



Australian Government  
Department of Health,  
Disability and Ageing

# TODAY'S NEWS

Tuesday, 27th May 2025

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) |  
[Assistant Minister McBride](#) | [Assistant Minister White](#) | [Special Envoy Repacholi](#)  
| [Department](#) | [Vaccines](#) | [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Disability](#)  
| [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

[Click here to view full print articles in this report](#)

[Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers](#)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports that Health Minister Mark Butler said negotiations on the NDIS “foundational supports” will be finalised over the course of the year and it is tied together with the multi-year hospital funding agreement. Mr Butler said the NDIS eligibility remains unchanged, following concerns about participant reassessments.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) leads coverage reporting that Health Minister Mark Butler said he received assurance from Healthscope’s CEO Tino La Spina that patient care will continue while the company’s parent entities are in receivership. Mr Butler said there will be no government bailout and any sale process must be done properly. *Also reported by: The Sydney Morning Herald, Canberra Times, The Age*
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports that eight people died in Victorian aged care facilities in 2021 following “resident on resident” aggression due to cognitive impairments, such as dementia and mental health conditions. An inquest is investigating potential gaps in the aged care sector.
- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 3) reports that new AIHW data showed an increase in mental health prescriptions for youth, with about 400,000 under-18 patients last year, which is a 10 per cent rise from 2023.

- [The Herald Sun](#) (page 11) reports that flu cases have risen at the Royal Children's Hospital, as a new survey shows that parents are uncertain about vaccination, with 17 per cent saying their child will not get a flu shot this year.
- [The Advertiser](#) (page 20) reports that Neuphoria, formerly Bionomics and now based in the US, is reconnecting with Australian investors ahead of the Phase 3 trial results for its BNC210 drug, aimed to treat social anxiety disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder.
- [The Daily Telegraph](#) (online) reports that hundreds of NSW union members, including the Nurses and Midwives Association, protested outside parliament against the proposed Exposure Workers Compensation Bill, which will raise the impairment threshold for psychological injury and will require a court determination for certain claims.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Deadline for milder disability service to be missed

The Australian, General News, 27/05/2025, Sarah Ison, Page 1

Labor is unlikely to meet its original timeframe of rolling out a new system of services for people with milder disabilities not eligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Mark Butler, the minister now responsible for the NDIS, has sought to distance himself from the July 1 "foundational supports" deadline committed to by Anthony Albanese and Bill Shorten.

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

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

### Patients reassured as hospitals firm collapses

The Australian, General News, 27/05/2025, Penny Timms, Page 1

Patients of Healthscope hospitals have been assured they will receive the same level of care despite the group's parent entities being placed into receivership, as the nursing union declared the collapse should serve as a warning that "Americanised healthcare" does not work in Australia. [...] Health minister Mark Butler said: "This news will be highly distressing to the patients, staff and local communities that depend on Healthscope's services.

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

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

### 'Ruthless' Brookfield bet big and lost it all on Healthscope

The Australian, Business News, 27/05/2025, Eric Johnston, Page 13

The Albanese government has put Healthscope's banks and other backers on notice its collapse is a private sector problem, and therefore a rapid private sector solution is expected for the rescue of Australia's second-largest private hospital operator. [...] Yet even with thousands still facing surgery, Health Minister Mark Butler declined to even hint that support was available to Healthscope even as a last option.

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

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

### Rent cuts key for hospitals saviour

The Australian, Business News, 27/05/2025, Ben Wilmot, Page 13

The future owner of hospital operator Healthscope will push the company's landlords for a rent cut and its insurers for a better deal after Healthscope's banks called in receivers McGrathNicol to sell the business. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler ruled out a bailout and said the decision to put the business into receivership was "not unexpected".

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

### Government bailout not the cure for sick system

Australian Financial Review, General News, 27/05/2025, James Thomson, Page 1

James Thomson p24 Tino La Spina, the chief executive of collapsed private hospital operator

Healthscope, says the group has three problems. It's carrying too much debt.

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

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

## Healthscope collapses, owes \$1.6b

Australian Financial Review, General News, 27/05/2025, Michael Smith, Page 1

Healthscope has three months to find a new owner for its network of 37 hospitals before a \$100 million funding lifeline extended by Commonwealth Bank and Westpac to stave off mass closures runs out.

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

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

## Banks step in to prop up Healthscope

Age, General News, 27/05/2025, Kate Aubusson & Colin Kruger, Page 6

Federal health minister Mark Butler has ruled out a taxpayer-funded bailout of one of Australia's largest private hospital owners Healthscope, which has gone into receivership after its lenders voted to end their support for the current owner, Brookfield. Healthscope, which operates 37 hospitals across the country including 14 in Victoria, appointed receivers from McGrathNicol yesterday, with the Commonwealth Bank and Westpac, two of the lenders owed \$1.6 billion, providing additional funding to ensure the hospital operations continue as normal.

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

## Voting error surge in aged care, hospitals to be probed

Age, General News, 27/05/2025, Olivia Ireland & Shane Wright, Page 8

Health Minister Mark Butler wants significant attention paid to discovering why the rate of informal votes has almost tripled in hospitals and aged care centres as it potentially affects the results of closely contested electorates. Peak industry groups including the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association and National Seniors Australia are also calling for the Australian Electoral Commission to discover the cause of increased informal votes to prevent it from happening again.

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

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

## Receivers in at ailing Healthscope

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 27/05/2025, Kate Aubusson & Colin Kruger, Page 1

The Minns government is under increasing pressure to buy back the embattled Northern Beaches Hospital after its major private hospital operator, Healthscope, went into receivership amid negotiations to sell its 37 Australian hospitals. [...] "Yesterday federal Health Minister Mark Butler said his department had met the new receivers within hours of the announcement.

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

## Hospital group in receivership

Courier Mail, General News, 27/05/2025, Chris Herde & Kathleen Skene, Page 1

Nearly 9000 Australians scheduled to undergo surgery across 37 hospitals controlled by Healthscope have been assured their treatment will go ahead as the troubled operator is put into receivership. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler stuck by his pledge that taxpayers would not bail out the flailing company, despite the potential ramifications of a group-wide collapse.

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

## Govt won't buy hospital

Canberra Times, General News, 27/05/2025, Lanie Tindale, Page 1

The ACT government is wary of possible flow-on effects to the public system from the collapse of Healthscope but says it won't try to buy the company's private hospital. National Capital Private Hospital will continue operating despite the parent company entering receivership on Monday. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said there was "no question that a disorderly process would have an impact on public hospitals".

## Wounded Healthscope awaits rescue operation after lenders pull the plug

West Australian, Business News, 27/05/2025, Cheyanne Enciso, Page 18

The nation's second-biggest private hospital operator, Healthscope, is in receivership after struggling to pay an outstanding debt of more than \$1 billion. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has already said there will be no taxpayer bailout.

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

## Hospital operator now in receivership

Northern Territory News, General News, 27/05/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 3

Financially troubled private hospital operator Healthscope has announced it has entered into voluntary receivership. [...] He said there had been talks with the Finocchiaro CLP Government including the Federal Minister for Health, Mark Butler, earlier on Monday.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Thenightly.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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

## Ailing hospital operator vows wards will stay open

Canberra Times, Other, 26/05/2025, Allanah Sciberras

Patients and staff at dozens of hospitals across Australia have been assured it's business as usual as their embattled private health operator enters receivership. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the move was no surprise and made clear taxpayers would not be footing the bill for the healthcare provider.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Kalgoorlie\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Private hospital giant Healthscope falls into receivership after lenders withdraw support

The Guardian, Other, 26/05/2025, Jonathan Barrett, Elias Visontay

The indebted private healthcare provider Healthscope, operator of Sydney's embattled Northern Beaches hospital, has fallen into receivership after its lenders withdrew support. [...] The health minister, Mark Butler, called the development "highly distressing to the patients, staff and local communities that depend on Healthscope's services".

[Read More](#)

## Healthscope enters receivership with \$1.6b of debt, forcing lenders to withdraw support and CBA to inject \$100m lifeline

Sky News Australia, Other, 26/05/2025, James Harrison

A major private hospital operator with \$1.6b of debt has entered receivership on Monday and will begin working with a leading firm to sell the business. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler stressed that while the staff and patients were assured the hospitals will continue to operate, "this will still be difficult for the hospital's employees and their patients".

[Read More](#)

## Newcastle Private Hospital in doubt over Healthscope receivership

Gloucester Advocate, Other, 26/05/2025

A nurse says Newcastle Private Hospital can't be allowed to fail, despite its parent company entering receivership owing \$1.6 billion. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said "we expect that these hospitals remain a critical part of our healthcare system".

Also reported by: [Dunggg Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Young survivors say cancer does not end with remission

Redland City Bulletin, Other, 11/04/2025

Youth cancer survivor Dawson Sorby said words cannot describe how it felt to go into remission. His cancer was gone, but treatment was far from over. [...] A spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler said Labor recognised the significant impact cancer has on adolescents and young adults, underlining investments that "put young people at the front and centre of support services and treatment".

[Read More](#)

## Record numbers of aged rare residents had their federal election votes rejected

HelloCare, Other, 26/05/2025, Jakob Neeland

A record number of Australians in aged care and hospital settings had their votes rejected at the 2025 federal election, raising alarm bells among health and advocacy groups who say vulnerable populations are being left behind in the democratic process. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has called for urgent attention, warning the surge in informal ballots has the potential to affect the outcome of tightly contested seats.

[Read More](#)

## ABC, ABC News, 26/05/2025, Jeremy Fernandez

Australian hospital operator Healthscope has fallen into receivership. The company has assured patients at its 37 hospitals that there'd be no immediate impact on care. Healthscope CEO Tino La Spina says the company currently has 10 non-binding indicative offers. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says he expects to see an orderly sale process to a new owner, with no impact on patients and no impact on staff.

Also reported by: [ABC \(Brisbane\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

## ABC News, ABC News, 26/05/2025, Joe O'Brien

Australia's second largest private hospital operator, Healthscope, put into receivership by its lenders. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler expects to see an orderly sale process for the company, with no impact on patients or staff.

Also reported by: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

## ABC News, ABC News Afternoons, 26/05/2025, Kathryn Robinson

Healthcare provider Healthscope has collapsed into receivership but says the hospitals will keep operating as normal. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says this decision is not unexpected.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 26/05/2025, Tiffany Warne

Healthscope has been plunged into receivership, and receiver McGrathNicol today took control of the company. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has ruled out any taxpayer bailout.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First: Afternoon, 26/05/2025, Angela Bishop

Healthscope is in receivership. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has just addressed the media in Canberra after speaking to the Healthscope CEO Tino La Spina.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 7, Seven News, 26/05/2025, Peter Mitchell

Healthscope is on life support tonight, with the private hospital operator going into receivership. Commonwealth Bank has allocated \$100m to help keep the hospitals running. McGrathNicol Receiver's

Keith Crawford says they have had really good strong interest in Healthscope already. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler expects to see an orderly sale that will not impact patients and staff.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 9, Nine News, 26/05/2025, Melissa Downes

Healthscope has undergone receivership due to the weight of \$1.6b in debt. Healthscope CEO Tino La Spina says there will be no hospital closures and no redundancies. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler expects to see an orderly sale process from the decision, with no impact on patients and staff.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Perth\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

## Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 26/05/2025, Tom Connell

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has confirmed that Healthscope will go into receivership. Healthscope operates 37 different health facilities in Australia. Healthscope's already announced that it will shut down maternity services at the Hobart Private Hospital and the Darwin Private Hospital, beginning next week.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC NewsRadio, Drive, 26/05/2025, Laura Tchilinguirian

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the government will hold Healthscope to its promises as the private healthcare operator insists its 37 hospitals around the country will continue operating as normal. This comes as Healthscope's parent companies go into receivership.

[Play Now](#)

## 2GB, Drive, 26/05/2025, Clinton Maynard

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has commented on Healthscope entering receivership, saying the announcement was not unexpected. He adds the interests of patients and staff will be the highest priority through the process.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER WELLS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER MCALLISTER

### Minister promises collaboration in first major speech

Freedom2Live, Other, 26/05/2025

Australia's new Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Jenny McAllister, says she is trying "not to waste a single day" as she adjusts to her portfolio. The Minister was in Melbourne last week for DSC's Annual NDIS Conference and gave a keynote speech looking ahead to the future of the scheme, and her role in it.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER RAE

No relevant coverage

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## DEPARTMENT

### Aged care exit decided without public present

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 27/05/2025, Luke Griffiths, Page 2

The debate over whether City Hall should continue to provide in-home aged care will be closed to the public despite some councillors arguing for transparency on the issue. [...] "Council management has been unwilling to include the ASU in discussions with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care, despite the union's representation and advocacy for many council workers in the sector," the spokesman said.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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

### Dispensary Corner

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 26/05/2025, Page 2

Many pharmacists might see themselves as underpaid, which is likely why police in NSW started asking questions when one began driving to work in a Ferrari. [...] The investigation began in Feb 2023 after a referral from the Department of Health & Aged Care raised concerns over suspicious PBS claims made between 2014 and 2023.

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

### Confidential council vote to decide future of aged care services in Geelong

Herald Sun, Other, 26/05/2025, Luke Griffiths

Following a false start in early April, Geelong councillors are set to vote on the future of in-home care service provided by City Hall – but the public won't be privy. [...] "Council management has been unwilling to include the ASU in discussions with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care, despite the union's representation and advocacy for many council workers in the sector," the spokesman said.

[Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

### Australia stays the course as COVID cases rise globally

The Indian Sun, Other, 26/05/2025

There is a growing concern about the spread of new COVID-19 variants overseas. While the Omicron subvariant NB.1.8.1 has yet to make a significant impact locally, its rapid spread in parts of Asia and Europe is drawing attention to pandemic fatigue and declining hygiene practices.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Frail Victorians die in aged care aggression

Age, General News, 27/05/2025, Grant McArthur, Page 1

Eight frail Victorians died in aged care "resident on resident" aggression in just nine months, prompting an investigation to determine what more can be done to protect those suffering from dementia and mental health issues. The tragedies occurred in six aged care facilities in Melbourne and regional Victoria in 2021 and all involved residents suffering fatal injuries after being pushed or struck by counterparts with cognitive impairments.

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

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

### More staff not magic solution to quality

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 26/05/2025

Researchers from Flinders University and the Registry of Senior Australians Research Centre at the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute have found more aged care homes are reaching their staffing targets, but that it's not having much impact on the quality of care. "Since October 2022, Australia has set individual targets for total care and registered nurse minutes for aged care homes, based on the assessed care needs of their residents," said lead author and researcher at Flinders' Caring Futures Institute and SAHMRI Associate Professor Stephanie Harrison.

[Read More](#)

### Oral health critical to overall wellbeing at all ages

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 26/05/2025, Patricia Sparrow

There are issues with older Australians' access to dental services, which need to be addressed. Access to dental services is an issue for older people regardless of whether they are living in the community or in residential aged care.

[Read More](#)

### Virtual assistant for dementia carers launched

Community Care Review, Other, 26/05/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

The National Ageing Research Institute has launched a new digital platform to improve the lives of carers and people with dementia across Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia and Vietnam. The platform is culturally adapted, user-friendly and accessible and builds upon the World Health Organisation's iSupport program – an evidence-based online resource for informal dementia care – by introducing a virtual assistant that can provide interactive support in real time.

[Read More](#)

### Looming aged care changes threaten a cruel reality for end-of-life support

HelloCare, Other, 26/05/2025, Jakob Neeland

As Australia braces for the implementation of the new Aged Care Act on 1 July 2025, the palliative care sector is sounding alarms over provisions that threaten to undermine the quality and accessibility of



end-of-life care, particularly for those receiving support at home. The Act's Support at Home program, intended to help older Australians live independently for longer, introduces a rigid framework that risks leaving vulnerable individuals and their families stranded at their most critical moments.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 26/05/2025, Candice Wyatt

A series of dementia-related violent deaths in Victoria's aged care homes has triggered a special coronial investigation. The Coroner is examining the eight deaths, all of which are results of violence triggered by the debilitating condition during the COVID pandemic.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## DISABILITY

### Human face of NDIS abomination: blind, milked for cash, cut off from outside world

The Australian, General News, 27/05/2025, David Murray, Page 1

Peter Wilson is the human face of the cruelty and mismanagement of NDIS operator Cocoon SDA Care. The firm that was meant to care for Mr Wilson wrongly drained his funds until he had nothing left.

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

### Freezing orders

The Australian, Business News, 27/05/2025, Yoni Bashan & Nick Evans, Page 14

The courts have finally taken action over allegations that dodgy NDIS housing developer Saorsa Health blew millions of their investors' cash on loans to directors, Cambodian dairy farms and their own credit card bills. Not at the behest of the corporate regulator, though.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## POPULATION HEALTH

### Big rise in youth on meds

Herald Sun, General News, 27/05/2025, Melanie Burgess, Page 3

More than one in 10 kids is on medication for ADHD, depression, anxiety or another mental health condition in parts of Australia, new analysis shows, as prescription numbers soar. [...] Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's newly released data shows more children are being given ADHD and mental health-related prescriptions than ever before, with about 400,000 under-18 patients in the 2024 financial year a 10 per cent rise on 2023.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#).

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

### Alarm at rise of drugs to fix kids' mental health

Adelaide Advertiser, Editorials, 27/05/2025, Page 16

New figures detailing the inexorable rise of mental health-related prescriptions dished out to Australian children paint an alarming picture. According to data released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, about 400,000 patients aged under 18 were prescribed medication to help with their mental health in 2023-24.

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

### Australian women lagging on use of IUDs due to education 'failure',

## experts say

The Guardian, Other, 27/05/2025, Natasha May

Most Australian women don't know that intrauterine devices (IUDs) are the most effective form of contraception. Experts say this nationwide "failure in public education" has contributed to low uptake and caused Australia to lag behind other western countries.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### A bum wrap to wipe out stigma

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/05/2025, Brad Crouch, Page 15

Dunny detectives will be prompted to check for clues in their stools in a bid to wipe out bowel cancer, thanks to a new message on Kleenex toilet rolls. [...] A creative partnership between Kleenex and Bowel Cancer Australia has resulted in the "life-saving loo roll", urging users to check what they have left behind.

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

### Struck down in his prime by hidden epidemic

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/05/2025, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 15

Phillip Mellen was about to cancel his colonoscopy appointment, before he had a sudden change of heart. He had been stricken with abdominal pain and had blood in his stool, but in between medical appointments, his symptoms had stopped. [...] Bowel Cancer Australia CEO Julien Wiggins said in 2024, bowel cancer is estimated to be the deadliest cancer for men and the second deadliest for women under 50.

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

### It's time to ditch the 'farm mentality'

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 27/05/2025, Sunehra Ahmed, Page 3

A livestock producer from central Victoria says his "farming mentality" almost prevented him from getting an early cancer diagnosis. And now he's on a mission to encourage other farmers to seek help if they notice any strange health symptoms as soon as they arise.

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

### Over-50s a heartbeat away from danger

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 27/05/2025, Abe Maddison

With his father dying and his heart racing, Andrew thought his months-long physical response was a symptom of grief. But when the 59-year-old business owner's symptoms worsened on the night of his father's funeral, he went to hospital, where doctors discovered his heart was beating at 149 beats per minute for eight hours.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## PRIMARY CARE

### Why private hospital sector is in such a poor state of health

The Australian, Business News, 27/05/2025, Elizabeth Baldwin & Peter Breadon, Page 21

A private hospital operator meltdown has brought simmering concerns about the sector to the boil. Canadian private equity fund Brookfield's heavily leveraged takeover of Healthscope has ended ignominiously.

## It's all optics: Why CBA is helping Healthscope

Australian Financial Review, General News, 27/05/2025, Anthony Macdonald, Page 1

For almost six years, everything that has happened at private equity-owned Healthscope was supposed to be good for shareholders and the country.

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

## Debt risk to hospitals

Herald Sun, General News, 27/05/2025, Chris Herde & Kathleen Skene, Page 2

Australia's second largest private hospital operator is in administration after lenders swooped to secure their \$1.4bn in debt. A syndicate of banks and hedge funds that control Healthscope's loans placed the company into receivership after being handed control by its previous owner, Canadian asset management giant Brookfield, earlier this month.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#).

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

## Hospitals group has \$1.4bn debt

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/05/2025, Brad Crouch, Page 1

Healthscope which runs Ashford, Flinders Private, Memorial and Griffith Rehabilitation in South Australia is in receivership with debts of more than \$1.4bn. But officials say it is "business as usual" as liquidators McGrathNicol take control of the business, which operates 37 hospitals nationally.

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

## Hospital system 'could collapse', warns Wilkie

Hobart Mercury, General News, 27/05/2025, Sue Bailey, Page 8

The state government says the Hobart Private will continue operating after an independent MP warned its closure would see the collapse of the hospital system in the south and "people will die". Healthscope, the owner of the Hobart Private, was placed into liquidation on Monday with debts of \$1.4bn.

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

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

## Racetrack before health barb rejected

West Australian, General News, 27/05/2025, Page 9

Roger Cook has rejected claims Labor is prioritising a Burswood race track ahead of health after it was revealed the number of patients waiting too long for surgery had surged. As revealed by The West Australian on Monday, the number of people stuck on the waiting list for elective surgery in WA hospitals has increased by 288 per cent since 2017.

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

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

## Hospital group's collapse

Newcastle Herald, General News, 27/05/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

A nurse says Newcastle Private Hospital can't be allowed to fail, despite its parent company entering receivership owing \$1.6 billion. "Surely to god, they wouldn't be able to shut private hospitals down because that would put such pressure on the public sector," the nurse said. "They're too big to fail."

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

## The door's still open after 'baffling' vote

Border Mail, General News, 27/05/2025, Madilyn McKinley, Page 5

Greater Hume councillors have been encouraged to have more discussions about a new greenfield

single-site Albury hospital. The council unanimously voted to support the brownfield redevelopment last week in a move that disappointed some healthcare professionals and advocates.

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

## **LGH to get \$4.7m surgical robot**

Launceston Examiner, General News, 27/05/2025, Annika Rhoades, Page 2

A new cutting-edge surgical robot used for complex and precise procedures, such as endometriosis surgeries, is set to be installed at the Launceston General Hospital (LGH). The robot, which is expected to be operational in the coming months, will perform urological, gynaecological and other precision procedures.

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

## **Australia's second-largest private hospital group Healthscope goes into receivership amid debt concerns**

7news.com.au, Other, 26/05/2025, Demi Huang

Healthscope, the private operator behind the troubled Northern Beaches Hospital, has gone into receivership after its lenders withdrew support for the current owner. The major private health group confirmed the news on Monday, saying its lenders have appointed McGrathNicol Restructuring to oversee the sale of the company's assets as they seek to recover their loans.

[Read More](#)

## **Up to 1000 GPs to be upskilled to treat ADHD in NSW in 'life-changing' move'**

9News, Other, 26/05/2025, Yashee Sharma

New changes to the treatment of ADHD in NSW hope to cut red tape by upskilling GPs and granting them extended powers. Most patients who are either diagnosed or seeking a diagnosis have to see a specialist, but wait times typically exceed months and years and can incur significant costs.

[Read More](#)

## **CBA hands Healthscope \$100m lifeline as hospital giant collapses**

Australian Financial Review, Other, 26/05/2025, Michael Smith

Healthscope has been handed a \$100 million funding lifeline by Commonwealth Bank and Westpac to buy time to find a new owner for its network of 37 hospitals as the federal government warns against a sale to an international private equity firm.

[Read More](#)

## **Banks step in to keep Healthscope running as bills pile up and \$1.4bn debt revealed**

The Mercury, Other, 26/05/2025, Cameron Micallef

Embattled Healthscope has been given a lifeline in order to keep the hospital operator afloat, after its eye-watering \$1.4bn debt was revealed. Two of Australia's major banks have agreed to fund Healthscope as the embattled medical company looks for new owners.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## **Letting GPs like myself step up in ADHD care is a long-overdue reform. This change matters**

The Guardian, Other, 26/05/2025, Richard Nguyen

On Monday a long overdue shift in ADHD care has been announced – one that may finally bring us closer to a system that is timely, accessible and grounded in ongoing relationships between patients and their trusted family doctors. This new reform will allow specialist general practitioners, after additional training, to initiate stimulant medication for ADHD in kids that known to them and manage ongoing treatment – without requiring direct handover from the diagnosing paediatrician or psychiatrist.

[Read More](#)

## GPs able to diagnose ADHD in major medical shake-up

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 26/05/2025, Madeleine Bower

General practitioners will be able to diagnose patients with ADHD and prescribe them with medication under sweeping new reforms proposed by the Minns government. Under current rules people seeking an ADHD diagnosis must see a specialist psychiatrist or pediatrician. They must also continue to see specialists for ongoing management and follow-up prescriptions.

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

[Read More](#)

## 'Your Pippa is still alive': mum's health reform plea

Canberra Times, Other, 26/05/2025, Miklos Bolza

Almost three years after their critically ill toddler's "preventable" and tragic hospital death, her family wants to light a fire of change. Pippa Mae White died from sepsis in June 2022, weeks before her third birthday, after being transferred to Orange Hospital in the NSW central west.

Also reported by: [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 26/05/2025, Natalie Forrest

The number of patients waiting longer than clinically recommended for elective surgery, have increased by nearly 300%. Shadow Health Minister Libby Mettam says one in five patients are waiting longer than a month for the most urgent surgery.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 7, Seven News, 26/05/2025, Peter Mitchell

There's a new national push for GPs to be able to diagnose and prescribe medication for ADHA. It is already commonplace in Queensland and WA, and NSW is set to make the move. GP Dr Rebekah Hoffman comments on the announcement.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC News, News Breakfast, 26/05/2025, Bridget Brennan & James Glenday

NSW GPs will soon be able to diagnose and treat people with ADHD. The NSW Government will fund the training of 1,000 doctors to treat the condition in both children and adults. Previously, patients would need a referral to a specialist to receive a diagnosis and treatment.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Darwin , Breakfast, 26/05/2025, Adam Steer

Advocates for voluntary assisted dying are calling on the NT Government to commit to reintroducing the laws in the territory. Yesterday marked 30 years since the NT became the first jurisdiction in the world to legalise as voluntary assisted dying.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Perth, Mornings, 26/05/2025, Nadia Mitsopoulos

AMA WA President Dr Michael Page has discussed the issue of long waitlist for patients needing to see a specialist. WA Premier Roger Cook has been asked about the issue in a press conference, saying they have made significant progress in relation to elective surgery, since the peaks of the post-pandemic period.

[Play Now](#)

## 4BC, Drive, 26/05/2025, Gary Hardgrave

Healthscope have gone into receivership. Now, its lenders voted to end their support of the current owner, Brookfield, which has been unable to pay to keep facilities open. Healthscope CEO Tino La Spina says all 37 hospitals will continue to operate as normal and the appointment of receivers ensures a stable path to sale with no impacts on any hospital staff or patients.

[Play Now](#)

## **FIVEAA, Afternoons, 26/05/2025, Stacey Lee**

Interview with Dr Emily Kirkpatrick, RACGP, about algal bloom impacting people's health. Kirkpatrick discusses the increase in the number of patients presenting with symptoms relating to algal bloom.

Continuing interview on: [FIVEAA \(Adelaide\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

## **FIVEAA, Mornings, 26/05/2025, Graeme Goodings**

Interview with RACGP SA Chairperson Sian Goodson. Goodson discusses the comparison of the changes to ADHD treatments and medication in NSW to SA. She notes SA still needs specialist psychiatry or pediatrician colleagues to make a diagnosis of ADHD and once that diagnosis has been made, GPs can apply for an authority under the drugs dependency unit to prescribe, but patients still need to go back and have reviews with the psychiatrist or the pediatrician. Goodson adds there's a huge issue with access to getting diagnosis in the state, with children possibly waiting two years at times to get a diagnosis of ADHD and there is no public provision for adults to get a diagnosis.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## **MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION**

### **Violent porn and online misogyny 'hurt kids' brains'**

The Australian, General News, 27/05/2025, Natasha Bitá & Joanna Panagopoulos, Page 7

Violent pornography and online misogyny are "damaging kids' brains", psychologists say, as experts sound the alarm over children sexually abusing classmates and siblings. Kids in kindergarten are exhibiting problematic sexual behaviour, mimicking what they have watched on the internet, in games or on TV streaming services.

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

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

### **Investors wooed to ease stress on anxiety drug**

Adelaide Advertiser, Business Journal, 27/05/2025, Giuseppe Tauriello, Page 20

The company formerly known as Bionomics is reacquainting itself with Australian investors ahead of a key milestone for its flagship antianxiety drug. Now known as Neuphoria, the company completed a relocation late last year, with its official headquarters now in the US, where it maintains a public listing on the Nasdaq stock exchange.

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

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

[Back to Top](#)

## **CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE**

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

### Pharmacists have more power but GP backlash continues

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 27/05/2025, Jonathon Magrath, Page 2

Bendigo pharmacists will be able to offer more treatment options than ever before, in a move they say will ease pressure on GPs and hospitals. They will be able to treat an extra 22 everyday health conditions, building on a pilot program started in October 2023, enabling them to treat five conditions, including shingles and urinary tract infections.

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

### Ex-nurse rebuked in patient skirmish

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 27/05/2025, Alex Treacy, Page 9

A tribunal has reprimanded a Gold Coast mental health nurse who pushed over an "argumentative" mentally ill patient, who retaliated by punching the carer in the face. Gavin Sean Bevins, 51, who was a mental health nurse at Robina Hospital, was found by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal on April 10 to have behaved in a manner constituting professional misconduct.

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

### NSW union members take to the streets to protest planned workers compensation reform in NSW

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 26/05/2025, Holly Truelove

Hundreds of NSW union members have gathered outside the NSW Treasurer's office to protest proposed reforms that they claim would strip their workers compensation rights. The changes planned by the Minns government would overhaul the workers compensation system, making it harder for workers to access support for psychological injury like post traumatic stress.

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

[Read More](#)

### Pharmacists living week-to-week: union

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 26/05/2025, Mohamed Yousef

Employee pharmacists feel "undervalued and undercompensated", the profession's union tells the Fair Work Commission. Close to half of employee pharmacists are living pay-cheque to pay-cheque, union group Professional Pharmacists Australia (PPA) says.

[Read More](#)

### Channel 10, 10 News First, 26/05/2025, Sandra Sully

The Minns Government is preparing to make changes to worker compensations. Protesters claim the changes will gut mental health support and put lives at risk. NSW Treasurer Daniel Mookhey says the reforms are needed to lower premiums for business and save a public insurer that is struggling with growing psychological injury claims.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### 'Breakthrough' Alzheimer's scan gives hope

Age, General News, 27/05/2025, Laura Donnelly, Page 10

A world-first brain scanning technique could identify signs of Alzheimer's disease long before symptoms appear. [...] Donanemab has just been approved for use in Australia but is not yet available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

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

## The TGA has approved donanemab for Alzheimer's disease. How does this drug work and who will be able to access it?

Medicine Today, Other, 26/05/2025

Last week, Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved a drug called donanemab for people in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. [...] Eli Lilly, the manufacturer of donanemab, has made an application for the drug to be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, with a decision pending perhaps within a couple of months.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### ABC Radio Sydney, Evenings, 26/05/2025, Renee Krosch

Interview with David Coghill, President, Australasian ADHD Professionals Association. Coghill recalls how he got diagnosed with ADHD 10 years ago. He recalls the programme that allows people to get 10 visits to the GP under Medicare, but the government scrapped it.

Continuing interview on: [ABC Radio Sydney \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### 2GB, Drive, 26/05/2025, Clinton Maynard

Interview with Cathy, formerly registered nurse, about nurse shortage and the issues with the AHPRA website. Cathy recalls her struggles when it comes to re-registering using the AHPRA website.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

---

## SPORT

### Gabba interest through the roof

Courier Mail, General News, 27/05/2025, Rachel Riley, Page 3

The Queensland government's bold plan to invite the private sector to build a new indoor entertainment centre as part of a redevelopment of the Gabba precinct has attracted more than 200 expressions of interest in just a week. The interest comes as the state and federal governments remain at odds over whether \$2.5bn of federal cash already allocated to build the new inner-city arena should be spent on other Games venues.

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

[Back to Top](#)

---



## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Honouring Sharman Stone's enduring impact on FASD awareness

Shepparton News, General News, 27/05/2025, Page 8

Sharman Stone has been announced as the 2025 recipient of the prestigious Sue Miers Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognises her pioneering and sustained contributions to awareness, prevention and support for those impacted by fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

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

### 'Risks reinforcing harmful stereotypes': Mayor's response to viral conversation

NEWS.com.au, Other, 26/05/2025, Natalie Brown

A mayor in Western Australia has criticised a British YouTuber's depiction of his city's First Nations community in a video that described it as "Australia's roughest outback town". Regarded as the state's mining capital, Kalgoorlie-Boulder is located in the Goldfields-Esperance region, about 600 kilometres northeast of Perth, and has an Indigenous population of about 4397 (compared to 29,109 non-Indigenous residents).

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### Kids' flu cases surge

Herald Sun, General News, 27/05/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 11

Flu cases have spiked at the Royal Children's Hospital, as a new survey reveals about a third of Australian parents are "hesitant" about vaccinating their child. The survey of almost 2000 parents revealed 36 per cent were not aware that healthy children can get seriously unwell from the flu.

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

### Outbreak of deadly virus

Cairns Post, General News, 27/05/2025, Page 14

Thousands of whooping cough cases have emerged in one Australian state, as experts blame low immunisation and poor hygiene. Queensland has recorded 2384 cases since the start of the year, almost 3 times the average, Queensland Health says.

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

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

### Jab fears as flu surges

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 27/05/2025, Olivia Shying, Page 1

Geelong is on track to record its worst flu season, with the number of cases recorded double that of the same time last year. And there are fears vaccine hesitancy could be preventing some people from getting jabbed, as doctors urge people to get the flu shot.

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

## **A fungi that can 'eat you from the inside out' could spread as the world heats up**

9News, Other, 26/05/2025

Infection-causing fungi responsible for millions of deaths a year will spread significantly to new regions as the planet heats up, new research predicts — and the world is not prepared. Fungi are absolutely everywhere.

[Read More](#)

## **Pacific dengue cases surge, but don't cancel your holiday yet - health expert**

ABC Online, Other, 26/05/2025

A public health expert is urging anyone travelling to places with a current dengue fever outbreak to be vigilant and take sensible precautions — but stresses the chances of contracting the disease are low. On Friday the Cook Islands declared an outbreak of the viral infection, which is spread by mosquitoes, in Rarotonga. Outbreaks have also been declared in Samoa, Fiji and Tonga.

[Read More](#)

## **Health Minister distances from Calvary Mater mould and leak crisis**

Newcastle Herald, Other, 26/05/2025

A local politician is "troubled" by reports the Calvary Mater Hospital is riddled with leaks and battling a mould outbreak, but the Health Minister has already moved to distance the government from the maintenance mess. Aspergillus mould, which is dangerous to the elderly and people with lowered immune systems, has been detected in multiple areas in the hospital, including air conditioners and a ward with immunocompromised patients.

[Read More](#)

## **Melioidosis outbreak continues to grow**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 26/05/2025

The outbreak of the deadly 'mud bug' melioidosis in north Queensland has not yet abated since it began at the start of this year. So far there have been 221 cases and 31 deaths from the disease in 2025. This encompasses a 400% increase in cases in Cairns and a 600% increase in Townsville compared to the average over previous years.

[Read More](#)

## **Channel 7, Seven News, 26/05/2025, Max Fitcher & Katrina Blowers**

Australians are being warned of a huge rise in whooping cough cases in Queensland, with more than 2,300 cases already recorded this 2024. Health authorities point at declining vaccinations numbers for the rise in cases.

[Play Now](#)

## **4BC, Afternoons, 26/05/2025, Sofie Formica**

Parents are being urged to get their babies and children vaccinated against whooping cough. This comes amid a surge in the number of cases across Queensland this year.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

# **THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION**

## **TGA approves donanemab for treatment of Alzheimer's in Australia**

Aged Care Insite, Other, 26/05/2025, Stefanie Schultz

In positive news for Australians, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved a drug that has been proven to significantly slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease. Donanemab (Kisunla) is

the first new drug approved in Australia for the treatment of mild cognitive impairment in 25 years.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

### Addiction isn't just a social issue, it's a drag on the economy

West Australian, General News, 27/05/2025, April Long, Page 58

Australians have returned Labor to office and delivered a clear mandate to tackle the cost-of-living crisis. But amid promises of energy rebates, housing relief and grocery price interventions, one major issue was conspicuously absent from the campaign trail: addiction and recovery support, despite its deep connection to economic and social wellbeing.

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

### No fines issued in six months of country's 'toughest' anti-nangs laws

9News, Other, 26/05/2025

Western Australia's anti-nangs laws were meant to be the toughest in the country. But six months since the state government promised no mercy for suppliers who illegally sell the potentially deadly party gas, not a single fine has been issued.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## AICIS

### DWER gives Rio Tinto approval for rail waste stockpile near drinking water source despite asbestos risk

West Australian, Other, 26/05/2025, Adrian Rauso

WA's environmental regulator is putting its faith in Rio Tinto to adequately manage the potential for "severe" asbestos contamination of drinking water. Rio Tinto this month received approval from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to increase the quantity of railway ballast material stored within its Gudai-Darri iron ore project on the doorstep of Karijini National Park in the Pilbara.

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

[Read More](#)

### Hidden menace turning farmland into 'plastic sink', Australian scientists say

9News, Other, 26/05/2025, Adam Vidler

Agricultural soils now hold 23 times the microplastics the world's oceans do – and humans could be gobbling them up. Perth's Murdoch University found in a peer-reviewed study that agricultural land was well head of ocean water when it came to playing host to the potentially dangerous plastics.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

