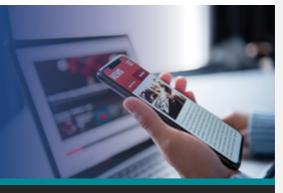


# **TODAY'S NEWS**



## Tuesday, 16th 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

| Population Health | Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions |

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention | Immunisation | Health Systems Strategies

| Health Economics & Research | First Nations Health

| Public Hospital and Health Reform | Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office

| Health Workforce | Technology Assessment and Access

| Medicare Benefits and Digital Health | Benefits Integrity | 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 <u>Sydney Morning Herald</u> (page 1) and <u>The Australian</u> (page 1) lead coverage reporting that a national climate risk assessment has warned that climate change-fuelled heatwaves will kill thousands of Australians each year, as millions of Australians face disaster risks from sea level rise, drought and disease unless urgent action is taken. *Also reported by:* <u>Australian Financial Review (Australia)</u>, <u>ABC Online (Online)</u>, <u>SBS (Online)</u>, <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>, <u>The Guardian (Online)</u>
- The Australian (page 2) reports Treasurer Jim Chalmers has updated his wellbeing budget framework with health measures still based on data up to four years old, while saying \$14.8 million in funding to the ABS will improve future reporting.
- The <u>Courier Mail</u> (page 1) reports a QIMR Berghofer study has found people who use SPF50+ sunscreen daily are more likely to be vitamin D deficient, prompting researchers to recommend supplements rather than reduced sun protection.
- The <u>Herald Sun</u> (page 1) reports Gold Coast man Brett Daniel Taylor has been charged with aiding suicides and drug offences after police alleged he used a whale euthanasia charity as a front to obtain and sell lethal substances. *Also reported by:* <u>The Australian (Online)</u> <u>7news.com.au (Online)</u>

- The <u>Herald Sun</u> (page 6) reports Royal Melbourne Hospital neurologist Professor Tomas
  Kalincik says new research shows depression in multiple sclerosis patients is linked to brain
  lesions in serotonin and noradrenaline networks.
- The <u>Northern Territory News</u> (page 7) reports the Federal Government has boosted funding
  for mental health services in Darwin and Alice Springs, with Headspace centres receiving more
  than \$1.7 million for upgrades and cultural programs.
- <u>The Guardian</u> (online) reports UNSW scientists have found a weight-loss "oral solution"
  marketed as mimicking Ozempic is simply salty water with preservatives, with the TGA warning
  consumers against buying such products online.
- <u>7 News</u> (online) reports the Federal Government has eased requirements for families seeking
  grants for children to receive proton beam therapy overseas, after years of criticism that the
  process was too burdensome.

#### MINISTER BUTLER

## Squabbling rabble marked down

The Australian, Editorials, 16/09/2025, Page 10

A fortnight ago, when Health Minister Mark Butler agreed to Coalition demands to release 20,000 home care packages for elderly Australians immediately to relieve a blowout in waiting times, Sussan Ley and her colleagues appeared to be finding some mojo. Likewise with the Opposition Leader's pledge to end the "culture of dependency" and wean Australians off reliance on government supports.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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## CEO puts case to staff as no bids lodged for Healthscope

Health Services Daily, Other, 15/09/2025, Caitlin Wright

In an email to staff, the Healthscope CEO has admitted no one wants to buy the entire hospital group. He's sent an extraordinary request to staff to help save their jobs. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler has said many times there won't be a taxpayer bailout, saying the best thing for patients, staff, landlords and lenders is an orderly sales process.

Read More

#### Monday Briefing: FOI and government transparency

The Mandarin, Other, 15/09/2025, Alex Cameron

In December 2019, then-opposition leader Anthony Albanese announced that Labor, if elected, would "reform freedom of information laws so they can't be flouted by government", decrying the fact that "the current delays, obstacles, costs, and exemptions make it easier for the government to hide information from the public. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the government was being "inundated by anonymous requests" and implied that they could be coming from criminals, foreign actors, or Al bots.

**Read More** 

## The Pharmacy Guild of Australia's President's Message September 2025

WEB Australasian Pharmacy, Other, 15/09/2025, Trent Twomey

In the very first sitting days of the 48th Parliament, Australia's re-elected Albanese Government introduced legislation to make cheaper medicines a reality. [...] We also met with Australia's Shadow Health Minister Senator Anne Ruston, Assistant Minister for Health Emma McBride and the new Special Envoy for Men's Health, Dan Repacholi.

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### ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 15/09/2025, Leon Compton

Interview with Tas Health Minister Bridget Archer. Archer says Tasmanian hospitals are experiencing

high levels of demand at the moment and it is impacted by winter illness and respiratory illness in the community. She notes people who need emergency care will still be attended to. Archer adds they had a constructive meeting with Health Minister Mark Butler about patients being stranded in hospital, which is an issue for most states.

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#### MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

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#### MINISTER RAE

## WIN Sunshine Coast, WIN News Sunshine Coast & Wide Bay, 15/09/2025, Steve Hart

The latest AIWH Dementia in Australia report shows dementia as the country's leading cause of death, warning that without urgent action, the toll could double in the next 40 years. Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae says the Commonwealth is currently rolling out a specialist dementia care program nationwide.

Play Now

## WIN Wollongong, WIN News, 15/09/2025, Bruce Roberts

Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae sat with sectoral stakeholders in Wollongong to address bed blocking in the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region, where one in five hospital beds is occupied by someone awaiting residential care. Warrigal CEO Jenni Hutchins says aged care providers are under pressure to deliver quality care despite federal efforts lagging behind. Rae highlights the Commonwealth's \$200m investment pledge in NSW and 48 new beds in Unanderra, but admits those are still nine months away.

Play Now

### ABC Illawarra, 12:00 News, 15/09/2025

Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae met with Cunningham MP Alison Byrnes and aged care sector representatives in Wollongong on Monday to address bed blocking in Wollongong hospitals. Around 125 older people in the region wait at least two months in hospital before being transferred to home care.

Play Now

#### i98 FM, 17:00 News, 15/09/2025

Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae met with local politicians, aged care providers, and community advocates in Wollongong on Monday to address bed blocking in hospitals around the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region. Rae admitted there is more work to be done.

Play Now

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#### ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

## Mental health services secure major funding boost

Northern Territory News, General News, 16/09/2025, Thomas McLean, Page 7

The federal government has boosted funding for mental health services in Darwin and Alice Springs. [...] Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Assistant Minister Emma McBride said the Darwin

Headspace service was one of 30 in Australia to become one of the newer, more advanced Headspace's, known as Headspace Plus.

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## The Pharmacy Guild of Australia's President's Message September 2025

WEB Australasian Pharmacy, Other, 15/09/2025, Trent Twomey

In the very first sitting days of the 48th Parliament, Australia's re-elected Albanese Government introduced legislation to make cheaper medicines a reality. [...] We also met with Australia's Shadow Health Minister Senator Anne Ruston, Assistant Minister for Health Emma McBride and the new Special Envoy for Men's Health, Dan Repacholi.

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#### ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

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## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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#### **DEPARTMENT**

## Federal Government delivers boost for cancer patients wanting proton beam therapy abroad but advocates say it's needed here

7news.com.au, Other, 15/09/2025, Jennifer Bechwati

Australian children battling cancer will find it easier to access life-saving proton beam therapy overseas following immediate changes to the government's grants process. [...] The Health Department says the change will simplify the process and allow more children to benefit from proton beam therapy abroad.

**Read More** 

#### Providers told to be strategic about AN-ACC changes

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 15/09/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Aged care number crunchers have mixed feelings on the new Australian National Aged Care Classification base price of \$294.64 per resident per day announced by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing on Friday afternoon. Coming into effect on 1 October 2025, the new base price signifies a \$12.18 boost from the current \$282.44.

Read More

#### 5 practical steps to AN-ACC changes

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 15/09/2025, Tanvi Dalal

Australia's Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has announced changes to Australian National Aged Care Classification pricing, national weighted activity unit, or NWAU, allocations, and care-minute targets effective from 1 October 2025. Additional hotelling changes take effect from 20 September.

Read More

### Bond leads the way in training tomorrow's GPs

Bond University, Other, 15/09/2025

The Bond University Medical Program has become a national leader in addressing one of Australia's most pressing health challenges: producing the next generation of GPs. [...] The Australian Government's Department of Health and Aged Care reports the number of GPs leaving the profession is outstripping the number entering it.

**Read More** 

## Why home care providers must shift from "doing for" to "doing with"

HelloCare, Other, 15/09/2025, Jakob Neeland

In home care, it is often faster and easier for a support worker to complete a task for an older person rather than take the extra time to guide them through it. [...] A free, one-of-a-kind resource hub Funded by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, Keep Able is the only free, dedicated wellness and reablement hub designed specifically for aged care workers and providers.

**Read More** 

## Fathers less likely to tackle 'awkward' sex talk

La Trobe University, Other, 15/09/2025

Researchers from La Trobe University surveyed almost 2000 parents nationally, finding sex education at home had been left more to mothers. [...] The report was led by Professor Jennifer Power, Deputy Director of La Trobe's Australian Research Centre in Sex Health and Society, with funding from the Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

**Read More** 

# Public consultation open for draft National Health and Medical Research Strategy

NHMRC, Other, 15/09/2025

NHMRC is working closely with the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to develop a National Health and Medical Research Strategy (The National Strategy). The National Strategy aims to build on Australia's strengths in the health and medical research sector, fill any gaps, and continue to attract researchers and investors to Australia.

**Read More** 

## Rural 'Specialist Training Program' falls short on key aims: report

The Limbic, Other, 15/09/2025, Emma Koehn

The national program supporting specialist medical training positions in rural and regional areas has not done enough to increase the number of First Nations specialists despite this being one of its core aims, an independent review found. [...] "The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing welcomes findings issued in the STP Final Report."

**Read More** 

## AHPRA 'too inward-looking, too fragmented, and too slow'

The Medical Republic, Other, 15/09/2025, Holly Payne

The absence of health services and workforce is the 'ultimate risk' to patient safety, according to the final report from the independent review of complexity in health registration and accreditation. [...] The final report from the Independent Review of Complexity in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health practitioners was released by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing on Friday.

Read More

#### Channel 7, Seven News, 15/09/2025, Susannah Carr & Rick Ardon

Lena's doctors wanted her to receive proton Beam radiation therapy, resulting in fewer side effects. But even though Australian taxpayers have already forked out more than \$100 million to buy and operate one, the government is yet to deliver, instead offering grants for families to travel overseas to access the treatment. Since 2021, 89 applications were considered, 78 approved, 11 were not. The health department says it declines requests when the application does not thoroughly demonstrate that proton radiation is the best option.

## AGEING AND AGED CARE

#### **Boost for early learning**

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 16/09/2025, Luke Griffiths, Page 8

An early learning centre catering for almost 140 children in a fast-growing southern suburb has been given the green light, while plans have landed with council for another facility in Geelong's east. To be located within the same precinct as its 180-bed aged care home and medical centre, TLC will commence construction of its Armstrong Creek centre in December, with the build expected to take 12 months.

Also reported by: Geelong Advertiser (Online), The Courier Mail (Online), Cairns Post (Online)

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## Senate Inquiry into aged care service delivery deadline extended to October

The Weekly Source, Other, 15/09/2025, Caroline Egan

The Senate Inquiry into Aged Care Service Delivery has been granted a two-week extension, with its final report now due on 1 October 2025 – just a month before the new Aged Care Act and Support at Home program begin. Inquiry Chair, ACT Greens Senator Penny Allman-Payne, wrote to Senate President Sue Lines confirming the extension, citing the need for more time to assess 139 submissions.

**Read More** 

#### Ministers meet to address bed block crisis

Aged Care Insite, Other, 15/09/2025

The nation's health leaders are demanding "urgent action" from the federal government to tackle a \$1bn aged care crisis that is forcing thousands of elderly patients to remain in hospital, creating critical bed blockages. Federal and state health ministers met in Perth on Friday to discuss a report that revealed almost 2500 elderly patients ready for discharge were stuck in public hospitals, waiting for an aged care bed.

Read More

### For migrants, dementia can mean losing a whole language

Aged Care Insite, Other, 15/09/2025, Fahad Hanna

You may have lived in Australia for most of your adult life, speaking English every day. But if you acquired the language later in life and then develop dementia – a brain condition that affects thinking, memory and everyday function – you may lose fluency and find the language you spoke as a child takes over again.

**Read More** 

## Aged Care 3.0: Preparing for the future of Australian aged care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 15/09/2025

Australia's aged care sector is entering a defining era. After years of disruption from royal commission to a global pandemic, providers now face what Epicor has named an Aged Care 3.0 era.

**Read More** 

## Dementia Action Week: Creative arts at heart of Lutheran Services program

Australian Seniors News, Other, 15/09/2025

Leading Queensland aged care provider, Lutheran Services, is developing creative, research-based

engagement programs to enrich the quality of life for residents with dementia. The targeted initiatives, including art, music, theatre and storytelling, empower residents to express themselves, find purpose, and experience moments of joy, regardless of their cognitive ability.

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## Former Heritage Care CEO labels Epping Gardens prosecution a political witch hunt

HelloCare, Other, 15/09/2025, Jakob Neeland

Aged care provider, Heritage Care, has been found not guilty of breaching workplace safety laws following a deadly COVID-19 outbreak at its Epping Gardens facility in Melbourne's north, where 34 residents died in July 2020. The County Court jury delivered the verdict last week, after a trial that examined whether the provider failed to adequately train staff in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) before the outbreak.

Read More

# The illusion of rights: Australia's new Aged Care Act has "very little" to enforce human rights

HelloCare, Other, 15/09/2025, Jakob Neeland

On November 1, Australia's new Aged Care Act will come into effect, heralded as a "once in a generation reform" to transform the nation's beleaguered aged care system. The Act, responding to 58 of the 148 recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, promises a rights-based, person-centred model of care.

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#### **DISABILITY AND CARERS**

## Catholic, independent and government schools to report data on refused or cancelled enrolment for students with disability

Adelaide Now, Other, 12/09/2025, Lauren Novak

A planned overhaul appears set to force private schools to reveal key details about some of its current or would-be students following evidence of discrimination. Private schools will be forced to report how many students they turn away because they have a disability which would "impose an unjustifiable hardship" on the school.

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#### PRIMARY CARE

#### The signs one dad ignored before a shock diagnosis

Daily Telegraph, General News, 16/09/2025, Lillian Saleh & Sarah Sharples, Page 10

Jonathan Brown knows if he hadn't sought help he'd either have been sacked, divorced or homeless by now. [...] Australian Medical Association President Dr Danielle McMullen said the Medicare rebate structure is "woefully out of date and incentivises short, sharp consultations".

Also reported by: <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Courier Mail (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Hobart Mercury (Hobart)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Darwin)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Geelong)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Gold Coast)</u>, <u>Toowoomba Chronicle (Toowoomba)</u>

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#### Remote health service marks milestone 40th

Northern Territory News, General News, 16/09/2025, Gera Kazakov, Page 11

A health service built "from the ground up" by residents of a remote Territory community has hit a

massive milestone but they weren't the only health service in the community to do so. Pintupi Homelands Health Service, based in Walungurru (Kintore) has turned 40, with the community celebrating the milestone.

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## Specialist GPs to diagnose ADHD in WA amid calls for further easing of restrictions

ABC Online, Other, 15/09/2025, Lily Kristanto

Perth mum Sarah Jackson thinks her five-year-old daughter Ayla has ADHD, just like her older sister. But she's been told it will be four years to get a diagnosis if she wants to wait in the public system.

Read More

## States agree: ADHD prescribing rules should be consistent across Australia

Australian Doctor, Other, 15/09/2025, Antony Scholefield

State and territory health ministers have agreed in principle to make ADHD prescribing rules the same across the country. In the last year, most states and territories have announced changes so GPs with extra training can prescribe ADHD medication to adults, creating a patchwork of rules.

**Read More** 

## Doctors can now get free training in the implant and removal of IUDs

Medical Forum, Other, 15/09/2025

GPs will soon be able to undertake free training in the removal and placement of contraceptive intrauterine devices (IUD). The training, provided by Sexual and Reproductive Australia in partnership with the RACGP, aims to provide women with more choice, lower costs, and better access to long-term contraceptives

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## New Fellowship option for expedited pathway

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 15/09/2025, Morgan Liotta

The RACGP has introduced a Fellowship option for members who have successfully completed the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) Expedited Specialist pathway, in a move designed to support safe integration into Australian general practice and strengthen the college's role as the continuing professional development (CPD) home for all GPs. According to the college, the new initiative recognises that these members have already completed training and assessments substantially equivalent to Australian-trained GPs, and will connect experienced, internationally trained doctors to the RACGP and its standards.

**Read More** 

## ABC Gippsland, Regional Statewide Mornings, 15/09/2025, Alice Walker

Interview with UNSW Centre for Sex and Gender Equity in Health and Medicine national director Prof Bronwyn Graham, explaining why women's health should be expanded beyond the reproductive system or the so-called "bikini medicine." Prof Graham points out that women are underrepresented in clinical trials and that other health aspects like cardiovascular disease or stroke are under-researched, which leads to misdiagnosis and worse health outcomes for women.

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### ABC Radio Hobart, 10:00 News, 15/09/2025

Tasmanian Health Minister Bridget Archer says bed blocking is a nationwide problem, with her state seeing 100 elderly patients stuck in hospital in August alone. Archer met with her federal counterpart, Mark Butler, last Friday to address the issue. She told ABC Mornings that the State Government will soon regularly publish data on the issue.

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#### POPULATION HEALTH

## One certainty: experts aren't sure

The Australian, General News, 16/09/2025, Sarah Ison & Greg Brown, Page 1

Spending on disaster recovery will need to increase five-fold according to modelling that shows up to 3 million Australians are at risk from rising sea levels in coming decades, as the country's leading energy expert warned forecasters were often "making it up" when predicting long-term impacts of climate change. [...] "(This) could contribute to increased transmission of diseases with which the Australian healthcare system is less familiar, such as dengue fever," the report warned.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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## Wellbeing budget still relies on old data

The Australian, General News, 16/09/2025, Lily Mccaffrey, Page 2

Jim Chalmers' latest update to his long-awaited "wellbeing budget" shows it is relying on data up to four years old, despite being pilloried over the use of out-of-date information in its 2023 report that was modelled after a Jacinda Ardern-inspired initiative. [...] The mental health metric, for example, shows the proportion of adults experiencing high or very high levels of psychological distress at 14.3 per cent in 2022 following a steady increase from 10.8 per cent in 2011-12, but does not report any data from the past three years.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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## Apocalyptic climate a risk on horizon

Australian Financial Review, General News, 16/09/2025, Ryan Cropp, Page 1

Australia's primary industries, regional communities and health services all face very high or severe climate change impacts by 2050, according to a major new government report.

Also reported by: ABC Online (Online), SBS (Online), Canberra Times (Online), The Guardian (Online)

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#### Doomsday warming report helps set the scene for 2035 target

Australian Financial Review, General News, 16/09/2025, Ryan Cropp, Page 4

Australians are not unfamiliar with apocalyptic predictions of climate change doom. But even for the most seasoned of activists, Labor's massive new climate report makes for sobering reading.

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#### The forecast is in, and it's not pretty

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 16/09/2025, Nick O'Malley, Shane Wright & Caitlin Fitzsimmons, Page 1

Climate change-fuelled heatwaves will kill thousands of Australians every year, wipe \$611 billion from property values and put 1.5 million homes at risk of rising sea levels, warns a new report that ramps up pressure on the federal government to promise deep cuts to the nation's greenhouse gas emissions. Just days before the government reveals its 2035 emissions target, the first National Climate Risk Assessment report paints an alarming picture for the nation's cities, farmlands and natural environment if global temperatures continue to climb and nothing is done to prepare for the coming climatic changes.

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## Catastrophe looms, says blunt report on climate

Age, General News, 16/09/2025, Nick O'Malley, Page 1

Heatwaves fuelled by climate change will kill thousands of Australians every year, wipe \$611 billion from property values and put 1.5 million homes at risk of rising sea levels, warns a new report that ramps up pressure on the federal government to promise deep cuts to the nation's greenhouse gas emissions. Just days before the government reveals its 2035 emissions target, the first National

Climate Risk Assessment report paints an alarming picture for the nation's cities, farmlands and natural environment if global temperatures continue to climb and nothing is done to prepare for the coming climatic changes.

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## Dying for an answer as regional Victorians fight for end-of-life equality

Age, General News, 16/09/2025, Melissa Cunningham, Page 2

After enduring excruciating pain for years and the removal of more than 100 skin cancers, Janet Williamson was adamant about ending her own life. By then, cancer was ravaging almost every part of her body.

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## The pitfalls of sunscreen

Courier Mail, General News, 16/09/2025, Rachel Riley, Page 1

People who apply SPF50 + sunscreen every day should consider taking vitamin D supplements as a way to maintain their health. Report P3 Danger in daily dose of SPF50+ Links to vitamin D issues People who apply SPF50+ sunscreen every day should consider taking vitamin D supplements as a way to maintain their health with less damaging UV exposure.

Also reported by: <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Toowoomba Chronicle (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>

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#### Licensed to krill

Courier Mail, General News, 16/09/2025, Ashleigh Jansen & Matthew Newton, Page 1

A Gold Coast man set up a charity to euthanise beached whales which police will allege was a front to obtain drugs he then sold to others so they could end their lives. Brett Daniel Taylor, 53, of Main Beach, who also runs a wills and probate business called End of Life Services has been charged with assisting two suicides.

Also reported by: <u>Courier Mail (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph (Sydney)</u>, <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Gold Coast</u> <u>Bulletin (Gold Coast)</u>, <u>7news.com.au (Online)</u>, <u>The Australian (Online)</u>

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#### \$5.3bn tobacco seized

Courier Mail, General News, 16/09/2025, Chris Burns, Page 11

More than \$5.3bn worth of illegal vapes, tobacco and cigarettes have been seized by Queensland authorities in 10 months of crackdowns, according to figures revealed by the government on the day it introduces laws to crack down on illicit vendors. Landlords who knowingly lease shopfronts to illegal tobacconist and vape vendors will face jail time and six-figure fines under the legislation expected to be introduced by Health Minister Tim Nicholls in parliament on Tuesday.

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#### Extreme drama on climate predictions

West Australian, General News, 16/09/2025, Katina Curtis, Page 1

Extreme climate change could slash hundreds of billions of dollars from property values in coming decades, with heat deaths and natural disasters to soar, according to a confronting National Climate Risk Assessment report. [...] Crop yields would fall by 40 per cent due to more and longer droughts, hundreds of people could die in heat waves, and construction and mining productivity plummet with more days that people can't work because of extreme heat, the report claims.

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#### HIV a thing of the past

West Australian, General News, 16/09/2025, Page 12

Australia is on track to virtually eliminate HIV. Australia's national HIV surveillance report shows that while new HIV diagnoses have increased slightly in the past two years, the overall trajectory remains

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## Smoke health damage

Canberra Times, Letters, 16/09/2025, Page 15

An important point in the wood heater debate is that Professor Fay Johnston, Lead Investigator, Centre for Safe Air, didn't mince her words to ABC Radio National, saying the current Australian wood heater standard is "not fit for purpose". "Real-life" pollution from wood heaters in people's homes was measured in New Zealand.

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## Deadly and expensive: nation's climate threats

Newcastle Herald, General News, 16/09/2025, Poppy Johnston & Zac De Silva, Page 2

Climate advocates are using alarming predictions of heatwave deaths, degraded ecosystems and coastal properties lost to rising seas as ammunition for bold emission cuts through to 2035. NGOs and federal crossbenchers are among the voices expressing dismay at the long-awaited National Climate Risk Assessment and urging Anthony Albanese's government to step up.

Also reported by: <u>Central Western Daily (Orange)</u>. <u>Western Advocate (Bathurst)</u>, <u>Daily Advertiser (Wagga Wagga)</u>. <u>Bendigo Advertiser (Bendigo)</u>, <u>Border Mail (Albury-Wodonga)</u>

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## Warning over rising rates of sexually transmitted infections

Newcastle Herald, General News, 16/09/2025, Maeve Bannister, Page 11

Too many Australians are living with undetected sexually transmitted infections with experts urging regular testing to address rising rates of some diseases. In 2024, there were almost 6000 diagnoses of syphilis and more than 44,000 for gonorrhoea, a doubling of cases compared to 10 years ago.

Also reported by: <u>Warrnambool Standard (Warrnambool)</u>. <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>. <u>West Australian (Online)</u>. <u>The Border Mail (Online)</u>. <u>Daily Mail Australia (Online)</u>. <u>SBS (Online)</u>, <u>ABC Online (Online)</u>

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### Alarming climate warning

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 16/09/2025, Ellen Ransley, Page 2

Brisbane could flood 314 days a year and heat-related deaths in Townsville could increase by up to 350 per cent by the end of the century, according to new government modelling. The inaugural climate risk assessment found that across the country more than 1.5 million people will be at risk of sea level rise by 2050, property values will decrease while insurance premiums skyrocket, and climate change will put the country's health systems, infrastructure and defence force under very high to severe risk.

Also reported by: Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)

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## Janet suffered for months waiting for assisted dying. A doctor shortage in the regions prolonged her pain

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 15/09/2025, Melissa Cunningham

After enduring excruciating pain for years and the removal of more than 100 skin cancers, Janet Williamson was adamant about ending her own life. [...] The disease had left the mother of three unable to walk. She told her family calmly and frankly about her decision to apply for a lethal medication through Victoria's voluntary assisted dying (VAD) laws.

**Read More** 

#### Abbey Orchard opens practice for neurodivergent in Port Kembla

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 15/09/2025, Joel Ehsman

The office of Orchard Psychology is cosy. [...] Data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows the population rate for medication dispensed for ADHD treatment under the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme increased from 2 patients per 1,000 population in 2004-05 to 22 in 2023-24.

## Trio charged over death, 20 more to be probed

Shepparton News Online, Other, 15/09/2025, AAP NewsWire

Three people have been charged over the alleged assisted suicide of a Gold Coast man. -AAP Image A father and son are among three people accused of helping a man take his own life, with about 20 more deaths under investigation.

**Read More** 

## How is Australia affected by climate change? The National Climate Risk Assessment models the future

ABC Online, Other, 15/09/2025, Jess Davis

Over a thousand pages of analysis, imagining what life might look like at the end of the century as climate risks intensify, has finally dropped. The federal government's eagerly anticipated National Climate Risk Assessment (NCRA) is a hefty tome.

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#### Dementia now number-one killer

Aged Care Insite, Other, 15/09/2025

Dementia has become the leading cause of death in Australia and more than one million people are expected to be living with the syndrome in 40 years, according to a new report. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) reported that dementia was the cause of death for almost 17,400 people (9.

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## Dementia becomes nation's leading cause of death

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 15/09/2025, Jo Roberts

Sobering new dementia data is a 'call to action' for the Federal Government to bring brain health into primary care, says an expert. The latest 'Dementia in Australia' report predicts more than one million Australians will be living with dementia by 2065. Dementia is now the leading cause of death for Australians, according to the latest report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

**Read More** 

#### Channel 10, 10 News, 15/09/2025, Sandra Sully

Queensland Police arrested three people accused of running a euthanasia business and exploited over 20 people who wanted to die. One of the suspects allegedly bought whale euthanasia drug through a charity named End of Life before selling it for a sizeable profit.

Play Now

### Channel 7, Seven News, 15/09/2025, Peter Mitchell

Three people connected with the illegal deaths of over 20 people in Queensland and Victoria were arrested. The leader, 53-year-old Gold Coast man Brett Daniel Taylor, allegedly ran an illegal assisted dying business named End of Life. The sham service is accused of using animal euthanasia drugs on their victims, which Taylor also sold for profit.

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#### Channel 9, Nine News, 15/09/2025, Melissa Downes & Joel Dry

Queensland Police is investigating an alleged assisted death of a Gold Coast man. Three people offering euthanasia services were arrested. The drug allegedly used on the quadriplegic victim was for animals.

Play Now

## ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 15/09/2025, Manny Tsigas

Hundreds of thousands of Australians could be impacted by rising sea levels. That's the warning being issued in Australia's first National Climate Risk Assessment, which also outlines more heat-related deaths, droughts and loss in productivity in the years ahead.

Play Now

## ABC Radio Adelaide, Drive, 15/09/2025, Nikolai Beilharz

Interview with SA Health communicable disease control executive director Noel Lally, discussing the SA Government's new strategy to put an end to HIV transmission in the state by 2030. Lally explains that the five-year plan will include improved access to testing, fast-tracking treatment to undetectable levels, boosting community awareness, and removing barriers to care. However, he admits that managing overseas cases remains a problem.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

## 'Insanity': TV star opens up on mum's death

Daily Telegraph, General News, 16/09/2025, Lillian Saleh, Page 10

The fact one in 16 Australians is caring for someone living with dementia is "insanity", says actor Takaya Honda, who knows first-hand what that's like. The former Neighbours star's mother, Rhonda, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease when she was just 52.

Also reported by: <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Courier Mail (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Hobart Mercury (Hobart)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Darwin)</u>

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#### Rise of the anti-diet

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 16/09/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 12

While most eating plans aim to appeal to the masses, this takes the opposite approach It's been followed by millions of people across the globe but, unlike most diets, there's a fair chance its founders will recommend you avoid it.

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#### Ponting's personal crusade to help kids

Launceston Examiner, General News, 16/09/2025, Matt Maloney, Page 3

Cricketing legend Ricky Ponting and his wife Riana have been sitting and talking with children with cancer and their families and loved ones for almost 20 years. A foundation to support them nationwide with accommodation and travel, as well as upgrade hospital facilities, was established by the couple in 2008, and Mr Ponting now wants it to focus more on his home state of Tasmania.

Also reported by: Burnie Advocate (Burnie)

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## Channel 7, Seven News, 15/09/2025, Peter Mitchell

Consumer group Choice says only four out of the 20 sunscreen products they tested met the TGA's SPF 50 standards. CEO Ashley de Silva says they're waiting for further results, but the group has listed La Roche-Posay, Neutrogena, Mecca Cosmetica and Cancer Council's Kid Sunscreen as having higher-than-advertised SPF levels.

<u>Play Now</u>

#### Channel 9, Nine News, 15/09/2025, Peter Overton

A new study from the Australian University shows a possible link between ADHD and autism in children and gestational diabetes. Based on an analyses of 48 global studies covering 9 million pregnancies, there is a 36% increased likelihood of ADHD and a 56% higher risk of autism among children of

women who had gestational diabetes. Researchers urge expectant mothers to have early testing from 10 weeks instead of the usual 24-28 weeks, and to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

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## Sky News Live, AM Agenda, 15/09/2025, Cheng Lei

Australians are being urged to think again about dementia with a groundbreaking national campaign delivering a wake-up call on the country's leading cause of death. The four-week emotive and educational campaign is led by news.com.au and The Australian.

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#### MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

## Big tech's \$49.5m 'kids ban' deadline

The Australian, General News, 16/09/2025, Jared Lynch, Page 3

Facebook owner Meta, Snapchat, Elon Musk's X and other tech titans must detect and shut down children's accounts or risk fines of \$49.5m after the government imposed a deadline for its world-first underage social media ban. [...] He said he had written to James Larsen, Australia's permanent representative to the UN, with the intention of holding an event with the Let Them Be Kids and 36 Months advocacy groups that agitated for the restrictions.

Also reported by: <u>The Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>ABC Online (Online)</u>

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#### Block them or else

Daily Telegraph, General News, 16/09/2025, Ellen Ransley, Page 1

Social media giants will be forced to actively detect underage users on their platforms and deactivate their accounts or face fines of up to \$49.5m under the Albanese government's world-leading laws to protect kids from online harms. Under the laws which will go live on December 10 and came in the wake of News Corp Australia's Let Them Be Kids campaign tech platforms must also work to stop children re-registering or circumventing the under-16 ban.

Also reported by: <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Courier Mail (Brisbane)</u>

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# 'Why should we ignore the children of Gaza?' Hospital slammed for pulling panel on children in war

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/09/2025, Adam Carey

Doctors have criticised the Royal Children's Hospital decision to abruptly cancel an expert panel on children and war, saying the hospital is silencing discussion of children's suffering in Gaza. The panel of five leading medical practitioners and refugee advocates – which included an Australian recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize – was scheduled to speak at one of the hospital's regular grand round sessions on Wednesday, before RCH chief executive Dr Peter Steer suddenly cancelled the event late last week, citing staff safety.

**Read More** 

## 'Human water fountain': Aussie mental health advocate mocks Charlie Kirk assassination

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 15/09/2025, Frank Chung

An Australian mental health advocate has hit out at critics after she claimed in a viral video that it was "not wrong to laugh" or joke about Charlie Kirk "becoming a human water fountain". [...] According to her LinkedIn, Page previously worked at the Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council (VMIAC) as a project specialist on a "lived experience workforce training project", and as a mental health advocate on an NDIS information and support project.

Read More

## DVSC launch approaches as veteran suicide reforms hang in the balance

The Mandarin, Other, 15/09/2025, Bernard Keane

The government's response to the Defence and Veterans Suicide Royal Commission is now reaching a key moment. The Defence and Veterans' Service Commission — the new body that will lead whole-of-government reform aimed at addressing the royal commission's recommendations — commences in just over a fortnight, under the interim guidance of public service veteran and former Commonwealth ombud Michael Manthorpe.

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#### **IMMUNISATION**

## A no-needles option gives kids a boost against flu

Daily Telegraph, General News, 16/09/2025, Danielle Gusmaroli, Page 5

NSW will next year roll out free intranasal flu vaccines for children aged two to five in a move hailed by parents and health experts. The nasal spray flu vaccine FluMist containing a weakened live flu virus will be launched as a first in Australia by the Minns Labor Government before the April-October flu season.

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## Nasal spray flu vaccine to be rolled out for kids in Queensland next year

9News, Other, 15/09/2025

A nasal spray vaccine for kids under five will be rolled out in Queensland ahead of next year's flu season, meaning one less painful needle for little ones. The Flu Mist nasal spray will be included in the free vaccination schedule next year.

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#### **HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES**

No relevant coverage

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## **HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH**

## Lesions linked to MS anxiety

Herald Sun, General News, 16/09/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 6

Multiple sclerosis patients' risk of depression changes based on the location of their brain lesions, world-first Melbourne research has revealed. Many previously attributed the depression among MS patients solely to the emotional toll of living with an incurable disease, which damages nerves in the brain and spinal cord.

Also reported by: Geelong Advertiser (Geelong)

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#### Booze harm to the door

Herald Sun, General News, 16/09/2025, Page 11

Online alcohol sales and advertising are exposing Australians to increased harm especially people most at risk. Researchers from the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education, The University of Queensland and The George Institute found that one in three study participants (39 per cent) who used alcohol in the past year had alcohol delivered to their home and almost 40 per cent of those received it within two hours, increasing the risk of high-risk drinking and harm.

Also reported by: West Australian (Perth), Toowoomba Chronicle (Toowoomba), Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)

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## **Triple-dose weight loss**

Northern Territory News, General News, 16/09/2025, Page 6

Higher doses of the drug semaglutide can improve weight loss and related health outcomes in adults living with obesity, including those with type 2 diabetes. University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre researchers found that a dose of semaglutide three times higher than recommended led to an average weight loss of nearly 19 per cent in adults without diabetes, surpassing the 16 per cent loss with 2.4mg and 4 per cent with a placebo.

Also reported by: <u>Geelong Advertiser (Geelong)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Geelong)</u>, <u>Toowoomba Chronicle (Toowoomba)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Gold Coast)</u>, <u>Pharmacy Daily (Online)</u>

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## Benefits of a healthy home

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 16/09/2025, Page 5

Eradicating mould and damp in Australian housing could cut health expenditure by \$117m per million people and increase income by \$174m, according to new research. The University of Melbourne researchers also estimate that tackling mould and damp could result in an extra 4190 health-adjusted life years (the number of years a person can expect to live in good health) per million people over 20 years.

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# Scam weight-loss drops marketed to Australians contain 'basically salty water', analysis finds

The Guardian, Other, 16/09/2025, Catie Mcleod

A scam weight-loss treatment marketed to Australians as an "oral solution" that mimics the effects of Ozempic contains nothing more than a watery saline solution similar to eye drops, analysis has revealed. [...] The TGA, Australia's medicines regulator, would not comment directly on the UNSW analysis but urged consumers to "exercise extreme caution".

**Read More** 

#### Intranasal vaccine stops infection at the source

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 15/09/2025, Chloe Hava

In 2022, a year after Australia's longest COVID-19 lockdowns, researchers from the Centenary Institute and the University of Sydney received a grant of almost \$1 million from the NSW COVID-19 Vaccine Acceleration Research Grants Program to develop an intranasal COVID-19 vaccine. Now, new research has been released by the team – finding that their formulation can stop infection in the nose before the virus spreads through the body, and to other people.

Read More

#### Breakthrough blood test could change how Alzheimer's is diagnosed

Your Life Choices, Other, 15/09/2025, Abegail Abrugar

Imagine a future where a simple blood test could reveal the earliest signs of Alzheimer's disease — years before symptoms even begin to show. [...] For Australians, this could be a gamechanger in how we approach memory loss, diagnosis, and planning for the future.

Read More

#### Channel 7, Seven News, 15/09/2025, Susannah Carr & Rick Ardon

We know folic acid is important for pregnant women, but a study out of South Australia has found too much of it can cause gestational diabetes. Cases have surged in recent years, and researchers now believe that's because women have been taking more folic acid than guidelines recommend in Australia.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

## 'Severely deficient or out of date': Special inquiry blasts NSW Children's Guardian

The Mandarin, Other, 15/09/2025, Julian Bajkowski

The NSW OCG inquiry reveals a fractured workplace, cultural safety gaps, and governance failures now demanding urgent repair. A Special Ministerial Inquiry into the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG), ordered by the state's Minister for Families and Communities Kate Washington and conducted by Kate Eastman SC, has revealed a bleak assessment of the agency's workplace culture and governance after its findings prompted the removal of its head, Steve Kinmond, by the state's lieutenant-governor last week.

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# Beyond endorsement: reflecting on the 18th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 15/09/2025, Sophie Pitt

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) stands as the most comprehensive international charter for Indigenous rights. 1 The 18th anniversary of the adoption of UNDRIP by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (13 September 2007) provides an opportunity for reflection and a renewed commitment to its application to realise health equity.

**Read More** 

## Alison Bush memorial oration: supporting First Nations communitydesigned and led maternal health initiatives

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 15/09/2025, Karel Williams

As a Palawa woman, my standpoint is grounded in my cultural identity, community obligations and lived experience. This work is informed by the teachings of my Elders and the responsibilities I hold to my family, Country and community.

Read More

#### SBS, World News Australia, 15/09/2025, Janice Petersen

A new report from the Kirby Institute suggests First Nations people are two to five times at risk of having sexually-transmitted diseases such as gonorrhoea, syphilis, and chlamydia. Over half of the 34 infant deaths in the past decade due to congenital syphilis were First Nations babies.

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## PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

## Keeping the clinical director at the centre of hospital operations is not bureaucracy; it is commonsense

Hobart Mercury, General News, 16/09/2025, Dr Michael Lumsden Steel, Page 12

Patient safety depends on keeping the Clinical Director at the RHH's operations centre, writes Dr Michael Lumsden Steel Tasmanians are aware of the pressure our hospitals are under: ambulances are often parked outside the emergency departments, patients are treated in corridors and surgeries are cancelled at the last minute. These are not abstract management problems.

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## WA Health's fixer given new role as top dog at CAHS

West Australian, General News, 16/09/2025, Jessica Page, Page 3

A leadership shake-up has been revealed at WA's Child and Adolescent Health Service, with an experienced health executive appointed to sort out WA's hospital maintenance backlog. Former WA Health director-general Neale Fong, pictured, will take up the appointment as the new CAHS chairman from October 1.

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

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## What's the truth on the cost of hospitals?

Canberra Times, General News, 16/09/2025, Lanie Tindale, Page 6

The ACT Health Minister is likely to have pleaded the territory's case for special consideration in hospital funding during a health ministers' meeting on Friday. When the ACT government revealed it had a record-high deficit - now estimated to be \$1.113 billion - in June this year, they blamed rising hospital costs and a tight-pursed federal government.

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## Surgeries fall at the John

Newcastle Herald, General News, 16/09/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

Elective surgeries at John Hunter Hospital have fallen by 28 per cent over the past decade. Over this same period, the region's population grew by about 14 per cent. Health data shows 8994 elective surgeries were done at the hospital in 2015, compared with 6508 in 2024.

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#### Surgery decline leaves Hunter in pain

Newcastle Herald, General News, 16/09/2025, Page 18

The Hunter is growing. Our population has risen by more than 14 per cent in the past decade, yet John Hunter Hospital - the jewel of the region's health system - is performing fewer surgeries than it did 10 years ago.

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#### How long will you have to wait for elective surgery

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 16/09/2025, Natalie Croxon, Page 3

More elective surgery patients at Wollongong Hospital are waiting longer for their procedures than the clinical recommendations, as the number of surgeries performed at the hospital hits a 10-year high. New data from the Bureau of Health Information (BHI) shows the number of patients whose wait exceeded the recommended timeframe surged by 126 per cent in a year to hit 88 at the end of the April-June quarter.

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### Channel 7, Seven News, 15/09/2025, Max Futcher & Katrina Blowers

Queensland Premier David Crisafulli acknowledged the growing problem of ambulance ramping in the state, admitting that solutions like an increase in hospital beds and staff will take time. The latest ambulance ramping figures show worsening wait times. Over 70% of patients at Redland Hospital waited more than 30 minutes in July—higher than the statewide average of 48.7%. Logan Hospital closely follows at 68.8% and 68% at Ipswich Hospital.

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### 6PR, Drive, 15/09/2025, Oliver Peterson

Interview with former Australian Medical Association WA president Andrew Miller, criticising the WA

Government for ignoring warnings from frontline healthcare workers as hospitals face increasing strain. Miller says the state immediately needs 1500 additional hospital beds, equivalent to two major hospitals. He urges politicians to admit past mistakes, listen to healthcare workers, and use the state's wealth to invest more in hospitals.

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## ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 15/09/2025, Steve Austin

AMA Queensland says more federal funding is needed to address the state's worsening ambulance ramping problem. New data from Queensland Health shows nearly half of patients taken to major state hospitals wait for over 30 minutes to see a doctor.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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## **HEALTH WORKFORCE**

## National honour for FNQ nurse

Cairns Post, General News, 16/09/2025, Page 4

A Bamaga nurse has been recognised as the top Indigenous diabetes educator at a national conference on the Gold Coast. Shirley Kusu, a clinical nurse consultant and credentialled diabetes educator, works with a small team supporting about 400 people living with diabetes across the Northern Peninsula.

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## HACSU's Robbie Moore says rejoining Tasmanian ALP is 'under consideration'

The Mercury, Other, 15/09/2025, Sue Bailey

The state's biggest union has not ruled out rejoining the Labor Party in Tasmania after a bitter split four years ago. The Health and Community Services Union – which now boasts more than 12,000 members – ended its affiliation with the ALP in September 2021 with then secretary Tim Jacobson launching a scathing attack on the party's parliamentary wing.

Also reported by: Gold Coast Bulletin (Online), Cairns Post (Online)

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#### Pay rise for WA health practitioners on the way

Medical Forum, Other, 15/09/2025

Doctors working in the state's public health system are set for a pay bump this week. An additional 3.75% pay rise promised as part of a pay deal for WA Health staff made last year is expected to be paid in upcoming pay cycles.

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## 'You are worthy and deserving of help': six practical ways to navigate medical misogyny

The Guardian, Other, 16/09/2025, Grace Jennings-Edquist

Two-thirds of Australian women have experienced gender bias or discrimination when seeking healthcare. Here's how to advocate for yourself if a doctor dismisses your concerns KZ Barton will never forget the night in her early 20s when searing abdominal pain landed her in hospital.

Read More

### TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

## 'You might only get one lick of the ice cream'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 15/09/2025

Full scope services are providing an opportunity for pharmacies to increase customer loyalty and boost transactions, a pharmacy data expert says Pharmacy owners need to embrace full scope of practice to keep patients coming back to their stores, and ward off the potential impacts of 60-day dispensing, Nostra Data's general manager client service, Nick Biigs,

Read More

#### 2GB, Drive, 15/09/2025, Clinton Maynard

Interview with Pharmacy Guild of Australia NSW president Mario Barone, discussing a shortage of ADHD drugs Ritalin LA 30mg and 40mg. Barone attributes the shortage to reliance on international manufacturers and supply chain issues, made worse by patients switching to Ritalin after other ADHD drugs had ran out. He says patients may have to seek alternative drugs as the shortage is forecast to last until December.

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### MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### Channel 7, Seven News, 15/09/2025, Max Futcher & Katrina Blowers

Proton beam therapy remains unavailable in Australia despite taxpayers shelling out over \$100m for such a facility in Adelaide. Since 2021, at least 89 applications for the treatment have been received and assessed although strict criteria cause some children like Lena to miss out the treatment. Other children who have missed out were told to seek treatment overseas but Lena's family couldn't afford it.

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#### **BENEFITS INTEGRITY**

#### Brethren launch podcast to 'bust' barrage of bad press

 $Sydney\ Morning\ Herald,\ General\ News,\ 16/09/2025,\ Stephen\ Brook,\ Linda\ Morris\ \&\ Angus\ Thomson,\ Page\ 2$ 

Our old mates at the Exclusive Brethren must be feeling the pinch from a bunch of critical reporting, including the revelation of their intensive (and expensive) involvement in the recent federal election, their antediluvian treatment of women, and serious allegations of sexual misconduct. [...] For the next year, the former one-man band will be required to practice under the supervision of a qualified clinical geneticist, and cannot treat more than 30 patients in a week, under conditions placed on his registration by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency.

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### 'Teflon' Al Muderis goes to war against peak body, colleagues

Age, General News, 16/09/2025, Charlotte Grieve, Page 6

Disgraced surgeon Dr Munjed Al Muderis is going to war with the Australian Orthopaedic Association, as leaked documents reveal concerns were raised about him threatening surgeons at a major hospital into silence. The Age reported last month that the peak professional organisation expelled Al Muderis during a late night board meeting after the Federal Court found the former star surgeon had failed a significant cohort of his patients and used highpressure sales tactics on vulnerable people.

## 'Disfigured' by surgeon

Herald Sun, General News, 16/09/2025, Juliecross, Page 13

A cosmetic surgeon and TikTok star is accused in court documents of leaving one of his patients disfigured, after removing eight litres of fat from her body during a liposuction procedure. Dr Daniel Aronov has been named in a Statement of Claim in the Supreme Court of Victoria, where it is claimed he removed the fat from the plaintiff's upper and lower abdomen, flanks, lower back, outer thighs, inner thighs, upper back, side chest and neck, before transferring 600ml of the fat back into her breasts.

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## **GP takes PSR fight to High Court over demand to produce 25 years of patient records**

Australian Doctor, Other, 15/09/2025, Heather Saxena

A GP ordered to hand over 25 years of medical records to the Professional Services Review is trying to appeal to the High Court of Australia, court documents show. Dr Matthew Yoong has been battling the Professional Services Review (PSR) since 2021, when the watchdog tried to ban him from Medicare for not providing its investigators with complete medical records for 76 patients.

Read More

## Ahpra to ramp up reforms

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 15/09/2025

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) has welcomed recommendations made by health ministers in the final report of the independent review of complexity in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, led by independent reviewer Sue Dawson. The final report features 26 recommended actions, including Ahpra carrying out a review of its organisational capability to ensure the agency has the right skills, roles and tools to be a contemporary regulator of health practitioners.

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### AHPRA should not handle minor complaints: Review

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 15/09/2025, Jolyon Attwooll

Minor complaints against GPs would no longer be handled by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) under reforms proposed in a newly released review. That is among the 26 recommendations put forward within the 'Transforming Health Professions Regulation in Australia' report released last Friday, the culmination of the so-called 'complexity review' set in motion last year.

**Read More** 

## AHPRA 'too inward-looking, too fragmented, and too slow'

The Medical Republic, Other, 15/09/2025, Holly Payne

The absence of health services and workforce is the 'ultimate risk' to patient safety, according to the final report from the independent review of complexity in health registration and accreditation. [...] The final report from the Independent Review of Complexity in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for health practitioners was released by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing on Friday.

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#### INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

## Pill testing saves lives

Bruce Reynolds (Letters, 8/9) wonders rhetorically who would use a pill testing service. Recent trials of mobile testing at festivals in other states have been so successful that Victoria this week opened a fixed, permanent site and in NSW, the Department of Health ran their own trial which was hailed by the Minister for Health.

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## Inside the Australian lab where scientists study bird flu and other emerging disease threats

ABC Online, Other, 15/09/2025, Olivia Willis & Nate Byrne

When Jennifer Barr arrives at work each morning, she goes through half-a-dozen security checkpoints, removes her clothes, and passes through two steel airlocked doors. Once inside, she changes into freshly washed medical scrubs and, if she's heading into the lab, puts on a fully encapsulated suit which connects to a separate air supply — akin to what astronauts are kitted out in.

Read More

## ABC, Four Corners, 15/09/2025, Louise Milligan

Four Corners features an investigation into the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church. [...] Four Corners can reveal that former Liberal Health Minister Greg Hunt is now employed by a Brethren company as a board adviser.

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#### THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

## Therapeutic Goods Administration investigating with sunscreen safety under scrutiny as summer looms

7news.com.au, Other, 16/09/2025

It's been three months since a shocking sunscreen safety report exposed SPF failures. [...] Three months on, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is carrying out an investigation into SPF testing.

**Read More** 

## Over 600 medicinal cannabis adverse events are the tip of the iceberg, top psych says

Australian Doctor, Other, 15/09/2025, Carmel Sparke

A leading psychiatrist has warned that the hundreds of medicinal cannabis adverse events reported to the TGA represent a "vast under-reporting" of side effects. Professor Brett Emmerson was commenting on TGA figures showing there had been over 600 adverse event reports made about the unregistered products between July 2022 and June this year.

Read More

#### Channel 7, Seven News, 15/09/2025, Susannah Carr & Rick Ardon

Australia has the highest melanoma rates in the world. Sunscreen is meant to be our best defence. [...] In the three months since that shocking report, some brands have recalled or paused sales as a precaution, while while the TGA's investigation is ongoing.

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#### OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

#### **FOOD STANDARDS**

## Farm climate warning sparks call for practical action

The Australian, Other, 15/09/2025, Paul Garvey

The agriculture industry warns Australia's food security hangs in the balance after the release of the climate assessment. The nation's farmers have called on the government to do more to ensure that primary producers can adapt to and survive through a changing climate, as the long-awaited National Climate Risk Assessment painted a grim picture of the industry's future.

**Read More** 

## How much fish is in tinned tuna, and how to shop for your needs

ABC Online, Other, 15/09/2025, Caitlyn Davey

When you're at the supermarket, do you wonder how much much tuna you're getting in a can? Brisbane/Meanjin-based dietitian Josh Wernham shared a series of popular videos on social media comparing how much food there is in some packaged goods.

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## **AICIS**

No relevant coverage

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