would be boosted significantly for women taking up long-term contraceptives, in an effort to lift their uptake. The Albanese government is continuing its re-election pitch with a \$573 million funding promise for women's health, including new spending to encourage long-term contraceptives. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the funding announcements came after plenty of advocacy for more options in contraception.

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Aussie women would benefit from a \$573 million package under a reelected Albanese government

NEWS.com.au, Other, 08/02/2025, Samantha Maiden

Australian women will gain access to the first new contraceptive on the PBS in 30 years, more bulk billing for IUDs and implants, new menopause and UTI treatments and endometriosis clinics under a 'game-changing' \$500 million pre-election investment in women's health. [...] "I was deeply moved by the women who spoke about their experience with endometriosis during the About Bloody Time campaign," Health Minister Mark Butler said. [...] Assistant Minister Kearney said too often women's health complaints were brushed aside.

Also reported by: <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Herald Sun (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>

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Bulk billing block to Albo's hopes in WA

Sunday Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Joe Spagnolo, Page 5

Anthony Albanese's bid to win over WA voters this Federal Election might be harder than he thinks, with new research showing those in key Labor seats have a tough time finding a doctor who fully bulk bills. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler on Saturday rubbished the Cleanbill data, saying it was incorrect and unreliable.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online)

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Trans rallies push back against curb on gender healthcare

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Rachael Ward and Neve Brissenden, Page 8

Transgender youth deserve to have a voice in decisions affecting their healthcare, and the freedom to be themselves. That's the message from thousands of Australians across the nation who gathered to protest a ban on gender-affirming care in some parts of the country. [...] The National Health and Medical Research Council will review aspects of children's gender-affirming care including the use of puberty blockers, Health Minister Mark Butler said.

Also reported by: <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>, <u>Sunday Examiner (Launceston)</u>, <u>The Senior (Online)</u>, <u>Michael West Media (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Mail Australia (Online)</u>, <u>MSN Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Similar coverage: Sky News Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Pedestrian TV (Online)</u>

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Government applies a 'Band-Aid' to state and territory health funding in lieu of new five-year deal

RiotACT, Other, 08/02/2025, Andrew McLaughlin

The government has effectively conceded it will not reach a new five-year National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA) with the states and territories before the next federal election and has instead announced a one-year "Band-Aid" extension for the 2025-26 financial year. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said, "States and territories understand that the conclusion of a five-year deal – which is what they're after and what was committed by the Prime Minister at the National Cabinet meeting in December 2023 – remains tied to that NDIS reform process continuing as it would.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

\$573m pledge for women's health

Sun Herald, General News, 09/02/2025, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 1

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The federal government says its commitment to fund over \$570 million in women's health will be lifechanging for those with debilitating conditions. It's promised more Medicare support for women experiencing menopause, a new rebate for health assessments and training for health professionals if it's re-elected. More endometriosis and pelvic clinics will be created, with existing ones to be extended to treat more conditions. The Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ged Kearney, says it's much needed investment. [clip: Assistant Minister Kearney]

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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DEPARTMENT

ACT paying 'more than ever' to see a GP

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Emily Guy, Page 6

There's still a way to go to 'make healthcare affordable' for all ACT residents are still paying some of the most expensive general practitioner bills in the country, a new report says. Canberrans are paying \$10 more on average to see a GP than the rest of Australia, according to a new report by health advocacy group Cleanbill. [...] According to the Department of Health and Aged Care, bulk billing increased 1.7 per cent from 2023 to 2024 nationally, largely driven by the 14.4 per cent increase for concession card holders.

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Teal candidate once consulted for British American Tobacco

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 08/02/2025, James O'Doherty

A 'teal' candidate contesting a seat in Sydney's upper North Shore once worked as a consultant for big tobacco, and published unashamedly pro-vaping content in the local newspaper she edited. [...] According to Health department, "scientists and public health experts are still learning about ecigarettes (but) they do not consider them safe".

Also reported by: <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>

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VACCINES

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

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POPULATION HEALTH

Smoke and ire for Teal hopeful

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/02/2025, James O'Doherty, Page 24

A 'teal' candidate contesting a seat in Sydney's upper North Shore worked as a consultant for big tobacco, and published pro-vaping content in the local newspaper she edited. The Daily Telegraph can reveal "community independent" candidate Tina Brown, worked as a "Consultant Project Manager" at British American Tobacco, according to a LinkedIn page under her maiden name.

Also reported by: Sunday Territorian (Darwin)

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Cut tax to stop illegal tobacco

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 09/02/2025, Stephen Drill, Page 25

Chalmers facing pressure Treasurer Jim Chalmers is under pressure to cut cigarette taxes to reduce Australia's booming tobacco black market. Deakin University criminologist James Martin has urged the federal government to cut, or at least freeze, the excise.

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Alcohol related injuries reduced

Sunday Territorian, General News, 09/02/2025, Fia Walsh, Page 5

A new study has found rates of alcohol-related injuries in the Northern Territory have declined in recent years, calling for existing policy controls to be retained to stop fragile progress being lost. Examining data from NT public hospitals between 2007 and 2022, the research found the Banned Drinker Register, minimum floor price, and Police Auxiliary Liquor Inspectors worked to bring down alcohol-related harm in Central Australia.

Also reported by: Northern Territory News (Online)

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Unhappy burghers flip out over Macca's

Sunday Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Oliver Lane, Page 11

Residents in Kalamunda have lashed out at a proposal to open a McDonald's restaurant in their suburb, saying it will ruin its "village atmosphere", as experts warn they and other communities have a major battle if they want to stop such plans. [...] Cancer Council WA food and movement programs manager, Ainslie Sartori, said the odds were often stacked against communities who opposed fast-food proposals.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online)

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

The alarming TikTok trend you don't want to try

The New Daily, Other, 08/02/2025, Laura Dare

If you've scrolled social media recently, you might've seen influencers flaunting their "perfect" tan lines – all achieved by baking under the sun – sometimes even during high UV index hours. It's like a step

back in time to when tanning was considered cool, but here's the harsh truth: There's no such thing as a safe tan. [...] Cancer Council SA prevention and advocacy manager Christine Morris said the behaviour was alarming – especially in Australia, where we have the highest melanoma rates in the world.

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ABC News, Weekend Breakfast, 08/02/2025, Fauziah Ibrahim and Thomas Oriti

Interview with Dementia Australia executive director of services, advocacy and research Kaele Stokes regarding their new report into dementia in Australia.

Continues: ABC News (Sydney)

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PRIMARY CARE

Patient spent three hours on the floor at hospital

Sun Herald, General News, 09/02/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 4

A man who spent three hours on the bathroom floor at a Sydney hospital because nobody could lift him is one of several patients who say their treatment highlights inadequate staffing levels and training in the NSW public health system. Advocates have requested an urgent meeting with Health Minister Ryan Park after hearing an increasing number of stories involving people with physical disabilities being mistreated, misdiagnosed or having their dignity compromised in NSW hospitals.

Also reported by: Sydney Morning Herald (Online)

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People with disability let down by care

Sun Herald, Editorials, 09/02/2025, Page 24

Speaking to Angus Thomson in today's Sun-Herald, Declan Lee says he was let down by the NSW hospital system. That appears to be an understatement.

Also reported by: Sydney Morning Herald (Online)

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Hospital theatre

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/02/2025, Lisa Wachsmuth, Page 4

The controversial Northern Beaches Hospital is putting "profits before patients" by hiring out one of its two maternity wards to film and television crews rather than accommodate birthing mothers, irate staff claim. Last week, management sent staff a list of props that needed to be ready for use by the production company behind Hollywood heavyweight Russell Crowe's latest venture, Beast In Me, starring Daniel MacPherson, Luke Hem-sworth and Amy Shark.

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Demands are a bitter pill to swallow

Sunday Telegraph, Editorials, 09/02/2025, Page 85

Here is something we never thought we'd have to say in this newspaper: Hospitals exist to care for their patients. That's it, that is all.

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Leaders face off on hospital EDs

Sunday Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Joe Spagnolo, Page 1

Roger Cook and Libby Mettam have revealed rival emergency room pitches ahead of next month's State election in a bid to alleviate pressure on the health system. Labor has pledged \$100 million for a

new Royal Perth Hospital emergency department, just months after a similar pledge for Sir Charles Gairdner in Nedlands.

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Cook's pledge on RPH upgrade

Sunday Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Joe Spagnolo, Page 4

\$97m emergency spend Premier Roger Cook has announced a \$97 million redevelopment of the Royal Perth Hospital emergency department, as health takes centre stage in the State election battle. Mr Cook is promising that if Labor is re-elected in March, his Government will "modernise the emergency department, reduce ambulance ramping and slash wait times" at RPH, scheduled for next year.

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Plan to ease ED pressure

Sunday Times, General News, 09/02/2025, Joe Spagnolo, Page 5

Liberal leader Libby Mettam has announced a \$91 million plan to ease pressure at Perth's public hospital emergency departments, redirecting lowpriority cases for free treatment at St John Urgent Care clinics. Under the plan, ambulances would take low-priority patients to a St John Urgent Care Clinic rather than a public hospital emergency department.

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Healthy dose of policies

Sunday Times, Editorials, 09/02/2025, Page 37

There's no doubt about it – the major parties at a State and Federal level want voters to know they're spending up big on our politically fraught health system. Health can easily make or break a party's chances of winning or retaining government.

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Hospital did wrong op

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 09/02/2025, Brad Crouch, Page 1

Catastrophic events in South Australian public hospitals are on the rise, with seven "sentinel events" causing death or serious harm to patients, latest figures show. They include a case in which the wrong surgery was performed on a patient, and another where a person was restrained with tragic consequences.

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Bulk-billing docs more scarce than ever

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 09/02/2025, Kylie Lang, Page 3

Two Queensland federal electorates now have no clinics offering free consultations to all patients, according to a new national analysis of GP costs. In other electorates, out-ofpocket costs have soared in two years, putting Queensland significantly behind NSW and Victoria when it comes to affordable access to doctors.

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No clean bill of health here

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Editorials, 09/02/2025, Page 68

It beggars belief that in this great state of Queensland more and more people are being denied access to free or affordable medical care. A damning report reveals that access to bulk-billing GPs has never been worse.

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Puberty blue hits Brissie streets

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 09/02/2025, Rhys Cox, Page 23

Hundreds marched on state parliament on Saturday to protest against the government's ban on hormone therapy for transgender youths. The rally formed part of Trans Justice Project's Protect Trans

Youth National Day of Action, with 19 other rallies held across Australia.

Also reported by: <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, Similar coverage: <u>Brisbane Times (Online)</u>, <u>NEWS.com.au (Online)</u>, <u>The Guardian (Online)</u>

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How to freeze your eggs and stay chill

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/02/2025, Julie Cross, Page 12

Like five of her friends, Louise Davidson has had her eggs frozen in case she wants children one day. The 37-year-old consultant space engineer said egg freezing was a "topic of conversation" in her friendship circle for years, but she was finally spurred into doing it on the advice of three specialists after a medical issue.

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St Andrew's Toowoomba Hospital to open new cancer care department to keep patients local

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 08/02/2025, Tom Gillespie

In her 20 years as a cancer care nurse at St Andrew's Toowoomba Hospital, Julie McEwen has witnessed patients refuse treatment when told they would need to leave the region to continue it. "A lot of the patients have said in the past, if they had to go to Brisbane, they just wouldn't have treatment – they just wouldn't bother," the chemotherapy nursing unit manager said.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

One-third of New South Wales' resigning psychiatrists rehired as visiting medical officers

ABC Online, Other, 08/02/2025, Tony Ibrahim

About one-third of the psychiatrists who resigned from the New South Wales public health system have rejoined as contractors, potentially benefiting from a pay bump that could be worth tens of thousands of dollars. More than 206 staff specialist psychiatrists submitted their resignations, expecting it to take effect as early as January 21, as part of a dispute with the state government over non-competitive pay and dire work conditions.

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Effort about bringing docs to district

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 08/02/2025, Lewis Nancekivell

As Australia struggled with a healthcare worker shortage, especially in regional areas, a local organisation is aiming to change that. Know as Connecting the Docs and first formed in 2022, the group's mission is to attract and retain more healthcare workers in the Northern Mallee region through various initiatives.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Docs warned off 'Chat GP'

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 09/02/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 21

Doctors are being warned about using AI software to record clinical notes during patient consultations after dangerous errors have been reported in the transcriptions. When making appointments via popular online booking platforms, patients across the state are being asked if they consent to AI Medical Scribe Software being used during the consultation with the doctor. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and national boards support the safe use of AI in healthcare.

Also reported by: The Courier Mail (Online)

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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SPORT

Software stoush puts grassroots players off-side

Sun Herald, General News, 09/02/2025, Vince Rugari, Page 1

Bankstown Sports Strikers under-18s are "gutted". Their club is among a multitude to have called a foul on Football Australia's ambitious registration platform, ironically named PlayFootball 2.0.

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70 hectares lost: City sport grounds dwindling away

Sunday Age, General News, 09/02/2025, Cara Waters, Page 4

Sports clubs across the City of Melbourne are cramming onto a diminishing number of sports grounds in the battle for green space amid a booming population. In the past 20 years Melbourne City Council, whose territory stretches from Flemington to South Yarra, calculates it has lost more than 70 hectares of sports grounds, with local clubs now struggling to accommodate a growing number of participants.

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KISS plan: Keep It a Simple Stadium

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 09/02/2025, Taylah Fellows, Page 17

A simple stadium erected on top of the old Albion Raceway track is a cheaper and quicker solution to the state government's Olympic Games woes, a new development group has declared. The Albion Olympic Park team has put forward a simple stadium design for consideration as Brisbane's main stage for 2032, with hopes the government will be swayed by the no-frills proposal that promises a smaller price tag.

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Bitter twist to my coffee saga

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/02/2025, Peter Jenkins, Page 14

An Australian athlete has been sensationally denied public recognition as a three-time Olympian because of a failed drug test almost 40 years ago. Former modern pentathlete Alex Watson, 67, was ejected from the 1988 Seoul Olympics after recording an excessive level of caffeine, a stimulant no longer on the World Anti-Doping Agency's banned substance list.

Also reported by: <u>Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Sunday Mail Adelaide (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Sunday Mail Brisbane</u> (<u>Brisbane</u>)

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\$15k to switch words around

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/02/2025, Danielle Gusmaroli, Page 14

Athletics Australia has been rebranded Australian Athletics in a revamp that has been met with condemnation and dismissed as "completely unnecessary". The name swap for the sport's governing body was created for a princely sum of "around \$15,000", insiders have revealed, by an in-house graphic designer with funds used for web redevelopment and brand consultation.

Also reported by: <u>Sunday Tasmanian (Hobart)</u>, <u>Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Sunday Mail Brisbane</u> (<u>Brisbane</u>)

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Strength and survival: The siblings turning a new tide on mental health

ABC Online, Other, 08/02/2025, Laura Tingle

First Nations people are taking their lives at double the rate of non-Indigenous Australians. With the power of the ocean, survivors and family members impacted by suicide are fighting to change that.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Dust not settled on lung disease

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 09/02/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 19

More than 500 Victorian workers have been diagnosed with the incurable lung disease silicosis after a spike in cases since 2015. Sobering statistics show there were 536 workers' compensation claims for the occupational disease between 1991 and 2022, with 97 per cent of patients from the stone benchtop industry.

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Thousands warned as Aussies battle 'horrendous' issue: 'Debilitating'

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 08/02/2025, Brianne Tolj

Thousands of residents have been warned to cover up as one Aussie city continues to battle a "supercharged mosquito breeding season". Hot weather and regular tidal flooding of wetland areas has created the perfect conditions for the insects to multiply in Mandurah, south of Perth , over recent weeks, with locals saying the issue has become "horrendous".

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Cancer that killed dad won't get me

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/02/2025, Elisa Wachsmuth, Page 29

Ryan Harding has no memories of his father Robert but has lived his life with the knowledge that he shares the same rare disease that took his life. Yet now, thanks to a miracle drug that has just been listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, Mr Harding finally has hope that he will not suffer the same fate as his dad – and neither will any of his children. [...] "It's been approved by the TGA in Australia for a few years but only one patient could afford the cost by remortgaging his house."

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AICIS

NSW councils push for PFAS funds

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 08/02/2025, Wade Stephens

Lobby group Local Government New South Wales is seeking extra funding for municipalities in that state to monitor the levels of "forever chemicals" in local water supplies. At the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Per- and polyfluoroalkyl contamination in waterways and drinking water supplies, LGNSW warned that local councils could not shoulder the ongoing financial burden of addressing and managing PFAS risks alone.

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