



TODAY'S NEWS

Monday, 7th July 2025

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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [**Daily Telegraph \(page 5\)**](#) reports that research from Roy Morgan has found that the number of 18-24 year olds who smoke has risen by 36 per cent since a commercial ban on e-cigarettes began on July 1, 2024. Health Minister Mark Butler has reaffirmed that Australia's vaping reforms are working.
- The [**West Australian \(page 1\)**](#) reports that a wastewater main pipe has burst in Perth, contaminating the Swan River with sewage for the second time in a month; Deputy Premier Rita Saffiot labelling the spillage as unacceptable.
- The [**Adelaide Advertiser \(page 1\)**](#) reports that First Nations man Robert William Junior Barnes has chewed off his finger following 700 days of solitary confinement in Yatala Labour Prison, raising concerns about the welfare of incarcerated First Nations Australians.
- The [**Herald Sun \(page 5\)**](#) reports that a research team from Monash University's Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences has found that the hormone oestrogen influences the level of annexin-A1 – a protein critical for controlling blood pressure – produced in women's hearts.
- The [**Courier Mail \(page 5\)**](#) reports that international drug manufacturers of methylphenidate medications have reported to the Therapeutic Goods Administration that shortages for the medication will worsen between July to December, 2025, leaving Australian ADHD patients seeking amphetamine-based alternatives.

- The [Canberra Times \(page 8\)](#) reports that Canberra Health Services emergency department staff recorded 168 incidents of occupational violence from patients, with crowding and bed blocking speculated as causes in the rise of violent behaviour.
- [The ABC \(online\)](#) reports that the weekly total of influenza cases in Queensland last week rose to 2,800 cases, representing a near-20 per cent increase compared to the same time last year.

MINISTER BUTLER

Healthscope could get out of this in one piece

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 07/07/2025, Michael Smith, Page 30

During his regular briefings with hospital staff and doctors, Healthscope chief executive Tino La Spina talks passionately about the company's potential to be the country's most efficient private hospital operator.

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

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Vape crackdown fail as more young Aussies light up

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/07/2025, Rory Williams, Page 5

[...] The figures come despite Health Minister Mark Butler insisting to The Daily Telegraph that the Albanese government's "world leading" vaping reforms are working.

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

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As the government looks to save money on the NDIS, is this the future of disability support?

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2025, Nas Campanella and Evan Young

[...] In a statement, federal NDIS Minister Mark Butler said the funding negotiations with the states and territories would be finalised as soon as possible.

[Read More](#)

It's one of Australia's biggest killers — and there's a new tool to tackle it

SBS, Other, 06/07/2025, Deborah Groarke

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler said despite it being one of the top five diagnosed forms of cancers, it's one of the deadliest because its often picked up when it's already advanced.

[Read More](#)

Why saving the NDIS doesn't need to cost more money

The New Daily, Other, 06/07/2025, Sam Bennett

[...] New NDIS Minister Mark Butler recently pushed the target date out to the end of the year, to allow time to conclude the negotiations for funding them with the states.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News (Sunday), 06/07/2025, Tamara Oudyn

Report by Nas Campanella on foundational supports run by states and territories to ease pressure on the NDIS. Foundational supports have been touted as the building blocks of a new disability ecosystem, and there will be services people can access outside the NDIS and territories, in places like schools and health services. Negotiations between the Commonwealth and the states over the funding of foundational supports have stalled, leaving the disability community in limbo and waiting for clarity. Federal health minister Mark Butler said the government is working towards finalising a deal as soon as possible.

Also reported by: [ABC \(Hobart\)](#), [ABC \(Perth\)](#), [ABC \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC \(Canberra\)](#), [ABC \(Darwin\)](#), [ABC \(Brisbane\)](#).

MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

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No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

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No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

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No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

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No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Research required, not hand-me-down medicine

Courier Mail, General News, 07/07/2025, Sarah White, Page 27

[...] Last year, the National Health and Medical Research Council, Australia's leading expert body in health and medical research, and the Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing released a comprehensive joint statement that "strongly encouraged" researchers to consider sex and gender in research.

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

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Free scans for silent killer

Cairns Post, General News, 07/07/2025, Emma Cam, Page 4

[...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing identifies smoking as the primary lung cancer risk factor, causing 90 per cent of cases in men and 65 per cent in women.

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

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Residents left in soiled pads for hours as staff lift lid on Australia's aged care staffing crisis

The Mercury, Other, 06/07/2025, Julie Cross

[...] A spokeswoman for the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said older Australians are receiving an extra 6.8 million minutes of care every single day thanks to the Albanese Government's reforms.

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[Back to Top](#)

VACCINES

Dr Toby Gardner says cases of influenza A and pneumonia on the increase in Tasmania

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/07/2025, Sue Bailey

As expected, winter has seen an increase in Tasmanians suffering from Covid, influenza A and RSV.

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

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Rosie Brown thankful to be 'one of the lucky ones' who survived deadly sepsis

The Mercury, Other, 06/07/2025, Sue Bailey

As she lay in her hospital bed, falling in and out of consciousness and fighting life-threatening sepsis, Rosie Brown's family was told to prepare for the worst.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Will I get dementia?

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2025

After witnessing my mum's cognitive decline and with dementia now the leading cause of death for Australian women, I can't help but wonder: Will I be among them?

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[Back to Top](#)

DISABILITY

Labor ready to build on Curtin's ambition for our great nation

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2025, Anthony Albanese, Page 13

[...] Consider the big challenges and opportunities facing Australia today: building the new homes and infrastructure our suburbs and regions need; securing the future of the National Disability Insurance Scheme; powering new jobs and industries through the energy transition; training our workforce and workplaces so that artificial intelligence is a creator of good jobs not a threat to them.

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Patients left in the lurch

A large number of vulnerable NDIS patients have been "left in the lurch" after the sudden collapse of a Geelong-based NDIS provider.

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[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

Tsunami of death: big surge in meth imports

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2025, Amanda Hodge, Page 1

"Industrial" volumes of cheap methamphetamine are surging out of conflict-wracked Myanmar as organised crime groups take advantage of record low prices and new maritime transit routes to reach one of the globe's most profitable drug markets, Australia, the UN has warned.

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The protein con: why you should swap that bar for a piece of fruit

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2025, Jason Kovacic, Page 14

It's a fad that started with gym junkies, but the obsession with eating more protein has now become mainstream.

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Breast implant illness 'very real'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2025, Tamara McDonald, Page 17

Women have described horror illnesses after getting breast implants, as figures show more are choosing to have them removed with a significant number linked to overseas surgeries.

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Human waste spills are 'unacceptable'

West Australian, General News, 07/07/2025, Shannon Hampton, Page 1

Deputy Premier Rita Saffioti says it is "unacceptable" that human waste was able to spill into the Swan River for a second time in a matter of weeks after another major pipe burst.

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Calls for more childcare regulation miss the obvious point

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 06/07/2025, Palme McGuinness

[...] It's worth bringing in a longish quote from a literature review conducted by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in 2015 to make this point.

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[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

At 35, I never expected bowel cancer

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/07/2025, Naomi Lorenzen, Page 23

As an executive assistant, I am used to managing big personalities and demanding schedules. Yet nothing prepares you for a life-threatening diagnosis.

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

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Removing AEDs from cop cars is just heartbreaking

Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) are simple to use and are the best tool we have to save the lives of the 26,000 people who will have a sudden cardiac arrest each year.

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Deaf to our critical need

Herald Sun, General News, 07/07/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 18

Deaf Australians will be able to contact triple-0 via a 24/7 video call service with an Auslan interpreter for the first time this year, a peak body has announced.

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Cancer centre a vital service

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2025, Zoe Waters, Page 16

In 1992, cancer care in Geelong changed forever with the opening of Barwon Health's Andrew Love Cancer Centre.

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Data registry funds plea in fight against MND

Canberra Times, Other, 07/07/2025, Farid Farid

A rare debilitating disease that eats away at the nervous system to shut down the body claims the lives of two people in Australia each day and two more are diagnosed. Motor neurone disease (MND) robs individuals of the ability to walk, talk, swallow, and eventually breathe, as it impairs nerve cells responsible for transmitting signals from the brain and spinal cord to the muscles.

[Read More](#)

Cancer rates in Australians under 50 are rising at a pace that's alarming doctors and scientists

ABC Online, Other, 07/07/2025, Elise Potaka, Maddy-King and Norman Swan

[...] Data provided to Four Corners by Cancer Australia, the federal government's cancer agency, paints a concerning picture for young people.

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'My doctor dismissed me and told me to take painkillers. If I'd listened, I would've died.'

Mamamia, Other, 06/07/2025, Laura Aubusson

[...] Thyroid cancer is the seventh-most common cancer affecting Australian women, and the most common cancer diagnosed in women aged 20–24, according to the Cancer Council. Thyroid cancer affects almost three times as many women as men, and rates are on the rise.

[Read More](#)

2GB, Healthy Living, 06/07/2025, Dr Ross Walker and Charlie Mellor

Interview with Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute professor Nick Huntington on new cancer treatments. Huntington says their work involves natural killer cells, which are cells that are frequent in our blood and are really important at detecting new transformations in healthy cells, or new types of cancer cells that are occurring.

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[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

A dozen security staff for our EDs

Courier Mail, General News, 07/07/2025, Taylah Fellows, Page 12

Twelve new security ambassadors will be posted to Queensland emergency departments as part of a \$8.7m funding boost to keep health workers safe from increasing violent incidents at public hospitals.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Shocking rise in hospital staff assaults

Canberra Times, General News, 07/07/2025, Lanie Tindale, Page 8

Just after midnight last Thursday, a 17-year-old boy allegedly assaulted Canberra Hospital staff while receiving treatment at the emergency department.

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

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2025, Stephanie Gardiner, Page 7

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: [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#).

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Call for the Premier to educate herself

Border Mail, General News, 07/07/2025, Ted Howes, Page 6

Border mayors and Better Border Health have slammed Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan's "ill-informed remarks" about the push for a greenfield site hospital.

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New free clinics to open

Burnie Advocate, General News, 07/07/2025, Sarah Fittock, Page 1

Free health clinics are set to open across the state, with both major parties rallying behind an election promise.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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The NSW hospitals where 60 per cent of women have caesareans

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 06/07/2025, Mary Ward

Almost 60 per cent of births at some Sydney private hospitals are now by caesarean, as more women seek to "control" childbirth amid increased discussion of traumatic experiences in labour.

[Read More](#)

Dean Winter and Ella Haddad announce TassieDoc for Tasmanians to see a GP for free

The Mercury, Other, 06/07/2025, Sue Bailey

Many Tasmanians find it hard and costly to get an appointment with a GP. Now Labor has outlined a vision that would enable people to visit a doctor for free.

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

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Healthcare trumps stadium as top election issue for these Tasmanians

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2025, Fiona Blackwood

While the proposed Macquarie Point stadium has dominated discussion among ABC Your Say respondents, for many voters health remains front of mind ahead of the Tasmanian state election.

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Australian doctors call for clampdown on social media influencers allegedly glamorising poker machines

The Guardian, Other, 07/07/2025, Henry Belot

The peak body for Australian doctors has urged politicians and social media companies to restrict "shocking" content of influencers allegedly glamorising poker machines on social media, in what it called an incredibly new phenomenon.

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Strangling the poor in red tape: the role of administrative harms

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/07/2025

Many vulnerable people are excluded from the support they need by administrative red tape that leaves them overwhelmed and disempowered, writes Dr Louise Stone.

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ABC News, Weekend Breakfast, 06/07/2025, Fauziah Ibrahim and Thomas Oriti

EDs are drowning because Tasmanians cannot afford or get into a GP. Among the Liberals' health promises is a plan for an extra 250 beds at the Launceston General Hospital. Labor has announced a funding package for women's health.

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Channel 9, Today on Sunday, 06/07/2025, Clint Stanaway and Alison Piotrowski

Panel discussion with development behavioural paediatrician Dr Catherine Skellern and Heidi Health CEO and co-founder Dr Thomas Kelly on an AI tool to improve patient care. Skellern says clinicians often feel like they are drowning in paperwork, which is the natural product of having to provide clinical care for patients. Kelly says Heidi, the AI tech, is about automating a lot of clinical documentation, listening in to the visit, capturing all the details, and creating a great document, note, or letter.

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[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Gnawed off his finger

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2025, Rohan Smith, Page 1

A troubled inmate locked up in Yatala prison's notorious G Division for almost two years has chewed off one of his fingers at the knuckle, prisoner advocates say, as they claim Corrections has been stopping their visits.

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Change in language helping to drive reform in child mental health

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/07/2025

Children's mental health is no longer a taboo topic. We've moved past questioning whether children can experience mental health challenges to focusing on how best to support them.

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[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Doctors like clinic promise

Hobart Mercury, General News, 07/07/2025, Sue Bailey, Page 7

Doctors have hailed Labor's election promise for five new free GP bulk billing clinics as "very future focused" saying it is an "unfortunate reality" that many Tasmanians cannot afford to see a GP.

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Proud nursing sisters

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 07/07/2025, Nikita Mcguire, Page 12

Nineteen-year-old twins Heidi and Emmy Draper are among 16 students graduating this week from Mater Education's fee-free, 18-month Diploma of Nursing program in Townsville.

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After suffering a breakdown at work, a nurse has had to confront her lifetime of damaging self-sacrifice

The Guardian, Other, 07/07/2025, Ahona Guha

Bec first came in for therapy for burnout. She was a psychiatric nurse and worked at a public hospital in an inpatient unit.

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The role of education in the rural medical recruitment pipeline

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/07/2025

Clinical schools and educational institutions have a social responsibility and contract to contribute to strengthening the capacity of the rural workforce, writes Susanne Tegen.

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[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Women heart this vital hormone

Herald Sun, General News, 07/07/2025, Robyn Riley, Page 5

Scientists have discovered how the sex hormone oestrogen helps protect women's hearts. The Monash University team found it influences levels of a natural protein that "shields" the hearts in those with high blood pressure from severe damage.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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The world should see this

Cairns Post, General News, 07/07/2025, Molly Frew, Page 11

A Far North documentary production company has beat 100 submissions from 61 countries to win a pitch at a prestigious film marketplace in France.

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[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

D-day for inquest

Northern Territory News, General News, 07/07/2025, Gera Kazakov, Page 1

After a deferral due to another death in custody coroner Elisabeth Armitage is in Yuendumu to deliver the findings in the Kumanjaji Walker coronial inquest.

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Three per cent of NT Aboriginal population locked up as Indigenous incarceration rates hit 2509

Northern Territory News, Other, 06/07/2025, Zizi Averill

Three per cent of the NT's total Aboriginal population started last week in a prison cell, as new figures reveal the impact of rising custody numbers.

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

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“Carving our path with spirit, strength and solidarity”

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/07/2025

The MJA has published its second Special Issue on Indigenous Health to coincide with the 2025 NAIDOC week.

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Building bone health awareness in Indigenous communities

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/07/2025

Incorporating Indigenous perspectives into strategies for bone health is crucial for addressing the unique health needs of Indigenous people.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Influenza cases nearly 20 per cent higher than 2024 as Queensland faces one of its worst flu seasons in years

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2025, Will Murray

Queensland is looking at one of its worst flu seasons in years, at a time when government incentives appear to have failed to improve vaccination rates.

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[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Is the Ultra Violette cream SPF 62 or 4?

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 07/07/2025, Carrie Lafrenz, Page 17

Lab testing Clinical analysis of beauty products is under the microscope, with billions of dollars at stake, writes Carrie LaFrenz.

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ADHD drug crisis warning

Courier Mail, General News, 07/07/2025, Vishaak Gangasandra, Page 5

Hundreds of thousands of Australians who use a certain type of ADHD medication will be forced to use amphetamine-based alternatives, or fork out \$200 for non-subsidised drugs amid a critical drug shortage.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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I'm a cosmetic physician this is how often I'm fixing 'pillow face' for my patients

Courier Mail, General News, 07/07/2025, Ashleigh Gleeson, Page 20

[...] Currently in Australia, patients have to trust their chosen injector knows what they are doing due to the Therapeutic Goods Administration imposing strict rules that limit what information can be published on types of filler.

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

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Implant illness is very real

Courier Mail, General News, 07/07/2025, Tamara McDonald, Page 20

[...] A Therapeutic Goods Administration spokeswoman said some breast implant devices were cancelled from the register of therapeutic goods for failing to demonstrate ongoing safety and performance.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

At-home drug test offers workers more autonomy

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/07/2025

A growing drug problem in Australian workplaces is prompting a shift in how businesses manage safety and wellbeing, with a new push for discreet, at-home drug testing aimed at preventing accidents before they happen.

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[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

'Makes no sense': South Australian ban exposed

Adelaide Now, Other, 06/07/2025, Josh Faulks

[...] That is why we are calling on the South Australian Government to adopt the Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) Nutrient Profiling Scoring Criteria – a nationally consistent, scientifically rigorous framework – developed by an independent government agency under the Federal Government Department of Health.

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[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

Part of France has banned drinking tap water due to 'forever chemicals'. Is Australia at risk of following suit?

9News, Other, 06/07/2025, Daniel Jeffrey

Residents in a small French town have been banned from drinking tap water due to contamination from so-called "forever chemicals", but one expert says Australians are unlikely to face a similar scenario.

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[Back to Top](#)

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