



TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 27th June 2025

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#) |
[Assistant Minister White](#) | [Special Envoy Repacholi](#) | [Department](#) | [Vaccines](#) |
[Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Disability](#) | [Population Health](#)
| [Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions](#) | [Primary Care](#)
| [Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)
| [Medicare Benefits and Digital Health](#) | [Benefits Integrity](#)
| [Health Systems Strategies](#) | [Health Economics and Research](#)
| [First Nations Health](#) | [Interim Australian CDC](#) | [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#)
| [Office of Drug Control](#) | [Food Standards](#) | [AICIS](#)

LINKS

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [NT News](#) (page 1) reports that a Central Desert woman has called for better facilities and staffing at Tennant Creek Hospital and more federal support for the health system after alleged mistreatment of her husband's severe head injury. *Also reported by:* [NT News](#)
- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 3) reports that Western Sydney Local Health District chief executive Graeme Loy has resigned ahead of a no-confidence vote by doctors at Westmead Hospital, following reports of a blowout in waiting times for cancer patients. *Also reported by:* [ABC Online](#), [ABC Radio Sydney](#)
- The [Canberra Times](#) (page 5) reports that ACT Greens will oppose the "regressive" \$250 health levy introduced in this week's Budget. Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler has refused to endorse the measure. *Also reported by:* [Canberra Times](#), [2CC](#), [2CC](#)
- [The Australian](#) (page 7) reports that Shadow Minister and Assistant Minister for the NDIS, Anne Ruston and Phillip Thompson have demanded a three-month delay in NDIS pricing cuts for some allied health services in a letter to Minister Mark Butler. Mr Butler said this week that "We want to make sure that NDIS participants are not paying above the odds".
- The [Herald Sun](#) (page 7) reports a leaked screenshot from Ambulance Victoria has revealed that early on Tuesday morning only one of an estimated 130 ambulance crews was available with 49 calls outstanding, two critical.

- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 7) reports that researchers at QIMR Berghofer, Murdoch Children's Research Institute and The Royal Children's Hospital have used stem cells to build tiny, functional human heart analogs for use in cardiac research.
- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 9) reports that the Therapeutic Goods Administration has received nearly two thousand reports of adverse reactions to diabetes drugs Ozempic, Wegovy and Mounjaro since 2019.
- The [Herald Sun](#) (page 10) reports that Sydney-based Atomo Diagnostics is expanding the rollout of HIV self-testing kit vending machines in Victoria, NSW and South Australia. *Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Courier Mail](#)*

MINISTER BUTLER

Row over timeline for NDIS price cuts

The Australian, General News, 27/06/2025, Sarah Ison, Page 7

A move to slash maximum fees service providers such as physiotherapists and dietitians can charge NDIS participants has been blasted by the Coalition, which is demanding Labor delay any changes by at least three months after "failing to properly consider" the implications of the price cuts. In a letter to Disability Minister Mark Butler, opposition NDIS spokeswoman Anne Ruston and assistant opposition NDIS spokesman Phillip Thompson raised the alarm over what they called a "completely insufficient" time frame and lack of consultation on the matter.

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

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

Allied health cost-cutting measures detrimental to NDIS participants: McCormack

Gundagai Independent, General News, 26/06/2025, Page 5

Member for Riverina Michael McCormack is calling for an immediate stop to the National Disability Insurance Agency's decision to slash cost limits and travel funding for Allied Health Services. [...] Mr McCormack has written to Ministers responsible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Mark Butler MP and Senator Jenny McAllister, regarding the issue and says he hopes the Federal Government listens to the pleas of those who are on the ground supporting some of the most vulnerable community members.

Also reported by: [Temora Independent \(Temora\)](#).

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

Tax talk is starting to consume Chalmers' reform summit

Australian Financial Review, General News, 27/06/2025, Phillip Coorey, Page 29

On Tuesday this week, Jim Chalmers, as is his prerogative, held a press conference to remind voters of the "substantial additional help" headed their way from July 1. [mentions Mr Butler as Minister for Health]

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

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

'Back to the drawing board': Greens oppose health tax

Canberra Times, General News, 27/06/2025, Lanie Tindale, Page 5

The ACT Greens will oppose a \$250 health tax, leader Shane Rattenbury revealed in his budget reply speech on Thursday. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler also refused to endorse the tax, which Mr Steel said was only needed because the federal government was playing hard-ball on national health agreement negotiations.

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

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

ACT cops federal flak over 'outrageous' \$250 health levy

Health Minister Mark Butler has declined to back ACT Labor's decision to impose a \$250 health tax on Canberra ratepayers, while rejecting the Barr government's claims the levy was needed because the Albanese government did not adequately fund public hospitals. "Each government ... will decide the way in which they raise funds," Mr Butler told reporters in Canberra on Wednesday.

[Read More](#)

Papers coming amid barbs from Shooter

Border Mail, General News, 27/06/2025, Anthony Bunn, Page 3

Documents about the Albury hospital redevelopment will now be made public, after a Shooters, Fishers and Farmers MP changed his mind. [...] Correspondence about the project involving various politicians has been sought. They include Border MPs Justin Clancy and Sussan Ley, federal ministers Mark Butler and Jim Chalmers, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas.

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

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

Medical rezoning win

Tweed Valley Weekly, General News, 26/06/2025, Jo Kennett, Page 5

The rates of bulk billing have increased in Murwillumbah and the doctor shortage is being reversed since the federal government reclassified the town from city back to rural, according to a local doctor. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler visited the medical centre last May at the invitation of Ms Elliot to speak to Dr Tony Camilleri and Dr Richard Wellm about the doctor shortage and bulk-billing problems.

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

He had cancer - but still won't quit smoking. Meet the influencer kids love

Canberra Times, Other, 26/06/2025, Saffron Howden

Despite having a testicle removed due to cancer, cream bun-scoffing social media personality Alex Wood has no plans to quit smoking. [...] When ACM approached the eSafety Commissioner, which regulates online safety, about the potential harms of alcohol and smoking content on social media - especially for children - it was directed to the federal health department. [...] But a spokesman said Health Minister Mark Butler had urged social media companies to do more to limit this kind of content on their platforms.

Syndicated across Australian Community Media websites

[Read More](#)

Health Minister's intervention sees funding boost for hospitals

CathNews, Other, 26/06/2025, Rebecca Comini

Catholic Health Australia has welcomed an increase in the amount private health insurers are giving back to patients and hospitals following Health Minister Mark Butler's call for insurers to raise their contributions. "For several years health insurers have been banking substantial profits while returning less to patients and hospitals, threatening services and their viability," said Katharine Bassett, CHA director of health policy.

Related coverage: [The Lismore App \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

ABC NewsRadio, Breakfast, 26/06/2025, Thomas Oriti

As private hospitals close and operators collapse, there are growing calls to reform the sector to ensure its long-term sustainability. The Federal Health Minister yesterday announced that pressure is being put on health insurers to pay hospitals more and that pressure is starting to help. But as political reporter Romy Stephens found out, questions remain over whether it goes far enough.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, 10:00 News, 26/06/2025

The Federal Government faces growing pressure to reform Australia's health system or risk the closure of more private hospitals and operators. It comes after the money that health insurers pay private practices has been declining since the pandemic. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says he has been pressuring insurers to give private operators to give more. However, Catholic Health Australia Organisation's Katharine Basset says it's not enough, demanding transparency.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Perth, 13:00 News, 26/06/2025

Private healthcare providers say they're struggling to cover the cost of many essential services as they call on the federal government to reform the sector. The benefits ratio, the amount that health insurers pay private practises has been in decline since the pandemic. The Health Minister Mark Butler says he's been pressuring insurers to give private operators a bigger slice of their income. But Private Healthcare Australia CEO Rachel David says the ratio is already relatively high.

[Play Now](#)

2GB host Ben Fordham says smokers 'handing money' to criminals with Australia's growing illicit tobacco market ranked among world's top three

Sky News Australia, Other, 26/06/2025, David Wu and Holly Fishlock

A radio host has warned criminals will continue to thrive from the illicit tobacco market, as smokers turn to cheaper alternatives due to the government's high cigarette excise. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler recently said lowering prices would not do any good, claiming most countries with lower-priced cigarettes have a "burgeoning black market".

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 26/06/2025, Sharyn Ghidella

Australians at a high risk of lung cancer are among the first on the planet to get a free screening. The hope is to pick up the deadly disease in long-term smokers before it's too late. [clip: Minister Butler]

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 26/06/2025, Melissa Downes

It's a disease that kills 9,000 Australians every year, but it's hoped that number will soon change dramatically. Australia's first ever lung cancer screening programme launches next week, providing CT scans to those most at risk of the disease, all free of charge. [clip: Minister Butler]

[Play Now](#)

Noongar Radio, 07:00 News, 26/06/2025

Australians living with a disability have been left scratching their heads as not a single state budget mentioned a figure for the foundational supports due to begin within the next six months. Commonwealth and state governments are still negotiating a long-term funding agreement for public hospitals while splitting the cost in the NDIS and the incoming foundational supports. Speaking to the Community Radio Network, Federal Minister for NDIS Mark Butler says all governments have agreed to contribute \$10 billion to funding new disability services. [clip: Minister Butler]

[Play Now](#)

2SER FM, The Wire, 26/06/2025, Emma Wotzke

Wotzke is joined by Powerd Media disability rights reporter Emma Myers to discuss the absence of funding for Foundational Supports in any state budget. Myers says Foundational Supports are funded fifty-fifty by the Commonwealth and States and Territories. She says that people are being pushed off the NDIS, with NDIS Ministers Mark Butler and Jenny McAllister announcing that children under the age of nine will no longer be eligible for the NDIS once Foundational Supports are underway.

Continues: [2SER FM \(Sydney\)](#).

ABC Radio Melbourne, 06:00 News, 26/06/2025

The Australian Medical Students Association says a programme designed to draw more medical graduates into regional areas is flawed with people cheating the system. The Bonded Medical Program provides additional places in medical schools that are commonwealth-supported in return for three years of service in an eligible regional, rural or remote area. But since the programme was established in 2002, only 13 per cent of the nearly 17,000 participants have completed their return of service. [...] The Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says new incentives and additional payments have been implemented to support doctors working in rural and remote communities.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Ballarat, Australia Wide, 26/06/2025, Alex Hyman

ABC reporter Natasha Schapova discusses the Australian Medical Students Association calling for a review of the Bonded Medical Program. Schapova says that rebuilding general practice is a top priority for the Federal Government, according to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, which is why new incentives and payments are being introduced to support rural doctors.

Continues: [ABC Ballarat \(Ballarat\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, PM, 26/06/2025, Samantha Donovan

David LoRicco, a 55-year-old man with severe intellectual disabilities, was forced to move out of his home in Botanic Ridge because his accommodation is no longer covered following changes to his NDIS plan. In a statement, the NDIA said LoRicco's new plan actually increases the funding for housing and daily assistance to over \$500,000, but New Growth Care Group CEO Danielle Tirosh says NDIS funding is released in installments for different aspects of LoRicco's care. Tirosh says the office of Federal Health, Disability and Ageing Minister Mark Butler told her yesterday that it is open to review LoRicco's case.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, 13:00 News, 26/06/2025

The AMA says the closure of Mount Gambier's Medicare Urgent Care Clinic is unfortunate, but the clinics are a short-term solution to rising healthcare costs and shortage of doctors. It's a sentiment shared by Dr Clare Keogh from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has declined to comment.

Continues: [ABC Radio Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Darwin , Morning Show, 26/06/2025, Rick Hind

Interview with Wounds Australia CEO Jeff Antcliff on raising awareness of chronic wounds. Antcliff says their study has found that 50 per cent of people won't identify a recurring wound as chronic and 25 per cent will wait more than a week before getting professional help. He says last week, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler made an announcement about Chronic Wound Consumables Scheme.

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

MINISTER MCALLISTER

Allied health cost-cutting measures detrimental to NDIS participants: McCormack

Gundagai Independent, General News, 26/06/2025, Page 5

Member for Riverina Michael McCormack is calling for an immediate stop to the National Disability Insurance Agency's decision to slash cost limits and travel funding for Allied Health Services. [...] Mr

McCormack has written to Ministers responsible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Mark Butler MP and Senator Jenny McAllister, regarding the issue and says he hopes the Federal Government listens to the pleas of those who are on the ground supporting some of the most vulnerable community members.

Also reported by: [Temora Independent \(Temora\)](#).

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

Alarm over impacts of NDIS changes upon services and communities in rural and remote areas

Croakey, Other, 26/06/2025, Cath Maloney

New 2025-26 NDIS pricing arrangements could force many therapy providers located in rural and remote Australia to consider withdrawing services from small rural communities after 1 July 2025. [...] SARRAH has requested meetings with Senator Jenny McAllister, Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, and representatives from the National Disability Insurance Agency, to raise our concerns.

[Read More](#)

2SER FM, The Wire, 26/06/2025, Emma Wotzke

Wotzke is joined by Powerd Media disability rights reporter Emma Myers to discuss the absence of funding for Foundational Supports in any state budget. Myers says Foundational Supports are funded fifty-fifty by the Commonwealth and States and Territories. She says that people are being pushed off the NDIS, with NDIS Ministers Mark Butler and Jenny McAllister announcing that children under the age of nine will no longer be eligible for the NDIS once Foundational Supports are underway.

Continues: [2SER FM \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER RAE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Rural NSW maternity services in crisis

Muswellbrook Chronicle, Other, 26/06/2025, Elizabeth Anderson

The number of babies born before arriving at the hospital has tripled in parts of regional NSW this century, according to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data. [...] Federal Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride said the framework provided a set of guiding principles as government, health services and clinicians worked together to improve rural maternity services.

Also reported by: [The Scone Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Hunter Valley News \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Diabetes drugs in medical warning

Courier Mail, General News, 27/06/2025, Danielle Gusmaroli, Page 9

Almost two thousand patients using anti-diabetes injections such as Ozempic, Wegovy and Mounjaro have complained of adverse reactions in six years in figures thought to be wildly under reported, with the most common ailment being rare but serious pancreatitis. State figures are not available from Department of Health and Aged Care, but The Courier-Mail can reveal 351 cases of pancreatitis when the pancreas suddenly becomes inflamed were reported for the anti-diabetes medicines since they have been marketed in Australia.

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

Health clinic em-urgency

SE Voice, General News, 26/06/2025, Lechelle Earl, Page 1

Health authorities are scrambling to find a solution to Tuesday's closure of the Mount Gambier Medicare Urgent Care Clinic. [...] A Department of Health, Disability and Ageing spokesperson said the department is committed to working closely with CSAPHN to re-establish urgent care services for the Mount Gambier community as soon as possible.

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

He had cancer - but still won't quit smoking. Meet the influencer kids love

Canberra Times, Other, 26/06/2025, Saffron Howden

Despite having a testicle removed due to cancer, cream bun-scoffing social media personality Alex Wood has no plans to quit smoking. [...] When ACM approached the eSafety Commissioner, which regulates online safety, about the potential harms of alcohol and smoking content on social media - especially for children - it was directed to the federal health department. [...] But a spokesman said Health Minister Mark Butler had urged social media companies to do more to limit this kind of content on their platforms.

Syndicated across Australian Community Media websites

[Read More](#)

Can you bill Medicare for group consults? This is what the federal Health Department says

Australian Doctor, Other, 26/06/2025, Rachel Carter

This month, AusDoc's interview with GP Dr Alecia Macrow on group consultations sparked debate over whether the consultations are billable to Medicare. [...] Last week, AusDoc asked the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, as well as the Professional Services Review, for their positions.

[Read More](#)

September too late for SaH manual release, says peak

Community Care Review, Other, 26/06/2025, Natasha Egan

Ageing Australia chief executive officer Tom Symondson has called for a prompt turnaround between the finalisation of the rules and publishing of the manual for the Support at Home program, which is due to start on 1 November with the new Aged Care Act. [...] CCR sought information from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing about the planned release of the final version of the manual this morning, but has not yet received a response.

[Read More](#)

Final Support at Home manual now scheduled for September: “not long enough” says Tom Symondson

The Weekly Source, Other, 26/06/2025, Caroline Egan

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has told The Weekly SOURCE the final version of the Support at Home manual won't be released until September, three months later than previously expected. "With the Australian Government's announcement that the start date of the new Aged Care Act 2024 will be briefly deferred, a final version of the program manual is now due to be released in September 2025," a spokesperson for the Department said.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

VACCINES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Volunteer community transport cuts back social outings for aged care clients

ABC Online, Other, 26/06/2025, Wade Stephens

A volunteer transport service in Victoria's north west says it has been forced to cut its offerings in the lead-up to the federal government's aged care reforms. For more than four decades, SunAssist Volunteer Helpers Incorporated has driven clients in the regional town of Mildura to medical appointments, supermarkets, and social outings.

[Read More](#)

Manual labourer unable to work into retirement calls for differentiated pension age

ABC Online, Other, 26/06/2025, Fiona Blackwood

Ross began work as a builder at 15. Now at nearly 67, he describes his body as "destroyed". He has been unable to work for the past four years and has been surviving on Centrelink payments and savings.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 26/06/2025, Kylie Baxter

Interview with Council on the Ageing Australia acting CEO Corey Irlam on calls for the Age Pension to be lowered on a case-by-case basis for people who've spent their lives as manual labourers. Irlam says there's JobSeeker for people aged below 67 who can't work but JobSeeker is much lower than Age Pension. He says increasing JobSeeker will fix a lot of problem, especially for many older Australians who can no longer work.

[Play Now](#)

You can help prevent falls, updated guide shows

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 26/06/2025, Sandy Cheu and Natasha Egan

Regular assessment and tailored multifactorial interventions including challenging and ongoing exercise programs for older people in residential aged care and the community feature strongly among the recommendations in the updated guidelines on preventing falls released this week.

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

[Read More](#)

Don't forget to celebrate the wins, say executives

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 26/06/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

With the new Act delayed to November, the sector should keep the momentum of reform going but also take time to reflect on its resilience over the last few years, say industry leaders.

[Read More](#)

Flexibility, choice key to quality care

Community Care Review, Other, 26/06/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Home care providers need to focus on staff training as they prepare for the upcoming reforms, and ensure they have the right knowledge and training to implement new systems, My Guardian chair John Ajaka told the day 1 audience at the Ageing Australia NSW/ACT conference.

[Read More](#)

Australia's top 25 home care providers according to KPMG

The Weekly Source, Other, 26/06/2025, Caroline Egan

Management consultants KPMG have released their eighth annual analysis of the Australian aged care market, including a ranking of Australia's top 25 home care providers. Topping the list, which is ranked by market share of Home Care Package revenue, this year is Australian Unity , which acquired last year's number one home care provider, my Homecare Group , in March 2024.

[Read More](#)

Going nowhere fast: aged care is shrinking yet the sector's money keeps growing

The Weekly Source, Other, 26/06/2025, Lauren Broomham

KPMG's latest deep dive into the aged care sector is released today and it confirms what many of us already know. Demand is rising. So is the money. But the sector? It's still shrinking.

[Read More](#)

Two in five home care providers unprofitable with more to quit sector: UARC

The Weekly Source, Other, 26/06/2025, Caroline Egan

The seventh report from the UTS Ageing Research Collaborative (UARC) has highlighted concerns about profitability in the home care sector just months out from the new Support at Home program. UARC 's 134-page Aged Care Sector Mid-Year Report 2024-25 , which has been restructured to prioritise home care given the shift towards care in the home, states 40% of home care operators were operating at a loss in the six months to 31 December 2024.

[Read More](#)

Thousands at risk from delay to Home Care Packages, cautions Prue Bowden

The Weekly Source, Other, 26/06/2025, Caroline Egan

The leader of Australia's largest home care provider has warned the Federal Government's decision to delay the release of tens of thousands of Home Care Packages could cause serious harm to older Australians. In an op-ed published in The Australian, Prue Bowden – Group Executive, Home Health, at Australian Unity – said the four-month deferral of 83,000 Packages until 1 November would prolong suffering and increase pressure on families and hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Aged care COVID-19 cases hit 12-month high as 34 die in one week

The Weekly Source, Other, 26/06/2025, Caroline Egan

As winter conditions worsen, the number of aged care staff and residents who contracted COVID-19 in the last week increased 14% to more than 2,000, the highest level seen since last July. In the week to 19 June, 34 aged care residents died from COVID-19 , taking the total toll for the pandemic to 7,424.

[Read More](#)

Will the fresh aged-care rules ease Australia's housing squeeze?

Your Life Choices, Other, 26/06/2025, Don Turrobia

There's a quiet revolution happening in the world of aged care, and it's set to change the way many Australians spend their later years. If you have elderly parents or you're starting to think about your own future, now's the time to get across these changes because they could affect everything from your family's living arrangements to the broader housing market.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

DISABILITY

Not his first fight on tax

Daily Telegraph, General News, 27/06/2025, John Rolfe, Page 19

The man behind banned NDIS provider Cocoon which went under in May leaving debts of \$52 million was once accused of failing to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax and workers' superannuation in a previous company collapse. The Daily Telegraph can reveal the Australian Taxation Office sued Zaffar Khan in 2017, seeking more than \$650,000 of allegedly outstanding income tax, withholding tax and retirement contributions.

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

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

'Reckless' cuts decision is 'a betrayal'

Launceston Examiner, General News, 27/06/2025, Honni Pitt, Page 39

The primary outcome of the recently released NDIS pricing update is clear. Rather than helping the NDIS reach its sustainable growth target of eight per cent, it will instead see the participants the scheme is designed to support suffer, as recognised and respected providers cease allied health services and, in some instances, close completely.

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

NDIS cuts could cost Mallee

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 27/06/2025, Phoebe Griffiths, Page 12

Proposed National Disability Insurance Agency changes are set to cause disruptions to regional areas like the Mallee, say welfare groups. From July 1, the NDIA plans to cut travel time payments by 50 per cent as well as freeze price limits on select allied health and NDIS services.

Similar coverage: [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Pilbara News \(Online\)](#).

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

[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

Third runway long-term health probe

Age, General News, 27/06/2025, Adam Carey, Page 24

The long-term health effects of Melbourne Airport's future third runway will be studied in a 20-year project that will track how increased flight activity affects people's sleep, mental health and even children's reading comprehension. The study will be the first large-scale, long-term investigation of aviation and community health of its kind in Australia.

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

[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Being super fit could trigger this heart disorder

Australian Financial Review, General News, 27/06/2025, Euan Black, Page 10

Regular intense exercise could be a counterintuitive factor behind a condition with potentially dire consequences, writes Euan Black.

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

Shelley had a headache. It turned into a rare acute myeloid leukaemia diagnosis

7news.com.au, Other, 26/06/2025, Lauren Thomson

The mum-of-two felt a bit run down, and initially thought she just had a cold. Shelley Garvey blamed her fatigue and headaches on a slow recovery from a virus. It turned out to be a rare form of cancer.

[Read More](#)

Someone had to die for Naomi to get the life-saving care she needed amid Australia's dialysis crisis

9News, Other, 26/06/2025, Maddison Leach

Naomi Best was given two days' warning before she had to start dialysis for kidney failure. The 60-year-old from Port Lincoln was diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease (PKD), a form of chronic kidney disease (CKD), at 35 but lived without symptoms for years.

[Read More](#)

Action call on rare cancers

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 26/06/2025

Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) is advocating for pharmacists to be better integrated into cancer care, especially for people living with rare cancers. The call comes on Rare Cancers Awareness Day today and follows a recent submission by AdPha to Rare Cancers Australia's efforts to design a new Optimal Care Pathway.

Also reported by: [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 26/06/2025, Leon Delaney

Interview with Leukaemia Foundation head of research Bill Stavreski regarding Rare Cancers Awareness Day. Stavreski says they seeking to raise awareness about acute myeloid leukaemia (AML).

Continues: [2CC \(Canberra\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 26/06/2025, Leon Delaney

The Leukaemia Foundation is calling for more education and research surrounding rare blood cancers. Survival rates for acute myeloid leukaemia have not improved in two decades. Symptoms include fatigue, shortness of breath, easy bruising or bleeding, frequent infections, fever and bone pain. Chief Executive Chris Tanti says early intervention can make a difference.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Breakfast, 26/06/2025, Sally Sara

Interview with NeuroEndocrine Cancer Australia CEO Meredith Cummins about neuroendocrine cancer. Cummins says a lot has changed with rare and less common cancers, especially neuroendocrine cancer, over the years and it's wonderful to see that there are a lot more options for patients to be treated.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Hospital boss departs after diagnosis delays revealed

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 27/06/2025, Angus Thomson and Kate Aubusson, Page 3

The head of one of Sydney's busiest health districts has departed after it emerged patients with cancer were waiting up to a year for essential procedures due to a massive backlog of cases. Less than an hour before they were due to move a vote of no confidence in Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) chief executive Graeme Loy, doctors at Westmead Hospital received an email from NSW Health secretary Susan Pearce informing them Loy would be leaving the position next week.

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

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

ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 26/06/2025, Dom Knight

Interview with Westmead Medical Staff Council deputy chair Dr Jenny King on Western Sydney Local Health District CEO Graeme Loy's resignation over allegations of poor patient safety and delayed cancer diagnosis at the hospital.

[Play Now](#)

Horror one per cent effort

Herald Sun, General News, 27/06/2025, Shannon Deery, Page 7

It's the damning screenshot that highlights Victoria's worsening ambulance crisis – showing just 1 per cent of Melbourne's ambulance crews were available early on Tuesday morning. The leaked Ambulance Victoria image shows that 1 per cent of the estimated 130 crews across metropolitan Melbourne, or a single ambulance, was not allocated to a job.

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

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

Head trauma horror

Northern Territory News, General News, 27/06/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 1

Danyelle Haigh did not see the moment her husband Anthony was hit in the head by a huge steel hose, but the moments following the incident are now forever scored in her mind. [...] She called for better facilities at Tennant Creek Hospital, more trained doctors and nurses who understood the NT and training for staff on patient care and communicating with family at Alice Springs Hospital after being labelled "aggressive" and the "cranky wife". Danyelle also said the health system needed more support from the federal government.

Editorial: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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

Grattan Institute report

Northern Territory News, Letters, 27/06/2025, Dr Peter Smith, Page 40

The Grattan Report document is a good piece of work that draws many wrong conclusions. Firstly, we must address the urban myth about our medical colleges "not training enough specialists".

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

Labor's hospital problem

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 27/06/2025, Tom Gillespie, Page 1

Labor has taken aim at the lack of clear funding commitments for key Toowoomba projects in David Janetzki's first state budget, with one MP describing it as a package full of "broken promises". [...] The new Toowoomba Hospital at Baillie Henderson was a line item, but unfortunately without specific costs for 2025-26.

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

Bleeding money for treatment

Daily Mercury, General News, 27/06/2025, Krystal Hender, Page 1

Women and girls in regional Queensland say they're left with the bill for expensive endometriosis treatments, forking out as much as \$12,000 to travel for surgeries not available nearby. That is despite efforts to close the healthcare gap, including Whitsunday Regional Council contributing \$10,000 towards new equipment at Proserpine Hospital for endometrial ablation so that it can be performed locally.

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

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

Care clinic closed

Border Watch, General News, 27/06/2025, Melanie Riley, Page 1

Mount Gambier/Berrin's Medicare Urgent Care Clinic has closed, after struggling with staff shortages and difficulty sourcing locum doctors for several months. The decision was made from the liquidators SV Partners to cease operation of the business on Tuesday June 24, 2025.

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

Where is Adam?

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2025, Lucy Crock and Gemma Carter, Page 1

A missing father who vanished after trying to access help at Geelong Hospital has missed his daughter's first birthday. [...] Detective Senior Constable Travis Wright said: "He went to the hospital to ask for some help, it was a busy night at the Geelong Hospital and he wasn't seen to straight away and he wandered off. He wasn't admitted, he didn't obtain any treatment on the night."

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

Plan for automatic housing approvals

Launceston Examiner, General News, 27/06/2025, Bailey Forbes, Page 5

Premier Jeremy Rockliff has announced his government will "continue to cut red tape" by automatically approving planning applications not approved before a specific deadline. [...] The Greens have announced they want to see an end to solo paramedic shifts, something they have been calling for since May 2024. They say in the past three years, they have heard from paramedics from cities and regional areas that short staffing has become so bad that working shifts alone has become common.

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

When will GPs start diagnosing and prescribing for ADHD?

Australian Doctor, Other, 26/06/2025, Jamie Thannoo

The first 65 GPs to independently diagnose and treat ADHD for adults and children should be ready to begin by the end of 2026, the WA Government says. WA Minister for Health Meredith Hammat has committed \$1.3 million to train GPs to manage ADHD amid blown-out psychiatry waitlists.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 26/06/2025, Peter Overton

A Punchbowl couple is suing the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network claiming their daughter as a newborn was shaken while in its care. The girl suffered a brain injury which has left her permanently disabled. Her parents want justice and to make sure no other family has to suffer what they went through.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 26/06/2025, Leon Delaney

Interview with Shadow Health Minister Anne Ruston regarding the ACT's \$250 health levy. Ruston says it makes a mockery of Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's Medicare claims during the election campaign.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 26/06/2025, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with RACGP NSW/ACT chair Dr Rebekah Hoffman regarding the ACT's \$250 health levy. She says it doesn't actually say which part of healthcare it will contribute to.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

New dads' anxiety can affect kids

Daily Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2025, Maeve Bannister, Page 6

Early parenthood expectations can often be overly optimistic, anticipated as a magical time for a family getting to know their new baby. But for Craig Anderson, mental health challenges meant his early years of fatherhood were a nightmare.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#).

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

Main street stabbing

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 27/06/2025, Sam Turner, Page 1

A 41-year-old man accused of stabbing a patron at a Sunshine Coast watering hole was released from a mental health facility just hours earlier, it can be revealed. Ryan Lee Gray was arrested by police following the violent incident at the Commercial Hotel on Currie St in Nambour on Tuesday afternoon.

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

Burnout busters

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 27/06/2025, Taylor Penny and Jorina Maureschat, Page 16

Luxury health retreats are increasingly seeing Australians – from executives to struggling parents – seeking help not for mental health conditions, but due to crippling burnout. Exhausted mums and even high-flying young professionals are forking out between \$6000 and \$25,000 to detox from their phones, eat healthy meals, meditate and do music therapy at retreats across Australia.

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

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Nurses to limit work

Hobart Mercury, General News, 27/06/2025, Bridget Clarke, Page 14

The nurses' union has vowed to continue industrial action if severe staffing shortages are not immediately resolved, saying unsafe working conditions at the Royal Hobart Hospital are pushing members to "breaking point". Representatives from the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) met with the Department of Health on Wednesday to demand an immediate staffing uplift in the RHH's medical imaging department, which employs around 25 nurses.

2800 doctors to strike next month unless govt improves pay offer

Australian Doctor, Other, 26/06/2025, Ciara Seccombe

Thousands of hospital doctors will strike for 24 hours next month unless the SA Government revises its offer of a 10% pay rise spread over three years. The strike, scheduled for 30 July, would leave hospitals with public holiday levels of staffing, which would not risk patient safety but would likely delay elective surgeries, according to the SA Salaried Medical Officers Association (SASMOA).

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 26/06/2025, Tiffany Warne

The Malinauskas Government is facing a second dramatic escalation of hostilities in a pay fight with workers in hospitals, health and disability employees today threatening to expand their campaign of disruption statewide a day after doctors announced their intentions for a 24-hour strike.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

'We need a major transformation of our notification system'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 26/06/2025, Kate Cowling

Recently appointed Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) CEO Justin Untersteiner says emergent risks in the health landscape require a new approach from the authority.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Donating to save lives

Northern Territory News, General News, 27/06/2025, Thomas McLean, Page 6

Rebecca Henshaw would not be alive without a blood donor. During her birth her mother was given an urgent lifesaving blood transfusion moments after giving birth to her. "If it wasn't for the blood transfusion, (Mum) wouldn't be here," Ms Henshaw said.

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

Lab-grown hearts aid research

Courier Mail, General News, 27/06/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 7

Queensland scientists have developed lab-grown tiny hearts, the size of a chia seed, which will be used to better understand and treat devastating heart diseases especially those impacting children. A groundbreaking collaboration between QIMR Berghofer, Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI), and The Royal Children's Hospital opens the gate for researchers to use the tiny hearts to test new drugs.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#).

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

Greens for healthy heart

Daily Telegraph, General News, 27/06/2025, Page 5

A cup and a half of leafy green vegetables could go a long way when it comes to stopping the likes of heart attacks and strokes. A new study from Australia's Edith Cowan University has found that a higher dietary intake of vitamin K1, found in vegetables like kale, broccoli and spinach, could help reduce a person's risk atherosclerotic vascular diseases.

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

Saliva test key to keto diet

Herald Sun, General News, 27/06/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 19

A simple saliva test could replace daily blood tests for millions of people with epilepsy, offering a painless way to track the "keto" diet without fingerprick tests. A Melbourne-led research team has trialled a non-invasive, painless test it hopes will expand access particularly among children to the "under-utilised" treatment.

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

You can be a part of lifesaving work

Hobart Mercury, General News, 27/06/2025, Dr Ingrid Cox, Page 19

My grandmother was a vibrant, generous woman. [...] Today, I live in Hobart and work as a postdoctoral research fellow in health economics at the Menzies Institute for Medical Research. My focus is helping Tasmanians diagnosed with lung cancer get the care they need, faster.

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

ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 26/06/2025, Joel Rheinberger

Interview with Menzies Institute for Medical Research director Professor Tracey Dickson and senior research fellow Associate Professor Verity Cleland on their medical research. Dickson says they're interested in diseases like multiple sclerosis, cardiovascular disease, cancer and dementia.

Continues: [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

Career blocks for female scientists put under scrutiny

Canberra Times, Other, 27/06/2025, Maeve Bannister

Gender discrimination, ageism and lack of job security are among the obstacles causing many female science researchers to exit the sector prematurely. It's estimated Australia could lose up to 40 per cent of its cancer research workforce unless changes are made to address gender equality.

[Read More](#)

UQ breakthrough in understanding Alzheimer's

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 26/06/2025

Researchers from the University of Queensland's School of Biomedical Sciences have found a crucial link between early brain degeneration, impaired waste clearance in the brain and the deterioration of

neurons associated with Alzheimer's disease.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 26/06/2025, Melissa Downes

A trial of cutting-edge cancer treatment is right now underway, and Queensland patients are first in line, [Mater Research] using tracing technology, tailor-made for patients suffering one of the deadliest cancers Australian women can get.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Productivity Commission interim report confirms mental health system failing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

National Indigenous Times, Other, 26/06/2025, Giovanni Torre

Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia has welcomed what it calls "the candid assessment of a fragmented and failing system" in the Productivity Commission's interim report on the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement. The mental health advocacy group urged that the report's recommendations must be met with a genuine commitment from governments to appropriately fund and engage in shared decision-making with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Vending machine HIV tests roll out

Herald Sun, General News, 27/06/2025, Zoe Smith, Page 10

More Australians will have access to free HIV self-testing kits through a national rollout of vending machines across the country in universities and nightclubs. In a groundbreaking move to help break down barriers to testing and address social stigma around HIV, Sydney-based Atomo Diagnostics is now supplying thousands of self-test kits to sexual health programs across the nation.

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

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

High rate of flu is 'not unusual'

The Extra (Albany), General News, 27/06/2025, Claire Middleton, Page 1

Great Southern influenza rates are higher than last year but the region is not in the grips of a horror flu season, according to health professionals. Although the WA Country Health Service was adamant vaccination was still the best protection against the virus, a spokesperson said the high infection rate was not unusual.

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

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

Whooping cough cases soar

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 27/06/2025, Jack Dyson Evans, Page 4

Health experts have warned families across Toowoomba and the South West to be vaccine-vigilant as whooping cough cases spike by up to 153 per cent from the previous year in some parts. Despite whooping cough (pertussis) cases dropping across Queensland, the Darling Downs and South West have seen significant increases in people with the potentially fatal infection.

HIV transmission in Papua New Guinea at crisis levels

Canberra Times, Other, 27/06/2025, Ben McKay

As transmission rates soar, Papua New Guinea has declared a national HIV crisis to try and galvanise action to prevent the spread of the virus. UNAIDS and the World Health Organisation estimate the Pacific nation recorded 11,000 new cases last year alone.

[Read More](#)

How to limit the spread of COVID, cold and flu at home in winter

ABC Online, Other, 26/06/2025, Anna Chisholm

Winter can be a contagious time of year for everything from COVID-19 to the common cold. Once someone in your household feels the first ominous tickle at the back of their throat, everyone else can feel doomed to follow.

[Read More](#)

WA extends free flu vax

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 26/06/2025

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia WA Branch has welcomed the state government's decision to extend the current Free Influenza Vaccination Program until 31 Jul. The state is currently suffering from the onset of the most severe influenza season in recent years, with over 8,700 influenza notifications to the WA Department of Health - twice the average of the previous five years.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Methylphenidate shortages set to continue

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 26/06/2025

Multiple medications used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) are likely to remain in short supply until 2026 More ADHD medications are expected to be in short supply in the coming weeks, as manufacturers forecast shortages will continue for several months, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) says.

[Read More](#)

TGA crackdown for Aussie Gelatin

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 26/06/2025

The Aussie Gelatin Company has committed to a court-enforced undertaking to comply with laws relating to advertising, manufacturing and supply of TGA listed products. The order follows alleged unlawful activity over an 18-month period from May 2023 to Nov 2024 where The Aussie Geletin Company was accused of advertising its Nutraviva Bone and Joint Formula products in contravention of the Therapeutic Goods Act 1989.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Australians are the world's biggest users of cocaine

Australian Financial Review, Other, 27/06/2025, Angus Whitley

Australia and New Zealand are the world's biggest users of cocaine , as global consumption of the illicit drug reaches record highs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime said in its latest report.

[Read More](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Nestle says it will remove artificial dyes from US foods by 2026

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 26/06/2025, AP

Nestle said Wednesday it will eliminate artificial colors from its U.S. food and beverages by the middle of 2026. It's the latest big food company making that pledge. Last week, Kraft Heinz and General Mills said they would remove artificial dyes from their U.S. products by 2027.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

Revised guidelines for drinking water

Newcastle Herald, General News, 27/06/2025, Matthew Kelly, Page 4

Hunter Water has welcomed revised Australian drinking water guidelines for forever chemicals. Australia's National Health and Medical Research Council has updated its guidelines this week. They limit perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) at 200 nanograms per litre, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) at 8ng/L, perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) at 30ng/L and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS) at 1000ng/L.

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

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.
See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

