



TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 25th September 2025

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#) |
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Age \(page 1\)](#)** reports that a new planning regime for the NDIS will require participants 16 years and older to undertake a three-hour “needs assessment” interview, instead of needing external support from medical professionals. National Disability Insurance Scheme Minister Jenny McAllister said that the NDIA had procured an Australian-designed assessment tool that will make outcomes fairer for its participants.
- The **[Daily Telegraph \(page 4\)](#)** reports that higher standards have been implemented into the Star Ratings system for aged care residences, with facilities needing to meet their legislated total care minutes and 24/7 registered nurse minutes to receive three stars for their staffing rating from October 1. “Thanks to Labor’s reforms, there is now a registered nurse on site in aged care more than 99 per cent of the time – our strengthening of the Star Ratings system will help reflect how these improvements deliver better care,” said Aged Care and Seniors Minister Sam Rae.
- **[ABC Radio Hobart](#)** features an interview with Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White, with Ms White saying that the Federal Government is negotiating with the Tasmanian Government on its public health funding in good faith and that the Tasmanian Government’s budgetary allocations were chronically underfunding its healthcare.
- The **[ABC \(online\)](#)** reports that the hundreds of claimants of the COVID-19 Vaccine Claims Scheme are still being processed despite the scheme closing over a year ago. A spokesperson

for the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said that they would prioritise a no-fault vaccine compensation scheme feasibility study for National Immunisation Program vaccines.

- **The Australian (page 3)** and the **Sydney Morning Herald (page 4)** reports that the NSW Ombudsman has found that Concord Hospital in Sydney has had an 131-day average wait time to receive X-ray results, with a backlog between 2019 and 2023 growing to over 50,000 scans.
- **The Australian (page 3)** reports that the Therapeutics Goods Administration has approved the use of Lecanemab, an early-stage Alzheimer's disease medication that it had previously twice rejected due to its potential side effects.
- The **West Australian (page 4)** reports that WA Health Minister Meredith Hammat has said that the advice of WA's Chief Health Officer is that the water at the Royal Perth Hospital is safe to drink after concerns about Legionella contamination were raised.
- The **ABC (online)** reports that Newcastle researcher Matt Dun has been awarded an \$18.7 million grant by the Federal Government to research and develop a potential cure for high-grade gliomas.

MINISTER BUTLER

Ley revives long-standing debate over big government

Australian Financial Review, General News, 25/09/2025, John Kehoe, Page 39

If the opposition leader follows through on her rhetoric, the next election could be an old-fashioned philosophical contest between Labor and the Coalition on the size of government, spending and taxation.

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

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Smokers are 'on the rise'

Hobart Mercury, General News, 25/09/2025, Jon Kaila, Page 12

More people are smoking now than ever due to cheap cigarettes, says the Australian Medical Association (AMA) in calling for a targeted national crackdown on illicit tobacco. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has insisted the number of smokers is at its lowest rate at 8.3 per cent.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#).

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Inklings Program provides early intervention for families

Murray Valley Standard, General News, 25/09/2025, Kaitlyn Gibbons, Page 5

Families across the Murraylands now have access to a nation-leading program designed to help parents and carers better understand and support their baby's communication needs. [...] State Minister for Health and Wellbeing Chris Picton and Federal Health Minister Mark Butler welcomed the expansion, saying it was important to provide early support to families.

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'Frustrating': Canberra GPs reject Trump's false claims about paracetamol

Canberra Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Eleanor Campbell

Act doctors and pharmacists have rejected unproven claims from US President Donald Trump that paracetamol during pregnancy increases the risk of autism in children, urging patients to consult a qualified health professional if they have concerns. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said paracetamol was a widely used drug in Australia and urged any pregnant woman considering taking action as a result of US reports to seek medical advice first.

[Read More](#)

Thousands of Australians fighting 'cruel' battle for COVID vaccine

injury compensation

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025, Tom Hartley

It's almost the same every week. Take medication, check dosage, draw into needles, administer drugs. [...] In a letter of complaint to Health Minister Mark Butler and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Ms Neilson outlined several perceived shortfalls of the claims scheme.

[Read More](#)

Donald Trump walks his own path on autism research. Health experts say claims don't stack up

SBS, Other, 24/09/2025, Peggy Giakoumelos

US President Donald Trump has announced his administration will direct doctors not to recommend paracetamol for pregnant women, claiming it may be linked to autism in children. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler says his department is looking closely at health announcements from the US, particularly if it comes through the Food and Drug Administration.

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Minister rebukes Trump for 'worrying' autism claims

Shepparton News Online, Other, 24/09/2025

Australia's health minister has rapped Donald Trump over the knuckles for spreading "worrying" unproven claims on autism. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said he was "really worried" the comments would leave more than 200,000 pregnant Australian women unsure or afraid of what to do when they become sick, particularly with fever.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#).

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It's on: PM locks in crucial one-on-one Trump meeting

Shepparton News Online, Other, 24/09/2025

It's one. Anthony Albanese will sit down with US President Donald Trump next month. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said he didn't understand what all the "fuss was" over, given the leaders had spoken previously by phone on four occasions.

Also reported by: [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [Michael West Media \(Online\)](#).

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Calculating the impact of the bulk billing program

Medical Forum, Other, 24/09/2025

The federal government has launched a calculator for practice managers and GPs to estimate the financial impact of taking up its incentives to adopt a fully bulk billing model. The calculator provides practice managers and GPs with tailored income estimates based on their consultation mix, current billing model, location, and concessional patient proportion to support decision-making by comparing different scenarios. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler remains confident in the scheme.

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NACCHO sector news: 23 September 2025

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), Other, 24/09/2025

The NACCHO Sector News is a platform we use to showcase the important work being done in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, focusing on the work of NACCHO, NACCHO members and NACCHO affiliates[...] Announced by Minister for Health and Ageing the Hon Mark Butler MP, this formal recognition acknowledges the critical role Rural Generalists play in delivering high-quality, comprehensive healthcare to rural, remote, and First Nations communities across the nation.

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Is paracetamol still safe?

The Daily Aus, Other, 24/09/2025

One of the world's most common pain relief medications has dominated headlines after recent

comments from the Trump administration linking paracetamol to autism. Warnings from the U.S. about the use of Tylenol (a brand of paracetamol) during pregnancy prompted Australian Health Minister Mark Butler to seek urgent advice from the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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Rural generalists formally recognised as specialists

The Limbic, Other, 24/09/2025, Sunalie Silva

Rural generalists will soon be able to call themselves specialists, following a long-awaited decision to formally recognise rural generalist medicine as a distinct field of specialty practice within general practice. The move, endorsed by all health ministers and announced by federal Health Minister Mark Butler, means rural generalist doctors will be eligible for specialist registration under a protected title, subject to completion of an accredited training qualification.

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Channel 9, Today , 24/09/2025, Karl Stefanovic and Sarah Abo

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Butler stated that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has secured a meeting with US President Donald Trump. He noted that the Australian and US governments have already had numerous engagements on trade. He also highlighted that Defence Minister Richard Marles has had extensive contact with Trump's colleagues, including US Vice President JD Vance. According to Butler, there is a significant agenda for the meeting, with a focus on defence and security issues like AUKUS.

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HO FM, 10:00 News, 24/09/2025

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has expressed concern over recent claims made by US President Donald Trump, who suggested that taking paracetamol during pregnancy leads to a higher risk of autism. Butler stated that Trump's comments were worrying.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

NDIS removes need for health reports in new review regime

Age, General News, 25/09/2025, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 11

NDIS participants will no longer be required to source their own evidence from family doctors or allied health professionals to get support, as costly external reports will be replaced by a lengthy interview with agency assessors in a new planning regime that aims to improve consistency across the \$48 billion scheme. [...] National Disability Insurance Scheme Minister Jenny McAllister said the agency had procured an Australian-designed assessment tool refined over 20 years a product called I-CAN, provided by the University of Melbourne and the Centre for Disability Studies to make the NDIS fairer and simpler for its 740,000 participants.

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

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MINISTER RAE

Revamp of aged care star ratings

Daily Telegraph, General News, 25/09/2025, Julie Cross, Page 4

The Star Ratings system for aged care homes is to be made more robust following criticism that facilities have been able to achieve an "acceptable" rating even when they haven't met basic

standards. [...] Aged Care and Seniors Minister Sam Rae said they will ensure aged care homes remain accountable for meeting their care minutes targets.

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

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Can't afford a shower: fears over aged care reforms

Canberra Times, Other, 24/09/2025

Regular showers could become unaffordable for some older Australians under contentious changes aimed at making the nation's aged care sector more financially sustainable, advocates warn. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said the government's reforms responded to the recommendations of the Aged Care Taskforce, which proposed that older people make a means-tested contribution to the cost of their care.

Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#).

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ABC 7.30 hones in on higher home care fees under Support at Home

The Weekly Source, Other, 24/09/2025, Caroline Egan

The ABC's 7.30 program has put the spotlight on increased consumer contributions under the Government's new Support at Home scheme, set to begin 1 November 2025. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae , just five months into the job, declined an interview and refused to answer questions from the ABC, offering only a written statement.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

ABC News, ABC Late News , 24/09/2025, Michael Tetlow

Australian women are being reassured that it is safe to use paracetamol during pregnancy, despite suggestions from US President Donald Trump that the medication could be linked to autism. According to Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White, the evidence gathered from work undertaken by health authorities confirms that taking paracetamol while pregnant is safe. She advises women with concerns to seek advice from their treating health professional.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 24/09/2025, Leon Compton

Compere mentions that they will be following up with Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White's office in regards to people with a current home care package.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 24/09/2025, Leon Compton

Interview with Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White. White responded to the Tasmanian Government's claim that the Federal Labor Party will underfund the state by \$673 million over the next five years, and countered that the Federal Government provides 70% of the funding for Tasmania's hospitals and health system. She encouraged Tasmanian Health Minister Bridget Archer to negotiate directly with the department, rather than through the media.

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Haydays funding denied what next?

Riverine Grazier, General News, 24/09/2025, Page 3

Since Ms Ley's visit last week, Ms Bowen has been informed that Haydays' second application for funding for vital works has been unsuccessful. [...] The 2025 Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said the funding round was highly competitive.

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MEGA-MAC supports safer use of medications

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 24/09/2025

New quality indicators can support clinical governance and medication management in residential care and compliance with the strengthened standards, share the team behind their development. [...] In 2022, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing published the updated Guiding Principles for Medication Management in Residential Aged Care Facilities , which adopts a systems-based approach and outlines best-practice recommendations to improve medication safety.

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Haydays' plight goes to Federal Health Minister

Australian Rural & Regional News, Other, 24/09/2025, Riverine Grazier and Krista Schade

"i will be writing personally to the Federal Health Minister." That was the promise made by Member for Farrer and leader of the Liberal Party, Sussan Ley when she visited Haydays last week. [...] "I've been trying to find any other grants or philanthropic funding we might be able to tap into for these much needed refurbishments," she told The Riverine Grazier The 2025 Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said the funding round was highly competitive.

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New guidelines for home, community meal services

Community Care Review, Other, 24/09/2025

New requirements relating to nutrition in home care will soon be implemented and the department has published a resource to help providers better understand their responsibilities. The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has released a resource for registered providers supplying food to home care recipients.

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Calling all hands on deck for oral health, to address “dull and uninspiring” draft framework

Croakey, Other, 24/09/2025, Melissa Sweet

Oral health advocate Tan Nguyen has urged the public health community to engage urgently with the development of a framework for the new National Oral Health Plan 2025-2034. [...] He participated with the in-person stakeholder consultations convened by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and the targeted consultation for rural and remote stakeholders.

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Should we scrap private health insurance rebates and direct the funding to public hospitals?

Any new funding would be better directed to expanding public system capacity or directly funding elective surgery in private hospitals to reduce public hospital waiting times. [...] A 2023 review of the private health insurance incentives commissioned by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care also found that having rebates results in net savings for the government.

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Four in five aged care capital grant applications rejected

The Weekly Source, Other, 24/09/2025, Caroline Egan

The latest round of the Aged Care Capital Assistance Program (ACCAP) has once again highlighted the gulf between providers' ambitions to build and the funding available. The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing received 367 applications seeking more than \$2.4 billion in total funding.

[Read More](#)

Calls for urgent intervention to stop collapse of more SA NDIS providers

WEB InDaily SA, Other, 24/09/2025

Unlike both the federal and South Australian governments, the news of MS Society SA & NT's appointment of voluntary administrators was not a surprise for the CEO of peak body National Disability Services (NDS). [...] A Federal Government spokesperson said it was "the first the government has heard of them going into voluntary administration" and the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing would seek further information.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Aged care fraudster allegedly obtained bank details of elderly victims for personal purchases

NEWS.com.au, Other, 24/09/2025

A South East Queensland aged care worker has fronted court after allegedly sneaking into the rooms of vulnerable elderly residents to obtain their bank details and make more than 100 fraudulent purchases totalling about \$9000. Margate woman Lily Miszuk, 23, was charged with 113 offences after detectives investigated a string of allegedly fraudulent purchases in 2024 and 2025.

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

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App aids oral health care accessibility

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 24/09/2025, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Lutheran Services Queensland is trialling oral health care app Smilo.ai at six of its aged care homes, with another five expected to join soon. Not-for-profit Queensland aged care provider Lutheran Services is partnering with Smilo.ai to trial its artificial intelligence powered oral health app.

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Australian-led team reveals new, globally recognised criteria for vascular dementia diagnosis

Australian Doctor, Other, 24/09/2025, Jamie Thannoo

New drugs and tests make differentiating between Alzheimer's disease and VCID more important, Professor Perminder Sachdev says. Australian researchers have released new internationally recognised diagnostic criteria for vascular dementia, a condition they are now calling vascular cognitive impairment and dementia (VCID).

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Final Aged Care Rules land – but rollout in 38 days “impossible”

The Weekly Source, Other, 24/09/2025, Caroline Egan

Aged care providers say the final Aged Care Rules 2025 have landed far too late, warning that with just 38 days until the 1 November start date, implementation is "complex at best and impossible at worst." Released in four stages since October last year, the Rules cover everything from provider registration, conditions and obligations to the new Code of Conduct, Quality Standards, subsidies, funding, complaints handling and oversight.

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Ageing Australia puts threatened CHSP under microscope

The Weekly Source, Other, 24/09/2025, Caroline Egan

The future of the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) was in focus this week, with Ageing Australia hosting a national CHSP Summit in Melbourne on Tuesday (22 September). The aim: to build a collective vision for entry-level in-home care as the program prepares to transition into the Government's new Support at Home scheme.

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95% of clients satisfied with Care Finders as program extended to 2029

The Weekly Source, Other, 24/09/2025, Caroline Egan

The Federal Government's Care Finders Program (CFP), launched in January 2023 as a Royal Commission recommendation, has received a strong endorsement from clients – but not without warnings about persistent access issues. The second commissioned evaluation, released by Australian Healthcare Associates, found 95% of clients were satisfied with the outcome they achieved.

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Kirinari-LiveBetter merger marks latest push for scale in home care

The Weekly Source, Other, 24/09/2025, Caroline Egan

The consolidation of home care providers is accelerating as the new Support at Home program looms just weeks away. Regional operators Kirinari and LiveBetter are the latest to merge, creating what is now Australia's largest regional human services provider, with more than 15,000 customers across New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria.

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It's not just pensions: How deeming quietly drives up Aged Care fees

Your Life Choices, Other, 24/09/2025, Noel Whittaker

Aged care has been in the headlines lately, with emphasis on the long time it takes for an assessment for aged care to be conducted, and then the long wait for what has been approved to happen. At the same time, the deeming rates have been changed. While there has been much publicity about their effect on the age pension, very little has been written about their effect on aged care fees.

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FIVEAA, Breakfast, 24/09/2025, Will Goodings and David Penberthy

Interview with Council on the Ageing [COTA] CEO Miranda Starkey. Starkey has expressed her disappointment over a potential decrease in face-to-face services for older Australians. She acknowledged that while many older people use online banking and will not be affected by a shift to online services, a significant portion of older Australians remains "digitally excluded" for various reasons.

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Warragul man knocks back dream job after NDIS funding for van

rejected

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025

Josh Evans has always wanted to be a meteorologist. He has a small weather station set up in the backyard of the Warragul home he shares with his wife.

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PRIMARY CARE

New Dubbo offices are a 'game-changer' for Marathon Health

Daily Liberal, General News, 25/09/2025, Dugald Saunders, Page 3

It was fantastic to join Marathon Health's Amanda Croft, Annette Crothers, Jeffrey Whitton and Megan Callinan at the official opening of the organisation's new Dubbo offices on Macquarie Street last week. Custom-built with Marathon Health's service needs in mind, these new premises mean all local staff, including the Dubbo headspace team, are located under one roof for the first time.

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EMVision launches first responder brain scanner unit study

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 24/09/2025

EMVision Medical Devices (ASX:EMV) has begun a study assessing its brain scanner in Melbourne Mobile Stroke Unit (MSU) ambulances in collaboration with the Australian Stroke Alliance, Ambulance Victoria and the Royal Melbourne Hospital. The study will assess usability, workflow integration and data collection in one of only 45 MSUs operating globally, providing a real-world study setting.

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

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Eight-week-old baby who died in Optus triple-0 outage identified as independent review launched

West Australian, Other, 24/09/2025, Amy Lee

The eight-week-old baby who tragically died during Optus' 13-hour triple-0 blackout on Thursday has been identified, as the embattled telco reveals who will lead the independent investigation into the technical failure. The outage started when the company conducted a firewall upgrade in South Australia around 12.

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

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Rural general practice is 'different, not better' than metro: ACRRM on securing subspecialty recognition

Australian Doctor, Other, 24/09/2025, Rachel Carter

This week, Australia's rural doctors are celebrating. Almost 30 years since a rebel group of GPs quit the RACGP and founded ACRRM in pursuit of a better deal for rural generalism, the field has been formally recognised as a subspecialty. The conflict over its status has often been bitter. But the two colleges buried the hatchet in 2018 and made a joint application to the Australian Medical Council.

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Spirometry testing is falling – how GPs can reverse the trend

Medical Forum, Other, 24/09/2025

We're seeing fewer spirometry tests being done – and that's a problem. In 2024, Australia introduced the first Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Clinical Care Standard which sets out best practice care for patients. A key component is the emphasis on spirometry as an essential diagnostic tool for assessing symptoms, disease severity and comorbidities.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 24/09/2025, Susannah Carr and Rick Ardon

The weight-loss drug Wegovy could become more affordable for Australians after its Danish manufacturer began the process of having it added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). If approved, the drug would be accessible to around 500,000 Australians who could benefit from a subsidised price.

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Channel 7, Sunrise, 24/09/2025, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview with Royal Australian College of General Practitioners former President Dr Nicole Higgins. Compere says the company behind the popular weight-loss drug Wegovy is making a pitch to the Federal Government to put the drug on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme [PBS]. He adds that this comes as the independent committee that decides whether to recommend new medicines on the PBS is set to meet in November to consider Wegovy's submission. Higgins says as a GP, they support a weight-loss drug like Wegovy going through to the PBS because the people who need these medications the most are those who can't afford them.

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ABC Radio Darwin , Breakfast, 24/09/2025, Adam Steer

Interview with Royal Australian College of General Practitioners Rural Chairman Dr Michael Clements, about US President Donald Trump's warning on pregnant women and how taking paracetamol could be linked to autism. Clements admits that they were concerned with parents who have children with autism, as well as people who are currently pregnant. He believes that there's no truth to the comments by Trump. Clements adds that someone with huge influence, like the US President, shouldn't tell people they should be doing something that the doctors are telling them is safe.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Dead baby's body in fridge

Hobart Mercury, General News, 25/09/2025, Craig Dunlop, Page 5

A baby who died after her parents opted for a dangerous "freebirth" on their hippie commune outside Melbourne might have survived if her parents had sought proper medical care during pregnancy, a coroner has found. After failing to resuscitate the girl, the parents wrapped her body in a blanket and put her in their household fridge.

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

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Cardio disease still top cause of death

Northern Territory News, General News, 25/09/2025, Page 10

Cardiovascular diseases (cvd) remain the leading cause of disease burden, causing one in three deaths worldwide. CVD deaths worldwide have risen sharply, climbing from 13.1 million in 1990 to 19.2 million in 2023, according to the latest Global Burden of Disease report.

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

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'Hell-town' H2-oh no

Cairns Post, General News, 25/09/2025, Finn Rice Coleman, Page 11

Gympie mayor Glen Hartwig and four councillors joined forces on Wednesday to eliminate fluoride from the region's town water supply. Councillors Mick Curran, Warren Polley and Dolly Jensen opposed the move, and councillor Jess Milne bizarrely declared a "conflict of interest," saying she had a strong personal opinion on the matter, and left the room.

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

Gambling hurting mental health and relationships

Central Western Daily, General News, 25/09/2025, Page 7

More than three million Australian adults have experienced harm from gambling in the past year, with participation on the rise and punters losing significant amounts of money. A study of almost 4000 people by the Australian Gambling Research Centre at the Australian Institute of Family Studies found 65 per cent had gambled at least once in the past year.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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Child safety inquiry hears officers sometimes take babies from birth suite

The Courier Mail, Other, 24/09/2025, Tom Volling and Marnie Buchanan

Officers taking at-risk newborns sometimes arrive in the birthing suite before their mothers have even been moved to the ward in a process described as 'distressing' and 'cruel' at the Child Safety Commission of Inquiry, sitting in Cairns. Child Safety Officers taking at-risk newborns into care sometimes arrive in the birthing suite before their mothers have been moved to the ward in a process described as "cruel" and "distressing" at the Child Safety Commission of Inquiry sitting in Cairns.

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

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Alarming statistic proves Australia's menopause knowledge crisis

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 24/09/2025, Eleanor Wicklund

Australia is facing a widespread menopause knowledge crisis, with new research showing that millions of women are navigating this major life transition with little understanding and support. Almost 1.2 million Aussie women say they know more about changing a tyre than about menopause, while two in five women currently experiencing perimenopause or menopause admit they don't understand what's happening to their bodies.

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

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'My addiction spiralled': gambling crisis harms laid bare in new report

Canberra Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Carla Mascarenhas

The extent of Australia's rising gambling crisis and links to serious harms, including intimate partner violence and suicidal thoughts, have been revealed in a new report. The National Gambling Prevalence Study Pilot found the number of Australians gambling rose eight per cent in five years, and 68 per cent of high-risk gamblers experienced cognitive, behavioural or mental health conditions.

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The hidden genetic threat putting 1 in 5 at cardiovascular disease risk: global experts call for action on elevated lipoprotein(a)

Canberra Times, Other, 24/09/2025

Cardiovascular disease (cvd) kills nearly 18 million people every year, more than all cancers combined, yet one of its critical genetic risk factors remains largely invisible. Elevated lipoprotein(a), or Lp(a), the "little a with big consequences," affects 1 in 5 people globally but is rarely tested and often overlooked in heart health strategies. Ahead of World Heart Day (29 September), Global Heart Hub and Novartis convened international healthcare experts for the educational media webinar "Introducing the Little (a) with Big Consequences," to spotlight elevated Lp(a) as a critical, underrecognized inherited condition that independently increases risk of cardiovascular disease such as heart attack or stroke.

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

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Push for voluntary assisted dying 'portal' in Tasmania to streamline

paperwork for doctors

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025, David Reilly and Ella Kennedy

Independent mlc Mike Gaffney says a doctor who was facilitating voluntary assisted dying in the state has walked away from the process due to the administrative demands. Mr Gaffney tells David Reilly on Hobart Drive that urgent change is needed, and all other states use a portal to streamline paperwork.

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Reconnecting a key to dementia

Shepparton News Online, Other, 24/09/2025, Emma Prior

Reach out and reconnect with someone impacted by dementia, because nobody can do it alone. Dementia is a brain condition where sufferers forget the life they once lived, and those they have always held the dearest. [...] Dementia has been the leading cause of death for women for some time but Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's recent Dementia in Australia report revealed it is now the leading cause of death for all Australians.

[Read More](#)

Why you shouldn't resort to melatonin to get your grandkids to sleep

The Senior, Other, 24/09/2025, Lisa Edser

Concerns surrounding melatonin were compounded after a supplement manufacturer withdrew their melatonin gummies for children in late August 2025 and an uptick in calls to the poisons hotline when children consumed too many supplements. Melatonin is a hormone that helps to regulate the sleep-wake cycle - the pattern of 16 hours of being awake and eight hours of sleep each day.

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How RACQ allegedly misled over half a million Australians

Your Life Choices, Other, 24/09/2025, Don Turrobia

When retiree John Monks opened his Royal Automobile Club of Queensland (RACQ) home insurance renewal notice last November, something didn't add up. [...] Over 65s make up less than 20 per cent of the population, yet account for more than 40 per cent of day and overnight hospital admissions, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 24/09/2025, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview 6-2-5-5-12-0-6. Call now.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 24/09/2025, Ryk Goddard

The Tasmanian Government is urging a resolution to what it describes as an "unacceptable burden" on doctors who assist Tasmanians with voluntary assisted dying (VAD). This follows remarks by MP Mike Gaffney to the Tasmanian Parliament, where he stated that Dr. Keith McArthur, a general practitioner in Burnie, had withdrawn from his role in the state's VAD program.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

They got it wrong and now I'm going to die

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 25/09/2025, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 11

Evangeline Polymeneas Suzanne Pratt faced more than a year of misdiagnosis before discovering she only has five years left to live. The 49-year-old case worker believes if she did not live regionally in Port Lincoln, she would have learnt what was wrong with her sooner. After noticing a spot in her eye in May last year, Ms Pratt was told by a visiting specialist to the town that she had suffered a stroke.

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

One bad sunburn elevates cancer risk

West Australian, General News, 25/09/2025, Hannah Cross, Page 10

A history of painful, severe sunburn has been linked to a significantly higher risk of developing the second most common type of skin cancer, new research has found. [...] Cancer Council WA's SunSmart manager Sally Blane said 99 per cent of non-melanoma skin cancers were caused by overexposure to UV radiation.

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

A little exercise in beating cancer

The Nightly, General News, 24/09/2025, Gretchen Reynold, Page 33

Exercising pumps out substances that can suppress the growth of breast cancer cells, according to an important new Perth study. The study, published last month, involved 32 breast cancer survivors. After a single session of interval training or weightlifting, their blood contained higher levels of certain molecules, which helped put the brakes on lab-grown breast cancer cells.

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

Patients being punished

Border Mail, General News, 25/09/2025, Ted Howes, Page 1

A prominent Border region breast cancer surgeon whose contract has been terminated after 27 years of service says the decision will "punish Albury-Wodonga patients". John Stuchbery said six weeks ago he was given three months' notice by the Albury Wodonga Health board. Dr Stuchbery said no reason had been given in writing by the board for his termination but he believed it was because he had criticised decisions concerning the controversial Albury hospital redevelopment.

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

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

Brainstorming

Newcastle Herald, General News, 25/09/2025, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

A Newcastle-led research team is "shooting for the moon" in its bid to find a cure for the most deadly brain cancers. The team, led by University of Newcastle Professor Matt Dun, will share an \$18.7 million federal grant to develop treatments for high-grade gliomas. These cancers hit more than 2000 Australians a year. Professor Dun is using the first man to walk on the moon Neil Armstrong as an inspiration for his research efforts.

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

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

Moon metaphor fitting for brain cancer

Newcastle Herald, General News, 25/09/2025, Page 12

University of Newcastle Professor Matt Dun has much in common with the first man to walk on the moon. Neil Armstrong's daughter died at age two from diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG). That was in 1962, seven years before his historic moonwalk. Professor Dun's daughter, Josephine, also died at age two from DIPG. That was in 2019, 22 months after diagnosis. His incredible research work gave Josephine another year of life.

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

Race Oncology gets Korean IND approval for clinical trial in solid tumour patients

The Australian, Other, 24/09/2025

Race Oncology has received Republic of Korea Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) approval for its Investigational New Drug application for a phase 1 clinical trial of RC220 in solid tumour patients. RC220 addresses the high unmet needs of patients across multiple oncology indications, with a clinical focus on anthracycline combinations, where RAC hopes to deliver cardio-protection and enhanced anti-cancer activity in solid tumours.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Skin cancer: Research finds just one bout of severe sunburn increases cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma risk

West Australian, Other, 25/09/2025, Hannah Cross

A history of painful, severe sunburn has been linked to a significantly higher risk of developing the second most common type of skin cancer, new research has found. [...] Cancer Council WA's SunSmart Manager Sally Blane said 99 per cent of non-melanoma skin cancers are caused by overexposure to UV radiation.

[Read More](#)

Doctor who lost daughter to brain cancer receives grant in race to clinical trials

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025, Nakita Jager

Newcastle researcher and professor Matt Dun was told in 2018 his two-year-old daughter Josephine was living with a deadly form of brain cancer. "One day she refused to walk," Dr Dun said.

[Read More](#)

'Target' for treatment for hard-to-treat cancer discovered by scientists

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/09/2025

Scientists have uncovered a "target" for drug treatments which could potentially stop pancreatic cancer in its tracks. Experts said the finding brings "hope" for better outcomes for pancreatic cancer patients. Almost 11,000 people are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer each year in the UK. A recent audit of pancreatic cancer in England and Wales found that the majority of pancreatic cancer patients are diagnosed at a late stage – 62% of patients in England and 65% of patients in Wales are diagnosed at stage four.

[Read More](#)

Early detection vital in AF

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 24/09/2025

This week marks Hearts4heart's Atrial Fibrillation Awareness Week (22-28 Sep), and with half a million Australians affected by the condition, leading heart physicians have urged pharmacists and other health professionals to get involved in its early detection. Dr Geoff Lester, a vascular and internal medicine physician, said: "Pharmacists in Australia are playing an increasingly vital role in the early detection of heart conditions, offering an accessible first point of care for communities.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Plea after seven friends and family die by suicide

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 25/09/2025, Nadine Morton, Page 4

Seven people in Freddy Purcell's inner circle have died by suicide; they were family members and friends. He knew some of them were struggling, others he had no idea until it was too late. His loss is beyond words, and his grief so deep it catches in his breath as he talks, but on Saturday, September 20, he decided not to talk about them. As he stood in front of almost 500 people, he spoke from the heart about the impact of suicide and the difference local charity Talk2mebro has made to countless people across Australia.

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NSW government to tip in \$5m for workplace mental health research centre

The Australian, Other, 24/09/2025, Nathan Schmidt

The new centre will seek to better understand workers and ensure "safe workplaces are a fundamental right, not a privilege". The NSW government will splash more than \$5m on a new national centre for workplace psychological health and safety. Mentally Healthy Workplaces Australia is being established by Monash University and will focus on research into better return-to-work outcomes and strengthening psychological standards.

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

[Read More](#)

Newcastle Uni's shortsighted plan amid mental health crisis

Newcastle Herald, Other, 24/09/2025, Donna Page

Leading Australian and international academics have taken aim at the University of Newcastle's "shortsighted plan in a deepening mental health crisis" to "downgrade" its School of Psychological Sciences, which they say will result in fewer Hunter-based mental health professionals. While an increasing number of people across the region are seeking mental health treatment, there is a grave shortage of qualified practitioners to deliver it.

[Read More](#)

'Should've done more': Commissioner's apology at Tian Jarrah Denniss inquest

SBS, Other, 24/09/2025, Charis Chang

Gary McCahon, commissioner of Corrective Services NSW, offered his apology on Wednesday morning during an inquest into the death of Wiradjuri man Tian Jarrah 'TJ' Denniss, who died on 5 August 2023. The inquest, which started on 8 September, has heard evidence of Corrective Services staff watching television while on duty the night Denniss died, and of potentially fatal delays in delivering first aid to the 33-year-old, who was unresponsive in his cell.

[Read More](#)

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IMMUNISATION

ABC, 7:30, 24/09/2025, Sarah Ferguson

A year after a government scheme that assisted Australians injured by COVID-19 vaccines was shut down, many claimants report they are still in "limbo." According to Professor Nicholas Wood of the University of Sydney, the safety net was created to build public trust in the vaccine rollout and increase its uptake.

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

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

I-MED targets acquisitions, organic growth after failed takeover talks

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 25/09/2025, Michael Smith, Page 14

I-med Radiology chief executive Shrey Viranna is focused on expanding its network of clinics in Australia as well as its offshore presence, after its private equity owners failed to find a buyer earlier

this year.

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

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Micro-X secures \$4.4m government grant to bring Head CT stroke scanner into ambulances

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 24/09/2025

Leader in cold cathode X-ray technology Micro-X has been awarded a \$4.4 million grant by the Australian government's Industry Growth Program to build and trial a world-first stroke-diagnosis-capable ambulance using its Head CT device. Adelaide-based said the contract confirming the terms and conditions of the grant – to be awarded over two years – was being finalised and is expected to be executed shortly.

[Read More](#)

Scientific journal backtracks on apple cider vinegar weight-loss study

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025

A high-profile journal publisher has retracted a study that suggested apple cider vinegar could help with weight loss. The study — published last year in the journal BMJ Nutrition, Prevention & Health — claimed people drinking apple cider vinegar could lose weight at dramatic rates.

[Read More](#)

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

New medical hub granted planning approval

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 25/09/2025, Samantha Newsam, Page 5

The green light for a new Indigenous health hub to proceed has been described as "a significant milestone" for healthcare in the region. After years of "blood, sweat and tears", Tamworth Aboriginal Medical Service - Aboriginal Corporation's (TAMS-AC) much-needed and long-awaited new medical centre in South Tamworth has received development approval by the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP).

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

Aboriginal people report less respectful hospital care

Canberra Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Keira Jenkins

First Nations patients are less likely have positive experiences of care in hospital than their non-Indigenous counterparts, but Aboriginal health workers can make a significant difference, a report has found. In 2024, 60 per cent of Indigenous patients rated their care "very good", compared with 67 per cent of non-Aboriginal people.

Similar coverage reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#), [The Mandarin \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

'Values-aligned' partners critical to growing Aboriginal housing - Birribee Housing chief executive Paul Coe

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Giovanni Torre

Birribee Housing chief executive Paul Coe was among the many Indigenous experts and leaders at the recent National First Nations Housing & Homelessness Forum. Mr Coe gave a keynote speech, 'Mainstream Partnerships and Supply for Sustainable Indigenous Housing', with a focus on the importance of distributed support in housing supply and maintenance; processes and documentation; and mainstream housing provider partnerships.

[Read More](#)

NSW Aboriginal Allied Health Cadetship applications open

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Giovanni Torre

Eligible students are being encouraged to get their applications in for the 2025 NSW Aboriginal Allied Health Cadetship program. The NSW government program offers successful candidates a paid work placement at a NSW Health facility while they continue studying to provide them with real-world experience.

[Read More](#)

Type 2 diabetes increasing in Aboriginal youth in Kimberley, study warns

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Natasha Clark

For one teenager from northern WA's Kimberley region, the reality of type 2 diabetes arrived early. A disease linked to middle age is increasing in Aboriginal teenagers in northern Australia, according to a new study. Researchers from Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services, the Rural Clinical School of WA (UWA), WA Country Health Service and the Menzies School of Health Research interviewed seven Aboriginal people aged 12 to 24 in two Kimberley towns, along with two mothers and two GPs.

[Read More](#)

Culturally safe disability support is essential for Aboriginal Communities - VACCHO chief executive

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Dechlan Brennan

Disability services for Indigenous people must be culturally appropriate, respect kinship structures and embrace holistic understandings of health, the CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) has told a national summit. Delivering the keynote address at the National Disability Summit in Melbourne, Dr Jill Gallagher warned that mainstream systems are failing First Nations communities and leaving many people without proper care.

[Read More](#)

One rule for Aboriginal people, another rule for non-Aboriginal people: NT Government accused of 'double standards' after hit-and-run sentencing

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Dechlan Brennan

The Northern Land Council has joined growing criticism of the sentence handed to a man who avoided jail over the hit-and-run death of an Aboriginal man. Last week, 24-year-old Jake Danby was sentenced in the Northern Territory Supreme Court to a 12-month community corrections order, including five months of home detention, after pleading guilty to hit-and-run driving causing death.

[Read More](#)

New report examines gap in healthcare systems experience

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/09/2025, Giovanni Torre

The Bureau of Health Information released a report Wednesday providing insights into the experiences of care of thousands of Aboriginal people who were admitted to a New South Wales public hospital. 'The Insights Series – Aboriginal people's experiences of hospital care: 2019 to 2024' is based on feedback from more than 12,000 Aboriginal people who provided feedback in the Adult Admitted Patient Survey.

[Read More](#)

Kindness key in First Nations care

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 24/09/2025

Aboriginal patients who received hospital care were four times as likely to rate their care as 'very good' if they said health professionals were 'always' kind and caring, according to a report from the Bureau of Health Information (BHI) released today. The Insights Series - Aboriginal people's experiences of hospital care: 2019 to 2024 is based on survey data from more than 12,000 Aboriginal people, with the report providing insights into the experiences of care of thousands of Aboriginal people who were admitted to a NSW public hospital.

PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Patients get X-ray results in 131 days

The Australian, General News, 25/09/2025, Natasha Robinson, Page 3

Patients who had X-rays at a major Sydney hospital waited on average 131 days for the results amid a backlog of more than 50,000 scans, with health executives ignoring doctors' concerns that patients could suffer as a result of the delays. A damning report by the NSW Ombudsman has laid bare the Sydney Local Health District's comprehensive mismanagement of a staffing crisis at Concord Hospital in Sydney's inner west, with the radiology department critically underresourced.

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

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

Diagnoses, fractures and more missed in Sydney hospital fail

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 25/09/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 4

A 92-year-old whose cancer diagnosis was delayed and a 13-year-old whose fracture was not identified for a year are among the patients affected by a backlog of more than 50,000 radiology scans at a Sydney hospital, a leaked government investigation has found. Sydney Local Health District was warned about staffing and workload issues in Concord Hospital's radiology department years before the backlog threatened patient safety, but failed to avert the crisis, the NSW ombudsman has found.

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

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Hospital construction topped up by \$500m

West Australian, General News, 25/09/2025, Jessica Page, Page 4

A \$500 million health infrastructure fund has been announced as construction costs hamper the Cook Government's efforts to fix the State's overwhelmed hospital system. The new pot of money is funded by a growing Budget surplus and will be available for new projects and to top up Labor's existing promises, amid mounting pressure to combat record ambulance ramping and growing wait times.

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Shortage of bottled water at RPH

West Australian, General News, 25/09/2025, Charlton Hart, Page 4

The Health Minister has denied there are water quality concerns at Royal Perth Hospital after a leaked internal email showed staff were advised not to give some patients drinking water from the taps. In August, a senior emergency department clinician wrote to staff amid a shortage of bottled water, advising patients could be supplied tap water from the hospital unless they were immunocompromised, or at risk of inhaling it.

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Concerns rise over access to new hospital

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 25/09/2025, Joel Ehsman, Page 5

Shellharbour City Council has unanimously voted to ask the state government for support and funding to upgrade Dunmore Road. Councillors were asked to vote on a mayoral minute brought forward by Mayor Chris Homer, which focused on the "urgent need" to upgrade the road, which will become the sole access route to the new Shellharbour Hospital.

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Candidate, advocacy group at loggerheads over approach

Border Mail, General News, 25/09/2025, Beau Greenway, Page 3

A former Wodonga mayor seeking a return to council has taken aim at Better Border Health's approach

in advocating for a new hospital on a greenfield site. Ron Mildren, one of six candidates in the Wodonga Council Lake Hume ward by-election, has voiced frustration towards the community group and said it had "rubbed governments up the wrong way" by staging rallies demanding more funding.

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Two prisoners escape from the same Perth hospital in a year

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 24/09/2025, Hannah Murphy

The West Australian government will not say whether it has put extra security protocols in place at a Perth hospital after two prisoners from the facility escaped within 12 months. The woman was a prisoner at Melaleuca, a maximum security women's prison, when she fell out of her bed on July 22 and was taken to Fiona Stanley Hospital.

[Read More](#)

WA government announces \$500 million boost for health infrastructure

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025, Courtney Withers

Half a billion dollars will be poured into bolstering the state's health infrastructure as the WA government attempts to fix the besieged hospital system. Announced today, a \$500 million health infrastructure fund will go towards hospitals in both major regional hubs and metropolitan areas.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Bombshell in case of rape-accused nurse

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 25/09/2025, Andreas Nicola, Page 10

Lawyers for a nurse charged with raping a woman at a South East Queensland Hospital have asked for the matter to be referred to justice mediation. Dylan Paul Shanks, 28, is on bail and was not required to attend his matter mentioned in Beenleigh Magistrates Court on Wednesday. Shanks, a married father from Logan Village, is accused of allegedly raping a woman while working at Logan Hospital in May. The matter was adjourned to October 22.

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

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

'Use us or lose us': Victorian student nurses and midwives rally to secure jobs

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 24/09/2025

Final-year Victorian nursing student Nellie says she was left "absolutely gutted" after finding out last week she had missed out on a graduate position for 2026. "I looked at the PMCV (Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria computer match) page, and it said, 'You have not been matched'. I was in shock. I was very upset. I was crying," she told the ANMJ.

[Read More](#)

ANMF calls for action as upgrade wait puts Hamilton ED at risk

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 24/09/2025, Sophia Baker

The nurses' union says there are "multiple, serious concerns" surrounding staff and patient health and safety at a south-west hospital as the full extent of the wait for an upgrade has been revealed. The

hospital has been fighting for upgrades to the emergency department for more than 30 years, according to the Victorian branch of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF).

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Ideological chasm remains after bizarre speech

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 25/09/2025, Matthew Knott, Page 11

Well, that's a relief: Australia may not be a high priority for Donald Trump, but neither are we in the diplomatic deep freezer. Just as Anthony Albanese's failure to secure his first meeting with Trump was beginning to become politically damaging, the prime minister has locked in a White House visit next month: a victory for Albanese, even if it means he will have to schlep back to the United States for the third time this year.

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

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Canada's landmark pharmacare law stalls: 'What happened to free birth control?'

The Guardian, Other, 24/09/2025, Olivia Bowden

Nearly a year after a historic law promised free contraception, most provinces still haven't signed on. It was touted as a historic move that would change lives: in October 2024, Canada passed new legislation making all birth control free. [...] Australia, meanwhile, has its Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, in which the government subsidizes most medications and residents pay a maximum of AU\$31.60 per prescription.

[Read More](#)

'Disconnect' between PBS listings, guidelines

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 24/09/2025, Ben Wishaw

The PBAC and other experts have investigated "several disconnections" in currently available medicines for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) on the PBS and international guidelines for treatment of the condition.

[Read More](#)

Trust in pharmacists high, but cost barriers remain

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 24/09/2025

New research from Patients Australia and Healthengine released yesterday reported that cost-of-living pressures are impacting on healthcare decisions - including medication purchases - for three in four (75%) Australians, with young adults and women most affected. The seventh Australian Healthcare Index is based on a national survey of over 8,000 people, and reveals a healthcare system under mounting pressure, with deepening generational and gender divides in access to care.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

When did the fun get sucked out of general practice?

Australian Doctor, Other, 24/09/2025, Pam Rachootin

I woke up recently to discover that a talent I had once shared with oysters had vanished. No longer could I transform the unending irritations of GP life into pearls. My ability had been swept away in the currents generated from the unending stream of numbers flowing out of my downloaded Google authenticator. The 2.5 hours I had spent unsuccessfully trying to log into the new AHPRA portal had left me with slimy innards and dripping mucous, feeling decidedly lacklustre.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

No relevant coverage

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

'New era' Alzheimer's drug gets big tick

The Australian, General News, 25/09/2025, Penny Timms, Page 3

Australia's drug regulator has approved the registration of an amyloid-reducing therapy for Alzheimer's disease after twice rejecting it over safety concerns. [...] Previously, the Therapeutic Goods Administration had expressed concern that the therapy's clinical benefits were not significant enough to outweigh the potential side effects, which can include amyloid-related imaging abnormalities such as seizures, difficulty walking, worsening confusion and headache.

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

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

'Biggest boost in decades'

Herald Sun, General News, 25/09/2025, Robyn Riley, Page 3

A new drug to treat early Alzheimer's has been given the green light for use in Australia, in a significant boost in the fight against the disease. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) said on Wednesday it had approved Leqembi (lecanemab) for adults diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment and mild dementia due to Alzheimer's disease.

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

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

Pregnant? Ignore Trump. It's safe to take paracetamol

Age, General News, 25/09/2025, Adam Guastella, Page 19

Donald Trump has suggested a causal link between autism and paracetamol use in pregnancy and promoted leucovorin as a potential treatment. [...] As Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration stated recently, no regulatory body has found evidence sufficient to change current medical advice around paracetamol use in pregnancy.

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

Paracetamol in pregnancy is OK

Canberra Times, General News, 25/09/2025, Nicholas Wood and Debra Kennedy, Page 22

US President Donald Trump has urged pregnant women to avoid paracetamol except in cases of extremely high fever, because of a possible link to autism. [...] Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration today reaffirmed existing medical guidelines that it's safe for pregnant women to take paracetamol at any stage of pregnancy.

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

Criticism of Trump

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 25/09/2025, Joel Ehsman, Page 1

Trump's announcement about autism contained a "great deal of really wrong facts" according to an Associate Professor from the University of Wollongong. [...] The Australian regulator, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), said in a statement that paracetamol remained Pregnancy Category A in Australia, "meaning that it was considered safe for use in pregnancy".

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

Pregnant pause on paracetamol hysteria

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 25/09/2025, Margie Danchin, Page 15

US President Donald Trump has declared paracetamol is a "big factor" in autism, casting doubt on the safest and most widely used pain killer during pregnancy. In response to a rise in autism diagnoses in the past decade, the Trump administration has sought to provide new answers as to why, also implicating that vaccines may play a role.

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

Health Check: Imagon is crossing the t's and dotting the i's on crucial breast imaging trial submission

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 24/09/2025, Tim Boreham

Imagon Biosystems hopes to launch a crucial phase II breast cancer imaging study by the end of the year. Current cancer imaging tools are "not good enough", Imagon chief Bob Proulx says Micro-x announces second grant in the space of two days Race Oncology wins Korean trial assent ... in South Korea, of course [...] In March, our Therapeutic Goods Administration approved the local leg of the proposed trial.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Much about polycystic ovary syndrome is a mystery to doctors. Wellness influencers say they have a cure

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 24/09/2025, Kate Aubusson

Unwanted hair growth , mood swings, acne, weight gain or difficulty losing weight , and irregular or absent periods are all signs that someone is going through puberty. [...] The Australian Competition & Consumer Commission and the Therapeutic Goods Administration can take legal action against anyone who breaches their advertising codes.

[Read More](#)

Alzheimer's drug Lecanemab approved by Therapeutic Goods Administration for use in Australia

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025, Paige Cockburn and Stephanie Dalzell

A promising new Alzheimer's drug has been green-lit by the national medicines regulator, after two previous failed attempts to register it for use in Australia. Lecanemab, sold under the brand name Legembi, has been shown to clear amyloid plaque in the brain, which experts believe plays a role in Alzheimer's disease. [...] In October last year, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) made an initial decision not to approve Lecanemab, arguing that safety and efficacy had only been established for some patients.

[Read More](#)

Trump claims paracetamol link to autism. Five experts explain what's wrong with that statement

ABC Online, Other, 24/09/2025, Georgie Hewson

The Trump administration has issued controversial advice about the possible causes of autism, suggesting the neurodevelopmental condition could be linked to the use of paracetamol in pregnancy. [...] Danielle McMullen President of the Australian Medical Association Dr McMullen says paracetamol

is considered a category A medicine which means the TGA and other regulators consider it safe to use in pregnancy.

Similar coverage reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Australian Doctor \(Online\)](#), [Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal \(Online\)](#), [Australian Pharmacist \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 24/09/2025, Jeremy Fernandez

A promising new Alzheimer's drug has been approved by the National Medicines Regulator as trials show it can help slow cognitive decline. It's believed that the drug must be given fortnightly through injection and is only for people in the early stages of the disease. The Therapeutic Goods Administration [TGA] initially chose not to approve the drug over safety concerns, but those issues have now been addressed.

[Play Now](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 24/09/2025, Emma Rebellato and James Glenday

Australia's Poisons Hotline received a record number of calls in 2024, nearly 1,500, regarding children's exposure to melatonin, which is more than double the number of calls from five years ago. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is warning consumers to exercise extreme caution when purchasing these medicines, particularly online, as they may not meet Australian safety and quality standards.

Also reported by: [ABC Radio Melbourne \(Melbourne\)](#), [Radio National \(Canberra\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Evenings, 24/09/2025, Renee Krosch

Interview with paediatric sleep specialist Professor Sarah Blunden, about the high number of kids being called into the Poisons hotline due to melatonin poisoning. Blunden explains that melatonin that has been bottled or used for medicine cannot be considered natural anymore. She adds that the Therapeutic Goods Administration [TGA] has approved melatonin in Australia for use in children on the autism spectrum.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

'You must know the regulation'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 24/09/2025

Pharmacy owners are being advised to be fully compliant with regulations governing new services, before providing them.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Protein ball metal recall

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 24/09/2025, Page 6

Several popular ranges of protein snacks have been recalled after metal was found in batches released across Australia. Australia's food standards authority has issued two recall notices for Smooshed Wholefood and Protein balls produced by Tasti, and the Aldi alternative Made Real wholefood balls after metal was discovered in the batches across the country.

Are your blueberries safe? Why a pesticide scare has some concerned

SBS, Other, 24/09/2025, Arielle Richards

Pesticide suspended after tests on store-bought berries found high levels of harmful chemicals. [...] To help mitigate pesticide intake, Food Standards Australia New Zealand recommends washing or peeling produce, choosing organic or low-residue options, or varying your diet so that you're not consuming large quantities of the same chemicals.

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Popular beef mince recalled over plastic found in packets

9News, Other, 24/09/2025, Richard Wood

A popular organic beef mince sold across Australia is being recalled over a potential health hazard. Food Standards Australia and New Zealand issued the recall for Auspork Australia country-organic beef mince due to plastic pieces being found within it.

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AICIS

Health Minister Meredith Hammat says leaked email relates to patients drinking water from hand basins at RPH

West Australian, Other, 24/09/2025

The has denied there are water quality concerns at Royal Perth Hospital after a leaked internal email showed staff were advised not to give some patients drinking water from the taps. In August, a senior emergency department clinician advising patients could be supplied tap water from the hospital unless they were immunocompromised, or at risk of inhaling it.

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

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