



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Monday, 10th March 2025

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Australian** (page 2) reports two out of three workers have been prescribed potentially harmful opioids through Victoria's workers' compensation schemes, leading researchers to call for stronger limits on such treatments to prevent long-term opioid use.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 3) reports a kitchen garden at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital funded through the Good Friday Appeal has improved patients' health and made them more likely to consume meals, hospital employees say.
- The **Hobart Mercury** (page 5) reports Tasmanian doctors have called on the state's government to give a projected start date for a rule change that will allow rural generalist practitioners to work in local hospitals, saying progress has stalled since it was announced last August.
- The **Australian Financial Review** (page 6) reports the majority of Australian private health insurance customers will see premiums rise between 3.99 and 5.1 per cent, industry analysts say, more than the 3.73 per cent rise announced by Health Minister Mark Butler.
- The **Courier Mail** (page 7) reports Queenslanders are being urged to avoid floodwaters in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Alfred amidst warnings it could be carrying bacterias like melioidosis that have already caused 16 fatalities this year.

- The [Canberra Times](#) (page 8) reports doctors are calling for more funding to address an "epidemic of obesity", with patients believed to be reluctant to see GPs to address their weight due to the prohibitive cost of treatments like Ozempic. *Also reported by:* [Australian Financial Review](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#)
- The [Ballarat Courier](#) (page 1) reports Ambulance Victoria, Grampians Health and Monash Health were behind almost half of Victoria's serious clinical errors leading to severe harm or death between October and December last year, new data from data from Safer Care Victoria has shown.

MINISTER BUTLER

Health insurance fees to rise more than Labor says

Australian Financial Review, General News, 10/03/2025, John Kehoe, Page 6

Health Minister Mark Butler has been called out for understating the size of the increase in health insurance premiums people will pay this year, with most customers facing a price rise of between 4 per cent and 5 per cent. Butler announced last month the...

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

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Private hospitals reject 'nonsense' plan by insurers

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 10/03/2025, Michael Smith, Page 21

Private hospital operators have rejected an offer by health insurers of oneoff financial help as a nonsense proposal and say they will push the federal government to endorse a plan forcing funds to increase the percentage of their premiums paid to hospita...

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

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Simple ways to drag back billions for government coffers

Herald Sun, General News, 10/03/2025, Jon Kaila, Page 12

The federal government could collect an additional \$3.6bn in four years if it froze the tax excise on cigarettes. Modelling by Tulipwood Economics on behalf of the Australian Association of Convenience Stores showed this one simple measure could fund an extra 50 schools because more smokers would choose legal rather than illicit tobacco. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said taxes on tobacco would never be cut under a Labor government.

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

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

Life-changing new drug available for elderly Australians with devastating eye condition

9News, Other, 09/03/2025, Sarah Swain

A life-changing new drug is now available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for elderly Australians with a devastating eye condition that causes vision loss. [...] "This new drug is not only highly effective, more effective than some of the others on the market right now - it's also the possibility of longer intervals between injections," Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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Labor needs a refreshed message

Open Forum, Other, 09/03/2025

Anthony Albanese and the Labor Party's hope of clinging to government in 2025 hinges on dramatically reshaping their pitch to voters more concerned about hip-pocket issues than broader economic messages. [...] Claims by Health Minister Mark Butler and Foreign Minister Penny Wong that a Dutton government would cut Medicare have already landed the party into hot water.

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MINISTER WELLS

ABC Sunshine Coast, Special Coverage, 09/03/2025

Interview with Anika Wells, Labor Minister for Aged Care and Sport. Wells discusses the situation in her electorate during the ex-tropical cyclone Alfred. She also comments on the issue of elderly Australians lacking access to power and medication during the disaster.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Get ready for Dementia Training Australia's inaugural symposium: United for Dementia Care

Aged Care Insite, Other, 10/03/2025

On Wednesday 14 May 2025, allied health professionals from across Australia will unite at the Adelaide Oval in the name of delivering high quality dementia care. As Australia's leading provider of dementia training, Dementia Training Australia (DTA) recognises the importance and value of allied health professionals in dementia care.

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Less is more: deprescribing for safer ageing

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 10/03/2025

Australia is facing a pressing challenge as the population ages — the way we manage medicines and how we prescribe for older adults must evolve. Nearly 40% of Australians aged over 75 years take five or more medicines every day, and one in five people are prescribed a medicine that is considered potentially inappropriate and goes against general advice.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Market up to half the population: Ozempic maker

Australian Financial Review, General News, 10/03/2025, Michael Smith, Page 8

Danish pharmaceutical giant Novo Nordisk says about 13 million Australians are living with obesity or are overweight, potentially making half the population candidates for its weight loss drugs Ozempic and Wegovy. The federal government is reluct...

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

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Tobacco shops target minors

Courier Mail, General News, 10/03/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 18

Children are being targeted by tobacco marketing, including in toy stores, amid gaps in Australian laws Queensland researchers have revealed. Window toy displays, cartoons and movie characters on shopfronts are being used to attract children a University of Queensland study has found.

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

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Health hikes a cruel blow

West Australian, Business News, 10/03/2025, Page 48

Millions of Aussies are cancelling their private health insurance policies as prices have their biggest jump in seven years. Coming in April, policyholders will see an average price rise of 3.73 per cent, putting further pressure on budgets.

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New nicotine alert: If you snus you lose

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 10/03/2025, Elizabeth Pike, Page 9

Teachers and doctors are warning about the dangers of a new drug sweeping Australia, with scores of young people switching to small nicotine "pouches" to feed their addiction amid the crackdown on vapes. Flavoured nicotine pouches, also known as "snus", have flooded the market in recent months, peddled out of convenience stores and tobacconists across the city in discreet, palm-sized tins.

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Kids' teeth troubles? You can't always blame the parents

The Australian, Other, 09/03/2025, Tim Keys

As parents, we are often inundated with unsolicited advice, judgment, and opinions about how to care for our children. When it comes to dental health, parents can feel even more under siege. Aren't poor diet, inadequate cleaning, and missed dental visits to blame for all dental problems? The short answer is no. While these are important factors in maintaining oral health, we have an increasing body of evidence that

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Why do some people say they feel better on extreme diets such as keto

and carnivore?

ABC Online, Other, 09/03/2025, Emma Beckett

Extreme diets have long been a part of diet culture as quick-fix weight-loss solutions. When I was growing up, these diets were found in women's magazines and often called "fads" as they cycled in and out of fashion.

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Partnerships across sectors key to eliminate cervical cancer for all culturally diverse communities

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 10/03/2025

International targets have been set to eliminate cervical cancer and Australia Government strategies are in place to achieve this. [...] As reported in an Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report, data combining measures like main language spoken at home, ancestry and/or country of birth data will highlight one type of health picture.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

'I put it all back': Life after popular diet drug

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 10/03/2025, Liam Mannix, Page 11

The cravings were gone. The "food noise", once a cacophony inside her head, was silent. And the weight, for so long such a stubborn companion, seemed to drain away. Semaglutide changed Lauren Ash's life, she says, after losing 35 kilograms while using it. The same medication is branded as Ozempic (for diabetes) and Wegovy (for weight loss).

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Funds needed to fight 'obesity epidemic'

Canberra Times, General News, 10/03/2025, Steve Evans, Page 8

Doctors have called for extra funding to address the "epidemic of obesity". They argued that some very overweight people were reluctant to go to GPs to get their health problems addressed because of cost. The call came as pharmacists in the ACT reported a rise in the number of people seeking drugs like Ozempic, Wegovy or Mounjaro.

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Family's nightmare after doctor visit

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/03/2025, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 9

At worst, young father Cameron Bond thought his colonoscopy in late January would lead to a diagnosis of Crohn's or coeliac disease. He'd been experiencing stomach pain since November last year and thought getting it checked would be best. But during the procedure, doctors found a tumour that was blocking 90 per cent of the 29-year-old's bowel.

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Bright idea for cancer discussion

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/03/2025, Sue Bailey, Page 1

Alison Palmer hopes her bright pink locks and soon to be shaved head will start conversations about breast cancer. Her mother Deena Moroney was 55 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer last year, and Alison has decided to raise money for the National Breast Cancer Foundation and vital research.

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Endo diagnosis dilemma

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/03/2025, Alison Foletta, Page 7

It takes three years longer in Tasmania to get a diagnosis for endometriosis. The debilitating disease impacts about one in nine women but experts believe this rate is higher due to a delay in diagnosis. A barrier facing people in getting a diagnosis can include limited access to general practitioners, as well as a lack of endometriosis-informed GPs.

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A better measurement index? Why BMI guidelines may be on way out

Newcastle Herald, General News, 10/03/2025, Ayisha Siddiqua, Page 12

A slew of new weight-loss drugs are being tested in 2025. They follow blockbuster drug Ozempic, whose maker, the Danish company Novo Nordisk, is now Europe's most valuable company with a market capitalisation worth more than the whole Danish economy.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#)

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How can we turn tide on nation's obesity crisis?

Newcastle Herald, General News, 10/03/2025, Jessica Kerr, Page 13

Since the 1990s, the proportion of the world's population who are overweight (with a body mass index of 25-30) or obese (with a body mass index of 30 or above) has doubled. If current patterns continue, we estimate that by 2050, 30 per cent of the world's children and adolescents (aged five to 24 years) will be overweight or obese, according to our new research in The Lancet.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#)

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Painful condition too often overlooked

Western Advocate, General News, 10/03/2025, Katelyn Catanzariti, Page 5

It's not just a period and the pain isn't normal - endometriosis leaves one in seven women in often excruciating pain and threatens their work, their health and their fertility. But all too often it is overlooked, misdiagnosed or not taken seriously by medical practitioners, campaigners say, thanks to, at best, unconscious bias and, at worst, medical misogyny.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#)

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Geelong West girl Charlotte Robertson's battle with epilepsy

Geelong Advertiser, Other, 09/03/2025

Ten-year-old Charlotte Robertson had her first seizure when she was just five months old. Her dad, Stephen, said she would experience episodes where her eyes glazed over and she would "stare off into space". "She wouldn't engage or respond and she would hold her breath as well," he said. After multiple trips into Geelong hospital, Charlotte was diagnosed with epilepsy.

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Loved ones rally around Chris as they march to save lives from melanoma

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 09/03/2025, Natalie Croxon

A little over a week after he left hospital, Chris Klohs was pounding a path from Lang Park to Stuart Park and back to support a cause that had struck very close to home. Login or signup to continue reading \$1/week for the first 8 weeks Then, billed \$ per month

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Do some children need statins?

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 10/03/2025

Familial hypercholesterolemia (fh) is a life-threatening hereditary condition, yet 90% of Australians with FH remain undiagnosed. Experts urge proactive genetic testing to identify children and families at risk.

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ACON is Offering Free Cervical Cancer Screenings at ChillOut Festival Today

Sydney Star Observer, Other, 09/03/2025, Chloe Sargeant

ACON, in partnership with Sexual Health Victoria and the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care, is leading a pioneering initiative to enhance cervical cancer screening accessibility within the LGBTQIA+ community. The LGBTQIA+ health organisation is offering free self-swab cervical screenings at today's Carnival Day at ChillOut Festival in Daylesford, Victoria

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PRIMARY CARE

Public blind spot on private hospitals

Daily Telegraph, General News, 10/03/2025, Matthew Koce, Page 31

Recent statements made by the Health Minister and private hospital community suggesting new rules to raise benefit ratios for hospital procedures might make for good political point scoring on the eve of an election, but they should be ringing alarm bells.

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Cultivating the flower of youth

Herald Sun, General News, 10/03/2025, Nui Te Koha, Page 3

A kitchen garden project at the Royal Children's Hospital is supplying fresh vegetables and herbs for hundreds of meals at the renowned facility. The project, funded through the Good Friday Appeal, began as a pilot program six months ago, and many crops planted by and cared for by RCH patients and their families are now ready for harvest.

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Lilydale flagged as potential location for urgent care clinic under re-elected Labor

Ranges Trader Mail, Other, 09/03/2025, Mikayla van Loon

Lilydale has been flagged as a potential location for an urgent care clinic in a more than \$600 million funding pledge from the Labor government if re-elected. The expansion of the existing 87 clinics by a further 50, including 12 in Victoria, would aim to be delivered by the end of June 2026. Labor has released a list of target areas, in which Lilydale is one, but the final sites would be decided independently.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Pain link to depression

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 10/03/2025, Page 7

About 40 per cent of adults with chronic pain have anxiety or depression, according to new research covering data from more than 50 countries. The research team from Macquarie University and Johns Hopkins University in the US looked at 376 studies involving almost 350,000 people with chronic pain around the world.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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Grads take offtraining wheels

Burnie Advocate, General News, 10/03/2025, Emily Williams, Page 3

India Gregson, Kelly Viney, and Jatinder Singh have all taken remarkably different journeys to become nurses. They are three of 307 nursing graduates in the Transition To Practice (TTP) program across the state, 30 of which have joined Burnie's NorthWest Regional Hospital.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Waiting for rule change action

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/03/2025, Simon McGuire, Page 5

The state government says it will provide an update "in the near future" about a rule change Premier Jeremy Rockliff ordered the Department of Health to make in August last year. During The Mercury Bush Summit, Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine Regional Director of Training Sally Street spoke about GPs having to fly interstate for shifts because a health policy prevents them from using their skills in Tasmanian hospitals.

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Free workshop for professionals

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/03/2025, Taylor Mason, Page 4

Health professionals across the NT can take part in a free accredited workshop designed to improve their ability to support LGBTQIA+SB clients. Hosted by NT PHN and the NT AIDS and Hepatitis Council (NTAHC), the Engaging With LGBTQIA+SB Community Training Workshop will be held in Katherine (March 11-12), Tennant Creek (March 18-20), Alice Springs (March 25-27), and Nhulunbuy (April 8-10).

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Weighing up case for drug subsidies

Newcastle Herald, General News, 10/03/2025, Jonathan Karnon, Page 12

People with a high body weight living in England can now access subsidised weight-loss drugs to treat their obesity. This includes Wegovy (the weight-loss dose of Ozempic, or semaglutide) and Mounjaro (one of the brand names for tirzepatide). [...] But it is yet to subsidise semaglutide (Wegovy) on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for weight loss.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#).

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Our private health issue

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 10/03/2025, Page 3

Almost one in five Aussies are choosing to go without private health insurance and pay the Medicare Levy Surcharge, with experts torn on whether taking out a policy is really worth it. New research from

comparison site Finder revealed 18 per cent of Australians who earn the national average wage of \$100,000 or more do not have private health insurance.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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The major parties want 9 in 10 GP visits bulk billed by 2030. Here's why we shouldn't aim for 100%

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 10/03/2025

Unaffordable GP visits has become a pressing issue amid the increasing cost-of-living crisis. About 30% of Australians delayed or didn't see a GP in 2023–24. To solve this problem, Labor has proposed extending bulk billing incentives to all Australians. It hopes to increase bulk billing from 78% to 90% by 2030.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Dalkeith doctor banned from medicine

West Australian, General News, 10/03/2025, Shannon Hampton, Page 20

An obstetrician accused of killing a young woman in a drunken, high-speed crash has had an Australia-wide ban placed on his medical registration. [...] An alert on Dr Bellinge's profile on the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency website states: "This practitioner is currently suspended.

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Data shows 'crucial issue'

Ballarat Courier, General News, 10/03/2025, Ben Silvester, Page 1

Leaked government data has revealed three Victorian health services were responsible for nearly half the serious clinical errors leading to severe harm or death across the state. The data from Safer Care Victoria recorded "sentinel events": serious clinical errors that kill or seriously harm a patient.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Radio National, Sunday Extra, 09/03/2025, Julian Morrow

Interview with Professor Jenny May, National Rural Health Commissioner, about rural health in Australia. May says the Rural Health Commissioner provides advice to the government about the important issues in rural health. She notes sometimes, policy doesn't consider that the quality health service is different in rural community.

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SPORT

Climate to change Games, says Coe

The Australian, Sport, 10/03/2025, Rick Broadbent, Page 24

Sebastian Coe believes climate change will soon force the Olympic Games to be moved outside the traditional summer window. Two weeks before he discovers whether he has become the president of the International Olympic Committee, Coe questioned whether summer Games, even in parts of Europe, would be viable by the time Saudi Arabia potentially gets to host the 2040 Olympics.

Games not reason city needs arena and LNP knows it

Courier Mail, Editorials, 10/03/2025, Page 24

A new inner-city indoor arena for Brisbane to replace the ageing Boondall Entertainment Centre was first proposed to the state government's Urban Land Development Authority in 2007. The proponent AEG Ogden (now Legends/ASM Global) then subsequently won the backing of the LNP Newman government for the idea ahead of the 2014 election, with the now-Parmalat milk factory site next to the Gallery of Modern Art chosen as the likely location.

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\$52m Hunter Sports Centre project opens

Newcastle Herald, General News, 10/03/2025, Simon McCarthy, Page 9

A \$52 million expansion of the Hunter Sports Centre opened at Glendale on Saturday as the ribbon was cut on a project first laid out in 2021. The significant upgrade has turned the centre into a world-class athletics hub and Australian-first Trampoline Centre of Excellence, priming the region to host national and international athletics and trampolining events, Lake Macquarie City Council said.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Thousands of workers on high-risk opioids

The Australian, General News, 10/03/2025, Ewin Hannan, Page 2

Thousands of employees being treated for back and neck injuries are receiving high-risk opioid prescriptions funded by workers' compensation systems, Monash University-led research has revealed. Among those prescribed opioids in the first three months, two out of three workers had early high-risk opioid prescriptions, and nearly one in four continued using opioids after a year.

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

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Buttering up cancer risk

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 10/03/2025, Page 7

Ditching butter from your diet and replacing it with plantbased oils could help protect you from dying from cancer or heart disease in the future. A Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health team looked into the diets of more than 220,000 people and found those who ate a larger amount of butter were more likely to die from cancer compared with those who ate little to none.

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People with this blood type are 16 per cent more likely to have a stroke before the age 60

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 10/03/2025

Not to B-negative, but your blood type could offer a clue to your risk of having a stroke before 60. Researchers at the University of Maryland (UMD) found that people with type A blood are more likely to experience an early-onset ischaemic stroke - caused by a blockage of blood flow to the brain - while those with blood type O have a lower risk.

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The burden of heavy menstrual bleeding

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 10/03/2025

A new study shows a significant proportion of Australian women experience heavy menstrual bleeding, with rates increasing as women age. New research published in the Medical Journal of Australia has

sought to determine the prevalence of heavy menstrual bleeding among women of reproductive age in Australia.

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Indigenous led programs excel at tackling rheumatic heart disease, research shows

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 10/03/2025

Until we change systemic health care issues in remote communities and prioritise culturally safe health care, Indigenous children and young adults will continue to die from preventable heart disease, experts say. A systematic review published in First Nations Health and Wellbeing – The Lowitja Journal highlighted the effectiveness of prevention programs to prevent, reduce and control acute rheumatic fever (ARF) and rheumatic heart disease (RHD).

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

DV funding extension

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/03/2025, Camden Smith, Page 6

With domestic violence rates seven times the national average in a jurisdiction with 1 per cent of Australia's population, a new Commonwealth-Territory funding agreement will deliver \$13m additional DV funding over five years. The funding equates to less than 2 per cent of the total \$700m national funding pool (a little over \$2.5m extra a year) from the National Partnership Agreement on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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Cousins fostering resilience, one per cent at a time

Canberra Times, Other, 09/03/2025, Keira Jenkins

Dante Rodrigues was tired of seeing young men fall through the "holes in the system", noticing his peers go down a "wrong path" or not having anywhere to turn to for support. [...] Suicide rates among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are more than two times higher than among non-Indigenous Australians, 2022 data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Indigenous Psychology

ABC Online, Other, 09/03/2025

When Nyamal woman Tracey Westerman became the first Indigenous person to complete a PHD in Clinical Psychology, she already knew there was a huge need for Indigenous experts in the field of psychology. So she set up a foundation offering scholarships for Indigenous students wanting to pursue a career in psychology.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Deadly hazard lurks in floodwater, expert warns

Courier Mail, General News, 10/03/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 7

Queensland residents are being warned against unnecessarily entering cyclone floodwaters which could be carrying the fatal bacteria that has already killed 16 in the state this year. Queensland Health

data reveals that from the beginning of 2025 to March 2, 111 notifications for melioidosis have been recorded more than three times the cases reported in the same period last year.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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Protect yourself from mosquito-borne diseases

Shepparton News Online, Other, 09/03/2025

Community members and visitors are being reminded to continue to take action to prevent mosquito bites after a second case of Japanese encephalitis was identified in a resident of northern Victoria, with likely exposure in the Riverina area of NSW. The new case sparked a health alert from Victoria's Chief Health Officer on Tuesday, March 4, while further evidence of JE circulating has been identified through environmental and mosquito sampling along much of the Murray River in Victoria.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

A life's mission of truth and trust

Canberra Times, General News, 10/03/2025, Lucy Arundell, Page 3

Dr Kerrie Aust was in her late teens when her mum was diagnosed with terminal cancer. [...] A spokesperson from the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), which governs medications and therapies in Australia, said they were concerned for the health of Australians accessing unregistered or unapproved products, or information about these products, online.

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Changing game on mental illness

Canberra Times, General News, 10/03/2025, Simon Bell and Alene Yong, Page 18

A landmark decision by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) in 2023 authorised psychiatrists to prescribe MDMA and psilocybin for the treatment of PTSD and treatment-resistant depression outside of clinical trials. Finding new and innovative treatment approaches to address mental health conditions is critical, particularly for those living with conditions like PTSD whereby current treatments do not achieve clinically significant benefits in around half of patients.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Addicts battle to get support

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/03/2025, Simon Mcguire, Page 8

The Tasmanian government says it has "invested record funding" into drug and alcohol services despite concerns around a claimed "significant unmet demand" for people battling addiction. A new report by the University of New South Wales says the number of people who received alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment in Australia in 2023 was estimated to be 198,731 people.

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