



TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 15th November 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](#) | [Chronic Conditions and Screening](#) |
[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](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [Weekend Australian](#) (page 7) leads coverage reporting that dementia deaths have reached a record high as Australia's ageing population reshapes national mortality trends, with ABS data showing dementia is now the leading cause of death and accidental falls and medication overdoses rising sharply while heart disease rates hit historic lows. *Also reported by: The West Australian (Saturday edition) (Perth), Canberra Times (Online), ABC Online (Online), SBS (Online), 9News (Online), 6PR (Online), Yahoo! News Australia (Online)*.
- The [West Australian](#) (page 1) reports a fortnight after Labor expanded bulk-billing, Perth patients are struggling to find GPs signed up to the scheme, with low registration rates prompting concerns from doctors, criticism from the Opposition, as Health Minister Mark Butler said 134 WA clinics have now registered to fully bulk-bill as at November 14.
- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 4) reports Queensland ministers have criticised the Federal Government's illicit tobacco and vaping policies, arguing they have fuelled a booming black market, while NSW Health Minister Ryan Park has written to federal Health Minister Mark Butler seeking a review of tobacco excise.
- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 23) reports mental health has become one of the leading causes of total and permanent disability insurance claims in Australia, with CALI data showing a significant rise in younger claimants and growing pressure on insurers as premiums increase amid shortages of psychological support services.

- The **Weekend Australian** (page 6) reports Queensland will from December 1 allow all specialist GPs to diagnose and treat ADHD in patients over four, with expanded prescribing powers for paediatricians, in a move the state government says will ease access pressures despite ongoing national medication shortages.
- The **Northern Territory News** (page 1), **Canberra Times** (page 1) and **The West Australian** (page 1) report schools have been affected by the national recall of coloured play sand that may contain asbestos, prompting urgent cleaning, isolation of unremediated classrooms and safety warnings from education and regulatory authorities.
- The **Courier Mail** (page 8) reports Queensland is paying 91 suspended clinicians on full salaries amid a health workforce crisis, with the doctors' union alleging suspensions lack transparency and deter staff from speaking up, while Queensland Health said decisions follow legislation and are only made when necessary.
- **The West Australian** (page 9) reports Australian health experts are watching Canada's loss of its measles elimination status after more than 5100 cases, with local specialists warning strong vaccination rates are essential as Australia continues to record imported cases without sustained transmission.

MINISTER BUTLER

Albo's free GP pledge fail

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 15/11/2025, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 1

A fortnight after Labor rolled out the scheme, analysis of GP clinics shows those advertised as "fully bulk-billing" are few and far between. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler claimed that WA GPs were joining the Medicare wave, saying that 134 clinics had registered to fully bulk-bill as at November 14.

Also reported by: [The West Australian \(Saturday edition\) \(Perth\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Tobacco excise is too high, we say

Courier Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Thomas Chamberlin, Page 4

Queensland ministers have attacked the federal government's stance on illicit tobacco and vapes, saying their policies have failed to keep pace with an exploding black market. [...] This week NSW Labor Health Minister Ryan Park said he had written to federal counterpart Mark Butler to review the tobacco excise.

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1400 jobs at risk: Premier

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 15/11/2025, Aden Hill, Page 13

The fate of embattled disability service provider Bedford has hit "crunch time", as an end to months of turmoil for the iconic South Australian company nears. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said at the time Bedford's financial position was so bad that it couldn't operate week-to-week.

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

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Locations of Australia's 11 new endometriosis clinics revealed

Herald Sun, Other, 14/11/2025, Sarah Booth

The locations for eleven new endometriosis clinics have been announced, with services set to open in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria by the end of the year. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the clinics would give women and girls access to "the expertise, care and specialist support they need".

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

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Broadcasting legend Sandy Roberts celebrates myeloma cancer treatment breakthrough

7news.com.au, Other, 14/11/2025, Rebecca Maddern

Broadcasting legend Sandy Roberts is celebrating a major win in the fight against cancer, with the federal government agreeing to fund a breakthrough treatment. [...] "Access to affordable, effective medicines can change lives and that's exactly what these new PBS listings deliver," health minister Mark Butler said in a statement.

[Read More](#)

Health Minister faces bulk-billing questioning at GP25

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 14/11/2025, Morgan Liotta

The college welcomed 2000 attendees to day one of its Brisbane conference, opening with a constructive Q&A between the RACGP President and Mark Butler. RACGP President Dr Michael Wright and Federal Health and Ageing Minister Mark Butler in discussion at GP25 in Brisbane.

Also reported by: [The Medical Republic \(Online\)](#)

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New PBS drug for multiple myeloma

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 14/11/2025, Page 1

The Minister for Health, Disability and Ageing, Mark Butler, has announced the listing of Johnson & Johnson's Darzalex (daratumumab) on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) as an initial treatment for multiple myeloma. Darzalex is a first-of-its-kind targeted immunotherapy that works by attaching to a signalling molecule on the surface of a multiple myeloma cell, triggering the patient's immune system to attack.

Also reported by: [Pharma In Focus \(Online\)](#)

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Why general practice keeps failing: the economics no one wants to discuss

The Medical Republic, Other, 14/11/2025, Alex McKenzie

Australia's GP workforce crisis is not a workforce failure but a predictable policy failure — the result of fundamental market failures that current government policy actively makes worse. [...] Government denial Health minister Mark Butler recently rejected concerns about six-minute medicine: "I know there's this thing going around that this is going to create six-minute medicine, that is a red herring.

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ABC News, ABC News Tonight, 13/11/2025, Yvonne Yong

Patients in parts of Australia are suffering irreversible complications and facing the risk of dying while waiting on public hospital waiting lists. Julian Rait, Vice President of the Australian Medical Association (AMA), noted that Australia "doesn't actually do that well in terms of equity." Health Minister Mark Butler conceded that the government has "lots to do," as certain specialty areas in the system are currently falling short.

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Channel 7, Sunrise, 14/11/2025, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Panel discussion with Liberal Senator Jane Hume and Health Minister Mark Butler, about the Liberals dumping the net-zero to 2050 targets. Hume says they are discussing delivering more affordable, reliable energy, as well as taking a responsible approach to delivering Australia's promises to the Paris Agreement. Butler believes that the Liberals' decision is an example of "environmental responsibility".

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Sydney\)](#), [Sky News Live \(Sydney\)](#)

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Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 13/11/2025, Ashleigh Gillon

A costly blood treatment for a rare blood cancer, Darzalex, is now within reach for thousands of

Australians. The drug has been added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) as a frontline therapy for Myeloma patients. Health Minister Mark Butler noted that without PBS support, a single course of treatment could cost around \$440,000.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER RAE

Aged care sector will keep evolving, says Minister

Pulse+IT, Other, 14/11/2025

The Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae addressed CEDA, the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, in Melbourne describing the new Aged Care Act as the "generational renewal of our aged care system". "The new Act, the new Support at Home program, and the structural reforms that sit behind them are designed to stand the test of time.

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Bulk billing and GP booking pains rise

Bundaberg Today, General News, 14/11/2025, Tahlia Facer, Page 3

The cost and difficulty of booking a doctor's appointment continues to be a key issue for the Bundaberg community. Department of Health officials have admitted that out-of-pocket costs for patients are almost \$50 on average the highest on record and will continue to "go up".

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Health win for women

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 15/11/2025, Page 3

Regional women suffering from endometriosis will no longer face hours of travel for treatment as a new specialist clinic heads to Toowoomba. [...] "Women's health is no longer an afterthought," federal Assistant Minister Rebecca White said.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Star Community \(Online\)](#), [The Indian Sun \(Online\)](#)

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How failure to regulate indoor air quality exacerbates health inequities

Croakey, Other, 14/11/2025, Melissa Sweet

Governments have been urged to establish mandatory indoor air quality performance standards and a transparent national system of monitoring and reporting, including universal workplace monitoring and the visible display of real-time indoor air quality data. [...] Speakers included Assistant Minister for

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ABC News, ABC News Afternoons, 14/11/2025, Ros Childs

At least 15 public schools in Canberra will be closed due to asbestos contamination stemming from an ongoing national issue. Federal Assistant Minister for Health Rebecca White said the situation is "quite concerning." She noted that products are being recalled and that some jurisdictions, along with the ACCC, have already acted quickly.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Brisbane\)](#)

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6PR, 06:30 News, 14/11/2025

Regional endometriosis sufferers are set to benefit from the announcement of 11 new clinics across the country, including one in Joondalup. Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White stated that the initiative is a significant step towards speeding up the diagnosis of the disease.

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[Back to Top](#)

SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

Prostate cancer not 'old man's disease'

Launceston Examiner, General News, 15/11/2025, Megan Doherty, Page 20

Tim Weale and Will McDonald are both in their 40s, both with loving partners and young children. Both have a whole lot of life to live. [...] The federal government's Special Envoy for Men's Health, Hunter MP Dan Repacholi, reminded Australian men to get a check-up from their GP and assured them that the prostate cancer test no longer had to be a digital rectal exam, but instead a simple blood test.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Bulk billing and GP booking pains rise

Bundaberg Today, General News, 14/11/2025, Tahlia Facer, Page 3

The cost and difficulty of booking a doctor's appointment continues to be a key issue for the Bundaberg community. Department of Health officials have admitted that out-of-pocket costs for patients are almost \$50 on average the highest on record and will continue to "go up".

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WA Bulk billing: Tough slog finding Perth clinic joining Labor's 'see a GP for free' wave

West Australian, Other, 14/11/2025, Caitlyn Rintoul

A fortnight after Labor rolled out its promised expansion of bulk billing, patients across metropolitan Perth face slim pickings when looking for doctors signed-on to the \$8.5 billion dollar scheme. [...] Even Health Department officials have revealed that those costs will continue to go up."

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Allergic to meat: a syndrome caused by tick bite is spreading

North Queensland Register, Other, 14/11/2025, Zac Braxton-Smith

An allergic reaction to scrub ticks that causes stomach problems, hives, and even throat swelling after eating meat is spreading, and the only known cure is to avoid tick bites. [...] A federal Department of Health, Disability, and Ageing spokesperson said the upward trend in AGS presentations was likely due to increased recognition and testing for AGS antibodies, expanding tick habitats, and greater awareness about allergy and anaphylaxis.

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Presenting a vision for comprehensive primary healthcare, drawing upon what's been shown to work best

Croakey, Other, 14/11/2025, Melissa Sweet

In primary healthcare reform discussions, the focus is often quite narrow, whether it be about bulk billing incentives or expanding the clinical scope of practice of various professions. [...] Policy moment Responsibility for reforming comprehensive primary healthcare sits squarely with the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, which has outlined a decade-long vision in the Primary Health Care 10-Year Plan 2022–2032 Yet meaningful reform requires more than vision.

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Movers & Shakers: Director-general departs Australian Submarine Agency

The Mandarin, Other, 14/11/2025

Former premier headed for London, NDIA board picks CEO, War Memorial council appointments, Tasmania names integrity commissioner. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has promoted Robert Day to first assistant secretary.

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The shadowy world of public surgery waiting lists

Health Services Daily, Other, 14/11/2025, Cate Swannell

Oh, well played Queensland Health. [...] Not only is that ridiculously shy of the projected increase in demand of over 9000, it's also short of the 800 the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said were built.

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Health sheds light on billion-dollar PBS overpayments

MedNews, Other, 14/11/2025, Megan Brodie

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has shed more light on...

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Allergy platform goes nationwide

Pulse+IT, Other, 14/11/2025

The free allergy assist platform, launched earlier this year to support rural and remote doctors, is being expanded to GPs nationwide, providing direct access to allergy specialists for timely clinical advice and education. [...] The allergy assist platform, an initiative of the National Allergy Council's Shared Care for Allergy Program, funded by the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, supports GPs to correctly diagnose and manage allergic disease, including food, drug (medication) and insect allergies, allergic rhinitis, allergic asthma and eczema.

[Read More](#)

Butler grilled at GP conference

The Medical Republic, Other, 14/11/2025, Holly Payne

Hot off the back of a bulk-billing victory lap, the health minister faced some tough questions at the annual RACGP conference. [...] One of his more eye-catching talking points this year has been the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing forecast that bulk-billing rates would reach 90% and that 75% of GP clinics would be universal bulk billers by 2030.

[Read More](#)

\$20 million for childhood mental health research as MRFF extends second grant program

The Sector, Other, 14/11/2025, Jason Roberts

Up to \$20 million in new funding is being made available under the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) as part of the 2025 Childhood Mental Health Research grant opportunity to bring evidence-based preventions and treatments into practice. [...] This grant opportunity is being administered by NHMRC on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

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[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Support at Home sees big changes – learn about it through Equip

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 15/11/2025

Free online education helps aged care workers navigate Support at Home. Supporting older people in their own home for as long as possible – that's the aim of the Commonwealth Government's new Support at Home program.

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[Back to Top](#)

DISABILITY AND CARERS

Disability company's \$2.5m fine

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 15/11/2025, Page 5

The company running an NDIS home where a severely disabled person was bitten on the face, had her hair torn out and was put in a headlock, has been fined a record \$2.5m by the Federal Court. Court papers reveal how residents repeatedly attacked and injured each other and support workers at the Supported Independent Living accommodation facility run by Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Pty Ltd.

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

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The hard truth of 24/7 care

Border Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Hana Humboldt, Page 71

It's an all too rare case of a self-managed NDIS fund success story, but one written in 17 years' worth of a mother's blood, sweat and tears. Yackandandah-based Meg's Care Team, composed of five incredible women, provides what mother Kate Palmer describes as phenomenal care for her daughter, Meg Casley, who was born with level 5 cerebral palsy - the most severe category according to the Gross Motor Function Classification System.

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Consider your words because language shapes perception

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 15/11/2025, Jo Russell, Page 13

Today I want to discuss language, and I don't mean bad language. In the disability sector, respectful language isn't just etiquette, it is a cornerstone of inclusion, dignity and empowerment.

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'Wonder why prices are up?': Migration-fuelled home loans driving Aussie dollar creation, Matt Barrie says

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 14/11/2025, Frank Chung

Australia's economy is on a hamster wheel to nowhere with new dollars being printed to finance migration-fuelled home loans while the government "p**ses" money away on taxpayer-funded jobs and

the NDIS, an outspoken tech executive says. Freelancer chief executive Matt Barrie, in a post on X on Thursday, argued the increase in the money supply was the primary driver of recent inflation.

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

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Revealed: APM's first results since \$1.3 billion privatisation

West Australian, Other, 14/11/2025

APM has given a first glimpse of its performance since the employment and disability provider's \$1.3 billion privatisation a year ago, revealing an uptick in revenue despite tough markets. [...] That's despite what the group reckons remain tough markets, particularly for NDIS providers in Australia struggling to profitably provide services.

[Read More](#)

The NDIS shifts almost \$27m a year in mental health costs alone, our new study suggests

The Conversation, Other, 14/11/2025, Bernice Hua & Samia Badji

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) was set up in 2013 to help Australians with disability live more independently, and participate more in work and community life. The scheme was not meant as a substitute for health care, let alone to save health dollars.

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[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

State overhaul of adult ADHD diagnosis 'a health game-changer'

Weekend Australian, General News, 15/11/2025, Penny Timms, Page 6

Queensland is to become the first jurisdiction nationally to allow specialist general practitioners to diagnose and treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in all people from December 1. The change, being announced on Saturday, removes the final barriers that have prevented all GPs from diagnosing and prescribing the condition in adults and means the state will have consistency in managing adult and child patients over the age of four.

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One hoarse town, crying out for care

Weekend Australian, General News, 15/11/2025, Fiona Harari, Page 7

In his decades as a rural doctor, Tom Clarke has witnessed a spectrum of life's woes and woes. He's delivered babies by caesarean section and certified deaths, removed skin cancers, diagnosed diseases and reassured fractured souls.

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

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Health hub's potential starting to be 'unlocked'

Burnie Advocate, General News, 15/11/2025, Rodney Woods, Page 1

Hard hats and high-vis vests will be a common sight at the Burnie Health Hub until the middle of next year as work begins to bring other services to the site to complement the pathology lab that has been operating since July. At full capacity, the health hub services will include pathology, a GP clinic, Laurel House, Women's Legal Service, Playgroup Tasmania, Family Planning Tasmania, a Medicare mental health service, Medical Imaging, allied health, a pharmacy, the Department for Education, Children and Young People and a cafe.

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By the numbers

Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 15/11/2025, Page 15

In the 2023-24 financial year Gold Coast University Hospital had 127,179 presentations, making it the busiest hospital in Australia for emergency department activity. It is a major tertiary centre, trauma service, and referral destination for the Gold Coast and northern NSW.

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Doctors demand regulators investigate 'dysfunctional' medical college

The Australian, Other, 13/11/2025, Penny Timms

A group of members of the beleaguered Royal Australasian College of Physicians have asked the Australian Securities & Investments Commission and the charities regulator to urgently investigate the college's inner workings, saying both agencies have received anonymous tip-offs. "Both ASIC and ACNC have received several whistleblower reports and complaints about the college," according to a letter sent to RACP members by the group of "Concerned Members".

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When the brain 'glitches' – recognising and managing functional neurological disorder

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Alexander Lehn

Patients presenting with neurological symptoms that do not follow classic disease patterns are common in general practice. These patients may experience weakness, tremor, seizures or sensory symptoms, yet investigations are often normal.

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2GB, Breakfast, 14/11/2025, Ben Fordham

Compere says the Royal Australian College of Surgeons' National Trauma Committee is aiming to support calls for reducing speeds to 30 and 50,000 people are hospitalised every year after suffering from road injuries.

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[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

ABC has an activism problem

AFR Weekend, General News, 15/11/2025, Clare Rowe, Page 34

The ABC insists that its partnership with ACON's inclusion program doesn't affect editorial coverage, but perception matters.

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Crime bosses in cahoots on illegal tobacco

Weekend Australian, General News, 15/11/2025, David Murray, Page 2

The head of the nation's criminal intelligence agency says the speed with which organised crime gangs have risen to dominate the illicit tobacco market is unprecedented, as she warns ringleaders are increasingly prepared to work with bitter enemies in the pursuit of vast profits. In a rare interview as the secretive Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission ramps up its public profile, chief executive Heather Cook said the criminal takeover of tobacco reflected massive changes in the way the gangs operated.

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

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Dementia confirmed as our biggest killer as deaths data serves up some cold hard facts

Weekend Australian, General News, 15/11/2025, James Dowling, Page 7

Dementia deaths have hit a record high and fatal heart disease is at a new low, as the impacts of the ageing population eclipse traditional killers such as lung cancer, heart attacks and road accidents. [...]

The ABS reaffirmed findings from September by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare showing the rise of dementia to be the nation's leading cause of death.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [6PR \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#)

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Death on wheels

Courier Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Jeremy Pierce, Chris Burns & Isabella Pesch, Page 32

Despite 11 e-scooter fatalities this year and calls for urgent action, the government is delaying reforms until at least March Deaths involving ebikes and e-scooters have become a hotbutton issue for the state governmentbut claims Queensland is "leading the nation" on reforms have been slammed amid fears more kids could die before the state's laws finally change.

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

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Meet our biggest killer

Daily Telegraph, General News, 15/11/2025, Page 5

Dementia is now Australia's leading cause of death, the Australian Bureau of Statistics has revealed. Last year, the horror disease, which progressively degrades a person's memory and cognitive function, took the lives of 17,549 people.

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

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Bikies get into black market tobacco

Daily Telegraph, General News, 15/11/2025, Stephen Drill & Anthony Dowsley, Page 35

Bikies are muscling in on Australia's booming illicit smokes trade, as police attempt to dismantle their links with the offshore kingpins sending the cigarettes Down Under. The Australian Federal Police have made smashing the smokes trade a "priority" under taskforce Morpheus, which now also includes police from New Zealand.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#)

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Dementia our No.1 killer

The West Australian (Saturday edition), Edition Changes, 15/11/2025, Hannah Cross, Page 12

Heart disease no longer the leading cause of death for Australians Dementia has overtaken heart disease to become the leading cause of death for all Australians, according to the latest figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. More than 17,500 people died from dementia last yearequivalent to about one in 10 deaths nationwide.

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

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Angela Mollard: Fad diets only intensify stigma, feelings of unworthiness for people struggling with weight

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 14/11/2025, Angela Mollard

Six weeks ago I came back from holiday 3kg over my normal weight. [...] As shocking, the research revealed 84 per cent of those living with overweight or obesity think about their weight sometimes, often or always, 86 per cent are constantly thinking about ways to lose weight and 77 per cent feel embarrassed or self-conscious.

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Ettalong Beach: Uncle Jake's Tobacco Shop Gosford fined \$144k for illegal vapes, cigarettes

The Courier Mail, Other, 14/11/2025, Richard Noone

A magistrate has whacked a tobacconist with a massive fine for selling illegal vapes and cigarettes. [...]

The NSW Health prosecutor told the court each of the offences "directly and seriously undermines" the public health objectives of the Tobacco Act by circumventing the regulations in place to limit public exposure to tobacco products and advertising.

[Read More](#)

Illegal tobacco retailer hit with \$1.5-million fine as following record seizure in Queensland

ABC Online, Other, 14/11/2025, Vanessa Jarrett

A Victorian retailer has been fined \$1.5 million following a court case over Queensland's largest-ever illegal tobacco seizure. Tobacco Shed Pty Ltd company director Paolo Timpano pleaded guilty to 50 charges in the Emerald Magistrates Court on Friday in relation to the retail sale of illicit tobacco, nicotine vapes, candy flavoured cigarettes, bongs and loose-leaf tobacco.

[Read More](#)

Australia's stillbirth crisis: Why have rates failed to improve in 20 years?

9News, Other, 14/11/2025, Emily McPherson

Sydney nurse Nerida Rosenthal was 33 weeks pregnant with her first baby when she suddenly felt worried that she hadn't felt her daughter move in a long time. [...] In 2022, the rate of stillbirths even increased slightly to 8.0 per 1000 births, up from 7.2 per 1000 births a year earlier, according to the latest available data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

[Read More](#)

Heart failure: hospital to community

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025

Of the 71,500 people in Australia who were admitted to hospital for heart failure in 2019, 65% had an emergency department visit within one year and 26% had a visit within 30 days, suggesting that many people were unable to manage in the community, an Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report has found.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 14/11/2025, Leon Compton

The Federal Government is being urged to make the Health Star rating system mandatory for all food manufacturers. Dr Alexandra Jones of The George Institute for Global Health stated that the current volunteer uptake isn't working to ensure consumers have clear nutritional information.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, AM, 14/11/2025, Sabra Lane

First Nations leaders have expressed concern over the Victorian Government's decision to introduce tougher penalties for youth offenders just 24 hours before signing Australia's first treaty between Indigenous peoples and the Government. The timing is sensitive as the latest data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows that, of the 845 young people in detention, Indigenous youth are disproportionately represented.

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[Back to Top](#)

CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Boy wonder

Herald Sun, General News, 15/11/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 1

Were it not for a series of sliding door moments in the lead up to his birth, this "cheeky" toddler would not be here. But thanks to an accidental finding from genetic testing in the womb, a geneticist who went

out on a limb and a lifesaving treatment approved in the US a week before his birth, Mitchell Hooper turned two on Friday.

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'My kids need me': Mum's cancer battle

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 15/11/2025, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 31

When single mother Amy Whelan was told she had cancer, her first thought was of her young daughter, Chantelle, who died of brain cancer when only eight years old. "It's a lot. I thought that this is my way out and I was going to die," the 39-year-old mother of six told The Advertiser.

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Managing diabetes in the palm of your hand thanks to WA app

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 15/11/2025, Claire Sadler, Page 8

Type 1 diabetes is about to become easier to manage thanks to a first-of-its-kind app developed in WA. The Rio Tinto Children's Diabetes Centre based at The Kids Research Institute Australia and Perth Children's Hospital launched the DiabHQ Patient Portal on Friday, timed with World Diabetes Day.

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

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Skin cancer real threat to all of us

Hobart Mercury, General News, 15/11/2025, Abby Smith, Page 43

Two in three Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer by age 70. We know that ultraviolet radiation (UV) is the leading cause, yet despite this knowledge, skin cancer remains one of the most expensive and preventable diseases.

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Slip, slop, slap this summer

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 15/11/2025, Allan Murphy, Page 15

Residents in the Mildura Local Government Area have been urged to slip, slop, slap, seek and slide as the UV levels begin to rise and sun protection season begins. The plea follows the Victorian Government's latest Victorian Population Health Survey (VPHS) 2023, which found less than half of Mildura adults apply sunscreen when they go out in the sun.

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The frontline of diabetes

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 15/11/2025, Justine Cain , Page 26

Type 2 diabetes is a serious and complex condition that regional and rural Australians experience at a higher rate than people living in cities. It is estimated 19,000 people in the Western New South Wales Primary Health Network are living with type 2 diabetes.

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Breast density reporting is new, so what does it mean for me?

The Australian, Other, 14/11/2025, Dr Magdalena Simonis

Breast density reporting through breast screening is now routine in most states and will become a uniform national practice by the end of next year. But although it sounds straightforward, there's a lot more to understanding how breast density can affect your cancer risk – and how you can reduce that risk. Breast density refers to the amount of fibroglandular tissue in the breast; it has nothing to do with how firm your breasts feel, nor how they look when you take off your bra.

[Read More](#)

WA families getting access to first-of-its-kind diabetes management app developed at Perth Children's Hospital

West Australian, Other, 14/11/2025, Claire Sadler

Families across Western Australia will be able to manage type 1 diabetes easier, thanks to a first-of-its-

kind app developed in the State. The Rio Tinto Children's Diabetes Centre, run out of The Kids Research Institute Australia and Perth Children's Hospital, launched the DiabHQ Patient Portal on World Diabetes Day.

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

[Read More](#)

Garry Slater: Perth man breaks Australian record for having prosthetic heart valve implanted for 51 years

West Australian, Other, 14/11/2025

Fifty-one years ago, Perth's Garry Slater underwent pioneering heart surgery that saved his life. Now, the 82-year-old has made medical history as Australia's record holder for living the longest with a mechanical heart valve prosthesis.

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

[Read More](#)

Mother shares 36-year heartbreak after daughter's diabetes death to demand change

Northern Territory News, Other, 14/11/2025, Lottie Hood

I has been 36 years since the Northern Territory resident lost her daughter Glennis to the disease in a traumatic incident at Christmas and every day since, the mum has struggled to speak about what happened. But after years of silence, Kerrie has decided to share Glennis's story to create a "legacy" for other people with the condition.

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

[Read More](#)

Type 2 diabetes: Mark Brunner shares story for World Diabetes Day

Newcastle Herald, Other, 14/11/2025, Damon Cronshaw

Mark Brunner has lived with type 2 diabetes for almost 20 years. [...] Diabetes Australia is calling for more affordable access to "life-changing technology for people living with diabetes".

[Read More](#)

Type 2 diabetes epidemic impacts 90,000 in Hunter New England

Newcastle Herald, Other, 14/11/2025, Damon Cronshaw

The number of people with type 2 diabetes in Hunter New England has hit about 90,000, sparking a push for greater use of technology to combat the problem. Thousands more are thought to be living with the disease while undiagnosed and untreated, amid the so-called "diabesity epidemic".

[Read More](#)

Increased breast cancer death risk seen in women who miss first breast screening appointment

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Rebecca Jenkins

Women who do not attend their first breast screening appointment have a significantly increased risk of dying from breast cancer, which persists for 25 years, a large population cohort study finds. Late-stage diagnosis was known to be more common in women who had not attended their latest breast screening appointment, the study authors wrote in the BMJ.

[Read More](#)

Donanemab: a novel treatment to slow early Alzheimer's disease

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Paul Yates

Donanemab is indicated for mild cognitive impairment and mild dementia due to Alzheimer's disease (AD) in adults who are apolipoprotein E type e4 heterozygotes with evidence of brain beta-amyloid pathology. Monthly intravenous donanemab infusions have been shown to significantly reduce brain beta-amyloid and modestly slow cognitive decline and clinical progression over 18 months. Sustained benefits up to 36 months in extension studies suggest a disease-modifying effect.

Alcohol-related cancer tool

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 14/11/2025

The NSW Government has launched an Australian-first digital tool to help people calculate their lifetime risk of alcohol-related malignancies, including bowel, liver, mouth, throat, neck and breast cancers. Aimed primarily at adults over 40, the tool allows users to enter their age, gender and weekly alcohol use to show how drinking alcohol at various levels impacts their long-term cancer risk.

[Read More](#)

PD for Fri 14 Nov 2025

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 14/11/2025

Diabetes Australia celebrates the year's achievements, multiple myeloma drug gets PBS listing, Guild goes behind the scenes at API, and more

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 14/11/2025, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Shadow Minister for Communications Melissa McIntosh. Compere says McIntosh is working closely with Diabetes Australia on this campaign. McIntosh discusses her son, who has type 1 diabetes.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Welcome to the age of agelessness

AFR Weekend, General News, 15/11/2025, Sherine Youssef, Page 28

Kate's friends were all getting filler injections, she told Dr Adam Honeybrook.

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

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

Mental health claim hike

Courier Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Sarah Simpkins, Page 23

Mental health is now one of the leading causes of total and permanent disability insurance claims in Australia, contributing to rising premiums. Data from the Council of Australian Life Insurers (CALI) earlier this year showed mental health conditions were related to one in three TPD claims paid out. Insurers paid \$2.2bn in mental health claims last year almost double the amount paid just five years ago.

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

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Push to protect social media users

Canberra Times, General News, 15/11/2025, Dana Daniel, Page 4

It's been seven years since Jane Murphy, 29, entered treatment for an eating disorder that began in childhood. Now in recovery, she still has to grapple with seeing social media content about weight loss and diets, despite "hitting the not interested button."

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

Our mental health system is in a 'permacrisis'

Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 15/11/2025, Professor John Mendoza, Page 86

Today, Saturday November 15, 2025, marks 11 years to the day that our family lost Jeffery John Mendoza to suicide. Jeff was my nephew and godson.

'Abandoned' farmers face mental health crisis from drought, floods and government policy

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 14/11/2025, Brendan Gullifer

NSW farmers are being smashed by drought and floods and government policies. Now they say the real danger is what it's doing to their minds. Anxiety and stress in the bush are "off the charts", according to NSW Farmers president Xavier Martin, with most suffering in silence.

[Read More](#)

Peak bodies call for immediate action as Indigenous suicide rate hits new high

National Indigenous Times, Other, 14/11/2025, Joseph Guenzler

New Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data has revealed the highest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suicide deaths on record, prompting urgent calls from Indigenous peak bodies for stronger community-led responses. The ABS recorded 306 Indigenous deaths by suicide in 2024, an 8 per cent rise on the previous year and the third consecutive annual increase.

[Read More](#)

DVA to fund psychedelic therapy for veterans

Medical Forum, Other, 14/11/2025

Veterans can now access psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy treatments through government backed funding. Under the program delivered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), MDMA can be used to treat eligible veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and psilocybin can be used for those diagnosed with treatment-resistant depression (TRD).

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[Back to Top](#)

IMMUNISATION

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

Gay, queer Gen Zs are 'resisting cultural norms' and coming out sooner

The Saturday Age, General News, 15/11/2025, Wendy Tuohy, Page 5

It wasn't until she was 19-and had dated a guy in secondary schoolthat Ella Wright realised who she really was. "I realised I was queer and had never really been interested in men," says Wright, now 26 and a teacher.

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

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How your AI 'twin' can save your life

Daily Telegraph, General News, 15/11/2025, Robyn Riley, Page 11

An artificial intelligence tool that can predict a patient's health has been created by Australian

researchers, introducing a novel approach to personalised medicine. Called DT-GPT, it creates a "digital twin" to make educated guesses about how a patient may respond to a drug or therapy, even the progress of their disease.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#)

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Breast cancer detection tool to 'predict future risk' using AI

The Australian, Other, 14/11/2025, Angelica Snowden

Helen Frazer and her team are on the cusp of transforming Australia's 35-year-old breast screening program into a faster and more accurate predictor of one of the country's most common cancers, using artificial intelligence. Dr Frazer envisions a screening program that, in 10 years' time, sets a baseline screen for all women at age 30, and is personalised to a woman's future risk, not their age.

[Read More](#)

Queensland drug testing ban halted research exposing dangers of illegal steroids

ABC Online, Other, 14/11/2025, Emma-Pollard & Janelle-Miles

The head of a research project which found "dangerous" toxic metals in samples of illegal anabolic steroids is set to meet with health authorities in hopes of continuing the study in Queensland, despite the government's drug checking ban. Griffith University harm reduction researcher Tim Piatkowski has been unable to collect samples to continue the ROIDCheck program in the sunshine state after the government passed laws in September banning community drug checking.

[Read More](#)

'Game-changer': app could make diagnosing and tracking dementia possible

The Senior, Other, 14/11/2025, Lisa Edser

It won't be long until people can get tested by an app on their phone to see if they are experiencing cognitive decline, according to an Australian researcher. Login or signup to continue reading In a world first, a large team of IT and AI specialists from Australian Catholic University (ACU) came together with psychiatrists, computer programmers and nurses, and utilised AI to develop new technology that is expected to have a far-reaching impact.

[Read More](#)

UniSA recruiting for aged care polypharmacy trial

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 14/11/2025

The trial will analyse the PHARMA-CARE National Quality Framework to evaluate medication management among residential aged care providers and on-site pharmacists. A new pilot study, led by the University of South Australia, will be the first structured, evidence-based approach to monitoring, evaluating and improving the quality of medication management and pharmacist-led care.

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How 'forever chemicals' may change the genetic makeup of sperm

Medical Forum, Other, 14/11/2025

New research suggests so-called forever chemicals could significantly alter male reproductive health, even without visibly damaging sperm. Researchers from the University of Newcastle found per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) – synthetic chemicals that persist in the environment and accumulate in living organisms – may have an impact on fertility.

[Read More](#)

Is exercise a brain-changer for Parkinson's disease?

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025

More physical activity was associated with slower brain thinning among patients with early Parkinson's disease. Studies on exercise in Parkinson's disease suggest that it is good for general health and has some positive symptomatic effect.

Improved risk-prediction tool for invasive melanoma

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Melanie Hinze

Queensland researchers have released a new online melanoma risk-prediction tool that can help GPs to more precisely identify patients at higher risk of melanoma, and who might benefit from systematic early detection activities. The online tool was developed using data from more than 40,000 individuals in the QSkin Study, a population-based prospective cohort study led by Professor David Whiteman and colleagues and published in *JAMA Dermatology*.

[Read More](#)

Giant cell arteritis: timely diagnosis, targeted therapy

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Lucinda Robinson & Catherine Hill

The diagnosis of giant cell arteritis (GCA) can be challenging. New or severe headache, jaw claudication and visual disturbance remain key features of cranial disease, whereas systemic symptoms are prominent in extracranial involvement.

[Read More](#)

New diagnostic criteria for vascular cognitive impairment and dementia

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Sasha Ellery Bm

An international consortium of experts has developed updated diagnostic criteria to improve the consistency and accuracy of diagnosing vascular cognitive impairment and dementia (VCID). The process was led by Professor Perminder Sachdev and his team of researchers at the Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing (CHeBA), UNSW Sydney.

[Read More](#)

Risk of long COVID in children doubles after second infection, finds study

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Melanie Hinze

New research, published in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, suggests the risk of long COVID in children might be twice as high in those who are infected with SARS-CoV-2 for a second time. The retrospective cohort study used data from electronic health records of more than 460,000 children and adolescents from 40 paediatric hospitals across the USA from January 2022 to October 2023 – a period that was dominated by the Omicron variant.

[Read More](#)

Aged care pilot aims to improve medicine safety

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 14/11/2025, Jolyon Attwooll

The study is assessing medication management and clinical work in care homes, an area recognised as a 'source of preventable harm'. Many aged care residents are exposed to at least one potentially inappropriate medicine, according to research.

[Read More](#)

Gold nanotech paves new path for ovarian cancer detection

Manufacturers' Monthly, General News, 01/11/2025, Page 38

A sponge-like gold nanoparticle platform could deliver faster, more accurate, and less invasive ovarian cancer diagnostics. For University of Queensland (UQ) PhD researcher Javeria Bashir, materials science has always been more than a theoretical curiosity it's a means to solve real-world medical challenges.

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States defy Canberra on softer bail laws

Weekend Australian, General News, 15/11/2025, Anthony Galloway & Mackenzie Scott, Page 5

Reforms rejected a revolt by states and territories has forced the Albanese government to abandon its push to soften bail laws nationwide after they refused to endorse a national plan to tackle increasing remand rates. The backlash came after The Australian revealed the contents of a contentious intergovernmental report recommending that all jurisdictions "ensure bail laws explicitly provide that imprisonment be a last resort".

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

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Albo, lay off our bail laws says Deb

Courier Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Mikaela Mulveney, Page 5

Attorney-General Deb Frecklington has slammed a new report urging all jurisdictions to loosen their bail laws and vowed to defy any federal push to water down legislation. [...] The SCAG Bail and Remand Reform Working Group's report, completed in June, was designed to reduce the gap in incarceration rates between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

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\$48k boost for gut health

Northern Territory News, General News, 15/11/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 3

Gut health in remote communities is receiving a boost in funding as \$48,000 is being invested in specialist training, mentoring and support. The Regional, Remote, and Indigenous (RRI) Program, an initiative developed by the Gastroenterological Society of Australia in partnership with NT Health, will receive the NT Government funding every year.

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

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Plans for \$9m health facility proposed

Daily Liberal, General News, 15/11/2025, Ciara Bastow, Page 10

A \$9 million, two-storey health facility with more than 20 consulting rooms could soon be built. The centre, proposed by the Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service (CAHS), would be built at 16 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble and replace the existing CAHS medical centre on Tooloon Street.

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This is how we are Closing the Gap, one child at a time

The Australian, Other, 15/11/2025, Tania major

I was the only person from my year 12 class to graduate. Four of my classmates took their own lives.

[Read More](#)

North Australia Centre for Autonomous Systems completes medical drop via drone

Northern Territory News, Other, 14/11/2025, Harry Brill

A team of Northern Territory researchers made Australian history this week when they used their drone to deliver essential medication to a remote community. On Wednesday evening, health workers at Gunbalanya Health Centre were treating a patient who had gone into cardiac arrest when they were forced to think outside the box.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#)

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Closing the gender gap in heart disease outcomes: rapid change needed

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Rebecca Jenkins

Australian researchers say it is possible to reduce treatment differences between men and women with ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), but increasingly rapid change is needed to close the gap in

the next decade. Women with acute coronary syndrome were known to receive different treatment from men and to have poorer outcomes, researchers wrote in the MJA, but awareness of the issue had increased in the past two decades, sparking campaigns to improve recognition of heart disease in women and their outcomes.

[Read More](#)

Invasive Streptococcus dysgalactiae on the rise in Australia

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Sasha Ellery Bm

Invasive Streptococcus dysgalactiae subspecies equisimilis (SDSE) infections are emerging as a growing public health concern in Australia, revealing distinct transmission patterns, with First Nations Australians disproportionately affected, according to a large clinical and genomic epidemiology study published in *The Lancet Microbe*.

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[Back to Top](#)

PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Six-year wait just to see a specialist

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 15/11/2025, Brad Crouch, Page 11

Patients wanting a hospital specialist appointment face waits of beyond six years in some cases, with 23 specialties listing maximum waits beyond 50 months, new data shows. If the person then is recommended for elective surgery they go on another queue.

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Report reveals Base's continued failures

Ballarat Courier, General News, 15/11/2025, Ben Silvester, Page 5

The Ballarat Base Hospital has failed its own emergency, mental health, and surgery wait time targets in 2025, despite already being among the worst hospitals in the state across each category. The figures in Grampians Health's 2025 annual report showed no improvement despite several years of scrutiny of the hospital's performance.

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Albany Health Campus, Meekatharra Hospital upgrades in motion as State Government requests design proposals

West Australian, Other, 14/11/2025, Jacki Elezovich

The State Government has put out to tender for expansions of Albany Health Campus and the redevelopment of the Meekatharra Hospital for a single contractor to design both projects. The expansion of the Albany Health Campus was earmarked in the rush of election promises in February this year, and the redevelopment of Meekatharra Hospital has been on the agenda since WA Labor first committed to the project ahead of the 2021 State election.

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[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Nearly 1m in health works

Australia is inching towards having one million registered health practitioners (doctors, nurses and allied health professionals). The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) annual report shows Australia had 959,858 registered practitioners at 30 June this year a 4.3 per cent increase on the previous year.

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Govt pays medics to stay home

Courier Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 8

Doctors with decades of experience are being "unfairly" suspended on full pay for months and even years for daring to speak up for their patients as Queensland grapples with a spiralling health workforce crisis and exploding waiting lists. The Saturday CourierMail can reveal that taxpayers are currently paying full salaries to 91 clinicians who are suspended on full pay with some earning up to \$500,000 a year at the same time Health Minister Tim Nicholls says he is "pulling every lever" to hire 46,000 more workers by 2032.

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Nurses 'on Covid black list'

Courier Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Isabella Pesch, Page 8

Highly experienced Queensland nurses forced out of the sector while Covid-19 vaccines were mandated claim they have been black-listed from the public health system despite wanting to come back. Senior nurses dismissed in 2021 for not following Covid-19 jab requirements claim they are still being turned down for roles with Queensland Health despite the mandate being dropped in 2023.

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

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Capable doctors waiting to return

Courier Mail, Editorials, 15/11/2025, Page 69

Queensland Health has a workforce problem it's struggling to solve which is why it beggars belief that almost 100 medicos have been suspended on full pay for months, some for years. Health Minister Tim Nicholls himself revealed this week that there was a 21 per cent shortfall in the medical workforce in regional and remote Queensland.

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Interim budget claims to improve productivity but it's just cutting corners, which will end up costing us

Hobart Mercury, General News, 15/11/2025, Emily Shepherd, Page 42

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian branch is dismayed by the lack of investment in the crippled Tasmanian Health Service in the interim Tasmanian state budget, which was handed down by Treasurer Eric Abetz last week. The ANMF has been calling for a sensible budget to match funding to current service delivery and service demand.

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Medical staff sharpen up skills at workshop

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 15/11/2025, David Chapman, Page 11

Our people about 41 GPs and nurse practitioners were in Bendigo last month to sharpen their skills to better deal with emergency presentations at their rural practices. Bendigo Health Emergency Department (ED) hosted its eighth annual GP skills workshop at Bendigo Health on Saturday, October 25.

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Culture 'is toxic'

Border Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Anthony Bunn, Page 1

Three-quarters of mental health workers report that the bullying and harassment they have experienced at Albury Wodonga Health has come from senior leaders or executives. The alarming

figure has emerged from a survey conducted by the Health and Community Services Union, which represents those working in the mental health, disability and drug and alcohol sectors.

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

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Inside the high-stakes simulation that tests Border military medics

Border Mail, General News, 15/11/2025, Page 26

Smoke filled the catering building at Latchford Barracks. Screams echoed through pitch-black rooms. For a group of ADF nursing officers, this was no ordinary morning at Bonegilla.

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Pearson on winning national award, and how she's giving back

Central Western Daily, General News, 15/11/2025, Iqra Saeed, Page 5

Jesyca Pearson has just graduated from Charles Sturt University (CSU) and been named the student pharmacist of the year. The Wiradjuri woman from Molong was awarded by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, a national representing community pharmacies.

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Budget cuts deepen health crisis: ANMF

Launceston Examiner, General News, 15/11/2025, Emily Shepherd, Page 25

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch is dismayed by the lack of investment in the crippled Tasmanian Health Service in the Interim Tasmanian state budget. The ANMF has called for a sensible budget to match funding to current service delivery and service demand.

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NSW government workers' comp changes defeated as premier declares fight is 'over'

ABC Online, Other, 14/11/2025, Alexander Lewis

New South Wales Premier Chris Minns has declared "it's over", after a core component of the government's controversial workers' compensation reforms was defeated. [...] NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association Assistant General Secretary Michael Whaites said the union was "excited" by the bill's form following the overnight debate.

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[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Chris Hemsworth, Margot Robbie, and Robert Irwin among famous figures most used for online scams in Australia

7news.com.au, Other, 14/11/2025, Demi Huang

Australians are being warned to think twice on any schemes that might seem too good to be true. Chris Hemsworth, Margot Robbie, and Robert Irwin are among the celebrities whose identities are being most exploited in online scams in Australia in 2025. [...] Chris Hemsworth and Robert Irwin have had their likenesses used to promote fake cryptocurrency investment platforms, while Karl Stefanovic's likeness has appeared in ads for fake type 2 diabetes medication.

[Read More](#)

Guild goes behind the scenes

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 14/11/2025

The National Pharmaceutical Services Association (NPSA) recently invited Branch Committee members and senior representatives from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Queensland, to a medicine distribution centre, enabling them to see the operations of the medicine supply chain firsthand.

[Read More](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Are you eligible? Free mental health care expands under major Medicare update

The Senior, Other, 14/11/2025, Phoebe Loomes

Australians experiencing depression, anxiety or other mental-health conditions can now access up to 20 free counselling sessions through Medicare, thanks to a major expansion of the government's Better Access program. Under the changes introduced this month, people diagnosed with mental health issues can receive 10 free individual psychology sessions and 10 free group therapy sessions each year, making it easier to get professional support without the financial strain.

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[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Fast-track 'risks Patel on repeat'

Weekend Australian, General News, 15/11/2025, Sarah Elks & Matthew Condon, Page 1

Doctors are warning a new federal policy to fast-track international medical graduates into Australia could allow a rogue surgeon like Jayant Patel to again slip through the cracks, a criticism regulators have described as "unfair and offensive". The Australian's latest podcast series, Sick to Death, explores how Indian-trained American surgeon Patel exploited failures in the international doctor registration system in the early 2000s to fraudulently obtain a job at Bundaberg Base Hospital, without disclosing his US disciplinary history.

Also reported by: [Weekend Australian \(Australia\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#)

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Toll of blowing the whistle on Dr Death

Weekend Australian, General News, 15/11/2025, Matthew Condon, Page 6

By 2003 nurse Toni Hoffman, then in her early 40s, was fizzing with life. She had travelled the UK and the Middle East with her career (including managing a 20bed hospital in Saudi Arabia), indulged in her childhood passion for Egyptology (she had a degree in Ancient History) and had settled in Bundaberg, the rum-and-sugar-cane town 360km north of Brisbane where she rose up the ranks of the public hospital to nurse unit manager of the intensive care unit.

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Changes to Ahpra notifications aim to support practitioners

Medical Forum, Other, 14/11/2025

Health practitioners referred to the regulator when they are unwell will no longer have to undergo an independent health assessment in a bid to speed up process and better support practitioners. The move comes as part of Ahpra's work to improve its notifications process, with lived experience from health professionals informing the work.

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[Back to Top](#)

INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Free pill testing on site

Herald Sun, General News, 15/11/2025, Page 7

Festival-goers will once again have access to free pill testing, with the Allan government announcing an expansion of the program on Friday. Mobile pill testing will be available at several music festivals across the summer, including Spilt Milk, Dangerous Goods 6XXL, and Pitch Music and Arts Festival.

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Popular fishing spot snagged by AUKUS

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 15/11/2025, Andrew Greene, Page 1

Popular Garden Island fishing and boating spots could soon be placed off limits after the Albanese Government quietly issued new regulations declaring the entire area around HMAS Stirling naval base as a "nuclear power safety zone". At present all of Garden Island and its surrounding maritime approaches are controlled by the navy, with just two sections of land designated "prohibited" to public access, and their adjacent waters deemed "closed" to civilians.

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

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Why Canadian measles outbreak makes Australia wary

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 15/11/2025, Hannah Cross, Page 9

Australian health experts are watching Canada with caution after the country lost its measles elimination status this week. The Public Health Agency of Canada confirmed that, after 12 months of sustained spread of the highly infectious virus, the country "no longer holds measles elimination status".

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

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Simple step to reduce whooping cough missed in hospitals, report finds

Medical Forum, Other, 14/11/2025

Australia is in the midst of a record-breaking whooping cough epidemic, yet hospitals are not taking a simple step that could bolster defences against the potentially deadly virus. The Immunisation Foundation of Australia is urging all hospitals to take action to follow government recommendations around vaccinations.

[Read More](#)

Buruli ulcer: coming to a suburb near you?

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025, Andrew Haysom

Buruli ulcer, caused by *Mycobacterium ulcerans*, is a curable yet often misunderstood skin infection now emerging in Victoria. Evidence increasingly identifies mosquitoes as the key vector, with possums as a major environmental reservoir. Understanding its transmission, recognition and prevention is crucial as the disease continues to expand its range.

[Read More](#)

Flu deaths outpace COVID-19 deaths

Medicine Today, Other, 14/11/2025

In August 2025 there were more deaths in Australia from influenza (n = 211) than from COVID-19 (n = 153), Australian Bureau of Statistics data show. Between January and August 2025, deaths involving COVID-19 were lower than in 2023 and 2024, while deaths involving influenza and respiratory syncytial virus were higher.

[Read More](#)

UK hospitals bracing for once-in-a-decade flu surge this winter

The Guardian, Other, 15/11/2025, Ian Sample

Hospitals are bracing for a once-in-a-decade flu season, with a mutated version of the virus that is spreading widely in younger people expected to drive a wave of admissions when it reaches the elderly. [...] Genetic analysis shows it is a descendant of a strain that this year fuelled Australia's worst flu season on record.

ABC News, News Breakfast, 14/11/2025, James Glenday and Catherine Murphy

Concertgoers who watched Oasis perform on Saturday are being told to monitor for symptoms of measles after it was confirmed that there was a case who attended the show.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Drive, 14/11/2025, Heidi Murphy

Compere says the Allan Government's mobile pill testing trial will continue this summer with the next three events believed to support the offering.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 14/11/2025, Steve Austin

Interview with Dr Catherine McDougall, Qld Chief Health Officer, about Qld bracing for more measles cases. McDougall explains that they have had five cases that were identified in a relatively short space of time over about 48 hours, and they were across five different HHSs.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Bondi Sands recalls five sunscreen products over SPF concerns

The Australian, Other, 14/11/2025, Newswire

Another popular Aussie brand has recalled several sunscreen products over SPF concerns. Bondi Sands has become the latest Aussie company to announce recalls over SPF concerns – and the first to remove products that have not used the same worrying base formulation. [...] There are 11 other products that the Therapeutic Goods Administration says share the same base formulation and have been pulled from shelves or are under review: New Day Skin's Good Vibes Sunscreen SPF50+; New Day Skin's Happy Days Sunscreen SPF50+; Allganics' Light Sunscreen SPF50+; Found My Skin's SPF 50+ Tinted Face/Body Cream; Ethical Zinc's Daily Wear Light Sunscreen; Ethical Zinc's Daily Wear Tinted Facial Sunscreen (Dark); Ethical Zinc's Daily Wear Tinted Facial Sunscreen (Light); Endota's Mineral Protect SPF50 Sunscreen; We are Feel Good Inc's Mineral Sunscreen SPF50+; GlindaWand's The Fountain of Youth Environmental Defence Cream SPF50+; and Naked Sundays' Collagen Glow Mineral Sunscreen.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#).

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Influencers warned to align with TGA advice

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 14/11/2025, Karen Burge

An increase in the unlawful advertising on social media of prescription-only medicines, such as weight loss drugs and cosmetic injectables, has prompted the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) to strengthen its stance with updated advice. The revised guidance aims to ensure 'businesses and social media account holders, including influencers' are aware of their legal responsibilities.

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

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

The WA government is asking whether cannabis should be legalised.

Will it listen?

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 14/11/2025, Hannah Murphy

The West Australian government's Mental Health Commission is surveying people on whether they would like to see cannabis legalised. The commission asked the question as part of its 2025's Drug Attitudes survey, which collects information on West Australians categorise their drug use, their drugs of choice and the availability of help services.

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[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Air of rebellion: farmers have had a gutful of net-zero feed for cows

Weekend Australian, International News, 15/11/2025, Jacqueline Magnay, Page 10

What could possibly go wrong when politicians legally mandate for farmers to put a controversial chemical compound, Bovaer, into the feed of cows, all in the name of net zero? [...] In Australia, where the same chemical has been given regulatory approval to add to cattle feed on a voluntary basis, consumers might begin asking some questions.

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Methane-reducing feed on Labor's agenda

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 15/11/2025, Jason Gregory, Page 19

Labor has faced questions about the likelihood of forcing Australian cattle producers and dairies to use a methane-reducing feed additive as a way to meet its climate targets. The Danish government introduced mandates earlier this year that required dairy farmers in that country with more than 50 cows to adjust their feeding regimes as a way of encouraging the agricultural industry to reduce its carbon footprint.

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Health star ratings could be made mandatory as industry fails to meet voluntary uptake target

9News, Other, 14/11/2025, Rebecca Masters

The packaged food industry has failed to reach the government's target for uptake of the health star rating system, and government will now decide if it should be mandated. More than 10? [...] Food Standards Australia New Zealand told 9news.com.au it is continuing preparatory work for a mandated system.

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[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

Asbestos in coloured sand used at schools

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 15/11/2025, Bethany Hiatt, Page 1

The Education Department sent out an urgent warning to all WA public schools to stop using several coloured sand products "immediately" because of concerns they could be contaminated with asbestos. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission issued an urgent recall notice this week for three decorative sand products used for children's craft and sensory play.

Also reported by: [9news.com.au \(Online\)](#)

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Quick sand chaos

Canberra Times, General News, 15/11/2025, Nieve Walton, Page 1

The ACT government has defended closing some schools yesterday, a decision which threw the city

into chaos as parents rushed to find alternative arrangements for students. Education Minister Yvette Berry said she was hoping to have schools open by Monday as asbestos experts worked over the weekend to test and remediate schools, if asbestos was detected.

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Asbestos sand in schools

Northern Territory News, General News, 15/11/2025, Fia Walsh, Page 1

At least 41 Northern Territory schools have confirmed they are impacted by a national recall on coloured play sand found to contain asbestos, with that number expected to grow. While NT WorkSafe has identified the risk as low, the education department advised staff not to touch any of the opened products and has urgently organised cleaners to decontaminate affected classrooms.

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Toxic legacy

The Saturday Paper, General News, 15/11/2025, Susan Chenery, Page 24

It's an old, old story. [...] Wittenoom was erased from maps in 2007, but the toxic legacy of its purpose, mining blue asbestos, remains.

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Landfill operator cops \$30k pollution fine

Newcastle Herald, General News, 15/11/2025, Matthew Kelly, Page 28

The state's environmental watchdog has imposed a range of regulatory conditions on Mangrove Mountain Landfill operator Verde Terra Pty Ltd to ensure that it operates in an environmentally responsible manner. In a separate development, the NSW Environment Protection Authority has also served a \$30,000 penalty infringement notice for the alleged pollution of waters at the Mangrove Mountain Landfill following an investigation.

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What we know about the coloured sand recalled from Officeworks, Woolworths for traces of asbestos

ABC Online, Other, 14/11/2025, Georgie Hewson

Several coloured educational sand products have been recalled after traces of asbestos were found in them. The sand is sold at dozens of stores across Australia, including Woolworths and Officeworks, which have removed the products from their shelves.

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Aussie council threatens \$834 fines after banned product discovered on nature strip

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 14/11/2025

Tensions are brewing in Aussie suburbs after a local council ordered the removal of a resident's "pristine" fake grass, which she said had been there for over five years. [...] It also contains PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances), which is not good for stormwater.

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[Back to Top](#)

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