



# TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 24th 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](#)  
| [Health Economics & Research](#) | [First Nations Health](#)  
| [Public Hospital and Health Reform](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)  
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)  
| [Medicare Benefits and Digital Health](#) | [Benefits Integrity](#) | [Australian CDC](#) |  
[Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) | [Office of Drug Control](#) | [Food Standards](#)  
| [AICIS](#)

## LINKS

[Click here to view full print articles in this report](#)

[Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers](#)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sun Herald](#)** (page 1) reports the Federal Government's proposed legislative overhaul to control spending on the NDIS faces political resistance from the Coalition and the states, alongside warnings from disability advocates regarding a lack of safeguards and hasty consultation processes. Health Minister Mark Butler stated that he will utilize new ministerial powers to lower social and community participation budgets to 2023 levels and reduce annual therapy hours from 72 to 68.
- **[The Sunday Tasmanian](#)** (page 1) reports the family of an eighty year old Tasmanian man who died from Bickerstaff brain stem encephalitis as a probable consequence of a Covid vaccination expressed frustration after their applications and reviews for compensation were denied because the condition was not listed as claimable. A spokesman for the federal Department of Health, Disability, and Ageing stated that the Covid-19 Vaccine Claims Scheme Policy eligibility was closed to new cases in September 2024.
- **[The Sunday Canberra Times](#)** (page 1) reports an ACT Legislative Inquiry into pelvic pain conditions has highlighted how the normalisation and trivialisation of severe period pain by families, communities, and clinicians delays diagnosis and treatment for life-altering conditions like endometriosis.
- **[The Sunday Mail Adelaide](#)** (page 4) reports Adelaide nurse Brigid Ellen Piro has launched a 1 million dollar South Australian lawsuit against UK cosmetician Warren Lee Millington and his

company, alleging an unlawful conspiracy regarding the supply of the dermal filler Uma Jeunesse. Ms Piro claims she suffered a 12cm facial scar, lost her business, and was deregistered by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency after utilizing the product, which co-defendant Jennifer Anne Dennis denies administering or falsely claiming could be lawfully used in Australia .

- **The Sun Herald** (page 4) reports a global clinical trial for the bispecific antibody immunotherapy drug Elranatamab has demonstrated success in treating advanced multiple myeloma, with the results leading the drug to be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
- **The Guardian** (online) reports a national vaccine blitz was delayed because initial cases of diphtheria created less urgency, and the presence of unlinked cases across four states-- WA, SA, Qld, and the NT-- went unrecognized for months due to a lack of coordinated information sharing.
- **The Sunday Telegraph** (page 22) reports doctors have warned that patients are microdosing or altering weight loss medications below standard starting amounts to manage side effects or circumvent financial constraints, with the RACGP cautioning that straying from manufacturer instructions lacks sufficient safety and efficacy evidence.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Labor's NDIS overhaul hits snags

Sun Herald, General News, 24/05/2026, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 1

Labor's contentious overhaul of the \$56 billion NDIS is hitting early roadblocks as the Coalition threatens to withhold its support while states push for more detail and those with disabilities warn major changes are being rushed through without safeguards. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said he will first use this power to reduce people's social and community participation budgets to 2023 levels, and reduce therapy from 72 to 68 hours a year.

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

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

### Was complexity dawning on Butler during Sunrise?

Canberra Sentinel, Other, 23/05/2026, Tom Ravlic

Trying to illustrate the silliness of going to the taxpayers with a budget that has more moving parts in taxation can at times be a tad frustrating, but, of course, there are times when government misters gift you the example to help raise a few questions. Read through the transcript from the Seven Sunrise segment featuring Mark Butler and Jane Hume and reflect on the following:

[Read More](#)

### Are we being lied to about what our nation can actually afford?

Canberra Times, Other, 23/05/2026, Ebony Bennett

Did you notice what was different, really different, about the budget this year? [...] The massive cuts to the NDIS announced by Health Minister Mark Butler, those with long-term mental health conditions like bipolar and schizophrenia, and people with Down syndrome - because, God knows, they've had it too good for too long.

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

[Read More](#)

### Diphtheria and MVE: The two deadly diseases Territorians need to take note of right now

Northern Territory News, Other, 23/05/2026, Lottie Hood

The Northern Territory is experiencing an unprecedented wave of rare and serious diseases which have already claimed the lives of at least two people. [...] Federal funding package worth \$7.2 million will help 'accelerate' vaccination deployment in NT On Thursday morning, the Australian Health

Minister, Mark Butler, said the federal government has committed \$7.2 million to help the Northern Territory respond to the diphtheria outbreak.

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

[Read More](#)

## NDIS reforms raise uncertainty and anxiety for families navigating the system

Star Community, Other, 23/05/2026, Jensy Callimootoo

Single mum from Casey, Maya Pinn has been a full time caretaker for her son Lloyd for the last eight years, now she's worried the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) reforms may introduce more rigid red tapes to its assessments — a process that already takes weeks. [...] The key aim for the overhauls is to return the scheme to its "original intent", with Mark Butler, Minister for Health and Aging, arguing that it was "growing too fast".

[Read More](#)

## Government accused of slow response to disease outbreak

WEB First Nations News, Other, 23/05/2026, Peter Rowe

Vaccine hesitancy, health staff shortages and overcrowding in remote communities could all be causes of a diphtheria outbreak, the Federal health minister says. [...] The criticism came as federal Health Minister Mark Butler admitted "something has gone wrong" to allow such an outbreak when most developed countries had relegated the disease to the "dustbin of history".

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER RAE

### Aged Care Pressure

3SH 1332, Other, 23/05/2026, Sam Collidge

Shadow Minister for Regional Health Anne Webster has accused the Federal Government of mishandling the rollout of aged care reforms following another delay to Support at Home price caps. [...] The Mallee MP also criticised comments from Aged Care Minister Sam Rae suggesting international events had contributed to the delays.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

**Health Star Rating: Warning as Australia moves to mandate food labels**

## on packaged products

7News.com.au, Other, 23/05/2026, Bryce Luff

The Health Star Rating (HSR) system set to feature on thousands of new grocery store items must be "free of industry interference" if it is to be a win for shoppers, experts say. [...] Federal Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White said a mandate will improve access to nutritional information, address limitations of the voluntary approach, and provide greater regulatory certainty for industry and enforcement agencies.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## DEPARTMENT

### 'They have failed dad'

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 24/05/2026, Sue Bailey, Page 1

A Tasmanian family that sought compensation under a federal scheme set up for those whose loved ones died from complications after a Covid vaccine have had their application rejected. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said it did not comment on individual claims due to privacy reasons.

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

### Troy Cassar-Daley encourages mob to get vaccinated ahead of winter

The New England Times, Other, 23/05/2026

With winter fast approaching and respiratory illnesses including influenza, COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) increasing across the country, Australians are being urged to prepare early and protect their health. [...] As part of the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing campaign, Troy, a proud Gumbaynggirr and Bundjalung man, is encouraging First Nations Australians aged 50 years and over to speak with their doctor or health worker about which winter vaccinations are recommended for them.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Table for one

Sunday Age, Sunday Life, 24/05/2026, Anna Johnston, Page 13

When I was 23 years old, I learnt an invaluable lesson: gravy can change lives. [...] The Australian Royal Commission into Aged Care found that many residents are malnourished, with food budgets in some facilities alarmingly low.

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

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

### The aged care crisis that Australia chose not to fix

Sunday Telegraph, Business News, 24/05/2026, Noel Whittaker, Page 72

Economics often comes down to one brutally simple principle: supply and demand. [...] Now we are watching the same slow-motion train wreck unfold in aged care.

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

## DISABILITY AND CARERS

### NDIS recipients fear cuts will disadvantage Tassie

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 24/05/2026, Bridget Clarke, Page 5

Proposed changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme will leave vulnerable Australians without essential care and deepen social isolation, local advocates say, with Tasmanian recipients already disadvantaged compared to mainland counterparts. [...] The federal government has proposed an overhaul of the NDIS that would deliver \$36.2bn in savings over four years by tightening eligibility criteria and subjecting participants to standardised assessments.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## PRIMARY CARE

### Sit, stay... heal: The dogtor's in

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 24/05/2026, Kyle Rode, Page 27

Paws and play have joined forces at Queensland's largest children's hospital, bringing therapy dogs to the bedside of sick kids. The Paw Play program, supported by funding from The Courier-Mail Children's fund, has returned to the Queensland Children's Hospital to help ease the medical journey for children and their families.

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

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

### Far North urgent care clinics made permanent after federal funding boost

Northern Territory News, Other, 23/05/2026, Catherine Duffy

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network chief executive Ben Tooth has welcomed a budget boost for urgent care clinics, which comes less than two months after the Cairns North Medicare Urgent Care Clinic opened at Smithfield. Urgent care clinics will be a permanent feature of the Far North's medical landscape after the announcement of an additional \$1.8 billion over five years from 2025-26 and \$579.6m a year from 2030-31, aimed at keeping Medicare Urgent Care Clinics open and free.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## POPULATION HEALTH

### Canberra teacher tells of struggle with an invisible illness

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 24/05/2026, Eleanor Campbell, Page 3

In the spring of 2022, Chris Quill was in his late 30s and at the peak of his life. [...] The 42-year-old, who lives in Kambah with his wife, Tes sa, and their children, is one of thousands of Australians struggling with long COVID.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

### Battling more than pain

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 24/05/2026, Lanie Tindale, Page 1

Ella Blackmore's period came late, at age 15, and when it arrived it really did not want to leave. [...] It takes most Australians an average of 6.5 years to be diagnosed with the chronic inflammatory condition.

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

### Innovative program helped Ros' recovery from cancer

Sun Herald, General News, 24/05/2026, Rachel Rasker, Page 4

Mike Cohen beat the statistics, but he still felt guilty. [...] "Part of the challenge is that prehab isn't uniquely funded as a program yet," she says, and it isn't covered by Medicare or health insurers.

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

### Gut feeling may be our big break

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 24/05/2026, Robyn Riley, Page 18

There is little Zoe Petropoulos has not tried to raise awareness and research dollars for the cruel genetic disorder that has devastated her family. [...] NF is a genetic disorder that affects one in 2500 Australians.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### We won't break the levy

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 24/05/2026, Taylah Fellows, Page 11

Health Minister Tim Nicholls has categorically ruled out abolishing Queensland's mental health levy following a scathing report into the tax's effectiveness and lack of oversight transparency. Businesses with wages above \$10m currently pay a 0.25 per cent levy, while employers with wages above \$100m are charged 0.75 per cent, with funds put towards increasing the state's mental health, alcohol and other drugs services.

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

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

### Act now or lose even more lives

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Editorials, 24/05/2026, Page 62

In the first three months of this year, 226 Queenslanders took their own lives. Let that sink in. That is 226 families dealing with the devastating fallout of suicide.

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

### You're a liability, Amy told in psych battle

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 24/05/2026, Karen Grace Prince & Updesh Tanwar, Page 16

Mikki. Abbie. Christopher. Lucy. Aly. Leah. Bear. Jada. These are the names of eight friends who Amy Passmore carries close to her heart after spending more than a decade in South Australia's mental health system. [...] Data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) shows in 2014-15, SA accounted for nearly 24 per cent of the national residential mental-health care capacity, with 1857 available places out of a national total of 7787.

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

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

## Mental health's cry for help must not be ignored

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Editorials, 24/05/2026, Page 67

For years now, Australians have been actively encouraged to speak up and reach out for support when life gets overwhelming. [...] Psychiatrists everywhere are grappling with shortages in both staffing and beds, as mental health awareness and literacy continue to rise.

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

## Mental health is personal

Sunday Times, General News, 24/05/2026, Page 24

The biggest impact on Australians' mental health is their personal lives. Six in 10 (60 per cent) respondents to The Push-Up Challenge survey cited their personal lives (health, relationships etc) as having the biggest impact on their mental health right now.

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

## Farmer's depression story resonates

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 24/05/2026, Stephanie Gardiner, Page 29

When George Henderson's doctor asked how he was going, the farmer automatically responded "good thanks". [...] Shared widely, the Hendersons' story has sparked awareness of both the stigma surrounding mental health and difficulties accessing care in rural areas

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

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

## Lifeline: Retirees stepping up to answer WA's crisis calls as 40th anniversary celebrated

West Australian, Other, 23/05/2026, Kirsty Lichtenstein

Demand for mental health support is drastically on the rise in Australia. [...] Lifeline WA is experiencing record demand, now receiving more than 160,000 calls for help each year.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## IMMUNISATION

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

**Chief Minister defends NT child laws against 'hysteria' amid fierce criticism**

The national peak body for Aboriginal children has likened the Northern Territory's proposed child protection reforms to "watching a horror movie play out", while the Chief Minister stands firm against "ill founded hysteria" about the new laws. [...] According to the latest data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, roughly 3.3 per cent of children in out of home care in Australia were the subject of substantiated abuse, and almost half of those victims were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

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

[Read More](#)

## Australia's largest recorded diphtheria outbreak is spreading through remote Indigenous communities

The Guardian, Other, 23/05/2026, Melissa Davey & Sarah Collard

The first time the Northern Territory GP and public health medical officer Dr John Boffa learned that the highly contagious bacterial infection diphtheria was spreading in his community was in late March – several months after the outbreak first began. [...] Prior to the outbreak, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data shows there were six or fewer hospitalisations each year since 1999.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Paramedics in revolt over weekend sick pay

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 24/05/2026, Andreas Nicola, Page 6

The number of Queensland paramedics leaving the service has skyrocketed in just six months, with sources saying they are struggling to fill weekend shifts. Figures obtained by The Sunday Mail through right to information laws revealed 129 paramedics and field staff left in the first six months of the 2025-26 financial year compared to 157 in the whole year before.

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

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

### Doctors call out 17-hour shifts in hospitals and 'disrespect from the top'

Newcastle Herald, Other, 23/05/2026, Damon Cronshaw

Doctors working shifts of up to 17 hours in Hunter hospitals say they are being pushed to breaking point and patient care is being compromised. The region's biggest hospitals - John Hunter, Maitland, Calvary Mater and Belmont - have been cited by the doctors' union as examples of the problem.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## Myeloma meets its match in new drug

Sun Herald, General News, 24/05/2026, Melissa Cunningham, Page 4

Carolyn McGrath was certain that she would be dead by now. [...] Following the success of the clinical trial, which was run from the Epworth and St Vincent's hospitals, the drug has now been added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, removing a cost of more than \$25,000 a month.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Scar Wars

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 24/05/2026, Sean Fewster, Page 1

A UK cosmetician to the stars, whose clients include 1990s pop star Peter Andre and TV personality Kerry Katona, has been served with a \$1m South Australian lawsuit over his signature product. [...] She further alleged she was investigated and deregistered by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency after using the filler on a client, and that she was herself scarred after Ms Dennis administered it to her.

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

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

### Town's shock as GP clinic shuts

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 24/05/2026, Lucy Rutherford & Sam Lowe, Page 8

A Mid North town doctor may have been forced to shut her clinic because restrictions were placed on her licence and she didn't have an approved supervisor. [...] It's understood many local residents were not informed of the closure, with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) website stating that conditions were imposed on Dr Dissanayke on April 24, 2026.

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

### 'Wild West': How an RFK-inspired startup is cashing in on the peptide craze

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 23/05/2026, Kishor Napier-Raman

Bobbi, a new Australian online doctor shop, has an unusual namesake: the United States health secretary notorious for pushing views on vaccinations at odds with those of the medical mainstream. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency provides guidance rather than strict rules around telehealth, in a model that is designed to ensure doctors maintain some autonomy around prescription practices.

[Read More](#)

### Workforce shortages contribute to psychiatrist's lighter penalty after he sexually harassed nurse

ABC Online, Other, 23/05/2026, Keane Bourke

The sole inpatient psychiatrist in a WA regional area has been spared harsher punishment for repeatedly sexually harassing a nurse, partially due to workforce shortages. [...] He then sent her a message via Facebook Messenger, declaring "I can't help but love you more (even if it means losing my AHPRA licence or being kicked out of Australia)".

## AUSTRALIAN CDC

### **Nuclear waste problem grows**

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 24/05/2026, Linda Silmalis, Page 32

Sydney's radioactive waste problem is becoming a bigger headache with the federal government's nuclear safety body last week formally reprimanding Australia's Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) over the safety of its Lucas Heights storage facility. The storage of radioactive waste is governed by the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), which is responsible for protecting the community from the harmful effects of radiation.

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

### **Vaccination 'not enough' to contain diphtheria spread in remote WA, disease official says**

ABC Online, Other, 23/05/2026, Dunja Karagic, Giulia Bertoglio & Jemillah Dawson

Vaccination alone will not be enough to stop the "rare outbreak" of diphtheria from spreading in Western Australia, with the state likely to seek federal support to ensure remote communities are fully covered, the state's director of communicable disease control says. An outbreak of diphtheria across Australia this year has seen more than 220 cases reported with the disease primarily in the Northern Territory, WA and South Australia.

[Read More](#)

### **WHO upgrades risk assessment for Ebola outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo to 'very high'**

ABC Online, Other, 23/05/2026

The World Health Organization has raised its risk assessment of the Bundibugyo strain of Ebola turning into a national outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to "very high". The strain, for which there is no approved vaccine or treatment, was declared an emergency of international concern by the WHO last Sunday.

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

[Read More](#)

### **ABC News, Weekend Breakfast, 23/05/2026, Fauziah Ibrahim & Johanna Nicholson**

Scientists at Oxford University are on the cusp of trialling a new vaccine that could help tackle the Ebola emergency in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where there have been 750 suspected cases and 177 deaths due to the outbreak. As the World Health Organization upgrades the severity of the outbreak to very high, scientists are now using the same technology they used to develop a COVID vaccine, but University of Oxford Professor Sir Andrew Pollard admits the current outbreak is hard to control due to the current public measures.

[Play Now](#)

### **Channel 10, 10 News (Weekend), 23/05/2026, Narelda Jacobs**

The World Health Organization has raised the risk of the Ebola virus turning into a national outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo to very high. With no vaccine or treatment for the Bundibugyo strain, cases are rapidly spreading and causing turmoil within the community.

*Similar coverage reported by: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#).*

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## Tiny dose of advice

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 24/05/2026, Ashleigh Gleeson, Page 22

Doctors say patients are "microdosing" weight loss drugs to limit terrible side effects or because they struggle to pay for the expensive medication, but warn there is still limited evidence behind it and there could be negative health consequences. [...] A spokesman from the Therapeutic Goods Administration, the medicines watchdog said it was aware of microdosing and considered it off-label prescribing.

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

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

## ABF in dodgy meds seizure

Sunday Times, General News, 24/05/2026, Rhianna Mitchell, Page 23

Australian Border Force officials have seized almost one million doses of illegally imported medicines in just two weeks, including peptides, melatonin and botox, as part of a global crackdown. [...] The ABF, working with medicines regulator the Therapeutic Goods Administration, seized 900,000 units of unlawfully imported goods.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

### Alert after drug threat

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 24/05/2026, Fergus Ellis, Page 26

Victoria has been put on alert as three people were left fighting for their lives with heroin overdoses after taking what they believed to be cocaine. The Department of Health confirmed three separate overdose incidents had recently required emergency care.

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

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

[Back to Top](#)

## FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## AICIS

### Small detail on puffer jacket tag reveals little-known hazard: 'Serious concerns'

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 23/05/2026, Joe Attanasio

A small message on a clothes tag at a popular retail store has served as a warning to Australians about the hazards hidden in some of our favourite clothes. [...] Experts this month sounded the alarm about PFAS — dangerous chemicals that Australians often wear on our skin, unwittingly.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

