



Australian Government
Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing

TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 25th June 2025

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **ABC Online** reports that the Productivity Commission's interim report on the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement finds it "fundamentally flawed" and lacking in measurable outcomes. Health Minister Mark Butler acknowledged the need for reform, emphasising the importance of getting the next agreement right. *Also reported by: The Australian, Herald Sun*
- **The West Australian** (page 8) reports that Health Minister Mark Butler has welcomed the Western Australian government's decision to sign a bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth to deliver full coverage of the NDIS to residents of the state.
- **The Age** (page 1) reports that a new meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials found that expensive COVID-19 antivirals Paxlovid and Lagevrio, prescribed to hundreds of thousands of Australians last year, do not reduce the risk of hospitalisation or death for vaccinated individuals facing the Omicron variant.
- **The Courier Mail** (page 7) reports that Queensland will spend \$29.4 billion on health in 2025-26, with spending driven by a major hospital build plan, and funding supplemented by revenue from the state's mental health levy. *Also reported by: Toowoomba Chronicle*

- **The Australian** (page 7) reports that the NSW state budget includes \$12.4 billion for health infrastructure, including funding for the western Sydney's new Bankstown Hospital, maternity services at Rouse Hill Hospital, upgrades to Randwick and Westmead Children's Hospitals, and the state's mental health infrastructure program. *Also reported by: Newcastle Herald*
- **The Herald Sun** (page 3) reports that the TGA has alerted the public after it intercepted multiple imports of counterfeit pharmaceuticals, including fake cosmetic injectables, "substandard" weight loss jabs, and ivermectin.
- **The Herald Sun** (page 8) reports that Victoria's ambulance crisis continues, with less than five per cent of crews available due to staff shortages and hospital ramping, and wait times at major hospitals reaching up to ten hours. *Also reported by: Ballarat Courier, 9News, 3AW*
- **The Australian** (page 6) reports that the Queensland government has allocated almost \$4 billion in state funding for new venues for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games, including a \$3.5 billion stadium at Victoria Park, an aquatic centre, and a stadium at the Exhibition showgrounds.

MINISTER BUTLER

Chalmers won't pander to states on GST

Australian Financial Review, General News, 25/06/2025, Ronald Mizen & James Hall, Page 1

Treasurer Jim Chalmers has pushed back against state squabbling over GST distribution, saying tax reform must be in the national interest, on the same day his Queensland counterpart said he would not stop "carrying on" to get his state a better deal.

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

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'Significant' changes coming for NDIS WA

West Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 8

WA has signed up to the full coverage of the National Disability Insurance Scheme after being an outlier State. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said WA's commitment to a bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth gave West Aussies confidence they would be supported into the future.

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Cystic fibrosis drug cost cut

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 25/06/2025, Page 6

People living with rarer types of cystic fibrosis will pay a fraction of the price to access life-changing treatment under an expansion of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the cost of the more effective treatment was an "impossible price" for most people.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Tasmanian Examiner \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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Rural Australians still suffering

Murray Pioneer, General News, 25/06/2025, Susi Tegen, Page 7

The latest release of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) data tables on Potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH) in Australia by small geographic areas endorses the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) evidence showing rural communities are hospitalised at higher rates for preventable illness compared to people living in major cities. [...] We know the Minister for Health, Ageing and Disability Mark Butler understands the paradox of remote Australia's great economic contribution, and yet worse health outcomes.

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Stars slam vaping

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 24/06/2025, Page 2

The Federal Government has enlisted the help of popular online influencers to spread the message of its latest antivaping campaign to Gen Z. [...] "There is an enormous amount of misinformation and online advertising designed to lure teenagers into vaping," commented Health Minister Mark Butler.

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

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Australians with disability urge the federal government to stop cuts to vital health services amid NDIS overhaul

7news.com.au, Other, 24/06/2025, Jennifer Bechwati

'You've got some people out there with all this funding and other people without it. It's so inconsistent, it's like a slap to the face. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said: "We want to make sure that NDIS participants are not paying above the odds for therapy and for their support.

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Price of life-changing cystic fibrosis drug set to be slashed

9News, Other, 24/06/2025, Emily Bennett

Australians living with cystic fibrosis will pay a fraction of the price to access a potentially life-changing treatment option from July 1. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the price would be cheaper from January next year, when the maximum patients pay for PBS medicines will drop to \$25 per script.

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Australia's mental health plan 'not fit for purpose' and must be re-designed, new report finds

ABC Online, Other, 24/06/2025, Paige Cockburn

The Productivity Commission has reviewed the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the review highlighted structural issues with the agreement and it was "essential we get this right".

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Healthcare providers warn some regional services will be 'unviable' as NDIS cuts travel allowance in half

ABC Online, Other, 24/06/2025, Susan Oong

The success stories of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) "are now at risk", health providers and regional clients warn, ahead of travel allowance payments being cut in half from next week. [...] The federal minister responsible for the NDIS, Mark Butler, told the ABC Radio National that the pricing determination was made independently by the NDIS board.

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Expanded listing for life-changing cystic fibrosis treatment

Freedom2Live, Other, 24/06/2025

The PBS listing for Trikafta (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor and ivacaftor) will be expanded from 1 July 2025, Health Minister Mark Butler has announced. Patients, including children, diagnosed with rarer mutations of cystic fibrosis (CF) will now be able to access Trikafta through the PBS with the listing expanded to include patients who have at least one CF transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene mutation that is responsive to treatment.

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Pete Holland's type 2 diabetes story amid push for CGM subsidy

Newcastle Herald, Other, 24/06/2025

People with type 2 diabetes are hospitalised twice as often as those with type 1 diabetes in the Hunter New England health district. [...] A spokesperson for federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the government met an election commitment to "give all 130,000 Australians with type 1 diabetes access to subsidised CGM products".

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Blockbuster scores new PBS listing

Pharma In Focus, Other, 24/06/2025

Vertex cystic fibrosis (CF) drug Trikafta - already one of the highest-earners on the PBS - will be reimbursed for a new patient population from next month. The expanded PBS listing, announced by Health Minister Mark Butler today, will see the treatment funded for CF patients aged two years and older who have at least one mutation in the CFTR gene that is considered responsive to Trikafta potentiation based on clinical or in vitro data.

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'Transformational' cystic fibrosis drug expanded on PBS

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 24/06/2025, Michelle Wisbey

Trikafta's listing has been expanded once again to help more patients with cystic fibrosis, who currently pay \$250,000 a year for treatment. [...] Federal Health and Ageing Minister Mark Butler described Trikafta's expansion as 'great news'.

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Doctors' groups take temperature on appetite for health care reform

SBS, Other, 24/06/2025, Deborah Groarke

Leaders from around 50 medical groups have gathered in Canberra to tackle some of the thorniest issues facing Australia's health system. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler reassured the community that it would be business as usual at Healthscope hospitals while a new buyer was found.

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PBS expansion for \$250,000 cystic fibrosis treatment

WEB Newsreel, Other, 24/06/2025

Life-changing treatment will soon be available for more Australians living with cystic fibrosis (CF). Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listing for Trikafta would be expanded to include CF patients who have at least one CF transmembrane conductance regulator gene mutation that was responsive to treatment.

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ABC News, News Breakfast, 24/06/2025, Bridget Brennan & James Glenday

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, about cheaper access to Trikafta. Butler says cystic fibrosis is a really debilitating condition which hits kids, adults, and it's incredibly disabling and often leads to a very early death. He adds a wonder drug called Trikafta is a drug they've been progressively listing on the PBS and today he will be meeting with patients and their families and their doctors to celebrate another expansion of that listing on the PBS.

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 24/06/2025

The Federal Government will expand access to the cystic fibrosis drug Trikafta through the PBS from next month. Health Minister Mark Butler says 180 more patients with a rare gene variant will now be eligible for the life-changing treatment, which would otherwise cost \$250,000 a year.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 24/06/2025, Angie Asimus

Thousands of Australians with disability are urging the Federal Government to reverse NDIS funding changes that could cut access to essential health services. From next week, hourly rates for allied health professionals will drop by up to \$10, travel expenses will be halved, and a price freeze will remain. NDIS Minister Mark Butler says the changes ensure value for money, but experts warn it could lead to higher hospital costs.

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Channel 7, National News At Noon, 24/06/2025, Natarsha Belling

Australians living with cystic fibrosis will soon have affordable access to Trikafta, a life-changing therapy, under an expanded PBS subsidy from July 1. Health Minister Mark Butler says the move will transform lives, with the drug now available to more patients including children with rare gene mutations. Without the subsidy, the treatment would cost families over \$250,000 a year.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 24/06/2025

The Federal Government has announced that from next week, the cystic fibrosis drug Trikafta will be expanded on the PBS to include all patients with treatment-receptive mutations. Health Minister Mark Butler says the drug, which would otherwise cost \$250,000 a year, will now be available for just \$31.60 per script or \$7.70 with a concession.

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Channel 9, Today , 24/06/2025, Karl Stefanovic & Sarah Abo

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Butler says he is so excited to be with patients and families again this morning to celebrate another expansion of the listing of the wonder drug Trikafta on the PBS. He notes it adds life expectancy to those suffering from cystic fibrosis, but also allows kids to return to school and adults to return to work instead of facing a daily regimen of gruelling therapy and dozens of tablets. Butler adds it costs about a quarter of a million dollars every year, so listing it on the PBS is just another demonstration of the importance of the medicine system.

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NBN Gold Coast, NBN News Gold Coast, 24/06/2025

Former Wallaby Nathan Charles, the only elite contact sport athlete with cystic fibrosis, says access to the life-changing drug Trikafta has already boosted his lung function and outlook. Health Minister Mark Butler says Trikafta will soon be available to nearly all eligible Australians via the PBS, reducing its annual cost from \$250,000 to as little as \$7.70 per script.

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Curtin FM, 11:00 News, 24/06/2025

A medication for the rarest form of cystic fibrosis will soon be added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. The disease, which mostly affects children, currently costs patients up to \$250,000 a year. Health Minister Mark Butler says the listing will help Australians live longer with a better quality of life.

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Sonshine 98.5 FM, 08:00 News, 24/06/2025

Australia is leading in cystic fibrosis treatment as the medication Trikafta becomes more affordable. The drug has been added to the PBS, reducing its cost from \$31 to \$25 by next year. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says it will improve quality of life, allowing children to return to school and adults to work.

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SEN, 07:00 News, 24/06/2025

Treatment for Australians with cystic fibrosis is about to become cheaper. Health Minister Mark Butler says the life-saving wonder drug Trikafta has been added to the PBS. He notes it adds years of life expectancy but allows kids to return to school and adults to return to work instead of facing a daily regimen of therapy and dozens of tablets.

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DEPARTMENT

Aged care staff graduate

Katherine Times, General News, 25/06/2025, Page 5

Six Roper Gulf Regional Council aged care staff members have successfully achieved their Certificate III in Individual Support. [...] The training, funded through the Indigenous Employment Initiative Program under the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, had a focus on upskilling local staff to deliver culturally safe and responsive care for older residents.

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Have your say: in-home aged care pricing under review

Aged Care Guide, Other, 24/06/2025, David McManus

As the government redesigns the aged care system, everyday Australians are being invited to weigh in on one of the most critical issues — how in-home care is priced. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care is currently seeking input on how pricing should work under the new Support at Home program, which is set to replace the current Home Care Packages and Commonwealth Home Support Programme system.

[Read More](#)

Rio commits \$5m to Aboriginal health care

Australian Mining Review, Other, 24/06/2025, Samantha Bawden

Rio Tinto (ASX: RIO) has partnered with Pilbara Aboriginal Health Alliance (PAHA) to provide vital community-led health services for First Nations people across the Pilbara in WA. [...] Construction of the Tom Price Dialysis Unit has been funded by the Federal Department of Health and Aged Care and is expected to open in the second half of 2026.

[Read More](#)

Rio Tinto partners with Pilbara Aboriginal health, funds \$5m

Business News WA, Other, 24/06/2025, Nadia Budihardjo

Iron ore giant Rio Tinto has partnered with Pilbara Aboriginal Health Alliance, investing millions of dollars in healthcare services in the state's North West. [...] The federal government's Department of Health and Aged Care has also funded the Tom Price dialysis unit.

[Read More](#)

Rio Tinto partners with Pilbara Aboriginal Health Alliance to provide community-led health services

West Australian, Other, 24/06/2025

A new partnership between Rio Tinto and the Pilbara Aboriginal Health Alliance (PAHA) is set to transform healthcare access for Aboriginal people in the Pilbara. [...] Construction of the facility is supported by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

Also reported by: [Countryman \(Online\)](#). [Geraldton Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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TGA sues News Corp, Mamamia for medicinal cannabis testimonials

Mumbrella, Other, 24/06/2025, Lauren McNamara

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has taken federal proceedings against News Corp Australia, Mamamia, and a Sydney-based PR agency for unlawfully promoting medicinal cannabis products in articles published between 2022 and 2023. [...] Head of the TGA and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, Professor Anthony Lawler, said all involved parties had "been warned on multiple occasions" in relation to the alleged unlawful advertising.

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\$5 million partnership to boost Aboriginal-led health services in the Pilbara

Ngaarda Media, Other, 24/06/2025, Asad Khan

A new partnership between the Pilbara Aboriginal Health Alliance (PAHA) and Rio Tinto will see A\$5 million invested over five years to support Aboriginal-led health services across the Pilbara. [...] The facility is scheduled to open in late 2026 and will operate six days a week, with capital works funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

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Menopause item detail revealed

The Medical Republic, Other, 24/06/2025, Holly Payne

The new menopause and perimenopause health assessment item, worth \$102, goes live next week. [...] According to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, these activities may include "information collection" or providing patients with information about recommended interventions.

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VACCINES

Doubts cast on costly COVID drugs

Expensive covid-19 antivirals do not prevent hospitalisation or death for people who are vaccinated, a new but preliminary analysis of randomised controlled trials has found. Hundreds of thousands of prescriptions for Paxlovid and Lagevrio were written last year, costing taxpayers more than \$750 million.

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

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Financial viability top concern of providers

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 24/06/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Financial viability has beaten workforce shortages as the top concern for home care providers for the first time, Enkindle's Home Care Provider Outlook Report for 2025 shows. Enkindle has published its Home Care Provider Outlook Report 2025, which shows financial viability as the major concern of providers and preparedness for incoming reforms as the top priority.

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Leading change with care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 24/06/2025, Diana Horvatovic

The first step in rebuilding culture and confidence at St Basil's NSW/ACT was listening, says CEO Diana Horvatovic, who shares her experience of the ongoing journey. In the world of aged care, the word care must go beyond the services we provide to residents.

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Retiring smart: Where seniors can live well without breaking the bank

HelloCare, Other, 24/06/2025, Jakob Neeland

As retirement costs climb, Australian seniors are seeking destinations where their savings can stretch further without compromising quality of life. [...] Before relocating, use resources like Aged Care Guide (agedcareguide.com.au) or the Australian Government's My Aged Care portal to research retirement villages, in-home care options, and community support services.

[Read More](#)

Policing progress notes? The software that blocks negative labels in dementia care

HelloCare, Other, 24/06/2025, Jakob Neeland

In the world of disability and dementia care, words carry weight. They shape perceptions, influence attitudes, and can either humanise or dehumanise those in care.

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DISABILITY

Hurt by the cut to NDIS

Hobart Mercury, General News, 25/06/2025, Alison Foletta, Page 10

A Tasmanian psychologist says changes to the NDIS price index and cuts to travel subsidies will hurt some of the state's most vulnerable people. Tracey Martin-Cole is the founder and director of Psychology CAFFE as well as a member of the Australian Association of Psychologists.

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Greedy ploy to exploit NDIS

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 25/06/2025, Julie Cross, Page 14

A greedy director of a disability business illegally obtained the names and addresses of thousands of NDIS participants, including some in Adelaide, in the hope he could make more money, a court has heard. Married father-of-two Amit Sharma, described as a "pillar of the community", solicited the names, date of births, gender and addresses of 18,500 disabled people on the scheme from friend Leena Kumar, who was an employee working for the National Disability Insurance Agency.

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

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The team sniffing out fraud

Daily Telegraph, General News, 25/06/2025, Julie Cross, Page 20

It was a tip-off that sparked the initial investigation into "greedy" Amit Sharma and his two NDIS businesses. But it was the highly skilled investigators from the Fraud Fusion Taskforce that used digital forensics analysing phones, laptops and other devices to isolate data, including data that had been deleted, as well as advanced data analytics tools that nailed him.

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Insulting, unsustainable, and dangerous. This decision is not OK

Canberra Times, Other, 24/06/2025, Michelle Oliver

If you have someone in your life who works in allied health, especially within the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), please check they are OK. Because right now, many of us are not.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 24/06/2025, Georgia Westgarth

Report by Westgarth about backlash from physiotherapists over NDIS pay cuts. Allied health professionals say they were given just 20 days' notice before a \$10 hourly rate cut and halved travel allowances take effect on July 1, with some warning they may have to stop seeing NDIS patients. The NDIA says the changes aim to bring NDIS service costs in line with non-NDIS rates and prevent excessive travel claims.

Continuing on: [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#).

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POPULATION HEALTH

Call time on alcohol for Dry July

Hobart Mercury, General News, 25/06/2025, Bridget Clarke, Page 3

Enjoying better health and raising money for a good cause is what Dry July is all about. Cancer Council Tasmania CEO Alison Lai said as more information emerges about the health risks of drinking, July was the "perfect time" to join the thousands of people across the country giving up the booze next month.

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Number of pills is sickening

Hobart Mercury, General News, 25/06/2025, Adella Beaini, Page 8

Australians are reaching for supplements more than ever, but new research shows many are being swayed by social media trends instead of proper medical advice and experts say it's putting health at risk. Supplements are big business, with the industry now worth more than \$6.2bn.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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Nicotine hit in a sucker pouch

Herald Sun, General News, 25/06/2025, Jon Kaila, Page 13

Nicotine pouches a small pillow-like product placed between your lip and gum are emerging as the new frontier of the tobacco wars. Illicit cigarettes are still by far the most sought-after item, but nicotine pouches are rapidly gaining on vape sales.

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Dad's horror injury

West Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Caleb Runciman, Page 16

A father's life has been "turned upside down" after he suffered a serious spinal injury during a rugby union match in Perth's western suburbs. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 3400 hospital admissions were attributed to rugby league and rugby union in 2021-22.

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Explained: Everything we know about Qld's war on illegal tobacco

The Courier Mail, Other, 24/06/2025

"The black market is thriving." One industry expert has summed up Queensland's battle against illegal tobacco and nicotine products being sold in retail outlets. As the state wrestles the deeply concerning and growing trend, the issue has been laid bare.

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Tobacco exposure killed more than 7m people in 2023, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 25/06/2025, Kat Lay

Exposure to tobacco killed more than 7 million people worldwide in 2023, according to estimates. It remains the leading risk factor for deaths in men, among whom there were 5.59m deaths, and ranks seventh for women, among whom there were 1.77m deaths.

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Pass the potassium salt: Is this the next population health revolution?

Australian Doctor, Other, 24/06/2025, Jamie Thannoo

Dr Kathy Trieu (PhD) hopes seven million Australians with high blood pressure will make the switch over the next two years. There is too much sodium in our diets and not enough potassium — an obvious problem to anyone who learnt about the sodium-potassium pump in biology class.

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\$5 million plan to boost long-term healthcare on Country

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/06/2025, David Prestipino

A landmark five-year partnership looks set to transform Indigenous health care in remote communities across the Pilbara. [...] Aboriginal people are almost seven times more likely to be diagnosed with end-stage kidney disease than non-Indigenous Australians, according to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data, and in remote communities across the Pilbara, those rates are even higher, as access to dialysis services are limited.

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6PR, Drive, 24/06/2025, Oliver Peterson

Interview with Australian Taxpayers' Alliance President Brian Marlow about the rise of illicit tobacco. Marlow discusses how high cigarette taxes have driven smokers to the black market, fuelling organised crime and reducing government tax revenue. He argues for tax cuts on legal tobacco and increased enforcement to curb the black market.

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Lessons on 'endo' to hit public classrooms

Daily Telegraph, General News, 25/06/2025, Page 14

Kids in NSW public schools will soon learn about diseases like endometriosis under a \$250,000 scheme to improve education on women's reproductive health. The NSW budget revealed endometriosis education would be rolled out across all public schools over the next two years, as part of a wider program to address a deficit of knowledge about the painful condition.

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Ronald Hobden has been silenced by MND but is speaking out for sufferers in calling for more funding

Adelaide Now, Other, 07/04/2025, Rory Williams

A young father's devastating battle with motor neurone disease (MND) is a powerful reminder of the toll the illness takes, not only on those diagnosed, but on their families. Ronald Hobden, a 35-year-old father from Grafton, was diagnosed with MND in 2023 and given just six months to live.

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New gestational diabetes guidelines set higher glucose thresholds for diagnosis

Australian Doctor, Other, 24/06/2025, Mohana Basu

The first update to gestational diabetes guidelines in a decade has raised the glucose thresholds for diagnosis, aiming to reduce over-medicalisation for women with low-risk pregnancies. The previous guidelines recommended basing diagnosis of gestational diabetes on 75g two-hour pregnancy oral glucose tolerance test (POGTT) thresholds derived from a 2008 study.

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How pregnant women are tested for gestational diabetes is changing

Nursing Review, Other, 24/06/2025, Matthew Hare & Alexis Shub

How Australian pregnant women are tested for gestational diabetes is set to change, with new national guidelines released on Monday. Changes are expected to lead to fewer diagnoses in women at lower risk, reducing the burden of extra monitoring and intervention.

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'Milestone' update to diabetes guidelines

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 24/06/2025, Jolyon Attwooll

Following years of dissent and over-diagnosis concerns, GPs have united in support of new clinical guidelines raising the gestational diabetes threshold. [...] Other peak bodies including Diabetes Australia, the Australian Diabetes Society and the Australian Diabetes Educators Association also expressed their support for the changes in a joint statement welcoming the new guidelines.

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Why are more young people getting bowel cancer?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 24/06/2025, Morgan Liotta

New research seeks to uncover the answers by investigating early-onset cancer biomarkers to 'predict, prevent, and personalise' treatment. [...] Funded by Bowel Cancer Australia and led by the University of South Australia, the three-year research project is investigating how younger people are increasingly impacted by the cancer, and why a significant number relapse after treatment.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 24/06/2025, David Reilly

Interview with specialist dermatologist Dr. Stephanie Rea about eczema. Rea discusses the complexity of eczema, particularly atopic dermatitis, which is a chronic inflammatory condition often linked to genetic and environmental factors. She explains that patch testing can help identify allergic triggers, distinguishing between irritants and true allergens through delayed hypersensitivity reactions.

PRIMARY CARE

Child protection services, TAFEs receive biggest cash injections ever

The Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Joanna Panagopoulos, Page 7

The NSW government has injected more cash than ever into child protection and TAFEs in this year's budget, as it tries to grow a sufficient workforce for its housing program and rebuilds a "neglected" out-of-home-care system. [...] The NSW government has also allocated \$12.4bn to health infrastructure, which amounts to \$3.3bn in 2025-26.

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Canberrans hit with a raft of new taxes and rate hikes

Canberra Times, General News, 25/06/2025, Lanie Tindale, Page 5

Canberrans will be hit with a raft of new taxes and rate hikes to pay for a record deficit unveiled on Tuesday. [...] There will be \$1.19 billion for the public healthcare system over the next four years, the budget's biggest area of spending.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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Record funding to help health

Courier Mail, General News, 25/06/2025, Taylah Fellows, Page 7

Queensland's health budget has surged to a record \$29.4bn for 2025-26 with major funding driven by the continued growth of the state's mental health levy and an \$18.5bn hospital build plan. Despite the staggering 10.2 per cent budget increase, the government has not funded a new spinal injury unit at the Peter Alexandra Hospital as promised under the former Labor government.

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Ambos at critical level

Herald Sun, General News, 25/06/2025, Shannon Deery, Page 8

Jacinta Allan has conceded more needs to be done to address the state's continuing ambulance crisis. Less than 5 per cent of the state's ambulance crews were available on Monday as hundreds of paramedics were stuck, ramped at hospitals.

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Kindy boost for hospital

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 25/06/2025, Page 10

The Royal Children's Hospital's kindy program has been given a \$2.5m boost by the state government. The kindergarten wing of the Yalingbu Yirramboi school was given the grant in the state budget to enable it to continue educating around 280 children a year with complex medical needs.

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Extra births all in a day's work for RDH

Northern Territory News, General News, 25/06/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 10

Healthscope's announcement that it would be closing the Darwin Private Hospital maternity ward left a wake of confusion and uncertainty for families. Mothers and health professionals spoke out about the dangers of the Northern Territory losing its only private maternity service and the pressure it would put on Royal Darwin Hospital, which would take on the additional births.

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

Don't touch base!

Ballarat Courier, General News, 25/06/2025, Michelle Smith, Page 1

Ambulances were asked to avoid Ballarat Base Hospital on Monday as bed block strangled the ability of staff to admit new patients through the emergency department. Victorian Ambulance Union secretary Danny Hill said Ballarat Hospital had contacted the Ambulance Victoria control room to ask that paramedics not bring patients to the hospital because they were bedblocked.

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

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

Hospital awaits review

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 25/06/2025, Paul Weston & Andrew Potts, Page 4

The Coomera Hospital will be built under an \$11.4bn statewide infrastructure spend once a review is completed, according to budget documents. Specific funding for the hospital is not listed in the budget papers, released on Tuesday, but it is covered in a \$911m spend on the infrastructure scheme in 2025-26.

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

Interchange for the better

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 25/06/2025, Glen Humphries, Page 1

Some crucial Illawarra projects have received hundreds of millions of dollars in the state budget. [...] There is also half a million dollars to help move forward on the expansion and redevelopment of the Wollongong Hospital and Health Precinct.

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

Pain is in process of ADHD diagnosis

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 25/06/2025, Kathy Sharpe, Page 5

Some mornings University of Wollongong student Jaclynn Culham has to break down basic tasks into tiny steps simply to get going for the day. [...] While it sometimes seems the number of people being diagnosed with ADHD has exploded, the path to diagnosis is by definition often difficult for those with attention difficulties.

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

State budget 2025: winners and losers

Newcastle Herald, General News, 25/06/2025, Saffron Howden, Page 4

Kids fleeing abuse and neglect and the people who care for them will get a \$1.2 billion boost in funding under the 2025 NSW budget. [...] The 2025 state budget includes \$3.5 billion over four years for hospitals, including across regional areas, such as Wollongong, Gunnedah and Forbes.

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

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

What's in it for us

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 25/06/2025, Tom Gillespie, Page 1

The new Toowoomba Hospital and Equestrian Centre of Excellence will receive funding in David Janetzki's first state budget, but there appears to be no money for the Cressbrook Dam project as part of a \$350m package for the Garden City. [...] Among the big-ticket items is the new Toowoomba Hospital as part of the government's new \$18.5bn Hospital Rescue Plan, though it is unclear how much has been budgeted for 2025-26.

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

Five minute guide to budget

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 25/06/2025, Page 4

Health -\$18.5b will be spent over the five years from 2024-25 into the Hospital Rescue Plan, as well as new hospitals to be built at Toowoomba, Coomera and Bundaberg, and expansions for 10 existing hospitals, to deliver more than 2600 hospital beds. -\$6.5bn over four years to stabilize bed and system capacity, adding 30,000 elective surgeries in 202526 through the Surgery Connect program, and funding to stage 2 of the Mater Springfield project.

Victorian EDs overflow, ambulances ramped as health system reaches winter peak

9News, Other, 24/06/2025, Eleanor Wilson

Victorians have been forced to wait hours for urgent care overnight, as paramedic staff shortages, ambulance ramping and pressure on emergency departments (EDs) culminated in an "incredibly busy night" for hospitals. Emergency departments across the state were overflowing with patients facing long waits, while ambulances were ramped to care for patients waiting to be admitted.

[Read More](#)

Patient allegedly reached for police officer's gun in incident at Flinders Medical Centre, doctors claim

ABC Online, Other, 24/06/2025, Stephanie Richards

South Australia Police has launched an investigation after doctors alleged a patient attempted to grab a police officer's firearm at one of Adelaide's biggest public hospitals. The allegation is outlined in a report sent by the SA Salaried Medical Officers Association (SASMOA) to the state's work safety authority, following doctor concerns of a recent "escalation of violence" at the Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) emergency department in Adelaide's south.

[Read More](#)

NSW government seeks power to terminate Northern Beaches Hospital contract

Nursing Review, Other, 24/06/2025

Proposed legislative amendments will give the NSW government the power to terminate the operating contract of the embattled Northern Beaches Hospital, following the tragic deaths of two children since September 2024. Two-year-old Joe Massa and newborn Harper Atkinson both died at the Sydney hospital in unrelated incidents, leading the government to ban any future public-private partnerships (PPPs) for acute care hospitals.

[Read More](#)

NSW Budget missed opportunities to support GP access: RACGP

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 24/06/2025

The Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) has welcomed NSW Budget measures to improve primary health access and processes, but is disappointed at missed opportunities to rebuild the GP workforce and improve access to care. The NSW 2025–26 Budget includes significant investment in secondary care, but little for general practice to keep patients healthy and reduce hospitalisations – despite clear being provided efficient measures to grow state's specialist GP workforce and support rural patients to access care in the RACGP NSW Pre-Budget Submission 2025–2026.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 24/06/2025

Doctors have raised concerns about a spike in violent incidents at Flinders Medical Centre, including an alleged attempt by a patient to grab a police officer's gun. SASMOA chief industrial officer Bernadette Mulholland says the emergency department has reached a tipping point, as SafeWork SA reviews a union report and doctors prepare to strike amid pay negotiations.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 24/06/2025

Patients were forced to wait hours in overwhelmed emergency departments across Melbourne, with some ambulances ramped and only 4% of the fleet available at one point. Victorian Ambulance Union chief executive Danny Hill said 30 ambulances were unstaffed, leaving a major gap in emergency coverage, while Ambulance Victoria's Danielle North acknowledged paramedics' frustration.

[Play Now](#)

2GB, Drive, 24/06/2025, Clinton Maynard

Interview with NSW AMA president Dr. Kathryn Austin about the state health budget. Austin criticises the budget for lacking investment in the healthcare workforce, saying it prioritises infrastructure over frontline staff like doctors and nurses. She also raises concerns about rising elective surgery waitlists.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Drive, 24/06/2025, Jacqui Felgate

Interview with Shadow Minister for Health Georgie Crozier about ongoing issues in Victoria's health system. Crozier discusses system-wide failures in hospitals and Ambulance Victoria, criticising the government for poor planning, inadequate communication, and delayed reforms. She calls for a deep review of staffing, triage, and escalation processes, saying health should be prioritised.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Drive, 24/06/2025, Jacqui Felgate

Interview with Ambulance Victoria regional operations executive director Danielle North about the pressure on the health system. North discusses extended delays in hospitals, with up to 100 ambulances ramped and demand for ambulances 30% higher than pre-COVID levels. She urges the public to reserve Triple Zero calls for emergencies and calls for improved hospital processes to allow quicker offloading of patients.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Afternoons, 24/06/2025

Victorian Ambulance Union chief executive Danny Hill says staff shortages forced more than 25 ambulance crews off the road last night, leaving over 100 ambulances ramped outside overwhelmed hospitals. He described the conditions facing paramedics, patients and hospitals as dire.

[Play Now](#)

FIVEAA, Mornings, 24/06/2025, Graeme Goodings

Interview with SASMOA chief industrial officer Bernadette Mulholland about a violent incident at Flinders Medical Centre's emergency department. Mulholland discusses growing concerns over staff and patient safety amid rising aggression. She calls for stronger security measures, increased mental health support, and improved long-term facilities to prevent a serious incident.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Mental health system 'a failure'

The Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Natasha Robinson, Page 1

Australia's mental health systems remain "alienating, inadequate, ill-informed and out of reach" for millions of people in desperate need, the Productivity Commission has reported in a scathing review of the first three years of Australia's Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement. The PC finds the national agreement signed by the states and commonwealth to address the dire state of mental health outcomes in Australia has "fundamental flaws", and although it has achieved bureaucratic objectives there has been no change for consumers, who continue to be locked out of care, which is fragmented and unaffordable.

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Mental health plan 'flawed' and failing

Herald Sun, General News, 25/06/2025, Jade Gailberger, Page 11

A national plan to improve mental health and suicide prevention is "fundamentally flawed" and failing to make progress, according to a scathing new report. The Productivity Commission's interim report into

the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement found there had been "little systemic change" since it was signed by governments in 2022.

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

New therapy to help kids

West Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Page 8

A Murdoch University study has found therapy that focuses on family dynamics significantly reduced children's anxiety and depression symptoms. Behaviour Exchange Systems Therapy-Foundations (BEST-F), a therapy developed in Perth and Melbourne, lowered children's anxiety and depression levels after only eight weeks.

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

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Mental health workers push on with an important challenge

Border Mail, General News, 25/06/2025, Sophie Else, Page 7

They're growing up in a world that moves fast, is heavy and expects a lot. Young people across the Border are facing challenges that go far beyond the classroom, and mental health support has never been more urgent.

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

Ten years of youth help

Cairns Post, General News, 25/06/2025, Tim Little, Page 9

As psychologist wait times balloon and mental health support becomes unreachable for many, an unlikely pairing has celebrated 10 years of offering free and comprehensive help. Royal Flying Doctors Service and Cairns Headspace have marked a decade of critical mental health and youth support services across the Far North.

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

4BC, Breakfast , 24/06/2025, Peter Fegan

There are calls for an independent review into a number of regional hospitals in Qld. Allegations have come to light saying mental health patients are being medically sedated while waiting for a ward bed. According to the Nurses' Professional Association of Queensland, patient data is also being manipulated.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Public service pay rises risk blowout

The Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Mackenzie Scott & David Tanner, Page 6

The Queensland government is risking further deficit blowouts after using the rejected public service wage offer to underpin its budget projections in the middle of ongoing enterprise bargaining negotiations. [...] Members of the nurses and midwives union are currently taking industrial action after rejecting a four-month pay sweetener on top of the initial offer at the end of their three-year agreement.

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Queensland state budget 2025: five key takeaways

The Guardian, Other, 24/06/2025, Andrew Messenger & Ben Smee

Here are five key takeaways from the Queensland budget. [...] The nurses union is locked in negotiations with the government over its offer of just 8% higher wages over three years. The nurses say the offer is a breach of an election promise for the country's highest wages.

[Read More](#)

Nurses rally over sick bubs 'parked in cramped unit'

7news.com.au, Other, 24/06/2025, Farid Farid

The stress of premature babies with serious medical conditions is magnified for many parents at this cramped neonatal unit. Nurses and parents of premature babies are battling to find space in a tight intensive care unit, using a former storeroom at one of Australia's busiest hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Sick babies 'double' or 'triple' parked: Sydney NICU nurses rally for better care

Nursing Review, Other, 24/06/2025, Stefanie Schultz

Sydney Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) nurses have rallied in Western Sydney, saying ongoing workforce shortages have led to sick babies being 'double' or 'triple' parked. Nurses working in the NICU at Westmead Hospital are calling upon the state government to urgently address dire overcrowding in the metropolitan hospital, as newborns who require 1:1 or 1:2 nursing care are unable to receive it due to understaffing.

[Read More](#)

Undergraduate nurse training essential for Australian women's sexual and reproductive health

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 24/06/2025

Minimal early training opportunities for nurses and midwives in sexual and reproductive health (SRH) are limiting care options for Australian women, according to new studies. A SPHERE (Centre of Research Excellence in Sexual and Reproductive Health for Women in Primary Care) study of Australian undergraduate nursing and midwifery programs in 37 universities, published found limited content on SRH and nothing on abortion care.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

AI strategy in ear implants

Courier Mail, General News, 25/06/2025, Isabella Pesch, Page 18

A renowned hearing device company hopes to harness AI to improve background noise suppression and product maintenance, encouraging other companies to get on board with the emerging technology. Cochlear chief executive and president Dig Howitt, who has been at the helm of the \$17 billion ASX-listed company since 2018, said the medical device manufacturer was looking to use AI in its products.

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

More Aussies to get access to effective cystic fibrosis drug

West Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Hannah Cross, Page 17

More Australians living with rarer types of cystic fibrosis will be able to access treatment for the first time when expanded rules to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme take effect next week. From July 1, people who have at least one mutation related to the genetic disorder will have access to Trikafta on the PBS.

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

New pack size to 'help address supply shortage'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 24/06/2025

PBAC recommends expanding empagliflozin treatment population in line with "pivotal" trial, changes to max quantities for pioglitazone and listing of new contraceptive choice in May meeting The PBAC has recommended new and updated PBS listings for multiple medicines, including a change to empagliflozin (Jardiance) to treat an expanded population of adult patients.

[Read More](#)

Tech boss fears AI regulations will hamper innovation

Canberra Times, Other, 24/06/2025, Jennifer Dudley-Nicholson

Artificial intelligence technology could unlock huge medical advances in Australia, from identifying patients in acute need to helping them hear more clearly, but only if regulations do not muffle innovation. Cochlear chief executive Dig Howitt issued the warning at the QUT Business Leaders' Forum in Brisbane on Tuesday, when he also called for Australia to focus on key areas of innovation and for greater government support for local research and development.

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

[Read More](#)

CF drug on PBS

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 24/06/2025

More Australians living with cystic fibrosis (CF) can now access subsidised treatment, with Vertex Pharmaceuticals announcing an expanded reimbursement agreement for its CF treatment, TRIKAFTA (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor and ivacaftor). From 01 Jul, the drug will be funded on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for people with CF aged two years and older with at least one responsive CFTR mutation, including many ultra-rare mutations previously without a funded treatment option.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Midwives' lack of knowledge caused baby boy's death, court told

The Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Clareese Packer, Page 5

The two midwives who allegedly lacked the adequate training, knowledge and equipment when they attempted the breech home birth of a baby boy who died shortly afterwards have had their case called up in court more than two years after the baby's death. Emergency services were called to a home near Coffs Harbour on the NSW north coast on September 11, 2022, following a home birth.

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

Convicted UK fraudster David Hurst pressured Aussie patients to use super for dental work before swiping millions and taking own life

The Australian, Other, 24/06/2025, Emma Kirk

A dentist who was convicted of fraud in the UK allegedly pressured Australian patients to take tens of thousands of dollars from their superannuation for unnecessary dental work and then withdrew millions from his business before he died of suicide. Former Perth Dental Rooms director David Hurst, 43, took his own life on December 10 last year at the Crown Perth, leaving a path of destruction and a business on the brink of bankruptcy.

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

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Shayna dives in for dad

Courier Mail, General News, 25/06/2025, Georgia Clelland, Page 9

Olympic swim star Shayna Jack has dived into a new mission, raising awareness about prostate cancer after her dad's shock diagnosis. The two-time gold medallist has signed on as an ambassador for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, urging Aussie men to get tested before it's too late.

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

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SPORT

It's all funds and Games for 2032

The Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Mackenzie Scott, Page 6

Almost \$4bn in state funding has been set aside for the construction of new venues for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games in the Liberal National Party government's budget. Earlier this year, LNP Premier David Crisafulli broke an election promise not to build a new stadium with the announcement of the proposed \$3.5bn, 65,000-person venue at Victoria Park, in Brisbane's inner north.

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

Money worries top players' concerns

Age, Sport, 25/06/2025, Page 34

Netball Australia's leading netballers are most worried about financial security and fair pay and most don't feel comfortable about raising issues with governing body Netball Australia. The first anonymous player survey conducted by the Australian Netball Players' Association considered Super Netballers' thoughts on issues such as fertility, career transition, mental health and workload balance, as well as money.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#).

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Nine could be in league of its own with soccer deal

Sydney Morning Herald, Business News, 25/06/2025, Calum Jaspan, Page 25

Nine will consider a bid for the A-League broadcast rights as it inches closer to a deal to acquire all English Premier League matches for the next three years, alongside a suite of other assets from Optus Sport. The media giant is in the final stages of negotiations to secure the marquee rights to show all 380 matches in the English top tier, taking on the remaining three years of Optus' contract, alongside the FA Cup and Women's Super League, which is home to Matildas stars Sam Kerr, Caitlin Foord and Mary Fowler.

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

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Women's sport on a power surge

West Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Ben Smith, Page 8

It has been almost two years since Australia hosted the FIFA Women's World Cup and the Matildas rode a wave of support to an historic semi-final berth on home soil. At the time, it felt like a pivotal moment for the round-ball game in Australia, and also a turning point for women's sport around the country.

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Eye on prize in crucial therapy

Hobart Mercury, General News, 25/06/2025, Genevieve Holding, Page 5

A trio of Tasmanian researchers will soon begin drug development of a world-first eye treatment for people suffering from diabetic retinopathy. Diabetic retinopathy (DR) is a complication from diabetes that damages blood vessels in the retina and can cause blurred vision, dark areas of vision and in severe cases blindness.

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

'Tricky ethical space': endometriosis centre funded by family with links to poker machine giant divides experts

The Guardian, Other, 25/06/2025, Caitlin Cassidy & Henry Belot

A \$50m pledge to "revolutionise endometriosis research" by a family with links to a poker machine giant has divided academics and public health experts, who believe universities should distance themselves from the gambling industry. But other university staff cite a "moral obligation" to immediately use the money to ease the suffering of roughly 1 million Australian women living with endometriosis, rather than wait for "perfect funding sources".

[Read More](#)

Whiteley opens 'state-first' therapeutic plant in Tomago

Newcastle Herald, Other, 24/06/2025, Lisa Rockman

The \$25 million purpose-built plant will manufacture alcohol-based hand rubs and over-the-counter medicines for use in hospitals and healthcare facilities across Australia and New Zealand. Once fully operational, it is expected to create 30 new jobs across research, manufacturing, compliance and operations.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

We can't make excuses for poor Indigenous health outcomes

West Australian, General News, 25/06/2025, Emma Garlett, Page 13

When you live remotely, access to health care can be a real challenge. But that shouldn't be a reason for us to give up on providing quality services to those who need them, wherever they live.

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

'Unconscious racism' behind NSW police officer's decision not to call ambulance for Indigenous prisoner, watchdog finds

The Guardian, Other, 24/06/2025, Jordyn Beazley

A New South Wales police officer's decision not to call an ambulance after an Indigenous man was found self-harming in a prison cell was driven by "unconscious racism", the police watchdog has found. The Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (Lecc) released its report on the incident on Monday.

[Read More](#)

New approach needed to fulfil closing the gap promise

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/06/2025, Keira Jenkins

Governments are being urged to rethink their approach to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander people if they are serious about closing the gap. While the Closing the Gap framework is sound, its implementation has been inhibited by inaction, an independent, Indigenous-led review found.

[Read More](#)

Australia's new pharmacy stars

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 24/06/2025

The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) has announced the recipients of the 2025 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Scholarship. Delivered in partnership with Sanofi Australia, the scholarship program is designed to support the next generation of First Nations pharmacists by helping to reduce financial barriers, increase representation in the workforce, and foster culturally safe care pathways for communities.

[Read More](#)

'Celebrating the depth of our knowledge systems'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 24/06/2025, Michelle Wisbey

Themed 'strong, fearless, together', attendees have been left inspired by this year's Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference. 'It's an opportunity to celebrate the depth of our knowledge systems and showcase the role of First Nations peoples as the original scientists, health workers, and researchers on this continent.'

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Viruses found in Chinese fruitbats

Age, General News, 25/06/2025, Angus Dalton, Page 9

Scientists have called for intensified surveillance and biosecurity measures after the discovery of 20 new viruses within bats in China. One of the pathogens is now the closest-known relative of Hendra and Nipah viruses, which cause severe brain inflammation and respiratory disease in humans and have mortality rates between 40 and 80 per cent.

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Sutton made it through a pandemic, now for new war

Age, General News, 25/06/2025, Liam Mannix, Page 9

In early 2020, a rumour swept through the Middle East. As the novel coronavirus spread through the region, health authorities urged people to use alcohol-based hand sanitisers to kill it.

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Kennedy curse hits vaccine giant CSL's shares

Age, Business News, 25/06/2025, Elizabeth Knight, Page 20

What do you get when you appoint a vaccine sceptic to the world's most important health job? A bunch of disappointed Australian CSL investors.

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

Cairns hospital patient dies from rare, soil-borne disease melioidosis

ABC Online, Other, 24/06/2025, Chloe Chomicki

A hospital patient in Far North Queensland has died from the rare soil-borne disease, melioidosis. The fatality reported by the Cairns Hospital and Health Service, is the 32nd fatal case of melioidosis recorded in Queensland this year.

[Read More](#)

Aussie parents falsely claiming to be Aboriginal in an attempt to bypass strict vaccination requirements

Some parents are falsely claiming to be Aboriginal in an attempt to bypass strict vaccination requirements for children attending childcare and preschool. Under federal guidelines, parents must provide an immunisation history showing that their child is either fully vaccinated, on a recognised catch-up schedule for jabs, or has a valid medical exemption.

[Read More](#)

Aussie state on edge as sixth case of deadly disease emerges this year

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 24/06/2025, Nick Wilson

A West Australian man has been hospitalised with meningococcal disease marking the state's sixth case of the deadly disease this year. WA Health said on Tuesday the man had been diagnosed with meningococcal Type B and was recovering in hospital.

[Read More](#)

Outbreak of potentially deadly disease grows as authorities scramble to identify the source

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 24/06/2025, Matt Jones

An outbreak of the potentially deadly Legionnaires' disease has grown, with two more Australians testing positive as authorities struggle to find the source. Potts Point residents, in inner-Sydney, have been warned they are most at risk of contracting the disease after two more locals were diagnosed in the past two weeks.

[Read More](#)

HIV cases rising in Hunter New England, so Karumah needs funds

Newcastle Herald, Other, 24/06/2025

A rise in HIV cases in the Hunter New England health district has sparked calls for more support for those living with the virus. Newcastle's Serena Jacobs said those affected "need to know they are not alone and there is support".

[Read More](#)

WA Health issues meningococcal warning as one adult recovers in hospital with the bacterial infection

West Australian, Other, 24/06/2025, Claire Sadler

One case of meningococcal has been confirmed in WA in the past week, health authorities say. WA Health said an adult was diagnosed with meningococcal serogroup B and is recovering in hospital on Tuesday.

[Read More](#)

RSV vax decision deferred

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 24/06/2025, Leopold Hamulczyk

A decision on the proposed NIP listing of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine nirsevimab (Beyfortus) has been deferred, with the PBAC requiring further input from sponsor Sanofi-Aventis Australia and the Department of Health before moving forward with the proposal.

[Read More](#)

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Alert after fake-drugs seizure

Herald Sun, General News, 25/06/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 3

Counterfeit medications including fake cosmetic injectables, "substandard" weightloss jabs and a popular antivaxxer drug have been seized at the border. The Therapeutic Goods Administration issued

alerts for three counterfeit pharmaceuticals on Tuesday afternoon, warning they had intercepted multiple imports of fake drugs.

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

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IVF is tough enough without the ever-prevalent add-ons

Age, General News, 25/06/2025, Isabelle Oderberg, Page 18

Not all patients who seek fertility treatment are desperate like I was when I sought the help of an IVF specialist. [...] Dr Karin Hammarberg, a senior research fellow at Monash University's School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine who has extensively researched IVF add-ons, says some have little evidence to support their use, and in some cases may have adverse effects.

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

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Wait to help is over as donor rules change

Daily Advertiser, General News, 25/06/2025, Kabel Dawes, Page 5

For years, Wagga's Cliff Lewis has wanted to help save lives - and soon he will be able to. [...] Lifeblood is also working on changes to eligibility for blood and platelet donations after the Therapeutic Goods Administration approved a submission to remove gender-based sexual activity rules.

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

Administration errors reported with RSV prevention products

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 24/06/2025

Pharmacists urged to plan carefully to prevent dispensing and administration errors related to RSV prevention products. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) noted that it had received 84 reports "of product administration errors related to RSV prevention products"

[Read More](#)

TGA acts on unlawful supply of unregistered supplement

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 24/06/2025, Leopold Hamulczyk

Victorian-based business, Nourishmeorganics Pty Ltd, has paid \$18,780 to settle an infringement notice related to the importation and supply of an unregistered product. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) reported that [...]

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Shunter's cannabis test fail

Courier Mail, General News, 25/06/2025, Vanda Carson, Page 18

A "reckless" man who worked in a "safety critical" role shunting trains for Queensland Rail has failed in his bid for compensation after he was sacked for returning a cannabis test more than three times the national standard. [...] He claimed he was "self-medicating" due to a psychiatric injury developed when Queensland Rail had treated him unfairly for more than two years prior to his sacking.

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

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FOOD STANDARDS

Lab-grown meat has just been approved for consumption in Australia.

What is it and how is it made?

ABC Online, Other, 24/06/2025, Nadia Daly

In a kitchen in inner Sydney, chef Kevin Condon is listing the ingredients that go into his signature foie gras dish. [...] After a two-year-long process, Food Standards Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ) has given the green light for Vow's product to be sold for consumption.

[Read More](#)

Australians waste \$2500 of food every year. Experts say our confusing labels are to blame

9News, Other, 24/06/2025, Stephanie Anderson

Researchers are pushing for an overhaul of Australia's food labelling system, warning confusion about the current use of best-before and use-by dates is contributing to waste that is costing households thousands of dollars a year. RMIT University and Food Waste Australia have found consumers, overwhelmed by the information presented on packaging, often err on the side of caution and discard food that may still be safe to consume.

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2GB, Afternoons, 24/06/2025, Michael McLaren

Interview with James Cook University professor Hallam Stevens about lab-grown meat. Stevens discusses how Food Standards Australia New Zealand has approved lab-grown meat for consumption, ruling it safe and non-toxic. He explains that lab-grown meat is distinct from plant-based alternatives, and says its ethical and environmental benefits are key selling points.

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