



# TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 2nd May 2026

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## LINKS

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **ABC Online** (online) reports that a parliamentary inquiry into NDIS funding integrity, established earlier this year by NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister, has found that 8.3 per cent funding from the scheme was inappropriately allocated during the last financial year. *Also reported by: [Canberra Times](#), [ABC News](#), [Channel 9](#)*
- **ABC Radio Adelaide** (radio) features an interview with Health Minister Mark Butler in which he discusses the progress of legislation produced by the Federal Government which would curtail the inflation of out-of-pocket costs for specialist medical consultations.
- The **Daily Telegraph** (page 27) reports that the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission has received 1789 complaints regarding aged care pricing structures since the Federal Government introduced reforms to the Aged Care Act in November.
- The **Weekend Australian** (page 4) reports that Australian Centre for Disease Control director-general, Zoe Wainer, has stated that a strain of poliovirus detected in Perth's wastewater represented an environmental detection rather than a clinical case, but reiterated the importance of vaccination against the disease. *Also reported by: [The West Australian \(Saturday Edition\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [Courier Mail](#)*
- The **Herald Sun** (page 8) reports that the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission has stated that organised crime networks are targeting NDIS funding as part of a growing trend of

criminal entities focusing on government payment systems.

- **The West Australian (Saturday Edition)** (page 11) reports that, during the month of April, St John WA ambulances spent a combined 4109 hours ramping in Western Australia while waiting for hospital bed availability.
- The **Weekend Australian** (page 2) reports that Greens leader Larissa Waters has indicated that her party will oppose the passage of NDIS reforms recently announced by the Federal Government, with Ms Waters stating that the legislation would deny 160,000 individuals the support they need.
- **The West Australian (Saturday Edition)** (page 3) reports that the Western Australian Government have stated that the forthcoming state budget will feature a funding allocation of \$375 million toward the development of the Perkins WA Comprehensive Cancer Centre, with the funding matching an existing pledge from the Federal Government.
- The **Weekend Australian** (page 4) reports that TGA chief medical adviser, Robyn Langham, has stated that the use of unapproved peptides, sourced from the black or grey market, can cause significant medical issues, with the TGA exploring measures to further regulate the peptide market.
- The **Daily Telegraph Australia** (online) reports that the 2026 Youth Week Poll survey has found that 24 per cent of Australians aged between 10 and 24 have utilised generative AI to self-diagnose mental health conditions.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Albanese lays out plan to win third term

AFR Weekend, General News, 02/05/2026, Phillip Coorey, Page 1

Before the election, the government made no promise not to touch the CGT discount, but nor did it mention its already hatched plan to pare it back.

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### Economists say wild spending not unavoidable

AFR Weekend, General News, 02/05/2026, Lea Jurkovic, Page 4

Economists have downplayed claims by Jim Chalmers that the budget he will deliver on May 12 has been hit by unavoidable spending pressure.

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

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### Adverse action claims: a gold mine for disgruntled workers

Weekend Australian, General News, 02/05/2026, Janet Albrechtsen, Page 22

What do former KIIS radio host Jackie "O" Henderson and former Nine Network weather presenter Amber Sherlock have in common? [...] Hats off to Labor's Mark Butler for having the courage to recognise the mistakes and set about rectifying them.

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

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### The personal politics of the NDIS

The Saturday Paper, General News, 02/05/2026, Georgia Cranko, Page 10

Rigorously stress-cleaning the kitchen felt like the most sensible thing to do while I listened to Health Minister Mark Butler announce the latest round of National Disability Insurance Scheme reforms, because I needed something to focus on when everything else felt uncertain. It turned out he was doing something similar at a national scale: tidying, sorting, scraping, reclassifying, trying to turn a complex system that caters to complex lives into something that could seem tidy and simple.

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

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## Criminal groups ravaging the NDIS

Herald Sun, General News, 02/05/2026, Ria Pandey, Page 8

Organised crime exploiting the NDIS is part of a trend of criminals targeting government payment systems, a bureaucrat says. Health Minister Mark Butler said last week \$15bn would be cut from the National Disability Insurance Scheme over the next four years under changes designed to crack down on "scheme inflation".

*Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).*

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## Push to reinstate donors

Hobart Mercury, General News, 02/05/2026, Page 9

State and territory governments will be urged to reinstate the ability to register as an organ donor through a simple tick of the box during the driver licence process. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler previously urged other states and territories to commit to the scheme.

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## Cash to boost donor sign-up

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 02/05/2026, Ellen Ransley, Page 15

States and territories say they will work together to boost organ donation, with Queensland "carefully" considering allocating money in the next budget to improve rates. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has previously called on states to look at reintroducing the scheme, and Queensland has said it would investigate reinstating organ donor registration on licences.

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

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## The only boost has been to outrage

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Julie Cross, Page 27

Aged care complaints have surged in the last six months as a result of the Albanese government's reforms allowing providers to set their own prices, with some charging \$180 for an assisted shower at home. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler announced that, from October, older people won't have to pay co-contributions towards an assisted shower, dressing and continence care.

*Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).*

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## Stopping the spread of GP deserts

Canberra Times, General News, 02/05/2026, Peter Breadon & Molly Chapman, Page 39

A Senate inquiry is looking into rural healthcare. [...] If governments are serious, they need to commit real, long-term funding - at least five years - when health ministers meet later this year, or at the latest in next year's budgets.

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## Don't waste time on organ donation plan

Courier Mail, Editorials, 02/05/2026, Page 66

Health ministers from all states and territories met in Canberra yesterday and said they will work together to increase organ donation rates. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has previously called on states to look at reintroducing the scheme, while Queensland Treasurer David Janetzki said the state was "carefully" considering allocating money for the organ donation scheme in this year's budget.

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## Personal care cost-free from October

Personal care services offered through the Support at Home program will be free of charge from 1 October. Minister for Health and Ageing Mark Butler said part of the 2026 Federal Budget's \$3bn investment to deliver better care for older Australians will make personal care services free alongside other clinical care.

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## Care change to save elderly money

Grenfell Record & Bland Advertiser, General News, 30/04/2026, Page 6

Ageing Australia has welcomed the federal government's decision to reclassify showering as 'clinical care' under the Support at Home program, calling it a win for the dignity of older Australians. Minister for Health and Ageing Mark Butler and Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae announced that showering will move from the 'personal care' category, which attracts client contributions of between 5 per cent and 50 per cent to the 'clinical care' category, which is contribution free.

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## Sport scientist urges end of health tax

Subiaco Post, General News, 02/05/2026, Bonnie Christian, Page 24

A Subiaco man who is the chair of WA's peak sports science body wants the federal government to scrap the 10% tax on exercise physiology. [...] They want to get at least 50,000 signatures on a petition to Health Minister Mark Butler to table an amendment that would add it to the list of GST-free health services, ultimately making it cheaper for their patients.

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## The state of play on Thriving Kids

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Aleisha Orr & Andrew Leech, Page 24

A new program to replace NDIS support for children with autism whose support needs are considered 'mild to moderate' is set to begin in months, but concerns remain about some children slipping through the cracks. [...] Upon agreement, Health Minister Mark Butler said the timeline for the program to start had been pushed back to ensure states and territories had enough time to implement it.

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## Shocking extent of NDIS fraud revealed

9News, Other, 01/05/2026, Joseph Sahyoun

The shocking extent of fraud in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has been laid bare with accusations of coercion, criminal gangs and more than \$3.5 billion of tainted funds. [...] The parliamentary inquiry comes following Health Minister Mark Butler's announcement of the overhaul designed to save the government \$35 billion.

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## What do the proposed NDIS changes mean for people with disability living in supported accommodation?

The Conversation, Other, 01/05/2026, Libby Callaway & Jack Francis Kelly

Amid major reforms to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), unveiled last week, NDIS minister Mark Butler announced the government's plans to commission supported independent living services for people with disability, "rather than relying on a market that isn't working". Supported independent living is NDIS funding for support workers who can assist people with disability who need some level of help at home all the time.

Also reported by: [Yahoo! Lifestyle Australia \(Online\)](#)

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## Desperate call for change as 'revolting' NDIS cuts to bring 'suffering to a whole new level'

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 01/05/2026, Joe Attanasio

A leading Australian disability advocate has branded the government's proposed cuts to the National

Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) “revolting” and “beyond cruel”, warning it's certain “lives will be lost” as 160,000 people are given the boot from the scheme. [...] In April, Health Minister Mark Butler announced sweeping changes to the program , which are expected to see more than 160,000 people lose eligibility by the end of the decade under tightened access rules.

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## **Where will the pressure land? Health sector weighs in on a tight Budget**

Croakey, Other, 01/05/2026, Jason Staines

Treasurer Jim Chalmers is putting together next month's Federal Budget under unusually trying circumstances. [...] At the same time, Health Minister Mark Butler has flagged major savings through proposed reforms to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), positioning changes to the rapidly growing scheme as part of a broader budget repair effort.

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## **COVID and vaccination updates, iconic species at risk – and more on changes to NDIS and aged care**

Croakey, Other, 01/05/2026, Melissa Sweet

The toll of long COVID, the wide-ranging benefits of COVID-19 vaccination – including reduced healthcare costs and sick leave – and other public health updates are covered in this latest edition of The Health Wrap. [...] This will not be implemented before October 2026, apparently because the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing lacks the resources to do this in a more timely manner (to which I say "Not good enough!").

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## **Is the GP gender pay gap getting worse?**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 01/05/2026, Jolyon Attwooll

The GP gender pay gap is once again in the spotlight, with both the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DoHDA) and the Minister of the same portfolio increasingly facing questions. Last week at the National Press Club, the issue was raised by a journalist who suggested policies such as the expanded triple bulk-billing incentive, urgent care clinics and the removal of mental health items may have exacerbated the gender pay gap in general practice.

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## **The one big oversight in health funding**

The Medical Republic, Other, 02/05/2026, Holly Payne

Ever have that feeling like you've forgotten something very important, but you just can't work out what that is? If federal health minister Mark Butler isn't feeling that way in the lead up to the 12 May federal budget, he probably should be.

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## **Australia achieves WHO validation for trachoma elimination**

Eyesmart, Other, 01/05/2026

The World Health Organization (WHO) has officially validated Australia for eliminating trachoma as a public health problem, a landmark outcome for the nation's eyecare sector and Indigenous health equity. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler acknowledged that "the lessons from this work will inform how we approach other preventable health conditions in remote and regional Australia ."

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## **Insurers call for rethink on seniors' private health rebates**

Insurance Business Australia, Other, 01/05/2026, Roxanne Libatique

Health insurers, medical associations, and not-for-profit funds are calling on the federal government to reconsider plans to reduce the private health insurance rebate for Australians over 65, saying the change could prompt older, low-income members to reduce or drop cover and shift more demand to public hospitals. The proposal, outlined by Health Minister Mark Butler ahead of the federal budget,

would remove the higher age-based rebate tiers at 65 and 70 so that older Australians receive the same percentage rebate as younger policyholders.

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## Health consumers support focus on rising specialist costs

Melbourne Insider, Other, 01/05/2026, Daniel Rolph

Australia's peak health consumer body has expressed strong support for the federal government's new initiative to address rising specialist costs, highlighting the issue as a significant barrier to healthcare access. Health Minister Mark Butler has identified escalating specialist fees as a critical focus for upcoming health reforms, amid growing concerns over affordability and accessibility of care for Australians.

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## 'They should all be ashamed of themselves': Cohealth client

The Medical Republic, Other, 01/05/2026, Caitlin Wright

Today, 1 May was supposed to be an important day at Cohealth. [...] A spokesperson for the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing told TMR "The findings of the review will be considered in line with the review's Terms of Reference. No decision has yet been made regarding public release of the final report."

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## Sky News Live, AM Agenda, 01/05/2026, Laura Jayes

Interview with Commonwealth Bank Chief Economist Luke Yeaman. Jayes says Federal Health Minister Mark Butler's decision to cap the National Disability Insurance Scheme's spending at 2% is ambitious. Yeaman also says everyone recognises that they have to make big changes in the NDIS while protecting the people who need it most, but there are risks in putting such cuts in the budget, and he is hoping that he is wrong.

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## ABC Radio Adelaide, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Sonya Feldhoff and Jules Schiller

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Butler says legislation around specialist fees is being debated in the Parliament, and they have focused unapologetically on GP fees because bulk billing is starting to move into a freefall across Australia. He also states that they have decided to upload specialist fees for everyone to see online because transparency is the first measure.

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## 3WM, Country Today AM, 01/05/2026, Libby Price

Seniors in the Wimmera Mallee are set to be impacted by changes to private health insurance rebates announced last week by the Australian Government. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler states that enhanced rebates for those aged 65 and above will be phased out.

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## MINISTER MCALLISTER

### Billions of NDIS funds lost to 'integrity leakage' last year, executive tells parliamentary hearing

ABC Online, Other, 01/05/2026, Evan Young

About \$3.7 billion of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) money was handed out inappropriately last financial year, and governments have not learned from earlier mistakes when designing new programs, the scheme's integrity chief says. [...] The parliamentary inquiry was set up in

March after NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister requested the cross-party committee probe the extent of fraud and non-compliance in the scheme.

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## **ABC News, ABC News Hour, 01/05/2026, Joe O'Brien**

John Dardo, a senior government executive involved with cracking down on fraud in the National Disability Insurance Scheme, has conceded that mistakes made with past government programs were repeated in setting up the NDIS. The inquiry was called in March by one of two NDIS Ministers, Jenny McAllister, and it aims to look at the extent and scale of fraud and integrity.

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## **Channel 9, Nine News, 01/05/2026, Alicia Loxley and Tom Steinfort**

The scale of fraud in the National Disability Insurance Scheme has been laid bare, with experts also revealing the extent of their investigations to flush out the culprits. NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister says it is clear that the NDIS has become a soft target for crooks.

*Similar coverage reported by: [Channel 9 \(Perth\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Brisbane\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Adelaide\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Perth\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#), [NBN Coffs Harbour \(Coffs Harbour\)](#), [NBN Gold Coast \(Gold Coast\)](#), [NBN Central Coast \(Gosford\)](#), [NBN Newcastle Hunter \(Newcastle\)](#).*

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## **Sky News Live, News Night, 01/05/2026, Rhiannon Elston**

The scale of fraud on the National Disability Insurance Scheme has been laid bare. Details emerging of how international crime gangs and coercion are contributing to disability fraud. NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister says it is clear that the NDIS has become a soft target for crooks.

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## **ABC Radio Canberra, 13:00 News, 01/05/2026**

John Dardo, a senior government executive involved with cracking down on fraud in the National Disability Insurance Scheme, has conceded mistakes made with past government programs were repeated in setting up the NDIS. The inquiry was announced in March by NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister.

*Also reported by: [ABC Radio Melbourne \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC Newcastle \(Newcastle\)](#), [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#), [ABC Radio Darwin \(Darwin\)](#), [Triple J \(Sydney\)](#), [ABC Radio Perth \(Perth\)](#), [ABC Radio Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC Radio Sydney \(Sydney\)](#).*

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## **ABC Radio Sydney, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Craig Reucassel**

Interview with Federal Minister for National Disability Insurance Scheme Jenny McAllister, on Federal Minister Mark Butler's announcement on new NDIS eligibility rules. McAllister says the NDIS is a world-leading scheme, and they have now taken several steps in improving their capacity to detect, prosecute, and disrupt fraudulent activity, but there is more work to do, and she is looking forward to the work that the committee will do today. She also notes that she is expecting the NDIA, the Quality and Safeguard Commission, and the Department to provide the committee with further information.

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## **MINISTER RAE**

### **The only boost has been to outrage**

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Julie Cross, Page 27

Aged care complaints have surged in the last six months as a result of the Albanese government's reforms allowing providers to set their own prices, with some charging \$180 for an assisted shower at

home. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler announced that, from October, older people won't have to pay co-contributions towards an assisted shower, dressing and continence care.

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## Care change to save elderly money

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## Dignity in care

Lakes Post, Other, 01/05/2026

Gippsland Lakes Complete Health (GLCH) has welcomed Federal Government changes to aged care reform that will remove co-payments for personal care services under the new Support at Home program. [...] Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae said the reforms ensure dignity in ageing is not determined by cost.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### Free mental health help

Cairns Local News, General News, 01/05/2026, Hugh Bohane, Page 4

A new free mental health service has opened in Cairns, offering walk-in support for people experiencing distress. [...] At the Cairns Medicare Mental Health Centre opening (from left) Mind Australia CEO Gill Callister, Leichhardt MP Matt Smith, NQPHN CEO Ben Tooth, federal assistant mental health minister Emma McBride and CHHHS CEO Leena Singh

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

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## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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## DEPARTMENT

### Older Australians on low incomes are at risk of being pushed out of private healthcare

Hobart Mercury, General News, 02/05/2026, Rachel David, Page 40

For decades, hundreds of thousands of older Australians on modest incomes did exactly what successive governments encouraged them to do - take out private health insurance and contribute to their own healthcare. [...] Indeed, a 2023 Finity report commissioned by the Department of Health and Aged Care found the private health insurance rebate delivers net savings to governments because reductions in public hospital demand outweigh the cost of the subsidy itself.

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## Department defends IAT

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 01/05/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has defended the Integrated Assessment Tool and denied cost containment targets or performance measures linked to its use or the classification algorithm. Responding to a question taken on notice from Senator Anne Ruston during the 1 April Senate inquiry hearing into Support at Home, the department said the average level of ongoing funding approved for participants since the introduction of the classification algorithm is not lower than under the previous system.

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## Prevention is a fiscal problem, Dr Chalmers, so treat it like one

Health Services Daily, Other, 01/05/2026, Jeremy Knibbs

What follows is a relatively simple plan to execute systemic economic reform that would save us billions per annum over time – one you could start in a single budget cycle without adding to the deficit. [...] In a recent conversation with a senior leader in the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing about getting out in front of AI, the leader said the government was going to need two speeds now: essentially core stuff still in play, and the AI stuff.

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## Deans' gain is Department's loss

Health Services Daily, Other, 01/05/2026, Cate Swannell

Anita Hobson-Powell is on the move.

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## Health looks to wring \$34M out of pharma

MedNews, Other, 01/05/2026, Megan Brodie

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing is proposing to recover \$34.3 million.

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## Rising cost of PBAC submissions

Pharma In Focus, Other, 01/05/2026

The Department of Health, Disability, and Ageing has released its draft Cost Recovery Implementation Statement detailing how much submission fees will rise in the next financial year. The PBAC expects to evaluate 361 submissions over the course of the next financial year, with an estimated cost to sponsors of \$26.96 million.

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## PBS cost recovery consultation open

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 01/05/2026

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has advised that public consultation on the draft 2026-27 Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) for listing medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and vaccines on the National Immunisation Program (NIP) is now open. This CRIS sets out the fees that apply for submissions to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) for medicines seeking to be listed on the PBS, or vaccines to be listed on the NIP, as well as applicant-driven PBS listing and list management activities.

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## Is the GP gender pay gap getting worse?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 01/05/2026, Jolyon Attwooll

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## What do the proposed NDIS changes mean for people with disability living in supported accommodation?

Yahoo! Lifestyle Australia, Other, 01/05/2026, Libby Callaway, Jack Francis Kelly, Phillippa Carnemolla & Sally Robinson

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Budget for fairness or intergenerational political war? A budget for fairness or an intergenerational war?

Weekend Australian, General News, 02/05/2026, Simon Benson, Page 1

After this week, older Australians may fear they are in the crosshairs of a political debate that pits one generation against another. They could be forgiven for thinking so. [...] Last week health insurance top-up rebates for over-65s were quietly scrapped alongside the announcement of savings to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

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

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### Chalmers talks a big game it's time to act on intergenerational fairness

Sydney Morning Herald, Business News, 02/05/2026, Millie Muroi, Page 3

When we debate intergenerational fairness, it often looks like younger Australians lamenting the

selfishness of Boomers and those Boomers calling Zoomers "entitled" for wanting more. [...] That includes higher age pension rates and above-average increases to healthcare and aged care spending which will probably continue to climb alongside the share of grey hairs among our population.

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

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## Making billions doesn't get old

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Julie Cross & John Rolfe, Page 26

Group, which is a majority owner of Arcare. [...] After the new aged care reforms came in, the company decided to take items off the menu that were previously free and charge for them under a new premium service, as well as start charging for people to have a TV in their room, even if they only watched free-to-air.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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## Navigating the complex aged care system

Daily Liberal, General News, 02/05/2026, Noel Whittaker, Page 53

Aged care is fast becoming one of Australia's biggest industries, with an annual budget topping \$50 billion. The scale of the challenge was laid bare last week, with the Federal government set to spend \$1 billion just to fund basic support like showering, dressing and continence care.

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## Home care system inefficient, confusing

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 01/05/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

As the home care sector continues to consolidate and evolve, attempting to register as a Support at Home or a Commonwealth Home Support Program provider is a bureaucratic minefield, Mount Alexander Shire Council manager of community wellbeing Rosalie Rogers tells Australian Ageing Agenda. As of 30 June 2025, there are 909 home care providers delivering home care via 2,364 services – 65 per cent of which are operated by not-for-profit organisations, 29 per cent by private organisations and 6.3 per cent by local governments.

[Read More](#)

## Wesley Mission eyes major redevelopment of 5.7ha Sydney site

The Weekly Source, Other, 01/05/2026, Ian Horswill

Three years after Wesley Mission closed its three residential aged care homes in Sydney, plans have now been lodged for the redevelopment of one of the sites. The Not For Profit organisation had announced the closure of Wesley Rayward Carlingford, Wesley Taylor Narrabeen, and Wesley Vickery Sylvania in April 2023, citing the Australian Government's aged care reforms as the driver behind the decision.

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# DISABILITY AND CARERS

## Wilting Greens seek NDIS revival

Weekend Australian, General News, 02/05/2026, Rosie Lewis, Page 2

Greens leader Larissa Waters will attempt to revive her stagnant party by casting herself as the defender of a bloated NDIS, amid concerns a spreading out of the party's voters from the inner city into the outer suburbs is affecting its ability to win lower house seats. In a nod to the battle the Greens face to become a party of government, Senator Waters claimed the "absolute tanking" of the Liberal vote at the 2025 election and the changing demographic of Australia's cities was partly to blame for the decimation of the Greens' representation in the House of Representatives even when its primary vote remained steady.

## Failed tax strategy on repeat it just doesn't cut it

Weekend Australian, General News, 02/05/2026, Rosie Lewis, Page 2

Larissa Waters claims the Greens plan to tax the country's richest 1 per cent to pay for things ordinary Australians need is right for the times. [...] Waters wants to parade the party's tax the 1 per cent campaign as the winning ingredient for growing the Greens, but she may be more effective if she prioritises her fight against the government's cuts to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

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

## Bigger taxes, public sector add up to bad budget result

Weekend Australian, Editorials, 02/05/2026, Page 14

If, as expected, Jim Chalmers makes the instant asset write-off for business a permanent incentive as the centrepiece of a productivity package on Tuesday week, it will be good for economic growth. [...] Public spending restraint to curb inflation and, as a consequence, interest rates must permeate the entire budget, not just the welcome reduction in the cost of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

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

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

## Revealed: amount of NDIS spending lost to fraud and misuse

Canberra Times, General News, 02/05/2026, Jacob Shteyman, Page 18

Billions of dollars from the National Disability Insurance Scheme are lost each year to fraud or other "integrity leakage" issues that add up to about 8.3 per cent of its total cost, a parliamentary inquiry has heard. Losses to scams, errors or other non-compliance are a major threat to the government's efforts to reduce spending growth in the fast-expanding scheme from over 10 per cent per year to just two per cent per annum over the next four years.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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

## Cook Government's plea not to let our kids fall through NDIS cracks

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 02/05/2026, Jessica Page, Page 33

The Cook Government is warning Canberra "a lot of time and effort" is needed to ensure a radical revamp of the National Disability Insurance Scheme doesn't leave disabled WA kids behind. The States have warned they won't allow "cost shifting" as the Federal Government tightens NDIS eligibility and aims to remove 160,000 recipients from the scheme to cut cost blowouts.

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

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

## No easy solution

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Page 3

It seems the age-old problem of high patient demand, workforce shortages and ballooning costs are culminating in a pick n mix of suggestions that no one seems to be completely agreed on. [...] The federal government has announced 160,000 people will be removed from the NDIS, and concerns remain that some children with autism may fall through the cracks in the new Thriving Kids program.

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## Disability watchdog bans Taree NDIS provider Daniel Jopp for two years, issues notices to Everkind Support, Nambucca and Celine Stewart, Bonville

The Courier Mail, Other, 01/05/2026, Toni Moon

The national disability watchdog has banned a Taree man for two years and issued compliance notices to two other Mid North Coast providers. The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, has banned Daniel Andrew Jopp for two-years, preventing him from providing any NDIS-funded services.

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

[Read More](#)

## Disability sector braces for 'challenging' NDIS changes as community rallies

The Courier Mail, Other, 01/05/2026, Erin Blond

In anticipation of looming NDIS reforms, Aruma hosted its inaugural 'Stronger Together' networking event, bringing the Toowoomba disability community together to navigate a shifting landscape. The free event on May 1 provided locals with direct access to NDIS experts, aiming to foster stronger relationships and a clearer understanding of local stakeholders.

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

[Read More](#)

## A moral obligation requires moral reform: a response to Linda Reynolds

Canberra Times, Other, 01/05/2026, Zoe Wundenberg

Linda Reynolds argues that reforming the National Disability Insurance Scheme is a "national obligation." On that point, she is right - but not in the way she intends.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Disability service fined over 'catastrophic' burns case

Canberra Times, Other, 01/05/2026, Stephanie Gardiner & Adelaide Lang

Kyah Lucas is remembered for her beautiful smile, her cheeky giggles and her enormous capacity to love. At the age of 28 she was still a "little girl", the size of an average six-year-old.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Anthony Albanese says improving voters' lives best way to fight rightwing populism and Pauline Hanson

The Guardian, Other, 02/05/2026, Tom McIlroy

Anthony Albanese says the budget chaos caused by the war in Iran will not diminish his determination to establish a universal childcare system in Australia, describing meaningful improvements to the lives of average voters as the best way to fight rising rightwing populism and Pauline Hanson. In an interview ahead of Sunday's first anniversary of his landslide 3 May reelection, the prime minister told Guardian Australia he remained committed to delivering the major reform while in office, despite spending cuts coming in the budget hitting the national disability insurance scheme and public service departments.

[Read More](#)

## Fresh faces for NDIS consultation forum

The Mandarin, Other, 01/05/2026, Tom Ravlic

A stakeholder consultation group key to improving the way NDIS supports and services are regulated has been "refreshed". The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission has reconstituted its sector consultation forum, which provides advice to the commission on the practical impact of how NDIS services are being delivered.

[Read More](#)

## Former Border drug trafficker, man shot five times by cops, hit with NDIS bans

The Border Mail, Other, 01/05/2026

A former Border pair tied to drug dealing and a police shooting have been banned from providing any

NDIS services or supports due to their criminal histories. Mistee Theresa Royal - a convicted large-scale Albury marijuana supplier who previously ran a Border dance studio - was hit with a ban commencing on Tuesday, April 28.

[Read More](#)

## ABC, ABC News, 01/05/2026, Lydia Feng

John Dardo, a senior executive tasked with cracking down on fraud within the National Disability Insurance Scheme, says the program's rollout was rushed and lacked appropriate guardrails. He told a parliamentary inquiry the agency handed out \$3.7b inappropriately last year, and he described the payments as leakage that included issues from deliberate fraud to unintended errors.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Facilities lack in 'growth front'

The Saturday Age, General News, 02/05/2026, Gemma Grant, Page 20

It's taken Mandy McCracken years to assemble her dedicated support team of disability and allied health workers in her suburb of Kilmore East. [...] For example, in the federal government's Primary Health Network program independent organisations introduced to manage health services Mitchell Council is split between the Eastern Melbourne and Murray regions.

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

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

### I don't need permission for budget blitz on boomers

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 02/05/2026, Ellen Ransley, Page 10

Anthony Albanese says he has a mandate for "ambitious" reforms like the negative gearing and capital gains tax changes Labor is expected to announce in this month's budget, despite not taking them to last year's election. [...] In the past year, Mr Albanese said that had included income tax cuts, beefed-up women's health programs, billions put into Medicare, cheaper medicines, subsidised home batteries and environmental law reforms.

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

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### Crisis a threat to little lives

Courier Mail, General News, 02/05/2026, Emma Cam, Page 32

Desperate women are being forced to travel hours by plane and even bus to access vital antenatal scans, with doctors warning it is putting the health of unborn babies at risk. A severe shortage of sonographers has pushed Cairns into a new women's health imaging crisis, with wait times for pregnancy and gynaecological scans now stretching to four weeks and beyond.

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

### Scan wait blowout

Weekend Post, General News, 02/05/2026, Emma Cam, Page 1

Sonographer shortage puts babies at risk Expectant mothers are being forced onto flights and longhaul buses just to secure basic prenatal care, as a critical shortage of sonographers in the Far North plunges the region into a women's health crisis. With local wait times for essential pregnancy scans blowing out beyond four weeks, Cairns-based fertility specialist Dr Liz Jackson (right) warns the crippling delays are causing anxiety for mums and actively putting the health of unborn babies at risk as the private radiology sector struggles to keep up with 300400 outsourced examinations every month.

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

## It's a scan-dal

Weekend Post, General News, 02/05/2026, Page 50

More has to be done to stop pregnant Cairns women forced on to buses for vital scans. It seems there is a geographical lottery dictating healthcare in Queensland, and once again, the Far North is holding a losing ticket.

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## Urgent care centre opens

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 02/05/2026, Allan Murphy, Page 15

A new urgent care facility has opened in Wentworth which aims to improve access to timely non-emergency healthcare and helping local communities avoid unnecessary trips to the emergency department. The Wentworth Urgent Care Centre is co-located in the new \$30 million Wentworth Hospital and is open daily from 8am to 8pm.

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## The battle over scope of practice

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Page 19

As the health system continues to face the age-old battle of keeping up with patient demand, the focus has once again shifted to scope of practice. In recent months pharmacists have signalled their desire to work to the 'full extent of their training, skills and experience' to prescribe Schedule 2, 3, 4 and 8 medications.

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## The mobile clinic bringing specialised women's health services to the Darling Downs

The Courier Mail, Other, 01/05/2026, Erin Blond

For women living in regional Queensland, accessing specialised healthcare often means more than just booking an appointment. Hours of transport to metropolitan hubs like Brisbane or Toowoomba can be a significant barrier, leading many to put their own health and wellbeing on the back burner.

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

[Read More](#)

## Broome council defers decision on Frederick Street medical centre pending safety and parking evidence

West Australian, Other, 01/05/2026, Phoebe Solon

Plans to convert the former Exhibition Centre and Public Performance Centre at 12 Frederick Street into an urgent care clinic and medical centre have been paused by the Shire of Broome council after extensive debate at its April 30 council meeting. The development application, lodged by Method Planning, is for a facility to house the Kimberley Medical Group and Broome Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, and include consulting rooms, triage and treatment areas, pathology services, and provision for future medical imaging.

[Read More](#)

## Fiscal restraint to define federal budget as costs rise

Canberra Times, Other, 02/05/2026, Sam Mckeith

Treasurer Jim Chalmers has pledged to make spending restraint a key feature of the federal budget as the government flags major cost pressures. Responsible economic management and spending restraint will be defining features of the May 12 budget and "crucial in the context of important and unavoidable spending pressures", Dr Chalmers said.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#)

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## Tie property tax changes to income tax cuts, productivity chief says

Labor should funnel any revenue from scaling back negative gearing or capital gains tax concessions into income tax cuts, Australia's top productivity adviser says. [...] Over the same time period, the government has forecast it will need to spend an extra \$6 billion for new and amended listings to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, \$14 billion for "critical" defence investments, \$1.5 billion for "unavoidable" infrastructure cost pressures and the \$2.5 billion cost of halving the fuel excise for three months.

[Read More](#)

## Remote patient monitoring technology saving time, travel and money for regional mums during pregnancy

ABC Online, Other, 01/05/2026, Erin Somerville

Stefania Panella is excited to welcome her first baby in just a few weeks after dealing with the worry and anxiety of being diagnosed with gestational diabetes earlier in her pregnancy. Living in regional Victoria, the constant monitoring of glucose levels and care she required could have been challenging on a number of fronts.

[Read More](#)

## PET scanner to soon be up and running

Shepparton News Online, Other, 01/05/2026, Bree Harding

Goulburn Valley residents will have access to Positron Emission Tomography, or PET, scanning in Shepparton for the first time ever early next year. The Victorian Government announced \$7.1 million funding on April 30 in the Victorian Budget 2026/27 to operationalise the scanner at Goulburn Valley Health, giving patients advanced cancer diagnostics closer to home.

[Read More](#)

## New national standard on emergency laparotomy care

Medical Forum, Other, 01/05/2026

A new national standard on emergency laparotomy care is set to be introduced. Focusing on emergency laparotomy for urgent conditions affecting the gastrointestinal tract, like a bowel obstruction, perforation or serious internal bleeding, it is expected to improve care for more than 15,000 Australians each year.

[Read More](#)

## Digital health safety priorities

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 01/05/2026

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has outlined a set of priorities for high-quality digitally enabled care, designed to facilitate better outcomes in an evolving digital health environment. The Commission highlighted that without a clear and coordinated focus on high-quality care, there is an increased risk of variability in practice, fragmented care and patient harm as digitally enabled care rapidly expands.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Courier caught with 1m smokes, 170kg of chop chop

Courier Mail, General News, 02/05/2026, Alex Treacy, Page 12

A former Gold Coast man caught with 170kg of blackmarket "chop chop" tobacco and one million cigarettes has pleaded guilty to being reckless as to whether the product was legitimately imported. The sentencing for Mohamed Kanjou, 48, in Southport District Court on April 21 offered a peek into the murky world of illegal tobacco, which in 2024-25 may have cost the Commonwealth as much as \$11.8 billion in evaded excise.

Also reported by: [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

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## Rankings show NSW is falling behind in illicit tobacco fight

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 02/05/2026, Joel Ehsman, Page 7

NSW's efforts to curb illicit tobacco have fallen behind other states, according to a tobacco control advocate. The Australian Council on Smoking and Health (ACOSH) has released its Illicit Tobacco Ladder, which ranks the states by how each is combating black-market tobacco.

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## Disabled and elderly Aussies tagged as most vulnerable by bombshell extreme heat report

The Australian, Other, 01/05/2026, Jack Nivison

A bombshell report has shockingly revealed more Aussies, most of whom are elderly or disabled, have been killed by extreme heat than all other natural disasters combined over an 18-year period.

According to the NSW Net Zero Commission, extreme heat has been responsible for more than half of all listed natural hazard fatalities between 2000 and 2018, with western Sydney bearing the brunt of these reported incidents.

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

[Read More](#)

## Broome council endorses public health plan for community consultation

West Australian, Other, 01/05/2026, Phoebe Solon

The effects of extreme heat and seasonal weather events have been added to the Shire of Broome's draft public health plan ahead of the document being released for public comment. The council unanimously endorsed the release at its meeting on April 30, having been told it had been updated to include an additional "strategic action addressing climate change resilience".

[Read More](#)

## Poliovirus linked to overseas transmission detected in Perth wastewater

ABC Online, Other, 01/05/2026

Poliovirus has been detected in a sample of Perth's wastewater, health officials have revealed. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), Australia was declared polio-free in 2000.

[Read More](#)

## Extreme heat the most deadly yet preventable natural disaster, NSW Net Zero Commission says

ABC Online, Other, 01/05/2026, Declan Bowring

Minimum thermal safety standards in rentals, published data on heat-related deaths and bushfire-style plans for extreme heat are needed to address what a new New South Wales state agency says is Australia's most deadly yet most preventable natural disaster. [...] The report called for NSW Health to track and publish data relating to heat stress deaths, for SafeWork NSW regulations to mandate business-level plans for managing heat stress and for planning rules to require proposals and development controls to address thermal safety.

[Read More](#)

## Australia among world's biggest meth users as drug spending soars

The New Daily, Other, 01/05/2026, Eve Swain

Australians are spending billions on illegal drugs, more than on some everyday supermarket staples, according to the latest national wastewater drug monitoring report. Australia now ranks among the

world's heaviest meth users, with consumption up 23 per cent in a year, while cocaine use has also hit a record high.

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## CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

### 'Many spend years ... trying to be believed'

Adelaide Advertiser, Weekend, 02/05/2026, Zara Powell, Page 14

For years, women have been told the same thing. [...] In Australia, endometriosis affects one in seven women and close to a million people navigating a chronic, often debilitating disease.

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

### C'mon, mate, get your head in the gland

Canberra Times, General News, 02/05/2026, Garry Linnell, Page 15

"This won't take long," promised the specialist as I nervously lowered my pants. "It'll be over before you know it."

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#).

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

### Hope to the rescue

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Briana Domjen, Page 18

In 2022, Georgie Beck initially dismissed the bloating around her midriff as menopause. "And then it just didn't go ... and I was diagnosed with stage 4 ovarian cancer," she said.

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### Father's plea for skin cancer check-up

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 02/05/2026, Glen Quartermain, Page 22

Kalamunda Cougars ruckman Josh Davis was sent to hospital after complications from a heavy knock to his ribs in a round-one Perth Football League clash three weeks ago, where scans revealed lesions in his brain, lungs and abdomen. After surgery, the 24-year-old began treatment on Friday at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital.

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### 'It felt like an elephant was sitting on me': Mum's heart attack scare

The Courier Mail, Other, 01/05/2026, Taylor Penny

Three-quarters of Aussies have a heart age at least four years older than their real age, a major analysis of 1.6 million people has found. New data from the Heart Foundation collected between 2020 and 2026 found that three in four people – about 77 per cent – may have a higher risk of developing heart disease because their hearts are “older” than they should be.

[Read More](#)

### Daughter honours mother lost to Alzheimer's with free dementia prevention project

The Courier Mail, Other, 01/05/2026, Zachary Probert

After losing her mother to Alzheimer's this year, Naomi Ferstera has endeavoured to make dementia prevention research easily accessible for everyone. Naomi is an exercise physiologist, nutritionist, PhD candidate at the University of Queensland and runs a free program through a Facebook group called The Healthy Ageing Project.

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

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## Wholesaler forecasts multi-year growth for GLP-1s

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 01/05/2026

Glucagon-like peptide-1 medications are already delivering significant growth for wholesalers, but the best is yet to come, Symbion's chief executive says Uptake of glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) products in Australia is on track for significant growth over the coming years, with an oral formulation likely to fuel further demand, Symbion chief executive, Brett Barons, believes.

[Read More](#)

### Channel 9, Nine News, 01/05/2026, Mark Burrows

It has been revealed that three in four people have a higher heart age than their actual age. The Heart Foundation is urging Australians to check its Heart Age Calculator and consult their GPs.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Brisbane\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Perth\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Adelaide\)](#)

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### Channel 9, Nine News, 01/05/2026, Alicia Loxley and Tom Steinfort

A groundbreaking new cancer centre has opened in Melbourne, aiming to personalise immunotherapy treatment for patients. A trial is now underway inside the Alfred Hospital with the hope that it will stamp out crippling side effects.

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

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### 2GB, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Ben Fordham

Fordham says new data shows 77% of people's hearts are at least four years older than they should be, and about 60% of those surveyed have high blood pressure, 34% are dealing with high cholesterol, and nearly 40% of Australians have a family member with a history of heart disease. He also says the Heart Foundation has stated that the results are concerning.

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### 3AW, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Ross Stevenson and Russel Howcroft

Interview with Heart Foundation Healthcare Programs Manager Natalie Raffoul. Raffoul says three-quarters of Australians have a heart age at least four years older than their actual age. She notes that people may be at increased risk of developing a heart attack or stroke in the next five years, and they should start prioritising their health and know their numbers better.

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### ABC Radio Melbourne, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Bob Murphy and Richelle Hunt

Interview with Gemma Carter, Geelong Advertiser. Carter says the Heart Foundation has revealed that three-quarters of Australians have a heart age at least four years older than their actual age. She states that the Heart Foundation is urging people to have their hearts checked.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Long haul for mental health therapy

Canberra Times, General News, 02/05/2026, Chelsea Wilson, Page 8

Katie Kendall, 20, has thought about leaving her home in Wodonga, in Victoria's border region, for better access to mental health support after spending much of her teen years in crisis and being sent more than 300km away for treatment. In the whole state of Victoria there are only 54 dedicated in-patient beds for adolescents that are largely concentrated in metropolitan areas.

## Postnatal depression risk highest two weeks after birth, University of Queensland study finds

7News.com.au, Other, 01/05/2026, Georgia Holland

The first few weeks of motherhood after often painted as joyful, filled with newborn cuddles and celebration. But for many women, they can also be the most vulnerable.

[Read More](#)

## Young people fight back against AI chatbots

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 01/05/2026, Jackson Robb

One in four young Aussies are now using artificial intelligence (AI) models to self diagnose mental health problems as new data reveals a shifting trend from human professionals to chatbots. Young people aged 10 to 24 are turning to platforms such as ChatGPT as a substitute to traditional cognitive behaviour therapy, new findings released by the NSW Office for Youth show.

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

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## Major depression in new mothers peaks two weeks after birth

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 01/05/2026, Michelle Wisbey

Screening, prevention and treatment must be bolstered, including by GPs, concludes the largest mental health study of its kind. Major depressive disorder impacts 6.2% of women and girls during pregnancy and 6.8% during the 12 months after childbirth, a milestone study has revealed.

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## IMMUNISATION

### Winter vax updates

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Page 6

A number of free vaccines have been announced ahead of winter as governments look to protect the community. Free RSV vaccinations will be available nationally for older adults from May.

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### No easy cures the drive behind vaccine hesitancy

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Aleisha Orr, Page 20

Just before the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in Australia the nation achieved a record-high childhood vaccination rate. But now, the situation has shifted significantly. Instead of increasing, immunisation rates have declined as doctors' advice is challenged or dismissed.

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

### Vaccine distribution issues impacting pharmacies

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 01/05/2026, Nicholas O'Donoghue

Logistical challenges around a state government's flu vaccination program are forcing some pharmacies to turn patients away. Pharmacies in Brisbane are reportedly being impacted by "spot supply issues" impacting Queensland Health's new distribution system for the government-funded influenza vaccination program.

[Read More](#)

### 'Be Wise, Immunise' kicks off in WA

Western Australia's free flu vaccine program kicks off today, coinciding with the government's 'Be Wise, Immunise' public awareness campaign. In addition to pharmacies and GP clinics, residents can get vaccinated at the footy, with pop-up clinics at Optus Stadium AFL games a new initiative this year.

[Read More](#)

## Patient experiences of flu vaccinations post-COVID

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 01/05/2026, Rob Hosking

What's your experience discussing the vaccine since the pandemic? Dr Rob Hosking says, 'brief interventions can make a difference'.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 7, Sunrise, 01/05/2026, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Multiple Brisbane pharmacies have run out of flu vaccines for over a week, with Queensland Health's distribution changes to blame for a lack of restocking. There are fears that supply issues could deter Queenslanders from getting the vaccine if they showed up to a pharmacist who was out of stock.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Loretta Ryan and Craig Zonca

Interview with Mater Health Director of Infectious Diseases Professor Paul Griffin. Ryan says the Logan Complex, one of Queensland's busiest police stations, is at risk of closing after officers were told not to use the ground floor over fears of a black mould outbreak. Griffin says exposure to black mould is more likely to cause health problems, and people can acquire allergic-type symptoms, but people do not have to be overly concerned, and they should avoid getting exposed to it.

[Play Now](#)

## FIVEAA, Mornings, 01/05/2026, Graeme Goodings

Interview with Dr Emily Kirkpatrick, GP. Kirkpatrick says there is no spike in flu cases in South Australia, and they are in a period where people are contemplating their vaccine, but South Australia is doing well as a state in terms of vaccination rates. She also says there is more opportunity for people, particularly those aged over 65, to take the free vaccine, and she would strongly encourage anyone in the community to get their flu jabs.

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## FIVEAA, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Will Goodings and David Penberthy

Interview with Infectious Diseases Expert Professor Paul Griffin, on declining flu vaccination rates. Griffin says flu vaccines prevent people from hospitalisations and developing further infections, and now is the perfect time to get vaccinated, but they have not done anywhere near enough in South Australia. He notes that they want people to know that flu vaccines are safe.

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

### A 25-year quest for medical holy grail

Scientist Elizabeth Ng is clutching a small flask with a clear mixture inside it that she's just retrieved from inside a bioreactor. The colonies of cells clearly visible inside the flask are the genesis of life: pluripotent stem cells.

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## Why Australia is losing some of its best minds

The Saturday Age, General News, 02/05/2026, Page 34

From the moment he turns up for our lunch appointment, Sam Berkovic is self-effacing. [...] "The success rate for grants from the Australian Research Council, which funds basic research, and from the [National Health and Medical Research Council] which funds more medical research, is about 10 per cent ... that's pretty dispiriting," he says.

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## Global divide on cancer

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Page 29

High-income countries could eliminate cervical cancer by 2048, but without expanded efforts, many women in other regions will continue to face high risks. Laval University researchers in Canada used national cervical cancer vaccination and screening records to build simulations and estimate that high-income countries are on track to eliminate cervical cancer by 2048, while there will only be slight reductions in low and middle-income countries over the next century.

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

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## Burning candle at both ends

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Page 29

Nearly one-third of Australian adults are getting less than the recommended seven hours of sleep. Young adults (ages 18-34) are the most sleep deprived and most affected by the consequences of poor sleep, according to a new study by Flinders University and the Sleep Health Foundation.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#).

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Quiet achievers doing us proud

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 02/05/2026, Claire Sadler, Page 26

These amazing West Australians have been recognised for making the State they call home a better place. [...] A proud Walman Yawuru woman, she became Broome's first Aboriginal community health worker, helped establish the Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service, and made history as Broome's first Aboriginal female shire councillor.

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### WA's new Chief Health Officer

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Page 7

A former GP recognised for her public service during the pandemic and dedication to improving the health of rural and remote Australians has been named WA's new Chief Health Officer. [...] She is dedicated to improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and rural and remote communities and has worked in Far North Queensland, the South Australian Riverland and WA's Kimberley.

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## 'A profoundly distressing milestone': record number of deaths in

## custody and police operations in NSW

The Guardian, Other, 01/05/2026, Jordyn Beazley

There were a record number of New South Wales deaths in custody and police operations last year, with almost a quarter of prisoner deaths recorded as self-harm, a coroners court report states. [...] "This is a profoundly distressing milestone," wrote the coroner about the record number of Indigenous deaths in custody.

[Read More](#)

## Birthing on Country model delivers better birth outcomes

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 01/05/2026, Natalie Dragon

New research shows better outcomes with Birthing on Country compared to mainstream maternity services for First Nations families. First Nations women had significantly more normal vaginal births, were more likely to be exclusively breastfeeding upon hospital discharge and had greater engagement with culturally safe wellbeing programs.

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## PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

### Melbourne: 'I've never known a city so paralysed by hopelessness'

Weekend Australian, General News, 02/05/2026, Alan Howe, Page 23

For the sake of all of us who live in Victoria, I hope that, following November's state election, our Labor government is zipping itself into a body bag. [...] Victoria's hospitals are underfunded, understaffed and overcrowded, and run up huge debts in a system so stressed and demanding that patients are attacking doctors, nursing staff and each other.

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### Pressure piles on Chalmers after \$60b blowout

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 02/05/2026, Shane Wright, Page 10

The nation's taxpayers are on the hook for at least an extra \$60 billion in spending on everything from public hospitals to dealing with the fallout from cyclones and flooding, putting more pressure on Treasurer Jim Chalmers to find savings in next month's federal budget. In a fiscal blueprint already under pressure because of the economic fallout from the war against Iran and growing inflation, policy decisions and some unavoidable financial hits have increased the challenges facing Chalmers and Finance Minister Katy Gallagher.

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

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### 'Unavoidable spending' looms in budget

Courier Mail, General News, 02/05/2026, Ellen Ransley, Page 3

Treasurer Jim Chalmers has warned of myriad "important and unavoidable" spending pressures in this month's budget, including billions of dollars in extra payments for pensioners and carers. [...] The budget will include \$25bn for hospitals as agreed to by the states and around \$14bn for critical defence investments over five years.

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### New cancer centre gets green light

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 02/05/2026, Jessica Page, Page 3

What was once an ambitious plan is now primed to be WA's biggest investment in the fight against cancer, with this year's State Budget commitment to bring Perth's one-stop centre to life by 2030. Next week's Budget will commit to matching the Commonwealth's contribution \$375 million last year for a total of \$750m and bring an end to four years of limbo for the promised Perkins WA Comprehensive Cancer Centre.

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

## Ramping up the blame

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 02/05/2026, Jessica Page, Page 11

Health Minister Meredith is blaming more than 4000 hours of ambulance ramping in April on hospitals picking up the slack for aged care but the Opposition says the Cook Government is playing catch-up on bed numbers. St John WA ambulances collectively spent 4109 hours stranded with patients on board last month, making it the second-worst April on record - only behind 2022 when WA's borders reopened and let COVID in.

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

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## Loophole to close after man charged over paramedic stabbing

Canberra Times, General News, 02/05/2026, Nick Wilson & Callum Godde, Page 18

A man will remain behind bars after facing court charged with the attempted stabbing murder of an on-duty paramedic. The Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance paramedic was allegedly stabbed in the neck and face in an unprovoked attack as he waited for a coffee outside a cafe in Reservoir in Melbourne's north on Thursday.

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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

## Code Yellow alerts lifted

Northern Territory News, General News, 02/05/2026, Lottie Hood, Page 21

The third Code Yellow to be called at Royal Darwin Hospital and Palmerston Regional Hospital this year has been lifted after two weeks. The Top End hospitals faced capacity issues mid-April due to an increase in the number of sick people presenting at the emergency department (ED) and the number of patients needing ongoing "acute care".

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

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

## Charged over ambo stabbing

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Ike Morris, Page 22

A man has been charged with attempted murder after allegedly stabbing an on-duty paramedic in Melbourne's north on Thursday. Police allege the paramedic, Sam, was ordering a coffee from a cafe on Broadway in Reservoir when a man got out of a red car and stabbed him from behind just after 11am.

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

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## Accused stabber's first time in court

Herald Sun, General News, 02/05/2026, Shannon Deery & Rebekah Cavanagh, Page 29

A man accused of trying to kill a paramedic in a horrific stabbing attack has never been in custody before. Mohamud Ali, 32, was hauled before Melbourne Magistrates Court on Friday for a brief administrative hearing a day after he allegedly stabbed veteran paramedic Sam in the face in an "unprovoked attack" in broad daylight.

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

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## Plan for \$128m extension

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 02/05/2026, Natalie Croxon, Page 1

Wollongong Private Hospital would gain a new 12-storey wing with an emergency department and up to 100 more beds under a proposed \$128 million project. [...] It also said the expansion would provide

better support to Wollongong Hospital and "make a more prominent contribution" to the health precinct.

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## Hospital woes could cost Minns dearly

Newcastle Herald, General News, 02/05/2026, Damon Cronshaw, Page 10

Troubles at the Hunter's three biggest public hospitals have put the performance of the Minns government under heavy scrutiny. When NSW Premier Chris Minns was in Newcastle this week, he was asked about the problems at John Hunter, Calvary Mater and Maitland hospitals.

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## Snub 'a disgrace'

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 02/05/2026, Ben Silvester, Page 1

Warrnambool has again missed out on funding for a crucial cancer detection device in the 2026 Victorian state budget. The city was promised one of eight positron emission tomography (PET) scanners if Labor won the 2022 state election, but nearly four years later the pledge remains unfulfilled.

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

## Man charged with attempted murder after paramedic stabbed in face and neck

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 01/05/2026, Lachlan Abbott

The man accused of stabbing an on-duty paramedic in the face and neck outside a Melbourne cafe has faced court after being charged with attempted murder. Mohamud Ali, 32, of Reservoir, appeared in Melbourne Magistrates' Court on Friday for a brief hearing where no application for bail was made.

[Read More](#)

## Victoria pledges to close legal 'loophole' to prevent attacks on paramedics

ABC Online, Other, 01/05/2026

The Victorian government says it is moving to close a loophole that has allowed some offenders who have assaulted paramedics to escape mandatory jail terms. Under Victorian law, a person who injures an emergency services worker faces a minimum jail term of six months.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Clinging to power

AFR Weekend, General News, 02/05/2026, Lucinda Holdforth, Page 36

Australians overwhelmingly voted in favour of mandatory retirement of all Federal Court judges at 70 almost half a century ago.

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

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### 'Are you deaf?'

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 02/05/2026, Daniel Shirkie, Page 1

An explosive meeting between senior medical staff and the chair of Townsville University Hospital

board has laid bare the fractured relationships between top doctors and management. Video footage obtained by the Townsville Bulletin of the April 22 meeting, which doctors say was requested by the board chair, descended into chaos as dozens of senior medical officers staged a mass walkout following remarks by board chair Tony Mooney.

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## Board publishes pharmacist entry framework

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 01/05/2026, Kate Cowling

After a period of consultation, the board put forward the pathway to entry or re-entry to pharmacy practice. The Pharmacy Board of Australia has released its framework for pharmacists wishing to enter or re-enter the profession.

[Read More](#)

## New capability framework published

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 01/05/2026

The Pharmacy Board of Australia yesterday published the Pharmacist Capability Framework for entry and re-entry to practice, developed by the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders, including the general public. The framework describes the capabilities expected of pharmacists at key points on the pathway to general registration, and underpins the future education of pharmacists, ensuring they can adapt to a changing environment.

[Read More](#)

## Pharmacist Capability Framework for entry and re entry to practice

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 01/05/2026

The Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) has today published the Pharmacist Capability Framework for entry and re-entry to practice, April 2026 (the Framework). The Framework was developed by the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) with funding from the Board and involved wide-ranging consultation with stakeholders including the profession and the public.

[Read More](#)

## Top nurse needs a dressing

Courier Mail, General News, 02/05/2026, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 25

The position of chief nurse officer has remained unfilled for many months in the second extended wait for the Queensland government to appoint senior health chiefs. Queenslanders were without a chief health officer for a year due to a recruitment debacle following the departure of John Gerrard, and now the government is dragging its feet in appointing the top nurse.

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

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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## Crackdown on super access

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Page 6

The ATO and Ahpra have issued a warning that some health practitioners and third parties are using predatory practices to get individuals to inappropriately access their super early. Between 2019 and 2025, Ahpra received 95 complaints about medical and dental practitioners involved in the compassionate release of superannuation.

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## What to expect at a coronial inquest

Medical Forum, General News, 01/05/2026, Page 30

Going before the coroners court can be a difficult time for doctors, so it's important to know what to expect, writes Kate Reynolds, Barrister, Francis Burt Chambers. Any medical practitioner can find themselves compelled to give evidence at a coronial inquest.

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## Tribunal members divided about whether perjured former doctor raped nurse

Canberra Times, Other, 01/05/2026, Hannah Neale

Two tribunal members are at odds about whether a former doctor raped and indecently assaulted a nurse. The Medical Board of Australia took Imran Kader, aged in his early 40s, to the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal alleging he raped a woman in 2019, and committed perjury and attempted to pervert the course of justice on two occasions in 2022.

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

[Read More](#)

## Former Canberra surgeon to face disciplinary action for perjury, attempting to pervert the course of justice

ABC Online, Other, 01/05/2026, Zaarkacha Marlan

A former Canberra vascular registrar will face disciplinary action after the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal found he lied under oath and tried to interfere with a witness during criminal proceedings in the ACT Supreme Court. The Medical Board of Australia brought the case to the tribunal after Imran Kader was convicted of perjury and attempting to pervert the course of justice.

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## AUSTRALIAN CDC

### Polio strain detected in waste

Weekend Australian, General News, 02/05/2026, Emma Kirk, Page 4

A poliovirus strain has been detected in Australian wastewater for the first time, triggering a surge in testing for the debilitating disease. [...] The Australian Centre for Disease Control (CDC) warned that the finding was significant, but stressed there was no evidence of the disease spreading in Australia.

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

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### Polio in WA waste

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 02/05/2026, Brooke Rolfe, Page 13

The highly contagious and deadly poliovirus has been detected in Perth's wastewater, marking the first time that the disease has been found in Australia in close to two decades. WA Health confirmed that

the vaccine-derived type-2 poliovirus strain was identified in a sample taken from the Subiaco Wastewater Treatment Plant in mid-April.

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

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## Polio found in sewer

Courier Mail, General News, 02/05/2026, Page 13

A poliovirus strain has been detected in Australian wastewater for the first time, triggering a surge in testing for the debilitating disease. Poliovirus was found in a wastewater sample taken from a Perth wastewater catchment last month, as part of the national polio surveillance.

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## Algae from Dam threatens water and trout

Daily Advertiser, General News, 02/05/2026, Kabel Dawes, Page 7

Fears a toxic blue-green algae bloom has been flowing unchecked into a town's drinking water supply and trout fishery have been dismissed by authorities. Urgent alarms were raised by residents and visiting anglers who observed what appeared to be polluted water entering the delicate Eucumbene River system via the Providence Portal tunnel from Tantangara Dam in the Snowy Mountains.

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## Poliovirus strain detected in WA for the first time

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 01/05/2026, Holly Thompson

A strain of poliovirus has been detected at a wastewater treatment facility in Western Australia, with authorities now on high alert and monitoring the situation. The Australian Centre for Disease Control is working closely with the state government, the National Polio Surveillance Program and expert advisory groups to assess the finding and coordinate any necessary response to the detection at the Subiaco wastewater treatment plant.

[Read More](#)

## Australia-first detection of poliovirus strain made during Perth wastewater testing

7News.com.au, Other, 01/05/2026, Bryce Luff

A strain of the potentially deadly and highly contagious poliovirus recorded overseas has now been detected in Australia for the first time, health officials have revealed. The detection of the vaccine-derived Type 2 poliovirus strain — similar to finds in Africa, Europe and Papua New Guinea in recent years — was made during screenings of Perth's wastewater in mid-April.

[Read More](#)

## Deadly disease not seen in Australia for nearly 20 years detected in wastewater in Perth

9News, Other, 01/05/2026, April Glover

A highly contagious and deadly disease that has not been contracted in Australia for 54 years has been detected in sewage in Perth. Health officials say evidence of a vaccine-derived poliovirus strain was found in a sample of untreated wastewater at the Subiaco wastewater treatment plant in mid-April.

[Read More](#)

## Fatal disease detected in an Aussie city's wastewater for the first time since 2000

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 01/05/2026, Zak Wheeler

A strain of polio has been detected in a wastewater sample in Perth, sparking fears the deadly disease has returned to Australia 26 years after it was eliminated. Polio is a highly contagious infection caused by the poliovirus which can cause long-term disability, paralysis and death.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 9, Nine News, 01/05/2026, Michael Thomson

Polio has been found in Perth's wastewater at the Subiaco Wastewater Treatment Plant, and it is the first time the strain has been detected in Australia. WA Health says there is no cause for concern that the contagious virus will make its way into the community, but admits it is a significant find.

*Similar coverage reported by: [Channel 10 \(Perth\)](#).*

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## 6PR, Drive, 01/05/2026, Jamie Burnett

Health authorities are on alert after the polio virus was detected in Perth's wastewater, but Chief Health Officer Clare Huppatz says there is a very low risk to the community because more than 92% of WA children are already vaccinated against polio.

*Also reported by: [2CC \(Canberra\)](#), [3AW \(Melbourne\)](#), [2GB \(Sydney\)](#).*

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## ABC Radio Adelaide, Evenings, 01/05/2026, Spence Denny

The WA Department of Health is urging people to check their polio vaccinations are up to date after the virus was detected in Perth's wastewater. Chief Health Officer Dr Claire Huppatz says they still need to be vigilant until polio is eliminated across the world.

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## ABC Radio Perth, Mornings, 01/05/2026, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with WA Chief Health Officer Clare Huppatz, on the detection of polio virus in a wastewater sample. Huppatz says the polio virus has been detected in a single wastewater sample collected from a Perth catchment in mid-April, but she wants to reassure West Australians that there is no cause for alarm. She states that there is no evidence of a polio virus circulating in WA, and 92% of children in the state are already vaccinated against the disease.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Muscles, blood, grit - but peptides prove a little too heavy for most

Weekend Australian, General News, 02/05/2026, Penny Timms, Page 4

Luke Parsons is a mountain of a man. His red bandana now matches the hue of blood that's streaming down his chin and yet, he's beaming. [...] Amid their popularity, the Therapeutic Goods Administration is urging caution.

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

### Experts warn you can suffer from 'Ozempic face'

Daily Telegraph, General News, 02/05/2026, Brad Crouch, Page 28

Drugs being used for weight loss can cause the equivalent of 20 years' worth of age-related muscle decline within a year. [...] In Australia the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved Ozempic solely for treating type 2 diabetes and it is not yet approved for weight loss.

*Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).*

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## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

## Cannabis breathalyser breakthrough brings 'vital' change

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 01/05/2026, Stephanie Coombes

A new device being developed in the United States could change the way cannabis use is policed on the road. Researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University are working on a "cannabis breathalyser" capable of detecting THC – the psychoactive component in marijuana – within a recent-use window.

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

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### Health authorities issue ciguatera warning after poisoning cases on Cassowary Coast

Northern Territory News, Other, 01/05/2026, Greg McLean

Health authorities have warned Cassowary Coast residents and visitors to be wary of eating large reef fish after several reported cases of ciguatera poisoning. Cairns Public Health Unit has received a number of recent reports of ciguatera poisoning from the Cassowary Coast region recently.

[Read More](#)

### Food recall: Concordia Traders Enoki Mushroom pulled from supermarket shelves over contamination fears

West Australian, Other, 01/05/2026, Chloe Maher

A grocery item is being pulled from supermarket shelves after Australia's food watchdog issued an urgent recall. Food Standards Australia and New Zealand issued the recall for Concordia Traders Enoki Mushroom over Listeria contamination fears.

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

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## AICIS

### Microplastics in crops could end up on your plate, study warns

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 01/05/2026, Noah Jampol

New research indicates that food crops such as tomatoes and wheat are anything but exempt from this pattern. A study published in Environmental Science and Pollution Research by Griffith University in Australia examined the influence of microplastics and nanoplastics on tomato and wheat crops.

[Read More](#)

### ABC Radio Melbourne, Breakfast, 01/05/2026, Bob Murphy and Richelle Hunt

A recent review found that almost half of recent nitrous oxide users seeking emergency mental health support at Sunshine Hospital had symptoms of psychosis. Western Health Doctor Soumitra Das says the number of people who abuse nitrous oxide is quite small, but the impacts can be severe.

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