



Australian Government
Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing

TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 4th June 2025

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 5) reports that opposition NDIS spokeswoman Anne Ruston criticised the government's lack of transparency regarding NDIS reforms, particularly concerning reassessments and foundational supports. Ms Ruston said that NDIS Minister Mark Butler needed to pay more attention to implementation issues or risk "catastrophic" impacts for Australians. *Also reported by: Daily Telegraph*
- **[The West Australian](#)** (page 1) reports that ambulance ramping hours at Western Australian hospitals reached a record high of 5333 hours in May, with the surge coinciding with an earlier-than-usual spike in flu cases. *Also reported by: ABC Online*
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 3) reports that a new combination chemotherapy for bladder cancer, Gem-Doce, has shown promising results with a 60 per cent remission rate since being adopted in Australian hospitals.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 7) reports that the Red Cross has warned that Australia's supply of O-type blood is at a near-two-year low, urging healthy Australians to make a donation appointment in the hopes of receiving an additional 9500 donations in the next week.
- **[The Courier Mail](#)** (page 1) reports that Queensland has seen a sharp rise in children being hospitalised with injuries from e-scooter accidents, leading public health experts to call for

stricter regulations and a minimum age of 16 for riders in the state. *Also reported by: Hobart Mercury, The Guardian, 9News*

- **ABC Online** reports that the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has introduced new guidelines for dentists and nurses performing cosmetic injectable procedures, mandating further education and training, minimum experience periods for nurses, and stricter advertising regulations. *Also reported by: The Australian, Courier Mail*
- **The Daily Telegraph** (page 9) reports that the Therapeutic Goods Administration will require patients using weight-loss drugs such as Ozempic and Mounjaro to be warned of additional risks they may incur while under general anaesthesia or deep sedation which arises because of the drugs' effect on the movement of food through the stomach.

MINISTER BUTLER

NDIS is mired in mystery: Ruston

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2025, Sarah Ison, Page 5

Newly appointed opposition NDIS spokeswoman Anne Ruston says Labor's reforms to the \$40bn scheme are "shrouded in mystery" and has slammed what she sees as a lack of transparency from the government in the disability, aged care and health sectors that risks Australians facing "catastrophic" outcomes. [...] "I think (NDIS) Minister (Mark) Butler has been handed a very big job to do, but he cannot continue to ignore the issues of implementation.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online).

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Parliament House crackdown on the political smoko

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 04/06/2025, Kishor Napier-Raman & Gemma Grant, Page 2

Last week, CBD had reason to recall the rather salacious tale of former Labor frontbencher John Brown's getting it on atop a ministerial desk with his then-wife Jan Murray, who allegedly left her knickers in the ashtray. [...] Lung lollies are practically extinct in parliament, where anyone under 35 has switched to the also restricted vapes (despite Health Minister Mark Butler's best efforts to ban a product available at every convenience store in the country).

Also reported by: Age (Melbourne).

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Families languish in NDIS limbo

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2025, Clare Armstrong, Page 2

Australians with milder disabilities not eligible for the NDIS are at risk of "falling through the gaps" as they wait for a deal on foundational supports, the Coalition warns. [...] But neither issue remains resolved, with Health and NDIS Minister Mark Butler saying last month he was working to finalise deals "over the course of the rest of the year".

Also reported by: Courier Mail (Brisbane), Herald Sun (Melbourne).

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Steggall and Scamps re-elected

North Shore Living, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 16

The corflutes are packed away for another three years, and Independent MPs for Warringah Zali Steggall and Mackellar Sophie Scamps have both been re-elected. [...] Dr Scamps is calling on the community to tell her of any black market vape and cigarette sales at tobacconists in Mackellar, saying she will raise it with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler as one of her first priorities back in Parliament.

Also reported by: Peninsula Living (Brookvale).

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'Bold' healthcare reforms needed

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 7

Healthcare organisations are calling on the newly elected Labor government to use its second term in office to deliver vital structural reforms. [...] Mark Butler was reappointed as Minister for Health and Aged Care in the cabinet reshuffle announced on 12 May.

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Confidence hits new high after 60-day slump

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Nick O'Donoghue, Page 14

Increased funding secured through the Eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA), combined with a relatively modest uptake of 60-day prescriptions, is fuelling positive sentiment about the sector's future. [...] After plunging to a historic low of 60.8 out of 200 in the wake of the 26 April 2023 announcement by Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, about 60-day dispensing, the 14th edition of the Barometer reported the sector's confidence jumped to 148.3 last November - 1.5 points higher than the previous high recorded in November 2022.

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NSW Premier calls for tobacco excise cut as black-market booms

Convenience & Impulse Retailing, Other, 03/06/2025, Thomas Oakley-Newell

NSW Premier Chris Minns has called on the Federal Government to consider lowering the tobacco excise as the illegal market skyrockets. [...] If you put a price on it that is manifestly higher than what people can afford, they'll find a cheaper alternative and that's where this incredibly dangerous black market is cashing in – and even worse – they're using that money to fund the most atrocious crimes as we have heard from Federal Health Minister Mark Butler."

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What you need to know about NB.1.8.1 – the new Covid-19 variant driving up infections

Nursing Review, Other, 03/06/2025

Australians are being urged to get a Covid booster as a new variant of the illness takes hold across the country. [...] Speaking on Friday, federal Health Minister Mark Butler urged older people in particular, to get vaccinated and younger people to consider getting a booster.

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Poll: Are you getting the Covid booster shot?

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/06/2025, Brielle Burns

Aussies are being urged to get their Covid booster as a new contagious variant is expected to drive a winter wave across the country. [...] On Friday, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler urged younger people to consider getting a booster and older people, in particular, to get vaccinated.

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Aboriginal health chair defends expenses

The Western Plains App, Other, 03/06/2025, River McCrossen

The chair of an Aboriginal health service covering Coonamble, Gilgandra and Dubbo 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.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

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DEPARTMENT

Nominate a health star for regional awards

Cobram Courier, General News, 04/06/2025, Page 14

Nominations for the 2025 National Rural and Remote Health Awards opened this week, calling on communities across Australia to recognise their local healthcare heroes. [...] Both Governor-General Sam Mostyn and National Rural Health Commissioner Jenny May have confirmed their attendance at this year's ceremony.

Also reported by: [Yarrawonga Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Riverine Herald \(Online\)](#), [Campaspe News \(Online\)](#).

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How bad science warped our ideas about black mould

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/06/2025, Angus Dalton

We inhale about 15 cubic metres of air every day, and you can bet that air contains a good dose of mould spores. [...] As the federal Health Department points out: "A causal relationship to any health effect from exposure to indoor damp or mould in the general population is yet to be established."

Also reported by: [The Age \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#).

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Rethinking mental health in this increasingly noisy world

Newcastle Herald, Other, 03/06/2025, Craig Hamilton

In the past few weeks, the death of former AFL player and coach Adam Selwood has seen mental

health publicly discussed, dissected and debated. [...] Information from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing website shows that suicide is the main cause of death among people aged 15 to 49.

[Read More](#)

'What more can we do?'

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 03/06/2025, Natasha Egan

Aged care providers are doing as much as they can to be ready for 1 July, despite the lack of information making it an impossible task to achieve, says Ageing Australia chief Tom Symondson – who intends to hold the regulator to its promise of a proportionate response. [...] To support providers during the transition, Ageing Australia is setting up a short-term response team to be able to escalate critical issues quickly to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and its own response team.

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Covid vax fee cut to limit access

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 03/06/2025

Changes to the fees paid to pharmacists for the provision of Covid-19 vaccinations will lead to poorer access to services the Remote and Isolated Pharmacist Association Australia (RIPAA) says.

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CSIRO evaluation of Sparked FHIR Accelerator program in second phase

Health Services Daily, Other, 03/06/2025

The CSIRO has launched the second part of its evaluation of the Sparked FHIR Accelerator program, the consortium designed to foster collaboration between key stakeholders engaged in improving the interoperability of digital health systems in Australia. Sparked has gained renown globally since its inception in July 2023 as a partnership between the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, the Australian Digital Health Agency, and HL7 Australia, coordinated by the CSIRO.

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Medication safety gaps exposed in Australian aged care facilities

Healthcare Channel, Other, 03/06/2025, Ritchelle Drilon

Significant gaps in medication oversight have been revealed across Australian aged care facilities, with a major national audit showing that many facilities are falling short of recommended safety standards despite government recommendations. [...] The research team used the Department of Health and Aged Care's MAC Audit Tool to assess performance across these critical areas.

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Provider insight: Gov releases reform booklet and priority actions list

Helloleaders.com.au, Other, 03/06/2025, Alex Jacobs

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has released two critical resources for aged care providers that will help organisations and leaders strengthen their readiness before 1 July to implement the new Aged Care Act and Support at Home program. The documents are an updated booklet for aged care providers and the sector on Aged Care Reforms and a Provider Operational Readiness Priority Actions List.

[Read More](#)

Preparing for the new Support at Home program

My Aged Care, Other, 03/06/2025

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing is sending a letter and a checklist to everyone on a Home Care Package, to help them prepare for the new Support at Home program. This letter includes: an overview of the Support at Home program information on preparing a service agreement with your provider, a checklist detailing activities to help you prepare for the move.

[Read More](#)

You've got mail! (a warning for overseas billing compliance)

The Medical Republic, Other, 03/06/2025, Euan Kielly

DoHDA is moving in on GPs who it believes may have billed the MBS while out of the country. Over 1100 GPs across Australia have received "early intervention letters" from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DoHDA) as it begins to tighten compliance on overseas billing.

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VACCINES

COVID booster push amid new NB.1.8.1 variant winter wave

Ballarat Courier, Other, 03/06/2025, Michelle Smith

A new Covid strain is threatening to unleash a winter wave of the virus as natural immunity wanes and vaccine booster rates remain low. The rate of infections across Australia of the NB.1.8.1 COVID variant has soared in recent weeks, becoming the dominant strain in Western Australia and accounting for more than a third of infections and rising in Victoria and New South Wales.

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What you need to know about NB.1.8.1 – the new Covid-19 variant driving up infections

Nursing Review, Other, 03/06/2025

Australians are being urged to get a Covid booster as a new variant of the illness takes hold across the country. [...] Speaking on Friday, federal Health Minister Mark Butler urged older people in particular, to get vaccinated and younger people to consider getting a booster.

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'Stay safe with simple precautions' as a new COVID-19 variant spreads in Australia

SBS, Other, 03/06/2025, Natasha Kaul

Covid-19 cases are on the rise once again, driven by the emergence of a new variant known as NB.1.8.1. This latest strain is fuelling a fresh wave of infections around the world, including in Australia.

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Poll: Are you getting the Covid booster shot?

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/06/2025, Brielle Burns

Aussies are being urged to get their Covid booster as a new contagious variant is expected to drive a winter wave across the country. [...] On Friday, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler urged younger people to consider getting a booster and older people, in particular, to get vaccinated.

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FIVEAA, Afternoons, 03/06/2025, Leith Forrest

Interview with Deakin University epidemiologist Professor Catherine Bennett on getting a COVID booster because a new contagious variant is spreading overseas. Bennett says Australia had a very mild flu wave over summer, so only a few people have boosted their immunity naturally. She notes that authorities are concerned that Australians will be going into winter with less immunity against flu.

Interview continues on: [FIVEAA \(Adelaide\)](#), [FIVEAA \(Adelaide\)](#)

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

How to arrange aged care on a tight budget

Age, General News, 04/06/2025, Rachel Lane, Page 26

Not everyone moving into aged care has a house they can sell, or superannuation to draw down. For many senior Australians their only income is the age pension, and the thought of paying \$750,000 for aged care can be overwhelming.

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

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Changes affect residential care decision-makers

Law Institute Journal, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 22

On 1 July 2025, the Aged Care Restrictive Practices Substitute Decision-maker Act 2024 (Vic) (RPSDM Act) will come into effect in Victoria, introducing a new regime of substitute decision-makers for residents of residential aged care facilities. Practitioners in the succession, elder and disability law space should be aware of the operation of the new Act, particularly when advising clients with estate planning, as well as the operation of their existing powers of attorney and appointments of medical treatment decision-makers.

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ACQSC's updated liquidity rules: A win for aged care flexibility

HelloCare, Other, 03/06/2025, Jakob Neeland

Following robust consultations with the aged care and retirement living industries, the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (ACQSC) has introduced a more flexible framework to ensure providers can meet their financial obligations without being constrained by rigid requirements. These changes, detailed in a recent Ageing Australia member alert, address earlier concerns about the feasibility of proposed rules and aim to balance financial security with operational practicality.

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Lost in the maze: A carer's struggle with Australia's aged care system

HelloCare, Other, 03/06/2025, Jakob Neeland

When Nicholas Smith moved back to his childhood home in Nowra to care for his mother after her dementia diagnosis, the 30-year-old engineer thought his organisational skills would help him navigate Australia's aged care system. What he found was a patchwork of services, My Aged Care portals, specialists, and support programmes, that didn't connect, forcing him to become an expert in a system that often left him repeating his mother's needs.

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Aged care artists Lorraine and Louis shine bright at Vivid Sydney

The Senior, Other, 03/06/2025, Anthony Caggiano

Aged care residents have helped light up the night sky with bright and colourful designs at the world-class Vivid Sydney. Lorraine Gassman and Louis Harris have reimaged what the ASN Clock Tower at The Rocks looks like with their designs projected onto the historic site.

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How restorative care is helping 91-year-old carer Laurie stay at home

The Senior, Other, 03/06/2025, Rowan Cowley

Overwhelmed by her caring responsibilities and living with a debilitating health condition, day-to-day life was getting to be too much for 91-year-old Laurie Sincic. Then she discovered the federal government's Short Term Restorative Care Programme, and it has given her a whole new lease of life as she continues to wait for permanent home care services.

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NDIS is mired in mystery: Ruston

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2025, Sarah Ison, Page 5

Newly appointed opposition NDIS spokeswoman Anne Ruston says Labor's reforms to the \$40bn scheme are "shrouded in mystery" and has slammed what she sees as a lack of transparency from the government in the disability, aged care and health sectors that risks Australians facing "catastrophic" outcomes. [...] "I think (NDIS) Minister (Mark) Butler has been handed a very big job to do, but he cannot continue to ignore the issues of implementation.

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

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Families languish in NDIS limbo

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2025, Clare Armstrong, Page 2

Australians with milder disabilities not eligible for the NDIS are at risk of "falling through the gaps" as they wait for a deal on foundational supports, the Coalition warns. [...] But neither issue remains resolved, with Health and NDIS Minister Mark Butler saying last month he was working to finalise deals "over the course of the rest of the year".

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

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Greg fights MND to help honour his beloved mum

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 04/06/2025, Jessica Adamson, Page 13

Greg Blewett was in a hotel room in Victoria when he took the call. It was the summer of 2014 and the respected former Australian Test cricketer was on a Cricketers Association Masters tour. [...] Anyone diagnosed before the age of 65, receives \$240,000 more in care annually, because they qualify for the NDIS.

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Sydney's vigil for black death in custody

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/06/2025, Fia Walsh, Page 7

Hundreds have gathered in Sydney for a vigil to mourn a disabled Aboriginal man who died in custody in Alice Springs last week. [...] Kumanjayi White was from Yuendumu but living in Alice Springs on an NDIS plan under public guardianship.

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NDIS changes leave immobilised clients without underwater scuba therapy

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Shauna Foley & Caroline Perryman

Aisla Dehe has had multiple sclerosis (MS) for 25 years and the progression of the disease has left her unable to stand or walk. [...] Under regulations announced in late 2024 , Scuba Gym is no longer included in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) support list which dictate what recipients can choose to spend their allocated funding on.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Shocking toll of e-scooters

Courier Mail, General News, 04/06/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 1

Rising numbers of Queensland children are landing in hospital with shocking injuries including brain damage following falls from e-scooters, sparking public health experts to call for a 16 year age limit in the state. The first-ever study into pediatric injuries exposes the grave dangers of Queensland being one of only two states to allow under 16s to ride on the scooters.

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

E-scooter crashes put more kids in hospital

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/06/2025, Page 11

Two children a week are hospitalised on the Sunshine Coast after an e-scooter crash, researchers say, and one in 10 crashes with children are potentially life-threatening. Launceston General Hospital and Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) researchers studied 176 incidents where kids aged 5-15 went to SCUH after an e-scooter crash from 2023-2024.

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Crackdown on cigs runs out of puff

Daily Telegraph, Edition Changes, 04/06/2025, James Willis, Page 11

More than 500 businesses are registered to sell tobacco products in the Sydney electorates held by Anthony Albanese and Chris Minns, in another sign Australia has lost the war on the illegal black market. The startling figure can be revealed as the Premier urges his federal counterparts to strongly consider reducing the cigarette excise, now charged at \$1.40 per stick, claiming the tax was "just not working".

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Canberra must halt the illegal tobacco trade

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 04/06/2025, Page 20

The Albanese government's laudable attempt to use a tax as a public health measure to break the lethal grip of tobacco has blown up in the faces of state governments. Canberra's well-intentioned but ill-thought-through excise duty increase has not only forced the cost of cigarettes purchased legally to soar from \$20 in 2019 to \$57.99 for one popular brand but driven consumers to cheaper illegal tobacco products.

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

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Tobacco tax queried as black market cashes in

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/06/2025, Alex Mitchell & Jack Gramenz, Page 6

A "deep-seated and unhinged" desire to bring down big tobacco via sky-high taxes has created a thriving black market, an expert says, amid calls for excises to be cut. After massive seizures of more than 20 million untaxed cigarettes thrust the underground tobacco trade back into headlines, NSW Premier Chris Minns said criminals were cashing in on the fallout of rocketing taxes.

Also reported by: [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Big flaw in food system

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 04/06/2025, Emma Kirk, Page 4

A shock new report says Australia's \$800bn food system is "falling short", despite producing enough food to feed nearly 100 million people. The CSIRO has completed the first national stocktake of the nation's food system, which identified 100,000 Australian farmers produced enough food to feed 27 million Australians and another 73 million people globally.

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Tele's take: Cheaper cigarettes might mean more government money

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/06/2025

Talk about brazen. Directly opposite state parliament on Macquarie St, The Daily Telegraph yesterday discovered a convenience store selling illegal cigarettes and vapes. This single venue's tobacco operation, and its bold-as-brass location, tells us a great deal about the illegal tobacco and vape caper as it functions in NSW.

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First-time mum left feeling 'devastated' after facing questions over her weight at hospital appointments

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Molly Slattery

First-time mum Emily Chamberlain went into her 20-week pregnancy check-up jittery and excited. "Falling pregnant took us a little while so when we did it already felt like such a miracle," she said.

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E-scooter injury toll revealed in study just 'tip of the iceberg' in Australia, doctors warn

The Guardian, Other, 04/06/2025, Natasha May

Every three days, a child injured on an e-scooter would come through the emergency department doors at the Sunshine Coast university hospital, according to Dr Matthew Clanfield. Between 2023 and 2024 176 children were treated at the Queensland hospital.

[Read More](#)

E-scooter accidents sending two children to one Queensland hospital every week, study finds

9News, Other, 04/06/2025, Adam Vidler

One Queensland hospital sees about two children a week injured in e-scooter accidents, prompting public health experts to call for an urgent overhaul of safety regulations. A report published today in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health revealed that on the Sunshine Coast alone, in 2023 and 2024, 176 children aged five to 15 needed hospital treatment after an e-scooter accident.

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Channel 7, Sunrise, 03/06/2025, Matt Shirvington & Natalie Barr

Panel discussion with Western Sydney Women founding director Amanda Rose and Daily Telegraph journalist James Willis about NSW Premier Chris Minns' call for a federal tobacco excise reform to combat the illegal tobacco trade. Willis says despite the tobacco excise increase, the number of tobaccoconists in the country has still grown by thousands over the last five years. He notes that people are still smoking and they're resorting to the illegal trade.

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ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 03/06/2025, Saskia Mabin

Interview with Australian Institute of Family Studies' Ten to Men program lead Dr Sean Martin on their new research which has found that one in three Australian men have committed some form of intimate partner violence. Martin says the study, which was funded by the Department of Health, has found that men with clinically significant depressive symptoms were more likely to commit intimate partner violence, while those with a high degree of social connectedness were less likely to do so.

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ABC Radio Perth, Breakfast , 03/06/2025, Mark Gibson

Interview with Edith Cowan University research fellow Dr Benjamin Parmenter on foods that could decrease the risk of chronic diseases, like type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and neurological diseases. Parmenter says foods that are high in flavonoids are good for the health. He notes that their 10-year-long study has found that people with the widest diversity of flavonoids had a lower risk of developing different types of chronic diseases.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 03/06/2025, Sally Sara

Interview with Social Services Minister Tanya Plibersek on new Australian Institute of Family Studies research which has found that one in three Australian men have committed some form of intimate partner violence. Sara says the study has also found that Australian men who have a healthy relationship with their dad are less likely to commit violence against a partner later in life. Plibersek says the number of men who use violence in an intimate relationship has increased over a decade, and

it's important to focus on getting those numbers down. She notes that the Federal Government has invested an extra billion dollars to improve mental health support.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Cancer patients avoid going under the knife

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2025, James Dowling, Page 3

Australian hospitals have adopted a new combination chemotherapy for bladder cancer that has brought remission rates to 60 per cent, taking patients out from under the knife. A blend of the drugs Gemcitabine and Docetaxel has seen -patients sidestep side effects while cutting rates of surgical bladder removal since being trialled at Monash Health in 2023, with the treatment now available to hospitals.

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

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Doctors said pain was 'in your head'

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 04/06/2025, Kate McIlwain, Page 5

When Adriana Veljanovski's kids were little, she remembers being in agony almost all the time. [...] "So she sat there quietly and went through my whole record and she turned around and said to me, I think you've got May-Thurner Syndrome."

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Helping migraine pain be heard: a pharmacy guide to equitable management of migraine pain

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 86

Migraine is a common condition affecting a disproportionate number of women; however, many women with migraine feel brushed aside by the medical community. In this article, we explore who migraine affects and how, and approaches to patient conversations that can help optimise pain management for every individual.

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Type 2 diabetes in older people living in the community

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 97

The management of diabetes in older people presents unique challenges due to multiple factors including comorbidities, polypharmacy, frailty, and age-related physiological changes. iabetes is a national health priority.¹ [...] Detailed information about case plans is available on the Diabetes Australia website diabetesaustralia.com.au/managing-diabetes/care-plans.

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The synergism between calcium, vitamin D and vitamin K2 for healthy bones and cardiovascular system

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Dr Brett MacFarlane, Page 105

Osteoporosis is characterised by low bone mineral density (BMD), deterioration of bone tissue, decreased bone strength, increased bone fragility, and increased fracture risk. Modelling indicates that the rates of osteoporosis and fractures are increasing significantly in Australia, leading to increased morbidity and mortality.

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An 'exercise prescription' dubbed 'better than drugs' to stop cancer return after chemo

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/06/2025, Sarah Mitchell

When a routine blood test reveals your cholesterol is elevated, there are several steps you can take to reverse the rise. Exercise is already recommended to improve so many aspects of our health.

[Read More](#)

Community programs combating Type 2 diabetes

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Victoria Pengilley

Type two diabetes is the most prevalent chronic disease in Australia, and some populations are more than twice as likely to have it. But there's hope targeted community exercise programs could help bring numbers down.

[Read More](#)

'I knew it': Sign 28yo had 'aggressive' cancer

NEWS.com.au, Other, 03/06/2025, Claudia Poposki

An Australian woman who was diagnosed with aggressive cancer at the age of just 28 has revealed the symptom that ultimately tipped her off that something was not quite right. Sam Bulloch, now 30, began to notice some bleeding when she went to the toilet — something that she put down to haemorrhoids.

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

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PRIMARY CARE

Urgent call for donors as blood supplies run low

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2025, Page 7

Reserves of O-type blood are running critically low in Australia. The Red Cross has issued an urgent call for an extra 9500 donations within the next week.

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Mayday! Ambulance ramping record high

West Australian, General News, 04/06/2025, Claire Sadler, Page 1

The amount of hours ambulances were ramped at WA hospitals last month was the highest on record for May, sparking concerns the State's health system is not prepared for winter. The latest St John statistics have revealed the number of hours ambulance crews spent waiting to transfer a patient over to hospitals' care reached 5333 hours in May.

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

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Top doctor AMA NT's new president

Northern Territory News, Business News, 04/06/2025, Thomas McLean, Page 25

Dr John Zorbas has been welcomed as the new president of the Australian Medical Association Northern Territory (AMA NT) branch, with longtime leader Dr Robert Parker stepping down after 11 years in the role. Dr Zorbas, a specialist emergency doctor and an intensive care doctor at the Royal Darwin Hospital, is a former AMA Western Australia junior doctor of the year.

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Our winter of discontent

Border Mail, General News, 04/06/2025, Madiilyn McKinley, Page 1

The Albury Wodonga Health code yellow call was "entirely predictable", according to a union's branch president. At 6pm on Monday, the health organisation formally declared an internal emergency due to significant access and flow challenges across both Border hospital campuses, coinciding with the early days of winter.

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

Builder chosen, but parking will prove a problem

Border Mail, General News, 04/06/2025, Page 5

The company behind the construction of Albury-Wodonga's regional cancer centre has been awarded the tender to erect a neighbouring building at the hospital as part of the \$558 million redevelopment. NSW Health Infrastructure announced yesterday that Hansen Yuncken had been selected to construct the two-storey Northeast building, which will house allied health services, outpatient clinics, a pharmacy and staff and administrative areas.

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Call for general practice pharmacist fund boost

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 12

The Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) and Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) are both calling for more funding to enable pharmacists to work with general practitioners to support high-quality prescribing. Funding for practices to add more non-dispensing pharmacists, nurses, psychologists, and other health professionals to practice teams is part of the RACGP's plan for accessible and affordable care for all Australians.

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Reeva Brice's \$1200 bill for 3km ambo ride after fainting “floors” the aged pensioner

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/06/2025, Brad Crouch

Reeva Brice, 84, thought she was going to need an ambulance – again – after copping an almost \$1200 ambulance bill for a 3km ride to hospital. The generally healthy woman was teaching reflexology at WEA in Angas St last November when she had a fainting spell.

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

[Read More](#)

St John Ambulance WA records worst ambulance ramping figures for May

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Keane Bourke

The Australian Medical Association has warned record levels of ambulance ramping could lead to increased deaths among patients waiting for emergency care, as Western Australia faces its worst flu season in at least three years. St John Ambulance data shows last month was the worst May on record for ambulance ramping, with patients spending 5,333 hours parked outside WA hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Calls for probe into cancer surgery delays at Orange Hospital

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 03/06/2025

Phil Donato has called for a full investigation into the allegations some cancer surgeries are being recategorised so Orange Hospital doesn't breach policy. Orange surgeon Dr Rob Knox last week went public with allegations of systemic mismanagement at Orange Hospital, one of the largest public hospitals in the Western NSW Local Health District (WNSWLHD).

[Read More](#)

GPs invited to feed into the next RACGP advocacy plan

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2025, Morgan Liotta

Consultation has been launched for GP feedback to help shape the college's new plan, underpinned by a commitment to member-led advocacy. The RACGP wants its Advocacy Plan to be built by, and for members, who will help shape the new plan and advocate for changes most important to them and their patients.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Loneliness epidemic on campus

The Australian, Higher Education, 04/06/2025, Joanna Panagopoulos, Page 21

Almost 95 per cent of Australian university students reported moderate to high levels of loneliness, a study has found. More than 44 per cent of 838 students surveyed also reported moderate to severe levels of physiological distress, which may be a marker for the onset of various psychological disorders such as depression, anxiety and bipolar.

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

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Choir lends voice to honour Zoe

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/06/2025, Josh Leeson, Page 6

Singing was Zoe Wright's happy place. [...] More than 480 people died by suicide in the Hunter between 2019 and 2023, according to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data.

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

Stigma, misinformation and 'a slap in the face': ADHD in pharmacy

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Megan Haggan, Page 27

In December 2024, the Albanese government released its response to the Senate Inquiry into Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) supporting only one of the subsequent report's 15 recommendations. The accepted recommendation was that: "the Commonwealth expedite the development of uniform prescribing rules to ensure consistency between state and territory jurisdictions, through the Ministerial Council on Health."

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Gen X is facing an unprecedented mental health conundrum – here's why

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/06/2025, Mia Erickson

According to a new report conducted by Medibank and News Australia's The Growth Distillery, an overwhelming majority of Gen X Aussies are tasked with caring for both their aging parents and aging children. Despite experiencing considerably more financial security, home ownership and career establishment than younger generations, the increasing financial, emotional and physical pressure to act as caretakers for the generations preceding and succeeding them is negatively impacting the mental health of Gen X Aussies.

[Read More](#)

Injury Matters delivers mental health workshops to first responders in Kununurra

West Australian, Other, 03/06/2025, Sarah Crawford

Injuries from a major road crash are more than skin deep, and in regional WA the impact on a tight community can be seismic, rippling far beyond the victims and the first emergency responders. That is what Injury Matters recovery support lead Alyson Elari has found in her tours of regional WA where she promotes the free, publicly-funded counselling service for anyone affected by road trauma.

[Read More](#)

Depersonalisation — when Nathan lost his sense of self and nothing felt real

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Alice Moldovan, Nicola Harrison & Richard Fidler

Nathan Dunne was swimming in Hampstead Heath in London in the middle of winter in 2008 when a psychological catastrophe struck him. Nathan felt his sense of self split in two, and an unbearable pain overtook him.

[Read More](#)

Midlife women with perimenopause suffer from a 'lack of awareness' when it comes to disordered eating

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Anastasia Safioleas

Sue Cody's decades-long battle with an eating disorder began when she was 22 years old and in love. [...] Pre-existing disorders triggered by the hormonal and emotional changes of perimenopause are common among the patients that psychologist Janet Lowndes sees.

[Read More](#)

Alarmist content in Australia's National Curriculum is causing an 'epidemic of climate anxiety' among kids, report warns

Sky News Australia, Other, 03/06/2025, Patrick Hannaford

Alarmist content in Australia's National Curriculum is causing an "epidemic of climate anxiety" that is robbing kids of their childhood, a new report has warned. Kids in all of Australia's states and territories are taught content from the national curriculum from the beginning of primary school, but leading educational and developmental psychologist Clare Rowe argued it is causing "real damage to the mental health of young Australians".

[Read More](#)

Can co-responder models ease the pressure on police when responding to mental health incidents?

The Mandarin, Other, 03/06/2025, Panos Karanikolas

In an emergency, police are often the first called to the scene. But they are rarely equipped to deal with complex mental health crises. Following recent parliamentary inquiries and royal commissions there has been a push — led by researchers, advocates and some senior police officials — for a shift to a health-led and paramedic-first response.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 03/06/2025, Jeremy Fernandez

The NSW Government has conceded the treatment of some mental health patients has been unacceptable, and the situation has been exacerbated by the mass resignations of public psychiatrists because of an ongoing pay dispute. Psychiatrists have told the ABC's Four Corners that mentally ill patients in serious crisis are being turned away from care and others are being discharged before it's safe to do so because of pressure to clear emergency departments.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 03/06/2025, Saskia Mabin

Interview with Beyond Blue CEO Georgie Harman on the dire situation of public mental health in NSW. Mabin says a Beyond Blue survey has found that over four million Australians are experiencing a serious mental health challenge, and rates of severe symptoms are rising. Harman says this is happening across the world because life is getting hard. She notes that the fragmented mental health system in the country is not helping.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Breakfast, 03/06/2025, Craig Reucassel

Interview with NSW Mental Health Minister Rose Jackson on the dire situation of public mental health in the state. Jackson says the system is under a lot of pressure and is struggling to deliver quality care to Australians. She notes that since COVID, the number of people experiencing mental health struggles has increased. She adds that the state's public mental health system is struggling to cope as the mental health issues become more complex.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Breakfast, 03/06/2025, Sally Sara

Interview with Black Dog Institute executive director and chief scientist Sam Harvey on the dire

situation of public mental health in NSW. Harvey says the ABC's Four Corners report was no longer surprising because everyone can see that the system is overwhelmed. He says what surprised him was the rawness of the human costs of the crisis.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Carjack of care worker

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 04/06/2025, Celeste Miller, Page 3

An aged care worker has been violently attacked at knifepoint outside a South Burnett aged care home in an early morning ambush. [...] The post claimed staff were unhappy with the response from management, and there had been growing demand for the facility to be shut down or relocated.

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

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Losing doctors to burnout – how to solve an ongoing problem

Medical Forum, Other, 03/06/2025

One in seven GPs experience it and WA junior doctors report it at moderate-to-high levels – what is causing burnout among doctors and how can it be fixed? It takes a lot to shake Dr Angela Alessandri.

[Read More](#)

ACN says Coalition needs to revisit health policy as Anne Ruston retains health

Nursing Review, Other, 03/06/2025, Stefanie Schultz

The Liberals and Nationals have reunited under a new Coalition agreement, just a week after Nationals leader David Littleproud announced the Party would hold their 15 seats in parliament independently. [...] The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) has responded to the news of Senator Ruston's reappointment to the health and aged care portfolio, while urging the Coalition to adopt a bipartisan approach to healthcare reform.

[Read More](#)

Nurses ready to strike over Qld govt pay offer

Nursing Review, Other, 03/06/2025

Tens of thousands of nurses and midwives across the state have voted to strike over Queensland Health's EB12 offer. More than 96 per cent of Queensland Nurses and Midwives' Union (QNMU) members on Monday night voted to undertake Protected Industrial Action following threats from Queensland Health to withhold eight weeks' backpay if they moved to strike.

[Read More](#)

CDU pharmacy grads first in nation to earn 'Doctor of Pharmacy' title

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 03/06/2025

Charles Darwin University (CDU) pharmacy graduates have become the first in Australia to be awarded the title of 'Doctor of Pharmacy' following recent changes to the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). The Federal Government reforms, which came into effect 1 January 2025, formally recognise extended master's programs under the AQF Level 9, allowing students to use the title

'Doctor of Pharmacy' – marking a significant advancement in acknowledging the evolving clinical responsibilities of pharmacists.

[Read More](#)

How many medical students are choosing general practice?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2025, Michelle Wisbey

The RACGP says 'early and positive exposure ... makes the choice of general practice more likely', with the profession preferred by 15% of students last year. The report found 9.4% of students preferred general practice compared to 10.6% in 2023, and 5.7% of students preferred rural generalism compared to 7.2% in the previous year's cohort.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Supporting more contraceptive options for women

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Page 10

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) has recommended listing the oral contraceptive estetrol with drospirenone (Nextstellis) on the PBS as an Unrestricted Benefit. In its decision, it referred to comments from the oral contraceptives stakeholder meeting convened in October 2024 stating that it was "important to have a range of hormonal contraceptive options available on the PBS as choice of therapy can be highly individualised".

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

What you really need to know about new cosmetic guidelines

The Australian, Other, 03/06/2025, Penny Timms

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has released long-awaited and overdue updated guidelines for accredited health professionals who work in non-surgical aesthetics, in a move it says is designed to put the "cosmetic industry on notice". But many who work in aesthetics are viewing the updated guidance as a missed opportunity.

[Read More](#)

Health regulator crackdowns on cosmetic injectables industry

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/06/2025, Eleanor Wicklund

Healthcare regulators in Australia have brought in new guidelines for dentists and nurses who perform non-surgical cosmetic injections, aiming to safeguard the public from practitioners who prioritise profits over patient safety. On Tuesday, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) released new rules requiring healthcare practitioners to undergo additional education and training before conducting cosmetic procedures such as botulinum toxin injections (Botox) and filler injections.

Also reported by: [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Health practitioner regulator gets tough on cosmetic injectable industry to protect patient safety

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Elise Worthington

The Australian health practitioner regulator has introduced sweeping new guidelines for dentists and nurses performing non-surgical cosmetic injectable procedures, in a bid to better protect the public from players putting profits ahead of patient safety. The new rules released by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) today mandate further education and training before healthcare practitioners can perform cosmetic procedures like botox and filler injections.

[Read More](#)

AHPRA broadens crackdown on cosmetic procedures

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2025, Jolyon Attwooll

It has vowed to put 'patients before profit' with new guidelines bringing other health professionals into line with medical practitioners. AHPRA has faced significant pressure to tighten up regulation covering cosmetic procedures.

[Read More](#)

3AW, Drive, 03/06/2025, Jacqui Felgate

Interview with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency CEO Justin Untersteiner on putting Australia's cosmetic industry on notice. Felgate says new procedure guidelines are banning telehealth appointments for cosmetic prescriptions to safeguard the fast-growing injectable sector, but some are saying that they will just lead to a lot more pressure for GPs. Untersteiner says they're not banning telehealth appointments. He notes that they're just reinforcing what they expect from a medical practitioner when making prescriptions for injectables.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Melbourne, Breakfast, 03/06/2025, Sharnelle Vella & Bob Murphy

Interview with Operation Redress co-founder Michael Fraser on Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's crackdown on the cosmetic injectable industry. Vella says AHPRA has released new guidelines that require nurses and dentists to complete 12 months' worth of training before they can practise. Fraser commends the move. He says in three months, cosmetics businesses should make sure their advertising is following all the guidelines.

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

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Life Matters, 03/06/2025, Hilary Harper & Beverley Wang

Interview with Deakin University associate law professor Dr Neera Bhatia on Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's concern that some health practitioners are putting profits ahead of their patients' best interests. Bhatia says many people access their superannuation early for medical treatment that is not available in the public health system. She notes that people were required to submit two medical reports, one of which must come from a medical practitioner. She thinks there's a conflict of interest in the system because doctors have a vested interest to sign off the report.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

New nasal spray could assist in treating traumatic brain injuries

The Australian, Higher Education, 04/06/2025, Joanna Panagopoulos, Page 21

A nasal spray developed by researchers at an Australian university could help treat the "ripple effects" of traumatic injuries in the brain. [...] Sports, such as AFL and NRL, accounted for just over one in five concussion hospitalisations in Australia, with others caused by transport accidents and falls.

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

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Three cups of coffee a day 'make women age better'

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2025, Rhys Blakely, Page 3

A morning coffee could help women age more healthily, a large study has suggested. The research, which tracked nearly 50,000 women for 32 years, found those who drank caffeinated coffee were significantly more likely to age well, maintaining physical, mental and cognitive health into their 70s and beyond.

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

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Genetics could be key in war on superbugs

Courier Mail, General News, 04/06/2025, Robyn Riley, Page 7

Australian researchers are improving the treatment of patients battling deadly superbugs, in a world-first study labelled a game-changer by clinicians. Researchers used genomics, the study of bacteria's genes, to precisely treat patients with dangerous bacterial infections who are suspected of having traits that made the bug resistant to antibiotics.

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

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Bacteria sent flea-ing

Herald Sun, General News, 04/06/2025, Page 6

A protein that gives fleas their bounce has been used to boot out bacteria cells, with laboratory results demonstrating the material's potential for preventing medical implant infection. The study led by researchers at RMIT University is the first reported use of antibacterial coatings made from resilin-mimetic proteins to block bacteria from attaching to a surface.

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Good carb right way to health

Herald Sun, General News, 04/06/2025, Page 19

Dieters typically recoil at the mention of carbohydrates, considering them to be the enemy of waistlines and health. But new research suggests eating the right type of carbs slows down the ageing process, helps to ward off 11 major chronic diseases and preserves physical function and good cognitive and mental health.

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

Structured exercise programs could be key

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 04/06/2025, Savannah Meacham, Page 6

Structured exercise programs could reduce colon cancer deaths by more than a third, as researchers find a game-changer way to treat the disease. A study by the University of Sydney over 17 years followed 889 colon cancer patients who had undergone surgery then chemotherapy across six countries, including Australia, Canada and the UK.

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'This would be a showstopper': Melbourne researchers make major breakthrough in battling Australia's second-biggest killer

9News, Other, 03/06/2025, Lana Murphy

Melbourne researchers have uncovered a way to help people lower their risk of cardiovascular disease by simply drinking a shake, in a major breakthrough for anyone living with low blood pressure. In a world first, researchers from Monash University uncovered a substance in the gut, known as short-chain fatty acids, that can lower blood pressure and reduce the risk of heart attack, hypertension, and stroke.

[Read More](#)

Lex Bailey: Family of late Toowoomba businessman, philanthropist to raise \$175,000 for new machine to diagnose motor neurone disease early

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/06/2025, Tom Gillespie

Legendary Toowoomba businessman Lex Bailey's life was cut short by motor neurone disease — now his family hopes to raise enough money to purchase Queensland-first technology to help fight the vicious condition. To most residents, Lex Bailey was a titan of Toowoomba business, a pillar of the community and someone who embodied all things great about the Garden City.

[Read More](#)

ABC, 7:30, 03/06/2025, Sarah Ferguson

Unlike other health concerns, little is being done to address endemic sleep issues in Australia. Last year, Flinders University conducted an intensive trial to individualise treatment for 30 people with sleep disorders. About 90% had had their clinical insomnia resolved, while 60% with sleep apnea saw significant improvement. Flinders University sleep researcher Professor Danny Eckert says investing in treatment programs would save lives and improve the nation's productivity. The Federal Government has expressed support for 2019 parliamentary inquiry recommendations, including making sleep health a national priority, a sleep health awareness campaign and upskilling of health workers, but they are yet to do any action.

Report continues on: [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#).

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Indigenous health has cash crisis

Courier Mail, General News, 04/06/2025, Isabella Pesch, Page 16

Tackling the life expectancy gap, reducing high rates of chronic disease and lowering preventable hospital admissions were vital to helping Queensland's First Nations communities, the Health Minister has urged. Speaking at the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council's statewide members conference on Tuesday, Tim Nicholls stressed how, while there had been major improvements to hospitals in remote communities and the implementation of several First Nations workforce development programs, there was "still more for us to do".

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Former Alice Springs Coles supermarket worker says Kumanjaya White clearly needed support

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Samantha Dick

A former Coles worker familiar with a young Aboriginal man who died in police custody at the Alice Springs supermarket last week says it was obvious he had a disability and needed help to do his shopping. Kumanjaya White, a 24-year-old Warlpiri man from the remote community of Yuendumu, died on Tuesday last week after plain-clothed police officers restrained him following an alleged altercation with security guards.

[Read More](#)

Queensland Health faces class action over allegations of systemic racial discrimination

SBS, Other, 03/06/2025, Carli Willis

A class action against Queensland Health has been launched in the federal court alleging systemic racism at two remote Hospital and Health Services. [...] The NWHHS and TCHHS service 47 of Queensland's most remote communities, many of which have high populations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

[Read More](#)

Project supports oral health and language revival in APY Lands

National Indigenous Times, Other, 03/06/2025, Callan Morse

A new art-driven pilot program is improving oral hygiene among Anangu children in remote communities while also strengthening the Yankunytjatjara language on the APY Lands. The Closing the Gap through Oral Hygiene and Language in Remote Australia program, an initiative of the University of Adelaide's Mobile Language Team (MLT) focuses on raising awareness about preventative dental care while preserving the Yankunytjatjara language in Iwantja and Mimili Yankunytjatjara communities on the APY Lands.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Get jab plea as flu cases rocket

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/06/2025, Gera Kazakov, Page 6

As the winter months begin, one company's chief medical officer says pressure on frontline clinicians is "rapidly intensifying" as new data shows a 311 per cent increase in flu-related requests. Updoc's chief medical officer, Dr Jamie Phillips, said the company was noticing "a significant increase in the volume of flu-related requests much earlier in the season", with a 134 per cent increase in flu-like consultation requests and 265 per cent spike in cases in Australians aged over 65.

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

Dealing with a vaccination crisis

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/06/2025, Chris Brooker, Page 59

Experts are warning Australians to take proactive steps to protect themselves from serious illnesses by getting vaccinated as fears mount of a horror flu season, compounded by declining vaccination rates in the community. Australia's chief medical officer, Professor Anthony Lawler, has issued a number of pleas ahead of the winter months urging Australians to access vaccinations for respiratory illnesses.

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Lumos passes milestone in CLIA waiver study for point-of-care respiratory test

The Australian, Other, 03/06/2025

Lumos Diagnostics has passed a major milestone in a US CLIA waiver study for its rapid point-of-care diagnostic FebriDx designed to differentiate between bacterial and non-bacterial acute respiratory infections. [...] The World Health Organization has warned that the global surge in antibiotic resistance is undermining the effectiveness of commonly used antibiotics to treat widespread bacterial infections.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Queensland government may not release taxpayer-funded drug testing review after axing service

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Emma Pollard

The Queensland government is refusing to say if it will publicly release an independent taxpayer-

funded evaluation of the state's now-axed drug checking sites. The former Labor administration commissioned the University of Queensland (UQ) to assess the services, including whether they reduced harm and contributed to early warnings about the circulation of dangerous illicit substances.

[Read More](#)

Researchers urge discussion on infant measles vaccine

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2025, Manisha Fernando

Under the National Immunisation Program, Australia currently recommends measles vaccination at 12 and 18 months. Researchers from the Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) are calling for urgent debate on the timing of measles vaccination in infants, in the context of the current global measles outbreak.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Ozempic a surgery risk

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2025, Page 9

Users of popular diabetes drugs such as Ozempic must be warned about their increased risk of a serious airway complication during surgery, Australia's regulator has ordered. [...] This increased the risk patients may "accidentally inhaling stomach contents" a serious, life-threatening complication "during general anaesthesia or deep sedation", the Therapeutic Goods Association said.

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

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Alzheimer's wonder drug shows promise

Courier Mail, General News, 04/06/2025, Greg Stolz, Page 18

Six Queenslanders are taking part in an international clinical trial for what's being billed as a potential "holy grail" treatment for Alzheimer's disease, with more being sought to take part. [...] About 220 Alzheimer's sufferers in Australia and the US are taking part in a clinical trial that Actinogen hopes could see the drug receive approval from Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration and America's Food and Drug Administration.

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

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

Tech giant sued over defective sleep aids

West Australian, Business News, 04/06/2025, Miklos Bolza, Page 20

An alleged risk of patients breathing in or swallowing small particles of foam from degrading sleep aids has prompted the Federal Government to take legal action. [...] In the lawsuit, the Therapeutic Goods Administration claims both sets of devices did not meet Australian safety standards.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#).

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

Cardiex receives TGA approval for CONNEQT Pulse arterial health monitor

The Australian, Other, 03/06/2025

Health technology company Cardiex has achieved an important milestone, receiving Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approval for its CONNEQT Pulse arterial health monitor. The device is now listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG), following earlier clearance by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

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

[Read More](#)

Surgery risk flagged for popular weight-loss, diabetes drugs in new warning

Canberra Times, Other, 03/06/2025, Ayden Dawkins

Surgery risks have been highlighted in a new warning for users of popular diabetes and weight-loss drugs, including Ozempic and Wegovy. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) said there was a "known potential" for these medicines to delay the passage of food through the stomach which adds a "potential risk" for patients under general anaesthesia or deep sedation.

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

[Read More](#)

Weight management meds, anaesthesia warning

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 03/06/2025, Megan Haggan

The TGA has required updates to medicines information documents for GLP-1 and dual GIP/GLP-1 receptor agonists, due to risk during deep sedation or anaesthesia. The Therapeutic Goods Administration has issued a statement pointing out that all medicines in these "relatively new and high-profile classes" carry this risk.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Adelaide fashion entrepreneur dies after using magic mushrooms as alternative treatment

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Kathryn Bermingham

In the lead-up to her death, Carol Foord was desperate to be healthy. The Adelaide fashion industry icon, who founded Toffs and later Wild Child Style Lab, had fought breast cancer and symptoms of motor neurone disease. In June last year, as she had done before, she turned to alternative treatments — seeking out magic mushrooms to help with anxiety.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Salmon company Huon used tonne of antibiotics in bacterial outbreak, EPA report finds

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2025, Clancy Balen

Samples of wild fish caught near a Huon Aquaculture lease in February were found to have antibiotic residue levels up to a dozen times higher than the threshold for commercially sold salmon, according to an Environment Protection Authority (EPA) report. [...] In a statement, Tasmanian Public Health Director Mark Veitch said the results were consistent with estimates used in a Food Safety Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) risk assessment.

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