



# TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 12th July 2025

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **AFR Weekend** (page 1) reports that Labor MP Dr Mike Freelander says overdiagnosis of mental health issues is fuelling a blowout in insurance and compensation payouts. Former mental health commissioner Ian Hickie believes it has more to do with poorly-targeted payments, saying Minister Mark Butler has a unique opportunity to address the problem.
- **AFR Weekend** (page 1) reports that the Health Department has investigated insurers competing for sign-ups with offers of months of free cover while struggling private hospital operators beg for a greater share of funds' profits. Health Minister Mark Butler has put funds on notice to direct an extra \$350 million to hospitals this financial year.
- The **Courier Mail** (page 1) reports Olympic swimmer Leisel Jones has shared the story of her battle with depression. *Also reported by:* [Daily Telegraph](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#)
- The **NT News** (page 3) reports that Ngalkanbuy Wellness Centre in remote East Arnhem Land will be upgraded with \$4.8 million from the Aboriginal Benefits Account, matched by funding from Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation, Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation and the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 9) reports that University of Adelaide researchers have developed a long-acting formulation of key Parkinson's disease medications that can be injected weekly, replacing daily tablets. *Also reported by:* [Courier Mail](#), [Hobart Mercury](#), [West Australian](#), [Daily Telegraph](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#)

- The [NT News](#) (page 53) reports that disability advocates are questioning who is leading the NDIS while chairman Kurt Fearnley avoids questions on Audit Office criticism, NDIA CEO Rebecca Falkingham is on leave, and Minister Jenny McAllister is yet to outline plans for her portfolio. Also reported by: [Courier Mail](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Hobart Mercury](#), [Daily Telegraph](#)

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Stop mental health claim blowout: MP

AFR Weekend, General News, 12/07/2025, Michael Smith and Lucy Dean, Page 1

Paediatrician and Labor MP Mike Freeland has called out overdiagnosis of mental health problems at the same time that the insurance regulator warns it is closely monitoring the prudential risks posed by ballooning payouts.

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

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

### Health insurance promos trigger probe

AFR Weekend, General News, 12/07/2025, Michael Smith, Page 1

Health insurers are offering months of free cover to attract members in a promotions frenzy that has triggered a federal government probe into whether funds are breaching rules capping the discounts they can offer.

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

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

### Health in focus at Weddin

Area News, Domain, 10/07/2025, Brendan McCool, Page 1

Despite there being no specific funding set aside for the Grenfell Multi-Purpose Service (MPS) in the State budget, local health is still in focus. [...] "I will continue to lobby the Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, as well as the Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride on behalf of the Grenfell and wider Weddin community to help deliver better health facilities for the region."

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### First steps for Maitland clinic

Maitland Mercury, General News, 11/07/2025, Page 5

The Federal Government has put its money where its mouth is, making the first move on establishing a Medicare Urgent Care clinic for Maitland. [...] Minister for Health Mark Butler said Medicare Urgent Care Clinics around the country are providing free, timely and high quality care to thousands of Australians.

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

### EOIs invited for Terrigal Urgent Care Clinic

Coast Community News, Other, 12/07/2025

The Federal Government is getting on with the job of delivering new Medicare Urgent Care Clinics across the country with the Expressions of Interest (EOI) to establish one in the Terrigal catchment now open. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the clinics were providing free, timely and high quality care to thousands of Australians. [...] Assistant Minister and Member for Dobell Emma McBride said clinics at Lake Haven and Umina had seen more than 25,000 patients.

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### Digital health accelerator ANDHealth+ secures \$33m boost

InnovationAus, Other, 11/07/2025, Trish Everingham

Australia's flagship digital health accelerator program ANDHealth+ has secured \$33 million in fresh funding from the federal government to expand its support for high-growth digital and connected health

startups, in a move aimed at cementing the country's position as a global innovation hub. [...] Federal Health minister Mark Butler said the funding underpins a broader commitment to supporting the commercialisation of medical innovation onshore from "world-class medical researchers".

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## ANDHealth+ to expand with \$33m

Pulse+IT, Other, 11/07/2025

ANDHealth today announced it has been awarded \$33 million from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) to continue and expand ANDHealth+, Australia's leading health technology commercialisation program. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the funding provided from the Medical Research Future Fund would see innovative ideas turned into usable and commercially viable solutions to improve the health and wellbeing of Australians.

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## MINISTER MCALLISTER

### Leaders at NDIS scheme 'silent'

Northern Territory News, General News, 12/07/2025, Julie Cross, Page 53

Questions are being asked about who is leading the \$48.5bn a year National Disability Insurance Scheme, with the chief executive on sick leave and the chairman of the board Paralympic hero Kurt Fearnley refusing to comment on a damning audit. [...] New NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister, who is still getting to grips with her new portfolio, is yet to speak about her plans.

*Also reported by:* [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Weekend Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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## MINISTER RAE

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### Realistic diagnosis needed to cure mental health blowout: Labor MP

Australian Financial Review, Other, 11/07/2025, Michael Smith and Lucy Dean

Health insurers are offering months of free cover to attract members in a promotions frenzy that has triggered a federal government probe into whether funds are breaching rules capping the discounts they can offer.

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### Health in focus at Weddin

Area News, Domain, 10/07/2025, Brendan McCool, Page 1

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## Wagga headspace receives \$950,000 boost for mental health

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 11/07/2025

Wagga's headspace will receive close to \$1 million in a funding boost, which will see more staff employed to help with the mental health of young people in the Riverina. Dobell MP Emma McBride, who is assistant minister for rural and regional health, visited the service's Peter Street site to make the announcement on Friday, July 11.

Also reported by: [Coly Point Observer \(Online\)](#).

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## WIN Wagga Wagga, WIN News Riverina, 11/07/2025, Steve Hart

The Wagga Wagga headspace Plus centre will be upgraded to provide more complex mental health support for those in dire need of serious assistance. Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride says for too long, young people haven't been able to access care when they need it.

Also reported by: [Seven Albury \(Albury\)](#).

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

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## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

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## DEPARTMENT

### Health insurance promos trigger probe

AFR Weekend, General News, 12/07/2025, Michael Smith, Page 1

Health insurers are offering months of free cover to attract members in a promotions frenzy that has triggered a federal government probe into whether funds are breaching rules capping the discounts they can offer.

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

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### Pledge to upgrade Galiwin'ku health centre

Northern Territory News, General News, 12/07/2025, Fia Walsh, Page 3

A health centre in remote East Arnhem Land will get a near \$10 million upgrade to help expand the

renal unit, remove asbestos and fix the roof. [...] The project is being delivered in partnership with Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation, who are together contributing \$4.8m bringing the total to \$9.6m.

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

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## TGA warning after counterfeits seized

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 11/07/2025, Page 1

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has warned health professionals and consumers of the dangers of counterfeit medications, with highly convincing packaging making it difficult to discern from the genuine product. [...] "During this operation, the TGA assessed over 9,500 imports referred by the Australian Border Force and facilitated the seizure of over 5.2 million units of unlawfully imported therapeutic goods, including substandard and falsified products," said Professor Anthony Lawler, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and head of the TGA.

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

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## A script every five minutes: 'Red flags' amid Australia's medicinal cannabis rise

SBS, Other, 11/07/2025, Niv Sadrolodabae

One script every five minutes on average — that's how fast a single doctor was prescribing medicinal cannabis, raising concerns from Australia's health regulator. According to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), over a six-month period, some practitioners have written over 10,000 prescriptions for medicinal cannabis, with one issuing more than 17,000. [...] Since then, prescriptions increased from about 17,000 in 2020 to over 800,000 in 2024, according to the Department of Health.

[Read More](#)

## Commissioning of LARC centres of excellence underway

Health Services Daily, Other, 11/07/2025, Cate Swannell

DoHDA is putting up over \$24m for PHNs to stand up a large centre for long-acting contraception in each state and territory.

[Read More](#)

## Aged care incentive getting thumbs-down from GPs

The Medical Republic, Other, 11/07/2025, Holly Payne

The MyMedicare General Practice in Aged Care Incentive has officially celebrated its first birthday, but that doesn't mean some GPs aren't already hoping for its demise. The first dedicated MyMedicare incentive payment has received a bad review from general practice, according to a new report published by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

[Read More](#)

## Journey ahead for allied health professions

Pulse+IT, Other, 11/07/2025, Heather Fletcher

In the latest episode of PULSE the Podcast, Australia's Chief Allied Health Officer Anita Hobson-Powell talks about challenges for allied health professionals who may still be embarking on their digital health journey. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing is currently receiving feedback on its National Allied Health Digital Uplift Plan, with the survey closing on July 20.

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## The nightmare of not being able to sleep

Newcastle Herald, General News, 12/07/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

Jody Croft says she has been suffering from insomnia since she contracted COVID seven months ago. "I can't sleep at all. I'm scared," said Miss Croft, a mother of three. "Sleeping tablets don't work. I've tried medicinal cannabis. I'm weak. It's like I'm dying."

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

No relevant coverage

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## DISABILITY

### Don't look back

The Saturday Paper, General News, 12/07/2025, Hannah Hall and Melinda Smith, Page 8

The NDIS has opened up the world for so many people living with disability. Many fear the newly introduced restrictions and more onerous reporting could again limit lives.

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### Chief missing in action amid chaos surrounding NDIS

Daily Telegraph, General News, 12/07/2025, Julie Cross, Page 9

Questions are being asked about who is leading the \$48.5bn-a-year National Disability Insurance Scheme, with the chief executive on sick leave and the chairman of the board Paralympic hero Kurt Fearnley refusing to comment on a damning audit. NDIS advocates said there's been deafening silence from the scheme's leadership at a time of great "turbulence", following the board's decision to freeze or in some cases cut NDIS providers' pay for the sixth year in a row.

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### Mum pushing to keep son in Lismore hospital says NDIS help not keeping him safe

ABC Online, Other, 11/07/2025, Hannah Ross and Emma Rennie

The family of a man with profound disabilities says a lack of care and support by the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is putting his life at risk. Twenty-year-old Annan Murray-Macgregor has several conditions including autism, a profound intellectual disability, and a type of degenerative motor neurone disease.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Driving smokers into the arms of criminals

Weekend Australian, General News, 12/07/2025, Chris Uhlmann, Page 13

I smoked a cigar in a bar in Tunis. This simple act is illegal in my more enlightened homeland, so it felt, well, evil. Under Australia's virtue caliphate, no sin is more original than second-hand smoke.

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

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### College of Surgeons applauds push to address waitlists but wants

## sustainable solutions

Medical Forum, Other, 11/07/2025

The Royal Australian College of Surgeons has said while record numbers of surgeries completed across a week in June are to be commended, long term fixes are needed if waitlists are going to be properly addressed. [...] Public hospital admissions for elective surgery were the highest on record in 2023–24, according to data released earlier this year from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

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## Man charged over alleged \$20 million cocaine plot

9News, Other, 11/07/2025, Adam Vidler

A man will face court later this year after he was charged this week over an alleged plot to import 62kg of cocaine into Australia, concealed in mechanical equipment. [...] Across Australia in 2021-22, there were more than 1300 cocaine-related hospitalisations – more than three a day on average – according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### The sunburn generation: Why young people are risking cancer for tans

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 11/07/2025, Kate Aubusson

More than one in four young adults are getting sunburnt, and rising numbers are exposing themselves to high levels of cancer-causing UV radiation with little protection, as social media trends promote tan lines and sunbathing routines. [...] Nationally, Cancer Council research found that nine in 10 Australians aged 18 to 30 intentionally or unintentionally sunbathe.

*Editorial: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).*

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### It's not just the SPF; it's also how much sunscreen you put on

Canberra Times, Letters, 12/07/2025, Prof Ben Selinger, Page 48

In the mid-1980s, I was chair of the standard-setting committees for sunglasses and the consumer representative for sunscreens. [...] I have a CPDF [Cow-plop detection factor] that is aroused when reputable bodies such as the Cancer Council NSW and even the Australian Academy of Science [AAS] ridiculed the sale of SPF 50 sunscreens because they offered such rubbish advice that they provided only 1.33 per cent more benefit.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Nurse-led clinics risk being a Band-Aid fix, which could end up compromising the safety of patients

Hobart Mercury, General News, 12/07/2025, Dr Meg Creely, Page 26

The Labor campaign proposal to introduce nurse-led urgent care is something we, as the AMA, strongly oppose. Our opposition should come as no surprise given our consistent stance against similar moves, such as the Liberal government's expansion of the scope of practice for community paramedics and pharmacists.

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### Second location of TassieDoc revealed in state's North

Launceston Examiner, General News, 12/07/2025, Annika Rhoades, Page 3

Ravenswood has exclusively been revealed as the second location out of five new TassieDoc clinics planned to be opened if Labor forms government at the state election. The announcement yesterday comes just a day after Labor leader Dean Winter and Health spokesperson Ella Haddad earmarked Burnie, in the state's North-West, to be home to one of the clinics.

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## Another TassieDoc clinic for the Coast?

Burnie Advocate, General News, 12/07/2025, Rodney Woods, Page 3

A second TassieDoc clinic will be located on the Coast if Labor wins the July 19 election. A day after announcing the Burnie clinic will be held at the city's health hub, and being asked about any other North West centres, Labor leader Dean Winter and shadow health spokesperson Ella Haddad revealed that a clinic will open in Devonport under a Labor government.

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## Pollies resurrect plan for state-owned GP practices that universally bulk-bill

Australian Doctor, Other, 11/07/2025, Jamie Thannoo

Tasmanian politicians have committed to launching state-owned bulk-billing GP practices, reviving a Queensland proposal that died in 2024 when Labor lost power. This month, Tasmanian Labor leader Dean Winter pledged his party would build five clinics where taxpayers would cover all overhead costs for GPs who universally bulk-billed, with the GPs keeping 100% of the Medicare cash.

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## Wee Waa Hospital beset by leadership instability, operational failings, review finds

ABC Online, Other, 11/07/2025, James Paras and Lara Webster

An independent review has found a rural hospital in north-west New South Wales is experiencing leadership instability and operational failings. Wee Waa Hospital has been operating under reduced hours since 2023 due to staffing shortages.

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## Solutions still under construction

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 12/07/2025, Jessica Page, Page 22

Brick by brick, Lego fanatic John Carey is desperately trying to build WA's way out of lingering hospital and housing crises, handpicked by the Premier to take on the State's toughest tasks. "I live this job, 24-7. I throw everything at it, and I'm taking to this role of health infrastructure with gusto, just like I did, I believe, with housing," the minister said.

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

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## ED part done

Broken Hill Times, General News, 11/07/2025, Em Jensen, Page 1

Stage two of the redevelopment of Broken Hill Hospital is now complete. The \$12 million project includes reconfiguration of five treatment bays, staff spaces, and other clinical areas with the aim of providing a more functional space for staff and patients in need of emergency care.

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## Residents to rally again in regional campaign for a single-site hospital

The Border Mail, Other, 11/07/2025, Ted Howes

A rally at Corryong will be held next month to continue the push for a single-site hospital on the Border. Towong mayor Andrew Whitehead, who joined an alliance of councils to push state and federal governments for a new hospital last year, said the rally was planned for August 10 at noon.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### I wanted to end it all

Courier Mail, General News, 12/07/2025, Jane Armitstead, Page 1

Olympic champion Leisel Jones has opened up about the moment she wanted to end her life. "I just wanted to die in my sleep, I thought that would be the greatest thing I could ever hope for in that moment," Jones, who suffers from depression said.

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

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### New charity offers 'clean shirt, a pair of shoes, a toothbrush'

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 12/07/2025, Natalie Croxon, Page 7

The region's politicians admit mental health is "a huge issue" in the Illawarra, and say a new service will help give patients dignity and access to the small things that can make a difference. The charity Keith's Closet has opened for the first time in the region, at Shellharbour Hospital, to provide mental health patients with everyday essentials.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Fresh air, fine wine, more money: the pitch to bring GPs to 'God's country'

Daily Liberal, General News, 12/07/2025, Stephanie Gardiner, Page 29

Half a million Australians live in "GP deserts", receiving 40 per cent fewer services per person than the national average, according to research by the Grattan Institute. With poorer access to check-ups, screening and medication, the burden of chronic disease is higher in rural and remote areas and life expectancy is shorter.

Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#).

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### New insights into rural workforce highlight a major milestone

Medical Forum, Other, 11/07/2025

The number of GPs working across rural and remote Western Australia has for the first time topped 1000. This milestone was reached in 2024 and highlighted in Rural Health West's latest rural GP workforce report.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Accused doc named

Herald Sun, General News, 12/07/2025, Jordan McCarthy and Sarah Booth, Page 9

The Austin Hospital doctor accused of secretly recording staff in a work bathroom has been identified as Ryan Cho. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency – who has the power to suspend healthcare practitioners they believe pose a risk to others – had not taken any action against the doctor's registration as of Friday afternoon.

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### Gold Coast doctor busted drink-driving after boozy house party

Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 12/07/2025, Alex Treacy, Page 5

A Gold Coast doctor has admitted a "significant miscalculation" after drink-driving home from a friend's boozy 30th birthday celebrations. [...] According to health worker regulator AHPRA, Dr O'Leary-Whitney attended the University of Notre Dame Australia, where he achieved a Doctor of Medicine.

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### Robert Lee Perry: Perth doctor suspended after secret sexual relationship with patient exposed

West Australian, Other, 11/07/2025, Sarah Steger

A Perth doctor has been suspended from practising for five months after engaging in a sexual relationship with a female patient he continued to treat — including while she was pregnant. The State Administrative Tribunal found Robert Lee Perry guilty of professional misconduct for failing to maintain professional boundaries with the 26-year-old woman, who first saw him in September 2021 for a fertility referral.

[Read More](#)

### Hospital worker shared patient records

Courier Mail, General News, 12/07/2025, Judith Kerr, Page 24

A former Redlands Hospital worker has avoided a conviction after pleading guilty to stalking, unlawfully accessing a hospital database, and disclosing confidential patient information. The 20-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, appeared in the Cleveland Magistrates Court on Thursday, where they pleaded guilty to unlawful stalking or intimidation, using a restricted computer system without consent, and breaching confidentiality as a designated person under Queensland's Hospital and Health Boards Act.

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### Nurse was 'overwhelmed' by busy ward

Daily Liberal, General News, 12/07/2025, Allison Hore, Page 3

A nurse who carried out a procedure he wasn't trained to perform, leading to the death of an elderly patient, has been found guilty of professional misconduct. Former Dubbo Hospital nurse Von Karlo Almero Salvoza did not appear before the Civil and Administrative Tribunal on May 8, 2025, when the guilty finding was handed down.

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### Medicinal cannabis is Australia's new 'Dopesick' prescription drug

Australian Doctor, Other, 11/07/2025, Louise Burns

Traditional prescribing is derived from a thorough history, examination, relevant investigations and evidence-based selection of the appropriate pharmaceutical if needed. The recent AHPRA crackdown on medicinal cannabis prescribing paints a picture not so much of the traditional way of prescribing but of a process more along the lines of letting a kid loose in a candy store.

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

### Free screening aims to detect breast cancer at an early stage

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 12/07/2025, Jessica Antoniou, Page 3

A mobile screening service aiming to detect breast cancer before it is too late will visit Kalgoorlie-Boulder to offer women a free check-up. BreastScreen WA's free screening mammogram service is visiting the town annually, starting next month to ensure women over 40 receive regular check-ups and avoid the risks of breast cancer, which affects one in seven women in Australia.

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

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### Cancer warrior in long fight

Weekend Australian, General News, 12/07/2025, Fiona Harari, Page 3

She's a leading expert on melanoma research. But commanding international respect has not always equated to instant attention for Georgina Long. "I am high-energy. I get excited, I get inspired. But the world can't take it," says last year's joint Australian of the Year and medical director of Melanoma Institute Australia.

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### Passionate fight to be heard for cancer warrior

Weekend Australian, General News, 12/07/2025, Fiona Harari, Page 19

Passion is an important word in Georgina Long's lexicon. It's the drive that has stamped her as an internationally renowned melanoma specialist. It's the backdrop to the frenetic juggle that enables her to oversee numerous medical trials and dozens of patients concurrently.

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### Parkinson's jab boost

Herald Sun, General News, 12/07/2025, Page 9

A new weekly injectable drug could transform the lives of more than eight million people living with Parkinson's disease, potentially replacing the need for daily tablets. University of South Australia scientists have developed a long-acting injectable formulation that delivers a steady dose of levodopa and carbidopa two key medications for Parkinson's over an entire week.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [The West Australian \(Saturday edition\) \(Perth\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#).

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### Keeping active for life

Courier Mail, General News, 12/07/2025, Page 14

Adults who stay consistently active throughout their lives can lower their risk of early death by up to 40 per cent, a global study led by The University of Queensland has found. Researchers summarised their data from 85 studies from more than 8 million people, finding lifelong physical activity reduced the risk

of premature death, while inactive people who became active later in life could also lower their risk by 20-25 per cent.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [The West Australian \(Saturday edition\)](#), [\(Perth\)](#).

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## Time to realise key asset's potential

Canberra Times, General News, 12/07/2025, Prof Robyn Ward, Page 47

I've spent my career as a clinician and cancer researcher, witnessing how Australian ingenuity delivers world-leading outcomes. It's extraordinary to think that in just the span of my career the chance of surviving some childhood cancers has risen from just over 50 per cent to now over 90 per cent.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### WA Health says undetected measles cases a possibility after locally acquired case confirmed

West Australian, Other, 11/07/2025, Hannah Cross

Health authorities believe there have been undetected cases of measles in WA after confirming a locally acquired case. WA Health issued a public health warning on Friday evening, listing exposure sites in Perth and the Pilbara.

[Read More](#)

### Illnesses circling during winter's chill

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 12/07/2025, Kate McIlwain, Page 3

It's the middle of winter and feels like sniffles are everywhere, with health agencies urging people in at-risk groups to make sure their vaccinations are up to date. News of a new COVID variant may be circling, but at the moment NSW Health says it's actually the flu and RSV causing the most problems.

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### Channel 7, Seven News, 10/07/2025, Angela Cox and Mark Ferguson

NSW Health Minister Ryan Park is warning about rising case numbers of COVID, RSV, and influenza in Sydney with hospital presentations at their highest level this winter. Park urges everyone to get vaccinated and people with symptoms to stay away from the vulnerable.

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### What to expect for the rest of the flu season

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 11/07/2025

The 2025 flu season is now in full swing, and with case numbers high and vaccination rates concerningly low (PD 07 May), experts have outlined what we might expect from the rest of the season. As the COVID pandemic fades from the collective memory, many Australians now think of influenza as the more serious of the winter respiratory viruses, said Associate Professor Joel Rhee, Head of Discipline of General Practice at UNSW Sydney.

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## Businesses emphasising lung checks for at-risk workers

Daily Liberal, General News, 12/07/2025, Dane Wilson, Page 6

"if you've ever been exposed to dust, a simple check could save your life." That's what Stuart Crowfoot - owner of Dubbo-based business Crowfoot Construction and the president of Master Builders in Orana - is telling local construction workers and stonemasons.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Big step for injured kids

Hobart Mercury, General News, 12/07/2025, Hayley Goddard, Page 20

Game-changing technology helping severely injured adults walk again could soon be made available to Aussie children. An application is about to be lodged with the Therapeutic Goods Administration for approval of the pediatric version of a robot-assisted rehabilitation device known as RoboFit for use by babies and children many who have been told they will be confined to a wheelchair for life.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Weekend Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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### False Botox virals found, prompting urgent health warnings

9News, Other, 11/07/2025, Mikala Theocharous

Multiple vials of fake botox have been stopped at the border, prompting warnings against buying injectables from overseas. The Therapeutic Goods Administration said the boxes of the apparent Botox appeared to be genuine, branded Botox products manufactured by the legitimate brand Allergan, a company run by AbbVie.

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### Millions of counterfeit and illegal drugs seized in global sting

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/07/2025, Nicholas O'Donoghue

Australia records the largest seizures of counterfeit and illegal medicine globally, as part of an international campaign, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) says.

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### Errors have been made in the administration of RSV vaccines to some patients in Western Australia

Medical Forum, Other, 11/07/2025

Health practitioners are being urged to ensure they understand the different types of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccines and who they can be administered to, after some patients in Western Australia received the wrong vaccines. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration issued advice on June 23 that, "in response to reports we have received about administration errors related to RSV prevention products."

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## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

### Injecting fear into vial trade

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 12/07/2025, Caleb Runciman, Page 20

A sophisticated steroid lab has been dismantled after intercepted packages of testosterone led border force officials to a drug den in Perth's southern suburbs. [...] AMA (WA) president Kyle Hoath said the dangers were "profound". "Steroids obtained without a legitimate prescription, often from illicit sources

either online or through underground networks are illegal to possess or distribute without proper medical authorisation in Australia," Dr Hoath said.

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

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## 'If you cannot satisfy yourself it is appropriate, get out': Medicinal cannabis, telehealth and junior doctors

Australian Doctor, Other, 11/07/2025, Antony Scholefield

The Medical Board of Australia wants doctors working for medicinal cannabis clinics to reflect on whether their work is good medical practice, and if it is not, to find a new job. New guidance on cannabis prescribing for doctors and nurses warns against consultations lasting mere seconds, writing repeat scripts early in the therapeutic relationship and prescribing an assortment of products for patients to try out.

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