



TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 11th September 2025

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#) |
[Assistant Minister White](#) | [Special Envoy Repacholi](#) | [Department](#)
| [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Disability and Carers](#) | [Primary Care](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian \(page 4\)](#)** reports that Queensland Health Minister Tim Nicholls has criticised the Federal Government's refusal to commit to a 50-50 hospital funding split, with a spokesperson for Federal Health Minister Mark Butler saying that the hospital offer remained linked to NDIS reform.
- The **[Sydney Morning Herald \(page 10\)](#)** reports that the Federal Government has reversed plans to cut funding for art and music therapists for the NDIS after a review conducted by health economist Stephen Duckett found the therapies to be beneficial in the right circumstances. Health Minister Mark Butler last month announced plans to reduce NDIS spending growth from 11 per cent to 5-to-6 per cent per year. "We're ... making sure the price of therapies is in line with the cost of other government services, so people with disability aren't paying a higher price than other Australians," NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister said.
- The **[Daily Telegraph \(page 16\)](#)** reports that data from NSW Health shows that 1061 hospital beds in NSW are taken up by aged-care and NDIS patients awaiting discharge. A spokesperson for Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said that a NDIS funding deal was currently being negotiated and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.
- **[The ABC \(online\)](#)** reports that the Federal Government on Tuesday announced that a free mental health care centre would be opened in Alice Springs, with Assistant Minister for Mental

Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride saying that the centre would help with suicide prevention, rather than provide acute services in suicide emergencies.

- **The Australian (page 1)** reports that University of Sydney researchers have found that children with autism, ADHD and other conditions are linked with impaired gene regulation and suffer from recurring infections.
- The **West Australian (page 1)** reports that drinking water at the Perth Children's Hospital has been regularly contaminated with lead, with the Western Australian Government labelling it a historical issue.
- The **Sydney Morning Herald (page 5)** reports that the NSW Government's suicide prevention bill will direct public debt collectors to consider suicide risks as a part of their operations.
- **The ABC (online)** reports that the Health and Community Services Union has alleged that paramedics in Tasmania's northwest were being directed to bypass Burnie's North West Regional Hospital as the hospital struggles with demand.
- **The ABC (online)** reports that the Therapeutic Goods Administration has announced that it would review the safety and regulation of medical cannabis products after it received 615 reports of adverse effects from July 1, 2022 to June 1, 2025.

MINISTER BUTLER

Tobacco crackdown has created a gangster's paradise

Australian Financial Review, General News, 11/09/2025, John Kehoe, Page 39

Black market Canberra has inadvertently helped enrich powerful gangs who are resorting to violence to retain their financial advantage.

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Crisafulli minister berates 'untenable' NDIS plan

The Australian, General News, 11/09/2025, Mackenzie Scott, Page 4

The Crisafulli government has heaped more pressure on the Albanese government's plan to tie the federal hospital funding agreement to NDIS supports, which Health Minister Tim Nicholls said would be "untenable". [...] Mr Nicholls has joined a chorus of criticism of the commonwealth's plan ahead of federal Health Minister Mark Butler meeting with his state and territory counterparts on Friday.

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

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Government winds back drastic cuts to NDIS therapies

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/09/2025, Nick Newling, Page 10

Plans to drastically slash the amount that art and music therapists can charge through the ballooning National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) have been shelved, as an independent review found the treatments were effective and beneficial for people with disabilities. [...] Disability Minister Mark Butler last month announced a plan to cut the growth of the NDIS from about 11 per cent per year to 5 or 6 per cent, to ensure the scheme remained sustainable and received continued support from the public.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#).

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Why we're suffering a nasty case of bed block

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/09/2025, Elizabeth Pike, Page 16

Sydney's busiest and most overstretched hospitals burdened with the worst rates of "bed blocking" have been exposed, as sick patients are being forced to wait for up to 29 hours in emergency. Westmead Hospital in Western Sydney had the worst bed block in the state with 57 beds used by aged care and NDIS patients who were ready to be discharged but could not find support.

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

Paediatricians warn too many children are being wrongly diagnosed with autism

7news.com.au, Other, 10/09/2025, Jennifer Bechwati

'Unfortunately, we've set up a model that didn't work in the first place and we now have to reinvent it.' [...] Health Minister Mark Butler recently announced that some children with autism will no longer receive NDIS support, instead moving to a new program called Thriving Kids While the decision has sparked anger from families, Dr Freelanders insists it is necessary.

Also reported by: [Thenightly.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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HCP relief welcomed by the sector

Aged Care Insite, Other, 11/09/2025, Stefanie Schultz

The Australian aged care sector has largely welcomed the federal government's decision to release an additional 20,000 home care packages by October 31, with a further 20,000 to follow by December 31. This pivotal move, announced by Health Minister Mark Butler on Wednesday, comes after significant pressure from the Coalition and crossbench, and is viewed as a critical step in addressing the substantial backlog of older Australians awaiting essential in-home support.

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Celebrating a decade of MRFF

Pulse+IT, Other, 10/09/2025, Heather Fletcher

The Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) celebrated its tenth anniversary today, with Minister for Health and Ageing Mark Butler commending its contribution to priority health and medical research. Over the past decade, funding from the MRFF has supported over 1690 highly promising Australian-based research projects resulting in new innovations and treatments which have transformed and saved people's lives.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

Government winds back drastic cuts to NDIS therapies

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/09/2025, Nick Newling, Page 10

Plans to drastically slash the amount that art and music therapists can charge through the ballooning National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) have been shelved, as an independent review found the treatments were effective and beneficial for people with disabilities. [...] Disability Minister Mark Butler last month announced a plan to cut the growth of the NDIS from about 11 per cent per year to 5 or 6 per cent, to ensure the scheme remained sustainable and received continued support from the public.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#).

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Fury as art class put back on NDIS

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/09/2025, Freya Parsons and Julie Cross, Page 10

A major U-turn to again allow music and art therapy to be funded by the NDIS has critics asking when the scheme's runaway budget will be reined in. [...] NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister said the decision, which will be enforced from November 24, was to prevent people with disabilities overpaying.

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New NDIS price cap for 'life changing' music and art therapy revealed

after review

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2025, Evan Young and Nas Campanella

Music and art therapists will be able to bill National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants at the same rate as counsellors, after a review of their evidence base found they were effective in the right circumstances. [...] NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister said the review provided "a practical way forward" for both participants and therapists.

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

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ABC NewsRadio, Mornings, 10/09/2025, Chris Mitchell

The Federal Government has reversed its previous stance and now acknowledges that music therapy, when delivered by qualified professionals, can be as effective as other counselling services. This comes a year after the government reduced the amount paid to music and art therapists under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), arguing that these therapies were not highly beneficial. NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister stated that a report from health economist Stephen Duckett, released today, confirms that art and music therapy can be both effective and beneficial for people under the right circumstances.

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MINISTER RAE

Trial a win-win for patients, hospitals

Ballarat Courier, General News, 11/09/2025, Michelle Smith, Page 3

Ballarat aged care resident David is typical of many older people who find themselves in hospital - he'd rather be cared for at home. [...] Grampians Health Ballarat aged care resident David chats with Minister for Ageing and Senior Australians Sam Rae and Ballarat federal MP Catherine King.

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Aged care staff to 'rise' to challenge of early places

HealthTimes, Other, 10/09/2025

The aged care sector will be able to handle an expedited rollout of 20,000 home care places, the minister has reassured, despite earlier concerns within the industry. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said sector reforms had been pushed back from November after worries from inside the industry that it would not be prepared for the changes.

[Read More](#)

Pocock: Rationed home care "doesn't make sense"

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/09/2025, Caroline Egan

Following his Senate victory last week that forced the Government to commit to immediately releasing 20,000 Home Care Packages, ACT Senator David Pocock says he will continue to hold the Government to account on aged care. [...] On his working relationship with Aged Care Minister Sam Rae (pictured) – who accused him of political point scoring – David said he would continue to engage "in good faith."

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Alice Springs suicide prevention walk bolstered by funding announcements

The dry bed of the Todd River runs through a place with some of the highest rates of suicide in the country. [...] Federal MP Emma McBride, who is assistant minister for both mental health and suicide prevention and rural and regional health, said the service would be delivered by Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in partnership with the NT Primary Health Network and Neami.

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ABC Radio Darwin , 19:00 News, 10/09/2025

The Federal Government has announced a new free, walk-in mental health care centre for residents of Alice Springs, as part of its national rollout of similar facilities. According to Federal Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride, the clinic will provide Central Australians with much-needed access to mental health services.

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ABC Radio Darwin , 10:00 News, 10/09/2025

On World Suicide Prevention Day, the Federal Government announced a new, free mental health clinic in Alice Springs. In a joint statement, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride, along with Northern Territory politicians Malarndirri McCarthy and Marion Scrymgour, confirmed that the centre will be staffed by a multidisciplinary team to provide individualised care.

Also reported by: [ABC NewsRadio \(Sydney\)](#).

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ABC NewsRadio, Breakfast, 10/09/2025, Thomas Oriti

The Federal Government has announced a new free mental health clinic in Alice Springs to coincide with World Suicide Prevention Day. In a joint statement with Assistant Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Minister Emma McBride, Federal NT politicians Malarndirri McCarthy and Marion Scrymgour say the centre will be staffed by a multidisciplinary team for individualised care.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

No relevant coverage

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

NBN Newcastle Hunter, NBN News, 10/09/2025, Natasha Beyersdorf and Gavin Morris

Members of the Elmore Vale Men's Shed have gathered for their annual National Men's Shed Week, an event that aims to raise community awareness. According to the Special Envoy for Men's Health, Dan Repacholi, men's sheds are a space for men to enjoy hobbies together or simply engage in casual conversation.

Also reported by: [2HD \(Newcastle\)](#).

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DEPARTMENT

CAHS will co-operate with federal audit

Coonamble Times, General News, 10/09/2025, Page 3

The Federal Government has ordered a forensic audit of the Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service (CAHS) in the wake of concerns over use of charity funds revealed in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) in May this year. The Commonwealth Department of Health, Disability and Ageing confirmed that the audit will cover from the 2022-23 financial year to the present, while a grant administrator will also oversee CAHS' management of grant funding.

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

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On a controversial proposal for pricing of private hospital services

Croakey, Other, 10/09/2025, Melissa Sweet

On 27 August, we published an article by health policy analyst Charles Maskell-Knight raising serious concerns about a proposal put forward by Catholic Health Australia for private health insurers to be compelled to pay a minimum benefit for private hospital services at a "National Private Price" (NPP). [...] Following publication of my recent article , several health sector sources contacted me to say they shared my reservations, but they understood that the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) was supportive of the proposal.

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Australia is at a critical point on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education, Other, 10/09/2025, Sophie Harrington

Australia is at a critical point on fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). [...] The Australian Department of Health and Aged Care can be applauded for their commitment to the implementation of the National FASD Strategic Action Plan.

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Beyond breasts & babies: women's health held back by medical blind spots

Medianet, Other, 10/09/2025

Women's health is often thought of in terms of breasts, wombs and ovaries. But what about the rest of the woman? [...] One of the Centre's major initiatives for 2025 is a nationwide audit of health and medical education curricula, funded by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing .

Also reported by: [University of New South Wales \(UNSW\) \(Online\)](#).

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MSIA signals voluntary AI code of conduct in healthcare

Pulse+IT, Other, 10/09/2025, Reesh Lyon

Two of Australia's peak bodies for digital health have combined forces on a voluntary code of conduct for the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in healthcare, with a draft version of the code expected to be published in coming weeks. [...] Ms Hossack commented that the process of consultation by government in running three three parallel but separate consultation processes on AI regulation in 2024 was confusing and sent the message that there was not agreement between- the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR), the Department of Health and Aged Care (DoHAC), and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

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60% of CHSP clients still waiting on Home Care Packages, warns Community Vision CEO

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/09/2025, Caroline Egan

Perth-based Not For Profit provider Community Vision says nearly 450 of its customers remain stuck on waitlists for Home Care Packages, despite being assessed as needing higher levels of care. [...] Nationally, 70,000 CHSP clients were waiting for Packages as of 31 March, according to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

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Multimillion-dollar health hub opens in regional centre

WEB InDaily SA, Other, 10/09/2025

The doors of a new multimillion-dollar fit-for-purpose health centre in Murray Bridge have finally opened, 23 years after demand for services in the area was first identified. [...] \$1.1 million of funding for the project came from the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC), while the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care (DH&AC) provided over \$8.9 million.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

More care, less cash

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 12

Investment is not matching the demand for palliative care services in Australia, according to a new report. Palliative Care Australia research based on the views of 1400 health and aged care professionals, workers and volunteers reveals 90 per cent of respondents reported increased demand for specialist palliative care in the previous year, but only 28 per cent said funding met that demand.

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

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Over 200,000 on the waitlist for care

Aged Care Insite, Other, 11/09/2025, Stefanie Schultz

The number of older Australians waiting for aged care is much higher than previously reported, a public hearing for the Senate Inquiry into aged care delivery has revealed. [...] Greens Senator and Inquiry chair Penny Allman-Payne said Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae has "misled older people" on the number of home care packages being released by the federal government each week, as the Inquiry learned no new packages have been released since June, meaning those that become available do so because a person has died.

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Opposition Leader Sussan Ley and aged care spokeswoman Anne Ruston have criticised the government, stating that Labor had "decided to withhold support" for the 83,000 packages promised from 1 July 2025, even though the sector was ready.

Aged Care Insite, Other, 11/09/2025, Stefanie Schultz

Last week also saw the passage of the Aged Care and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, marking yet another crucial step towards implementation of the new Aged Care Act. Following the passage of the legislation, Minister Rae expressed pride in the government's actions.

[Read More](#)

Webinar recording now available: Digital Health in Aged Care

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 10/09/2025, Natalie Dragon

We're excited to share that the Digital Health in Aged Care – Improving the Resident Transfer Experience webinar recording is now available. This latest webinar in the digital health series – an ongoing collaboration between the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) and the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) aims to boost digital health literacy across the health workforce.

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Rate of unmet care needs increasing in regional areas

Community Care Review, Other, 10/09/2025

Care deserts are emerging in Australia's outer suburbs and regional centres due to a lack of access to aged care services, data from HomeCaring's Geography of Care maps show. A new national dataset

developed by home care provider HomeCaring has highlighted a number of "care deserts" where communities have "dangerously low" access to aged care services and disability support.

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Sector welcomes packages, maintains call for more

Community Care Review, Other, 10/09/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Commissioner Fitzgerald says the sector is not ready to deliver more home care packages but providers disagree, urging the government to 'release the handbrake.' The Aged Care and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 has now passed through both Houses of Parliament, with provider peak Ageing Australia chief executive officer Tom Symondson calling it "wonderful" to see all corners of parliament agreeing to put older people first.

[Read More](#)

CHSP model needs work, but elements should stay

Community Care Review, Other, 10/09/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Providers should be fighting for the maintenance of grant or activity-based funding for CHSP services as the sector prepares for the transition to SaH, Paul Sadler tells conference delegates. Although the Commonwealth Home Support Program is due to be replaced by the new Support at Home model, providers should still consider what changes they can make to smooth the transition and advocate for aspects of it to continue, consultant Paul Sadler has told Invox's National CHSP Conference delegates this week.

[Read More](#)

How care deserts expose flaws in aged care funding models

HelloCare, Other, 10/09/2025, Jakob Neeland

A groundbreaking dataset released by HomeCaring , has laid bare a harsh reality: where you live in Australia determines whether you receive timely aged care, or none at all. The Geography of Care report, mapping aged care and NDIS providers across every local government area (LGA), reveals stark disparities that expose deep flaws in the nation's aged care funding models.

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Psychotropic use in aged care down

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 10/09/2025

Australian researchers have reported encouraging downward trends in the use of psychotropic medications in residential aged care (RAC) facilities, suggesting that reforms introduced in the wake of the recent Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety have had a positive effect.

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Westmont CEO: "This is the hardest I've found aged care in 15 years"

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/09/2025, Caroline Egan

"Aged care is very tough at the moment. I've been working in aged care for 15 years directly, and this is the hardest I've found it," says Tony Dunn, CEO of regional Victorian Not For Profit Westmont Aged Care Services. Despite widespread recognition that demand for dementia care is set to soar, it took Westmont more than 3.5 years to secure bank funding for the expansion of its dementia facility in Barnaduda, 10km southeast of Wodonga in northern Victoria.

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Just 12% of aged care homes take up Govt funded on-site pharmacist

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/09/2025, Caroline Egan

A year into the Federal Government's \$334 million on-site pharmacist program, fewer than 300 aged care homes have signed on. The program, which was launched by then-Aged Care Minister Anika Wells and commenced on 1 July 2024, saw 15% take up rates in NSW, NT, QLD and SA. The number of on-site pharmacists funded under the program was highest in NSW.

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Lutheran Services expands “proven” aged care nurse practitioner model

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/09/2025, Caroline Egan

The Queensland Not For Profit is doubling down on its nurse practitioner-led aged care model, with new Federal funding set to expand the program across eight sites and provide proof it can ease pressure on hospitals and GPs. Lutheran Services has secured \$577,000 from Country to Coast Queensland Primary Health Network to fund a fifth nurse practitioner, extend the program to more homes, and provide evidence of its wider health benefits.

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2CC, Canberra Live, 10/09/2025, Leon Delaney

A recent survey of aged care professionals, workers, and volunteers has revealed that Australians seeking end-of-life care are being turned away due to a lack of funding. The survey found that 90% of respondents have seen an increase in demand for specialist palliative care, but only 28% believe that funding is meeting the need. Palliative Care Australia Chief Executive Camilla Rowland confirmed these findings, highlighting the significant gap between demand and available resources.

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Major backflip on NDIS therapy price caps: What it means

The Mercury, Other, 10/09/2025, Freya Parsons

In a win for music and art therapists, they are now able to bill NDIS participants the same rate as counsellors, after a review vouched for their impact. An independent review released on Wednesday, spearheaded by health economist Dr Stephen Duckett, recommended the price cap be bumped up to \$156.16 an hour.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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ABC News, News Breakfast, 10/09/2025, James Glenday and Bridget Brennan

The comperes are joined by ABC National Disability Affairs Reporter Nas Campanella. Compere says music and art therapists will soon be able to charge the same rates as counsellors for their work with National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants. Campanella noted that this decision reverses a move made last year by the government to reduce the hourly rate for these therapists from \$194 to \$68.

Also reported by: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#).

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Channel 7, Seven News, 10/09/2025, Peter Mitchell

Australia's leading paediatricians are stating that thousands of children with developmental delays are being "wrongfully" diagnosed as autistic. This practice is adding pressure to the already-strained National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). In response, health experts are working to develop a more accurate diagnostic system.

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

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PRIMARY CARE

Doctors urge travel review

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 11/09/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 4

A review into the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS) must be carried out by an independent tribunal similar to parliamentary allowances, according to the state's rural doctors. The Rural Doctors Association of Queensland is joining calls for urgent reform of the system of allowances for rural patients who must travel away from home for necessary medical treatment.

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SA Health system testing AI to help doctors and cut waiting lists

Adelaide Now, Other, 10/09/2025, Paul Starick

Ai "scribes" that listen to doctors' consultations with patients and automatically generate clinical notes are being tested in the public health system in a bid to boost productivity and cut waitlists. The scribes, an artificial intelligence tool that converts conversations into a clinical note, summary or letter, are being tested at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital emergency department in a trial that started in August.

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

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Cairns' northern urgent care clinic tender process opens

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/09/2025, Arun Singh Mann

Cairns will receive one of 50 new urgent care clinics promised by the federal government, but its exact site and opening time will be the subject of an independent process. Applications to build Cairns' second urgent care clinic have opened but there's no timeline on when the centre will be operating.

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

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Women still being written off as 'hysterical' in health system

West Australian, Other, 10/09/2025, Karen Lombardi

For men, you might give a moment's thought before settling on "no" But if you're a woman, chances are you're nodding vigorously. Last year, the Federal Government handed down its #EndGenderBias report, a survey of women's experiences of bias and discrimination in the Australian healthcare system.

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

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Call for targeted asthma advice as authorities defend bloom health messaging

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2025

Authorities are defending the handling of changed public health advice relating to South Australia's algal bloom, amid ongoing warnings to asthmatics about contaminated sea spray. SA Health's principal water quality adviser David Cunliffe yesterday told a Senate inquiry into the bloom that the testing of sea foam for brevetoxins — which had already been detected in shellfish — had only begun "about two weeks ago".

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'Hiding these results does not make the problem go away': Doctors lash NSW Health data

SBS, Other, 10/09/2025

The Australian Medical Association NSW president has said said stark figures were buried in a Bureau of Health Information new report and questioned the bureau's presentation of data. The bureau has said it applies the same criteria of "objectivity, fairness and meaningfulness" in every report.

[Read More](#)

Doctors outraged after NSW health department 'recklessly' leaks their personal and professional data online

The Guardian, Other, 10/09/2025, Natasha May

The NSW government has accidentally leaked confidential documents belonging to almost 600 medical staff, including 67 senior doctors in Sydney, who had applied for jobs with the health department. Doctors are enraged that their sensitive data was handled "recklessly" and fear they could now be at risk of identity theft.

[Read More](#)

'We cannot withstand this pressure': A GP's accreditation ordeal

Australian Doctor, Other, 10/09/2025, Rachel Carter

A Sydney gp says his practice does not have the resources to undergo a repeat accreditation assessment. This year, Dr Raymond Wong and his staff went through the stresses and strains of accreditation — that process designed to give patients, and the wider community, confidence in the quality of care being provided by GP practices.

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Scope of practice: GPs' expertise in writing a script

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/09/2025

riting a script is rarely just a five-minute job, it requires established relationships and a knowledge of patient history, writes Dr Ramya Raman. Writing a script safely comes with years of training, knowledge of a patient's history and the trust built over time with their GP, says Dr Ramya Raman.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Labor MPs demand policing boost to stub out the issue

The Australian, General News, 11/09/2025, Sarah Ison, Page 3

Senior Labor backbenchers are urging the government to invest more resources into cracking down on illegal tobacco, while hitting back at NSW Premier Chris Minns for demanding a freeze on the federal excise just so states "can get their act together" and step up enforcement efforts in line with warnings made years ago. Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement chair Helen Polley said it was clear the Albanese government's current investment in the Australian Federal Police and Border Force was coming up short.

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Tax and policy logic gone in a puff of illicit smokes

The Australian, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 11

If a sign were needed of failed tax and public policy, it can be seen in my hometown. Five tobacco stores in various guises are sprinkled around the township with a population of just under 12,000. Four of the shops have been established during the past 12 months. The recent arrivals all sell illicit tobacco and vapes.

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New law to stub out illicit tobacco

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/09/2025, James Willis, Page 16

Some of the toughest illicit tobacco laws in the country are a step closer in NSW after major legislation passed the lower house of NSW parliament. The new penalties, designed to combat the state's growing black market, include a jail term of as long as seven years and fines of \$1.5 million for retailers caught selling illegal products.

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Tobacco wars still burn on

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2025, Elizabeth Henson, Page 18

Illegal tobacco traders are stashing illicit cigarettes and vapes in cars near their shops in an attempt to

avoid detection. Others who have been shut down continue to trade by lurking around their closed shops and directing customers to another store.

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

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Older kids sitting it out

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 7

For every year older a child grows, they have around 25 minutes more daily sitting time. A team including Deakin University researchers used data from studies that collected accelerometer statistics on the movement of children and teens, including 6567 participants who were tracked at least twice.

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Palliative care needs funds

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 9

Investment is not matching the demand for palliative care services in Australia, according to a new report. Palliative Care Australia research of the views of 1400 health and aged-care workers and volunteers reveals 90 per cent reported increased demand for specialist palliative care in the previous year, but only 28 per cent said funding met demand.

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

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Grocers' warning on dodgy cigarettes

Launceston Examiner, General News, 11/09/2025, Hamish Geale, Page 6

Tasmanian retail workers are losing their jobs and more shops are facing closure as the state's black market tobacco fallout continues. The problem has worsened significantly in 2025, with one industry source telling The Examiner there were between three to five illegal tobacco traders in Launceston alone.

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Sepsis more prevalent

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 34

A landmark report released ahead of World Sepsis Day on September 13 reveals that sepsis is more prevalent, deadly and costly than previously understood. Published by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, the report analysed more than 900,000 sepsis-related hospitalisations in Australian public hospitals from 2013-14 to 2022-23.

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It's bad policy, but there is no escape from dangerous tobacco laws

The Australian, Other, 10/09/2025

If a sign were needed of failed tax and public policy, it can be seen in my hometown. Five tobacco stores in various guises are sprinkled around the township with a population of just under 12,000. Four of the shops have been established during the past 12 months. The recent arrivals all sell illicit tobacco and vapes

[Read More](#)

Qld Health hits Flinders St Convenience and Tobacco with 72hr closure notice

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/09/2025, Leighton Smith

A tobacconist in the Townsville CBD has been slapped with a 72 hour closure notice for its alleged involvement in the illicit trade of tobacco and nicotine products by Queensland Health on Thursday morning. Details about the surprise closure were revealed in an "interim closure order" stuck to the roller door of Flinders St Convenience and Tobacco, opposite Townsville Brewing Co.

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

Ending period poverty one pad at a time

Shepparton News Online, Other, 10/09/2025, Jemma Jones and Emily Donohoe

As part of a Victorian Government initiative, 700 locations such as public hospitals, libraries, TAFEs, courts and train stations, offer free pads and tampons. Rochester customer service centre and library has a dispenser, and Rochester and Elmore District Health Service has two dispensers, one in the unisex accessible toilet near reception and a second in the women's bathroom near the Yalukang Aged Care reception.

[Read More](#)

Aussies are 20 times more likely to be hospitalised by a cat or horse than a shark, according to new data

9News, Other, 10/09/2025, Maddison Leach

Shark attacks may be dominating news headlines after the tragic death of a surfer but Australians are more than 20 times more likely to be hospitalised by a cat or horse than a shark. [...] Data released last year from the National Coronial Information System revealed that dogs are among the deadliest animals in Australia.

[Read More](#)

GLP-1 RAs found to pose pregnancy risks

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 10/09/2025, Chloe Hava

Women of reproductive age using glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs) could be at risk of unintended pregnancy, and may be unaware of associated risks to pregnancy and unborn babies. A new study by Flinders University, which examined records from more than 1.6 million women aged 18–49 who attended general practice between 2011 and 2022, found that only one in five (21%) of those with first prescribing of GLP-1 RAs had documented contraceptive use.

[Read More](#)

24/7 helpline for health staff planned in strategy to improve palliative care

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 10/09/2025

A new helpline is to provide round-the-clock advice and support to health professionals providing palliative care. The Scottish Government said the move will help ensure the "best possible care is provided" to those in need.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 10/09/2025, Yvonne Yong

Authorities are defending the way they've communicated public health advice about South Australia's toxic algal bloom. People with asthma are now being told to carry medication on foamy beaches after testing a fortnight ago revealed potential health risks.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Evenings, 10/09/2025, Kelly Higgins-Devine

Interview with Qld's National Centre for Youth Substance Use Research Associate Professor and Qld 2025 Young Tall Poppy Awardee Janni Leung. Compere says, despite the vaping ban that went into place last year, young Queenslanders are believed to still vape. Leung mentions that she's an epidemiologist at the university and is focusing on addiction research. She states that vaping has been a worrying problem for parents and their children, so there has been a lot of research on why it's attractive to younger people.

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

Breast bot scouts out lethal hidden cancers

Courier Mail, General News, 11/09/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 29

A tiny radar the size of a grain of rice which is placed in the breast and directs surgeons to small tumours that are not palpable has proved a lifesaver at a Queensland hospital. The device is taking some of the stress out of a breast cancer diagnosis by getting patients to surgery faster to help stop the spread of disease.

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

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

How healthy is your liver? It's not only about alcohol

The Australian, Other, 10/09/2025, Peta Bee

As our largest internal organ, the liver is little short of a powerhouse, performing more than 500 key functions in the body every day. It quietly goes about its responsibilities, filtering the blood of toxins, making bile so that we can digest meals, processing nutrients and regulating our metabolism.

[Read More](#)

Junk food leads to more children being obese than underweight for first time

The Guardian, Other, 10/09/2025, Kat Lay

Cheap ultra-processed food behind rise in overweight children, with one in 10 now obese globally, says Unicef More children around the world are obese than underweight for the first time, according to a UN report that warns ultra-processed junk food is overwhelming childhood diets.

Similar coverage reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Why some patients refuse conventional cancer treatments

Medical Forum, Other, 10/09/2025, Moira O'Connor

The rise of social media and blogs has resulted in some patients refusing conventional cancer treatments, raising new challenges for clinicians, writes Associate Professor Moira O'Connor from the Curtin School of Population Health. In some cases, against medical advice, a person with cancer decides not to undergo conventional treatments such as chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hormone therapy, and others.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Aurora for break-up and sell-off

The Australian, Business News, 11/09/2025, Bridget Carter, Page 14

China's Luye is believed to be heading towards a break-up plan of its Australian mental health services business, Aurora Healthcare, as investment bank Citi moves forward with a sale for the group. DataRoom understands that mental health facilities will likely be sold off to separate buyers in the auction being run by the US Wall Street bank.

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Government bill collectors must consider suicide risk

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/09/2025, Jessica McSweeney, Page 5

Government debt collectors must consider the risks of suicide when issuing fines under landmark legislation. The NSW government's suicide prevention bill will direct all agencies and departments to create an "action plan" to address any potential suicide risks in their day-to-day operations.

Probe into mental health provider

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/09/2025, Eryk Bagshaw, Page 16

Myer is investigating its mental health provider D'Accord OAS as half a dozen more counsellors come forward claiming the counselling giant owes them thousands of dollars. The Victorian government has also distanced itself from D'Accord OAS, which allegedly threatened counsellors with retribution after they complained of going months without payment.

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Walking the walk to help Lifeline save lives

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 25

The message was crystal clear if you're struggling, reach out for help. That was the takeaway as Lifeline held its annual Out Of The Shadows walks across the nation yesterday, raising more than \$3.3m for vital mental health support.

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Child locked in solitary for 84 hours after riot

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/09/2025, Zizi Averill, Page 12

A Territory child was locked in solitary isolation for 84 hours straight and denied food and medication after a riot in Australia's most notorious children's prison. The child, with a long history of trauma, mental health issues and self-harm, was locked in a cell at Don Dale Detention Centre for three days straight in April 2024.

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Walk to counter the anguish of suicide

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2025, Olivia Conder, Page 15

A Geelong grandmother has shared her family's devastating story, as hundreds are expected to gather for an annual suicide prevention walk. Carlynn Sexton, 90, is calling for the community to "talk before it's too late" following the deaths of her daughter and grandson to suicide.

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Construction workers are at higher risk of suicide. Here's how to look out for them

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2025, Kellie Scott

When a professional football career was no longer on the horizon for 19-year-old Simon Tyler, he turned to construction work. "A lot of my mates were doing it ... and the industry had that kind of camaraderie, team mateship, that I really enjoyed at the footy club," explains Dr Tyler, now 37.

[Read More](#)

World Suicide Prevention Day: Growing number of Indigenous youth seeking help

National Indigenous Times, Other, 10/09/2025, Jarred Cross

One conversation can make a big difference in someone's life, Aboriginal mental health and crisis hotline workforce say, while alarmingly, mental health indicators continue to go backwards. September 10th in World Suicide Prevention Day. Earlier this year, the Productivity Commission's annual Closing the Gap report stated suicide rates are increasing.

[Read More](#)

13YARN urges open conversations with mob on World Suicide Prevention Day

National Indigenous Times, Other, 10/09/2025, Dechlan Brennan

On World Suicide Prevention Day, 13YARN is urging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to start open conversations about mental health and reach out for support if they are struggling. In 2023,

275 Indigenous people died by suicide — up from 243 the year before.

[Read More](#)

Batchelor Institute secures close to \$1 million from Medical Research Future Fund to tackle suicide in Central Australian First Nations communities

National Indigenous Times, Other, 10/09/2025, Giovanni Torre

Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education announced on Tuesday its research team has been awarded its first-ever Medical Research Future Fund grant, securing \$992,379.21 over two years to lead research into suicide prevention and postvention in First Nations communities across Central Australia. Batchelor Institute said the achievement underscores their "commitment to delivering transformative education and research that privileges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges and responds to community needs".

[Read More](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 10/09/2025, Leon Delaney

Interview with Lifeline Canberra General Manager of Engagement and Strategy Sally McLean. Compere mentions that today is World Suicide Prevention Day. McLean admits that they are asking people to shift away from how they think about suicide and move on from silence. She mentions that there's currently a stigma towards being open regarding suicide as well as being empathic, so people don't act.

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IMMUNISATION

World-first koala chlamydia vaccine approved for use

Age, General News, 11/09/2025, Bianca Hall, Page 23

A vaccine to protect koalas against the deadly sexually transmitted disease chlamydia has been approved in a move being celebrated by scientists and the conservation sector. In a world-first, researchers from the University of the Sunshine Coast spent 10 years developing and testing the single-dose vaccine, which has successfully been trialled on hundreds of wild koalas spanning several generations.

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Chlamydia vax for koalas

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 9

A vaccine has been approved by Australia's veterinary medicine regulator to protect endangered koalas from chlamydia infection and death. Researchers from the University of the Sunshine Coast led by professor of microbiology Peter Timmshave spent more than 10 years developing the vaccine to protect koalas from the disease that can cause painful urinary tract infections, infertility, blindness and even death.

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

Koala chlamydia vaccine approved for rollout across Australia

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2025, Jessica Ross

Koalas will soon have protection from a deadly sexually transmitted disease that has devastated wild populations, following the approval of a nation-wide chlamydia vaccine rollout. The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority has approved the single-dose vaccine, developed by the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) after more than a decade of research.

Similar coverage reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Retirees further stretched by surging expenses

The Australian, Business News, 11/09/2025, Anthony Keane, Page 13

Surging household expenses have increased the annual cost of a comfortable retirement by more than \$13,000 in just five years, piling pressure on seniors and potentially eroding their nest eggs. [...] "Health insurance, with out-of-pocket health costs, we're seeing now at more than \$220 a week for a couple in a comfortable retirement, so my suspicion is that people will have to make decisions

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

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Autism link to infections offers treatment hope

The Australian, General News, 11/09/2025, Natasha Robinson, Page 1

Children with autism experience abnormal gene regulation and immune function that is often triggered by infection, and their symptoms may be significantly improved using targeted drugs. The finding forms the basis for groundbreaking research by Australian neuroscience experts that has the potential to lead to a diagnostic blood test.

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

Best diet for chronic pain

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 7

New research from the University of South Australia shows that eating nutritious food is about far more than ticking off the five food groups it can also significantly reduce chronic pain. In a weight-loss study of 104 Australian overweight or obese adults, researchers found that people who improved their diet quality over a three-month period reported far less joint and muscle pain.

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Biocurious: Nexsen's upcoming IPO highlights the need for speed in diagnostic testing

The Australian, Other, 10/09/2025, Tim Boreham

Ipo candidate Nexsen hopes to revolutionise the market for real-time diagnostic testing, while eyeing fast-track FDA approval. Nexsen is commercialising novel point-of-care diagnostic tech developed by RMIT University The company's first target is group B streptococcus (GBS) bacteria, a potentially dangerous disease affecting one in six pregnant women.

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

[Read More](#)

Telix doses first patient in Phase 3 BiPASS Trial: PSMA-PET imaging for prostate cancer diagnosis

Canberra Times, Other, 10/09/2025

Telix Pharmaceuticals Limited today announces it has dosed the first patient in a Phase 3 clinical trial aimed at expanding the indications for Illuccix and Gozellix (kits for the preparation of gallium-68 (Ga) gozetotide injection) to include prostate cancer diagnosis.

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

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Genes, not just diet, could help protect people from diabetes, according to new research

9News, Other, 10/09/2025, Gabriella Rogers

Experts say our genes, not just our diet, can drive gut health and help protect people from diabetes. Sydney-based researchers at the Charles Perkins Centre have identified a genetic component influencing the composition of the gut microbiome and its subsequent impact on metabolic health.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Treaty shouldn't come as a shock

Age, General News, 11/09/2025, Chip Le Grand, Page 31

Treaty is here. It has taken decades, yet arrived in a rush. It is no longer an aspiration or a debate, but a negotiated agreement, set out in black and white, for black and white, missing only the final, ceremonial signatures on behalf of the state and Victoria's First Peoples.

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Grounded in culture

Law Institute Journal, General News, 01/09/2025, Karin Derkley, Page 20

Djirra offers First Nations' women and their families a safe and culturally respectful place to access legal, advice and representation, including holistic wraparound support services. For more than two decades, Djirra has been advocating on behalf of First Nations women and their children, providing services and resources to support their identity, culture and resilience.

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Hopes Australia's first treaty with Aboriginal people will help close the gap

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2025, Carly Williams and Kris Flanders

The country's first treaty with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples provides a historic opportunity to help close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, First Nations leaders say. Legislation passed in Victoria's Parliament on Tuesday establishes the treaty and sets up the First Peoples' Assembly as a permanent authority, now named Gellung Warl.

[Read More](#)

Racism is a public health emergency

Aged Care Insite, Other, 11/09/2025, Stefanie Schultz

A scoping review has revealed that racism within Australia's healthcare sector is not limited to isolated incidents but is a structural problem, deeply embedded in the country's social and institutional systems. Health Inequities in Australia was commissioned by the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) and conducted by researchers at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS).

[Read More](#)

Health research centre celebrates milestone in closing Indigenous health gap

National Indigenous Times, Other, 10/09/2025, Callan Morse

The University of Queensland's Poche Centre for Indigenous Health is celebrating 10 years of working to help close the gap in Indigenous health. Opening a decade ago with a modest staff of three, the First Nations-led health research centre has grown to become one of the leading Indigenous research centres in Australia.

[Read More](#)

Rirratjingu housing project paves the way for post-mining future in

Gove

National Indigenous Times, Other, 10/09/2025, Giovanni Torre

Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation unveiled a landmark \$7 million housing initiative in Nhulunbuy on Thursday, marking the first major residential construction in the region in nearly 20 years. The Bunggulwuy Close development represents what the RAC called "a pivotal investment" in the Gove Peninsula's post-mining future, as Rio Tinto's operations wind down and new pathways for regional stability and service delivery emerge.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Bed blocking hurts our busy hospitals

Daily Telegraph, Editorials, 11/09/2025, Page 56

Any many readers will be personally aware, a visit to the hospital can often lead to an expanded vocabulary. Unfortunately, those new words and phrases are usually to do with illness or injury. Frankly, we could all probably do without even needing to hear them.

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

State's hospital admissions jump during 'difficult' winter

Border Mail, General News, 11/09/2025, Jack Gramenz and Farid Farid, Page 20

Hospital admissions have reached record levels in Australia's largest health system, but further highs are expected following a "very difficult" winter. More than 515,000 patients were admitted to NSW hospitals in the three months to June, the state's health statistics agency said yesterday.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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Shorter wait times, less ramping at EDs

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 11/09/2025, Natalie Croxon, Page 6

A greater proportion of patients who have attended Illawarra emergency departments have received treatment on time, but hospitals are lagging significantly behind new targets for the length of stays. A new report from the Bureau of Health Information (BHI) shows more patients at Wollongong Hospital started treatment on time than at any other similar hospital in NSW in the April-June 2025 quarter.

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NSW Health Minister Ryan Park warns of record-breaking winter for hospitals after damning report

The Australian, Other, 10/09/2025, Nathan Schmidt

Hospital emergency rooms are being monitored 'by the hour' in one state, as a damning report exposes major capacity issues. Damning new data has revealed emergency rooms in NSW are being overrun by record numbers of patients needing urgent attention, with the state government forced to fork out tens of millions to private hospitals for backup.

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

[Read More](#)

The Sydney emergency departments where one in 10 patients wait 19 hours

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 10/09/2025, Kate Aubusson

NSW hospitals are being paralysed by widespread bed block, triggering potentially life-threatening delays in treatment for the state's sickest patients in emergency departments, even as thousands are diverted to urgent and virtual care services. The latest Bureau of Health Information data revealed that

hospitals are failing new wait-time targets set by the state government amid record waves of patients needing emergency and urgent medical care, as hospital admissions hit a record 515,245 in the April to June quarter.

[Read More](#)

Hunter's biggest surgery waitlists revealed on eye, knee and hip

Newcastle Herald, Other, 10/09/2025, Damon Cronshaw

More than 3800 people are waiting for cataract surgery in Hunter New England, health data shows. Additionally, more than 1350 patients await orthopaedic surgery. This includes 939 people who need a total knee replacement and 417 who need a total hip replacement.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News, 10/09/2025, Sandra Sully

In response to a record-breaking winter, the NSW Government is now spending tens of millions of dollars to outsource surgeons to the private hospital system. Two weeks ago, nearly 10,000 emergency patients pushed public hospitals to their limit, according to new figures. Health Minister Ryan Park acknowledged the immense and ongoing pressure on the health system.

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

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Hospital to hire surgical nurses after patients go hungry

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/09/2025, Genevieve Holding, Page 12

The Tasmanian Health Service has swiftly confirmed they will employ in- 1-demand nurses on a Royal Hobart Hospital surgical ward by Tuesday next week after the nurses union took the department to the state's Industrial Commission as a last resort for critical staffing levels. The Tasmanian branch of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation on Wednesday took the THS to the Tasmanian Industrial Commission after 12 months passed since an agreement by the THS to hire five full-time and one part-time assistant in nursing positions for the Royal Hobart Hospital's busy K9 West surgical ward.

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Paramedics told North West Regional Hospital in Tasmania's north only taking emergency cases as services reach capacity

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2025, Jessica Moran

Paramedics in Tasmania's north and north-west have been told to bypass a Burnie hospital for non-urgent cases, as it struggles to keep up with demand, according to the Health and Community Services Union. [...] The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) said diverting patients was appropriate if the NWRH emergency department was unable to cope with the number of patients needing care.

[Read More](#)

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

GP's mission to promote talking

Daily Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2025, John Hall, Page 3

The question, "Are you okay?", is a simple one, yet for many men in Wagga, it's a difficult one to answer honestly. Wagga-based GP Dr Ash Bowden is working to change that narrative. While Dr Bowden has seen a growing willingness to talk, he says the need for these conversations is more critical than ever ahead of RUOK Day, which is being held today, September 11.

Psychological injury claims in health district revealed

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 11/09/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 7

More than 270 psychological injury claims have been accepted for the Hunter New England Health district in eight years, insurance data shows. The claims hit a high of 46 in 2023, but dropped the following year to 35.

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Rural doctors back overhaul of patient travel allowances

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/09/2025, Jackie Sinnerton

Rural doctors say it's "devastating" that sick Queenslanders must survive on travel subsidies unchanged since 2013 while politicians enjoy regularly reviewed allowances. The amount of financial help sick Queenslanders get for having to travel for healthcare should be decided by an independent body, just like how it's done for politicians' salaries and perks, a peak doctors' body says.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Over 200 NT public health workers launch industrial action in pay row

Northern Territory News, Other, 10/09/2025, Lottie Hood

Health Services Union SA/ NT said Allied Health professionals are the lowest paid in Australia and the "less-than-average" pay offer does not change that. More than 200 NT public health workers are initiating industrial action from Wednesday aimed at disrupting the NT Government's bottom line in response to an "abysmal" pay offer.

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

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Know your headache: symptoms can be vital to treatment

The Australian, Other, 10/09/2025, Magdalena Simonis

Understanding the pattern of your pain, the triggers and any changes are vital to finding the correct diagnosis. And sometimes that's not enough. [...] The calcitonin gene-related peptides monoclonal antibodies are giving some chronic migraine sufferers a new lease on life, and as of November 2024 general practitioners working in collaboration with a treating neurologist are able to prescribe CGRPs listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

[Read More](#)

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Audit finds risks' for dementia patients

Canberra Times, General News, 11/09/2025, Lanie Tindale, Page 20

The Auditor-General found that limitations of the Digital Health Record "pose risks" for dementia patients, in the latest review to condemn the electronic medical record system. Dementia Australia estimates that 6100 Canberra residents have dementia, and this will increase to 12,300 by 2054. There are three specialist services for dementia and cognitive decline in the ACT.

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

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

The Australian Plus benefits Queensland pushes for national cosmetic injectables reform

The Australian, Other, 11/09/2025, Penny Timms

The Queensland government will use a meeting of health ministers on Friday to call for national reform of the cosmetic injectables industry, arguing inconsistent policies are being exploited by big business and putting patients at risk. [...] The guidelines were developed by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and National Boards.

[Read More](#)

Perth doctor faces jail after pleading guilty to fraud for a second time

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 10/09/2025, Rebecca Peppiatt

A highly trained Perth doctor is facing jail after pleading guilty to fraud for a second time while on a suspended prison sentence for similar offending. [...] Meyerkort is registered with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency as a nonpracticing medical practitioner, which also states he graduated the University of Sydney in 2004 with a bachelor of medicine and surgery.

[Read More](#)

There's a special place in hell for doctors who weaponise AHPRA complaints

Australian Doctor, Other, 10/09/2025, Vinay Rane

Medicine is built on trust. Trust between patients and doctors, trust among colleagues, and trust in the systems that hold us accountable. That trust takes years to earn and seconds to destroy, and nothing destroys it faster than a doctor encouraging a patient to lodge a notification or sue another practitioner without good cause.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Antibiotic misuse declining

West Australian, General News, 11/09/2025, Page 24

Efforts to reduce unnecessary antibiotic use are working, with a decade-long decline in the number of antibiotics dispensed to Australian children. Overuse or misuse of antibiotics is a key driver of antimicrobial resistance.

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Momentum builds for pill testing trial

Launceston Examiner, General News, 11/09/2025, Matt Maloney, Page 5

Pressure is mounting on the government to trial pill testing at Tasmanian festivals, with Labor and some independent crossbenchers throwing their support behind the proposal. The Greens have a longheld position on pill-testing at such events, which has been adopted by a number of mainland states.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#).

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

Tots at risk as cases of dangerous rotavirus spike

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 11/09/2025, Daneka Hill, Page 14

A diarrhoea-causing virus dangerous enough to hospitalise children is spreading through Townsville,

prompting health officials to release an urgent warning to parents of unvaccinated children. The city has recorded 126 cases of rotavirus so far this year 69 of those cases in children under five.

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

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'Saves lives': Cairns doctor calls on LNP to reinstate pill testing services in Qld

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/09/2025, Samuel Davis

A Far North doctor has challenged Premier David Crisafulli's pledge to stop pill testing in Queensland after advocates warned more young people will die without access to the harm-reduction service. Mr Crisafulli has vowed to honour his pre-election commitment to shut drug-testing clinics and similar facilities down , including at music festivals and major events.

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

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News, 10/09/2025, Tiffany Warne

South Australia is experiencing its most severe whooping cough season in 15 years, with case numbers continuing to rise. The highly contagious disease, which can be fatal for some of the state's most vulnerable residents, has reached its worst level since 2010, according to Australian Government health data.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

New focus on camera

Herald Sun, General News, 11/09/2025, Jared Lynch, Page 25

Apple reveals big upgrades with iPhone 17, but AI leap on hold Apple has refused to bow to the artificial intelligence frenzy, turning to hardware improvements instead with its new iPhone 17 line-up that chief executive Tim Cook said was a "game changer". [...] It is yet to be approved by Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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

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

TGA yet to investigate the safety of most medicinal cannabis products

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2025

Despite receiving more than 600 reports of "adverse events" for medicinal cannabis in the past three years, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is yet to investigate the safety of most medicinal cannabis products. Australia's medicines regulator has not investigated the safety of most medicinal cannabis products despite receiving hundreds of "adverse event" reports ranging from coughing to psychosis in the past three years.

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PrEP is not just for gay men: experts call for broader HIV prevention

SBS, Other, 10/09/2025, Felipe Canale

Sbs in Portuguese spoke with medical experts who emphasize the importance of promoting PrEP, a highly effective pill for preventing HIV transmission during unprotected sex, to the entire population. [...] Access in Australia PrEP was first introduced in Australia in 2014, approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) in 2016, and added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) in 2018, making it free or low-cost for many users.

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Unplanned pregnancy risks flagged for GLP-1s

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/09/2025

A new Australian study highlights a possible link between GLP-1 use and unintended pregnancies. [...] Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved semaglutide, dulaglutide and liraglutide for managing type 2 diabetes in adults, while tirzepatide is TGA-approved for the management of both type 2 diabetes and chronic weight management.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

ABC News, News Breakfast, 10/09/2025, James Glenday and Bridget Brennan

More than 600 so-called adverse events connected to unregistered medicinal cannabis have been reported to Australia's medicines regulator over the past three years but none were investigated. Data released under Freedom of Information show more than 50 of the reports refer to psychosis.

Also reported by: [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#)

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FOOD STANDARDS

UN's warning over child obesity

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/09/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 11

Australia's food and beverage legislation is failing to protect children from a bombardment of unhealthy, inexpensive and aggressively marketed products, the United Nations' agency for children has warned, as obesity overtakes thinness as the most globally prevalent form of malnutrition for the first time in recorded history. UNICEF urged the Australian government to overhaul food labelling requirements, clamp down on junk food advertising and safeguard against political interference from the ultra-processed food industry.

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

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Meeting EPR challenges in the food industry

Food & Beverage, General News, 01/09/2025, Page 32

Globally, new packaging standards are being introduced to reduce problematic materials, including certain plastics, chemicals, microplastics, and overall waste. Specifically in the food and beverage industry, extended producer responsibility (EPR) is shifting the way businesses manage packaging waste. While the aim is to reduce environmental impact, the requirements can add complexity to production processes, increase operational costs, and create challenges for regulatory compliance.

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A new look at Bagnums and Reusable packaging

Food & Beverage, General News, 01/09/2025, Page 48

The Australasian Institute of Packaging's annual event awarded two new innovations. Author Nerida Kelton FAIP, Executive Director AIP Vice President Sustainability & Save Food WPO Sifting through the new innovations that were recognised in the annual Australasian Packaging Innovation & Design (PIDA) Awards is always a great way to see what design features or material choices are shifting the trends.

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Cook buries the lead as new stats emerge

West Australian, General News, 11/09/2025, Jessica Page, Page 1

Roger Cook has conceded that elevated lead levels in water at Perth Children's Hospital are likely to be a "recurring problem", as it was revealed the latest contamination occurred as recently as last week. The West Australian can reveal that one sample on August 5 was almost four times the benchmark set under Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

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Govt has unhealthy attitude

West Australian, General News, 11/09/2025, Adrian Rauso, Page 11

There is no clearer example that WA's health system is veering off a cliff than Roger Cook prematurely declaring lead issues at Perth Children's Hospital were "well and truly in the rear-view mirror". He made the comment on Friday after The West Australian revealed 11 samples of PCH's drinking water taken between January 2023 and March 2024 had exceeded the lead safety benchmark under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

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

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