



Australian Government  
Department of Health,  
Disability and Ageing

# TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 29th 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 [Herald Sun](#) (page 5) reports that anyone aged over 30 will be able to access a free annual heart check from their GP after Medicare funding was secured in this year's federal budget to extend the program for the next three years. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler warned that around 2.5 million Australians are unaware they have a high chance of suffering a heart attack or stroke in the next five years.
- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 21) reports that Health Minister Mark Butler has said he is seeking clarification from the Department of Health and Aged Care to ensure \$6.8 million in funding provided to CTG Aboriginal Health is being used "in line with grant agreements" after it was revealed senior bosses spent more than \$400,000 on overseas travel.
- [The Australian](#) (page 1) reports that the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission has banned the parent company and sole director of disability provider Cocoon from participating in the service following revelations of serious and systemic misconduct.
- The [Northern Territory News](#) (page 1) reports that NT Police have confirmed the death of a 24-year-old Indigenous man during an incident with officers in Alice Springs on Wednesday afternoon. The man, who had a disability and was on an NDIS plan, was from the Warlpiri community.

- **The Australian** (page 7) reports that the first Indigenous Australian to serve on the Productivity Commission has called on the federal government to find a better approach to working with states and territories in the way First Nations' affairs are governed, if it is to reach the targets set by the 2020 Closing the Gap agreement.
- The **Northern Territory News** (page 10) reports that the rollout of the NT's \$320 million patient health records system Acacia has been plagued by delays, problems and costs, according to the findings of an inquiry led by the Territory's Public Accounts Committee.
- The **Daily Telegraph** (page 20) reports that Medibank chief executive David Koczkar has said it is "very encouraging" to see a significant increase in the number of Australians seeking mental health support since the launch of the private health insurer's Can We Talk? awareness campaign, in partnership with News Corp.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 13) reports that a Fair Work tribunal has ruled in favour of an Ambulance Victoria paramedic in Bright, who appealed against his suspension over belittling behaviour towards female co-workers, ruling that it did not amount to "serious misconduct".
- The **Courier Mail** (page 21) reports that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has yet to approve the reallocation of \$2.5 billion of federal funding for the 2032 Brisbane Olympics, saying that more details are needed, while Sports Minister Anika Wells said discussions about the new agreement are ongoing.
- **The Guardian** reports that a new study led by the University of Melbourne shows the incidence of bowel cancer in Australia are the highest in the world for people under 50, with the Bowel Cancer Australia CEO, Julien Wiggins, saying the data provided confirmation of "what we've been seeing".

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Confusion over outcome of Healthscope insolvency with more hospitals set to close

The Australian, Business News, 29/05/2025, Page 14

Healthcare professionals are reporting that six hospitals are looking to close over the coming weeks within Australia after Toowong Private Hospital in Brisbane announced it would shut within a fortnight. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler dismissed a government bail out.

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

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

### Funds weigh Healthscope ownership

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 29/05/2025, Michael Smith & Michael Read, Page 13

Health Minister Mark Butler suggested that Brookfield's ownership of the company showed those arrangements may not be in the national interest.

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

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

### Health body investigated over \$400K foreign trips

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 29/05/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 21

Health authorities are investigating a taxpayer-funded regional health service after it emerged senior bosses spent more than \$400,000 on all-expenses-paid trips to New Zealand, Canada and Las Vegas, allegedly restricted abortions and closed the books to new patients. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said yesterday he had sought a briefing from the Department of Health and Aged Care to ensure the \$6.8 million it provides to the service each year was being spent "in line with grant agreements".

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

### Keeping democracy out of the dark

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 29/05/2025, Shane Wright, Page 28

It was the brilliant American journalist Bob Woodward (of Watergate fame) who supposedly came up with the term that "democracy dies in darkness". [...] In Hindmarsh, for example, which covers Adelaide's western suburbs and is represented by Health Minister Mark Butler, three hospital teams had informal rates of more than 20 per cent.

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

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

## Heart check-up funding extended

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 5

Every Australian over 30 can get a "free" heart check-up after the federal government funded the annual GP assessments for the next three years. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said "about 2.5 million Australians have a high chance of suffering a heart attack or stroke in the next five years, and many don't know it".

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

## CAHS chair defends travel expenses

Coonamble Times, General News, 28/05/2025, Page 7

The chair of the Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service (CAHS) says they did not use government funding for overseas trips following a weekend article in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) questioning the charity's travel expenses. [...] A spokesperson for the Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing confirmed they are investigating the matters raised in the article and will brief Health Minister Mark Butler.

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

## Rogue Cocoon parent company banned from NDIS

The Australian, Other, 28/05/2025, David Murray & Sarah Elks

Rogue disability provider Cocoon's parent company and its sole director have been permanently banned by the NDIS watchdog, as Anthony Albanese said the government would not tolerate "rorts" or abuse of the \$48.5bn-a-year scheme. [...] Mr Albanese said his government – starting with former NDIS minister Mr Shorten and now current NDIS ministers Jenny McAllister and Mark Butler – was "getting into ... these rorts" that "were allowed to be there for 10 years ... We need to make sure that there's integrity in the system.

[Read More](#)

## 'Catastrophe': 1000 rural doctor training jobs in limbo as review languishes

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Saffron Howden

Hundreds of specialist doctor training positions in rural hospitals, nursing homes and clinics are in limbo while a review sits on the health minister's desk. [...] But in April the federal health department wrote to the 13 medical colleges administering the program to say it could not guarantee anything beyond 2025.

Also reported by: [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The North West Star \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Tasmanian Examiner \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Tasmania's healthcare is 'costing a lot of lives' says independent health analyst Martyn Goddard

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Kylie Baxter

While the federal Health Minister Mark Butler is confident a new buyer will be found to take over the Hobart Private Hospital following its owners Healthscope going into receivership, health policy expert Martyn Goddard believes it can't be sold. Mr Goddard tells Kylie Baxter on Hobart Drive that Hobart Private Hospital is too small for any private operator to run successfully and it should be merged with the Royal Hobart Hospital.

[Read More](#)

## Federal Health Minister says he reserves the 'right to take regulatory action' on private health providers

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, David-Reilly & Leon Compton

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has expressed confidence that a new buyer can be found for the owner of Hobart Private Hospital within the next 12 months and says patients with planned medical care should feel confident it will go ahead. Minister Butler tells Leon Compton on Tasmania Mornings he is hopeful about the future of all 37 hospitals operated by Healthscope, but is critical of how Healthscope and some other private health funds, are doing business.

[Read More](#)

## Air inside IV fluid bags from overseas posing an extra risk in emergencies

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Stephanie Dalzell

Imported "inferior" iv fluids containing as much as 12 times more air than those made in Australia are posing a heightened air embolism risk in emergencies for clinicians to manage. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the move would shore-up Australia's supply of the critical medicine and reduce reliance on products made offshore.

Also reported by: [MSN Australia \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## The fall of Healthscope: bad luck, bad decisions, or is Australias private health model sick?

MSN Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Jonathan Barrett & Natasha May

Investing in hospitals is viewed as a safe bet. People regularly get sick and the population ages. [...] The health minister, Mark Butler, told the ABC on Tuesday the federal government would not bail out private operators.

[Read More](#)

## Development application for Northern Heart Centre submitted

Tasmanian Examiner, Other, 28/05/2025, Annika Rhoades

The submission of a development application for the \$120 million Northern Heart Centre in Launceston brings the project one step closer to completion. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the submission of a development application was another major step forward to meet the health needs of Tasmanians.

[Read More](#)

## 73 per cent of adults support stopping sugary drinks from being marketed to children

B & T Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Aimee Edwards

Public health experts are urging the new Albanese Government to prioritise tackling obesity, with new research showing widespread public support for the implementation of strong measures to curb the consumption of sugary and sweetened beverages. [...] "Minister Mark Butler and the Albanese government have implemented strong and effective measures to curb smoking and vaping, we believe similarly decisive action is needed to tackle obesity," PHAA CEO, Adjunct Professor Terry Slevin said.

[Read More](#)

## Healthcare provider's collapse prompts reform demands

HealthTimes, Other, 28/05/2025

The viability of private healthcare is under the microscope following the collapse of a major hospital operator, with one union casting doubt on private equity management in the sector. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the provider would be a "very different beast going forward in terms of the ownership".

[Read More](#)

## Consumer sentiment is moving behind marketing of sugary drinks

Recent research shows that consumer sentiment for sugary drinks and related marketing is dropping amid the increase in obesity awareness.. [...] Adjunct Professor Terry Slevin, PHAA CEO, added that Minister Mark Butler and the Albanese government should implement strong measures to tackle obesity, similar to how they curb smoking and vaping.

[Read More](#)

## **Tax and policy needed to fight sugar: study**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 28/05/2025, Jo Roberts

Support is growing for a sugary drinks tax, with one expert saying an 'individual responsibility' narrative is out of step with reality [...] 'Minister Mark Butler and the Albanese Government have implemented strong and effective measures to curb smoking and vaping – we believe similarly decisive action is needed to tackle obesity,' Adjunct Professor Slevin said.

[Read More](#)

## **'No amount of money' could have saved Healthscope during 2024 private health insurance attack, Rachel David declares**

Sky News Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, James Harrison

There was "no amount of money" that could have saved Healthscope as it was waging war against private health insurers in 2024, a leader in the medical industry has declared. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said Labor will not bail out the embattled healthcare company amid its financial troubles.

[Read More](#)

## **ABC Radio Darwin , 10:00 News, 28/05/2025**

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says he's been assured that the debt-stricken private hospital operator Healthscope won't be closing any hospitals. The company, which operates 37 hospitals, including in Darwin, is now in the hands of a corporate restructuring firm after collapsing into receivership.

*Also reported by: [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#).*

[Play Now](#)

## **2CC, 09:00 News, 28/05/2025**

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has met with the nation's health ministers after Australia's largest private health care provider, Healthscope, entered administration. ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith is monitoring the impact locally with assurances that procedures at the National Capital Private Hospital in Garran will continue to operate as planned.

*Also reported by: [2CC \(Canberra\)](#).*

[Play Now](#)

## **4BC, Afternoons, 28/05/2025, Sofie Formica**

Interview with Australian Skin Cancer Foundation founder and CEO Jay Allen on the deployment of mobile skin check truck at Suncorp Stadium. Allen says his vision was to get a mobile skin cheque truck and offer it to people for free. He states they are calling for support from the Federal Government and Mark Butler.

[Play Now](#)

## **ABC Radio Adelaide, Drive, 28/05/2025, Nikolai Beilharz**

Interview with Brett Heffernan, CEO, Australian Private Hospitals Association on Australia's private health model. Beilharz says the Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said Healthscope's receivership will not affect the provision of service. Heffernan says Healthscope has its own unique internal issues that have been built up over a number of years, and which have been well played out in the public domain. He states more broadly across the sector, the health insurance industry has been engaged in massive profiteering over the last three years in particular.

## ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 28/05/2025, Leon Compton

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, about the collapse of Healthscope. Butler states there was a very clear assurance from Healthscope that there would be no interruption to procedures at any of the 37 private hospitals that Healthscope owns or operates across the country, which includes Hobart Private Hospital. He notes he wants the process to be orderly and he wants the transfer of the important assets in the healthcare system to a more stable operator.

*Interview continues on: [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#).*

[Play Now](#)[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER WELLS

### PM: Show me the value

Courier Mail, General News, 29/05/2025, Rachel Riley, Page 21

The Prime Minister says he will not give the Crisafulli government a \$2.5bn "briefcase full of cash" for the 2032 Games without more detail on where it would be better spent instead of on an inner-city entertainment arena. [...] Alongside his Sports Minister Anika Wells, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese defended why he was yet to greenlight a plan for the Crisafulli government to reallocate \$2.5bn of federal funding written into the Brisbane 2032 Intergovernmental agreement for other games' venues and projects.

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

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

### Paralympics very much part of party

Courier Mail, Editorials, 29/05/2025, Page 52

After what was the slowest of starts, Brisbane's race towards the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games is now well and truly off and running, but there is one element of Games legacy that is often overlooked. [...] In fact, they will likely be inspired to the challenge set for them by federal Sports Minister Anika Wells at The Courier-Mail's Future Brisbane event last year.

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

### Arena detail critical before feds give in

Courier Mail, Editorials, 29/05/2025, Page 52

It is entirely fair enough for the federal government to demand more detail from the state before it shifts the \$2.5bn in funding that is currently attached to the building of a new inner-city entertainment centre for Brisbane. The Courier-Mail would suggest that considering how important that venue is, and that it is ready before we host the 2032 Games Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and his Brisbane-based Sports Minister Anika Wells hold firm for a while yet.

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

### New Australian comms minister

Content & Technology, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 4

Industry body Free TV Australia welcomed the appointment of the Hon Anika Wells MP as Minister for Communications and Minister for Sport. Bridget Fair, CEO of Free TV said: 'We are delighted to welcome Minister Wells to the Communications and Sport portfolios.'

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

### Federal funds for Brisbane Olympics stalled after arena shift

Brisbane Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Cameron Atfield

The federal government is yet to recommit to its \$3.44 billion contribution to Brisbane 2032 Olympic

infrastructure after its preferred project, an inner-city arena, was removed from the Games plan two months ago. [...] Noting what she called the "positive changes" coming out of the Crisafulli government's 100-day review, Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells said she was keen to come to a new agreement.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER MCALLISTER

### Rogue Cocoon parent company banned from NDIS

The Australian, Other, 28/05/2025, David Murray & Sarah Elks

Rogue disability provider Cocoon's parent company and its sole director have been permanently banned by the NDIS watchdog, as Anthony Albanese said the government would not tolerate "rorts" or abuse of the \$48.5bn-a-year scheme. [...] Mr Albanese said his government – starting with former NDIS minister Mr Shorten and now current NDIS ministers Jenny McAllister and Mark Butler – was "getting into ... these rorts" that "were allowed to be there for 10 years ... We need to make sure that there's integrity in the system.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER RAE

### 'Do not wait': Providers urge people to seek aged care despite massive changes

The Senior, Other, 28/05/2025, Anthony Caggiano

Service providers are encouraging people to seek out aged care options earlier rather than later, while the sector is facing a major shake-up. [...] Chief executive officer of Tasmania-based provider OneCare, Peter Williams, said ensuring providers have access to the tools, systems and workforce capacity to embed these changes effectively should be a top priority for the new aged care minister, Sam Rae.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### Bundaberg Medicare mental health centre opens

Bundaberg Now, Other, 28/05/2025

Bundaberg's Medicare Mental Health Centre has officially opened the doors to its new, purpose-designed location, giving locals a more welcoming and permanent place to get free mental health support. [...] The centre was officially opened today by the Honourable Emma McBride MP, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Minister for Rural and Regional Health.

[Read More](#)

### ABC Wide Bay, Breakfast, 28/05/2025, Scott Lamond

Interview with Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Emma McBride, about the Medicare Mental Health Centre opening in Bundaberg today. McBride says she is pleased to be officially opening the new Medicare Mental Health Centre. She notes it's a place where someone in distress or crisis can walk in. McBride adds they don't need a referral from a doctor, they don't need to make an appointment, and they can get immediate information and advice in distress.

Interview continues on: [ABC Wide Bay \(Bundaberg\)](#).

## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## DEPARTMENT

### CAHS chair defends travel expenses

Coonamble Times, General News, 28/05/2025, Page 7

The chair of the Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service (CAHS) says they did not use government funding for overseas trips following a weekend article in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) questioning the charity's travel expenses. [...] A spokesperson for the Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing confirmed they are investigating the matters raised in the article and will brief Health Minister Mark Butler.

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

### 'Catastrophe': 1000 rural doctor training jobs in limbo as review languishes

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Saffron Howden

Hundreds of specialist doctor training positions in rural hospitals, nursing homes and clinics are in limbo while a review sits on the health minister's desk. [...] But in April the federal health department wrote to the 13 medical colleges administering the program to say it could not guarantee anything beyond 2025.

Also reported by: [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The North West Star \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Tasmanian Examiner \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

### Merriwa aged care crisis: Gummun Place residents face closure

Newcastle Herald, Other, 28/05/2025, Madeline Link

Elderly residents of one of Merriwa's two aged care homes, Gummun Place Hostel, are facing possible eviction as Upper Hunter Shire Council scrambles to find a solution. At a meeting this week, council staff urged councillors to consider starting to close the facility in consultation with the Department of Health and Aged Care on July 1 unless a genuine offer was made to run the home, or the government fronted up with continued funding.

Also reported by: [Gloucester Advocate \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

### Addressing youth mental health: diverse models of care required

Croakey, Other, 28/05/2025, Alison Barrett

Preliminary recommendations from a sector-led consortium exploring Australia's youth mental health system include calls to strengthen and expand youth mental health organisation headspace, pilot 'care navigators' to help young people access and interact with mental health services, and to build a



national person-centred data system. [...] The Models of Care Consortium , led by Orygen and involving other youth mental organisations across Australia, is expected to finalise and deliver its advice to the Department of Health and Aged Care in June.

[Read More](#)

## Call for entries: 2025 Focus on Ability Film Festival

Filmink, Other, 28/05/2025, Aaron Ryan

The Focus on Ability Short Film Festival is due to return for its 17th consecutive year in 2025 and is currently open for entries. [...] Some Major sponsors include NOVA Employment, International Day of People with Disability, Toshiba, Toyota, Department of Health & Aged Care and the Willoughby Council.

Also reported by: [WEB TV Central \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Sparked making headway on accelerator

Pulse+IT, Other, 28/05/2025, Reesh Lyon & Heather Fletcher

The Sparked AU FHIR Accelerator was lauded this week as a "true demonstration of collaboration". Addressing the Sparked online symposium this week, was First Assistant Secretary, Medicare Benefits and Digital Health at the Department of Health and Aged Care Daniel McCabe.

[Read More](#)

## MIX 104.9, 360, 28/05/2025, Katie Woolf

Woolf notes Federal Member for Solomon Luke Gosling said NT Health is working with the Federal Health Department on some of the more specific issues detail when it comes to the proposal that was sent through from the Northern Territory Health Minister.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## VACCINES

### Sales ban isn't cut out for it

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2025, Andrew Rule, Page 45

The state government might rush into bed with crooked construction unions and dodgy "security" companies whose hired hands spread Covid by swapping cigarettes for sex in quarantine hotels. But no one can accuse the same government of rushing to curb machetes, swords, knives, tomahawks and other edged weapons that kill and maim.

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

### New Covid subvariant NB. 1.8.1 detected in NSW, WA

The Australian, Other, 28/05/2025, Andrew Hedgman

A new Covid-19 subvariant, NB. 1.8.1, is beginning to take hold in NSW and Western Australia, sparking concern among health authorities as Australia heads into the winter months. According to the latest NSW Respiratory Surveillance Report, Covid-19 and influenza activity remain low overall, but early signs point to a gradual increase in Covid-19 infections, with test positivity rising to 5.7 per cent in the week ending May 17.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

### New Covid variant NB.1.8.1 behind resurgence of the virus in Asia has hit Australia

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Brett Lackey

A new strain of the Covid virus that has caused a sharp surge in cases in China Taiwan and Hong

Kong has appeared in Australia. The variant known as NB.1.8.1 was first recorded on January 21 and was placed on the World Health Organization (WHO) watchlist just a few days ago on May 23.

[Read More](#)

## **ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 28/05/2025, Joel Rheinberger**

Interview with Tasmanian Department of Health Specialist Medical Advisor Dr Shannon Melody on preparing for winter. Melody says it is the perfect time to get prepared and get up to date with vaccinations. She states they keep a close eye on our acute respiratory infections, and they include the notifiable diseases like flu, COVID, and RSV.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## **AGEING AND AGED CARE**

### **WFH 'probably good for productivity'**

Australian Financial Review, General News, 29/05/2025, Michael Read, Page 3

While spending on aged care and the NDIS has grown rapidly, the increase in hours worked in the care sector has not been matched by a commensurate amount of output.

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

### **Councillors stick with aged care**

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 29/05/2025, Luke Griffiths, Page 1

Geelong councillors have voted in favour of the City of Greater Geelong continuing to provide in-home aged care following an outcry over plans to cut the services. The vote was held behind closed doors Tuesday, but it emerged soon after that a recommendation by city officers to cease providing care to approximately 3000 residents was struck out.

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

### **Sector shares positive ageing strategies**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 28/05/2025, Natasha Egan

The inaugural Positive Ageing Summit offers the platform that reablement, restorative care and allied health needs to move towards more positively aged older adults in Australia, said conference advisor Dr Tim Henwood as the two-day event kicks off in Adelaide on Wednesday. The summit has drawn around 250 participants to the Adelaide Hilton for a packed program of evidence-based information and allied health-driven strategies that aim to improve the health, wellbeing and quality of life of older Australians.

[Read More](#)

## **Channel 9, Nine News, 28/05/2025, Mark Burrows**

An Australian-developed pill is being trialled in dementia patients as a breakthrough alternative to controversial antipsychotics. The KNX100 tablets aim to ease distressing behaviour without sedating patients.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## **DISABILITY**

### **Cocoon parent banned from NDIS**

The Australian, General News, 29/05/2025, David Murray & Sarah Elks, Page 1

Rogue disability provider Cocoon engaged in serious and systemic misconduct, including falsely claiming it provided services to dead or incarcerated NDIS participants in a gross violation of trust,

federal authorities have found. The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission has permanently banned Cocoon's parent company and its sole director, as Anthony Albanese said the government would not tolerate "rorts" or abuse of the \$48.5bn-a-year scheme.

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

## Policy work will shape Coalition performance

The Australian, Editorials, 29/05/2025, Page 10

Eight days after their split, the reunification of the Liberal-National Coalition is an opportunity to foster rigorous opposition to hold the Albanese government to account. [...] Ongoing rising power prices, the runaway costs and mismanagement of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, crises in the hospital sector and underperforming schools also need reform.

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

## Thorpe demands answers on death

Age, General News, 29/05/2025, Lachlan Abbott & Alexander Darling, Page 17

Victorian independent senator Lidia Thorpe has described the death of a 24-year-old man in police custody at an Alice Springs supermarket as part of a brutal pattern of Indigenous people dying at the hands of police. [...] "He was a disabled man, on the NDIS, and under state guardianship. He was hungry, and he needed care. Instead, he was met with brutal force," Thorpe said.

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

## NDIS ban over sex videos 'unfair'

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2025, Julie Cross, Page 14

A Queensland disability carer claims she was unfairly banned from working in the NDIS after several OnlyFans videos of her and her client were found on his phone. Priscilla James, also known as Choi, was banned from providing services to NDIS participants, which includes any contact, paid or unpaid, as well as being at or residing at a property funded under an NDIS participant's plan.

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

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

## Senator calls for answers

Courier Mail, General News, 29/05/2025, Page 9

Senator Lidia Thorpe wants answers after an Aboriginal man, 24, who had a disability, died in a shoplifting incident at Coles in Alice Springs. Police allege the man was "placing items down the front of (his) clothing" and was confronted by security guards about 1.10pm on Tuesday.

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

## Officer's knee behind head before man's death: witness

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Lloyd Jones

A young and disabled Aboriginal man has died after being restrained by police in a supermarket, with a witness saying one officer's "knee was behind his head". [...] The man, understood to be disabled, under a guardianship order and on an NDIS plan, was taken to Alice Springs Hospital where he was pronounced dead about 2.20pm.

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

[Read More](#)

## Yuendumu plunged into grief – again – as young Aboriginal man dies in police custody in NT

The Guardian, Other, 28/05/2025, Ella Archibald-Binge

A fortnight before the central Australian town of Yuendumu was due to hear the findings of a long-running inquest into the fatal police shooting of Kumanjayi Walker, the community has been plunged into fresh grief. [...] "We have a young man who is hungry, who is on NDIS, who is under the guardianship of this government," Debbie Kilroy said.

[Read More](#)

## Pressure grows for independent inquiry after death in custody of disabled Indigenous man

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Dechlan Brennan

The death in police custody of a disabled Aboriginal man continues to reverberate, with groups calling for an "immediate, independent, and transparent inquiry" into his death. On Tuesday, a 24-year-old man from the Yuendumu community died after being restrained by police inside a Coles supermarket in Mparntwe/Alice Springs.

[Read More](#)

## 24-year-old disabled Indigenous man dies after police restraint inside Alice Springs supermarket

SBS, Other, 28/05/2025, Bronte Charles

A 24-year-old disabled Aboriginal man has died after being restrained by police inside a Coles supermarket in Mparntwe (Alice Springs). The incident occurred on Monday afternoon after store staff reported the man allegedly placing food items in his clothing.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## POPULATION HEALTH

### Time to talk menopause

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/05/2025, Jonathon Moran & Zara Powell, Page 25

Former model Ali Daddo has called for better education on menopause. Daddo, 55, experienced menopause in her late 40s and said it caught her completely off guard.

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

### Hospitals feel strain as admissions up by 23 per cent in decade

Border Mail, General News, 29/05/2025, Rachael Ward, Page 13

Australia's under-pressure hospital system is dealing with an extra 2.4 million admissions every year compared to a decade ago. There were 12.6 million patient admissions across all public and private facilities in 2023-24, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data released on Tuesday revealed.

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

### Call you can't sugar-coat

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 29/05/2025, Page 13

Public health experts are urging the new Albanese government to prioritise tackling obesity, with widespread public support for strong measures to curb the consumption of sugary and sweetened beverages. University of Adelaide-led research found that 83 per cent of Australians were in favour of better labelling of sugary drinks to warn consumers that the products contained added sugars.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#)

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

### Nowra tobacconist overload slammed by 'concerned' councillor, shadow health minister

The Courier Mail, Other, 28/05/2025, Tom McGann

The sheer number of tobacconists in Nowra on the state's South Coast – and the rapid rate at which they are setting up shop and sparking up sales – has rattled residents, who have now turned to local representatives and even the federal government for help. Nowra now has nine operating tobacconists in its small CBD alone, according to Shoalhaven Council papers, which also reveals that statewide, tobacco store numbers have surged from 14,500 four years ago to 19,500 today – many of those operating illegally and selling illicit smokes and banned vapes.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#)

## One in 10 ACT hospital patients 65+ had complications, adverse events

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Lanie Tindale

One in 10 patients aged 65 and older staying in ACT public hospitals in 2023-24 experienced an adverse event such as complications or infections, new data reveals. Older patients in the ACT were more likely to have an adverse reaction than those in any other state or territory, according to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data released on Wednesday.

[Read More](#)

## Longer hours but less productive: Australians need to work 'smarter', not harder, report warns

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Bronwyn Herbert

Australia is facing an urgent productivity problem, with a new report showing the country is at a standstill despite a temporary "bubble" of improvement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Australians have been working record-long hours, which contributed to the productivity slump, the Productivity Commission report found.

[Read More](#)

## 'Staff too fearful to speak out': Cosmetic surgery sector is a work in progress

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Adele Ferguson

Nearly four years after a landmark media investigation sparked outrage and long overdue reforms, Australia's multi-billion-dollar cosmetic surgery industry remains a work in progress. Key legal cases are still dragging on, a regulatory investigation is ongoing and the system is far from fixed.

[Read More](#)

## Stacy Jane survives domestic violence to help other women fleeing abuse with Escabags idea

7news.com.au, Other, 28/05/2025, Demi Huang

Stacy Jane spent three-and-a-half years trapped in a violent relationship — monitored, controlled, and living in fear. [...] According to a 2024 report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, one in four Australian women has experienced domestic violence from a partner.

[Read More](#)

## Hospital admissions rise

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 28/05/2025

The number and rate of patients admitted to a public or private hospital to receive treatment or care has increased over the past decade, according to new updates released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

[Read More](#)

## Subarachnoid haemorrhage impact could be 'drastically reduced'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 28/05/2025, Manisha Fernando

Researchers found 70 per cent of related burden can be attributed to modifiable risk factors, such as high blood pressure and smoking. Through helping patients manage high blood pressure and quit smoking, GPs can help prevent impacts of subarachnoid haemorrhage.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 7, Seven News, 28/05/2025, Rosanna Mangiarelli & Will Goodings

News A Seven News investigation revealed the scoop error in Coco 2's plant-based formula. This four-month-old baby was hospitalised with severe malnutrition that formula, he almost improved day one.

The company apologised, put a sticker over the old tins with a new feeding guide, assuring the product was still safe.

[Play Now](#)

## 2CC, Canberra Live, 28/05/2025, Leon Delaney

Interview with Australian Medical Association ACT President Dr Kerrie Aust on the latest report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare that shows that more than 10 per cent of patients aged 65 and above staying in ACT public hospitals experienced adverse events. Aust says the report provides an opportunity to really explore what's happening in the health system and look at where they can actually drive improvements in processes. She states that adverse outcomes can be often one of the symptoms of stretched systems.

[Play Now](#)

## 2CC, Canberra Live, 28/05/2025, Leon Delaney

The latest report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows that almost 11 per cent of patients over the age of 65 experienced adverse events in Canberra's public hospitals. It is significantly higher than the national average of 7.4 per cent.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Ovarian disease will be renamed

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2025, Robyn Riley, Page 15

A common, but poorly understood condition affecting one in eight women will get a new name after health experts and patients agreed the current one is not only misleading but also delays diagnosis. In a major study, 7708 patients and health professionals from six continents were asked about polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and 87 per cent said it needed a new identity.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#)

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

### Australians urged to 'check their poo' amid 'deadly' cancer rise

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Claudia Poposki

A mum-of-two has detailed how a change in her toilet habits revealed she had developed a "deadly" cancer that is on the rise in Australia. [...] But the good news didn't last long for the Bowel Cancer Australia advocate, who started getting bowel obstructions yet again, but this time it was due to the scar tissue.

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

[Read More](#)

### La Trobe study finds low-carb diet helps people with type-2 diabetes

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Ashleigh Gleeson

A low-carb diet plan for people with type-2 diabetes helped half of participants in a study lower their average blood-sugar readings to non-diabetic levels in just three months – results in a similar range to some trials involving medications like Ozempic. Almost 100 type-2 diabetics took part in the La Trobe University research which centred on using the Defeat Diabetes mobile app, an online tool which offers advice, recipes and cooking demonstrations.

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

[Read More](#)

### Lack of access to free cancer radiation prompts debate in WA

## Parliament

West Australian, Other, 28/05/2025, Claire Sadler

For Derek Baxter having to choose between travelling two hours everyday for free treatment or paying for radiation closer to home added extra stress following his stage four terminal brain cancer diagnosis. Those needing radiation treatment for lung cancer — which can be daily for months — in Mandurah and Rockingham can receive free care through private practices after the State Government partnered with Icon Cancer Centre and GenesisCare.

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

[Read More](#)

## Dr Nick Gottardo: West Australian of the year finalist is giving WA kids world-class cancer treatment

West Australian, Other, 28/05/2025, Katie Hampson

Even as a young boy growing up in the Italian mountains, Nick Gottardo knew he wanted to become a doctor. [...] He also led a team which secured \$135 million in funding in 2024 to deliver innovative cancer treatments at PCH, ensuring WA families can access world-class care close to home.

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

[Read More](#)

## Midland doctor calls out State Government's unequal funding of radiation cancer treatment across Perth

West Australian, Other, 28/05/2025, Claire Sadler

Lung cancer patients in Perth's eastern and northern suburbs are being forced to make the decision between forking out money to receive treatment closer to home or travelling long distances for free care. Those needing radiation treatment for lung cancer — which can be daily for months — in Mandurah and Rockingham can receive free care through private practices after the State Government partnered with Icon Cancer Centre and GenesisCare.

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

[Read More](#)

## Australia's bowel cancer rates are world's highest for under 50s. Scientists wonder if the gut microbiome is to blame

The Guardian, Other, 29/05/2025, Natasha May

Australia's rates of bowel cancer in people under 50 are the highest in the world, though the reason why remains unclear, experts say. [...] Julien Wiggins, the CEO of Bowel Cancer Australia, said she was concerned about the rising early onset cases.

[Read More](#)

## Married At First Sight expert Mel Schilling reveals excruciating symptoms she ignored before her shock cancer diagnosis

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Jimmy Briggs

Married At First Sight's Mel Schilling has revealed the excruciating symptoms she ignored prior to her bowel cancer diagnosis in December 2023. [...] 'Mel has now partnered with Bowel Cancer Australia and Kleenex Australia and launched a campaign urging Aussie to take the uncomfortable step of inspecting their bowel movements for signs of illness.

[Read More](#)

## Asthma sufferers benefit from HMRI program with diet and exercise

Newcastle Herald, Other, 28/05/2025, Damon Cronshaw

People with asthma are gaining benefits from an exercise and diet program run through the Hunter Medical Research Institute. The study, which is open to newcomers, involves appointments with health professionals and aims to improve lifestyle habits.

[Read More](#)

## Warrnambool prostate cancer survivors share their stories

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 28/05/2025, Katrina Lovell

Warrnambool's Peter Malcolm and John Malin are not afraid to talk about their battles with prostate cancer. That's why, as members of the newly reactivated Warrnambool Prostate Group, they are inviting the public to their first evening meeting on June 4, 2025.

[Read More](#)

## Have a heart for your health, advocates urge amid rising AF rates

SBS, Other, 28/05/2025, Deborah Groarke

An estimated half a million Australians are living with atrial-fibrillation, the most common type of irregular heartbeat. But around 30 percent of people who have AF don't even know it.

[Read More](#)

## Australia records highest rates of 'aggressive' cancer in the world: 'We don't know why'

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Joe Attanasio

Australia is facing a troubling rise in one of the world's most aggressive cancers appearing in younger people — and experts admit they don't yet understand what's driving it. Despite overall declines in bowel cancer rates, cases among Australians under 50 are climbing fast, with researchers warning of a silent surge of the deadly disease in younger adults.

[Read More](#)

## 2GB, Mornings, 28/05/2025, Mark Levy

Interview with Bill Stavreski, Head of Research, Leukaemia Foundation on detecting the early signs of blood cancer. Stavreski says the common signs include fatigue that doesn't go away, frequent infections, unexplained bruising, and unexplained weight loss. He states more than 20,000 Australians were diagnosed with a blood cancer last year, which is an 80% increase over the last two decades.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 28/05/2025, Kylie Baxter

Interview with gastroenterologists Dr Dean Al-Hajjiri and Dr Stephen Chung on having a colonoscopy and digestive health. Al-Hajjiri says colonoscopies are done on people who show symptoms of gut dysfunction. He states that based on bowel cancer screenings, people who undergo screening actually have a much lower risk of dying from bowel cancer later on.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 28/05/2025, Joel Rheinberger

Interview with leukaemia survivor Liz Virtue and her son Liam Virtue on participating in the World's Greatest, which raises money for the leukaemia Foundation. Rheinberger states Liam is currently Tasmania's top fundraiser, and he is hoping to get into the national top 10. Liz discusses her experience with acute myeloid leukaemia 20 years ago.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## PRIMARY CARE

### Cook's wild mushroom answer to cops

The Australian, Edition Changes - All-round Metro, 28/05/2025, Ellie Dudley, Page 1

Triple-murder accused Erin Patterson told investigators she had never foraged for mushrooms and did not own a dehydrator in an extensive police interview taped on the same day that officers found the manual for a Sunbeam machine in the bottom kitchen drawer. In a police interview aired in court for the first time that occurred after the alleged murder of her lunch guests, Ms Patterson described her



alleged victims as "good, decent people", and told officers she had been "very, very helpful" with initial inquiries.

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

## Police tracked what cook bought

Age, General News, 29/05/2025, Erin Pearson, Page 1

Mushroom cook Erin Patterson's supermarket transaction history was retrieved by police as they investigated the beef Wellington lunch that left three people dead, a court has heard. Police also probed Patterson's phone records, bank statements, medical appointments and a diary note from one of her alleged victims but did not find a mobile phone they believe she was using at the time.

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

## Acacia left in an an emergency emergency

Northern Territory News, General News, 29/05/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 10

An investigation into the Territory's flagship \$259m now \$320m patient health records system Acacia has unveiled a timeline plagued by delays, problems and costs. Issues with the Northern Territory's "largest and most complex digital project" ever undertaken have been well documented.

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

## Tech failings at hospital prior to death

Central Western Daily, General News, 29/05/2025, Riley Krause, Page 3

An coronial inquest into the death of toddler Pippa White has heard of technology failings the day before her death. Giving evidence on day two of the hearing was the executive director of quality clinical safety and nursing for Western NSW LHD, Adrian Fahy.

Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#)

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

## Healthscope's ills point to unhealthy connection between public patients and private profit

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 28/05/2025, Tony Harris

Merging hospital services with for-profit businesses, creating a quasi-capitalistic-socialistic entity, is a complex task. We see this in the financial difficulty facing Healthscope and its 38 hospitals, now under receivership.

[Read More](#)

## Call the medics: How Healthscope ended up in hospital

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Ian Verrender

Unlike the United States, where health often is dictated by wealth, the British and Australian health systems are underpinned by government commitments to public health with a supporting private system. But the collapse of Healthscope this week, Australia's second-biggest privately owned hospital operator, once again has exposed the often-conflicting goals between government responsibility for health services and subsidised but privately run institutions looking to maximise profit.

[Read More](#)

## Supercare Dental and Cosmetics patients left with missing teeth and superannuation after clinics collapse

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Elise Worthington & Celina Edmonds

Melinda Amourous was slowly losing her top teeth and struggling with self-confidence when she visited a Supercare Dental and Cosmetics clinic in 2022. It offered what seemed like the ideal solution: a full mouth of dental implants, giving her the perfect smile.

[Read More](#)

## Australians remain deeply sceptical about the value of private healthcare – it's time for radical reform

The Guardian, Other, 28/05/2025, Anthony Scott

The viability of private healthcare in Australia has been thrown into doubt after Brookfield's decision to place Healthscope, the operator of 37 private hospitals, into receivership. After months of acrimonious negotiations with private health insurers and a failed search for buyers, the global investment firm has walked away.

[Read More](#)

## Healthscope failure may mean surgery fee rise and hospitals shut

Newcastle Herald, Other, 28/05/2025, Damon Cronshaw

Patients of Newcastle and Hunter Valley private hospitals should be prepared for surgery fees to rise during Healthscope's receivership, a health economist says. Management could increase surgery fees for patients to make the company more attractive to buyers, University of Newcastle Professor Francesco Paolucci said.

[Read More](#)

## Kingaroy hospital in lockdown as police deal with drama

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 28/05/2025, Gabriel Garcia

The town of Kingaroy, west of the Sunshine Coast, has been put in a partial lockdown as police respond to an ongoing incident. [...] "As at 6.15am, access to the Kingaroy Hospital has been restricted until further notice due to the incident," a Queensland Police Service spokeswoman said.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Sunshine Coast Daily \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Australian hospitals facing strain as admissions soar

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Rachael Ward

Australia's under-pressure hospital system is dealing with an extra 2.4 million admissions every year compared to a decade ago. There were 12.6 million patient admissions across all public and private facilities in 2023-24, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data released on Tuesday revealed.

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

[Read More](#)

## Pharmacy pilot evaluation revealed

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 28/05/2025, Morgan Liotta

An assessment of Victoria's program reveals its impact on GP services, its popularity, and patient feedback, as the RACGP's concerns about the nationwide trend remain. The majority (87 per cent) of patients surveyed said they would have used a GP service if the pharmacy pilot was not available.

[Read More](#)

## 4BC, Afternoons, 28/05/2025, Sofie Formica

Interview with Dr Gino Pecoraro, health expert on wellness. Pecoraro says the Federal Government need to fix private medicine and private health care and adds the fact that Healthscope is entering receivership shows the rebates they are getting from the health insurers simply are not enough. He states everyone should have a cardiovascular check as part of healthy ageing.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 28/05/2025, Kylie Baxter

Interview with health policy analyst Martyn Goddard on the state of private hospitals in Australia. Baxter says Healthscope is now in receivership and is now struggling to pay rent for its hospitals, especially in places like Sydney and Melbourne. Goddard states it is unlikely that Hobart Private Hospital, which is run by Healthscope, will be sold. He notes the pressures that have pushed Healthscope to the wall are pressures on the industry generally.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

# MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

## Do I really need drugs to overcome the chaos of ADHD?

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 29/05/2025, Gary Newman, Page 28

The number of Australians prescribed ADHD medication exploded from 186,000 to 414,000 between 2018 and 2022. Some say it remains underdiagnosed, particularly among women. News this week, that GPs in NSW will be able to diagnose the condition and prescribe medication, is viewed by many as a breakthrough that will help more people find treatment.

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

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

## Breaking free of my fears

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/05/2025, Ashleigh Gleeson, Page 20

Break-dancer Rachael "Raygun" Gunn has revealed she was already struggling with anxiety before the Olympics but her mental health became so bad following the worldwide vitriol over her performance that she felt "paralysed" and "panicky" if her husband left her side. Opening up about her mental health struggles to encourage conversations as part of the Can We Talk? campaign, in partnership with Medibank, the 37-year-old said getting off social media, support from loved ones and regular - appointments with her psychologist helped.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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

## Let's talk about mental health support for Aussies

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/05/2025, Page 20

More Australians are reaching out for help and having conversations about their mental health since the launch of News Corp's Can We Talk? campaign. The awareness campaign, in partnership with Medibank, was launched in March to help families open up about their mental health and push for greater government funding.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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

## Volatile world has us on edge

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2025, Elissa Doherty, Page 21

Money, conflict in relationships and feeling lonely are the top three daily issues that are getting us down, as nearly half of Australians grapple with stress. New research, as part of News Corp's Can We Talk? campaign with Medibank, has revealed the everyday factors negatively affecting our mental wellbeing.

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

## The strength of Amber

West Australian, Edition Changes, 28/05/2025, Rhianna Mitchell, Page 1

Perth teenager has written a powerful poem about her journey with an eating disorder, giving an insight into the relentless, lonely and consuming nature of the illness and the pressure to "fit the beauty standard". Amber Trought, 15, wrote and performed the poem for an English assignment at school, receiving an A for the work. She gave The West Australian permission to publish it.

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

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

## Move to tackle mental health crisis

Newcastle Herald, General News, 29/05/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 13

Exercise and Sports Science Australia (ESSA) is calling for the Minns government to appoint exercise

physiologists in mental health clinics by 2026-27. Jason Korotkich, owner of Hunter-based Uplift Exercise Physiology, said "exercise does have protective effects against mental illness".

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

## Classroom crisis – and how mentors can help: Kids' Hope Australia wants to reach all kids

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/05/2025, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker

The nation's largest school-based mentoring program is looking to further expand in a bid to address spiralling rates of depression, anxiety and aggressive outbursts in primary schools. Kids' Hope Australia, which has been offering one-on-one mentoring in schools for two decades, says more educators are reporting worrying classroom behaviour, including incidents of violence and disruption.

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

[Read More](#)

## R U OK? Conversation Convoy travels nationwide to start lifesaving conversations

The Courier Mail, Other, 28/05/2025, Bella Munro

Every year this initiative starts lifesaving conversations across the country beginning with the simple question 'are you OK?' Here's how you can check in with your friends, family, or colleagues: In what has been a difficult start to the year, with floods, a cyclone, and a growing cost-of-living crisis, this convoy travelling across the country is hoping to get difficult conversations flowing.

[Read More](#)

## Commute, cleaning among the microstressors getting Aussies down

Northern Territory News, Other, 29/05/2025, Elissa Doherty

These are the daily dilemmas research has revealed are threatening the wellbeing of Australians, with some stressed people relying on a cycle of caffeine and alcohol to try and cope. Money, conflict in relationships and feeling lonely are the top three daily issues that are getting us down, as nearly half of Australians grapple with stress.

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

[Read More](#)

## Change mental health laws so officers can intervene when people pose risk to others, police tell Bondi Junction inquest

The Guardian, Other, 28/05/2025, Daisy Dumas

One of Queensland's most senior police officers says the state's mental health legislation should be amended to make it easier for police to intervene when a person's mental health makes them a risk to others. The acting deputy commissioner Mark Kelly told the New South Wales coroner's court on Wednesday that Queensland's Mental Health Act had caused "confusion".

[Read More](#)

## Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 28/05/2025, Tom Connell

Interview with Healthy Communities Foundation Australia Chief Executive Jeremy Goff on the impact of drought on mental health in regional Australia. Goff says they run a suicide prevention program right across Western New South Wales. He states support and services are scarce in those areas compared to the cities.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Adelaide, Evenings, 28/05/2025, Spence Denny

Interview with Emily Morgan, who discusses the issue of mental health in Australia's rural community.

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

[Play Now](#)

## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Bullying ambo wins appeal

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2025, Gemma Scerri, Page 13

A Bright paramedic who was reprimanded for belittling and being rude to his female coworkers has successfully -argued his bullying behaviour did not amount to "serious misconduct". Ambulance Victoria officer Mark Frost appealed a forced cross-state transfer from Bright in Victoria's northern alpine region to Dandenong, in Melbourne's southeast, -before a tribunal of Fair Work commissioners.

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

### Young doctor pushing for change

Newcastle Herald, General News, 28/05/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 8

A 30-year-old Newcastle doctor who dreams of becoming a GP says more government funding and flexibility in the sector would attract more young doctors. Elise Putt believes the old structures of long hours and a lack of work-life balance for doctors need to change.

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

### \$40k incentives for state's trainee GPs

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/05/2025, Taylah Fellows, Page 5

A new cash bid to steer doctors into general practice won't require them to live or work in the regions. The state government on Tuesday unveiled a \$24m program to give GP trainees \$40,000 to keep them going in the industry in a partial revival of an old Labor scheme.

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

## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### Eucalyptus targets unicorn status in new \$150m funding round

Australian Financial Review, General News, 29/05/2025, Page 1

Ozempic seller Eucalyptus, which is backed by venture capital firm Blackbird, is raising \$100-\$150 million after delivering its investors a healthy set of financials in April.

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

## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## SPORT

### Shifting attitudes will make Liberals' return harder

The Australian, General News, 29/05/2025, Michael Sexton, Page 11

It may be noted that the commonwealth has no powers under the Constitution in relation to sporting activities but, in addition to the widespread funding provided to various sports bodies, it has its own considerable bureaucracy in this area, including the Australian Sports Commission and Sports Integrity Australia.

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

### Push to lead Para medals

Courier Mail, General News, 29/05/2025, Rachel Riley, Page 21

The International Paralympics boss has praised the progress of the 2032 Games and plans for a dedicated para-sport facility to help drive a record medal haul and inspire future generations. International Paralympic Committee president Andrew Parsons is in Brisbane for two days for high-level meetings with the Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee, Paralympics Australia president Alison Creagh, Games delivery partners and para-athletes.

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

### Paralympic chief challenges Brisbane 2032 organizers to top the success of Sydney 2000

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/05/2025

There was no better day to urge the people of Brisbane to do better than the benchmarks Sydney set for the Paralympics. International Paralympic Committee President Andrew Parsons' visit to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic host city Wednesday coincided with the start of the annual rugby league grudge match that is the State of Origin series, whether planned or otherwise.

[Read More](#)

### Channel 9, Nine News, 28/05/2025, Alicia Loxley & Tom Steinfort

New data shows concussions are on the decline in the AFL. In 2023, 179 players suffered a potential or diagnosed concussion, but that was down to 142 last year.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

## Death in Alice during arrest

The Australian, Edition Changes - All-round Metro, 28/05/2025, Liam Mendes & Thomas Sargeant, Page 1

An Indigenous man understood to be under Northern Territory guardianship and believed to have "a significant mental health background and development issues" has died in Alice Springs while he was being placed under arrest by police, following an alleged altercation with a security guard at a major supermarket. On Monday evening, specialist police flew to Alice Springs from Darwin following the incident.

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

## Call for urgent action on Closing the Gap

The Australian, General News, 29/05/2025, Paige Taylor, Page 7

The Albanese government must find a way to compel states and territories to govern differently in Indigenous affairs, according to the first Indigenous Australian to serve on the Productivity Commission. Romlie Mokak is the co-author of a Productivity Commission review of the Closing the Gap agreement that found governments around Australia had not kept their promises to share decisions with Indigenous communities for better results.

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

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

## We showed how good support can help people with complex needs, and save money

Hobart Mercury, General News, 29/05/2025, Jake Smith, Page 14

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Legal Service has proved that its Bail Support Program is "Closing the Gap". We first demonstrated the need to support people on bail. TALS did so through its recently concluded Bail Support Program (BSP) pilot, which was funded through the Tasmanian government.

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

## Arrest scrutiny

Northern Territory News, General News, 29/05/2025, Zizi Averill & Gera Kazakov, Page 1

Leaders are calling for healing and calm amid an investigation into the death of a young Aboriginal man who died after a police arrest in an Alice Springs supermarket. NT Police have confirmed a 24-year-old man died in hospital 70 minutes after being restrained to the ground by officers in the Alice Springs Coles on Wednesday afternoon.

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

## Death in custody probe after supermarket incident

Northern Territory News, General News, 29/05/2025, Gera Kazakov & Zizi Averill, Page 7

A young Aboriginal man with a disability has died after being restrained by an Alice Springs police officer, with a witness to the incident claiming an officer's "knee was behind his head". NT Police confirmed a death in custody investigation was under way after a 24-year-old Aboriginal man died 70 minutes after being restrained by plainclothes officers at the Coles supermarket in Alice Springs at 1.10pm on Wednesday.

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

## Major Crime Squad investigate the death of an Aboriginal man in custody following a shoplifting incident at Coles Alice Springs

The Australian, Other, 28/05/2025, Emma Kirk

Senator Lidia Thorpe has demanded answers after a 24-year old Aboriginal man, who lived with a disability under state guardianship, died in custody after a shoplifting incident at Coles in Alice Springs. Police allege the man was "placing items down the front of (his) clothing" before he was confronted by security guards about 1.10pm on Tuesday.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## **‘Path towards unity’: First traditional owners group seeks individual treaty**

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 28/05/2025, Kieran Rooney

Central Victoria's Dja Dja Wurrung people have started their journey towards a local treaty with the state government, the first of multiple traditional owners group expected to do so alongside statewide negotiations. The move opens up a new phase in treaty discussions starting in Dja Dja Wurrung Country, which includes Bendigo and the state electorate of Premier Jacinta Allan.

[Read More](#)

## **Holistic approach needed to overcome family violence**

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Keira Jenkins

Approaches to domestic and family violence must include the entire community, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advocates and experts say. First Nations communities have the solutions to address family violence, Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service chief executive Wynetta Dewis told AAP.

*Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).*

[Read More](#)

## **New remote jobs program to fund hundreds of roles in remote communities**

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Lillian Rangiah

Under the Closing the Gap agreement, the federal government has promised to raise the employment rate of First Nations people to 62 per cent by 2031. A 2021 Productivity Commission report showed the NT was the only jurisdiction that had gone backwards on progress towards that target.

[Read More](#)

## **Tasmanian government to fund truth-telling commissioners but drop treaty process**

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2025, Jano Gibson

The Tasmanian government will no longer pursue a treaty with Tasmanian Aboriginal people, instead funding the establishment of truth-telling and healing commissioners. The decision came four years after former premier Peter Gutwein announced the commencement of a truth-telling and treaty process

[Read More](#)

## **‘Genocide’: Patrick Dodson condemns Australia's Aboriginal youth incarceration rates**

The Guardian, Other, 29/05/2025, Sarah Collard

Former Labor senator Patrick Dodson has condemned the country's Aboriginal youth incarceration rates and child removals as an ongoing genocide against First Peoples and an “embarrassing sore” on the nation. “It’s an assault on the Aboriginal people. I don’t say that lightly [but] if you want to eradicate a people from the landscape, you start taking them away, you start destroying the landscape of their cultural heritage, you attack their children or remove their children,” Dodson said.

[Read More](#)

## **New portal launched to support First Nations health in Queensland**

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Joseph Guenzler

Queensland Health and the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet have launched a new online portal to support those working or studying in First Nations health across the state. The Queensland Portal provides state-specific health information and resources for students, academics, policymakers and health professionals.

[Read More](#)

## **Labor needs to move beyond the false framing of ‘symbolic’ and ‘practical’ reconciliation**



Rather than engaging with substantive reconciliation and the Uluru Statement from the Heart, Labor instead largely focussed for the rest of its first term on 'practical' reconciliation. Its Indigenous Affairs agenda concentrated on 'Closing the Gap' measures in areas such as housing, education, employment, and health, and advocating for economic empowerment and Indigenous procurement, all of which are very important.

[Read More](#)

## **Tasmanian government's commitment to Aboriginal Truth-telling and Healing Commission draws mixed response**

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Callan Morse

The Tasmanian government's plan to establish Aboriginal Truth-telling and Healing Commissioners has sparked mixed reactions from members of the state's First Nations communities. Based on the advice of Tasmania's Aboriginal Advisory Group, the government confirmed on Tuesday it will dedicate \$880,000 over two years to appoint independent commissioners to guide an Aboriginal-led Truth-telling and Healing process.

[Read More](#)

## **It's time we prioritise the children, and legitimate systems reforms**

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Hannah McGlade

Business and wealth creation for a few is being prioritised over Indigenous people's rights, with no evidence to show that increasing Aboriginal businesses' wealth alone will Close the Gap on Indigenous disadvantage. There is no evidence that supporting economic empowerment for a minority will address the severity of Aboriginal incarceration, child removals, suicides, and violence against Aboriginal women which continue to rise under the current policies.

[Read More](#)

## **We need to invest in Indigenous pharmacists: Sim**

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2025, Ben Wishaw

Registration data shows a record number of pharmacists from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds Australia's pharmacy profession must continue to support Indigenous practitioners and create more opportunities for future generations, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) national president, Associate Professor Faye Sim says.

[Read More](#)

## **New guide supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 28/05/2025, Morgan Liotta

A new RACGP-endorsed guide to support general practices to understand the 'extremely crucial' role of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners is now available. The Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners in Primary Health Care: A guide for general practice was officially launched to mark National Reconciliation Week

[Read More](#)

## **ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 28/05/2025, Yvonne Yong**

News Northern Territory Police are continuing to investigate the death of a 24-year-old original man who died after being restrained by officers at an Alice Springs supermarket on Tuesday afternoon. The incident follows an early altercation between the man and a woman at a bank and today the man's family and friends expressed their outrage including his grandfather, a well-known community leader.

[Play Now](#)

## **ABC Radio Adelaide, Evenings, 28/05/2025, Spence Denny**

Interview with film-maker Carla Hart, who discusses her documentary regarding Indigenous health. Our Medicine is the story of First Nations medical professionals who deal on the medical front line.

[Play Now](#)

## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### Synthetic opioids alarm

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2025, Page 15

Reports of synthetic opioids contaminating Australia's drug supply highlight the concerning pace at which they are entering the country. Nitazenes are synthetic opioids that are similar to the drug fentanyl, which is a major contributor to overdose deaths.

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

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

### Synthetic opioid alert

Hobart Mercury, General News, 29/05/2025, Page 10

Reports of synthetic opioids contaminating Australia's drug supply highlight the concerning pace at which they are entering the country. Nitazenes are synthetic opioids that are similar to the drug fentanyl, which is a major contributor to overdose deaths.

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

### Kids at risk due to flu vax hesitation

Ballarat Courier, General News, 28/05/2025, Page 7

Emergency rooms around Australia are noticing a spike in children's flu admissions, as a survey reveals one in six kids are unvaccinated. Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital has seen a 27 per cent increase in flu cases compared to the previous year, with many unvaccinated children requiring hospitalisation.

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

### 'Get the flu vaccine for your kids as soon as you can' warns paediatrician

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 28/05/2025, Chloe Hava

It's no secret that Australia is bracing for one of the most intense influenza seasons in recent memory, with confirmed case numbers already reaching 89,165 . And it's not even winter yet – when influenza cases really start to take off.

[Read More](#)

### Channel 9, Nine News, 28/05/2025, Alicia Loxley & Tom Steinfort

So-called forever chemicals are in almost every Victorian according to the latest research. The ABS data reveals 97 per cent of people aged over 12 have some level of PFAS in their bloodstream.

[Play Now](#)

### ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 28/05/2025, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Macquarie University professor of environmental science Mark Taylor on new data that shows more than 95 per cent of West Australians over the age of 12 had PFAS in their blood. Taylor says the concentrations are low and it is not surprising that they accumulate more in older people as they have had more exposure. He states it is not a major concern as the concentrations are ultra low.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

No relevant coverage

## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## FOOD STANDARDS

### **Baby formula Coco2 recalled over feeding guide errors first uncovered in 7NEWS investigation**

7news.com.au, Other, 28/05/2025, Jennifer Bechwati

Coco2's baby formula company has recalled its product over feeding guide errors that were first uncovered in a 7NEWS exclusive investigation. The error relates to incorrect labelling of scoop sizes of the product, which is a world-first baby formula developed in Australia from coconut milk.

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

## AICIS

### **'Forever chemicals' found in blood of nearly 98 per cent of Queenslanders**

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 28/05/2025, Adam Carey & Catherine Strohfeldt

Nearly 98 per cent of Queenslanders over the age of 12 have a detectable concentration of PFAS in their bloodstream, with the "forever chemicals" more likely to be found in men than women. The synthetic chemicals are found in everyday products ranging from the linings of takeaway coffee cups and pizza boxes to carpets and non-stick cookware .

[Read More](#)

### **Residents forced to pay for 'forever chemicals' clean-up at local rubbish tip**

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2025, Saffron Howden

Ratepayers and communities could be forced to pay for the clean up of their local tips, or build new ones, to prevent PFAS "forever chemicals" leaching into waterways, a rural council has warned. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) include about 4000 chemicals used in a vast array of everyday products , most infamously fire-fighting foam - a practice now being banned in Australia.

*Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#).*

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

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)