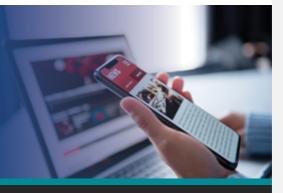


# TODAY'S NEWS



# Sunday, 27th 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

| Office of Drug Control | Food Standards | AICIS

## LINKS

Click here to view full print articles in this report

Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- The Sunday Mail Adelaide (page 1) reports that medical professionals in South Australia have claimed that the federal government's decision to bring in more overseas-trained doctors has exacerbated a shortage of rural and regional GPs; according to a Department of Health spokesman, overseas doctors recruited through expedited registration pathways are required to work in rural and remote areas with workforce shortage.
- <u>The Sunday Times</u> (page 1) reports that the death of a two year-old toddler has become the sixth flu-related fatality recorded in WA this year amid rising hospital admissions and dwindling vaccination rates.
- <u>The Sunday Tasmanian</u> (page 1) reports that plans are underway to redevelop Hobart's former St Helen's Private Hospital as a medical hub, which could include a day hospital and other allied health services.
- <u>The Sunday Examiner</u> (page 3) reports that LGBTIQ+ advocates are hoping to introduce legislation to ban conversion practices in Tasmania, following similar bans last year in South Australia and New South Wales.
- The Sunday Territorian (page 3) reports that NT Health has issued a measles alert after a
  tourist visited several locations in Darwin and Alice Springs while contagious. Also reported by:
   <u>Cairns Post. The Courier Mail. Daily Telegraph. Northern Territory News. Townsville Bulletin.</u>
   <u>NEWS.com.au. Daily Mail Australia</u>

- <u>The Sunday Telegraph</u> (page 5) reports that a rise in adverse event reports involving ADHD
  medication Vyvanse is under investigation by the TGA. Also reported by: <u>Sunday Mail Adelaide</u>,
  <u>Sunday Mail Brisbane</u>, <u>Sunday Tasmanian</u>
- <u>The Sunday Times</u> (page 5) reports that two years after a patient safety audit by WA Health, mental health units at Fiona Stanley Hospital and Armadale Health Service have yet to see the removal or modification of fittings and hardware that could be used by patients to self-harm.
- <u>The Sunday Times</u> (page 9) reports that WA Health Infrastructure Minister John Carey has responded to a leaked document suggesting that ageing cardiac catheterisation equipment at WA's Fiona Stanley Hospital is posing a radiation risk to patients and staff, stating that the equipment remains within operational safety requirements, and has had no "adverse impacts on patients, diagnosis or treatment."
- The Sunday Mail Brisbane (page 18) reports that new data from DonateLife has revealed that
   Australia's organ transplant waitlists have seen an increase of nearly 20 per cent since 2015,
   with close to 1900 patients on the rolls. Also reported by: Sunday Mail Adelaide, Sunday Herald
   Sun, Sunday Tasmanian, Sunday Telegraph, Cairns Post, Gold Coast Bulletin, The Mercury,
   Northern Territory News, Townsville Bulletin
- The Guardian reports that a study by Monash University researchers has revealed that nearly
  40 per cent of perimenopausal women experience hot flushes and night sweats, but are lacking
  in treatment options. Also reported by: <u>Sunday Canberra Times</u>, <u>Sunday Times</u>, <u>Sunday</u>
  <u>Examiner</u>

#### MINISTER BUTI FR

# We're the global village idiot on quitting smoking

Sun Herald, General News, 27/07/2025, Fiona Patten, Page 31

When it comes to reducing harms from smoking, Australia finds itself cast as the global village idiot clinging to policies that perpetuate harm, empower criminals and squander opportunities to save lives. [...] Apart from organised crime - whose fortunes have never been brighter - and a handful of well-intentioned but misguided health groups, nearly everyone else recognises Health Minister Mark Butler has made a huge mistake in his approach to controlling tobacco and vapes.

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# The future is uncertain for South Australia's major disability employment provider. What does it mean for those it supports?

ABC Online, Other, 26/07/2025

Twenty years ago, the Clarke family took their son Ryan along to his first day of work. [...] Federal Health and NDIS Minister Mark Butler said Beford was one of "thousands of organisations providing NDIS services", and he "can't think of another organisation that has got itself into the position that Bedford management has".

Also reported by: MSN Australia (Online)

Read More

# Sky News Live, News Night (Weekend), 26/07/2025, Ortenzia Borre

South Australia disability employment provider Bedford claims it may enter voluntary administration by tomorrow. It's calling on the federal government to offer urgent financial support to avoid the move. Health and Disability Minister Mark Butler warns despite ongoing talks the government may not provide additional funding to a failing organisation.

Play Now

# ABC Radio Adelaide, SA Grandstand, 26/07/2025, Mark Soderstrom

Bedford, a disability employment provider, is hoping that the federal government will provide a financial lifeline to keep the company out of voluntary administration. However, Minister for Disability Mark Butler has warned that the government does not usually invest taxpayer money in a failing organisation.

Back to Top

## MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

## MINISTER RAE

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

# SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

# **DEPARTMENT**

## Doc pay shock

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 27/07/2025, Brad Crouch, Page 1

Locum GPs are being offered \$3800 a shift plus a car, accommodation and other perks, as a statewide country doctor shortage crisis worsens. [...] A federal health department spokesman said the government funded a range of targeted programs to provide incentives for doctors to move to, and remain working in, areas of workforce shortage in Australia.

Also reported by: <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Online)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>Herald Sun (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>. <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>

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Back to Top

# **VACCINES**

No relevant coverage

## AGEING AND AGED CARE

# Spending on consultants defies Labor promises

Sunday Age, General News, 27/07/2025, Olivia Ireland & Brittany Busch, Page 5

The Albanese government had more than \$637 million worth of consulting contracts in the past six months, up more than \$100 million on the previous half-year, despite repeated promises to cut back on external advisers. [...] The Department of Health spent the most, with 37 contracts costing more than \$137 million, followed by the Department of Climate Change, with \$82 million spent on 16 contracts, and the Department of Infrastructure, which had eight contracts totalling more than \$64 million.

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Back to Top

## DISABILITY

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

# POPULATION HEALTH

# Illegal tobacco sellers shut up

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 27/07/2025, Linda Silmalis, Page 7

Retailers caught selling illegal tobacco or vapes will face an immediate three-month shutdown as the Minns government moves to "disrupt the business model" of large-scale criminals profiting from illegal goods. Those caught selling or possessing commercial quantities of illicit tobacco will also face a fines of over \$1.5m and up to seven years' jail under proposed new laws, which the government has described as the toughest in Australia.

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## Shop swarm savagery

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 27/07/2025, Jordan Mccarthy, Regan Hodge & Mark Buttler, Page 23

Frustrated business figures say the state government's inaction on the illicit tobacco trade has fuelled violent armed robberies known as "swarmings" at service stations. Youths are accused of targeting nearly a dozen petrol stations, tobacconists and supermarkets in terrifying armed robberies across the city's east and west on Tuesday.

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# The demonisation of statins: why this important cholesterol-lowering drug doesn't deserve the hate

The Australian, Other, 26/07/2025, Jason Kovacic

As a cardiologist, statins are one of the most important medications I have at my disposal. They are the most commonly prescribed drugs in Australia, with about 2.2 million of us taking a statin every day.

**Read More** 

Back to Top

# CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

## Survey confirms vicious cycle of epilepsy and anxiety

Canberra Times, Other, 26/07/2025, Lloyd Jones

After years of anxiety living with epilepsy Rosie Connell-Moller got her life back on track thanks to a

game-changing implant that sends signals to her brain to calm it down. The 40-year-old is now a full-time nurse in Brisbane and proud of regaining her driver's licence exactly 20 years after her first seizure at age 19.

Also reported by: Ballarat Courier (Online), The Border Mail (Online)

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# The unexpected realities of receiving a cancer diagnosis when young

ABC Online, Other, 26/07/2025, Alison Branley

It wasn't until Ashlynn Heaton was about to be wheeled into theatre to have an ovarian cyst removed that doctors told her scans revealed it was probably cancer, and she'd need her right ovary and fallopian tube taken out. [...] Returning to work seemed impossible, but eventually he got on top of things, with the help of nutritionists from Bowel Cancer Australia.

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# Geraldine Doogue AO delivers the annual Andrew Olle Media Lecture

ABC Online, Other, 26/07/2025

Geraldine Doogue ao delivers the 2025 Andrew Olle Media Lecture, held in honour of one of the ABC's iconic broadcasters, Andrew Olle. This annual event helps raise funds for Brain Cancer Australia.

**Read More** 

Back to Top

## PRIMARY CARE

## There have been 17 million IVF babies. Rebecca was one of the first

Sun Herald, General News, 27/07/2025, Kate Aubusson, Page 6

Up to 17 million people have been conceived via IVF since the first IVF baby was born over 40 years ago, a world-first analysis shows. But despite the exponential rise in IVF families, the medical treatment is no panacea for nosediving fertility rates, nor the common misperception that IVF can turn back the biological clock.

Also reported by: Sunday Age (Melbourne)

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#### It's time we cut the cost of IVF

Sunday Age, Business News, 27/07/2025, Victoria Devine, Page 34

For most major milestones in life, the financial path towards achieving them is relatively straightforward. Whether it's buying your first car, taking a lifechanging holiday, getting married or buying a home, the way to achieve it always the same: you set a budget and work towards it.

Also reported by: Sun Herald (Sydney)

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# Am I sick enough to miss work?

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 27/07/2025, Alex Veen, Hannah Kunst & Nate Zettna, Page 11

Whether it's your first or fourth cold of the season, many Australians are waking up at the moment with a sniffle, a sore throat or feeling more tired than usual. June to August is peak flu season in Australia.

Also reported by: Sunday Examiner (Launceston)

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#### **Hospital lifeline**

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 27/07/2025, Sue Bailey, Page 1

The old St Helen's Private Hospital in Hobart is to be redeveloped as a medical hub, which could include a day hospital. [...] AMA president Dr Michael Lumsden-Steel said the health needs of Tasmanians and the gaps in private and public hospitals needed to be analysed.

# Parents' grief as 2yo dies of flu

Sunday Times, General News, 27/07/2025, Hannah Cross, Page 1

A toddler has become the sixth person to die from influenza this year in WA amid a horror flu season gripping the State. Two-year-old Aabi became critically ill just days after returning home from a family holiday.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online), Kalgoorlie Miner (Online)

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## Mental health unit fixes slow

Sunday Times, General News, 27/07/2025, Page 5

Mental health units at Fiona Stanley Hospital and Armadale Health Service are yet to have fixtures identified as suicide risks removed more than two years after WA Health conducted an audit into patient safety. The 2023 audit of WA's public mental health inpatient units found 63 units across 17 hospital sites required work to fix or remove any fittings or hardware that could be used to self-harm.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online)

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## Radiation levels alarm

Sunday Times, General News, 27/07/2025, Hannah Cross, Page 9

Health Infrastructure Minister John Carey says he has "confidence in the oversight" of the body overseeing radiation equipment after a leaked document revealed ageing machines posed "major risks" to Fiona Stanley Hospital patients and staff. The hospital's head of cardiology, Jamie Rankin, outlined a litany of concerns 21 months ago when he wrote to the South Metropolitan Health Service board about an impending 10-year deadline set by Medicare for cardiac catheterisation labs, which are used to diagnose and treat heart conditions.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online), Kalgoorlie Miner (Online)

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# Catryna Bilyk showed courage as she fought for people in need: Senator Carol Brown

The Mercury, Other, 26/07/2025, Sue Bailey

Former Tasmanian Senator Catryna Bilyk has been commended for always advocating for people in need including those with brain cancer and "shifting stillbirth from a hidden tragedy to a national conversation". [...] Among her achievements, she advocated for over \$170m investment in brain cancer research, got NDIS access for brain tumour patients and twice succeeded in keeping Palliative Care Tasmania open.

Also reported by: <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Online)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>

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# Ballarat clinic saves \$500,000 for patients with bulk billing

Ballarat Courier, Other, 26/07/2025, Michelle Smith

Patients of one medical centre in Ballarat are expected to save around \$500,000 a year in out-of-pocket costs after the clinic began bulk billing all patients from July 1. Eureka Medical and Dental Centre, which has previously charged a \$30 to \$40 co-payment for patients, made the decision to return to 100 per cent bulk billing four months ahead of a federal government expansion of bulk billing rebates and incentives.

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# Controversial practice still legal

Sunday Examiner, General News, 27/07/2025, Lauren Richardson, Page 3

Tasmania is one of two states where conversion therapy is legal, but LGBTIQ+ advocates at Equality Tasmania are optimistic 2025 will see the end of these practices. Last year, both South Australia and New South Wales state parliaments passed bills to make conversion practices illegal - leaving Tasmania and Western Australia outliers on the national stage.

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#### Mental health cash call

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 27/07/2025, Dasha Havrilenko, Page 25

An SA-Best MLC has given the state government until September to explain why it has invested only 2 per cent out of the recommended \$125m to address a critical mental health issue, which is putting additional pressure on emergency departments. Connie Bonaros had successfully moved a crucial motion regarding the findings of the "Unmet Needs" report that has been "sitting unaccounted for" since it was released by the chief psychiatrist two years ago.

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# Fear of offence holds US back from looking after each other

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 27/07/2025, Elissa Doherty, Page 37

A fear of offending by saying the wrong thing is holding many Australians back from checking in on those they are concerned about. A new survey by suicide prevention charity R U OK? has exposed the reasons why a third of us hesitate to reach out to those we suspect are struggling.

Also reported by: <u>Sunday Mail Adelaide (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Sunday Mail Brisbane (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Sunday Territorian (Darwin)</u>

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Back to Top

# CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

#### HEALTH WORKFORCE

## **GP** blow to regions

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Editorials, 27/07/2025, Page 57

The struggle to fill important country medical positions is yet another blow to our regions. It is sad to hear that Peterborough is being forced to close its only GP clinic at a time when country towns are throwing vast amounts of money and incentives at attracting health professionals.

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# A walk along the cliff's edge

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 27/07/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 24

When it's life or death, the Alfred's intensive care team pushes 'the absolute limit' to save patients It's home to some of the sickest patients in the state, a beacon of hope on a family's worst day.

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# Occupational therapy students join forces with Broome Childcare Centre to boost early development

West Australian, Other, 26/07/2025, Cain Andrews

Young children at a Broome early learning centre have received extra support this month thanks to a

new partnership with university students training in allied health. The Y Broome Early Learning Centre teamed up with the Marjarlin Kimberley Centre for Remote Health and the University of Notre Dame Australia to bring Occupational Therapy students into the classroom throughout July.

Also reported by: Kalgoorlie Miner (Online)

**Read More** 

Back to Top

# TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

# MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

# **BENEFITS INTEGRITY**

# Doctor accused of filming colleagues in Melbourne hospital toilets recorded at least 460 people, police allege

ABC Online, Other, 26/07/2025, Danny Tran

A trainee surgeon accused of secretly snapping intimate images of unsuspecting colleagues in hospital toilets allegedly ranked the photos and videos, according to court documents. [...] His medical registration has also been suspended by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), preventing him from practicing as a doctor in Australia.

**Read More** 

Back to Top

# **HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES**

# Baby Noah has a weak heart. Donors could yet save him, unlike his brother Teddy

Sunday Age, General News, 27/07/2025, Broede Carmody, Page 4

When Teddy Forster's little heart stopped working, his parents initially thought it would only be a matter of time before he received a new one. [...] Sinead and Alex decided to share their family's story given Australia's heart transplant waiting list is at a five-year-high.

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#### Have a heart to heart

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 27/07/2025, Page 22

South Australians have the biggest hearts when it comes to registering to be an organ donor. Up to 90 per cent of the population in areas such as Adelaide, Mount Barker, the Eyre Peninsula and South East, the Adelaide Hills, Kangaroo Island and the state's Far North are registered as organ donors.

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## Making it easier to gift an organ

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 27/07/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 13

Organ donation could become easier in Queensland under changes proposed by the state government

to allow doctors to prepare for organ donation before life support is withdrawn. Public consultation will begin next month on proposed life-changing legislative amendments to make it easier for families to facilitate organ donation as their loved ones near the end of life in a bid to boost the number of viable transplants.

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# Anybody can save a life

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Edition Changes, 27/07/2025, Brendan Casey & Jackie Sinnerton, Page 18

Australia's waitlist for an organ transplant has climbed back to its highest level in years, as thousands more patients on dialysis wait for the hope of a second lease on life.

Also reported by: <u>Sunday Mail Adelaide (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Sunday Tasmanian</u> (<u>Hobart</u>), <u>Sunday Telegraph (Sydney)</u>, <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>

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#### Don't be afraid to talk

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Edition Changes, 27/07/2025, Page 18

Australians' lack of knowledge about how many people need an organ transplant and their fear of thinking about death has brought calls for more public awareness. Results from a YouGov survey reveal just 17 per cent of respondents knew there were between 1001-2000 people on the waitlist.

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# Donate a gift of life

Sunday Herald Sun, Editorials, 27/07/2025, Page 56

Australia is one of the world leaders in successful organ transplant outcomes but, sadly, our donation rates are on the slide. New data reveal 1895 people are waiting for organs as of June 1, a nearly 20 per cent increase since 2015.

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## My life on hold

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 27/07/2025, Genevieve Holding, Page 1

Bellerive father of two and husband Ian Jones has a bag packed at all times, waiting for a phone call that will give him just hours to get to a Melbourne hospital for a lifesaving and life-changing operation. [...] DonateLife Tasmania executive officer Davin Hibberd said Tasmania had the second-highest Australian Organ Donor Registration in Australia of 49 per cent, compared to a national average of 36 per cent.

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# Living proof of how well organ donation works

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 27/07/2025, Eilidh Sproul-Mellis, Page 32

These four girls look happy and the picture of health. But all have had major health challenges and required organ donation to make it through.

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# How the organ donation process works

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 27/07/2025, Page 32

Families of people who die in circumstances where they can be considered for organ donation are asked to consent to their loved one becoming a donor. When a family agrees, their loved one is assessed by a DonateLife team and transplant surgeons to determine which organs they can donate.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

# Women's symptoms 'overlooked' in menopausal stages

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 27/07/2025, Page 16

Women going through perimenopause are experiencing debilitating hot flushes and night sweats that are often untreated, as a study reveals the prevalence of symptoms during hormonal transitions. A first-of-its-kind study of more than 5500 women by Monash University published in The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology examined the similarities and differences in symptoms across the stages of menopause.

Also reported by: Sunday Times (Perth), Sunday Examiner (Launceston)

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## The mouse trap

Sun Herald, General News, 27/07/2025, Liam Mannix, Page 25

The white lab mouse struggles and fights, hanging on to the side of the cage, before lying face-up in the scientist's gloved hands. According to a card on the box, the mouse was injected with a large dose of breast cancer cells into its belly before undergoing surgery.

Also reported by: Sunday Age (Melbourne), Sydney Morning Herald (Online)

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# Menopause puts marriages, relationships under strain

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 26/07/2025, Elissa Doherty

Nearly one in five women report a decline in mental health during menopause. [...] New research from News Corp's Growth Distillery has revealed the profound impact menopause is having on the lives of Australians, with nearly one in five of women saying it is eroding their mental health.

Also reported by: Adelaide Now (Online), Cairns Post (Online), The Courier Mail (Online), Geelong Advertiser (Online), Gold Coast Bulletin (Online), The Mercury (Online), Northern Territory News (Online), Toowoomba Chronicle (Online), Townsville Bulletin (Online)

Read More

# 'Ignoring hot flushes is wrong': study challenges assumptions about perimenopause symptoms

The Guardian, Other, 26/07/2025, Natasha May

Almost 40% of women going through perimenopause experience moderate to severe hot flushes and night sweats but have no treatment options, new research has found. The study, published in the Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology, explored differences in symptom prevalence by menopausal stage among women aged 40-69 years.

**Read More** 

# 2GB, Weekends, 26/07/2025, Trent Nikolic

Nikolic reports that CSIRO Chief Executive Doug Hilton believes that the case of Professor Mark Smyth requires an independent research misconduct watchdog, arguing that allowing universities to investigate allegations against their staff is inappropriate. He says that Smyth, a former highly esteemed cancer researcher who received global awards and taxpayer-funded research grants, has been accused of data falsification but is still regarded as one of Australia's leading scientists and immunologists, as cited in papers.

Play Now

Back to Top

# FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

No relevant coverage

## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

# Measles sparks alert

Sunday Territorian, General News, 27/07/2025, Gera Kazakov, Page 3

A man's trip through the Territory has ended with NT Health issuing a measles alert, after he presented to Cairns hospital with symptoms. NT Health issued the alert on Saturday morning, listing a number of locations the "confirmed case" tourist had visited in Darwin and Alice Springs.

Also reported by: <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>NEWS.com.au (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Mail Australia (Online)</u>

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Back to Top

## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

## **TGA looks into ADHD medication**

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 27/07/2025, Page 5

The Therapeutic Goods Administration is investigating a spike in incidents involving one of Australia's most widely used ADHD medications. Adverse event reports linked to medication Vyvanse have spiked massively this year, and the manufacturer says no changes in the chemical production have been made.

Also reported by: <u>Sunday Mail Adelaide (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Sunday Mail Brisbane (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Sunday Tasmanian</u> (<u>Hobart</u>), <u>The Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia</u> (<u>Online</u>), <u>Geelong Advertiser (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>NEWS.com.au</u> (<u>Online</u>)

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## Pot stirred on workplace law

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 27/07/2025, Shannon Deery, Page 11

Coaches want safeguards for workers prescribed cannabis [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration's medicinal cannabis hub said patients should speak to their medical practitioner (doctor) or nurse practitioner "to see if it's the right treatment for you".

Also reported by: Adelaide Now (Online), Northern Territory News (Online), Toowoomba Chronicle (Online)

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# NT clinicians facing higher costs and shortage of lifesaving rheumatic heart disease drug

Northern Territory News, Other, 26/07/2025, Lottie Hood

The escalating shortage of a lifesaving rheumatic heart disease medicine is causing 'deep concern' among Territory health services, despite NT Health stating access to treatment is not impacted. [...] In June, the Therapeutic Goods Administration reissued approval to import alternative overseas-registered versions of the drug However Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT) said in July, it was announced with "no warning" that the supply of Extencilline from a French supplier was depleted.

Also reported by: <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Online)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>

**Read More** 

Back to Top

# OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Back to Top

# **FOOD STANDARDS**

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

# **AICIS**

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

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