



# TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 16th November 2025

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## LINKS

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sunday Telegraph](#)** (page 1) leads widespread coverage reporting that a nationwide shortage of aged-care and disability placements has resulted in thousands of long-stay patients being stranded in public hospitals, at a cost to the taxpayer of over a thousand dollars per day. *Also reported by:* [Sunday Mail Brisbane](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide](#), [Sunday Tasmanian](#), [Sunday Territorian](#)
- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 4) reports that radiologists at the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine will use MRI technology to detect internal injuries caused by non-fatal strangulation, in the hopes of improving conviction rates and conducting further research into the crime.
- **[The Sunday Tasmanian](#)** (page 4) reports a University of Tasmania study analysing Tasmanian hospital and death records has found that socio-economic disadvantage is associated with a higher risk of stroke.
- **[The Sunday Territorian](#)** (page 4) reports that in a first for Australia, researchers from Charles Darwin University have carried out a delivery of essential medication from one remote NT community to another by drone.
- **[The Sunday Telegraph](#)** (page 5) reports that a growing trend of dementia in younger people, particularly the 30 to 44 year-old age group, has been linked to excessive screen time. *Also reported by:* [Sunday Mail Brisbane](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide](#), [Sunday Tasmanian](#)

- [ABC Online](#) reports that voluntary use of health star ratings on food packaging by the food industry has failed to reach a target of 70 per cent, leaving the door open for health ministers to make the system mandatory. Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White has described the numbers, estimated at 37 per cent, as "disappointing." Also reported by: [ABC Radio Canberra](#)
- [ABC Online](#) reports that following reforms to Victoria's Voluntary Assisted Dying laws, doctors may now raise VAD as an option when consulting with terminally ill patients.
- [ABC Online](#) reports healthcare professionals in the NT have called for greater government support to reduce the rate of diabetes and associated complications as part of awareness-raising on World Diabetes Day.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

### Health star ratings likely to become mandatory as food industry misses 70pc target

ABC Online, Other, 15/11/2025, Paige Cockburn

The food industry has missed its deadline for voluntarily displaying health star ratings on 70 per cent of its products, with a little over half that number taking part in the voluntary scheme, according to new research. [...] Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White, who is part of the Australian and New Zealand food ministers group, said members were frustrated more brands had not jumped on board.

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### Federal endometriosis clinic to open in Dandenong

Berwick Star News, Other, 15/11/2025, Jin Hui

A new specialist Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain Clinic for women and girls is set to open in Dandenong. [...] Women assistant minister Rebecca White said "too many women have spent years living with debilitating pain that is often dismissed or misunderstood".

[Read More](#)

The federal government is considering making Health Star ratings on food packaging mandatory after a decade of optional use, with only 37 per cent of products currently displaying them. Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White emphasised the importance of clear consumer information, noting that updated data from the Australian Food Ministers Group will guide future population health decisions.

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## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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## DEPARTMENT

### Hospital limbo for elderly, disabled

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 16/11/2025, Carly Douglas & Taylah Fellows, Page 13

More than 450 public hospital beds across Victoria are currently occupied by patients who are medically fit for discharge, costing taxpayers tens of millions of dollars annually. [...] "We are working closely with the NDIA, the Commonwealth Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, and with Victorian health services to address discharge issues that both older people and NDIS participants may experience in hospital."

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### Pleas for meningococcal B vaccine to be free after 16-year-old's sudden death

A Current Affair, Other, 15/11/2025, Georgia Westgarth

Victorian GPs are putting pressure on the state government to fund the expansion of the meningococcal vaccines that protect young people from the devastating disease. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing continues to engage with GSK on this issue, and would welcome an updated submission being made to the PBAC to reconsider the expansion of Bexsero.

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Our hospital bed shame

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 16/11/2025, Linda Silmalis, Page 1

Almost 1200 patients are stuck languishing in NSW hospital beds as they await either placement in an aged-care facility or home disability support. The figure has ballooned from 700 beds last year.

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### Care deadlocked and bed-blocked

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Edition Changes, 16/11/2025, Taylah Fellows, Page 12

Thousands of Australians are languishing in public hospitals for up to a year despite being medically fit for discharge due to a nationwide aged-care and disability placement bed shortage. New figures reveal 3704 long-stay patients are currently stranded in state-run hospitals while waiting for aged-care beds or NDIS-supported accommodation, a crisis now draining more than \$2.34bn a year from state health budgets.

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

## Waiting for ages in shock care fail

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 16/11/2025, Taylah Fellows, Page 13

A frustrated Queensland nurse has issued an extraordinary plea to federal ministers, warning she fears "another person will die" waiting for aged care as hundreds of medically fit Queenslanders remain trapped in hospital beds. The Brisbane-based clinician a registered nurse with 30 years' experience who conducts aged-care placements said she had reached breaking point after spending weeks trying to place vulnerable older people into residential aged care facilities (RACs), only to be rejected repeatedly.

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

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## It is time to fix aged-care mess

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Editorials, 16/11/2025, Page 60

Australia spends more than \$32 billion a year on aged care and yet more than 3700 older Australians are stranded in hospital beds, unable to secure a placement in a nursing home or other appropriate facility. They are people like Eric Stewart. He has spent eight months in a hospital bed at Brisbane's Princess Alexandra Hospital.

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## They're fit to go, but forced to be patient

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 16/11/2025, Brad Crouch & Taylah Fellows, Page 12

Thousands of Australians are languishing in public hospitals for months or years despite being medically fit for discharge, due to a nationwide shortage of aged-care and disability beds. New figures reveal 3704 long-stay patients are currently stranded in state-run hospitals while waiting for aged-care beds or NDIS-supported accommodation, a crisis now draining more than \$2.34bn a year from state health budgets.

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## Bed block crisis exposes health system shambles

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Editorials, 16/11/2025, Page 59

Labor's flagship election promise to "fix the ramping crisis" was always a fanciful ambition, even if it was a vote winner. As the Sunday Mail has consistently argued, health spending can be a bottomless pit for governments and should not, by itself, be a measure of success.

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## \$215k a day bed block

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 16/11/2025, Sue Bailey, Page 1

Nearly 100 patients are languishing in the state's public hospitals despite being medically fit for discharge because of a shortage in aged care and NDIS places. The chronic bed block is costing the state health service more than \$215,700 a day, leading to calls for better federal funding.

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## The worrying state of NT aged care bed shortage

Sunday Territorian, General News, 16/11/2025, Lottie Hood, Page 7

Thousands of Australians are languishing in public hospitals for up to a year despite being medically fit for discharge due to a nationwide aged-care and disability placement bed shortage. New figures reveal 3704 long-stay patients are stranded in state-run hospitals while waiting for aged-care beds or NDIS-supported accommodation, a crisis now draining more than \$2.34bn a year from state health budgets.

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## Beds blocked

Sunday Territorian, Editorials, 16/11/2025, Page 20

Thousands of Australians remain in hospital despite being ready for aged care placement editorial New health data has revealed thousands of Australians are languishing in public hospitals for up to a year despite being medically fit for discharge.

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## 2GB, Weekends, 15/11/2025, Luke Grant

Interview with economist Leith van Onselen, Chief Economist at the MB Fund and MB Super. Van Onselen points out that Australian pensioners face an effective marginal tax rate of 77 per cent, discouraging workforce participation. Drawing on research from Retirement Essentials and National Seniors Australia, he advocates for the removal of the aged pension income test, which, unlike New Zealand's universal pension, would increase labour force participation among older Australians and address critical labour shortages. He believes that this policy shift could benefit up to 2 million pensioners, alleviate immigration pressures, and improve economic efficiency.

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## DISABILITY AND CARERS

### Families fear for the future

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 16/11/2025, Talara McHugh, Page 21

Families are warning they'll be left picking up the pieces if South Australia's largest disability employer collapses next week as they face increased caring responsibilities and the challenge of finding alternative work for their loved ones. More than 1400 Bedford employees, including Harvey Whitelock, 58, will lose their jobs if the state government cannot secure a deal within days.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### ADHD goes mainstream

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 16/11/2025, Mikaela Mulveney, Page 21

Queensland will become the first state or territory to allow general practitioners to diagnose and treat Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in adults. The changes, announced on Saturday, are expected to come into effect by December 1 and will remove the final barrier that has prevented GPs from diagnosing and prescribing ADHD in adults.

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

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### Dangers of self-diagnosing mental health

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 16/11/2025, Katelyn Catanzariti, Page 16

Australians are increasingly diagnosing themselves with complex mental health conditions after scrolling through social media or chatting with artificial intelligence in a shift experts say risks misdiagnosis, delayed treatment and worsening symptoms. Clinical psychologist Professor Jill Newby from UNSW Sydney says the rise in people diagnosing themselves with conditions such as ADHD or OCD after seeing relatable online content is becoming a serious concern.

*Also reported by:* [Sunday Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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### New drug for blood cancer added to PBS

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 16/11/2025, Page 12

A treatment for Australians battling a deadly blood cancer is now available on the PBS. Johnson &

Johnson's Darzalex (daratumumab) has been made available to Australians newly diagnosed with multiple myeloma who are not eligible for a stem cell transplant.

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

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## Bulk-billed clinics up for grabs

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 16/11/2025, Elise Kaine, Page 16

Expressions of interest are now open for private operators to run four of the five "TassieDoc" bulk-billed GP clinics promised by the Liberals, with a fifth clinic in the Huon Valley still progressing. During the election campaign, Labor committed to building new, free and bulk-billed GP clinics, with the Liberals matching that promise.

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

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## NT team makes history with medical drone use

Sunday Territorian, General News, 16/11/2025, Harry Brill, Page 4

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 Gunbalunya Health Centre were treating a patient who had gone into cardiac arrest when they were forced to think outside the box.

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## Queensland to allow GPs to diagnose, prescribe ADHD drugs to adults

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 15/11/2025, Alex Condon

Queensland GPs will be able to diagnose adults with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and prescribe them with medication to treat it, under changes that will come into force from December 1. Announcing the move on Saturday, Health Minister Tim Nicholls touted it as a "nation-leading first" in treating ADHD.

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## Queensland GPs to be able to diagnose adults with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder from December 1

ABC Online, Other, 15/11/2025

General practitioners in Queensland will have the ability to diagnose attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in adults and prescribe medication, in an Australian first. The changes will come into effect from December 1 and expand the scope of specialist GPs in Queensland, who can currently prescribe ADHD medication for patients under 18.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### How Melbourne forensic experts are helping strangulation victims

Sunday Age, General News, 16/11/2025, Melissa Cunningham, Page 4

When Stacey Walker swiped on her ex-partner's profile on a dating app, he seemed different from men who were quick to inundate her with sexual advances. [...] A team at the institute will soon begin using a dedicated, state government-funded MRI scanner to help police investigate internal injuries to gather forensic evidence.

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### Screen link to dementia

Sunday Telegraph, Edition Changes, 16/11/2025, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 5

Excessive screen use is being blamed for a shocking spike in the number of young people diagnosed with dementia - with the youngest known case globally now just 19. Internationally-recognised Australian professor of cognitive neuroscience Mark Williams described the rise in cases of dementia in people aged "in their 20s and 30s" as "staggering".

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#).

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## Dementia most deadly

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 16/11/2025, Page 7

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: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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## Schools hit by fibres of fear

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Edition Changes, 16/11/2025, Agnes Gichuhi & Paul Starick, Page 11

About 130 South Australian schools and early-learning centres have reported the presence of asbestos-contaminated coloured play sand on their grounds, with specialist cleaners set to clear affected areas on Monday. Education Minister Blair Boyer said all asbestos needed to be treated seriously but the advice from SafeWork SA was that this was low risk and that all sites would remain open.

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## Whiff of a midlife 'popping' problem

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 16/11/2025, Tayla Couacaud, Page 11

Over-40s are being admitted to Queensland hospitals for chroming at alarming rates, while teenagers are turning away from the harmful practice. Data released exclusively to The Sunday Mail shows three times as many Queenslanders over the age of 40 were admitted to hospital after inhaling dangerous substances last financial year than in 2020/21.

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

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## How to challenge organised crime?

Sunday Examiner, General News, 16/11/2025, Craig Thomson, Page 27

Finding a solution to the illegal tobacco trade in Tasmania is like the "whack-a-mole" problem. A solution to one problem often creates another, much like fixing something in an old car, where once one part is working well, another breaks.

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## Asbestos has been found in children's coloured sand. What's the risk to kids?

Canberra Times, Other, 15/11/2025, Brian Oliver

Multiple schools and early learning centres in the Australian Capital Territory have shut on Friday after asbestos was found in coloured sand used for children's art and sensory play. At least one school in Brisbane has also closed due to potential exposure.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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## Nearly half of women enrolled in Queensland homebirth program transferred to hospital, report finds

ABC Online, Other, 15/11/2025, Kate McKenna & Janelle Miles

A "small" number of women who were ineligible for Queensland's first publicly funded homebirth program decided to freebirth, a leaked report into the first year of the program has revealed. The report, obtained by the ABC, has recommended doctors and midwives work with women who are "risky out of the program" to develop an individual plan to reduce the dangers of freebirthing.

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## **First school reopens as risk from asbestos exposure deemed 'extremely low'**

ABC Online, Other, 15/11/2025

The first of 17 public schools closed on Friday due to fears of asbestos exposure has reopened, as an epidemiologist says parents should not be concerned. Sixteen schools in the ACT and one in Brisbane were shut down on Friday after the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) issued a national recall notice for coloured sand products when testing detected traces of asbestos.

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## **The big Aussie killer that's hit a near 50-year low**

The New Daily, Other, 15/11/2025, Alannah Sciberras

Deaths from coronary heart disease in Australia have fallen to their lowest rate in almost 50 years, with dementia overtaking it as the nation's leading cause of death. Australian Bureau of Statistics data released on Friday shows coronary heart disease remains the leading cause of death for men and for people living in outer regional and remote areas.

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## **Australia's longevity lottery: Where you live can add or take away a DECADE from your life - as the best and worst regions are revealed**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 15/11/2025, Sarah Brookes

The latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows Australians face a postcode lottery of longevity, with life expectancy ranging from just 74 years in the Northern Territory to nearly 87 in Sydney's Inner West. [...] Life expectancy has improved dramatically for both sexes in the last century, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

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## **Channel 10, 10 News (Weekend), 15/11/2025, Chris Bath**

Queensland will be the first Australian state to allow specialist GPs to prescribe ADHD medication to adults, reducing reliance on psychiatrists and long specialist waitlists. This policy uses trusted, long-term GP-patient relationships to improve access to ADHD diagnosis and treatment.

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## **CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING**

### **Superb tech scan do it all**

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 16/11/2025, Sarah Booth, Page 29

A game-changing, state-of-the-art scanner that completes hour-long imaging in just minutes while offering up far more detailed insights is set to massively boost Victorian research and patient care. The Sunday Herald Sun can reveal that the Quadra PET scanner, one of the most advanced imaging technologies available in the world, has been installed at The Alfred hospital.

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### **Cabbage soup diet opened my eyes to weight shame**

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 16/11/2025, Angela Mollard, Page 66

Six weeks ago I came back from holiday 3kg over my normal weight. [...] The government is midway through its 10-year National Obesity Strategy but in the meantime all of us can start framing the



condition as a complex and chronic disease.

Also reported by: [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#).

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## Mobile health clinic visits bush

Sunday Times, General News, 16/11/2025, Page 16

A state-of-the-art mobile health clinic is making its maiden journey across remote WA, helping to screen for lung cancer and deliver life-saving specialist care to the bush. Heart of Australia's new HEART 7 truck will be rolling into regional towns from next week, with the Pilbara, Kimberley and Mid West the first centres on the list.

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

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## Doctors free to discuss Voluntary Assisted Dying with patients after Victorian MPs pass amendments

ABC Online, Other, 15/11/2025

Reforms to give Victorians greater access to voluntary assisted dying (VAD) passed parliament late on Friday night. The reforms remove a "gag clause" that had prevented doctors from raising VAD with patients.

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## The frontline of diabetes

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 16/11/2025

It is estimated 19,000 people in the Western New South Wales Primary Health Network are living with type 2 diabetes. This World Diabetes Day (Friday 14 November) I urge all Australians to think about what you can do to reduce your risk of type 2 diabetes.

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## Supporting eye health at every age

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 15/11/2025, Leanne Philpott

From childhood through to older age, vision changes are part of life. Pharmacists can help patients recognise these shifts early, manage common concerns, and support eye health at every stage of life. More than 13 million Australians have a chronic eye condition.

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# MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

## Heartbreak and hope

Sun Herald, Sunday Life, 16/11/2025, Page 10

What comes after the death of a child? [...] Amanda Ferguson, host of the podcast Psych for Life with Dr Amanda Ferguson, says that when people suffer major tragedies they need to tap into a broader sense of meaning that will help them make sense of it.

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

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## Five simple ways to check your wellbeing and none involves TikTok or Google

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 16/11/2025, Phillipa Brown, Page 17

Commentwe are living in a time when mental health advice is everywhere. Scroll TikTok long enough and you'll find self-diagnosis checklists, symptom hacks and people labelling every feeling as trauma, ADHD, a toxic relationship or a personality disorder.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Sunday Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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## Why Lord Ian Botham joined the fight for men's lives in Illawarra

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 15/11/2025, Agron Latifi

"It's incredibly sad. We've had three in our community in the last two weeks," said a visibly shaken Healthier Illawarra Men's (HIM) chair Mark Sleigh, in response to a question about the Illawarra's suicide rate. Mr Sleigh spoke to the media on Friday before joining some 550 people at HIM's International Men's Day Lunch at the University of Wollongong.

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## IMMUNISATION

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

### This tiny chip can predict your chances of a stroke

Sun Herald, General News, 16/11/2025, Angus Thomson, Page 13

When it comes to saving lives from heart disease, every minute counts. This is a fact Charles Zhao knows too well.

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### Postcode predicts chances of stroke

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 16/11/2025, Sue Bailey, Page 4

A new Tasmanian study has found people living in lower socio-economic areas are significantly more likely to experience stroke than people living in more affluent areas. The research, by the University of Tasmania's Menzies Institute for Medical Research, analysed Tasmanian hospital and death records from 2007 to 2020, identifying nearly 5000 first-ever stroke cases between 2015 and 2020.

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### From survivor to champion

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 16/11/2025, Sue Bailey, Page 4

Since Michael Whittle survived two strokes he has been on a mission to help others. He co-founded the Hobart Stroke Support Group and plays a key role in an advisory group to the Cardiovascular Research Flagship at UTAS's Menzies Institute for Medical Research.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

## Tiwi Islands to get new healing centre blending traditional and western medicine

Northern Territory News, Other, 15/11/2025, Fia Walsh

A new healing centre will be built on the Tiwi Islands, with the federal government investing \$3.1 million from the Aboriginals Benefit Account. An initiative of the Djurrupuwu family group, the Djurrupuwu Healing Centre will provide culturally appropriate health and wellbeing services, designed and led by the Tiwi community.

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

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## NT's high rates of diabetes and amputations highlighted by territory health professionals on World Diabetes Day

ABC Online, Other, 15/11/2025

In the rural Northern Territory town of Katherine, diabetes can feel "normal" for young Aboriginal women. The disease was diagnosed in Edwina Murphy and Renee Tasman while they were still in school, but it wasn't their first encounter with the condition.

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## PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

### Unfolding hospital crisis reaches emergency status

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 16/11/2025, Allanah Sciberras, Page 17

A lack of funding and workforce shortages are adding immense pressure on public hospitals, leading to record numbers of mental health presentations in emergency departments. Patients requiring urgent mental health care are spending an average of seven hours waiting in public emergency departments, according to the Australian Medical Association's annual report.

Also reported by: [Sunday Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Nicholls won't look into doctor suspension process

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 16/11/2025, Mikaela Mulveney, Page 12

Health Minister Tim Nicholls has refused to review Queensland Health's suspension process for doctors with decades of experience who say they are being "unfairly" stood down on full pay for months. It comes as The Saturday Courier-Mail revealed taxpayers are paying full salaries to 91 clinicians suspended on full pay with some earning up to \$500,000 a year at the same time Mr Nicholls is "pulling every lever" to hire 46,000 more workers by 2032.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Nearly 1 million are working in health

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 16/11/2025, Page 12

Australia is inching towards having one million registered health practitioners. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) annual report shows the nation had 959,858 registered practitioners at June 30 - a 4.3 per cent increase on the previous year.

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

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### Patients still losing super in backroom bargaining

Sunday Times, Edition Changes, 16/11/2025, John Flint, Page 16

Moves to tackle "inappropriate conduct" by dentists amid an explosion in Australians emptying their superannuation accounts to pay for expensive procedures will likely backfire, a top surgeon has warned. [...] The raid on funds, meant to pay for retirement, has alarmed the ATO, which has joined forces with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) to combat abuse of CRS and business models that use super as a pot of gold to pay for overly expensive or unnecessary procedures.

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

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### Doctors said Kat's crippling arthritis at 48 was 'ageing' - and nothing they gave her worked.

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 16/11/2025

For years, tech specialist Kat Milner woke each morning with a sharp, throbbing ache gripping her right hand. [...] A practitioner should be registered with AHPRA, use single-use sterile needles, and have specific post-graduate certification in dry needling.

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### The expert who debugs Queensland

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 16/11/2025, Kyle Lang, Page 34

He was the leading consultant on infectious diseases to the Queensland Government during the Covid-19 pandemic but nearly six years on, Dr Paul Griffin says, "we didn't get it perfectly right". There were glaring errors in the state's response and captains' calls by then-premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and chief health officer Jeannette Young but Dr Griffin is also concerned with the impact on existing and future public health outcomes.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Menopause test concerns

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 16/11/2025, Ashleigh Gleeson, Page 28

Women are being warned about the reliability of at-home 'menopause tests', as experts voice concerns about a bombardment of unnecessary treatments and products. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration said it had approved three tests that measure follicle-stimulating hormones in Australia.

Also reported by: [Sunday Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#).

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### AI Muderis 2.0

Sun Herald, General News, 16/11/2025, Charlotte Grieve, Page 27

Disgraced surgeon Munjed Al Muderis is planning to bring US-style "consumer pays, consumer risks" orthopaedic healthcare to Australia. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration started receiving adverse reports related to the nail from March 2020.

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

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### Hair loss drug finasteride causing psychological side effects in some men

ABC Online, Other, 15/11/2025, Tynan King

Two months ago, at his best friend's wedding, Andre Eid was doing a last-minute run-through of his speech when he felt a sinking feeling in his stomach. [...] He has since had some of his symptoms recognised by a GP and a urologist, and has made an adverse drug report to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

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## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### ABC News, ABC Evening News (Weekend), 15/11/2025, Manny Tsigas

Only 37 per cent of Australian products have Health Star ratings, which falls far short of the government's 70 per cent target, prompting calls for a mandatory system. The federal government is expected to decide next year whether to make these ratings mandatory, despite industry opposition and the voluntary system's flaws. The Australian Food and Grocery Council cites labelling costs as a barrier, while nutrition experts emphasise the importance of updating national policies after 33 years.

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

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## AICIS

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