



TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 17th 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 Australian](#)** (page 6) reports Australia's vaping crackdown is being undermined by illicit websites linked to Chinese manufacturers Alibabbar and iGet selling disposable vapes online and via Australia Post, with Health Minister Mark Butler confirming government agencies will investigate and take enforcement action.
- The **[Courier Mail](#)** (page 1) and **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) lead coverage reporting that 81-year-old Elaine Arch-Rowe has been charged over her alleged role in a euthanasia ring accused of attempting to sell the drug pentobarbital at seminars, with police investigating links to 20 other assisted suicide cases across three states. *Also reported by:* [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 5) reports the Federal Government is seeking to delay phased-in pay rises of up to 35 per cent for 175,000 disability support workers until at least next July, arguing the Fair Work Commission underestimated the impact on NDIS funding.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 7) reports the Childhood Dementia Initiative is calling for a national childhood dementia unit as figures show one Australian baby in 2900 is born with the condition and survival rates remain unchanged compared with major improvements in childhood cancer.

- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 14) reports new data show rising sepsis diagnoses and deaths in Australia, prompting calls from experts for mandatory national clinical standards to prevent thousands of avoidable deaths each year.
- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 2) reports Queensland Health Minister Tim Nicholls has introduced new laws targeting landlords of illegal vape and tobacco traders while calling for stronger federal border controls to stem the multibillion-dollar trade. *Also reported by:* [Townsville Bulletin](#) ([Townsville](#)).
- [The West Australian](#) (page 5) reports Aged Care Minister Sam Rae will announce a \$30 million federal contribution towards a new 80-bed aged-care facility in East Perth to support homeless older West Australians.
- [SBS News](#) (online) reports Australia's first National Climate Risk Assessment has warned Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples face some of the nation's most severe climate impacts, with seven specific risks identified including threats to self-determination, Country, cultural knowledge, food and water security, and health and wellbeing.
- [The Guardian](#) (online) reports a Monash University-led study found heatwaves caused 1,009 deaths in Australia from 2016 to 2019, with Queensland and New South Wales recording the highest mortality rates.

MINISTER BUTLER

Labor probes Chinese vape giants

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Mohammad Alfares, Page 6

Australia's vaping crackdown is being undermined by brazen illicit vape companies that continue to sell their products illegally online and deliver them to customers via Australia Post, sparking a federal investigation. [...] Minister for Health Mark Butler has confirmed to The Australian that government agencies will investigate the vaping sites and take action.

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

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

Australians too dependent on government, says Sussan Ley

ABC Online, Other, 17/09/2025, Tom Crowley

Sussan Ley will warn in her first major economic speech as opposition leader that Australians are too dependent on welfare and universal government subsidies. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler last month flagged further efforts to contain NDIS costs.

[Read More](#)

Fewer Aussies would need NDIS if government boosted mental health support, expert says

MSN Australia, Other, 16/09/2025, Stephanie Dalzell & Celina Edmonds

Threadbare mental health services are pushing thousands of Australians with mental illness onto the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) indefinitely, according to a prominent psychiatrist who has declared more investment in early intervention could save the scheme billions. [...] A spokesperson for Mr Butler said all health ministers agreed at a June meeting that psychosocial care would be a national priority in the future agreement.

[Read More](#)

Maranoa Regional Council partners with Head Space Roma to expand free youth healthcare services

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 16/09/2025, Jack Dyson Evans

Maranoa Regional Council has voted to allow Headspace Roma to operate out of a number of their facilities as part of efforts to provide free healthcare in the region. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler spoke on how Labor's \$1 billion pledge for mental health services will affect and.

[Read More](#)

Why the aged care debate matters to families

Aged Care Guide, Other, 16/09/2025

Country-wide, hospitals are increasingly facing pressure. [...] Federal Aged Care Minister Mark Butler argues that the Government has brought additional funds to the system, and a billion dollars of funding has been brought to residential homes and the release of 20,000 home care packages in advance of schedule.

[Read More](#)

Health Minister rules out fast-track pathway for surgeon IMGs

Australian Doctor, Other, 16/09/2025, Jamie Thannoo

Overseas GPs, psychiatrists, anaesthetists and obstetricians are already being fast-tracked onto the specialist register to fill workforce holes — with no medical college scrutiny — but it will not be happening when it comes to surgeons. Last week, the Health Minister, Mark Butler, ruled out opening up a fast-track pathway for surgeon IMGs — a decision welcomed by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS).

[Read More](#)

Community pharmacists 'need to have a different conversation with patients'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 16/09/2025, Sheshtyn Paola

The Minister for Health and Ageing Mark Butler has today (16 September 2025) launched the updated Australian Asthma Handbook at a webinar for health professionals.

[Read More](#)

The Zap: all the important health and aged care news, plus consultations not to miss

Croakey, Other, 16/09/2025, Melissa Sweet

In public health we hear a lot about food deserts but in the column below, Charles Maskell-Knight suggests that Australia appears to be living in "a food policy desert" given that some decades have passed since the National Nutrition Policy was developed. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) in a webpage last updated in March 2024, 'What we're doing about food and nutrition', says "our National Preventive Health Strategy will help improve the health of Australians over the next 10 years, including through a healthier diet", but does not refer to developing a new National Nutrition Policy – or, indeed, to the 1992 version.

[Read More](#)

New IMG fellowship set to sail

The Medical Republic, Other, 16/09/2025, Euan Kielly

The RACGP has announced much needed support for overseas-trained GPs via a new Fellowship option. [...] "I want to be very clear to patients and with the medical profession that we won't compromise on our very strong standards that we have here in Australia," federal Health Minister Mark Butler said about maintaining standards for the fast-tracked pathway.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER RAE

\$30m Federal boost for new East Perth aged-care home

West Australian, Edition Changes, 17/09/2025, Katina Curtis, Page 5

The Federal Government will contribute \$30 million to building a new aged-care facility in East Perth that will help homeless older West Australians get the care they need. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae will announce the grant during a two-day visit to Perth this week as the WA Government continues to pressure the Commonwealth to step up the number of home-care packages on offer.

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

What's being done to tackle hospital bed block in the Illawarra

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 16/09/2025, Natalie Croxon

An organisation tackling the problem of bed block in the Illawarra Shoalhaven wants to establish an interim care facility to get elderly people out of hospitals while they wait for a place in residential aged care. Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae visited Wollongong on Monday for a roundtable with Community Industry Group, which is leading a taskforce aimed at fixing the issue, to discuss the efforts made to date and how the government can contribute to solutions.

Also reported by: [Southern Highland News \(Online\)](#), [Milton Ulladulla Times \(Online\)](#), [South Coast Register \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Aged care funding boost to bring enhanced services, but concerns remain

Aged Care Guide, Other, 16/09/2025

Country-wide, hospitals are increasingly facing pressure. [...] Seniors and Aged Care Minister Sam Rae made the announcement of the injection, allowing providers to pay staff appropriately and deliver upgraded care.

[Read More](#)

The Zap: all the important health and aged care news, plus consultations not to miss

Croakey, Other, 16/09/2025, Melissa Sweet

In public health we hear a lot about food deserts but in the column below, Charles Maskell-Knight suggests that Australia appears to be living in "a food policy desert" given that some decades have passed since the National Nutrition Policy was developed. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) in a webpage last updated in March 2024, 'What we're doing about food and nutrition', says "our National Preventive Health Strategy will help improve the health of Australians over the next 10 years, including through a healthier diet", but does not refer to developing a new National Nutrition Policy – or, indeed, to the 1992 version.

[Read More](#)

Aged care residents report feeling safer as sector-wide overhaul advances

Healthcare Channel, Other, 17/09/2025, Ritchelle Drilon

The Australian Government's wide-ranging aged care reforms have taken another major step forward with the passage of new legislation through Parliament, a move set to fast-track tens of thousands of at-home support packages for older Australians. [...] Minister for Aged Care and Seniors, Sam Rae, called the bill's passage a "fantastic outcome for older Australians."

[Read More](#)

ABC Illawarra, Breakfast, 16/09/2025, Melinda James

Interview with Community Industry Group CEO Nicky Sloan about aged care and bed block. Sloan discusses the recent visit by Aged Care Minister Sam Rae, noting he spent several hours listening to providers and older people about the issue. She also highlights the value of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing-commissioned research and the task force in bringing key stakeholders together.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Illawarra, 07:30 News, 16/09/2025

The Community Industry Group says local aged care providers were able to raise concerns around funding for new homes with the Federal Minister on Monday. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae hosted a roundtable with the group and other industry stakeholders to discuss the issues facing the local aged care sector, including a severe lack of aged care facilities.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Illawarra, 06:30 News, 16/09/2025

Community Industry Group CEO Nicky Sloan says concerns and solutions were raised at an Illawarra aged care roundtable on Monday. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae attended the meeting with local stakeholders, who discussed new in-home care assessment rules coming into effect in November. Sloan says the rules could lead to unnecessary assessments, potentially increasing assessment wait times.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Mental health funding boost for Darwin and Alice Springs

National Indigenous Times, Other, 16/09/2025, Dechlan Brennan

More young people in the Northern Territory will have access to mental health support following new federal funding for headspace services in Darwin and Alice Springs. [...] Federal Assistant Minister for Mental, Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride, announced the funding during a visit to headspace Darwin, where she met with staff and members of the Youth Reference Group.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Get expert advice on sector projects

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 16/09/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Applications for Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia's Aged Care Incubator Project Support Program are now open, with the sector's providers, technology and other vendors, researchers and consortiums all eligible. The program is funded by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to provide up to 18 hours of project development, coaching and support at no cost to eligible organisations, said ARIIA senior manager of industry and engagement Liana Donleavy.

[Read More](#)

Health Minister rules out fast-track pathway for surgeon IMGs

Overseas GPs, psychiatrists, anaesthetists and obstetricians are already being fast-tracked onto the specialist register to fill workforce holes — with no medical college scrutiny — but it will not be happening when it comes to surgeons. Last week, the Health Minister, Mark Butler, ruled out opening up a fast-track pathway for surgeon IMGs — a decision welcomed by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS).

[Read More](#)

The Zap: all the important health and aged care news, plus consultations not to miss

Croakey, Other, 16/09/2025, Melissa Sweet

In public health we hear a lot about food deserts but in the column below, Charles Maskell-Knight suggests that Australia appears to be living in "a food policy desert" given that some decades have passed since the National Nutrition Policy was developed. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) in a webpage last updated in March 2024, 'What we're doing about food and nutrition', says "our National Preventive Health Strategy will help improve the health of Australians over the next 10 years, including through a healthier diet", but does not refer to developing a new National Nutrition Policy – or, indeed, to the 1992 version.

[Read More](#)

Independent authority finds NDIS pricing arrangements are 'not working'

Health Services Daily, Other, 16/09/2025, Cate Swannell

Despite the DoHDA refusing to release its full report, IHACPA has managed to get its point across via a 'snapshot' of its major findings. The message is blunt.

[Read More](#)

Healthy minds and bodies the focus of Apunipima Cape York Health Council's on-Country camps

National Indigenous Times, Other, 16/09/2025, Giovanni Torre

Apunipima Cape York Health Council recently hosted three 'On Country' Men's Camps which brought together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men from different regions of the Cape to reconnect with culture and strengthen their spirit through shared healing. [...] The men's camps were delivered as part of Apunipima's Men's Outreach Program and were made possible through the support of The Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Read More](#)

The Water Cooler: Comings and goings in the public service

PS News, Other, 16/09/2025, Andrew McLaughlin

A breakdown of the latest appointments and moves in the Australian Public Service, the wider public sector and across the public services of the states and territories. APS Senior Executive Service Band 1 Scott Rumbold has been appointed as an Executive Director – Regulatory Operations Division in the Department of Health's Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission.

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

[Read More](#)

Expanded scope 'for anyone except general practice'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 16/09/2025, Anastasia Tsirtsakis

As Australia faces an ageing population and increasingly complex medical presentations, the Federal Government has emphasised the need for healthcare professionals to be empowered to work to their full scope of practice. [...] 'I can't make a diagnosis of mental illness on a Disability Support Pension. The Department of Health is relying on me to do mental health care, but the Department of Social Services doesn't think I know how to make a diagnosis.

[Read More](#)

More GPs 'sorely needed' in the NT

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 16/09/2025, Jo Roberts

Offers of housing and childcare, scholarship grants and cutting red tape for international medical graduates were among the workforce incentives discussed to boost the Northern Territory's general practice workforce, at the inaugural NT Rural & Remote Medicine Conference. [...] The RACGP and Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine were partners in presenting the conference, as well as other sponsors including the NT PHN, the Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) and the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

[Read More](#)

Mental health billing 'relief' comes at a cost

The Medical Republic, Other, 16/09/2025, Holly Payne

Mental health consultations will be axed from the MBS come November; but while few are mourning the items' demise, there are questions as to how else the government will measure GP input on mental health. As confirmed in a Department of Health, Disability and Ageing fact sheet last week, GP mental health treatment plan review items (MBS items 2712, 92114 and 92126) and related GP mental health treatment consultation items (MBS items 2713, 92115 and 92127. Instead, GPs can just bill the appropriate time-based consult item for these appointments.

[Read More](#)

ABC Illawarra, Breakfast, 16/09/2025, Melinda James

Interview with Community Industry Group CEO Nicky Sloan about aged care and bed block. Sloan discusses the recent visit by Aged Care Minister Sam Rae, noting he spent several hours listening to providers and older people about the issue. She also highlights the value of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing-commissioned research and the task force in bringing key stakeholders together.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Why this policy could mean you miss out on aged care

Age, Money, 17/09/2025, Rachel Lane, Page 33

For those approaching aged care, there is a common misconception that if you don't have any money, you won't get in. However, it's a myth that may end up becoming a reality for some unless the government increases the accommodation supplement paid for residents of low means.

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

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

'Sex assault' nurse ordeal

Herald Sun, General News, 17/09/2025, Brooke Grebert-Craig, Page 18

A nurse has spoken of her harrowing ordeal after she was allegedly sexually assaulted by a colleague while helping an elderly patient at an aged-care facility in Templestowe. The woman, who asked not to be named, was working a shift at Newmans On The Park when the incident took place in April this year.

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

'A sad but long goodbye': what doctors want you to know about facing dementia

The Australian, Other, 16/09/2025, Magdalena Simonis

I knew from my 30-plus years in general practice that when the patient came in concerned that they were becoming more forgetful of late or stated, "I'm worried that my memory isn't what it used to be", they usually were right. I've witnessed dementia of all kinds evolve and it is heartbreaking to share the news and then watch the demise in my patients.

Man 'choked to death' on ribbons and food in Adelaide nursing home, inquest told

ABC Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Peta Doherty

A nursing home resident known to wander and ingest foreign objects died after choking on ribbons at a facility in Adelaide's north, an inquest has heard. Ronald Maine, 71, was living in a secure unit at Helping Hand nursing home at Mawson Lakes when a staff member noticed he was pale, clammy and had blue fingertips after consuming morning tea on September 27, 2022.

[Read More](#)

Aged Care Act co-payments risk trapping pensioners in a cycle of poverty

HelloCare, Other, 16/09/2025, Jakob Neeland

Despite the Albanese government's enthusiastic framing of the Aged Care Act as a transformative "rights-based, person-centred" reform, experts, economists and aged care leaders all have the same predictions. The Act, which addresses 58 of the Royal Commission's 148 recommendations, risks entrenching a cycle of poverty for seniors striving to age at home.

[Read More](#)

Ministers meet to address bed block crisis

Nursing Review, Other, 16/09/2025

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](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 16/09/2025, Rory McClaren

Interview with Federal Member for Mayo Rebekha Sharkie about aged care. Sharkie discusses the systemic issues in home and residential aged care, highlighting the financial and human costs for older Australians, who struggle to afford basic support. She urges people to report their aged care challenges to their federal MPs to push for better government accountability and support.

Continuing on: [ABC Radio Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

DISABILITY AND CARERS

Nurse avoids most serious charge for Israel 'kill' video

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Joanna Panagopoulos, Page 1

One of two Sydney nurses who appeared in a video in which she allegedly threatened to kill Israeli patients has had the most serious charge dropped, avoiding the prospect of a maximum 10 years in jail. [...] Both were quickly stood down by NSW Health and banned for two years from working with NDIS patients.

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

Fear gender gap pay rises will hurt NDIS

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Ewin Hannan, Page 5

The Albanese government is seeking to delay the start of phased in pay rises of up to 35 per cent for 175,000 low-paid workers in female-dominated sectors until at least next July, disputing a Fair Work finding that wage increases for disability support workers would not require significant extra NDIS

funding. In a submission in response to the commission's landmark gender pay ruling in April, the government said the wage rises should not start until six months after a final decision, expected late this year or early next year, putting Labor at odds with unions, which want the wage rises operational from January.

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

Charge against nurse dropped

Daily Telegraph, General News, 17/09/2025, Steve Zemek, Page 9

Prosecutors have dropped a charge against one of two Sydney nurses charged over a video in which they threatened Israeli patients. [...] The pair have both been stood down from their jobs at NSW Health and have been hit with a two-year ban on working with NDIS patients.

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

Forcing neurodivergent kids to conform sets them up to fail

West Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Merinda March, Page 38

You don't have to look far to find families grappling with autism, ADHD, severe bullying, or school refusal, complex challenges all linked to the school system. The statistics are startling: one in four students are bullied regularly.

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

Centrelink increases: What's changing for millions of Australians

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 16/09/2025, Freya Parsons

Millions of Australians are set to get more cash next week after the the government announced a boost to Centrelink payments. [...] Matching the Age Pension update, Carer Payment recipients on the maximum single rate will also benefit from the \$29.70 fortnightly increase.

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

[Read More](#)

Local group embodies Dementia Action Week theme

Shepparton News Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Lua Ikenasio

This week marks Dementia Action Week, with the theme 'Nobody can do it alone' highlighting the importance of strong support systems for those impacted by dementia. [...] According to Dementia Australia, people living with dementia often experience loneliness and social isolation following a diagnosis, as their friends and family drop away not knowing how to interact with them.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Post-natal care all part of room service

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 17/09/2025, Page 3

New babies born in the Mater Mother's Private Hospital Townsville will get to live a life of luxury early on with special short stays for new parents and their newborns at Ardo hotel. Mums who have their babes at the private hospital will get a chance to bond while enjoying five-star luxury, relaxing on the edge of the Coral Sea.

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

Compex to offer priority care, GP rooms, pathology, radiology, pharmacy services

Morning Bulletin, Other, 16/09/2025, Frazer Pearce

Construction of a major "one-stop-shop" medical centre, which includes priority care capability, is underway in North Rockhampton. The project over three blocks of land at 90-94 High St, is a

development by Grace Priority Care next to Mount Archer Medical Centre at 84 High St.

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

[Read More](#)

Stanhope forum explores healthcare innovation

Shepparton News Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Ryan Bellingham

Health leaders dedicated to building sustainable healthcare in small towns across the Loddon Mallee region have converged on Stanhope. Organised by Murray Primary Health Network, the Stanhope Health Forum on Friday, September 12, sought input from community members and healthcare services.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

'Secretary', 81, accused of role in aiding suicide

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Blake Antrobus, Page 6

An elderly woman allegedly acted as a "secretary" for a charity business that sold bottles of a veterinary euthanasia drug that has been linked to a man's death from a fatal dose, a court has been told. Elaine Arch-Rowe, 81, was one of three people charged on Monday over the death of the Hope Island man, 43, in April this year.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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

Jail for landlords who do not dob

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Mackenzie Scott, Page 6

Commercial landlords who fail to dob in tenants suspected of dealing illegal cigarettes and vapes will face hefty fines and possible jail time under Queensland's new nation-leading crackdown on the black market tobacco trade. [...] Queensland Health Minister Tim Nicholls said the government was working to "break the back" of the increasingly pervasive underground business.

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

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

Subtle signs I missed as Alzheimer's stole my mother

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Anthea Rowan, Page 7

It's 2015 and my mother is in a brain rehabilitation ward poststroke. It is eight years before she will die from Alzheimer's.

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

Silent killer claims a baby every three days

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Lillian Saleh, Page 7

There's one group of people who already know dementia affects more than the elderly: the parents of children living with a form of the condition. One Australian baby born every three days will develop one of the more than 100 childhood dementia disorders, with half of them dying by the age 10 and up to three-quarters of them not reaching adulthood.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#).

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

Silent and preventable illness kills 12,000 each year

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 17/09/2025, Kayla Olaya, Page 14

For four days Adam Pearce lay unconscious, alone in his home. His immune system's effort to kill

infecting micro-organisms had started to eat away at his body's tissues and organs.

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

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

Police link 'charity' to death drugs

Age, General News, 17/09/2025, Courtney Kruk, Page 12

A Gold Coast man accused of running an illegal euthanasia operation had set up a charity to euthanise beached whales as a front to obtain veterinary drugs, detectives believe. Queensland police allege the animal drugs were then sold to customers to facilitate suicides.

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

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

Pumping breast milk eviction cops flak

Age, General News, 17/09/2025, Cara Waters, Page 18

A breastfeeding mother of twins was furious after being asked to leave a Virgin airport business lounge because she was pumping breast milk. Dr Elise Turner said she was in the lounge at Melbourne Airport yesterday, expressing breast milk using a pump underneath her T-shirt when she was asked to stop.

Also reported by: [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#).

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

\$22.9m for this climate stitch-up

Herald Sun, General News, 17/09/2025, James Willis, Page 4

Chris Bowen's flagship climate change report card, which has warned of catastrophic impacts and mass coastal flooding, cost taxpayers' \$22.9 million. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 293 people died from extreme heat between 2011 and 2021, while 242 Australians lost their lives directly as a result from cold weather.

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

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

Gran 'sold death drug'

Courier Mail, General News, 17/09/2025, Emily Walker, Page 1

An elderly Gold Coast woman accused of being part of a euthanasia ring allegedly tried to sell killer drugs through seminars at aged care homes and community centres. And her alleged offending included an attempt to sell four bottles of the drug known as pentobarbital and purchased supposedly to euthanise beached whales at an event at the Maroochy RSL earlier this month.

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

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

Halt the ciggies at the border

Courier Mail, General News, 17/09/2025, Chris Burns, Page 2

Further federal border controls are needed to stem the multibillion-dollar flow of illegal vapes and cigarettes into Queensland, says Health Minister Tim Nicholls, as the government introduces new laws to crack down on the industry. The legislation, introduced on Tuesday, would give landlords the power to terminate leases held by traders in illegal vapes and tobacco.

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

David's death after years of suffering

Courier Mail, General News, 17/09/2025, Greg Stolz, Page 4

A quadriplegic whose death sparked a sensational euthanasia police investigation, involving whale-killing drugs and the deaths of as many as 20 people, spoke extensively of taking his own life to end his years of suffering. High-profile spinal injury advocate Perry Cross has also told of his shock at his friend's death, which sparked the investigation into "end of life service" provider Brett Taylor.

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

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

Charity is put down over its giant lie

Courier Mail, General News, 17/09/2025, Taylah Fellows, Page 5

A beached whale charity allegedly used as a "front" to sell euthanasia drugs has been shut down by the national charity watchdog. It comes as a Queensland veterinarian called for stronger regulations of the drug pentobarbital, which is commonly used in Australia to euthanise animals and in the United States for capital punishment.

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

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

Elderly woman on bail in assisted death sting

West Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Page 15

An elderly Gold Coast woman accused of supporting a dodgy euthanasia service allegedly brought life-ending veterinary drugs to an RSL seminar in a bid to sell them. Elaine Arch-Rowe, 81, also allegedly tried to arrange the supply of the drug to someone who turned out to be an undercover police operative.

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

One-stop spot for sex clinic

Northern Territory News, General News, 17/09/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 4

A newly named youth sexual and relationship health clinic, The Spot, has been launched in the Top End. Aiming to be a "one-stop shop" for everything related to sexual and relationship health, the clinic opened last week.

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

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

Cocaine use high as hard times hit

The Nightly, General News, 16/09/2025, Stephen Johnson, Page 14

Drug users are increasingly turning to cocaine rather than ecstasy, marijuana or speed despite the white powder being a very expensive drug, new figures show. Cocaine sells for up to \$400 a gram and is typically illegally imported from South America, making it a particularly expensive illicit drug to snort through a banknote at a party for the likes of highly paid professionals wanting to have fun after a busy working week.

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

Killer drug for sale

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 17/09/2025, Emily Waker, Page 1

A euthanasia advocate tried to sell four bottles of a killer drug at a Queensland RSL club, a court has heard. Elaine Arch-Rowe, 81, appeared in the Southport Magistrates Court on Tuesday charged with attempt to aid a suicide, trafficking dangerous drugs, possession of dangerous drugs and the sale of potential harmful things.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

Illegal tobacco clean-out

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 17/09/2025, Josh Mercer, Page 2

The owner of 10 tobacconists in Townsville says new laws addressing the sale of illicit tobacco are "a long time coming". Health Minister Tim Nicholls announced a government crackdown on Tuesday, saying illegal vape and tobacco traders were in the government's sights, with authorities given the power to shut down operations on the spot for three months.

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

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

Explained: How man's whale drug death led to cross-country probe

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 17/09/2025, Matthew Newton, Page 4

The assisted suicide death of a 43-year-old quadriplegic Gold Coast man using a whale euthanasia drug has sparked investigations across Australia. Police allege Main Beach business owner Brett Daniel Taylor, 53, set up a charity to euthanise beached whales but instead sold the drugs to others so they could end their lives.

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

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

Fired up at tobacco war

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 17/09/2025, Tayla Couacaud & Chris Burns, Page 12

Businesses say they are being crippled by soaring insurance costs as a wave of firebombings and arson attacks on tobacconists spreads fear through shopping strips. [...] Health Minister Tim Nicholls was expected on Tuesday to introduce legislation which would punish landlords who knowingly leased shopfronts to illegal tobacconist and vape vendors with jail time and sixfigure fines.

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

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

Tasmanian regions rank in Australia's top 10 'mouldiest'

Launceston Examiner, General News, 17/09/2025, Lauren Richardson, Page 8

A new study on Australia's "mouldiest" regions indicates that Tasmania could be exposed to greater health risks than other states. Sydney-based app Airtasker allows individuals and businesses to post jobs they need done and receive offers from 'Taskers' in their community.

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

Take the test to assess your risk of dementia now

The Australian, Other, 16/09/2025, Bek Day

An Australian-developed test can score your dementia risk profile in minutes and give you a free report with recommendations for change. [...] There are about 433,000 Australians living with dementia, and it has been identified by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare as the leading cause of death.

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

[Read More](#)

Former transport minister Jo Haylen returns from purgatory with a plea

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 16/09/2025, Alexandra Smith

Former transport minister Jo Haylen has returned from the political wilderness with her first major speech since quitting the frontbench, arguing for her government to urgently overhaul the drug testing laws that discriminate against prescribed medicinal cannabis.

[Read More](#)

'I'm a monster': Mental health toll of endometriosis and OCD leads to Mum and baby separation

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 16/09/2025, Toni Moon

Caitlyn Warden, 27, never imagined her daughter's birth would trigger a mental health crisis that would separate them. During her caesarean, she experienced a full-blown panic attack, shaking uncontrollably and feeling as though she was shutting down.

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

[Read More](#)

Takaya Honda's personal mission to change how we view dementia

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 16/09/2025, Lillian Saleh

The fact one in 16 Australians are caring for someone living with dementia is “insanity” said 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: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Why Canberra can't afford wood heaters

Canberra Times, Other, 16/09/2025, Devin Bowles

There has been recent dispute between Labor and the Greens over whether the government committed to freeing the ACT of wood heaters by 2045. [...] A recent analysis published in the Medical Journal of Australia puts cost of deaths from wood heater smoke pollution at between \$57 million and \$333 million annually.

[Read More](#)

How to determine if your kid is well enough for child care

ABC Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Kellie Scott

Work demands and a lack of village mean keeping a child at home from care every time they have a sniffle can be a dilemma for many parents. And with sickness so easily spread in childcare settings, it's a decision caregivers are regularly faced with — especially in the first year or two.

[Read More](#)

Use constitutional power to raise age of criminal responsibility nationwide, lawyers tell PM

ABC Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Kirstie Wellauer

Amid mounting calls for the Commonwealth to intervene in youth justice systems, legal experts have advised the Albanese government has the constitutional power to raise the age of criminal responsibility nationwide. [...] An average of 80 per cent of the children held in detention were unsentenced in 2023-24, and in the Northern Territory that was 99 per cent, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

[Read More](#)

Queensland government to ban pill testing in move criticised by health advocates

The Guardian, Other, 16/09/2025, Andrew Messenger

Queensland's state government is expected to ban pill testing, including at festivals, by attaching amendments to an unrelated bill in parliament in a move criticised by health advocates. Under the previous Labor government, Queensland was the first state to establish a fixed pill-testing strategy on an ongoing basis, in 2024. Clinics were opened on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane.

[Read More](#)

Community fights lead mine near primary school as report highlights Australia's failure to protect children

The Guardian, Other, 16/09/2025, Natasha May

An application for a lead mine 2km from a primary school has failed to address concerns about its predicted emissions, relies on outdated evidence and has a community group in New South Wales rightly concerned for their health, a new expert report says. The author of the report also noted Australia's record of failing to protect children in the vicinity of lead mines.

[Read More](#)

Charges, up to 20 deaths linked to 'end-of-life' business

The New Daily, Other, 16/09/2025, Robyn Wuth & Laine Clark

A father and son are among three people accused of helping a man take his own life, with about 20 more deaths under investigation. The family members — aged 80 and 53 — and an 81-year-old woman have been charged over the alleged assisted suicide of a Gold Coast man in April.

Surge in most STIs over the past 10 years

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 16/09/2025, Jolyon Attwooll

Syphilis and gonorrhoea diagnoses have doubled, chlamydia remains high, but HIV has declined, new data indicates. The increase in STI diagnoses is part of a consistent pattern in recent years. Publishing a report on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) at the Australasian HIV&AIDS Conference in Adelaide this week, the Kirby Institute at UNSW Sydney said there were 5866 syphilis diagnoses last year, which it says represents a doubling in diagnoses over 10 years.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 16/09/2025, Steve Austin

Queensland Health Minister Tim Nicholls says new legislation to crack down on the illicit tobacco industry will be the toughest in the nation. The proposed laws to be introduced to Qld Parliament today would create a new offence for landlords who knowingly allow their premises to be used for the supply and possession of illegal tobacco and vapes.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 16/09/2025, Leon Compton

Interview with Brilliant Being associate professor Roland McCallum about weight loss drugs. McCallum discusses how advice changes with age, noting that while drugs like Ozempic and Mounjaro are effective at 70 as well as 30, older patients face greater risks such as muscle and bone loss. He stresses the importance of counteracting these effects with adequate protein intake, strength training, and broader lifestyle management.

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

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Nerve game changer for cancer treatment

West Australian, Business News, 17/09/2025, Cheyanne Enciso, Page 20

Australian urologists are now using Orthocell's flagship nerve repair product during prostate cancer surgery in what the Perth biotech says has potential to reduce the risk of side effects such as erectile dysfunction and loss of bladder control. Orthocell shares jumped as high as \$1.22 in early trade on Tuesday after announcing Remplir had been introduced to urologists for use in nerve-sparing robotic-assisted radical prostatectomy a surgery to remove the entire prostate gland.

Also reported by: [The Nightly \(None\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

Why size does matter when on hunt for cancer cells

The Australian, Higher Education, 17/09/2025, Joanna Panagopoulos, Page 21

An engineer at the University of Queensland is working towards developing a portable benchtop device that could diagnose diseases, including cancers such as leukaemia, from a swab of saliva. Dan Yuan, an expert in viscoelastic microfluidics, is leading a team of engineers who are in the early stages of creating a low-cost, non-invasive device that could one day be used at home or to screen whole populations for cancer, similar to the tests used during the Covid pandemic.

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

Her MRI looked like 'a handful of white rice thrown through the white matter of the brain'

Herald Sun, General News, 17/09/2025, Annette Sharp, Page 17

John Thorburn is in awe of his wife Kathryn. Since the birth of the couple's 16-year-old daughter, the Thorburns' lives have been a succession of misdiagnoses, tests, MRIs, seizures, hospital admissions

and surgeries.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#)

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

Daily pill to treat dementia gets nod

Courier Mail, General News, 17/09/2025, Zoe Smith, Page 8

A once-a-day "holy grail" pill that could change the way Alzheimer's disease is treated has reached a major milestone. Sydney-based company Actinogen Medical has made a huge step forward in the development of the drug Xanamem after making an agreement with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

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

Orthocell promising in prostate cancer surgery

The Nightly, General News, 16/09/2025, Cheyanne Enciso, Page 26

Australian urologists are now using Orthocell's flagship nerve repair product during prostate cancer surgery in what the biotech says has potential to reduce the risk of side effects like erectile dysfunction and loss of bladder control. Orthocell shares jumped as high as \$1.22 in early trade on Tuesday after announcing Rempir had been introduced to urologists for use in nerve-sparing robotic-assisted radical prostatectomy a surgery to remove the entire prostate gland.

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

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

'A good adventure': NQ leukaemia survivor to journey across Australia to provide life changing technology for hospital inpatients

The Courier Mail, Other, 16/09/2025, Holly Fishlock

Damien Thompson is no stranger to hospital beds, having spent the last 15 years receiving treatment on and off after he was diagnosed with leukaemia at 23. "I had to have a bone-marrow transplant... since the transplant I suffered a condition called graft-versus-host disease," he said.

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

[Read More](#)

Health professionals advised to stop prescribing SABA (blue puffer) to treat asthma

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 16/09/2025

Health professionals, including nurses, are being advised to stop prescribing or recommending as-needed short-acting beta2 agonists (SABA) alone to treat asthma in adolescents and adults, under updated guidelines in the National Asthma Council Australia's (NAC) Australian Asthma Handbook released today.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 16/09/2025, Ashleigh Gillon

Health experts are warning against plans to slash 60% of staff from Tasmania's main cancer clinical trials unit at the Royal Hobart Hospital. The Nursing and Midwifery Foundation says the cuts would decimate services and force patients to seek treatment interstate, despite government assurances no trials will stop. A \$250,000 boost from the Ponting Foundation is helping sustain access to cutting-edge therapies.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

We lead world in online safety

Herald Sun, Editorials, 17/09/2025, Page 22

Australia has introduced world-leading laws to protect children from social media harm. [...] Experts in mental health, child advocacy and child protection backed the call to let kids be kids, amid an explosion of self-harm and eating disorders over a decade.

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

Stinging criticism of plan

Border Mail, General News, 17/09/2025, Ted Howes, Page 1

Albury Wodonga Health has fired back at savage criticism over a plan to place a new mental health unit on the sixth floor of Albury hospital's proposed clinical services building. The health service said Nolan House would be replaced with a purpose-built, expanded adult acute mental health inpatient unit and that it would remain "committed to delivering the highest quality of care for our community".

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

Youth Focus to operate headspace in Manjimup, starting early 2026

West Australian, Other, 16/09/2025, Amber Lilley

Young people needing mental health support in Manjimup will soon have somewhere new to turn, with headspace one step closer to opening its doors early next year. Youth Focus will provide the headspace service in Manjimup, including support for issues with mental health, physical and sexual health, work and study, and alcohol and other drugs.

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

[Read More](#)

Details of how Australia's social media ban will work are finally becoming clear

The New Daily, Other, 16/09/2025, Lisa M. Given

The Australian government has released regulatory guidance on the social media minimum age law, which comes into effect on December 10. [...] That included details on the types of platforms to be excluded from the age restrictions, such as those whose "sole or primary purpose" is professional networking, to support education or health, or to enable playing of online games.

[Read More](#)

What social media platforms will — and won't — have to do under Australia's under-16s ban

SBS, Other, 16/09/2025, Emma Brancatisano

Social media companies will be required to take "reasonable steps", such as deactivating underage accounts, to comply with Australia's under-16 social media ban, but they won't be compelled to verify the age of all users. [...] Online gaming, messaging apps, health and education services won't be included.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Breakfast, 16/09/2025, Ross Solly

Prominent psychiatrist and former Australian of the Year Patrick McGorry says threadbare mental health services are pushing thousands of Australians with mental illness onto the NDIS indefinitely.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Breakfast, 16/09/2025

Leading psychiatrist Patrick McGorry says inadequate mental health services are pushing thousands of Australians with mental illness onto the NDIS. McGorry argues that many cases of psychosocial disability could be prevented with earlier intervention. A Federal Government spokesperson says it is investing \$7.7 billion in mental health and suicide prevention this financial year.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

IMMUNISATION

Deadly disease jabs a lifesaver

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 17/09/2025, Brad Crouch, Page 7

Three lives saved and 39 infants and teens spared from a cruel disease that is the return on a state government decision to fund a meningococcal B vaccine, new research shows. Cases have dropped by more than 70 per cent in the five years since the government introduced the publicly funded vaccination program, University of Adelaide data shows.

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

Mist opportunities to boost immunity

Border Mail, General News, 17/09/2025, Page 5

Needle-phobic children will be able to access free flu vaccinations in the form of a nasal spray to overcome low vaccination rates. Parents in Queensland and NSW will be able to access a nasal-spray vaccination ahead of the next flu season in a bid to protect children from illness and increase herd immunity.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#).

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

Channel 7, Seven News, 16/09/2025, Max Fitcher & Katrina Blowers

A needle-free flu vaccine will be trialled in Queensland next year to boost immunisation rates among young children. The nasal spray, already used overseas, will be free for kids aged two to five and available privately for patients up to 17 years old.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 16/09/2025, Peter Mitchell

A new flu vaccination delivered as a nasal spray is being rolled out in New South Wales and Queensland for people under 18. Vaccinologist Professor Kristine Macartney says it offers similar protection to the injectable vaccine, at around 50%. In Victoria, the flu shot remains available only by injection.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Breakfast , 16/09/2025, Peter Fegan

In an Australian first, a free nasal spray flu vaccine will be rolled out next year for children aged two to five in NSW. Health experts say the statewide initiative will encourage children who dislike needles to get the jab.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 16/09/2025

The New South Wales Government has announced plans to roll out a needle-free flu vaccine for children aged two to five in time for next year's flu season. The nasal spray is currently awaiting regulatory approval in Australia.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

PEP eyes parcel of Healthscope

The Australian, Business News, 17/09/2025, Bridget Carter, Page 14

Pacific Equity Partners is firming as the leading bidder for 11 Healthscope hospitals leased from Canadian landlord Northwest Healthcare, as a not-for-profit operator closes in on another major part of the portfolio. Since the complex auction began for the nation's second-largest hospital operator, it was always expected to face a break-up.

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

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

CSL's \$760m bet on bleeding disorder biotech

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 17/09/2025, Michael Smith, Page 16

CSL will invest up to \$760 million in Dutch biotech VarmX, marking the healthcare giant's first major investment since it announced 3000 job cuts and plans to scale back its global research and development network.

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

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

CSL happy to bleed for Dutch company

The Nightly, General News, 16/09/2025, Derek Rose & Danielle Le Messurier, Page 24

Australia's largest biotech CSL is eyeing the acquisition of a Dutch company researching a breakthrough treatment for a deadly side effect of blood thinners in its first major investment since announcing 3000 job cuts. CSL will make an upfront payment of \$US117 million (\$175m) for the exclusive right to buy Netherlands-based VarmX, which is developing a new bleeding disorder treatment.

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

Channel 10, 10 News, 16/09/2025

The WA Government has announced almost \$40 million to make Ngala's residential parenting service free for families. The funding will help more than 1,700 families over four years, removing fees of up to \$7,000 that previously stopped many from accessing support. Families will now be able to self-refer or be referred by health professionals.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Afternoons, 16/09/2025, Tony Moclair

Interview with St John's Ambulance CEO Gordon Botwright about first aid. Botwright discusses the importance of learning and applying first aid skills, particularly CPR and defibrillator use for sudden cardiac arrest, noting that Ambulance Victoria reports only 422 of 7,500 yearly cardiac arrest patients in Victoria survive. He highlights programs introducing first aid to children from kindergarten through secondary school.

[Play Now](#)

FIVEAA, Mornings, 16/09/2025, Graeme Goodings

Interview with SA Health executive director of the communicable disease control branch Noel Lally about the SA HIV Strategy. Lally discusses the strategy's goal of virtually eliminating HIV transmission by 2030, reducing time to diagnosis and treatment, and supporting people living with HIV to access care and live healthy lives. He highlights the use of self-test kits, removing barriers to treatment, and raising community awareness.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

Diabetes greater risk for sepsis

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 17/09/2025, Page 3

People with type 2 diabetes are at a higher risk of developing sepsis, a complication following an infection that is deadly in more than 10 per cent of cases. To investigate the link, the University of Western Australia researchers say before their study, 2 per cent of the diabetes group had already had sepsis in hospital compared with 0.8 per cent of the non-diabetes group.

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

Isolated by dementia

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 17/09/2025, Page 7

More than half of Australians caring for someone with dementia say they feel isolated. This Dementia Action Week (September 15-21), Dementia Australia is challenging Australians to reconnect with someone impacted by dementia to help combat the shockingly high level of social isolation many experience.

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

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

Queensland research reveals daily sunscreen use could be causing vitamin D deficiency

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

Wearing sunscreen every day might be protecting your skin, but new research shows it could come with a surprising health trade-off that needs to be. A major Australian study by QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute in Brisbane Queensland , has uncovered a link between daily SPF50+ use and vitamin D deficiency, which can impact bones, immunity, and overall health.

[Read More](#)

The hidden impact of injuries costing AFL clubs millions

ABC Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Marnie Vinall

Player injuries are costing AFL clubs millions of dollars, as experts say club medical and performance departments are being put under strain when hit with a plethora of injuries across a season. [...] Matt Turnbull, author in the study and former head of performance at North Melbourne, says indirect costs like salaries probably well exceed direct costs, such as healthcare, scans, seeing external doctors and surgeries.

[Read More](#)

Heatwaves caused more than 1,000 deaths in Australia over four-year period, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 17/09/2025, Lisa Cox & Nick Evershed

Heatwaves caused 1,009 deaths in Australia from 2016 to 2019 according to a new analysis led by researchers at Monash University. As the national climate risk assessment identified heatwaves as the climate hazard causing the most deaths, the newly published study found Queensland and New South Wales were the states with the highest mortality rates attributable to heatwaves.

[Read More](#)

Birth control: why are influencers turning away from the pill and towards natural contraceptive methods?

The Guardian, Other, 17/09/2025, Natasha May

In the 1960s it was considered a watershed moment of liberation for women. [...] Researchers at La Trobe University analysed 100 TikTok videos from the top five hashtags related to contraception methods (#birthcontrol, #contraception, #thepill, #naturalbirthcontrol, and #cycletracking) that had collectively gained nearly 5bn views and 14.6m likes.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacy students take lead on sustainability through research

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 16/09/2025

The seventh edition of the world's first peer-reviewed pharmacy student journal highlights emerging sustainability initiatives in pharmacy practice. The latest issue of the Australian Pharmacy Students'

Journal (APSJ) features several highlights that promote sustainability within the pharmacy profession and highlights the important and unique opportunity for students to lead and innovate in this area.

[Read More](#)

Student journal latest edition out

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 16/09/2025

The seventh edition of the peer-reviewed Australian Pharmacy Students' Journal (APSJ) is out now, with a focus on emerging sustainability initiatives in pharmacy practice. The journal is an initiative of the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA) and supported by Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha).

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Climate report warns First Nations communities face greatest risks

SBS, Other, 16/09/2025, Bronte Charles

Australia's first National Climate Risk Assessment has warned that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will face some of the nation's most severe impacts from climate change. The 2025 report outlines 63 nationally significant risks, with seven specific to First Nations communities.

[Read More](#)

Ken Wyatt to lead Gather Foundation board

National Indigenous Times, Other, 16/09/2025, Giovanni Torre

Former Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians, Ken Wyatt AM, has joined the Board of the recently restructured Gather Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation formed to "empower and support" young Aboriginal people to lead the protection of native food industries and uphold Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property. In a statement on Tuesday, the Foundation said it was created in response to the "alarming" economic value of First People's participation in native food industries, estimated at an "unacceptable" one per cent, with unregulated native food operations continuing to exploit ancient practices "at the cost of deplorable Aboriginal social statistics".

[Read More](#)

Experts: Albanese has power — and duty — to lift age of criminal responsibility

National Indigenous Times, Other, 16/09/2025, Dechlan Brennan

Legal experts say the Commonwealth has the constitutional authority to raise the age of criminal responsibility nationwide, as states and territories continue resisting Closing the Gap incarceration targets. [...] "This is not about a federal power grab. This is about establishing standards and obligations that protect human lives and children's safety," she said. "Just because children are in prison does not mean their lives, health and safety don't matter."

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Million-dollar question over unfunded ICU

West Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Charlton Hart, Page 5

A critical expansion to the intensive care unit at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital is at risk of further delays with millions of dollars in urgent funding still required to complete the project. The Cook Government was warned by North Metropolitan Health Service in May before the State Budget that the 10bed ICU

expansion was at "extreme" risk of not being delivered, according to a leaked internal memo obtained by The West Australian.

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

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

'Short and sharp' review to improve maintenance taking months

West Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Jessica Page, Page 4

A snap review of hospital maintenance, triggered by leaks and mould at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, is unlikely to be finished until November. The audit was announced on August 18, along with a \$50 million uplift in funding for urgent repairs at Perth's three oldest hospitals SCGH, Royal Perth Hospital and Armadale after The West Australian's investigation revealed the extent of disrepair.

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

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

Heat on hospital health check to deliver

West Australian, Edition Changes, 17/09/2025, Page 2

First, the bad news: legionella bacteria has been detected in the water supply at Royal Perth Hospital hundreds of times in the past 3% years, putting staff and already ailing patients at risk of contracting the potentially deadly legionnaires' disease. Then, the good news: at least the State Government has abandoned its futile efforts to keep up the flimsy pretence that all is just fine within WA's seriously unwell health system.

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

Illawarra medical staff left caught in online data breach

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 17/09/2025, Natalie Croxon, Page 2

Confidential documents containing the personal information of more than 500 medical staff within the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District have been made publicly available online. The privacy failure came from the back-end of the organisation's website and not as a result of hacking, a situation one doctor described as "absolutely unacceptable".

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

Royal Perth Hospital: Legionella bacteria found at unsafe levels hundreds of times in contaminated water

West Australian, Other, 16/09/2025, Charlton Hart

Critically ill patients and staff at Royal Perth Hospital have been put at risk of contracting deadly legionnaires' disease with water-testing results exposing a rampant problem at the health facility which has been kept secret for years. The East Metropolitan Health Service has found legionella bacteria, which causes the serious pneumonia-like respiratory infection, at unsafe levels more than 230 times since January 2022.

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

[Read More](#)

Ambulance ramping figures improving

Nursing Review, Other, 16/09/2025

A half-billion-dollar push to cut hospital waiting times in NSW has begun to have an effect, with a number of schemes sending patients places other than hospitals to be treated. Data released on Wednesday showed that the poor ambulance ramping rates that have existed since the pandemic have begun to improve.

[Read More](#)

Record-breaking winter likely for hospitals

Nursing Review, Other, 16/09/2025

New data has revealed emergency rooms in NSW are treating record numbers of patients needing urgent attention, with the state government paying private hospitals for backup. The latest Bureau of Health Information (BHI) report for April to June 2025 , released on Wednesday, found a record number

of triage 2 and triage 3 patients, who should be seen within 10 to 30 minutes, had presented in the state's emergency rooms, while overall attendances fell slightly.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Battle of the sexes as pay gap exposed for bachelor degree students

The Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Natasha Bitá, Page 3

Women are paid less than men the minute they leave university, as new data exposes a \$3000 gender pay gap in graduates' first jobs. [...] Female doctors earn \$6500 less than male doctors three years into their career, based on median salaries gleaned from 42,399 graduates who finished university at the end of 2021 and were surveyed last year about their employment and salaries.

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

'Untenable': Peak body wants solutions for nurse shortages

Launceston Examiner, General News, 17/09/2025, Lauren Richardson, Page 2

The Launceston General Hospital (LGH) emergency department has started its week with approximately 25 per cent fewer nurses than it needs. The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) has criticised the government and the Tasmanian Health Service (THS) for failing to ensure safe staffing minimums are met.

[Read Plain Text](#) [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.

[Read More](#)

'We need these graduate nurses and midwives': ANMF (Vic Branch) urges government to fund more places

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 16/09/2025, Anmj Staff

Thousands of Victorian graduate nurses and midwives are facing the prospect of missing out on a graduate position next year, the ANMF (Vic Branch) has warned, as demand outstrips the current number of available places. Through discussions with the Department of Health, the ANMF (Vic Branch) understands that more than 2,000 graduate nurses and midwives could be left with a graduate position in 2026, up from about 350 the previous year.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News, 16/09/2025, Tiffany Warne

Health and disability support workers have staged a protest outside Premier Peter Malinauskas' office, demanding a 20% pay rise after rejecting the government's offer of 4%. Nurses and midwives have also rejected a 13% offer over four years, with the ANMF warning industrial action will escalate if no improved deal is reached by tomorrow. The government says it agrees workers deserve a pay rise but is still negotiating a compromise.

Channel 9, Nine News, 16/09/2025, Michael Thomson

Perth Children's Hospital is using ultra-realistic mannequins to train nurses and doctors in caring for premature babies during their critical first hour. George and Paul replicate 29- and 27-week-old preterms, with lifelike features including heart, lung, and bowel sounds, and Paul can even cry. Baby Paul, costing \$100,000, was funded by the Perth Children's Hospital Foundation with support from ToyBox Australia.

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

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Biotech giant CSL looks at expansion, drug launch after job cuts

The Australian, Business News, 17/09/2025, James Dowling, Page 15

CSL is primed to make its first acquisition since announcing a devastating round of lay-offs, considering a takeover of its partner in a new surgical aid venture. [...] CSL chairman Brian McNamee recently urged the Albanese government to make its national drug subsidy body, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, more efficient and an easier opportunity for innovative American drugs, saying the nation benefited as much from US innovation in medicines as it did from the protection the nation received from the Pentagon's defence spending in the Indo-Pacific.

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

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Sussan Ley fights back on economy, as Coalition net zero fight intensifies

The Australian, Other, 16/09/2025, Geoff Chambers

The Coalition would impose a handbrake on taxes collected and find savings or reprioritisations for every new dollar spent if it was running the current budget, Sussan Ley will declare, as she seeks to drag the opposition back to core voter issues and douse Liberal infighting. [...] Dr Chalmers attacked Ms Ley for using the CIS report, which he said criticised spending on measures including Medicare, child care, defence and school funding.

[Read More](#)

Why Australians are missing crucial dementia diagnoses

The Australian, Other, 16/09/2025, Sarah Sharples & Lillian Saleh

Jonathan Brown knows if he hadn't sought help he'd have been sacked, divorced or homeless by now. [...] The federal government offers four Medicare Benefits Schedule item numbers allowing GPs to have longer consults with their patients – ranging from 30 minutes to an hour.

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

[Read More](#)

2GB, Afternoons, 16/09/2025, Bill Crews

Interview with Australian Pathology president Dr. Shaun Donovan about patients accessing pathology and radiology reports before seeing their doctor. Donovan discusses how immediate access through My Health Record can lead to unnecessary worry due to complex reports and occasional errors. He says safeguards like time delays for complex tests are needed and highlights the importance of timely access to specialists for proper explanation of results.

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Jailed doctor stripped of licence

West Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Caleb Runciman, Page 3

A former Sir Charles Gairdner hospital doctor who was jailed for possessing almost 80,000 child abuse images has been banned from working in the medical field for seven years. Vignesh Ramasamy was jailed in August last year after detectives from the WA Police child exploitation operations squad arrested him at his Myaree home in September 2023.

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

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

'Thinks he's teflon': Al Muderis goes to war with peak body, colleagues

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 16/09/2025, Charlotte Grieve

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. This masthead reported last month 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 high-pressure sales tactics on vulnerable people.

[Read More](#)

Back to the future? Restore state health watchdogs to ease AHPRA's workload, Govt review says

Australian Doctor, Other, 16/09/2025, Heather Saxena

Ahpra CEO Justin Untersteiner said the watchdog was prepared to follow the recommendations. AHPRA would only investigate the most serious allegations against doctors under a proposal to ease its workload and ensure notifications are closed faster.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Legionella hit at Royal Perth

West Australian, General News, 17/09/2025, Charlton Hart, Page 1

Critically ill patients and staff at Royal Perth Hospital have been put at risk of contracting deadly legionnaires' disease with watertesting results exposing a rampant problem at the health facility which has been kept secret for years. The East Metropolitan Health Service has found legionella bacteria, which causes the serious pneumonia-like respiratory infection, at unsafe levels more than 230 times since January 2022.

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

Doctor asks for disease vigilance

Cairns Post, General News, 17/09/2025, Tim Little & Samuel Davis, Page 5

Health officials are concerned undetected measles cases may still be active in Cairns after a third international visitor was diagnosed with the highly contagious viral illness earlier this week. Queensland Health declared a measles outbreak in the city after a locally transmitted case was confirmed last Thursday.

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

Cage-free egg commitment delayed following bird flu outbreaks

Coles extended its 100 per cent cage-free commitment deadline, which has highlighted the need for affordability for both buyers and farmers, the VFF says. In its 2025 Sustainability Report, Coles said the bird flu outbreaks in Victoria were the main reason it will now be accepting cage eggs until 2030.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

‘Whale drug’ also used in lethal injections, expert Dr Devinder Arora reveals

The Courier Mail, Other, 17/09/2025, Rose Innes

The drug used for capital punishment in the US is what a Gold Coast man procured and allegedly sold to people to end their own lives, an expert has revealed. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration currently lists pentobarbital as a schedule-four poison under the standard for the uniform scheduling of drugs and poisons, also known as the poisons standard.

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

[Read More](#)

These Plymouth Brethren members stepped out of line, then the threats and intimidation started

ABC Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Louise Milligan, Nick Farrow, Briana Fiore, Dylan Welch & Kate Ainsworth

David Wallace had been given an order: track down a man. [...] Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) issued new guidelines for the use of Deprox, and some hospitals stopped using the machine entirely.

[Read More](#)

New warning issued over dangerous side effect from regular sunscreen use

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 16/09/2025, Nick Wilson

Leading medical researchers have warned regular sunscreen use could be linked to a deficiency in vitamin D, which is vital for bone health and immune function. [...] The findings prompted massive consumer backlash, a probe by the Therapeutic Goods Administration and several products being pulled from shelves.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Does washing your fruit and veggies remove chemicals?

ABC Online, Other, 16/09/2025, Anna Chisholm

Are you a religious fresh produce washer or do you give your broccoli more of a cursory splash? [...] A spokesperson from Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) — which sets out the legal requirements for food produced and sold in Australia — says it "undertakes periodic safety checks for chemicals of public health concern".

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

