



TODAY'S NEWS

Monday, 1st June 2026

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Daily Telegraph \(page 7\)](#)** reports that eligible patients will have access to cheaper prescriptions for two treatments for leukaemia, Acalabrutinib (Calquence) and Blinatumomab, following their expanded listing on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
- **[The Daily Telegraph \(page 10\)](#)** reports that Disability Minister Jenny McAllister warned that any delays in passing the government's NDIS reforms could have "significant" consequences after Opposition Leader Angus Taylor promised to "fight like hell" against Labor's proposed tax changes.
- **[The Daily Telegraph \(page 7\)](#)** reports that despite more than 79,000 ongoing places for the Support at Home program being released over the last quarter, older Australians are still waiting up to eight months for homecare help.
- **[The Cairns Post \(page 5\)](#)** leads widespread coverage reporting that a \$1bn expansion project for Cairns Hospital will lift capacity, cut wait times and integrate research and training, creating a new medical hub for the region.
- **[The Australian \(page 6\)](#)** reports that NSW Health has shut down 15 more shops this week as the government ramps up its illicit tobacco crackdown. "I say to the bad actors out there, if you do the wrong thing, sooner or later, the inspectors will find you," NSW Health Minister Ryan Park said.

MINISTER BUTLER

Patients left stranded by the gap

Age, General News, 01/06/2026, Melissa Cunningham, Page 1

Tamara Macpherson was already grappling with a breast cancer diagnosis when she was dealt another devastating blow, in the form of a \$35,000 medical bill. The Melbourne mother of two had paid for top-tier private health insurance for years before she was diagnosed with cancer in 2024. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said making specialists more affordable was a priority.

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\$35.5m boost for cancer patients

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/06/2026, Jessica Wang, Page 7

Eligible patients suffering from leukaemia will have access to \$25 scripts for two new treatments after their expanded listing on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, saving people at least a combined \$35.5m in out-of-pocket costs. Concession card holders can obtain eligible scripts for \$7.70. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the expanded PBS listing would be "life-changing".

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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Delays to cost NDIS reform

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 5

Disability Minister Jenny McAllister has warned that delays to passing the government's NDIS reforms could have "significant" consequences, after Opposition Leader Angus Taylor promised to "fight like hell" against Labor's proposed tax changes. Health Minister Mark Butler revealed in May about 160,000 people would be cut from the NDIS by the end of the decade.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Albany Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [South Western Times \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Sky News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [MSN Australia \(Online\)](#), [Harvey-Waroon Reporter \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Midwest Times \(Online\)](#), [Narrogin Observer \(Online\)](#).

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NDIS overhaul concerns

Swan Hill Guardian, Other, 31/05/2026

A major overhaul of the National Disability Insurance Scheme has regional advocates warning vulnerable communities could be left behind. Health Minister Mark Butler has unveiled sweeping changes to rein in the soaring cost of the NDIS, declaring the scheme can no longer be treated as "an ATM for shonks, grifters, fraudsters and crooks".

[Read More](#)

Letter from a GP: doctors are being betrayed by Medicare

The Australian, Other, 31/05/2026, Dr Julia Rawlinson

I write this letter not merely as a general practitioner, but as a colleague who is watching our profession be dismantled, slowly, deliberately, and with a smile. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has repeatedly pointed to the tripling of bulk-billing incentives as proof of his government's commitment to general practice.

[Read More](#)

Six-year-old Sienna's parents have fought the NDIS every year of her life for funding that keeps her alive

The Guardian, Other, 31/05/2026, Kate Lyons

June's six-year-old daughter Sienna* is one of the more profoundly disabled people on the national disability insurance scheme. Sienna has cerebral palsy and a number of comorbidities. [...] In April, the health minister, Mark Butler, announced huge cuts to the NDIS that would see about 160,000 people removed from the scheme in order to preserve the scheme for those who needed it most.

[Read More](#)

New free Medicare Urgent Care Clinic to open in Glenorchy area

WEB Pulse Tasmania, Other, 31/05/2026

A new free urgent care clinic is set to open in Hobart's northern suburbs. Pulse can reveal the federal government is planning to set up a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in the Glenorchy-Derwent Park area. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the clinic would better serve people in the area.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

NDIS delays a risk to budget

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 10

Disability Minister Jenny McAllister has warned that delays to passing the government's NDIS reforms could have "significant" consequences, after Opposition Leader Angus Taylor promised to "fight like hell" against Labor's proposed tax changes. Health Minister Mark Butler revealed in May about 160,000 people would be cut from the NDIS by the end of the decade.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#)

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New NDIS laws target \$3b fraud with sweeping investigator powers

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/05/2026, Madeleine Bower

National Disability Insurance Agency officers will be granted sweeping new powers to haul shonky providers draining the taxpayer-funded disability support plans of vulnerable Australians in for questioning, search their properties and force them to hand over passwords. [...] NDIS minister Jenny McAllister said those fleecing people with a disability would feel the full force of the NDIA's beefed up powers.

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NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister unable to explain 'half a trillion black hole' claim against Coalition's unfunded promises

Sky News Australia, Other, 31/05/2026, Oscar Godsell

A senior Labor minister has accused the Coalition of racking up a "half a trillion dollar" budget black hole but was unable to explain how she had arrived at the figure. NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister claimed the opposition had made "like half a trillion dollars of unfunded promises" that would "blow a hole in the budget".

[Read More](#)

Labor warns Coalition against delaying NDIS reforms over capital gains tax, negative gearing fight

Sky News Australia, Other, 31/05/2026, Oscar Godsell

Labor has warned the Coalition against holding up NDIS legislation, saying delays would cost the budget billions of dollars, as tensions boil over changes to capital gains tax and negative gearing. [...] NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister told Sky News Sunday Agenda that the NDIS reform was necessary to make the scheme more sustainable.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Weekend NewsDay, 31/05/2026

NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister says the Coalition is engaging constructively with Labor on its planned overhaul of the NDIS, with the government needing Opposition support in the Senate after the Greens rejected the changes. The Coalition has been threatening to withhold support for the reforms in an effort to force concessions on housing-related tax measures, though McAllister says discussions have been productive. She also says efforts to crack down on fraud in the NDIS are mainly about improving integrity rather than delivering major budget savings.

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Sky News Live, Sunday Agenda, 31/05/2026, Andrew Clennell

Interview with One Nation leader Pauline Hanson about budget deficits and government spending on the NDIS. Hanson argues that the NDIS should be cut back following NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister's remarks, claiming that there is widespread scamming and rorting within the scheme, including providers charging very high hourly rates and repeatedly closing and reopening companies after alleged fraud. She says the department has failed to properly control misuse of funds.

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Sky News Live, Sunday Agenda, 31/05/2026, Andrew Clennell

Interview with NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister about proposed NDIS reforms and scheme integrity measures. McAllister discusses the government's push to pass NDIS reforms aimed at ensuring the scheme's long-term sustainability, warning that delays could undermine budget savings. She also outlines new anti-fraud measures including stronger NDIA enforcement powers and provider registration requirements, saying that fraud savings are limited because recovered funds are redirected to participants, and stressing that serious offenders are already facing jail terms.

Continuing on: [Sky News Live \(Sydney\)](#), [Sky News Live \(Sydney\)](#).

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2CC, 11:00 News (Weekend), 31/05/2026

The Federal Government says it is confident the Opposition will help pass its proposed NDIS reforms, which aim to remove up to 300,000 people from the scheme in an effort to control rising costs. The Coalition has threatened to block the legislation unless changes to capital gains tax and negative gearing are reconsidered. NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister says talks are continuing in good faith, describing engagement with the Opposition as constructive.

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MINISTER RAE

Homecare OKed but 100,000 still wait

The Australian, General News, 01/06/2026, Sarah Ison, Page 5

More than 100,000 Australians approved for homecare packages are still waiting to receive support, as fresh figures show the nation's elderly face standard waiting times of between seven and eight months. [...] However, Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said the latest quarterly report indicated a number of promising trends resulting from the government's policies, pointing to the fact that there were now nearly 18,000 more older Australians who had been given access to an ongoing Support at Home place.

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Aged-care wait falls ... slowly

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/06/2026, Ellen Ransley, Page 7

Older Australians are still waiting up to eight months for homecare help, even as the government points to improvements in the aged care system. Data from the first three months of the year shows more than 79,000 ongoing places for the Support at Home program were released over the quarter, and that

estimated wait times fell across all categories. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said the data was encouraging.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

Report calls for more federal support for new dads

SBS, Other, 31/05/2026

A report calling for more federal support for new dads was tabled in federal parliament this week by the Special Envoy for Men's Health Dan Repacholi. The report by the Movember Institute surveyed 1,200 Australian fathers, finding 84 per cent said fatherhood gave their life greater meaning and 77 per cent said it helped them express love and vulnerability more.

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DEPARTMENT

More Australians report feeling lonely. This WA program is trialling a new idea to help

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 31/05/2026, Pam Bubrzycki

At a time when world events and cost-of-living pressures are contributing to rising levels of anxiety, the ability to connect with others has never been more crucial to our well-being. However, for many Australians, the experience of loneliness, isolation, and social disconnection is a daily reality. [...] Momentum is building, with a national feasibility study recently commissioned by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, recommending that social prescribing should be implemented into our healthcare system at a national level.

Also reported by: [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Bain's explosive win from Estia firecracker

Bain Capital has Virgin Australia as a high-profile contender for deal of the decade, but a lower-profile aged care buyout could be more satisfying, more profitable for its deal makers and perhaps even better for investors.

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Aveo owner in mix for Reside Communities

The Australian, Business News, 01/06/2026, Page 14

Morgan Stanley has started the firing gun for the sale process of Queensland retirement communities operator Reside Communities, with early interest understood to have emerged from some of the sector's most active players. Sources say the asking price would come in under \$500m for the business.

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

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Australian aged care demand growing faster than supply

Canberra Times, Business News, 01/06/2026, Noel Whittaker, Page 13

Your money economics often comes down to one bru tally simple principle: supply and demand. When demand exceeds supply, prices rise, queues form and shortages emerge.

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An industry targeting Australia's ageing population is growing, but can AI deliver more humanity in aged care?

The Guardian, Other, 31/05/2026, Tory Shepherd

"You'll never get rid of humans," Prof Wendy Moyle says, during a discussion about robots and other technology in aged care and residential homes. Then, a beat later, she adds: "Well, I don't think we'll get rid of humans."

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The vital role of primary care in aged care

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 01/06/2026

New research highlights the crucial role good primary care plays in preventing hospitalisation of people in the aged care system. It's only been six months since the Productivity Commission Inquiry Report 'Delivering quality care more efficiently' , but it's not too soon to reiterate the importance of the recommendations of this report.

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Teen's grounds for success

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 01/06/2026, Zachary Probert, Page 7

Dealing with deafness, an intellectual disability and now generalised epilepsy, Ethan Gower-Wiggins has experienced the pitfalls that come with striving for independence. The 17-year-old worked for an NDIS supported coffee van two days a week in 2025, but after he had his first seizure on September 14 he was let go due to being 'high risk'.

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This program helps Charli and Frankie hear the world, but it isn't government-funded

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 31/05/2026, Natalie Croxon

After little Frankie Girardi received her cochlear implants, the difference in her was "night and day". "I could sit Frankie on my lap now while she's wearing her , I can whisper her name and she'll turn

around and say 'What?'

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The Sunday read: what the NDIS cuts reveal about Australia's 'warped' priorities – Full Story podcast

The Guardian, Other, 31/05/2026

Australians with disabilities copped the biggest cuts in the budget. Yet conservative media's heart bleeds only for the wealthy

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Fears grow as vulnerable NDIS participants vanish after safety warnings issued

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 31/05/2026, Julie Cross

With some people's NDIS plans worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, boarding houses and housing commissions have become hunting grounds for those looking for fresh meat. This is where many people with drug addictions, complex psychosocial disabilities, or intellectual disabilities end up. They're easy targets for unscrupulous providers.

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Vulnerable NDIS participants 'go missing' after being lured from homes

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 31/05/2026

Thousands of vulnerable people on the National Disability Insurance Scheme are "missing" experts say, after being lured away from their homes by service providers hoping to get access to their lucrative plans worth millions of dollars. In some cases, they are being moved from place to place so they cannot be found and allegedly given incentives such as cash, cigarettes and alcohol, according to solicitor Charlotte Jones.

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PRIMARY CARE

New TassieDoc tender

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 4

A request-for-tender process has begun for a new TassieDoc clinic in Bridport, with negotiations also underway for a second clinic in southern Tasmania. Health Minister Bridget Archer said the Bridport tender for a provider would be advertised later this month after multiple bids were received.

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'He could have died'

West Australian, General News, 01/06/2026, Claire Sadler, Page 15

WA's Health Minister has apologised to a man who coughed up enough blood to fill a bathroom sink, forcing his sister to rush him to hospital rather than face a long wait for an ambulance. Thirty-year-old Matthew was recovering from tonsil surgery at his mum's home in Casuarina on May 8 when he started coughing up blood.

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

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'Painful' death revisited

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 01/06/2026, Tara Cosoleto, Page 1

A baby's death could have been avoided if a mother was transferred to hospital at the first sign of distress during her home birth. Victorian coroner Dimitra Dubrow made the finding for the boy, known as Baby R, on Friday following an inquest into his death.

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It's the heal deal

Cairns Post, General News, 01/06/2026, Sian Jeffries, Page 1

Robotics, artificial intelligence and a Toxicology Centre of Excellence will transform healthcare in the region as part of the Far North's biggest-ever health investment. The \$1bn Cairns Hospital expansion will lift capacity, cut wait times and integrate research and training.

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

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Hospital to become mega health hub

Cairns Post, General News, 01/06/2026, Sian Jeffries, Page 5

A hospital expansion investment worth more than \$1bn will reset how Cairns delivers health care. A 30-year, Stage 1 delivery of the Cairns Hospital Masterplan is centred on the new Health Innovation and Surgical Centre, a Health Management Hub and supporting infrastructure.

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

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Cairns targets chronic illness

Cairns Post, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 6

On the tropical frontline of chronic disease, Cairns is turning research into better care and building an innovation hub to close health gaps. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are disproportionately impacted by chronic diseases, including rheumatic heart disease, diabetes and kidney disease.

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Shot in arm for Clinical research

Cairns Post, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 7

Patients will be able to be involved in cutting-edge medical treatments under plans to expand Cairns Hospital's clinical trials unit. As part of the \$1 billion expansion of the hospital, a dedicated clinical trials research centre of excellence will be established in the new Health Innovation and Surgical Centre building, expected to be completed by 2031.

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Bright future

Cairns Post, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 26

Cairns has a bright future because of investment in the right foundations - world-class health, a diversified economy and the staying power of tourism. The biggest health infrastructure investment in the Far North's history, more than \$1bn, will reshape care, training and research.

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2GB, Healthy Living, 31/05/2026, Dr. Ross Walker

Interview with Healthylife chief health officer Simone Austin about the findings of the Living Healthy Report 2026. Austin discusses the gap between Australians' confidence in managing their health and their ability to access and afford healthcare, particularly among women aged 45-54 and regional Australians. She warns that cost barriers may push people towards unreliable online health information and supplements, and highlights telehealth and improved health literacy as ways to improve access to evidence-based care.

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An overlooked crisis affecting women

Australian Financial Review, General News, 01/06/2026, Sassica Francis-Bruce, Page 36

When I had my first child at 43, I was surprised at how well I eased into parenting.

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Rebuff for diabetes monitor subsidy plea

The Australian, General News, 01/06/2026, Jonathan Mendelsohn, Page 5

Thousands of people with type 2 diabetes cannot afford access to vital glucose monitors after the Albanese government snubbed a recommendation the devices be subsidised by taxpayers. In its long-awaited response to a parliamentary committee report into diabetes in Australia, the federal government failed to back a number of recommendations, including a tax on sugary drinks, an overhaul of food packaging to clearly mark the levels of added sugar, and an expansion of the subsidy for continuous glucose monitors.

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State intensifies its war against illicit tobacco

The Australian, General News, 01/06/2026, Andrew Hedgman, Page 6

The NSW government is ramping up its offensive against the state's thriving black market for cigarettes, shutting down 15 more premises this week as part of an aggressive compliance blitz. Data from NSW Health reveals that inspectors have issued 279 short-term (90-day) closure orders since the state's sweeping new enforcement powers took effect in November last year.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Policy failure a big factor in fertility decline

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 01/06/2026, Page 16

Today, nearly one in four women aged 18 to 45 say they will not have children, while most women who do intend to have kids say they will look to have smaller families than earlier generations. The nation's fertility rate, the expected births per woman, peaked in 2008 at 2.02, but it has since fallen by 25 per cent to a record low of 1.48 in 2024.

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Smoke engulfed their cities. Did it make their children sick?

ABC Online, Other, 31/05/2026

Six years after Black Summer bushfires, parents and doctors face an unsettling question: What does bushfire smoke do to babies in the womb?

[Read More](#)

SBS Speaks to Dr Marianne Jauncey about NSW's only medically supervised injecting centre

SBS, Other, 31/05/2026, Angelica Waite

New South Wales' only medically supervised injecting centre is calling for urgent legal reform to allow more sites to open across the state. It has been 25 years since the centre opened in Sydney's Kings Cross, becoming the first supervised injecting facility in the Southern Hemisphere.

[Read More](#)

A practical solution for preventing falls after stroke

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 01/06/2026

New evidence from the Falls After Stroke Trial shows that falls after stroke can be reduced with a tailored, home-based intervention. Falls are one of Australia's most serious and costly public health problems, and the leading cause of injury related hospitalisation and death among people aged 65 years and over.

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GLP-1 therapies key to Australia's new obesity and CVD treatment guide

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 01/06/2026

The National Heart Foundation released a practical guide for treating obesity and cardiovascular disease, and GLP-1 therapies are key. The National Heart Foundation of Australia presented Australia's first clinical consensus statement on obesity and cardiovascular disease (CVD) at the WHO World Health Assembly in Geneva.

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Daniher became a champion for MND families like ours

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/06/2026, Gay Alcorn, Page 18

When my husband was dying of motor neurone disease, a tradie turned up at our house to carry out a minor repair. On his head was a grubby Big Freeze beanie.

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

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Arthritic surfers given hip hope

Herald Sun, General News, 01/06/2026, Euan Kennedy, Page 13

A surgeon with a passion for surfing is developing an innovative new treatment technique for hip arthritis in a bid to keep fellow waveriders on their boards longer. Epworth Geelong orthopaedic surgeon Dr Nick Maister has been surfing since his early teens and is regularly quizzed by other surfers about how they can deal with arthritic hips.

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

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Doctors hail 'unprecedentedly strong responses' to cancer jab

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 10

Doctors have praised "unprecedentedly strong responses" to an injection that eradicated entire tumours in otherwise treatment-resistant cancer cases during a trial. It shrank the tumours for 42 per cent of patients in the Institute of Cancer Research, London, international study.

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

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My husband was fit and healthy until everything changed after his 40th birthday when he was given a devastating cancer diagnosis. He died two years later. This is our story

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 31/05/2026

Liam O'Brien dealt with a strange tiredness leading up to his 40th birthday The father-of-two was soon diagnosed with a fatal illness just weeks later.

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Sad update on former Australian of the Year Richard Scolyer's brain cancer battle

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 31/05/2026

The family of renowned cancer researcher Professor Richard Scolyer have given a harrowing update on his fight with the terminal disease. The world-leading pathologist and 2024 Australian of the Year was given eight months to live when he was diagnosed with stage four brain cancer in June 2023.

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World faces cancer workforce crisis with 100m staff shortfall, report warns

The Guardian, Other, 31/05/2026

The world is facing a cancer workforce crisis, experts have said, with a shortage of 100 million staff expected by 2050 as 100,000 people are diagnosed every day. Patients could face much longer waits to be diagnosed and treated in future as the global cancer burden continues to rise and threatens to overwhelm healthcare systems, according to a report at the world's largest oncology conference.

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Woman's agonising 5-year wait for diagnosis

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 31/05/2026

Women feeling "entirely dismissed" by the health system while battling a debilitating condition are relieved after a landmark renaming of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS). Redefined as polyendocrine metabolic ovarian syndrome (PMOS), the lifelong hormonal and metabolic disorder impacts more than 170 million women worldwide.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#).

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Motor neurone disease deaths are rising. We need more data to find out why

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 01/06/2026

Mortality from motor neurone disease has tripled in Australia since the 1980s with strong regional variation, but we need systematic data collection to identify environmental causal factors. Motor neurone disease (MND) may be classified as a rare disease (one that affects fewer than 1 in 2000 people), but prevalence is a deeply flawed measure for a disease that kills quickly.

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Bad timing on "flying squad" funding cuts

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 31/05/2026

In an interesting juxtaposition, a Nobel Prize winning researcher has highlighted the increasing evidence of infections causing cancers as the Australian Government decides not to renew funding for a program that is integral to investigating unusual infectious events.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News (Weekend), 31/05/2026, Georgie Tunny

New research has found a surge in Australians suffering from chronic back pain, with more than half reporting impacts on their mental health. Experts say cost-of-living pressures are preventing many people from seeking treatment, contributing to poorer health outcomes and an estimated \$55 billion annual cost to the economy. An eight-week online program aimed at helping people manage pain and mental wellbeing is offering new hope.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Health watchdog faces bias claims over trans ruling

The Australian, General News, 01/06/2026, Bernard Lane, Page 6

A complaint about the genderideology capture of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has been dismissed without investigation and without disclosing potential bias over links to the transgender lobby group ACON. On Wednesday, the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman shut down a prominent psychiatrist's complaint that AHPRA's association with ACON called into question the regulator's impartiality over paediatric gender medicine.

Insidious influence must be cut

The Australian, Editorials, 01/06/2026, Page 10

For the sake of gender-confused young people, the fanatical determination of the transgender lobby, whose pernicious influence is expanding, must be challenged by governments. The latest example of its encroachment underlines the genderideology capture of peak medical regulator the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency.

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Expert fears 'box-ticking' ADHD approach

Burnie Advocate, General News, 01/06/2026, Saree Salter, Page 10

General practitioners can now assess and treat ADHD if they complete a training session, and they can even do it online in their own time. But is it all good news?

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

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Psychologist reveals the unusual but common phobias crippling thousands of Australians

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/05/2026, Kate Uren

A woman so afraid of vomiting has revealed she willed herself not to be sick when she caught salmonella during a mass outbreak. Her's is just one of many strange phobias crippling Australians.

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

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The ancient Japanese skills helping young people combat modern stress

SBS, Other, 31/05/2026

Almost half of all teenagers in Australia are facing psychological distress, according to recent studies. Japanese martial arts skills are helping some build resilience.

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Australia's truckies were already struggling to survive. Then the fuel crisis hit

The Guardian, Other, 31/05/2026, Sarah Smaje

Frank Black is back on the road after two weeks out of work when he spots a sign, a little too far from where he's standing to make out clearly. "Is that \$2.08 for diesel?"

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IMMUNISATION

Flu season triggers warnings

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/06/2026, Oscar Moodley, Page 7

Tassie health's head honcho is urging older Tasmanians to gear up for a turbulent flu season, labelling vaccination "the best defence against serious illness". With Monday marking the beginning of winter and the traditional flu season, our Department of Health is expecting a spike in cases of colds, flu, Covid-19 and respiratory syncytial virus, resulting in major health challenges for our older citizens.

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First responders push for vaccinations

Ambulance Victoria is urging people to stay on top of their vaccinations before the winter season gets busy for paramedics and first responders. Colder weather often sees an increased risk of injury and illness, including surges in respiratory illnesses.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Agencies unfairly named and shamed

Canberra Times, General News, 01/06/2026, Eleanor Campbell, Page 14

Several agencies were (falsely) named and shamed for failure to comply with new artificial intelligence rules because their emails had been sent to the watchdog's spam folder. [...] The Organ and Tissue Authority, which met both of its responsible AI obligations, was hit with multiple non-compliance notices last year due to "technical email filtering issues."

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Diphtheria boosters rolled out

Northern Territory News, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 7

Health authorities in the Northern Territory are offering additional diphtheria booster doses to Aboriginal children, select non-Aboriginal students and Department of Education staff working in remote communities amid an ongoing outbreak. It comes after a man from the Big Rivers region died from the disease in April.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Denials choppers banned

Canberra Times, General News, 01/06/2026, Lanie Tindale, Page 1

NSW Ambulance denies telling rescue pilots not to use Canberra Hospital's new helicopter parking pad and no patients were impacted when an aircraft was grounded on the helipad for 12 hours in April.

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Hospital's mouldy history

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/06/2026, Damon Cronshaw and Jamieson Murphy, Page 1

The Calvary Mater hospital was plagued for years by "multiple, interrelated infrastructure failures" that caused the mould and maintenance scandal, internal health documents show. The documents, which emerged through the parliamentary inquiry into the scandal, reveal the hospital's problems began 17 years ago.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Rhythm of the ocean drives the mind of a heart health pioneer

The Australian, Business News, 01/06/2026, Damon Kitney, Page 15

David O'Donnell found his calling in life as a cardiologist and his purpose as a business leader in the same place: underwater. In early 2020, just before the world changed forever with the onset of the Covid pandemic, he was in San Francisco for a board meeting of GenesisCare, the oncology and cardiology group of which he had become a director.

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GP faces sex charges

West Australian, General News, 01/06/2026, Jessica Evensen, Page 16

A South Perth doctor has been charged with sex offences over an incident alleged to have occurred two years ago. Vino Lunchana Kariyakarawana was charged last Tuesday with two counts of unlawful and indecent assault, after police alleged a patient had made a complaint.

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

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High-tech simulations of real-world care

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 01/06/2026, Heath Forsyth, Page 3

The University of New England (UNE) has officially opened its new wing of clinical nursing laboratories on the Armidale campus. The purpose-built facility represents a tangible investment in the next generation of healthcare professionals.

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Charlie Teo sued by widow over patient's brain tumour death

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/05/2026

Charlie Teo made his name as the neurosurgeon that patients went to when there was no other hope but he now faces a medical negligence case in the Sydney District Court, which hears civil claims up to \$1.25 million. Charlie Teo is being sued by the widow of a former patient who claims her husband died suddenly after the neurosurgeon advised him to stop chemotherapy but was then unable to complete his brain tumour operation.

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

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Outback Car Trek rolls into Albury for cause supporting the Flying Doctor

The Border Mail, Other, 31/05/2026

From vintage classics and restored Australian icons to quirky custom builds and rugged off-road machines, a colourful convoy of 80 vehicles rolled into Albury at the weekend as part of the 2026 Outback Car Trek. The annual charity fundraising event brought 175 people to the Border, for their first stop on the rally.

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Botox at the dentist and fillers on your lunch break: how did cosmetic treatments become the new normal?

The Guardian, Other, 31/05/2026, Neha Kale

Mary Munson's first non-surgical cosmetic treatment wasn't the result of a plan, or a concrete decision. She describes it in terms of sating her curiosity.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Coming off antidepressants, I thought I was having a stroke

Age, General News, 01/06/2026, Brendan Shanahan, Page 21

The first time I tried to come off venlafaxine, a common antidepressant I had been taking for more than a decade, it didn't go well. I was living in the United States at the time with no medical insurance and, therefore, no regular access to a doctor.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

Ebola scare in hospital ICU

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/06/2026, Page 10

Victoria has faced down an Ebola scare after a patient from an outbreak-stricken area of Africa presented at the Monash Medical Centre with symptoms of the disease. The patient, who had returned from an at-risk region, was transferred to the Royal Melbourne Hospital before ultimately being cleared of the disease.

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Australia is battling its worst diphtheria outbreak in decades. But vaccines could curb it

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 01/06/2026

Health authorities are urging people to get vaccinated, as a potentially deadly infection spreads across four Australian states. Diphtheria is a serious infection caused by the toxin-producing bacteria, *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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FOOD STANDARDS

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AICIS

From plastic kettles to pans: The tricks to cut microplastics from your kitchen

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/06/2026, Ardyn Bernoth, Page 13

As the global tide of household plastic rises, a quieter concern is growing: the "invisible" ingredients in our meals. Science now confirms that microplasticstiny particles under five millimetres and even smaller nanoplastics have permeated our food chain.

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