



Australian Government
Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing

TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 11th June 2025

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports that state and federal health ministers will meet to discuss regulating the IVF sector after Monash IVF reported a second mix-up, implanting a woman with the wrong embryo. Health Minister Mark Butler said that the latest incident was "incredibly distressing" and never should have happened. *Also reported by: Herald Sun, Australian Financial Review*
- **[The Canberra Times](#)** (page 7) reports that Australia's independent MPs have penned a joint letter to Health Minister Mark Butler and Aged Care Minister Sam Rae, calling on the government to fund 20,000 extra aged care home support packages to address the impact of a five-month delay in implementing significant aged care changes.
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald](#)** (page 1) reports that NSW surgery waiting lists have risen to near-pandemic levels, with 100,678 patients awaiting procedures, leading the Minns government to commit an additional \$23 million to deliver 3500 extra surgeries in the next year. *Also reported by: Daily Telegraph*
- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) reports that staff at Melbourne's Northern Hospital are under investigation after a whistleblower alleged that patient arrival times had been falsified by up to an hour in order to meet strict workload targets.

- **The Courier Mail** (page 3) reports that Covid-19 and flu cases in Queensland have surged by 30 per cent in two weeks, with the highly transmissible NB.1.8.1 strain accounting for almost half of all Covid-19 cases.
- **The Australian** (page 6) reports that Queensland's Nurses and Midwives Union launched a confronting new ad campaign as part of their ongoing fight for improved pay and conditions, claiming that unfilled shifts would mean "more patients die". *Also reported by: Courier Mail*
- **The Adelaide Advertiser** (page 3) reports that the Kids Helpline has seen an influx of calls from children and teenagers distressed about bullying or blackmail arising from AI-generated pornography.
- **ABC Online** reports that Australian researchers have developed a groundbreaking new blood test which they say can diagnose coeliac disease without requiring patients to first undergo weeks of gluten consumption. *Also reported by: The Guardian, 9News*
- **The Guardian** reports that economists have called for the tobacco excise rate to be frozen or reduced, arguing that its effectiveness has diminished due to the rise of illegal tobacco. Health Minister Mark Butler has ruled out dropping the excise, advocating instead for stronger enforcement.

MINISTER BUTLER

Second Monash embryo debacle

The Australian, General News, 11/06/2025, Stephen Lunn, Page 1

State and federal health ministers will meet on Friday to urgently discuss regulation of the IVF sector after listed fertility company Monash IVF reported a second mix-up that resulted in the wrong embryo being implanted in a woman. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler described the event as "incredibly distressing", while his Victorian counterpart, Mary-Anne Thomas, said it was "completely unacceptable".

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

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New IVF blunder

Herald Sun, General News, 11/06/2025, Robyn Riley & Sarah Booth, Page 1

Monash IVF is at the centre of another embryo mix-up, and is now under investigation by the Victorian regulator. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler slammed the mixup and announced he expected Monash IVF to release the findings of their investigation.

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

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Like pack of lemmings, we are racing off a fiscal cliff

Herald Sun, General News, 11/06/2025, Jeff Kennett, Page 23

I am an optimist. But I am increasingly depressed by the way politicians and some others are discharging their responsibilities. [...] Minister Mark Butler must act quickly and decisively.

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

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Independents unite over aged care delay

Canberra Times, General News, 11/06/2025, Saffron Howden, Page 7

In their first flex of group political muscle since the federal election, Australia's independent MPs have teamed up to call on the government to fund - within weeks - at least 20,000 extra aged care home support packages. [...] "Research shows that the longer people go without appropriate home care supports, the higher their risk of injury or hospitalisation," the MPs said in a June 10 letter to Health Minister Mark Butler and Aged Care Minister Sam Rae.

Also reported by: [Tasmanian Examiner \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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Aged-care relief

Seniors Today, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 1

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Tobacco excise isn't making Australians smoke less and should be frozen to curb black market, economists say

The Guardian, Other, 11/06/2025, Patrick Commins

Economists say the tobacco excise rate is too high, is not lowering smoking rates and should be frozen or even "radically" reduced as a way to address the soaring black market trade in cigarettes. [...] Jim Chalmers and the federal health minister, Mark Butler, have both ruled out lowering the excise, arguing it will do nothing to reduce the illegal tobacco trade.

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How the Albanese Government could build a meaningful legacy for health

Croakey, Other, 10/06/2025, Melissa Sweet

Since the Federal election, Minister Mark Butler has given media interviews on health, disability and aged care policy, with topics including Urgent Care Clinics, the crisis in private healthcare, and the NDIS. On specific health conditions, he's discussed heart disease, COVID, bowel cancer and motor neurone disease.

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When the NDIS becomes the only option: families are flooding the scheme

Disability Support Guide, Other, 10/06/2025

Many are wondering about the viability of the National Disability Insurance Scheme as the Australian Government has announced a delay in rolling out new 'foundational supports.' [...] Incoming Minister for the NDIS Mark Butler confirmed that foundational supports will not begin on July 1 and are instead delayed, likely until the end of 2025.

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Aged Care Act delay leaves 83,000 Support at Home packages in limbo

HelloCare, Other, 10/06/2025, Jakob Neeland

More than 83,000 Support at Home packages, designed to help elderly Australians stay in their homes and avoid aged care facilities, have been delayed yet again, with the rollout now pushed back to 1 November 2025. [...] However, the four-month delay, announced by Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae at the Ageing Australia Victoria State Conference on 10 June 2025, comes amid urgent concerns about readiness, funding, and the programme's design.

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Aged Care Act deferred to Nov 1

Nursing Review, Other, 10/06/2025, Stefanie Schultz

Following advice from the sector, the Albanese government will recommend the Governor-General defer the commencement of the new Aged Care Act by four months. The delay by the Department of Health and Aged Care (DoHAC) will allow more time for providers to prepare for the extensive reforms by setting a new deadline of November 1 2025.

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Laurie, 91, told she will not be able to access a Home Care Package for 13 months as 83,000 packages delayed four months

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/06/2025, Ian Horswill

91-year-old Laurie Sucic, of Narraweena, 18km northeast of Sydney's CBD, is one of the over 90,000 people who have been assessed and waiting for a Home Care Package. [...] The announcement by Health and Ageing Minister Mark Butler that the rollout of 83,000 new Home Care Packages meant to begin on 1 July 2025 was being delayed until 1 November 2025, will not improve Laurie's situation.

[Read More](#)

ABC, 7:30, 10/06/2025, David Speers

The Toowong Private Hospital in Brisbane will close tomorrow after providing much-needed psychiatric care for thousands of vulnerable patients for almost 50 years. The family-owned hospital went into voluntary administration in mid-May after failing to find a buyer. Australian Private Hospitals Association CEO Brett Heffernan says the hospital has also been crippled by the soaring cost of providing treatment as private health insurers refused to pay market rates. In a statement, Health Minister Mark Butler said he had called for insurers to urgently increase the amount they pay out for hospital services. He will also look at what regulatory actions he can take.

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

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2SM, Afternoons, 10/06/2025, Pete Davis

Davis says NZ Associate Health Minister Casey Costello has called Australia's tobacco policy a failure. He notes that Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has fired back and defended Australia's strategy. He says both countries have seen smoking rates fall, but vaping concerns persist.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Drive, 10/06/2025, Ellen Fanning

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says it's incredibly distressing to learn of a second embryo bungle at Monash IVF. Two months ago, Monash IVF apologised over an incident in Queensland, in which a woman unknowingly gave birth to a stranger's baby. Now, the company has admitted it transferred the wrong embryo to a patient in a procedure in Melbourne last week.

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ABC Radio Canberra, PM, 10/06/2025, Samantha Donovan

Monash IVF has admitted a second embryo bungle, prompting those who are going through IVF to call for better regulation of the sector. Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas says it's unacceptable, and the state's Health Regulator will begin an immediate investigation. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has also flagged more regulation of the IVF sector on the agenda for this week's Health Ministers' Meeting.

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ABC Radio Melbourne, 13:00 News, 10/06/2025

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the regulation of the IVF sector will be discussed by Australia's health ministers after Monash IVF reported a second embryo mismanagement.

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MINISTER WELLS

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

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MINISTER RAE

Independents unite over aged care delay

Canberra Times, General News, 11/06/2025, Saffron Howden, Page 7

In their first flex of group political muscle since the federal election, Australia's independent MPs have teamed up to call on the government to fund - within weeks - at least 20,000 extra aged care home support packages. [...] "Research shows that the longer people go without appropriate home care supports, the higher their risk of injury or hospitalisation," the MPs said in a June 10 letter to Health Minister Mark Butler and Aged Care Minister Sam Rae.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

2SM, Breakfast, 10/06/2025, Ron Wilson

Wilson says his local MP, Dan Repacholi, has been appointed special envoy for men's health, and comments on the need for such a position, highlighting the tendency for men to put off getting important health checks, or speak about their own mental health.

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DEPARTMENT

New England aged care facilities rate well

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 11/06/2025, Jonathan Hawes, Page 3

While aged care facilities in the New England region have rated well, a government report shows there's room for improvement. Last week, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) updated its quarterly Star Ratings report - the report assigns one-to-five star ratings for all government-funded aged care homes.

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Time for men to step up

Parra News, General News, 10/06/2025, Ally Hall, Page 3

Men's Health Week runs from June 9 to 15 and spotlights the key health challenges facing men and boys across Australia. Western Sydney University (WSU) plays a large role in the awareness-raising week alongside Healthy Male with funding from the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

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Group aims to guide sector collaboration

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/06/2025

Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia has established an advisory group of 16 leaders and policy makers to guide the Aged Care Collaborative initiatives and ARIIA's two flagship projects. [...] The Aged Care Collaborative is supported through funding from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

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Allied health not an 'optional extra'

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/06/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

The nation's Chief Allied Health Officer emphasised to Positive Ageing Summit delegates the crucial role allied health professionals play in allowing older people to live optimally while a panel discussion highlighted the need to move to a wellness-based model. The Short-Term Restorative Care Program is being replaced by a new restorative care pathway under Support at Home, Australia's Chief Allied Health Officer Anita Hobson-Powell reminded the Positive Ageing Summit day 1 audience.

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Nutrition core in holistic approach to ageing

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/06/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Nutrition plays a central role in positive ageing, nutrition experts Yvonne Feeley and Kylie Walton reminded providers, carers and consumers, encouraging them to spend more time with older people at

mealtimes and to turn it into an opportunity for socialising. [...] Also speaking at day 2, assistant secretary, choice and transparency branch at the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing Ingrid Leonard emphasised the department's commitment to boosting nutrition outcomes in aged care – saying she is immensely proud of the strengthened standards relating to food.

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Council leaders to converge in Canberra

Council Magazine, Other, 10/06/2025, Kody Cook

More than 1,200 mayors, shire presidents, councillors and local government leaders from across the nation will converge in Canberra this month for the 31st National General Assembly (NGA). [...] Keynote speakers for the forum include leading social commentator and demographer Bernard Salt, National Rural Health Commissioner Professor Jenny May and road safety expert Kenn Beer.

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Headspace not the answer, say docs

Health Services Daily, Other, 10/06/2025, Holly Payne

Opening more headspace clinics is unlikely to fix the struggling youth mental health system. [...] Commissioned by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, the consortium project is being led by youth mental health policy think tank Orygen.

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Financial snapshot: Residential aged care bouncing back in Q2

HelloCare, Other, 10/06/2025, Jakob Neeland

The Australian aged care sector is experiencing a remarkable financial turnaround, particularly in residential care, as detailed in the Quarterly Financial Snapshot (QFS) for October to December 2024, released last week by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. With a year-to-date (YTD) net profit before tax (NPBT) soaring by \$433.5 million, a striking 143.2% increase, to \$736.2 million compared to Q2 2023-24, the residential sector is showing signs of robust recovery.

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What makes a good aged care home? We asked a 'star' in our region

Moree Champion, Other, 10/06/2025, Jonathan Hawes

While aged care facilities in the New England region have rated well, a government report shows there's room for improvement. Last week, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) updated its quarterly Star Ratings report - the report assigns one-to-five star ratings for all government-funded aged care homes.

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RACGP CDM changes: A recap on what we know so far

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/06/2025, Michelle Wisbey

With new Medicare items going live on 1 July, experts walk GPs through the billing, workflow, care team, and software changes it will create. [...] The RACGP requested further information from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DoHDA) about transition and compliance arrangements following the webinar, and has indicated that it will share this information with members once received.

[Read More](#)

Other fun names for the incoming bulk-billing PIP

Big Big PIP is apparently off the cards, but what about Beautiful Bouncing PIP? Your move, DoHDA. Last month, we misheard the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's pet name for the bulk-billing incentive payment.

[Read More](#)

Health signs \$33m networks deal with Optus

WEB IT News Australia, Other, 10/06/2025, Eleanor Dickinson

The federal Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has signed a \$33 million deal with Optus for a managed network-as-a-service offering. Under the three-year contract, Optus will supply voice and data carriage and mobile services, alongside SD-WAN and secure access service edge or SASE.

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VACCINES

Urgent push for vaccines

Courier Mail, General News, 11/06/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 3

Queenslanders are rapidly falling ill as temperatures plummet, with Covid-19 infections soaring 30 per cent in a fortnight while flu cases also surged 30 per cent compared to the year before. The new data has prompted Mater's Infectious Diseases Director Professor Paul Griffin to call on Queenslanders to get their Covid-19 and flu jabs, which can be done at the same time.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

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Plan T: important 'transformation' required in the care system to support village residents (and operators)

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/06/2025, Chris Baynes

StewartBrown research now states the average age of residents in retirement villages is 80 and the average age of departure is now 86; villages are firmly part of the care system – which is broken. Village operators need to support Plan T, the transformation of the aged care system.

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ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 10/06/2025, Rory McClaren

Interview with Paul Sadler, independent aged care consultant on the Federal Government's decision to delay major aged care reforms. Sadler says the government isn't ready yet, with the key aspects of aged care rules under the new Aged Care Act yet to be published. He adds that providers are also not ready because they don't have sufficient information. He notes that the older people are yet to be informed about the changes and how those changes will affect them.

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DISABILITY

Young boy with disabilities placed in house 'similar to a correctional facility' due to lack of secure care, whistleblower claims

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Eden Gillespie

A 12-year-old boy with a disability alleged to be the victim of indecent treatment in Cairns watch house has been flown to Brisbane and placed in housing "similar to a correctional facility", according to a whistleblower familiar with the case. The ABC understands the boy was placed in Wacol's forensic disability precinct in a house with alarms and an internal locking system, often used for people who demonstrate high-risk behaviour.

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When the NDIS becomes the only option: families are flooding the scheme

Disability Support Guide, Other, 10/06/2025

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POPULATION HEALTH

Kids' smartphone use soars

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/06/2025, Jordan Baker, Page 3

Screen time among Australian primary schoolers has ballooned to six-and-a-half hours a day, according to new research that also finds one in 10 uses their smartphone at problematic levels. The study of students in years four to eight found that average daily screen time for junior high schoolers was nine hours a day.

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

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Fancy a mid-strength Shiraz?

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 11

Anyone for a mid-strength Penfolds Shiraz or passionfruit Prosecco? Penfolds owner Treasury Wine Estates is set to release a new range of no and low-alcohol (NOLO) wine varieties to tap into health-conscious drinkers following the unveiling of a new production facility in South Australia.

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

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Cheap can be nasty for your nutrition

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 11/06/2025, Anooska Tucker-Evans, Page 9

Taste and nutrition are on the chopping block as Australians have started sacrificing both in favour of price, with cost-of-living pressures hitting grocery bills hard. Exclusive polling has revealed 55 per cent of Australians prioritised price over all other factors when making food choices at the supermarket, with just 29 per cent considering nutrition and health and 51 per cent placing the most importance on flavour.

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Half of men delay health checks in 'silent crisis'

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 6

Cost pressures drive Australian men to delay health checks and stretch their medication, with research revealing half postpone medical appointments. About one in 10 men have also reduced or skipped prescribed doses to make their medication last longer, according to findings released by the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

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Screen time warning: the bad habit driving increasing rates of childhood anxiety, aggression

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 10/06/2025, Rebecca Borg

Parents might want to think twice before using mobile devices to quickly soothe toddlers, after new research found this practice could be contributing to a 'vicious cycle' of behavioural issues. Children who turn to screens as a coping mechanism could be heightening their risk of developing aggression, anxiety, depression and attention difficulties, an Australian Catholic University study suggests.

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

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Illicit tobacco crop discovered near Shepparton after tip-off

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Charmaine Manuel

Officers from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and Victoria Police have seized and destroyed \$4.4 million worth of illegally-grown tobacco near Shepparton in Victoria's north. A community tip-off led to the discovery of a 20-tonne crop of mature tobacco on 2.4 hectares, an area equivalent to more than 450 tennis courts, last Thursday.

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Tobacco excise isn't making Australians smoke less and should be frozen to curb black market, economists say

The Guardian, Other, 11/06/2025, Patrick Commins

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LGBTQ+ patients stay up-to-date on preventive care when their doctors are supportive, saving money and lives throughout society

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 11/06/2025, Nathaniel M. Tran

When LGBTQ+ patients are unsure if they can be open about their identity and related health needs, it becomes more difficult for them to access high-quality health care. In our recently published research, my colleagues and I found that how LGBTQ+ people are treated at the doctor's office has a measurable effect on whether they stay up to date with lifesaving preventive care like flu shots, colorectal cancer screenings and HIV testing.

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Pharmacists lack vaping support

Government's vaping policy needs more structured professional education and clearer public health messaging, pharmacists say. Pharmacists remain concerned about the safety of vaping products and "regulatory grey areas" around their supply, a study finds.

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Aussies say prevention is key to health

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 10/06/2025

NAB Health's annual health insights report has revealed how Australians feel about their health, how they manage it and the challenges that they face. One in two people (47%) live with an ongoing medical condition, rising to more than three-quarters (78%) among the over-65s, according to the report.

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FIVEAA, Mornings, 10/06/2025, Graeme Goodings

Interview with Andrea Michaels, SA Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs on new tobacco laws. Michaels says they've made the laws tougher than they've ever been, with penalties of up to \$6.6m. She says they've also given police extra powers to crack down on illegal trade and shut down shops.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

NSW deputy steps back after breast cancer diagnosis

Canberra Times, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 5

A deputy premier is facing her second cancer battle in three years as colleagues back in the "toughest and most resilient" member of their team. [...] Breast Cancer Network Australia chief executive Kirsten Pilatti said Ms Car was one of the 58 Australians diagnosed with the condition each day.

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

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I thought I found the answer to my chronic eczema but the 'cure' from doctors gave me an even worse condition

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 10/06/2025, Ashley Nickel

A woman struggling with eczema has lashed out at the doctors who prescribed her strong medications that left her with a worse condition. [...] Eczema is among Australia's top 10 chronic health conditions affecting 2.8 million people, including one in three children under six.

[Read More](#)

Huge cancer risk linked to bad habit that thousands of Australians are doing daily

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 10/06/2025, Caitlin Powell

The recent rise in cancer among younger people has sparked all manner of speculation about what new factors lie behind it, but a fresh study has found that two longstanding culprits - drinking and smoking - take most of the blame. A major, global report revealed the combination of drinking and smoking raises the risk of colorectal cancer in under-50s.

[Read More](#)

'I spent years finding a GP that would listen. Then, one asked me a question that brought me to tears.'

Mamamia, Other, 10/06/2025, Claire Murphy

I blamed myself for the pain for so long. I blamed myself for not being able to fix it, and the reason I

blamed myself was because I was fat. [...] Now I was (according to the bullsh*t BMI) morbidly obese, and for anyone who has ever been overweight or who is currently, you know what it means to see a doctor with any health issues.

[Read More](#)

Sleep apnoea screening tool 'holds promise'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/06/2025, Jolyon Attwooll

A new questionnaire for use in general practice could help address gaps in diagnosis – but questions remain. Obstructive sleep apnoea is a common sleep disorder, particularly among older adults.

[Read More](#)

2GB, Afternoons, 10/06/2025, Michael McLaren

Interview with NeuroAudiology Australia director Mo Helou on Australia's hearing loss crisis. Helou says Australia has an ageing population that's why hearing loss statistics are higher in the country. He notes that they're trying to reach as many patients in nursing homes as possible but there's a shortage of audiologist.

Interview continues on: [2GB \(Sydney\)](#).

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PRIMARY CARE

Monash IVF admits to second bungle

Australian Financial Review, General News, 11/06/2025, Euan Black, Page 1

Monash IVF investors are demanding the ASX-listed fertility giant's management explain an embryo mix-up at its Melbourne laboratory - the second that the company has been forced to disclose in three months.

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

Monash IVF needs a miracle

Australian Financial Review, General News, 11/06/2025, James Thomson, Page 1

It will surely take a minor miracle for Monash IVF to emerge from the crisis engulfing the company in its current form. Shareholders fled the group's share register on Tuesday after it revealed it had mistakenly transferred the wrong embryo to a patient.

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

Surgery waiting lists soar

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/06/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 1

Thousands of patients are overdue for time-critical procedures as surgery waiting lists rise to levels not seen since the pandemic, forcing the NSW government to pour another \$23 million into the state's hospitals to avoid breaking a postelection promise. The performance data, released today, follow a two-year effort by the Minns government to slash waiting lists and will place further pressure on public hospitals to tackle the problem, after doctors accused hospital administrators of "buffing the numbers" to meet their publicly reported targets.

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Long surgical waitlists are a system failure

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 11/06/2025, Page 20

In a grim failure that threatens the NSW health system, the Minns government has been unable to maintain its early momentum to reduce elective surgery waiting hospital lists. After some initial success cutting the backlog, waiting lists have crept back close to COVID-19 pandemic levels, thanks to rising demand from the state's ageing and increasingly unwell population.

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

Hospital to drop specialty paediatric services

Age, General News, 11/06/2025, Broede Carmody & Henrietta Cook, Page 3

Seriously ill children who present at a major hospital in Melbourne's eastern suburbs will soon be transported to another site 20 minutes away as part of a contentious move to improve the health service's "financial stability". From November there will be no paediatricians working at the hospital.

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

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Big queues for surgery

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/06/2025, Elizabeth Pike, Page 1

More people are waiting for elective surgery now than at any time outside of the Covid pandemic as waitlists blow out across the state, damning new health data has revealed. The number of patients who have waited longer than clinically recommended for elective surgery also jumped by 151 per cent to 8587 patients by the end of March compared to the same time last year, according to shocking Bureau of Health Information figures.

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

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Hospital fraud scandal

Herald Sun, General News, 11/06/2025, Shannon Deery, Page 1

Damning allegations that staff at Victoria's busiest emergency department have been falsifying records to meet strict new workload targets are being investigated by the Department of Health. A Northern Hospital whistleblower has claimed staff routinely change records - a practice dubbed "data washing" - to show patients being offloaded from ambulances within target times.

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

Ambo clamp on high-risk acts

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/06/2025, Zizi Averill & Lottie Hood, Page 4

Paramedics have been barred from performing two "lifesaving" but high-risk procedures in the Territory due to a lack of oversight in the critical frontline health service. The NT News has obtained a letter from the St John NT Ambulance Services director Andrew Thomas to all staff confirming the immediate suspension of two "high acuity, low occurrence" medical procedures.

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

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

Elective surgery results reveal toll on staff

Newcastle Herald, General News, 11/06/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 11

The amount of elective surgeries performed on time in the Hunter New England health district fell to 75.6 per cent in the January-March quarter, the worst result on record. Five years ago, this figure was 98.5 per cent, a Bureau of Health Information quarterly report, released yesterday, showed.

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Research reveals app saves lives of people having a cardiac arrest

Shepparton News, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 7

In an Australian-first, Ambulance Victoria researchers have confirmed that smartphone-activated volunteer responder programs increase the likelihood of survival for cardiac arrest patients. A case study covering 9000 cases of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, conducted by Ambulance Victoria, determined that survival to hospital discharge was 37 per cent more likely when GoodSAM responders arrived before paramedics.

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

Lex's Legacy supports Hospital Toowoomba Hospital

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 11/06/2025, Tom Gillespie, Page 5

Toowoomba and Darling Downs residents will soon get access to potentially life-saving medical technology, thanks to a \$175,000 fundraising effort dedicated to the memory of legendary businessman Lex Bailey. Lex's Legacy, spearheaded by his daughter Amelia and a group of volunteers, secured enough funds over the weekend to purchase a transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) machine and base it at Toowoomba Hospital.

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

Albanese opens search for ideas to shape second-term agenda

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Tom Crowley

Anthony Albanese will convene experts, unions and business leaders in Canberra later this year to brainstorm ideas for economic growth, as his government seeks a reform agenda to capitalise on its new-found parliamentary dominance. [...] Mr Albanese also outlined a timeline for implementing the government's election policies, with 5 per cent home deposits slated to take effect "by next year" and all of the promised 50 new Medicare Urgent Care Clinics open by the mid-2026.

[Read More](#)

Paediatric cardiologist under 'intense pressure' in Far North Queensland

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Christopher Testa

Medical advocacy groups and a national charity are backing a call from parents for a second paediatric cardiologist to be appointed in Queensland's vast far north. Some patients are waiting almost a year to see a paediatric cardiologist in the region, where the rate of rheumatic heart disease in children under 14 is about 30 times higher than the state average.

[Read More](#)

PM commits to 'lasting change' in second-term agenda

Canberra Times, Other, 10/06/2025, Andrew Brown

Anthony Albanese has pledged to implement lasting and meaningful change in his second term as prime minister, promising his government can meet the moment against challenging circumstances. [...] The prime minister said promises of expanding urgent care clinics, cheaper childcare and an increase in affordable housing would remain central to his government's commitments.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Albury hospital short stay beds will soon be operational, but not all of them

The Border Mail, Other, 10/06/2025, Madilyn McKinley

The Victoria government has revealed nine out of 16 new beds in the hospital's short stay unit will be functioning in July, but a date is not yet confirmed. "These new beds will help ease pressure on the busy emergency department and will mean that the border community can access more care, closer to home," a Victorian government spokesperson said.

[Read More](#)

Taking the pressure off wounds – new guidance for health practitioners

Medical Forum, Other, 10/06/2025

Once referred to as bed sores, pressure injuries can have a profound impact on health, even leading to death, as well as costing billions of dollars to treat. Now there is new expert advice on how to prevent and manage them.

[Read More](#)

Is the private hospital system collapsing? Here's what the sector's financial instability means

Nursing Review, Other, 10/06/2025, Yuting Zhang

Toowong Private Hospital in Brisbane is the latest hospital to succumb to financial pressures and will close its doors this week. The Australian Private Hospitals Association attributes the psychiatric

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Kids call for help on fake nudes

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/06/2025, Lauren Novak, Page 3

Teenagers being blackmailed with AI-generated pornography are among desperate callers to the national kids counselling hotline. The Advertiser can reveal cases of young Australians telling Kids Helpline this year that they, or their friends, are the victim of bullying or blackmail using "deepfake" images.

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

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Ensuring we can keep on truckin'

Canberra Times, General News, 11/06/2025, Shane Jacobson, Page 15

They're part of a much bigger community: more than half a million Australians who work in transport, warehousing and logistics - many of them based in regional and remote areas where support services are scarce. [...] It's the biggest employer of men in the country. But it also ranks last for mental health.

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

Sad reality

Cairns Post, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 12

It is a blight on the system that a mum-to-be who lost her brother and her partner within weeks of one another, cannot get an appointment to see a psychologist. [...] That is despite being so traumatised she was throwing up, and was referred to a psychologist by a GP.

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

Life-saving support

Launceston Examiner, General News, 11/06/2025, Bailey Forbes, Page 1

Six years ago, Peter Duggan reached out to the Salvation Army. He had struggled with his mental health for more than 20 years, describing it as "up and down".

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

Psychiatric patients don't know where to turn as Toowong Private Hospital gets set to close its doors

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Antonia O'Flaherty

Cain Chambers knows he would not be alive if it wasn't for Toowong Private Hospital. [...] As one of three major private psychiatric hospitals in central Brisbane, the family-owned facility has been a lifeline in Brisbane's inner-west for almost 50 years, treating thousands of patients.

[Read More](#)

Patients call on Queensland government to step in and save embattled Toowong Private Hospital

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Emma Pollard & Janelle Miles

The Queensland government is facing desperate pleas to make an 11th-hour bid to save Toowong Private Hospital, with patients describing the mental health facility as life-changing. Eliza Johnston, 34, said the hospital had saved her life "on numerous occasions".

[Read More](#)

After Chelsea's mother died in an unsafe cell the coroner delivered a scathing message

The Guardian, Other, 11/06/2025, Ariel Bogle & Christopher Knaus

In November last year a coroner issued a scathing message to the Western Australian government. In a report handed down into yet another suicide in the state's jails, Michael Jenkin upbraided the government for its "painfully slow progress" on removing deadly hanging points from prison cells, calling it "a serious and unacceptable blight".

[Read More](#)

Crossbenchers call for federal intervention after 'deeply shocking' revelations about prison deaths

The Guardian, Other, 10/06/2025, Ariel Bogle & Christopher Knaus

Key crossbenchers have called for the federal government to intervene to drive reforms to state prison systems after revelations that 57 Australians died from hanging points that were known to authorities but not removed. A Guardian Australia investigation on Tuesday revealed that inaction to remove known hanging points from 19 prisons across the country had caused a shocking death toll, more than 30 years after state governments promised to make prisons safe in the wake of the Aboriginal deaths in custody royal commission.

[Read More](#)

Headspace not the answer, say docs

Health Services Daily, Other, 10/06/2025, Holly Payne

Opening more headspace clinics is unlikely to fix the struggling youth mental health system. [...] Commissioned by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, the consortium project is being led by youth mental health policy think tank Orygen.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 10/06/2025, Sharyn Ghidella

QIMR Berghofer researchers are leading the world with an MRI-targeted treatment for depression. The treatment uses MRI to guide transcranial magnetic stimulation therapy in a more targeted way.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Afternoons, 10/06/2025, Tony Moclair

Interview with Happy Families podcast host Dr Justin Coulson on an Australian Catholic University study that has found the link between excessive screen time and increased rates of anxiety, depression and aggression. Moclair says parents are being urged to avoid screens as a quick fix to combat toddler tantrums. Coulson says screens impact the child's brain growth and development. He says according to research, children who are exposed to high levels of screen have less grey matter.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Patients will die: Nurses up ante in pay dispute

The Australian, General News, 11/06/2025, Mackenzie Scott, Page 6

Queensland's nurses and midwives union has ramped up its campaign for better pay and conditions with a new ad campaign saying patients will die. The Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union which

last week waged industrial action for the first time in two decades warned that frontline health workers would flee the service to take higher-paying jobs interstate if the Crisafulli government did not improve its enterprise bargaining offer.

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

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Nurses ramp up pay war

Courier Mail, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 5

A better pay deal for nurses and midwives will "save lives" according to a new major advertising blitz launched by the sector's powerful union. It is the latest escalation in a wage deal war between the state government and the Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union, which is seeking the "nation leading pay and conditions" they were promised by the LNP.

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Nurses protest crackdown on injectables

Courier Mail, General News, 11/06/2025, Tayla Couacaud, Page 4

Cosmetic nurses protested outside parliament in Brisbane Tuesday morning after a state government-enforced crackdown on injectables. The latest move to tighten regulations has prompted some clinics to pause injectable services while they assess compliance with new interpretations of the Medicines and Poisons Act.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Sector needs to be 'psychologically safe'

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/06/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Workforce retention in aged care is crucial but there also needs to be practical solutions for people working in governance and executive positions to avoid burnout now that the reforms have been delayed. Much sector attention and strategising rightfully focuses on ways to attract and retain aged care workers, particularly for providers operating in regional and remote areas.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 10/06/2025, Tiffany Warne

Hundreds of allied health workers have gathered at the steps of the Royal Adelaide Hospital to fight for better pay and conditions. They are demanding a separate allied health enterprise agreement for professionals, including radiographers, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, psychologists and sonographers.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

This \$50m medical scribe start-up may be the cure for admin pain

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 11/06/2025, Amelia McGuire, Page 19

It wasn't so long ago that millions of Australians chose to opt out of the governments My Health Record, a scheme which allowed doctors to centralise patient information in a shared database, over privacy concerns.

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Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 10/06/2025, Ashleigh Gillon

Interview with Associate Professor Zongyuan Ge, Monash University's Department of Data Science & AI on a new artificial intelligence-powered tool that helps boost diagnosis accuracy. Ge says PanDerm was specifically built to assist with real-world dermatological and medical practise by analysing multiple types of images.

Interview continues on: [Sky News Live \(Sydney\)](#).

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Queensland cosmetic nurses warn storage rules could shut down clinics, push patients underground

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Laura LaVelle

Megan McRae took the leap last year to open her small cosmetic injectable clinic in Brisbane after more than three decades as a registered nurse, and seven years as an injector. [...] It comes a week after the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency introduced sweeping new industry guidelines for dentists and nurses working with injectables.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, A Current Affair, 10/06/2025, Peter Overton

Patients are now paying the price despite receiving an incomplete dental work after SuperCare Dental went into administration. SuperCare Dental has lured customers by offering an option to pay with superannuation. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, along with the Dental and Medical Boards of Australia, have put some practitioners on notice for potentially predatory practises.

Report continues on: [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#).

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Car urges cancer tests

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 10

NSW Deputy Premier Prue Car has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will be "taking personal leave for an undetermined period". [...] Ms Car said she looked "forward to returning" and urged women to get breast cancer screenings, saying she was "extremely grateful for early detection".

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

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

NSW deputy premier Prue Car reveals breast cancer diagnosis and will take time off to 'fight this'

The Guardian, Other, 10/06/2025

The deputy premier of New South Wales has revealed she has breast cancer and is taking time out to undergo treatment. [...] "Breast cancer screenings are vital for early detection and treatment, and I strongly encourage all women to stay up to date with their checks," Car said.

[Read More](#)

Deputy Premier of NSW Prue Car reveals breast cancer diagnosis as she takes leave for treatment

7news.com.au, Other, 10/06/2025, Hayley Taylor

Prue Car, NSW Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning, has announced she has breast cancer. [...] "Breast cancer screenings are vital for early detection and treatment, and I strongly encourage all women to stay up to date with their checks," Car said.

[Read More](#)

The health checks men should do at every age

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/06/2025, Mia Erickson

Boys, there's no time like the present! As we kick off Men's Health Week, new data exploring the state of men's health in Australia has experts pleading with the public to take their well-being seriously.

[Read More](#)

4BC, Drive, 10/06/2025, Gary Hardgrave

Interview with Kidney Health Australia's General Manager of Clinical and Research Breonny Robson on the importance of early detection of chronic kidney disease. Robson says almost three million people in Australia are living with signs of kidney disease, and up to 2.5 million of them do not know they have the condition. She notes that people with diabetes and high blood pressure are at risk of having chronic kidney disease, so they should ask for a kidney check with their GPs.

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SPORT

Student wins \$276,000 in damages over long jump

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/06/2025, David Barwel, Page 3

A primary school student who was left with serious injuries after jumping in a sandpit at a north shore primary school has been awarded more than \$270,000 in damages after a lengthy battle against the NSW government. [...] The court noted safety guidelines published by Little Athletics Australia recommended raking and levelling the sand in the landing pit after every jump.

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Cummins pitches final for Australia

Courier Mail, General News, 11/06/2025, Peter Rolfe, Page 4

Aussie captain Pat Cummins has called for the World Test Championship final to be staged Down Under for the first time and a shake-up of hosting rights for the cricket tournament. Australia will on Wednesday attempt to defend its WTC crown in a showdown with South Africa at Lord's in London.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#)

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Sexism stops a match

Herald Sun, General News, 11/06/2025, Shane Jones & Brayden May, Page 2

A country footy club in northwest Victoria has been rocked by allegations of sexual harassment and misogynistic behaviour. Werrimull Football Netball Club, which competes in the Millewa Football Netball League, outside of Mildura, had its centenary celebrations overshadowed by the allegations, which resulted in its women's team forfeiting its game on the weekend.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

The commute that helps your body and brain

Age, General News, 11/06/2025, Robyn Willis, Page 7

When Alison McCormack moved to Melbourne after a stint in London, she knew she needed to improve her fitness. "I didn't have any regular exercise as part of my routine," she says.

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The fix at our fingertips

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/06/2025, Genevieve Holding, Page 9

A Tasmanian team of researchers is aiming to develop groundbreaking technology that could transform care for patients with chronic kidney disease, with Tasmania home to the highest rate of the illness nationally. Tasmania's rates of chronic kidney disease currently sit at 12.5 per cent, with an increasing number of these patients and patients nationally choosing to undergo dialysis at home.

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Depression milestone

Cairns Post, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 9

Medical researchers at QIMR Berghofer have achieved a significant milestone in the treatment of depression. Over the past three years, the team has treated individuals with depression by scanning their brains via MRI then offering 20-30 personalised brain stimulation treatments over several weeks.

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

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

WA-led study offers alternative treatment for bladder cancer patients amid immunotherapy shortage

West Australian, Other, 10/06/2025, Claire Sadler

When Jack Taylor was diagnosed with high-risk bladder cancer at only 20 years old, being told there was a shortage of the potentially life-saving drug he needed was an extra blow. [...] However, a West Australian-led trial could solve the issue, with the results revealing using the chemotherapy drug mitomycin on top of BCG — meaning not as much of the drug was needed — was a safe and effective alternative treatment.

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

[Read More](#)

New coeliac disease blood test set to enable diagnosis on gluten-free diets

ABC Online, Other, 10/06/2025, Anna McGuinness, Sarah Lawrence & Shannon Schubert

Eating gluten was making Eliza Long sick, but it was the only way for her to get a life-altering diagnosis. Aged 11, she underwent a gastroscopy at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, with a biopsy revealing she had coeliac disease.

[Read More](#)

New blood test for coeliac disease can diagnose autoimmune condition without need to eat gluten

The Guardian, Other, 10/06/2025, Natasha May

Coeliacs may soon no longer need to eat large amounts of gluten – the very thing suspected of making them sick – to get an accurate diagnosis. Australian research published on Tuesday in the journal Gastroenterology showed a blood test for gluten-specific T cells had a high accuracy in diagnosing coeliac disease, even when no gluten was eaten.

[Read More](#)

Melbourne researchers develop 'game-changer' new test to diagnose coeliac disease

9News, Other, 11/06/2025, Eliza Rugg

Melbourne researchers have developed a "game changer" new blood test to replace the painful process of detecting coeliac disease. It is estimated that more than 350,000 Australians live with coeliac disease, a condition that scientists say is underdiagnosed.

Study shines a light on paediatric case mix

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/06/2025, Morgan Liotta

A novel study looks at how GP paediatric care can be better supported to enable integrated models of care and cost savings by reducing referrals. Australian-first research examined the reasons why children visit a GP and how often they are referred to a non-GP specialist – usually a paediatrician.

[Read More](#)

What motivates people to hand over their health data?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/06/2025, Anastasia Tsirtsakis

New research has found the majority of people are willing to share their wearable health data if it will lead to improved care. More than 90% of people who use wearable activity trackers are happy to share their data with a trusted healthcare provider.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 10/06/2025, Bridget Brennan & James Glenday

A team of researchers, including those from the University of Sydney, has found that active travel, particularly cycling, could be associated with better brain health and lower dementia risk.

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Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 10/06/2025, Cheng Lei

Interview with Associate Professor Chris Moran, Monash University on a new study that has found the link between physical activity and brain health. Moran says they've found that physical activity is good for brain health regardless of weight.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 10/06/2025, Michael Thomson

Fiona Stanley Hospital's Head of Urology Dickon Hayne has found a way to treat bladder cancer. BCG immunotherapy, which is the standard treatment for bladder cancer, is in short supply, forcing many patients to have their bladders removed. According to Hayne's study, using 40% less of the BCG drug and combining it with chemotherapy will treat bladder cancer just as effectively as the full dosage.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Life Matters, 10/06/2025, Hilary Harper & Beverley Wang

Associate Professor Jason Tye-Din of Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI) says a new test could revolutionise the diagnosis of coeliac disease, which affects one in 70 Australians and is caused by an immune response to gluten. WEHI researchers are developing a new test that doesn't require patients to be eating a gluten-rich, which prevents some people from getting diagnosed.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 10/06/2025, Joel Rheinberger

Interview with Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research's Coeliac Research Lab head Associate Professor Jason Tye-Din and PhD student Olivia Moscatelli on a new test that could make diagnosis of coeliac disease easier. Tye-Din says over 380,000 Australians have coeliac disease, and the majority of them don't even know they have it.

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

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Miner's major helping hand

The Australian, Special Report, 11/06/2025, David Prestipino, Page 22

Indigenous healthcare across Pilbara communities is the focus of a \$5.5m donation from resources giant BHP to Telethon. The 2025 beneficiaries of the miner's biggest-ever donation were announced at an annual Telethon beneficiaries breakfast recently.

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Indigenous leaders recognised in 2025 King's birthday honours list

SBS, Other, 10/06/2025, Bronte Charles

The 2025 King's Birthday Honours have celebrated Aboriginal leaders whose lifelong contributions to education, culture, media, and social justice have profoundly shaped their communities. [...] Jeremy Heathcote's 21 years of work with his men's group have focused on breaking down the stigma surrounding mental health and suicide prevention in Aboriginal communities.

[Read More](#)

Inspirational Far North citizens named in 2025 Order of Australia honours list

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/06/2025, Peter Carruthers

A woman dedicated to improving the lives of Indigenous Australians is one of several Far North Queenslanders recognised in this year's King's Birthday honours list. [...] Cheryl Rae, now living in Cairns, was acknowledged for significant service to medicine as a dietitian after a lifetime's work in the Northern Territory health sector.

[Read More](#)

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Kennedy cleans out vaccine panel

The Australian, International News, 11/06/2025, Liz Essley Whyte, Page 9

US Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr removed all the members of a key committee that recommends vaccines, and when and how often adults and children should get them. Mr Kennedy wrote Monday (local time) in a Wall Street Journal opinion article that he would do a "clean sweep" of the panel's 17 members, all of whom were appointed during the administration of former President Joe Biden.

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'That's a tragedy': Kennedy fires entire panel of vaccine experts

Canberra Times, International News, 11/06/2025, Page 11

US health Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr has fired all members sitting on a US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention panel of vaccine experts. Kennedy removed all 17 members of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the Department of Health and Human Services said in a statement on Monday, and is in the process of considering new members to replace them.

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

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Concerns over surge in whooping cough

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 9

The number of whooping cough cases in Australia is higher than the usual epidemic. In 2024, more than 57,000 cases of whooping cough were reported in Australia - the highest yearly total since 1991 including 25,900 in NSW alone, UNSW and The University of Sydney researchers say.

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

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Time to roll up your sleeve

West Australian, General News, 11/06/2025, Jessica Page, Page 13

There's something in the air winter. And our hospitals are not ready for it. [...] "The United States just experienced its worst flu season in 16 years and we've used that information to prepare for the additional demand this winter will likely bring to WA," Ms Hammat said.

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

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'Relentless' disease taking more and more lives on Australia's doorstep

9News, Other, 10/06/2025, Adam Vidler

Dengue fever outbreaks in the western Pacific and south-east Asia have prompted travel warnings for Australians, but experts are now saying the problem is likely to only get worse. Cook Islands declared an outbreak of the potentially deadly disease recently, with the Ministry of Health's latest June 6 update saying 19 cases had been recorded, of which two were active.

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Deanne thought her one-year-old daughter only had a cold. The reality was much much worse - and her little girl is still suffering agonising symptoms months later

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 10/06/2025, Antoinette Milienos

A mum has revealed the horrifying moment her six-week-old baby girl went limp and stopped breathing less than two days after catching a cold. [...] The young mum said she wants to raise awareness of RSV and urged parents across the country to learn how to recognise the early signs.

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Life-threatening disease erupts on Australia's doorstep as urgent travel warning is issued

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 10/06/2025, Max Aldred

Deadly dengue fever outbreaks have been rising amongst Australia's Pacific neighbours, prompting a travel warning for holidaymakers. The Cook Islands declared the most recent outbreak of the disease after 19 cases of the disease, including two active cases, were recorded as of June 6.

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'The pregnancy conversation I wish someone had with me sooner.'

Mamamia, Other, 10/06/2025, Valentina Todoroska

Pregnancy can be one of the most exciting times in your life, but let's be honest: it can also feel like you've been dropped into a maze with no map. [...] Amongst all the information overload, immunisation during pregnancy is one of those topics that deserves to be front and centre.

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Vaccine rollout halves infant RSV hospitalisations

Nursing Review, Other, 10/06/2025, Stefanie Schultz

Early data shows the government's \$174.5m "world-leading" free respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) immunisation program for babies and expecting mothers has been a major success. The Immunisation Foundation of Australia (IFA) has reported a 50 per cent drop in the babies admitted to hospital with RSV as compared with this time last year.

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Australia's whooping cough surge is not over — and it doesn't just affect babies

SBS, Other, 10/06/2025, Niall Johnston, Helen Quinn & Phoebe Williams

Whooping cough (pertussis) is always circulating in Australia, and epidemics are expected every three to four years. However, the numbers we're seeing with the current surge — which started in 2024 —

are higher than usual epidemics.

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

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Kids multivitamin recalled

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 10/06/2025

Pentavite Pty Ltd is recalling two batches of its Pentavite Multivitamin + Iron Kids Chewables (ARTG no 324881) because the product is missing required warning statements on the label. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) noted that [...]

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Irish solution for Pegasys shortage

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 10/06/2025

Fresh supplies of overseas-labelled Pegasys (peginterferon alfa 2a) are expected to arrive next month (July), the medication's sponsor, Echo Therapeutics says. Echo notified the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) last month that as of 19 May 2025, stock of Pegasys injection [...]

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

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FOOD STANDARDS

Food labels cause waste

Courier Mail, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 13

Confusing food labels are driving Australians to throw away perfectly edible food, costing households money and contributing to the nation's food waste problem. An RMIT University and End Food Waste Australia study reveals clearer, more consistent date labels and storage advice with related bigger print and simple icons could drastically reduce the amount of edible food Aussies throw away.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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Vague food labelling is well past its use-by date

Canberra Times, Other, 10/06/2025, John Hanscombe

Stuffed with lemon and herbs and roasted slowly, the chicken was melt-in-the-mouth perfect. [...] Supermarkets need to play the game as well. They should start by being honest with those use-by and best-before dates they stamp on their prepackaged foods.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Animal activists target Cowra abattoir in undercover footage

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 10/06/2025, Eliza-Spencer

A regional meat processing plant has been the latest site thrust into the spotlight by activists, on a

nationwide trespass and surveillance tour across 30 locations. [...] "Livestock processing establishments already address issues associated with food safety and meat quality using sophisticated quality assurance systems.

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AICIS

Forever chemicals hoax

West Australian, General News, 11/06/2025, Page 9

Experts at an inquiry into the regulation and management of PFAS have called on government and regulatory sources to tackle the misinformation by better communicating facts that the public can understand and trust. They say stories about the risks of exposure to "forever" chemicals are being shared on social media by those with no scientific experience.

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

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