



TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 6th May 2026

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#) |
[Assistant Minister White](#) | [Special Envoy Repacholi](#) | [Department](#)
| [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Disability and Carers](#) | [Primary Care](#)
| [Population Health](#) | [Chronic Conditions and Screening](#) |
[Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Immunisation](#) | [Health Systems Strategies](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [The Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 6) reports that new data shows one in 10 patients are waiting up to 27 hours in the ED to be admitted at Campbelltown Hospital.
- [The Age](#) (page 7) reports that Victoria's state budget has allocated \$32.3 billion to go towards the state's health system, with \$1.6 billion in additional funding for hospitals and over \$50 million to allow paramedics to deliver faster care.
- [The Daily Telegraph](#) (page 8) reports that Australia's health ministers have agreed to establish an urgent interstate task force to address patients stranded in hospitals while awaiting federal government aged care placements.
- [The West Australian](#) (page 3) reports that the latest Hospital Health Check survey has found over half of WA doctors in training have experienced burnout because of unsafe and unpaid overtime as well as insufficient access to leave.
- [The Northern Territory News](#) (page 7) reports that Murray Valley encephalitis virus (MVE) has been detected in mosquitoes found around the northern Darwin suburbs and Greater Darwin areas.

Questions raised over NDIS as scheme faces refresh

Parra News, General News, 05/05/2026, Andrew Brown, Page 2

Spending cuts to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) won't be entirely driven by tens of thousands of people with disabilities being kicked off its supports, the minister responsible says. NDIS Minister Mark Butler has defended controversial reforms to the scheme, which would involve removing 160,000 people and reassessing all participants, regardless of their disability.

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

Families fearing an NDIS shake-up

St George & Sutherland Shire Leader, Sutherland Shire Edition, 06/05/2026, Eva Kolimar, Page 6

Families are bracing for a period of profound uncertainty as the state and federal governments roll out sweeping reforms to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), shifting the goalposts for eligibility and sparking fears that thousands of children will be left without essential support. [...] Health and Disability Minister Mark Butler defended the reforms, stating that the scheme "costs too much, and it's growing too fast."

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

NSW Productivity Commission to probe bed block, interstate taskforce established

NEWS.com.au, Other, 05/05/2026, Nathan Schmidt

A landmark inquiry will probe the fate of elderly patients stranded in NSW public hospitals, as Australia's health ministers agree to establish an urgent interstate taskforce. [...] Last month, Health Minister Mark Butler announced the Albanese government would spend \$3bn to deliver more beds, packages and "better care for older Australians".

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

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Doctors want every child to have a free check up yearly until they are five

NEWS.com.au, Other, 05/05/2026, Robyn Riley

Every child should have this hour-long visit with their GP once a year until the age of five, about 50,000 doctors say. [...] He said the RACGP supported what Health Minister Mark Butler had said on the record, that children with severe and lifelong disability would not lose access to the NDIS.

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

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Tobacco giant's secret appearance at inquiry raises questions, health minister says

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026, Stephanie Borys, Nicole Asher and Katie McAllister

The federal health minister and health groups are raising concerns about a secret appearance of cigarette giant Philip Morris at a parliamentary inquiry examining black market tobacco. [...] Mark Butler has raised concerns after Philip Morris was allowed to give testimony, in private, to a parliamentary inquiry into illegal tobacco.

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Family of boy with extremely rare medical condition seeks funding for life-changing treatment

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026

Michele Dichiera has already endured more in his life than most would in a lifetime. [...] Mark Butler has all kinds of levers, if you like, at his disposal, and one of them would be to waive the fee," Dr Webster

said.

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The NDIS rorts playbook that's popping up around Australia

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026, Elise Kinsella and Dunja Karagic

In the West Australian outback town of Derby, Katie-Lee Stoker has started keeping a close eye on her 13-year-old son Cooper's NDIS plan. [...] Announcing the changes, Disability Minister Mark Butler described the scheme as one of Australia's great human rights achievements, but also "a soft target for shonks and rorters – as well as the worst elements of organised crime".

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Philip Morris uses secret Senate hearing to warn illegal tobacco in Australia could wipe out legal trade by 2030

The Guardian, Other, 06/05/2026, Tom Mcilroy

Tobacco giant Philip Morris told a secret Senate hearing that soaring trade in illegal cigarettes would wipe out legal products in Australia as soon as 2030, claiming executives' identities should be kept secret because of threats from organised crime. [...] The health minister, Mark Butler, wrote to Blyth and other MPs ahead of this week's hearing, reminding them of the WHO guidance agreement and health department guidance on engagement with tobacco manufacturers.

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Siegel-Brown resigns as IG

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

Natalie Siegel-Brown says resigning felt like an 'impossible decision' but was necessary given the expansion of the international role she has concurrently held while Inspector-General of Aged Care. [...] She extended particular thanks to the Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae and to the Minister for Health and Ageing Mark Butler, acknowledging their leadership and shared commitment to a strong, rights-based aged care system.

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More support needed for community services amid NDIS reforms, says Palliative Care services

Berwick Star News, Other, 05/05/2026, Jin Hui

NDIS overhauls could prompt big changes to crucial terminal-illness services, with a local Casey palliative care organisation calling for greater funding for community services before sweeping reforms takes place. [...] It's been two weeks since the government announced sweeping overhauls to the over decade-long, National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in an effort to mitigate spending costs with Mark Butler, Minister for Health and Aging arguing that the new policies would make the Scheme more sustainable.

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First-ever CAR T therapy funded for multiple myeloma patients

Health Industry Hub, Other, 05/05/2026

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has announced the funding of Johnson & Johnson's CAR T-cell therapy for patients with multiple...

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\$15m win for research into early onset cancer

Health Services Daily, Other, 05/05/2026, Helen Tobler

Rates of cancers in adults under 50 are rising significantly, but seven Australian research projects hope to find out why – and improve detection and treatment. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the investment would support researchers to deliver earlier detection, better treatments for early onset cancer.

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Breaking News: Inspector-General of Aged Care Natalie Siegel Brown announces resignation

Hello Leaders Australia, Other, 05/05/2026, Janine Yeates

Inspector-General of Aged Care, Natalie Siegel Brown, has advised the Australian Government of her resignation from the role, effective 31 July 2026. [...] She extended particular thanks to the Minister for Aged Care and Seniors, the Hon Sam Rae MP, and to the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Mark Butler MP, acknowledging their leadership and shared commitment to a strong, rights-based aged care system.

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Finally... CAR T funded after five years

Pharma In Focus, Other, 05/05/2026

Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine's Carvyti has become the fourth CAR T-cell therapy to be reimbursed in Australia – and the first for multiple myeloma – marking almost 1,200 working days since it was first submitted to the TGA. [...] "Sadly, despite decades of scientific research globally, multiple myeloma remains one of the few incurable cancers," Health Minister, Mark Butler, said.

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'Impossible decision': Aged care watchdog Natalie Siegel-Brown resigns

The Senior, Other, 05/05/2026, Phoebe Loomes

Australia's independent aged care watchdog Natalie Siegel-Brown has resigned from her position, calling the choice to leave an "impossible decision". [...] In a statement, Ms Siegel-Brown thanked Mark Butler, the Health Minister, and Sam Rae, Minister for Aged Care and Seniors for "shared commitment" on strengthening the aged care system.

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Backlash over secret Senate hearing for tobacco giants

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/05/2026

A clutch of senators who offered tobacco giant Philip Morris a private hearing at a parliamentary committee have been accused of breaching Australia's international health obligations. [...] Both Health Minister Mark Butler and public health advocates, including Ms Hunter, have stressed this point to the committee.

Also reported by: [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [WEB OZ Arab Media \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Channel 7, Seven News, 05/05/2026, Angela Cox and Mark Ferguson

High-profile myeloma patients are toasting a major victory tonight after helping persuade the Federal Government to pay for a revolutionary but expensive treatment which could save hundreds of lives. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the treatment would cost about \$200,000 for individual patients without government funding.

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Brisbane\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Adelaide\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Perth\)](#).

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Channel 9, Today , 05/05/2026, Karl Stefanovic and Sarah Abo

Panel discussion with Health Minister Mark Butler and Shadow Treasurer Tim Wilson. Butler points out that there are only seven days left before the budget is released, and there have already been huge rumours surrounding it. He states that what he can assure is that the budget will meet the needs of the community, as they are currently gauging their needs as of now.

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NITV, NITV News, 05/05/2026, Natalie Ahmat

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the Federal Government will work with Indigenous

communities on a First Nations strategy as it plans sweeping reforms to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. The changes include reducing participant numbers, introducing mandatory registration for providers, and overhauling eligibility criteria.

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Sky News Live, The Bolt Report, 05/05/2026, Steve Price

Price says Federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced last month that three million Australians over 65 years old will have to pay hundreds of dollars for their private health insurance a year to establish fairness between generations. He states that he would like Butler to visit his 91yo grandmother, a pensioner with a limited income, and tell her about the payment increase.

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ABC Gippsland, Regional Statewide Mornings, 05/05/2026, Nic Healey

Healey is joined by ABC Mildura reporter Nethma Dandeniya, on 12yo Michele Dichiera, who is believed to be the only one in Australia with a giant cell angioblastoma. Dandeniya says the Royal Children's Hospital is trying to secure funding for Dichiera's family so they can access the medication, and while the Mildura Base Hospital and Wings for Kids donated \$10,000 and \$2000 respectively, they also sent some questions over to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, asking him if the medication can be included on the PBS. He states that, according to the response they have received, the medication is available on the PBS but not for giant cell angioblastoma, and an authorisation from the Therapeutic Goods Administration is needed to put the drug on the PBS, while Federal Nationals Member for Mallee Dr Anne Webster wrote to Butler, asking if the costs can be removed for Dichiera's family.

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ABC Gippsland, Regional Statewide Mornings, 05/05/2026, Nic Healey

Compere is joined by Nethma Dandeniya, ABC Reporter. Compere mentions that Mildura's Michele Dichiera is considered the only person in Australia to have the rare giant cell angioblastoma. He plays an excerpt of Dichiera's mother, Raschelle. According to Dandeniya, the Mildura Base Public Hospital has provided \$100,000 in a grant, and Wings for Kids also provided \$2000. He states that many are asking Health Minister Mark Butler whether the medicine for angioblastoma can be put under the PBS.

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ABC Radio Canberra, 16:00 News, 05/05/2026

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has warned his colleagues to abide by rules governing their dealings with big tobacco companies following an inquiry at Parliament House in Canberra. Representatives from Philip Morris International were allowed to give private evidence to a Liberal-led Senate inquiry yesterday, despite concerns from Greens and Labor Committee members.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Perth, Drive, 05/05/2026, Oliver Peterson

Interview with Private Healthcare Australia Director of Policy and Research Ben Harris, on the Federal Government's announcement last month about scrapping the private health insurance rebates for Australian seniors. Peterson plays an audio clip of Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, where he stated that the announcement will not be a welcome decision for many older Australians, but it is the right thing to do to re-establish intergenerational equity in the rebate system. Harris says there are plenty of Australians over 65 who are wealthy, but they are worried about the other seniors who are on pensions or on low incomes, because they will not be able to afford their private healthcare cover, and they have now asked the Federal Government to look at exempting Australians over 65 on lower incomes.

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Taskforce raids alleged NDIS fraud syndicate

The Mandarin, Other, 05/05/2026, Dan Holmes

The Fraud Fusion Taskforce is investigating what it believes is a multi-million dollar NDIS fraud syndicate in Queensland. [...] NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister told Sunrise yesterday that fraud accounts for about 8% of NDIS payments.

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MINISTER RAE

Siegel-Brown resigns as IG

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

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Breaking News: Inspector-General of Aged Care Natalie Siegel Brown announces resignation

Hello Leaders Australia, Other, 05/05/2026, Janine Yeates

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'Impossible decision': Aged care watchdog Natalie Siegel-Brown resigns

The Senior, Other, 05/05/2026, Phoebe Loomes

Australia's independent aged care watchdog Natalie Siegel-Brown has resigned from her position, calling the choice to leave an "impossible decision". [...] In a statement, Ms Siegel-Brown thanked Mark Butler, the Health Minister, and Sam Rae, Minister for Aged Care and Seniors for "shared commitment" on strengthening the aged care system.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Medicare to cover more speech therapy sessions for young Tasmanians

WEB Pulse Tasmania, Other, 05/05/2026

Around 8,000 young Tasmanians under 25 with severe speech and language disorders will now get far

greater access to Medicare-funded speech pathology services. [...] Assistant federal health and aged care minister Rebecca White said the change would ease pressure on local families.

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

Albo's war on toxic masculinity

Herald Sun, General News, 06/05/2026, Ellen Ransley, Page 3

The federal government has launched a national campaign to combat the rise of toxic masculinity and the "manosphere" and improve mental health outcomes. [...] Special Envoy for Men's Health Dan Repacholi said he was "looking forward to hearing from boys and men about what matters to them, and how we can help them to live healthy, happy lives in strong families and communities".

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

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DEPARTMENT

Canberra may no longer be APS heart

Canberra Times, General News, 06/05/2026, Ray Athwal, Page 6

The days of needing a Canberra address to climb the APS ladder are fading as workforce data reveals more people are leaving the capital than arriving, with 14 staff moving out for every 10 who moved in in 2025. [...] Several high-profile departments traded their capital footprint for a national presence; the Treasury and the health department both had their ACT headcounts shrink while their state-based headcounts expanded.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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Travelling with tea bags & water boilers

West Australian, Other, 05/05/2026, Stephen Scourfield

Michael Palin likes to always travel with a certain leather satchel. [...] The Australian Government's Department of Health and Aged Care says the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends a rolling boil for one minute to make water microbiologically safe.

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Philip Morris uses secret Senate hearing to warn illegal tobacco in Australia could wipe out legal trade by 2030

The Guardian, Other, 06/05/2026, Tom Mcilroy

Tobacco giant Philip Morris told a secret Senate hearing that soaring trade in illegal cigarettes would wipe out legal products in Australia as soon as 2030, claiming executives' identities should be kept secret because of threats from organised crime. [...] The health minister, Mark Butler, wrote to Blyth and other MPs ahead of this week's hearing, reminding them of the WHO guidance agreement and health department guidance on engagement with tobacco manufacturers.

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Seniors face health insurance bill shock of up to \$1,600 a year

Aged Care Guide, Other, 05/05/2026

Older Australians could face health insurance price rises three times higher than others under new government rebate changes. [...] It is important to stay across announcements from the Department of Health and Aged Care and your insurer.

How to pitch prevention to the DoHDA, by Blair Comley

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

Everyone in health thinks their prevention idea is self-evident. The secretary of health sees hundreds of those ideas every budget cycle, and most go nowhere.

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Prevention won't cut health costs overall, conference hears

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

The DoHDA secretary warns that early intervention improves outcomes but won't reduce overall spending in a 'rationed system'.

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What happened to the PBS in Q1?

Pharma In Focus, Other, 05/05/2026

There was a massive drop in reported earnings on the R/PBS in the first quarter of this year, with no clear indication as to the cause. Quarterly movements in PBS spending and service volumes can reflect administrative and other factors rather than patient use of PBS services, according to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

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Victorian Family Seeks Government Support for Son's Rare Tumor Treatment

WEB OZ Arab Media, Other, 05/05/2026

A Victorian family is urgently seeking federal government assistance for their 12-year-old son, Michele Dichiera, who is believed to be the only person in Australia diagnosed with the extremely rare and aggressive tumor known as giant cell angioblastoma. The family faces overwhelming medical expenses of approximately \$9,500 each month for a trial medication that has not yet been proven effective.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Inquiry into elderly bed block

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/05/2026, Nathan Schmidt, Page 8

A landmark inquiry will look into the fate of elderly patients stranded in NSW public hospitals, as Australia's health ministers agree to establish an urgent interstate task force. The NSW Productivity and Equality Commission will assess the cost and impact of the more than 900 patient stranded across the state as of April while awaiting federal government aged care placements.

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Council workers walk off jobs

Herald Sun, General News, 06/05/2026, Ryan Bourke, Page 9

Street cleaners, rubbish collectors, aged-care workers, landscapers and parking inspectors downed tools on Tuesday to converge on parliament and demand higher wages. The 24-hour stop-work caused widespread disruption in the local government areas of Melbourne, Greater Dandenong, Darebin, Hobsons Bay, Hume, Maribyrnong, Merribek, and Yarra, where libraries closed and rubbish was left uncollected.

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Aged care's \$100m funding a 'vital tool' to address Ballarat's bed-

blocking

Ballarat Courier, Other, 05/05/2026, Nick Powell

For 46 years, Kerry Leishman worked the "hard slog" of Ballarat's aged care as a nurse. Now, at 72, she lives as a patient in her old workplace at the Talbot Place Aged Care Facility in Dana Street.

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Aged care watchdog chief Natalie Siegel-Brown resigns

HelloCare, Other, 05/05/2026, Jakob Neeland

Inspector-General of Aged Care, Natalie Siegel-Brown, has announced she will step down from the role on 31 July 2026, less than two years after taking up the position. In a statement released on Tuesday, Siegel-Brown said the decision came after a significant expansion of her international responsibilities with a United Nations agency, a role she has held alongside her aged care appointment since entering office.

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More aged care workers are taking on second jobs due to cost of living

HelloCare, Other, 05/05/2026, Jakob Neeland

A growing number of aged care workers are taking on second jobs or looking for extra work as rising housing and living costs put fresh pressure on an already stretched workforce. New data from workforce firm Randstad suggests one in three Australian healthcare professionals has either taken on, or is considering taking on, a second job to keep up with day-to-day expenses.

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Inspector-general of aged care announces resignation

The Mandarin, Other, 05/05/2026, Dan Holmes

Natalie Siegel-Brown will depart at the end of July to devote more time to international child protection and justice work. Inspector-General of Aged Care Natalie Siegel-Brown has resigned to pursue more work with a United Nations agency.

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What the? Council to lodge aged care expansion plans

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/05/2026, Caroline Egan

The Council-operator will lodge plans to expand the capacity of McMaugh Gardens aged care home, aiming to attract future Commonwealth funding. Under the proposed plans, the operator will increase capacity of the home in the town in the Northern Tablelands, 465km north of Sydney, from 36 beds to 50.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 05/05/2026, Kylie Baxter

Interview with Go Gentle Australia CEO Dr Linda Swan, on Go Gentle Australia's report, which found that many aged care providers are falling short in supporting older Australians making end-of-life choices. Swan states that only about 10% of aged care providers have good information on voluntary assisted dying, and allow people to access it. She says some aged care providers do not give people access to assisted dying because they do not believe in it, which is a clear breach of the Aged Care Act, and the Aged Care Safety and Quality Commission is interested and concerned by the findings of their report.

Also reported by: [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#)

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

\$4.7bn for disability support

The government has introduced a raft of supports for disabled Victorians while flagging the state's own NDIS contributions will likely increase in the coming years. The budget invests more than \$4.7bn in disability supports, with a large proportion allocated to new supports set to replace the NDIS for some participants.

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Nation's accepted moral obligation needs moral reform

Newcastle Herald, General News, 06/05/2026, Zo Wundenberg, Page 18

Former NDIS minister 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.

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PRIMARY CARE

Charity steps up for kids' teeth

Courier Mail, General News, 06/05/2026, Rachel Riley, Page 17

A Queensland charity is paying thousands of dollars for children to have critical dental treatments, as the peak body calls for patients to be eligible for more financial assistance. The Australian Dental Association Queensland Branch has written to Health Minister Tim Nicholls asking for a meeting to discuss the state's decaying oral health and for the specialty to be eligible for financial assistance under the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme.

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

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New telehealth rules block care for patients

Ballarat Courier, General News, 06/05/2026, Michelle Smith, Page 2

A Haddon nurse practitioner has been forced to cut off many of her patients because a "stroke of the pen" introduced new telehealth regulations with unintended consequences. Elizabeth Kinnersly, a specialist diabetes nurse practitioner, helped patients from all over Australia to control their diabetes and improve their wellbeing via telehealth.

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Pharmacists turn patients away for home medicine reviews due to funding caps

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026

When Mildura resident Bronwen Walker was offered an in-home review of her medication, she took it up immediately. "I was taking three [tablets] in the morning and three at night, and that was just one tablet. Then I had all the other tablets I'm taking, and some of those were doubled up each day," she said.

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Dialysis units across Australia and New Zealand forced to ration lifesaving care

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026, Stephanie Dalzell and Paige Cockburn

Exhausted and depleted from kidney disease, Sarah Latham would often need to pull over to sleep as she drove hours across regional New South Wales to access lifesaving dialysis. For more than four years, the 41-year-old relied on dialysis to survive, sometimes only receiving treatment twice weekly, despite needing it three times a week.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 05/05/2026, Emma Reballato and James Glenday

Interview with Dr Sharon Ford, President, Australia and New Zealand Society of Nephrology, about dialysis units being forced to ration life-saving care according to a new major report, as the report lists it in 80% of Australian regions. Ford points out that the report reveals that dialysis units in Australia are operating at close to max capacity, which leaves little room to move when demand increases. She states that they are aware that dialysis units are a life-saving treatment for people with kidney failure.

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Radio National, AM, 05/05/2026, Isabella Higgins

A "full-blown crisis" is gripping renal units across Australia and New Zealand, with a major new report warning that life-saving dialysis is already being rationed. The "Kidney Code Red" report, released yesterday, reveals that many units are operating at 150% capacity, forcing some clinicians to reduce patient treatment sessions from three times a week to two.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Is diversification just an illusion in your portfolio?

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 06/05/2026, Shani Jayamanne, Page 21

Domestic concentration has historically been rewarded in Australia. Over the past three decades, property, banks and resource...

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Heart health pumped up

Hobart Mercury, General News, 06/05/2026, Page 3

People are being urged to make heart health a priority this Heart Week, with a focus on prevention, early detection and regular check-ups. On average, 1112 people per day are hospitalised in Australia for heart disease.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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Women not listening

Hobart Mercury, General News, 06/05/2026, Page 3

While women have a strong understanding of the social and emotional impacts of hearing loss, they are less likely than men to prioritise their hearing health. Just 31 per cent of women report getting their hearing checked at least every three years compared with 50 per cent of men, Hearing Australia research reveals.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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Australian parents demand government prioritise child health over infrastructure projects

NEWS.com.au, Other, 05/05/2026, Robyn Riley

Aussies think governments need to invest more in this critical area instead of just focusing on freeways and rail loops, polling shows, in what's been called a new "vote winner" era. Australian parents want child health made a priority by governments rather than being so focused on infrastructure projects.

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

[Read More](#)

Homelessness body says devastating baby death in Wagga Wagga exposes 'broken housing system'

9News, Other, 05/05/2026, Rebecca Masters

The death of a baby in a makeshift homeless camp in regional New South Wales is being mourned as a devastating and unacceptable tragedy by Australia's peak homelessness body. [...] The latest Specialist Homelessness Services annual report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare found one in three individuals or families who reach out needing short-term or emergency accommodation do not get their needs met.

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Norm was given months to live, now the 78-year-old 's back in the gym

The Senior, Other, 05/05/2026, Phoebe Loomes

Retired show horse trainer Norman Stibbard had been given three months left to live, as he struggled to eat or walk more than a few metres. [...] Almost three quarters of those being 65 or older, according to the most recent statistics from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Heart failure led to 173,000 hospitalisations and 5000 deaths.

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'Our son would still be here today': Family speaks out after 16-year-old boy dies from tick-borne allergy

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

The grieving family of an Australian teenager who died from a meat allergy linked to tick bites has shared their heartache, expressing to 60 Minutes Australia that a significant lack of awareness in both the public and medical fields contributed to doctors' misunderstanding of his condition.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, The Rita Panahi Show, 05/05/2026, Rita Panahi

[...] Now let's look at a poll where parents are calling for the government to invest more in child health, saying they should be prioritising it over infrastructure projects. A Redbridge poll found 65% of parents believe the government places too little priority on children's health. 70% of parents also believe children today are less healthy than previous generations.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Mornings, 05/05/2026, Tom Elliott

Interview with Australian Council on Smoking and Health CEO Laura Hunter. Hunter says they laid 66 empty body bags outside Federal Parliament, each one representing an Australian who will die from tobacco, and they want to get the message out that any solution to the illicit tobacco trade that does not reduce smoking rates is an absolute failure. She states that the Federal Government and the Border Force are doing a lot of work in trying to stop the illegal tobacco trade, but the solution needs to sit across law enforcement and public health.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 05/05/2026, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with University of Sydney Public Health Expert Dr Simon Chaplin, on cutting the tobacco excise and its impact on the black market. Chaplin says the Federal Government decided to increase the tobacco excise because a survey revealed that smokers are very price-sensitive, and it has been a factor in driving down smoking rates. He states that many people might quit smoking if the prices are increased, but it is not happening at the moment, and the traffic to the illegal shops is from existing smokers.

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

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Evenings, 05/05/2026, Renee Krosch

Doctors warn Australia's strong record on preventing smoking harm is at risk from illicit tobacco, and

their warnings come after health bodies and tobacco giant Philip Morris gave evidence at a federal inquiry into illicit tobacco in Canberra. Australian Medical Association President Dr Danielle McMullen says she is waiting on the national data to confirm what doctors on the ground are already suspecting, that smoking is on the rise.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Breakfast, 05/05/2026, Sally Sara

Interview with Dr Danielle McMullen, President, Australian Medical Association, about whether tobacco companies are being allowed to provide evidence to a Senate inquiry behind closed doors. McMullen admits that this is quite disappointing, as many witnesses did appear with their names and faces published and televised to give evidence in the important hearing on the impacts of tobacco.

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

AI used to find cancers in tissue

Courier Mail, General News, 06/05/2026, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 7

Pathologists have been using the same routine method of detecting cancers for more than 100 years and now Queensland scientists have found a new precise "superhuman" way to diagnose the deadly disease. Through an AI tool developed by QIMR Berghofer, the medics will be able to see underlying molecular activity within patients' tissue heralding a new era in pathology.

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

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

A fair Australia should not require people to choose between sight and survival

Hobart Mercury, General News, 06/05/2026, Ita Buttrose, Page 16

Australia prides itself on fairness. On looking after one another. But each year, when a federal budget is handed down, I find myself asking a simple question: who are we forgetting?

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

Bowel cancer risk doubles

Northern Territory News, General News, 06/05/2026, Page 9

Flinders University bowel cancer experts are helping doctors detect bowel cancer earlier in Australians under the age of 50 using personalised risk checks and simple blood and stool tests. The project will study the risk factors for why younger people are getting bowel cancer and how to find it earlier.

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

'It saved my life'

Burnie Advocate, General News, 06/05/2026, Saree Salter, Page 1

A Pink bus saved Kayleen Seymour's life four years ago, but now that very service may not be visiting her town. On Thursday, April 30, Latrobe Council shared a post from the Australian government's health website on Facebook, which said the BreastScreen Mobile Screening Unit, Ida, would not be visiting Port Sorell or Sheffield this May or June.

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

The seven residential aged care operators leading the way on VAD

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/05/2026, Caroline Egan

Go Gentle Australia (GGA), the advocate for Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD), has released a report card for residential aged care. The follow-up to GGA's previous national report card released in

September 2025, the report names aged care providers and lists details of their VAD offerings for the first time.

[Read More](#)

3AW, Drive, 05/05/2026, Jacqui Felgate

Interview with Heart Foundation Senior Healthcare Programs Officer Kerryn Young. Young says Heart Week is held every May, and they are encouraging the Australian public to understand that there is a risk of developing heart disease and start a conversation with their GPs about their heart health. She notes that a heart health check is subsidised by Medicare, and she would encourage Australians to contact their GPs.

Also reported by: [3AW \(Melbourne\)](#), [3AW \(Melbourne\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Drive, 05/05/2026, Gary Hardgrave

Interview with Heart Foundation Senior Manager of Healthcare Programs and Clinical Strategy Natalie Raffoul. Raffoul says 80% of heart disease is preventable, and the only way they can stop it from striking in the future is by detecting the risk early and doing something about it. She states that people have the opportunity this Heart Week to consult with their GPs and have their heart health checked.

Also reported by: [4BC \(Brisbane\)](#).

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ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 05/05/2026, Leon Compton

Interview with University of Tasmania Emeritus Professor of Law Kate Warner. Warner says a statutory review on voluntary assisted dying is underway in Tasmania, and they want to know whether voluntary assisted dying is working appropriately, and whether people can access it. She states that a public survey will be available on the Health Department's website.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Inside Google's plan to use AI to tackle our mental health crisis

NEWS.com.au, Other, 05/05/2026, Mark Furler

Tech giant Google believes artificial intelligence could save lives as it unveils new crisis support features. But can bots really bridge Australia's widening mental health chasm?

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

[Read More](#)

The Aussie mums who deliberately "disappeared" after birth.

Mamamia, Other, 05/05/2026, Raffaella Ciccarelli

Across Australia a postpartum trend has quietly been growing, but it's one that's rarely talked about. Some mothers are consciously "disappearing" in the days, weeks and months after the birth of their children.

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IMMUNISATION

Vaccine not to be sneezed at as flu season approaches

West Australian, Other, 05/05/2026, Morgan Reinwald

Australians are heading into a potentially severe flu season and given last year's death toll, experts are warning it's important to be vaccinated. Flu-related mortalities reached 1700 in 2025, surpassing the national road death toll by several hundred.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Flu overtakes Covid as leading respiratory killer ahead of winter season

Sky News Australia, Other, 05/05/2026, Andrew Hedgman

After the deadliest flu season this century, Australia is heading into another tough winter, with health experts warning against complacency. Australia is heading into winter with respiratory virus numbers currently lower than last year, but leading health experts warn the country should not get complacent after the deadliest flu season this century.

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

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

How will planned changes to the private health rebate impact Tasmanians?

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026

Australians aged over 65 will have to pay about \$240 more a year for private health insurance under changes planned by the federal government. It's a move the government argues will re-establish fairness between generations.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

Growing heart tissue in a dish brings hope to families

The Australian, General News, 06/05/2026, Robyn Riley, Page 8

Enzo Porrello is on a mission to find a cure for heart disease, which afflicts one child in every 100 born in Australia. A growing number of these children will go on to develop heart failure, a life-threatening condition where the heart cannot pump enough blood to support the body.

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

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How a footy head knock became an eight-month ordeal

The Australian, General News, 06/05/2026, Robyn Riley, Page 8

Teenager Alannah Green loves footy. She is fast and a good player.

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

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That daily packet of chips could be silently damaging your brain, Australian research warns

Your Life Choices, Other, 05/05/2026, Don Turrobia

Your afternoon snack habit might be doing more than expanding your waistline. New Australian research suggests even one packet of chips a day could be measurably harming your ability to think clearly and focus.

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Growing pains: hospitals on life support

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 06/05/2026, Mostafa Rachwani, Page 6

For 14 long hours, Manwell Cini and his wife Dianne Hand sat on the rigid plastic chairs in Campbelltown Hospital's emergency department, waiting. Cini was there after a motorbike accident dislocated his shoulder, broke his thumb and lacerated his liver.

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

Triple Zero standards get overhaul after pandemic crisis

Age, General News, 06/05/2026, Aisha Dow and Henrietta Cook, Page 7

Health Victoria's strained health system is under unprecedented pressure from a growing population that is sicker than ever before, causing ambulances to miss key response targets and hospitals failing to provide timely emergency care. As the state government unveiled a new standard for the handling of Triple Zero emergency calls, yesterday's budget painted a grim picture of emergency care: with just 65 per cent of code one "lights and sirens" ambulance callouts expected to be responded to within 15 minutes this financial year, compared with a statewide target of 85 per cent.

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

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

Health woes need a cure

Herald Sun, General News, 06/05/2026, Sarah Booth, Page 10

Victorians are continuing to wait too long for emergency healthcare and surgery, despite record spending on health. The budget included the largest investment to date for the health portfolio \$32.3bn for next financial year alone but has also revealed the state is on track to miss key ambulance, surgery and hospital wait time targets.

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Buzzwords obscure reality

West Australian, General News, 06/05/2026, Jessica Page, Page 13

Rita Saffioti's speech is still being finalised, but there are some well-rehearsed lines that should be included in the Budget bingo card for those keeping score. Keeping WA moving will be the Government's theme.

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

Hospital needs intensive care

Cairns Post, General News, 06/05/2026, Samuel Davis, Page 2

A Queensland Health team will fly to the Torres Strait this week to assess serious structural concerns inside Thursday Island hospital after flooring inside the building collapsed last month. The wheel on a trolley carrying an X-ray machine fell through the floor on Sunday, April 26 prompting workers to raise safety concerns for patients and staff.

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Upgrade falls through

When hospital infrastructure fails, it's frontline workers who are forced to pick up the slack. So the fact that staff at Thursday Island hospital are unsure whether they're on solid footing while going about their shift that's a problem.

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Ambo station stalls, hospital doubt

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 06/05/2026, Luke Griffiths, Page 4

The delivery of a new ambulance station for Geelong's fast growing south has been pushed back by at least two years, while a community hospital in Torquay appears doomed. As part of Victorian Treasurer Jaclyn Symes' second budget that was tabled in parliament on Tuesday, a "revised project schedule" of the \$30.4m Armstrong Creek ambulance station, promised by Labor ahead of the 2022 state election, was provided.

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

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Health service SWH launches plan to keep patients local

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 06/05/2026, Ben Silvester, Page 6

As the lead agency, we need to really dynamically progress how we function as a health service Craig Fraser ment, for example, will develop quite significantly in terms of the footprint of it is a lot bigger and also we'll have better models of care in there where we separate paediatrics from adults," he said.

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

NT Budget: More beds and upgraded health equipment promised

Northern Territory News, Other, 05/05/2026

The NT Government has promised more beds and upgraded health equipment in a record \$2.56 billion NT Health budget, an increase of \$231.8 million. Health Minister Steve Edgington said the 2026-27 Budget invests in more beds and better equipment to ease pressure and improve care for Territorians.

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

[Read More](#)

NSW takes back Northern Beaches Hospital

Nursing Review, Other, 05/05/2026, Stefanie Schultz

The mother of a young boy who died after a series of errors took place at Northern Beaches Hospital (NBH) has praised the NSW government for its "unprecedented" action in taking over the hospital. Initially opened as a public-private partnership (PPP) in 2018, the hospital will officially transition to full public ownership under NSW Health on Wednesday.

[Read More](#)

'Disgraceful': MP slams Albury hospital's staffing excuse as she seeks answers

The Border Mail, Other, 05/05/2026, Anthony Bunn

Greens MP Amanda Cohn has blasted Albury Wodonga Health during question time in NSW Parliament, saying it was "disgraceful" the hospital administrator had linked new staff to long waits for patients. The former Albury deputy mayor was commenting on a statement from Albury Wodonga Health on Tuesday, May 5, that sought to explain why there was greater than usual stress on the hospital system.

[Read More](#)

Hospital redevelopment delayed as state budget snubs key south-west projects

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 05/05/2026, Ben Silvester

South-west Victoria has failed to get any direct funding as the 2026 state budget reveals Warrnambool's long-awaited hospital redevelopment has been delayed.

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Huge jump in trainee GP numbers but problem remains

Canberra Times, General News, 06/05/2026, Lucinda Garbutt-Young, Page 3

The ACT's uptake of future doctors has almost doubled this year compared to last, but it is still not enough to curb the territory's workforce shortage. Canberra will gain 40 general practice registrars this year, filling about 80 per cent of available training roles.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#)

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New details revealed on hospital siege

Canberra Times, General News, 06/05/2026, Lanie Tindale, Page 4

A 35-year-old patient who held up staff in the emergency department removed a knife from "the vicinity of his ankle or sock", the mental health minister says. Rachel Stephen-Smith told the ACT Legislative Assembly on Tuesday that the unit initiated 24/7 wandering searches, using a handheld metal detector in the behavioural assessment unit, even for patients who had already been searched.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#)

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

Half our doctors burnt out

West Australian, General News, 06/05/2026, Claire Sadler and Jessica Page, Page 3

More than half of WA doctors in training have experienced burnout because of unsafe and unpaid overtime as well as insufficient access to leave, the latest Hospital Health Check survey reveals. The survey of more than 1300 junior doctors, released on Tuesday by the Australian Medical Association WA, found burnout had worsened in the past year with 56 per cent reporting moderate to high burnout, up from 52 per cent in 2025.

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

Midwifery gets boost

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 06/05/2026, Humaira Saeed, Page 3

Two new midwifery mentors have been added to a Queensland government-funded Midwifery Clinical Facilitator Program at Toowoomba Hospital. The Midwifery Clinical Facilitator Program aims to create meaningful career pathways for experienced clinicians while mentoring and supporting graduate midwives to work and stay in regional communities.

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

WA junior doctors leaving the profession due to burnout: report

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/05/2026, Michael Philipps

A survey of junior West Australian doctors has revealed a concerning increase in the risk of moderate-to-high burnout among younger medical professionals, while more than half reported a lack of training opportunities in the industry. The Australian Medical Association WA released the findings from its annual Hospital Health Check survey on Tuesday, with 56 per cent of respondents reporting moderate to high burnout – a 4 per cent increase from the previous year.

[Read More](#)

'Totally unacceptable': Townsville hospital staff walk out after board chair comment

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

Frustrated senior medical staff from a north Queensland hospital have walked out of a meeting after a heated debate with a member of the hospital board about excessive spending towards failed workplace culture initiatives. Video footage from a meeting between medical staff at Townsville University Hospital and the hospital Board Chair, Tony Mooney, on April 22 has showcased the moment several medical staff got up from their chairs and walked out of the meeting in response to comments made by Mr Mooney.

[Read More](#)

AMA WA Hospital Health Check 2026: Junior doctors detail high levels of burnout and unsafe overtime

West Australian, Other, 05/05/2026, Claire Sadler

More than half of WA doctors in training have experienced burnout due to unsafe and unpaid overtime as well as insufficient access to leave, the latest Hospital Health Check survey has revealed. The survey of more than 1300 junior doctors, released on Tuesday by the Australian Medical Association WA, revealed burnout had worsened in the last year with 56 per cent reporting moderate to high burnout, up from 52 per cent in 2025.

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Canberra Hospital tightens security in Behavioural Assessment Unit after knife incident

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026

Metal detection wands will now be used to search all patients at the Canberra Hospital's Behavioural Assessment Unit (BAU), after a man threatened staff with a knife last month. Police had taken the 35-year-old to the unit after receiving a report he had breached his psychiatric treatment order.

[Read More](#)

Complaints about work placements grow from Notre Dame nursing students and staff

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026, Nadia Mitsopoulos and Emma Wynne

When Perth mother Sally's daughter announced she wanted to follow in her footsteps and become a registered nurse, she thought she was on a pathway to a great career. "I'm a nurse myself, nursing's been really good to me, it's been an amazing career. I've had so many opportunities," Sally, whose surname has been withheld, told ABC Radio Perth.

[Read More](#)

Burnout and fatigue persist among WA junior doctors

Medical Forum, Other, 05/05/2026

Many junior doctors in Western Australia are lacking sleep, experiencing growing levels of burnout and dealing with errors in their pay. These were some of the issues highlighted in the 2026 AMA (WA) Hospital Health Check.

[Read More](#)

Victoria to boost safety of healthcare workers

Nursing Review, Other, 05/05/2026, Stefanie Schultz

In a bid to keep frontline healthcare workers safe from violence and aggression, the Victorian government has announced it will add more workplace inspectors and ramp up its focus on workplace compliance. Announced as part of the 2026–27 state budget, the package includes an additional 20 WorkSafe inspectors targeting high-risk sectors, including health care and social assistance.

[Read More](#)

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

A survey involving 1300 WA junior doctors conducted by the Australian Medical Association WA has found that burnout is on the rise, and that overtime loads and a lack of support are turning them away from the profession. With the state budget just days away, the Australian Medical Association WA is hoping there will be investment, not just in health infrastructure, but in supporting the staff who work in the system.

Similar coverage reported by: [Channel 7 \(Perth\)](#).

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ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 05/05/2026, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Australian Medical Association WA co-Chair Dr Nicole Burger, on a survey involving junior doctors who shared concerns about fatigue and job security. Burger says the annual survey is one way for junior doctors to provide feedback to their health networks and talk about their basic work posts, rights and requirements, well-being, and safe staffing levels. She notes that junior doctors are experiencing burnout due to the increasing demands placed on them, and they are very responsible because they know when to speak out for safety, but they need to value and support junior doctors in their training and in their endeavours.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

Serious disease found in Darwin

Northern Territory News, General News, 06/05/2026, Lottie Hood, Page 7

A serious mosquito-borne disease which was linked to two deaths in the Northern Territory in 2023 is once again rearing its ugly head this time in Darwin and Greater Darwin. Murray Valley encephalitis virus (MVE) has been detected in mosquitoes found around the northern Darwin suburbs and Greater Darwin areas causing experts to sound the alarm and urge people to take precautions.

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

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Alert for flu season

Northern Territory News, General News, 06/05/2026, Page 12

Australia is heading into winter with respiratory virus numbers lower than last year but health experts warn the country should not get complacent. Specialists on Tuesday said the 2026 flu season

remained unpredictable, vaccination rates were still lagging, and last year's unusually long influenza season could offer clues about what lay ahead. [...] The Australian Centre for Disease Control said the first months of 2026 showed a quieter start than last year for influenza, Covid-19 and RSV.

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

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

After 'unusual' season, here's how influenza and Covid-19 numbers compare

SBS, Other, 05/05/2026, Miles Proust

More than 1,700 deaths were recorded last flu season, but experts say Australians still underestimate the risks. [...] Dr Masha Somi, acting deputy director of the Australian Centre for Disease Control, said 29,300 influenza cases had been recorded so far in 2026 — about half the number at the same point last year.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News, 05/05/2026, Sandra Sully

Four Australians are on board a cruise ship at the centre of a Hantavirus outbreak. The ship is now in lockdown off the coast of Cape Verde, and at least three people have died and others are seriously ill, but doctors are insisting it will not spiral into a COVID-style pandemic.

Also reported by: [Channel 10 \(Brisbane\)](#), [Channel 10 \(Perth\)](#).

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Menopause HRT patch shortage in Australia to continue until at least end of the year

ABC Online, Other, 05/05/2026, Lauren Roberts

Australian women are cutting their menopause patches in half, travelling interstate to fill scripts and going without amid ongoing supply shortages. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration estimates availability of some brands will return to normal supply at the end of the year.

[Read More](#)

Expert warns people with body dysmorphia are risking lives with illegal peptides Additional Information

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/05/2026, Tayla Couacaud

People suffering from undiagnosed body dysmorphia are risking their lives by injecting illegal peptides instead of seeking professional medical help, a leading specialist has warned. [...] "The internet is the wild west, people can import things that are not TGA approved."

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

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Growing scrutiny over safety of high-THC medicinal cannabis

Health Industry Hub, Other, 05/05/2026

New Monash University research has found that more than half of all adverse events reported to Australia's medicines regulator...

[Read More](#)

New drug listings for cancer patients

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/05/2026

Fruzaqla (fruquintinib, Takeda) is now listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for people with metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC). The once-daily oral non-chemotherapy option is a small molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitor which has antitumour effects resulting from suppression of tumour angiogenesis.

[Read More](#)

\$2m fine for COVID test supplier

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/05/2026

The Federal Court has issued Key Promotional Products (KPP) with a \$1.75 million fine for the unlawful import and supply of over 240,000 units of unapproved COVID detection rapid antigen test (RAT) kits to Australian retailers between Jan and Mar 2022. [...] KPP made over 2,300 false or misleading representations in claiming that the RATs - which were not listed on the ARTG - were 'TGA approved'.

[Read More](#)

Are you prepared for Australia's flu season?

SBS, Other, 05/05/2026, Zoe Thomaidou

As flu season begins in Australia, here's what you need to know to protect yourself, your family and the most vulnerable in our community. [...] It is approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration for safe and effective use in children aged two to 17.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 05/05/2026, Kylie Baxter

Interview with Flinders University College of Medicine and Public Health PhD candidate Erik Cornelisse. Cornelisse says people in the Australian healthcare system are already using AI tools for clinical decision support, patient support, assisting with administrative workloads, image analysis around radiology and pathology, and generating notes, and it is important to recognise that each hospital and clinic is quite unique in the tools they are using. He also says the Australian Government has been developing broader plans for AI in healthcare, and the Therapeutic Goods Administration has had a role in regulating some of the AI tools as medical devices.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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FOOD STANDARDS

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