



# TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 5th July 2025

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [Weekend Australian](#) (page 1) reports Ageing Australia estimates the number of elderly people waiting for home care packages is approaching 100,000, while care sector experts have warned reforms are not being rolled out fast enough to meet demand. *Also reported by:* [Weekend Australian](#)
- The [Saturday Paper](#) (page 1) reports the November delivery date of already-delayed IT systems underpinning the Aged Care Act is in doubt amidst ongoing cost increases, with industry insiders saying they do not expect the system to become active until April next year.
- The [Saturday Paper](#) (page 1) reports NDIA chief executive Rebecca Falkingham directed her agency to revoke NDIS access to a disability advocate after they were singled out as a "rotting risk" on talkback radio, only for them to be reinstated 10 months later after a legal challenge.
- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 1) reports doctors and patients have urged the NSW Health Minister to urgently intervene to upgrade equipment at Westmead Hospital or risk the end of a vital service from next Tuesday, following the resignations of its entire team of interventional radiologists.
- The [Northern Territory News](#) (page 1) reports Northern Territory Health is investigating a high-level doctor allowed to continue work at a health facility despite multiple police reports made against them for alleged sexual misconduct.

- The [Weekend Australian](#) (page 2) reports Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has expressed concern about the high number of young children on the NDIS but has declined to say whether children with mild autism should be prevented from accessing the scheme.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Landmark aged-care reforms derailed by IT failures

The Saturday Paper, General News, 05/07/2025, Jason Koutsoukis, Page 1

Confidential documents show already delayed agedcare reforms are set back by months due to cost blowouts with a series of contractors and system failures that have been rolling for years. [...] On June 4, the federal minister for health and ageing, Mark Butler, pushed back the start date for the new Aged Care Act from July 1 to November 1, an implicit admission that the digital infrastructure central to the reform is not yet ready.

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

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### Home Care Packages

Hobart Observer, General News, 01/07/2025, Andrew Wilkie, Page 14

The Federal Government is promising an additional 83,000 Home Care Packages to clear the waiting list, which currently sits at about that number. They were to be released from mid-year but the start date has been pushed out to at least November. Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said the delay was necessary to ensure a "smooth transition", and to allow time for systems to be properly set up and for older Australians to be fully informed about this and other aged care changes.

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### Unfair approach to aged-care funding

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 05/07/2025, Rick Wilson, Page 12

As our population ages, the importance of accessible and equitable aged-care services has never been greater especially in regional communities like ours. That's why the recent changes to the Commonwealth Home Support Program funding agreements for 2025-26 and 2026-27 have sparked serious concern. [...] I have written to Minister Mark Butler and urge him and the department to reconsider this policy.

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### Diabetic fighting for fairer deal on devices

Newcastle Herald, General News, 05/07/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 26

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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### Talking sh\*t, beards and men's health

Coalface, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 10

Alright blokes, listen up. Popular Hunter MP Dan Repacholi is on a crusade to get you talking about your health, physical and mental, after being named the Special Envoy For Men's Health Under the Albanese government. His job? To talk to blokes about bloke sh\*t. Why might you ask? Well, that was the first question we asked Dan.

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### A finer dining experience for residents

The Senior - VIC, General News, 01/07/2025, Rowan Cowley, Page 40

Better nutrition, more personal choice and more social opportunities are at the centre of new laws that

will aim to revolutionise food service in aged care. [...] Former COTA South Australia chief executive and advisor to health minister Mark Butler, Jane Mussared, was appointed the new chief executive of the Foundation in November 2024.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#),

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## Bulk billing rate continues to rise

Coast Community News, Other, 04/07/2025

Federal Member for Dobell and Assistant Health Minister, Emma McBride, has welcomed new data which shows the bulk billing rate continues to rise in the electorate. The Federal Government invested \$3.5B into Medicare in November 2023, to triple the bulk billing incentive for pensioners, concession card holders and families with children.

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## Health Record number of trainee doctors in regional South Australia

Glam Adelaide, Other, 04/07/2025, Danika Zalac

Across regional South Australia, a record number of doctors are currently undergoing GP training, supported by an innovative employment model. This initiative is the continuation of efforts by both the state and federal governments to better the state's health system. [...] Mark Butler, Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care added, "We want to attract more doctors to regional South Australia and this innovative approach will help to retain the doctors we need to continue to provide essential primary healthcare services to South Australians.

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## Foundational supports key to NDIS future – but gaps remain

Local Ipswich News, Other, 04/07/2025

Delivering quality disability support remains a growing challenge for the Albanese Government, as the cost of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) rises sharply and concerns increase about the adequacy of services outside the scheme. The NDIS cost \$43. [...] The NDIS has also been shifted into a new federal department – Health, Disability and Ageing – led by Mark Butler.

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## New hope of lung cancer detection with screening program

SBS, Other, 04/07/2025, Deborah Groarke

The Australian government has funded a national early screening program that is expected to bring the numbers down. Scans to detect lung problems usually cost hundreds of dollars - but the Health Minister said that from July 1, the cost will not be levied at any cost to patients deemed at high risk of lung cancer.

[Read More](#)

## New leader and a genomics policy framework out for consultation

Pulse+IT, Other, 04/07/2025, Heather Fletcher

Sector leader Tiffany Boughtwood has been appointed Australian Health Genomics Commissioner following the launch of Genomics Australia this week. Genomics Australia commenced operations on July 1, a week after the government released the draft National Health Genomics Policy Framework and Implementation Plan 2026 – 2030 for consultation with feedback closing on July 25. [...]

Personalised cancer care Health Minister Mark Butler announced the establishment of Genomics Australia in November 2024, saying the new body would "help fight cancers, rare diseases and deliver better health outcomes for Australians".

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## NDIA chief intervened to throw advocate off scheme

The Saturday Paper, General News, 05/07/2025, Rick Morton, Page 1

Internal emails show the National Disability Insurance Agency rushed to withdraw access for a disabled person whose funding was criticised on talkback radio, only to reinstate it 10 months later. [...] NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister did not respond to questions from The Saturday Paper about whether the conduct of the agency executive should be investigated, but a spokesperson for the minister said: "We are focused on ensuring the NDIS operates transparently and delivers fairer and more consistent decisions."

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## MINISTER RAE

### Blind, alone, needs care ... still Brian has to wait

Weekend Australian, General News, 05/07/2025, Sarah Ison, Page 1

In 85-year-old Brian Findlow's tidy home at Sussex Inlet on the NSW south coast, a town beloved of caravan park holidaymakers and weekend fishermen, there's a bright yellow floral cloth on the table, baby pictures on the walls and papers pinned to the fridge with fading magnets. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae will not say when the updated figures for the aged care waiting list will be published and says Labor "inherited" the problems facing the sector from the Coalition government.

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

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### Aged care laws postponed

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Desiree Savage, Page 6

Once-in-a-generation changes to the aged care sector have been put on pause by the federal government to allow more time for service providers and clients to prepare. The new Minister for Aged Care and Seniors, Sam Rae, released an open letter to aged care providers on Wednesday, June 4, signalling he will defer the start of the Aged Care Act from July 1 to November 1, 2025.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#).

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### New aged care law: How it affects you

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 50

The quality and experience of people receiving aged care services are expected to improve under new laws. [...] In June, Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae said the Act and Support at Home had been delayed to November 1, 2025.

Also reported by: [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#), [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#).

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## Bulk billing rate continues to rise

Coast Community News, Other, 04/07/2025

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

### Paying tribute to a trailblazing Aboriginal nursing leader

Croakey, Other, 04/07/2025, Melissa Sweet

Rebecca White, the Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care and Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health, issued a statement this week paying tribute to the late Dr Sally Goold OAM, who passed on 28 June. Goold was "a remarkable Wiradjuri woman and the first Aboriginal registered nurse in New South Wales" and her work "significantly advanced Indigenous healthcare, while at the same time fighting discrimination", said White.

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## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

### While Libs stumble around women, Labor goes in to bat for men

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/07/2025, Vikki Campion, Page 23

If the Liberal Party stumbles around thinking the reason it lost the election is because of gender quotas, it will lose the next election and the election after that. Though this does explain why membership has fallen from 70,000 in the 1970s to 6000 today. [...] While the Liberals are caught in this thick fog of gender confusion, Labor, to its credit, has appointed former Olympic shooting champion Dan Repacholi as envoy for men's health.

Also reported by: [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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### Too much health & safety is just enough

Coalface, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 3

One thing you can guarantee in every edition of The Coalface is stories that bring awareness to health and safety. It's not just because we are passionate about it. [...] We caught up with Hunter MP Dan Repacholi as he was out and about last month, talking to blokes and ladies as part of his new role as special envoy for men's health.

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### Talking sh\*t, beards and men's health

Coalface, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 10

Alright blokes, listen up. Popular Hunter MP Dan Repacholi is on a crusade to get you talking about your health, physical and mental, after being named the Special Envoy For Men's Health Under the Albanese government. His job? To talk to blokes about bloke sh\*t. Why might you ask? Well, that was the first question we asked Dan.

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No relevant coverage

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## VACCINES

### **New Covid-19 variant known as XFG, 'Stratus' spreading overseas: What Australians must know**

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/07/2025, Laura Rando

A new, highly contagious Covid-19 strain has emerged globally as thousands of Australians prepare to travel overseas. Understanding what it is, is crucial for both public health and individual safety. This is what we know about the latest variant, its impact, and how Australians can keep themselves safe.

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### **Loving Life FM, 06:00 Local News, 04/07/2025**

Parents of healthy young babies, children, and adolescents under 18 years are being advised by the government not to take the COVID-19 vaccine, as per the Australian Government's Department of Health and Aged Care Immunisation Handbook, available on their website.

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### **Elderly 'dying while waiting for care'**

Weekend Australian, General News, 05/07/2025, Sarah Ison, Page 11

Labor's \$4.3bn aged-care reforms "will be set up to fail" without immediate intervention to address the surging number of people waiting for a home-care package, with the waitlist widely suspected to have now exceeded 100,000. But despite calls from within its own aged-care transition taskforce and members of the crossbench to urgently release 20,000 additional aged-care packages as a way to reduce the waitlist, the government has stood firm on its plan not to begin the roll out of extra packages until November.

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

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### **Care for the honest truth?**

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/07/2025, Julie Cross, Page 35

Aged-care workers have lifted the lid on the staffing crisis inside Australia's homes, revealing some residents are left in soiled pads for more than eight hours. An exclusive report reveals that more than eight out of 10 workers who rated the staffing levels in their own residential facilities gave just one or two stars out of five. The average rating offered by 1000 workers was 1.8 stars.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Weekend Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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### **Reflections on 50 years of caring**

Ballarat Courier, General News, 05/07/2025, Michelle Smith, Page 15

When Lyn Caris started working in aged care, residents lived in six-bed wards with communal bathrooms and little choice in their daily routine. It's vastly different from today's standards of person-centred care and individual rooms, but when the change occurred, residents felt they lost the sense of community that came with communal living.

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## Supporting you to traverse life's chapters

Have-a-Go News, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 14

When life shifts, hearing from people who have been there before can help you find your way forward. LiveUp have launched a new series featuring four older Australians, who share how they've navigated change such as downsizing, injury, retirement, becoming a grandparent and loss of a loved one.

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## Would you like this for dinner? The varied aged care menu

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/07/2025, Carla Mascarenhas, Page 21

Bread with sausage is one of the meals served to Australians in aged care as they survive on a \$15.49 daily food allowance. Nutritionist and University of Melbourne research fellow, Dr Sandra Iuliano, told ACM that food quality varied greatly in aged care homes around Australia. Residents might get crumbed lamb cutlets, with a side of potato bake, carrots, peas, zucchini, corn, and mushroom gravy.

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## Hospice changing the narrative on death

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 05/07/2025, William Stanley, Page 6

Dealing with illness and death in your family is never easy and Warrnambool and District Community Hospice president Jeanette Miller has experienced this first hand. After reaching out to hospice founders Dr Eric Fairbank and palliative care nurse Deidre Bidmade, Mrs Miller's dad's last moments were memorable ones.

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## Time to tell the government how much you should pay

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Desiree Savage, Page 5

Now is the time to make your voice heard on how much over-65s should pay for in-home care, as authorities open their ears to feedback. The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) is calling for clients currently on a homecare package, loved ones, carers, care providers, workers and anyone else who has is interested to have their say.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#).

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## The surprising power of photography

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Tricia King, Page 25

Older adults are often faced with lifestyle changes that can disrupt their sense of place and purpose. It may be the loss of a partner, downsizing their home, or moving to residential aged care. And these changes can come with loss of identity, uncertainty, disconnect and isolation. But what if I told you a simple camera could help alleviate some of these pains?

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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## Services prepare for major change

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 48

There's much debate about the upcoming changes to the Aged Care Act and how it's affecting both aged care providers and those using the services, but it's not all doom and gloom. It seems unanimous that ultimately the goal of the changes will benefit Australians as they age, though there does seem to be concern around access to information, costs, and support leading up to the November 1 changeover- but some providers are taking it in their stride.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#).

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## Modern living in care on the cards

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 49

Aged care options across Australia continue to diversify with a range of upcoming developments. Uniting NSW.ACT is planning to redevelop its Wesley Gardens site to include 147 independent living apartments, 120 residential aged care places and services, including a pool, gym, club house, cafe, a village hub and more. Development plans have been submitted.

Also reported by: [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#), [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#),

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## Hotel trial showing positive signs to reduce bed block

The Senior - SA, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 10

An Adelaide hotel pilot program being used as a halfway-house for elderly people transitioning from hospital to aged care is already showing positive signs since its inception in February. A total of 55 of the 80 patients who have used the Transition Care Service at the Pullman Adelaide have been discharged since the program started. It comes amid a stark new record of the number of aged care patients stuck in metro hospitals ready for discharge but awaiting a Federal aged care placement.

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## Men find purpose caring for others

The Senior - SA, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 31

Michael Asims and Allan White are among the older Australians who have retrained to stay in the workforce and still find meaning in their roles. They have found fulfilment in the aged care sector after exhaustion or alleged ageism ruled them out of their previous industries. "Each day is different. I'm working one-on-one with older individuals, and I think to myself 'I should have done this earlier'," Mr Asims said.

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## LGBTQIA+ friendly care

The Senior - VIC, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 6

Andrew Rogers wants fellow LGBTQIA+ people to embrace in-home aged care services with full confidence, knowing their rights are protected by law. He shares his message as the incoming person-centred, rights-based Aged Care Act is due to start on November 1. "Don't be afraid to disclose [your identity] and say... find me services who understand and are supportive," he said.

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## Physics teacher found new calling

The Senior - WA, General News, 01/07/2025, Rowan Cowley, Page 23

Since arriving in Australia from his native South Korea, nursing in an aged care centre has proven a perfect fit for Yong Jung, becoming a "role model" in his new industry. The clinical care coordinator at Mercy Place, Mandurah has established deep and personal relationships with residents over the course of his three years at the centre, and he says the approach has benefitted him just as much as it has the residents.

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## Secretaries ordered to find ways to cut red tape ahead of productivity talks

Canberra Times, Other, 04/07/2025, Dana Daniel

Dozens of agency heads and eight departmental secretaries have been ordered to find ways to cut red tape as the Albanese government seeks to turn around the nation's economy and improve Australians' living standards through higher productivity. Treasurer Jim Chalmers and Finance Minister Katy Gallagher will write to the high-level bureaucrats, selected because they preside over departments with "significant internal regulatory functions", ahead of the government's economic reform roundtable in mid-August.

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

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## Regional aged-care funding: a lifeline that's falling short

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 05/07/2025, Rick Wilson

As our population ages, the importance of accessible and equitable aged-care services has never been greater — especially in regional communities like ours. That's why the recent changes to the Commonwealth Home Support Program funding agreements for 2025-26 and 2026-27 have sparked serious concern.

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## Most services meeting compliance requirements

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/07/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Compliance in the residential aged care sector has remained stable, while home care has increased, the latest Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission sector performance report shows. Four in five residential aged care providers are complying with all Aged Care Quality Standards (81 per cent), the latest sector performance report from the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission's shows.

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## Resparke simplifies interface to boost usage

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/07/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Wellbeing tech company Resparke is undertaking several trials across different aged care homes in the hopes they can extend access to the platform beyond lifestyle teams. Resparke is a simple-to-use platform that aged care staff, residents or family members can use to upload personalised data to and build a library of content that can entertain and reduce loneliness amongst users.

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## Liquidity standard reduced for ILUs

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/07/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission has announced a 2 per cent liquidity standard for retirement village deposits and clearer guidance on alternative assurance options, following stakeholder advocacy. The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission has updated the minimum liquidity formula to allow for the lower risk profile of retirement village and independent living unit refundable deposits, this week's summary report on the public consultation on the incoming Financial and Prudential Standards shows.

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## Aged care regulator doesn't understand retirement living: Daniel Gannon

The Weekly Source, Other, 04/07/2025, Ian Horswill

Peak body the Retirement Living Council (RLC) has welcomed the decision of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission to scale back its proposed minimum liquidity requirement for aged care operators with retirement village operations – from 10% to 2%. The backdown, announced Thursday (3 July), follows intense lobbying by the RLC and accounting firm StewartBrown, exclusively revealed by The Weekly Source in May.

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## Will older Australians pay for home care? The sector isn't so sure

The Weekly Source, Other, 04/07/2025, Lauren Broomham

With just 119 days until the start of the Support at Home reforms, home care providers are quietly bracing for a critical question the Government has yet to truly confront: will older Australians be willing to pay for the services they're entitled to? From 1 November, clients approved for Home Care Packages after 12 September 2025 will be expected to contribute up to 15% of their service costs.

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## “Back to crisis levels”: home care waitlist tipped to hit 130,000 by November

The Weekly Source, Other, 04/07/2025, Lauren Broomham

Australia's home care waitlist is on track to hit a staggering 130,000 people by 1 November, returning the system to the peak crisis levels seen before the Royal Commission into Aged Care. That's the stark warning from Ian Yates AM, the former Interim Inspector-General of Aged Care, who says the Federal Government's decision not to release any new Home Care Packages until the new Support at.

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## **Eight home upgrades every senior should know—are you missing out?**

Your Life Choices, Other, 04/07/2025, Don Turrobia

As we get older, our homes—once a haven of comfort—can start to feel a little less friendly . Maybe the bathroom tiles seem a bit more slippery, or the front steps suddenly look steeper than you remember. If you're finding your home a tad trickier to navigate these days, you're not alone. The good news?

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## **DISABILITY**

### **Concern over number of NDIS kids**

Weekend Australian, General News, 05/07/2025, Stephen Lunn, Page 2

Anthony Albanese has expressed concern about the number of young children on the National Disability Insurance Scheme, putting the blame on the previous government for letting the \$52bna-year program "drift". But the Prime Minister would not be drawn on whether children with mild autism should be precluded from access to the NDIS.

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

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### **Bleak outlook for vulnerable**

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 05/07/2025, Jo Russell, Page 16

What a miserable couple of weeks it has been in the disability sector. If I could choose to exit the sector, I would walk away and not look back at this stage. But with two adult children on NDIS plans, my choices require that I stay for the duration, however long that may be.

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## **POPULATION HEALTH**

### **Root of tooth decay in kids**

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/07/2025, Page 32

Early childhood tooth decay is affecting nearly half of Aussie preschool-aged children. A lack of oral health literacy among caregivers and access to dental services is driving tooth decay, an Edith Cowan University study reveals. Only 26 per cent of study participants reported that they brushed their children's teeth the recommended twice daily, and 70 per cent of participants said they never flossed their kids' teeth. Less than half the participants knew of the cavity risks of dried fruit or fruit yoghurt in pouches.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Weekend Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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### **\$6.3 billion Big Build hasn't fixed housing crisis**

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 05/07/2025, Ben Silvester, Page 4

The state government's Big Housing Build has failed to lift Victoria from being the worst place in

Australia for social housing, with data showing the \$6.3 billion program will fall short of its promises. [...] But data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare showed the majority of homeless Victorians were slipping through the cracks.

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## Alcohol risks are much higher for this age group

Australian Financial Review, Other, 04/07/2025, Mohana Ravindranath

Drinking is harmful to your health at any age. But as you get older, the risks become greater – even with the same number of drinks. Alcohol affects “virtually every organ system in the body,” including the muscles and blood vessels...

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## New study warns of the dangers of enjoying a glass of wine in the bath

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 04/07/2025, Jack Gramenz

Slippery, hard-surfaced bathrooms are not safe places to be using drugs or drinking, Australian researchers investigating bathtub drownings say. An analysis from the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre of 195 adults who died in a bathtub or hot tub between 2015 and 2024 found drugs or alcohol contributed to the majority of deaths.

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

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## 'Dumb idea' – Cops removing life-saving devices from police cars

2GB, Other, 04/07/2025, Ben Fordham

"Disappointing". That's how the Heart Foundation has reacted after news that lifesaving defibrillators are being removed from NSW police vehicles.

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## Male infertility: why sperm counts are falling

Medical Forum, Other, 04/07/2025

Historically, women have carried the stigma of infertility alone on their shoulders. However, men and women are just as likely to contribute to a couple's infertility and male infertility needs to be investigated right from the very outset. Sperm count from seminal fluid analysis is a crucial indicator of male reproductive health. When couples seek conception or face fertility challenges, sperm count is often the first parameter evaluated in males.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Peter's pancreatic marvel: meet the luckiest man in the country

Weekend Australian, General News, 05/07/2025, Natasha Robinson, Page 5

Peter Moulding was recovering from surgery when his oncologist received the Melbourne tradie's pathology results and the doctor couldn't believe his eyes. "I actually called the pathologist and said: Are you sure you're looking at the right specimen?" says Prasad Cooray, an oncologist at the Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at the Epworth Hospital in Melbourne.

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

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

### Finding a way to cope, and live, with incontinence

The Saturday Age, General News, 05/07/2025, Claire Burke, Page 20

As a mother in her mid-30s with two young kids, keeping active and teaching fitness classes was critical to Mish Wright's mental and physical health. It was also the trigger for increasing episodes of

incontinence. Feeling self-conscious about teaching on stage with her crotch at eye-level, Wright began wearing black to mask signs of leakage and cut back on fluids before class.

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

## Mending Enzo's heart

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 05/07/2025, Paul Ashenden, Page 1

Unique collaboration between two Adelaide hospitals and world-first heart surgery have saved the life of Adelaide teenager Enzo Cornejo. Doctors feared Enzo, 13, might not survive when his heart started failing earlier this year and he entered the pediatric intensive care unit of Adelaide's Women's and Children's Hospital.

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

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

## Inspired by the courage of Ollie

Border Mail, General News, 05/07/2025, Jodie Bruton, Page 63

Janet Howie's nephew Ollie should have been celebrating his 21st birthday on July 2. Devastatingly, he died of a rare form of cancer, synovial sarcoma, almost two years ago after being diagnosed in the prime of his life at 17. The plumbing apprentice wanted to buy a cool car and then start saving for a house.

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

## Truckie's big two-wheel ride to save lives

Big Rigs, General News, 04/07/2025, Page 10

Like a lot of blokes his age, retired truckie and military firefighter, Ray Boyle never gave any thought to the sobering fact that one-in-six Aussie men are diagnosed with prostate cancer. But that all changed in a split second a couple of years back when a routine medical check-up dug a little deeper into possible causes for his elevated blood pressure.

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

## Free wound care for diabetics

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 3

A new scheme is covering the costs of vital care for older Australians living with diabetes-related chronic wounds. The Chronic Wound Consumables Scheme (CWCS) will provide fully subsidised wound care products for patients aged 65 and older and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders aged 50 or older who don't have access to other wound care schemes.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#).

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

## Sudden test was Martina's life saver

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Rowan Cowley, Page 16

When Martina Lindsay saw a mobile van offering free health checks in her hometown of Cowra, she figured she'd stop in, but didn't factor into her plans an emergency trip to the hospital. It was late April, and the Mherv, Men's Health Education Rural Van, was out to offer free health checks to men, and an increasing number of women like Martina, in regional and rural areas.

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

## Jill can still drive despite eye issues

The Senior - SA, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 11

Medical tests and a few changes to her schedule have allowed Jillian Skinner to feel confident driving despite being legally blind in one eye and having macular degeneration in the other. Her story is a reminder that people don't have to lose their licence if they have a medical condition, but it highlights inconsistencies around such rules for drivers across the country.

Also reported by: [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#).

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

## Kimberley residents urged to act on cancer symptoms amid worrying new data

West Australian, Other, 04/07/2025, Cain Andrews

Kimberley residents are being urged not to ignore potential cancer symptoms, with new data revealing almost half of regional West Australians would wait to see if symptoms disappeared on their own before seeking medical help. Cancer Council WA has relaunched its Give Yourself the Best Chance campaign under its Find Cancer Early program after survey results showed 16 per cent of respondents would simply ignore symptoms entirely.

[Read More](#)

## National Lung Cancer Screening Program: What GPs need to know

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/07/2025

GPs and nurses will play a crucial role in Australia's first national lung cancer screening program, which started on 1 July, 2025 and is expected to save hundreds of lives a year, according to the Federal Government. The bulk-billed program is designed to boost early detection and improve survival through providing low-dose CT scans for high-risk adults aged 50 to 70 with a smoking history.

[Read More](#)

## Patients are not taking chronic wound care as seriously as they should

Medical Forum, Other, 04/07/2025

Wounds Australia has launched an advocacy campaign to increase awareness around the dangers of chronic wounds and the importance of seeking healthcare to mitigate potentially devastating impacts. The campaign has been prompted by research that the national peak body for chronic wound advocacy, education and awareness, has said identified "alarming trends in how Australians manage chronic wounds.

[Read More](#)

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Is this a cure for private hospitals?

AFR Weekend, General News, 05/07/2025, Michael Bleby and Michael Smith, Page 16

There are just 11 seats in the small reception area of Adeney Private Hospital. That's the same number of treatment chairs on the top-level, third-floor medical infusion ward, where patients undergoing chemotherapy can gaze...

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

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

### Hospital surgery on brink amid turmoil

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 05/07/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 3

Doctors and patients have urged the NSW health minister to intervene before one of Sydney's busiest hospitals loses a critical emergency and trauma service due to the latest mass resignation in the state's public health system. The entire team of 10 interventional radiologists at Westmead Hospital have submitted their resignations, leaving the major tertiary hospital without the service unless a deal is reached.

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

### The must-have, six-day health levy

Canberra Times, General News, 05/07/2025, Jasper Lindell, Page 45

It was the budget measure we had to have. But just for six days. In the twilight gloom of Monday evening, Greens leader Shane Rattenbury fronted the media to announce Labor had capitulated in the face of pressure over a divisive \$250 annual health funding levy.

## Allan sticks to the script

Border Mail, General News, 05/07/2025, Anthony Bunn, Page 1

The Victorian Premier has rubbished the greenfields hospital proposal for Albury-Wodonga, claiming the planned \$558 million upgrade will "deliver more beds and more services". Jacinta Allan, in her first formal visit to the North East as the state's leader, was asked about her view on the hospital by The Border Mail during a media conference at Benalla yesterday.

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

## 'No stadium, yes health'

Launceston Examiner, General News, 05/07/2025, Annika Rhoades, Page 1

Instead of a billion-dollar stadium, Northern Tasmania's health services would be the number one priority if the Greens have a say in the next Tasmanian Parliament. A nursing and midwifery education centre, round-the-clock pathology and radiology services, and more dialysis chairs at the Kings Meadows renal unit could be on the cards.

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

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

## Yancoal delivers for patients

Coalface, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 24

Both patients and staff at Singleton District Hospital are more comfortable and safer thanks to \$37,000 from Yancoal's Mount Thorley Warkworth (MTW) and Ashton Coal Mines for three new fall prevention hospital beds. The new beds are for general ward use at the hospital and are the "gold standard" in patient care.

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

## Healthstays

Coalface, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 26

Healthstays is a combined initiative of the Rotary Clubs of Maitland and they are calling on industry, local businesses, service clubs, councils and community members across regional NSW To back a groundbreaking project to build a vital new accommodation complex near Maitland Hospital. Each year, thousands of patients receive medical treatments as outpatients of Maitland Hospital and nearby allied health services.

Also reported by: [Coalface \(Singleton\)](#).

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

## Mackay Base Hospital CEO Susan Gannon launches 'Let us know if you can't show' campaign

Daily Mercury News, Other, 04/07/2025, Luke Lay

A Mackay doctor has warned of potential health risks and system strain after over 20,000 patients missed their appointments last year. A Mackay doctor has warned of a "tremendous strain" on the hospital's emergency department after 20,204 patients didn't show up to their specialist appointments in 2024.

[Read More](#)

## Safe Assessment Unit opens soon at Shellharbour Hospital

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 04/07/2025

A new Safe Assessment Unit is nearly set to begin operation at Shellharbour Hospital. Minister for Health, Ryan Park and Member for Shellharbour, Anna Watson, toured the new unit today, which is set to support people vulnerable to overwhelming emergency department (ED) environments.

[Read More](#)

## **Stevo is using his final days to keep the fight alive for Voluntary Assisted Dying in the NT**

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2025, Tom Robinson

Stevo in Weddell has terminal cancer and likely has just days to live, but he's using whatever time he has left to keep the fight alive for Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) to be introduced in the Northern Territory. Even though it's too late for Stevo, he hopes other Territorians might one day have the choice to end their lives through VAD and he hopes his story is a catalyst for change.

[Read More](#)

## **Half of doctors would choose VAD if they had cancer and two weeks left to live**

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/07/2025, Heather Saxena

Researchers questioned 1157 doctors — including GPs and palliative care specialists. More than half of doctors involved in end-of-life care say they would choose voluntary assisted dying if they had cancer and were told they had two weeks left to live, an international survey suggests.

[Read More](#)

## **ABC, ABC News, 04/07/2025, Nakari Thorpe**

Pre-recorded interview with NSW Health Minister Ryan Park. Compere says staff anger has erupted at the Westmead Hospital due to delayed cancer diagnosis, and this comes after issues continue to persist in the hospital regarding surgery wait times. Park has apologised to Joshua Maxwell and his family, who waited for 200 days before he got a life-saving open heart surgery. He admits that this is not the type of service that they would like to deliver.

[Play Now](#)

## **4BC, Afternoons, 04/07/2025, Sofia Formica**

Qld Premier David Crisafulli has admitted that incentives are necessary to improve the hospital system and reduce wait times in the State.

[Play Now](#)

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## **MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION**

### **Uncertainty hinders care**

Hobart Mercury, General News, 05/07/2025, Duncan Abey, Page 9

Raw urges long-term support for rural mental health It is the agile and deeply embedded mental health organisation helping to build vital strength and resilience across Tasmania's hardworking rural communities. But its leader thinks there is a better way than the current short-term funding model, which leaves organisations like RAW anxious about their future.

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

### **Safe space**

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/07/2025, Joel Ehsman, Page 1

Shellharbour Hospital is close to opening as the site of a \$2.6 million drug and alcohol unit in the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local District, chosen because of the "very strong mental health facility" already at the location. "It has got some of the best mental health clinicians, up and down the coast, and in my view some of the best mental health clinicians in NSW," state health minister Ryan Park said.

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

### **Workers at the front line of psychological injury**

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/07/2025, Amber Flohm, Page 30

When a teacher suffers a broken limb on a school camp or P.E lesson, workers compensation is straightforward. But under new changes being pushed by the State Government, if that same teacher

develops anxiety, depression, or PTSD from sustained workplace harassment or violence, the system fails them. This double standard is unconscionable.

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

## Breaking through the fog

Coalface, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 36

One in five mothers and one in 10 fathers suffer perinatal depression and anxiety (PNDA). It is a treatable mental health condition that affects an expectant or new parent for two weeks or more significantly impacting their daily functioning.

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

## Hope in anorexia battle

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 13

It took more than 40 years before Dr June Alexander could eat three meals plus snacks per day as she battled with anorexia nervosa. But through the power of diary writing and a psychiatrist who listened to her, she is now on the other side, and wants people suffering in silence to know they are not alone.

Also reported by: [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#).

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

## Fears for vulnerable Aussies as hub plan leaves mental health provider in limbo

9News, Other, 04/07/2025, Maddison Leach

More than 800 vulnerable Australians are "in limbo" as the mental health care provider they rely on for support faces closure. Momentum Mental Health offers coaching, group programs, bulk-billed psychological therapies and other support to hundreds of locals in Toowoomba and its surrounds. With a waitlist of more than 200 people, Momentum's services are in high demand.

[Read More](#)

## FIVEAA, Mornings, 04/07/2025, Graeme Goodings

Interview with Shadow Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Penny Pratt, speaking about a proposal that would allow half of the mental health nursing workforce to operate without formal mental health qualifications. Pratt explains that it has come to her attention that several allied health professionals have had a proposal put to them this week that may require lesser qualifications for mental health nurses. She adds that those with qualifications should not be short-changed in their earnings.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### Nurse safety question raised at Gympie clinic Hader over duress alarm

Gympie Times, Other, 04/07/2025, Scott Kovacevic

QLD's peak nursing body has demanded immediate action to address allegations a private Gympie clinic alarm for staff to activate if they feel threatened is only for show, despite the company rejecting the claim as baseless. A Queensland nurse's rights body has called for immediate action over staff claims an alarm at a private Gympie hospital leads nowhere and is only for show.

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE



## Sick of doctor fee gouging? Don't ask government to fix it

AFR Weekend, General News, 05/07/2025, Graeme Samuel, Page 39

Government reluctance to intervene in the medical profession means we must consider reform based on market forces to empower consumers. The Grattan Institute has just released a report discussing "excessive" medical specialist fees.

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

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

## Partnership brings new allied health students to Pyrenees Shire

Pyrenees Advocate, General News, 04/07/2025, Page 7

Allied health students are helping to provide a unique service to older adults in the Beaufort and Skipton area. Four Victorian universities, including the University of Melbourne's Department of Rural Health "Going Rural Health" program as well as Monash, La Trobe and Deakin universities, received Commonwealth funding to expand student placements in aged care at Beaufort and Skipton Health Service.

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

## 'It prevents us from doing roads, libraries, bins': The shires spending up to 16% of their budgets on GPs

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/07/2025, Jamie Thannoo

A group of rural shires, representing 8000 people, spends \$1.4 million each year trying to attract GPs. Local governments spending up to 16% of their budgets on GP recruitment want the Federal Government to cover the cost of direct cash incentives.

[Read More](#)

## Pharmacy salary growth set to slow: survey

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2025

Permanent pharmacists' pay is continuing to rise, with metro PIC's salaries now topping \$100,000, a survey reveals. Data from the latest Raven's Recruitment Pharmacy Salary and Market Report shows the pace of pay increases for permanent staff in the community pharmacy sector is slowing.

[Read More](#)

## Opportunity comes to those who seek it: Twomey

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2025

Pharmacy students and early career pharmacists are being urged to look beyond their postcode to gain experience. "Opportunities are not going to come to you, you are going to have to find your opportunities", Pharmacy Guild of Australia national president, Professor Trent Twomey, told an online conference today (Friday, 4 July 2025).

[Read More](#)

## A new voice for the medical profession in WA

Medical Forum, Other, 04/07/2025

The AMA (WA) has a new president, after Dr Kyle Hoath was elected for a two-year term at the association's recent annual general meeting. The psychiatrist and chief medical officer and co-founder of wellbeing medical technology company Oqea succeeds Dr Michael Page who has been in the role for the past two years.

[Read More](#)

## Qld pharms can amend scripts

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 04/07/2025

For the first time in Australia, Queensland pharmacists can now swap a medicine for a suitable alternative without needing a doctor's approval, to help solve medicine-related issues. An update to the Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021 (Qld) on 01 Jul specifies that a pharmacist who is dispensing a medicine for a patient "may dispense an equivalent medicine as a substitute to the

original medicine stated on the prescription where this is reasonably necessary for the therapeutic treatment of the patient".

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### **Navigating MyGov, MyHealth, Centre Link and My Aged Care**

Have-a-Go News, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 12

Rose Adamson from the local network of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing will lead a discussion about the range of Commonwealth funded aged care services, the assessment process and finding services that meet your needs. She will also discuss some of the recent reforms in aged care including the New Aged Care Act 2024 at the meeting of Perth branch of Australian Independent Retirees on Friday July 20.

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

### **An idiot's guide to Health Connect Australia and related (sometimes confusing) things**

Health Services Daily, Other, 04/07/2025, Jeremy Knibbs

Unquestionably the Australian Digital Health Agency has some good plans in play. But I wonder if they could slow down for just a tick and give an idiot like me a 101 guide on how it's all fitting together. First, let me say that I'm having one of those weeks. I'm not a great multi-tasker. I run an old model media business and try to grow it somehow – old model media businesses typically don't grow without a lot of lateral thinking and hard work these days – and simultaneously understand what is going on in the heady world of health services and digital health, and then... write about it when I can.

[Read More](#)

### **Patients go online**

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 04/07/2025

Thousands of Australians are turning to affordable online doctors as GP wait times blow out. One of Australia's leading digital health services Medmate has recorded a 40% surge in cold and flu consultations over the past month, with influenza, RSV, and COVID-19 driving a sharp uptick in demand.

[Read More](#)

### **Everything you need to know about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule**

WEB Kiindred, Other, 04/07/2025

Getting your kid into the dentist's chair isn't always the easiest task. We often have to rely on the promise of TV, toys, stickers and (counterintuitively) sweets to get the job done. To make it even easier, we're letting you in on something not many parents know about. The Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) aims to make dental care more affordable so your child's teeth get the care they need to stay healthy (hopefully, without the drama).

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

## Doctor under scrutiny

Northern Territory News, General News, 05/07/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 1

A high-level doctor at an NT hospital has remained on the payroll despite multiple complaints being made to police about alleged sexual offences. The health practitioner has allegedly been the subject of several complaints to NT Health and a number of ongoing investigations. Despite this, they have remained on staff and been allowed to carry on working at the health facility.

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

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

## Illawarra nursing graduate barred from profession

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/07/2025, Natalie Croxon, Page 5

An Illawarra nursing graduate won't have the chance to work in the profession for at least a year due to his history of sexual offending. The state's healthcare watchdog referred Leon Thomas Raikes to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) related to his October 2022 conviction for sexual touching without consent. [...] Raikes accepted the allegations, although he said he did not know that he had to notify the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) before he had been convicted.

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

## Left in coma by NDIS 'fail'

Newcastle Herald, General News, 05/07/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

A 26-year-old woman was left in a coma for 24 hours at John Hunter Hospital without it being medically necessary, her mother says. She was left in a coma "due to a failure by the NDIS to approve essential disability support in hospital". "This is not the fault or failing of doctors or nurses," the mother said.

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

## 'Systemic failures' brought to light by inquest into death

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 05/07/2025, Emma Downey, Page 3

The Coroner presiding over an inquest into the death of a Tamworth mother in Banksia Mental Health Unit five years ago says there were "systemic failures" in her treatment. There was hardly a dry eye in the court as Allyson Bailey's daughter, Sarah Potter, finished reading a statement about her mother to the court on the final day of a weeklong hearing.

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

## Private medical records scattered on driveway

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/07/2025, Bella Munro, Page 1

The highly sensitive medical information of dozens of Toowoomba patients has been leaked after a resident found 19 pages of hospital documents strewn across her driveway. Toowoomba's St Andrew's Hospital has launched an investigation into how the sensitive documents which include patient names, ages, and sensitive medical details such as mental health conditions, bowel obstructions, UTIs, and cancer diagnoses were scattered across a suburban street in Glenvale.

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

## Bupa customers voice frustrations over denied health insurance claims

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2025, Alison Branley

Health insurer Bupa has been accused of ongoing unscrupulous behaviour towards its customers amid legal action by the competition watchdog. ABC News has been contacted by patients and medical practices from around the country concerned legitimate claims were denied.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

## Federal health adviser Daniel McCluskie charged over alleged sexual assaults of partner and woman he met on dating app

7news.com.au, Other, 04/07/2025, Tita Smith and Demi Huang

A senior digital health adviser has been accused of multiple rapes and assaults against two women — a long-term partner and another he met on a dating app. Daniel McCluskie, 44, was arrested at his home on Sibbick St in Russell Lea — Sydney's inner west — at about 7am on Wednesday after an investigation into alleged domestic violence-related sexual and assault offences committed between 2021 and 2024.

[Read More](#)

## Taxpayers forced to outlay over \$20 million after embattled NDIS operator fails to pay wages of 1200 workers

Sky News Australia, Other, 04/07/2025, Charlie Tchetchenian

Taxpayers could be forced to fork out up to \$20 million after dodgy NDIS provider Cocoon SDA neglected to pay the wages and superannuation benefits of hundreds of its workers. NDIS firm SDA Cocoon, headed up by ex-bankrupt investment spruiker Zaffar Khan was placed into the hands of liquidators David Mansfield and Philip Robinson from Deloitte in May after the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission slapped its parent company Horizon Solsolutions Australia with a 30-day ban.

[Read More](#)

## Wrong vaccination prompts warning

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2025

Health authorities in Western Australia have issued an alert to medical staff after the wrong RSV vaccine was administered to some patients, it's been reported Western Australia's Department of Health told medical staff to ensure they are giving the right respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine, following reports some patients were given the wrong type...

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

### New role to help organ donations

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 04/07/2025, Phoebe Griffiths

Organ donation integration service DonateLife have announced the launch of a new, Australia first role, created to benefit regional communities in Victoria. The regional engagement coordinator position has been assigned to the highly experienced nurse donation specialist, Bridget Walters.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### Work up a sweat for dementia

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2025, Anthony Caggiano, Page 7

From better mood to withstanding falls, working up a sweat can help the overall wellbeing of someone living with dementia. University of New South Wales' Dr Morag Taylor has conducted research looking into the effects of physical activities on people with the disease and said it can make a difference, but just needs the right safeguards.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#), [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#).

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### The key to reducing atherosclerotic vascular disease risk could be administered via a fork

Medical Forum, Other, 04/07/2025

Everyone knows leafy green vegetables are an important part of a healthy diet, but new research out of

two Perth universities has revealed an additional health benefit. Researchers from Edith Cowan University (ECU), the University of Western Australia (UWA) and the Danish Cancer Institute have found a cup and a half of leafy green vegetables every day could go a long way to addressing atherosclerotic vascular diseases (ASVDs).

[Read More](#)

## MRI-only prostate cancer treatment breakthrough at Calvary Mater

Newcastle Herald, Other, 04/07/2025

A significant breakthrough has been made in the treatment of prostate cancer at the Calvary Mater Newcastle. It is the first hospital in Australia to use an "MRI-only planning approach" for radiation therapy for prostate cancer in everyday practice.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### Gilead's tale

The Saturday Paper, General News, 05/07/2025, Bianca Nogrady, Page 11

Standing ovations are rare at scientific conferences. Infectious diseases physician Professor Sharon Lewin, director of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity in Melbourne, still gets "tingly" at the memory of about 10,000 attendees surging to their feet at the 25th International AIDS Conference in Munich a year ago. The results that inspired the ovation were of the PURPOSE 1 clinical trial, which found that a six-monthly injectable antiretroviral drug called lenacapavir was 100 per cent effective at preventing HIV infection.

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### Victim bitten trying to free bat

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/07/2025, James Willis, Page 3

Health authorities believe a man who died almost nine months after being bitten by a bat on the finger had been trying to free the trapped animal. The man, in his 50s, died after being confirmed as NSW's first case of lyssavirus, a rare infection found in Australian fruit bats and flying foxes. It is understood preliminary investigations have determined the man was bitten on the finger and was given treatment at the time in October last year.

*Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).*

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### Breathe easy

Quarry, General News, 01/07/2025, Page 28

With the formation of the NSW Respirable Crystalline Silica Expert Taskforce, attention is shifting to the growing health risks posed by airborne silica in industries like quarrying. Respirable crystalline silica (RCS) produced during the crushing, cutting, and drilling of stone is a well-documented hazard that can lead to silicosis, lung cancer, and other respiratory illnesses.

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

## Flu cases surge with a 58% rise in cases in Hunter New England

Newcastle Herald, Other, 04/07/2025

Influenza cases have surged by 58 per cent in a week in Hunter New England, health data shows. Virologist Nathan Bartlett said "there's been a clear upward rise in the number of respiratory illnesses in the community".

[Read More](#)

## Flu cases, hospitalisations on the rise as SA government urges for more vaccinations

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2025

Reported flu cases across South Australia have spiked 70 per cent this year, according to government data, prompting fears about the health system's capacity to cope with more hospital presentations. The state government released data on Friday showing there had been 10,569 reported flu cases so far in 2025, up from 6,212 at the same time last year.

Also reported by: [9News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Mothers in Victoria write to health minister amid confusion about RSV injection

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2025, Charlotte Wilkes

A group of Victorian mothers have written to the health minister after struggling to get their children an antibody nirsevimab injection as part of the state's free RSV vaccination program. When Alissa Holder took her six-month-old baby to get a routine vaccination in April, she had no idea the ordeal she and her child was about to endure.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Masks on for many as the WA records 10,000+ flu cases for the year

Medical Forum, Other, 04/07/2025

Mask wearing is being strongly encouraged at several hospitals in Perth, as Western Australia recorded more than 3000 flu cases during June, taking the annual total so far above 10,500. At the same time the State Government has responded to rising case numbers by extending its free flu vaccination program for an additional month until the end of July.

[Read More](#)

## Child among meningococcal B cases recorded in WA

Medical Forum, Other, 04/07/2025

Doctors are being urged to be alert to potential meningococcal cases, after two reported cases within a week of each other in Western Australia. This takes the total number of cases in the State this year to seven.

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## Channel 9, Nine News, 04/07/2025, Brenton Ragless and Kate Collins

SA is seeing a rise in flu cases, leading to GP clinics and hospitals filling up. This week, flu cases have seen a total of 10,500, which is a 70% jump on the same time in 2024. Additionally, healthcare workers are also getting sick at an alarming rate.

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Adelaide\)](#).

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## ABC News, News Breakfast, 04/07/2025

More than 2800 flu cases have been recorded this past week alone in Qld. According to the State's Chief Health Officer, nearly 300 hospital beds per day are being occupied by patients with either the flu or COVID-19. This comes as WA also sees a spike of more than 10,000 cases reported this year, as they have also recorded the country's lowest vaccination rate.

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## Channel 7, Sunrise, 04/07/2025, David Woiwod and Natalie Barr

Interview with Mater Health Services Director of Infectious Diseases Professor Paul Griffin. Compere says flu experts are warning that there's more to come when it comes to the flu season after the State recorded more cases in the first half of 2025 compared to the same time in 2024. Griffin points out that what they need to focus on now is to make sure that as many people as possible are vaccinated against the flu. He says that this is the time of the year when they usually see a rise in flu numbers, but the start of the year already started strong in flu cases before the spike even occurred.

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## FIVEAA, Afternoons, 04/07/2025, Leith Forrest

Interview with SA Health Minister Chris Picton, speaking about the recent spike in flu in SA. Picton points out that the higher the number of sick people is, the more pressure the system will receive as it will demand more from health services and reduce the availability of healthcare workers. He states that, as per the AMA's advice provided this morning, people should utilise GP appointments as a means of getting their health checked.

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## ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 04/07/2025, Loreta Ryan and Joel Spreadborough.

Qld records more than 2800 flu cases last week alone, believed to have been caused by low vaccination rates. Qld Chief Health Officer Dr Heidi Carroll says 90% of Queenslanders who have been admitted to hospitals due to the flu or COVID were known to not have updated vaccinations.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### New drug offers new lease on life

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 05/07/2025, Emma Downey, Page 14

Three tablets daily have made a big difference in Ryan Harding's life and given him hope for the future. [...] In the past, VHL patients had often required radiotherapy and multiple surgeries to remove life-threatening tumours, limiting their mobility and quality of life, but this all changed in December 2022, when Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved the drug Belzutifan for use in Australia.

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#)

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### Sunscreen SPF claims under scrutiny

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2025, Rachel Carbonell

It's been revealed at least half the sunscreens that failed to meet their SPF claims in recent testing had their original certification conducted at the same overseas laboratory. An ABC investigation has found Princeton Consumer Research is used by a wide range of makers to verify their SPF claims before they are allowed on the Australian market. [...] I think hopefully the experts will take this on, the Therapeutic Goods Administration, the TGA, which regulates sunscreens in Australia.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#)

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### ADHD meds are in short supply. Here's why, and what can you do about it

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2025, Gemma Breen

Some of the most common medications for ADHD are set to be in short supply until the end of the year, which means plenty of people across Australia may find their pharmacist can't fill their prescriptions.

So, what are your options? We asked the experts why this was happening and what you can do if you're unable to fill out your regular prescription.

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## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### **Top nutritionist brands Australia's Health Star Rating system 'inaccurate' amid ADHD and cancer concerns**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 04/07/2025, Olivia Day

A leading nutritionist has accused Australia's 'inaccurate' Health Star Rating (HSR) system of 'misleading' parents as a growing number of popular lunchbox items marketed to children are linked to ADHD and cancer. Mandy Sacher, a paediatric nutritionist, says parents are being lied to by the HSR on boxes of cereals and muesli bars at their local supermarket.

Also reported by: [Body And Soul \(Online\)](#).

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### **Humble ham sandwich back on the menu amid South Australia's junk food advertising ban**

7news.com.au, Other, 04/07/2025, Lauren Thomson

Claims that "healthy" foods would be included in a state government's ban on junk food advertising have been dismissed. The South Australian Government said its advertising ban — which came into force on government-owned public transport on Tuesday — targeted processed meats, chocolate, lollies, desserts, ice creams, soft drinks and chips in a bid to curb childhood obesity.

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### **Channel 9, Today , 04/07/2025, Charles Croucher and Sarah Abo**

Interview with pediatric nutritionist Mandy Sacher. Compere mentions that a new investigation has revealed that some Health Star-approved snacks that are marketed as healthy contain many chemicals. Sacher says they have learned from their investigation that Australian families are feeding their children ultra-processed foods disguised as healthy snacks, and a lot of said snacks are getting highly inflated Health Star ratings. She explains that the Health Star rating system is completely flawed, despite the government pouring lots of money into the system, because no watchdog can crack down on items.

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