



TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 28th May 2026

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#) |
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Guardian \(online\)](#)** reports that modelling released by the Department of Health suggests that new NDIS eligibility rules will result in 241,000 participants being removed from the scheme by mid-2031, with the number of participants peaking at 817,000 next year.
- **[The Australian \(page 3\)](#)** reports that a Supreme Court of NSW truce has cleared the way for the Royal Australasian College of Physicians to hold its AGM on Friday, with both suspended president-elect Sharmila Chandran and former president Jennifer Martin providing undertakings not to interfere with proceedings.
- **[The Age \(page 1\)](#)** reports that the Victorian government has promised to address the issue of the state's hospitals using using secret "not welcome lists" to ban aggressive patients, leading to paramedics being left to decide whether to transport them to another hospital or risk their safety.
- **[The Canberra Times \(page 1\)](#)** reports that the ACT is experiencing a shortage of doctors due to low pay, poor working conditions, and a lack of respect, according to the territory's branch of the Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation.
- **[The Hobart Mercury \(page 6\)](#)** reports that Tasmanian Treasurer Eric Abetz criticised the federal government for neglecting Tasmanian aged care funding, highlighting the cost to Tasmania's public health system due to inadequate aged care facilities.

- **[The Herald Sun \(page 9\)](#)** reports that new research shows early-onset bowel cancer rates are rising in Australia, Canada, England, and the US, with a projected doubling every 20 years if trends continue.
- **[The Herald Sun \(page 9\)](#)** reports that a new trial at Monash Children's Hospital is investigating whether donated cord blood can protect preterm babies from long-term brain damage, with promising early results offering hope for future therapies for conditions like cerebral palsy.
- **[The Canberra Times \(page 9\)](#)** reports that a citizens' jury will be established to advise the ACT government on a substitute decision-making process for voluntary assisted dying for those who lose capacity.
- **[The Daily Telegraph \(page 10\)](#)** reports that the Coalition may condition its support for the government's proposed NDIS reforms on an agreement to delay controversial tax changes.

MINISTER BUTLER

Push for urgent care

Cowra Guardian, General News, 28/05/2026, Cara Kemp, Page 3

Cowra Council is continuing its push for a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, identifying improved healthcare access as a key priority in its draft 2026-2027 operational plan. [...] "Council is seeking clarity from Federal Health Minister Hon Mark Butler as to whether there are any plans for a clinic to be opened in Cowra or will our residents be among the one in five Australians who will not be within 20 minutes of a Medicare UCC," Council said.

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

New NDIS eligibility rules will cut 240,000 participants from scheme in four years, documents reveal

The Guardian, Other, 28/05/2026, Dan Jervis-Bardy

More than 240,000 participants are expected to be shifted off the national disability insurance scheme in the four years after new eligibility rules are introduced, internal documents reveal. [...] Announcing the reform last month at the national press club, the health minister, Mark Butler, said preliminary modelling showed the changes would reduce the number of participants to 600,000 by the end of the decade – about 160,000 fewer than existing levels.

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A reform window, not a breakthrough

australian.physio, Other, 27/05/2026, Katherine Utry

A year into Labor's second term, the reform landscape appears active but those working within it see a system operating under strain. [...] That shift was articulated at a system level in Minister for Health and Ageing and Minister for Disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme Mark Butler's National Press Club address and has since begun to translate into concrete settings.

[Read More](#)

Deadly disease outbreak linked to waning vaccinations

HealthTimes, Other, 27/05/2026

A dip in vaccination rates has been blamed for one of Australia's worst diphtheria outbreaks as the rare respiratory disease continues to spread. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler described it as the biggest diphtheria outbreak in Australia for decades.

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The \$14 million question: Why does the Maggie Beer Foundation keep getting aged care money?

HelloCare, Other, 27/05/2026, Jakob Neeland

When HelloCare published its first investigation into the Maggie Beer Foundation last year, the response from inside the aged care sector was immediate and striking. [...] Before taking that role, she

served as an adviser in the office of then-Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler from September 2022 to April 2024.

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“Need does not disappear”: advocates warn NDIS overhaul risks repeating past mistakes

The Point Australia, Other, 27/05/2026, Tegan George

Advocates have warned the Albanese government's planned overhaul of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) risks repeating the very policy failures that led to the system's creation in the first place. [...] The Albanese government has wasted no time, with Minister Mark Butler introducing the legislation into parliament the same week the budget was handed down.

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“Like COVID again”: NDIS participants fear social isolation under program cuts

The Western Weekender, Other, 27/05/2026, Emily Chate

NDIS participants across Penrith are becoming increasingly worried about their future as the Federal Government implements changes to the scheme. [...] "These reforms are about saving the NDIS itself," said Minister for NDIS Mark Butler.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

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MINISTER RAE

Family's fight to give dad his daily shower

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 28/05/2026, Emma Cam, Page 9

A Townsville family says delays and red tape in accessing funding from the aged care system has left their vulnerable father without a daily shower. [...] A spokesman for Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae said the Integrated Assessment Tool supports assessors and does not replace them.

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Aged care home under fire for charging residents to watch volunteer musicians

HelloCare, Other, 27/05/2026, Jakob Neeland

An aged care home on the NSW South Coast has sparked outrage after residents were asked to pay to attend musical performances delivered by volunteers, including one woman performing for her own 98-year-old mother. [...] Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said providers are only permitted to charge for services that go "above and beyond" their required obligations, adding that charging residents to watch volunteer performances falls short of community expectations.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Fire a 'kick' to race club

Centralian Today, General News, 28/05/2026, Gladys Barreta, Page 1

A fire at the Tennant Creek Speedway last week caused significant damage to the canteen and race control tower, forcing organisers to cancel the club championships on Saturday night. [...] Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White acknowledged the role Aboriginal community-controlled health services were playing during the outbreak.

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Regions 'feed you all, but we die younger'

The Land, General News, 28/05/2026, Jason Gregory, Page 19

Regional Australians are being forced to accept poorer health outcomes, weaker services and a tax system stacked against them, independent MP Rebekha Sharkie has declared, warning Parliament "we feed you all, but we die younger". [...] Labor MP Rebecca White, who was raised on a farm in Tasmania, rejected their claims, pointing to expanded bulk-billing access, increased rural GP training places and investment in aged care and study hubs.

Also reported by: [Queensland Country Life \(Brisbane\)](#), [Stock Journal \(Adelaide\)](#).

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LA FM, 07:30 News, 27/05/2026

Federal Labor Members Julie Collins and Rebecca White have jointly written a scathing letter to the Tasmanian Health Minister to voice deep opposition over the abrupt cancellation of state funding for the Huon Valley's primary after-hours medical clinic. The Cygnet Family Practice Urgent and After-Hours Service, a highly acclaimed program staffed by nurse practitioners and community paramedics, is scheduled to shut down on June 30, 2026, as a direct casualty of the state government's mandated \$700 million health efficiency savings.

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

ABC North West Qld, Breakfast, 27/05/2026, Zara Margolis

Pre-recorded interview with Men's Health Special Envoy Dan Repacholi. Repacholi points out that next week he'll be talking with Assistant Minister for Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Emma McBride, so they can get more mental health support in remote communities. He adds that the number of suicides are quite alarming in remote communities, as per details provided by Robbie Katter.

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ABC North Queensland, Mornings (Early), 27/05/2026, Susan Graham-Ryan

The Federal Government's Special Envoy for Men's Health, Dan Repacholi MP, has labeled a recent surge in suicides across remote Gulf Country communities as deeply alarming, vowing to elevate the regional crisis to the highest levels of parliament. Following an intensive fact-finding tour across Mount Isa and isolated Northwest Queensland hubs, the Federal Member for Hunter stated that regional and remote Australian men continue to face a disproportionate mental health burden exacerbated by geographic isolation and a severe lack of local services

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WA welcomes 59 new beds but more needed

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 27/05/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

The WA government has funded the extra 59 beds for its Time to Think program, but a market analysis report shows WA will need at least 1,200 before 2030 to meet demand. [...] Such impact will need to be monitored closely by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, the report said, but the known impacts formed part of the methodology used to forecast the potential supply gap up to 2030.

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Osteoporosis resources now live

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 27/05/2026

A new osteoporosis health literacy initiative through community pharmacy has been launched by Healthily, Fred IT Group, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), and Healthy Bones Australia. [...] Announced last year and supported by a \$1.1 million Quality Use of Medicines, Consumer Health Literacy grant from the Australian Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, the program delivers evidence-based osteoporosis education designed to improve medication adherence and reduce bone fracture risk directly to patients at the point of dispensing.

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Concerns remain over new assignment of benefits laws

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 27/05/2026, Karen Burge

The DoHDA has released new detail to help practices navigate the 1 July changes, but the RACGP warns vulnerable patients could be carved out of bulk billing. [...] With sweeping new laws to take effect on 1 July, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DoHDA) has released a new frequently asked questions document, outlining some of the major changes and how practices can prepare.

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No captured consent, no bulk bill

The Medical Republic, Other, 27/05/2026, David Dahm

Four regulatory changes hit Australian medical practices on the same day. Most clinics are not ready. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing is working on a regulation to support bulk billed enduring assignment agreements for this scenario, but it is not yet finalised.

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Channel 10, 10 News, 27/05/2026, Natalie Forrest

Western Australia is experiencing its worst diphtheria outbreak in decades, with 92 cases detected this year, the vast majority of which are in the state's north, affecting Indigenous communities in the Kimberley, and two cases identified within the prison system at West Kimberley Regional Prison in Derby. In response to the outbreak, the Department of Health is working with the Department of Justice to vaccinate staff and prisoners.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Treasurer blasts federal 'neglect' of Tasmanian aged care

Hobart Mercury, General News, 28/05/2026, David Killick, Page 6

Treasurer Eric Abetz has condemned what he described as "federal neglect" of Tasmania and demanded Canberra stump up more for aged care in the state. During question time in state parliament on Wednesday, Mr Abetz accused the Labor opposition of being "ventriloquist dolls for federal Labor rather than sticking up for Tasmania".

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Echo warning

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 28/05/2026, Page 14

Care by algorithm is care gone wrong and Townsville families are paying the price. [...] If the new Support at Home set-up relies on automated assessments to overrule human judgment, without swift, accountable review, then it's built to fail the very people it's meant to serve.

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Families can't carry ageing alone anymore

Community Care Review, Other, 27/05/2026, Philippa Lewis

For most of human history, long before the advent of government and the concept of a policy portfolio, ageing was considered a family and community responsibility. In many cultures, that was an intergenerational expectation so embedded in daily life that it barely needed articulation, if at all.

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Sector lacks understanding of spiritual care

Community Care Review, Other, 27/05/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Despite the new Aged Care Act enshrining wellbeing and connection as central to care, there is a gap between the recognised importance of spiritual care and its consistent delivery, a new national benchmarking report has found. Peak body for emotional wellbeing and spiritual care Meaningful Ageing Australia and provider peak body Ageing Australia collaborated on the report, which was published this month.

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Assistive technology is reform's 'make-or-break' test with system already under strain

HelloCare, Other, 27/05/2026, Jakob Neeland

Support at Home is changing how aged care providers organise services and support – and as these changes progress, one issue is fast becoming a pressure point: supporting older Australians to access assistive technology quickly enough to stay safe at home. Indigo's AT2GO Support at Home platform helps providers do just that, with a strong focus on fast processing and delivery, access to quality products from reputable suppliers, and less administration for busy teams.

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From purling to puzzles, these hobbies could reduce your dementia risk

The New Daily, Other, 27/05/2026, Ruth Brookman & Celia Harris

Dementia is now the leading cause of death in Australia. About 446,000 people live with a brain condition that may affect their memory, thinking and behaviour.

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Aged care revenue soars at Ryman Healthcare

The Weekly Source, Other, 27/05/2026, Ian Horswill

The New Zealand-based continuum of care operator has detailed how Australia's aged care system is increasing its revenue. Ryman Healthcare operates nine retirement villages in Victoria, with a number providing aged care in a continuum of care model.

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WA Govt boosts aged care transition capacity

The Weekly Source, Other, 27/05/2026, Caroline Egan

The WA Government has increased the capacity of its Time to Think program, which provides short-term care for hospital patients waiting to access longer-term aged care. The additional 59 beds are

being delivered by Not For Profit Amana Living , and include: 24 beds at Lady McCusker Home in Duncraig, 16km north of the Perth CBD;

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Channel 10, 10 News+, 27/05/2026, Denham Hitchcock & Amelia Brace

Katrina Fisher of Perth reports that her parents are experiencing extensive delays in Australia's aged care system, including long assessment and support waiting times amidst worsening conditions, as well as system pressures and workforce shortages reported by aged care workers. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says Australia will require a new aged care facility every three days for the next 20 years due to insufficient capacity, with government figures indicating 97 per cent residential care occupancy and average wait times of up to 14 months for residential care and 12 months for home support.

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Channel 10, 10 News, 27/05/2026, Natalie Forrest

WA Shadow Health Minister Libby Mettam has proposed converting King Edward Memorial Hospital in Subiaco into a transitional aged care facility once maternity services are transferred to the new Women's and Babies Hospital in Murdoch in 2029, with the goal of addressing the 366 patients waiting for aged care placements and potentially freeing up approximately 200 public hospital beds. Premier Roger Cook stated that patients requiring aged care should be placed in permanent, purpose-built aged care facilities operated by specialist providers.

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

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Coalition to use NDIS to fight Labor's taxes

Daily Telegraph, General News, 28/05/2026, Jessica Wang, Page 10

The first tranche of Labor's contentious capital gains tax reforms and negative gearing will be introduced later today, with the Coalition set to leverage support for the NDIS reforms to delay the tax changes. [...] "What we're going to do is go through parliamentary processes on both NDIS changes and budget changes and we're going to use maximum leverage so Australians can have a say," he told Sky.

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

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Inquest told of quality of life concerns

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 28/05/2026, Alex Treacy, Page 6

Moves are afoot to strip registration from a Gold Coast NDIS provider caring for an autistic 16-year-old boy who died by suicide, a coronial inquest has heard. The inquest, which commenced at Southport Magistrates Court on Tuesday, is examining the death of Quinn Cook, a Logan boy who was living under the care of support workers employed by My Gold Coast Care Group (MGCCG) when he died on January 28, 2023.

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

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

The Guardian, Other, 28/05/2026, Greg Jericho

Last Friday while eating breakfast I noticed what I thought was a piece of cereal lodged in my gum. [...] Rather than decry the cuts to the NDIS, instead we have stories bemoaning that total disability funding would reach \$100bn.

ABC News, Afternoon Briefing, 27/05/2026, Patricia Karvelas

Shadow NDIS Minister Melissa McIntosh says the government's proposed NDIS reforms should be referred to a Senate inquiry, noting the government needs Coalition support to pass the legislation. She adds that while the Coalition has broadly supported the inquiry, it may withhold support in order to leverage negotiations on tax reforms and that extending the inquiry would allow more people to participate.

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PRIMARY CARE

New clinic takes the time to care

Cairns Post, General News, 28/05/2026, Grace Carter, Page 9

Amid the growing norm of 10-minute doctor appointments and a medical workforce pushed to the brink, a new health clinic in Cairns is slowing everything down, attempting to reinvent the traditional GP visit. Founded by Cameron Rosin and Aurelien Breguet, Sohma House - a specialist integrative health clinic in Manunda - has opened its doors to offer Cairns residents who've felt let down by the traditional healthcare system a different model of care.

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Cygnet loses after-hours urgent care

Huon News, General News, 27/05/2026, Page 1

Huon Valley's only after-hours medical service will cease as part of the health budget cuts. Cygnet Family Practice Urgent and After-Hours Service has been recognised for its innovation, awarded by Medicare, and has been the only service of its kind in the Huon Valley for the past four years.

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Pharmacist prescribing: the debate

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 27/05/2026

The Pharmacy Board of Australia has been conducting consultations on its draft endorsement for scheduled medicines for pharmacist prescribing. Public consultation commenced on 20 April on the draft registration standard and guidelines, with the board noting

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Mandatory reporting legislation "a century out of date"

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 27/05/2026, Nicole MacKee

Legislation that sends a signal that mental illness [in doctors] could potentially be punished is about a century out of date," says Professor Stephen Robson, who last month spoke out in MJA InSight about his attempt to take his own life during his internship 30 years ago. His story was later reported in several mainstream media outlets.

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POPULATION HEALTH

CBD stores get stubbed out

Daily Telegraph, General News, 28/05/2026, Rory Williams, Page 23

One of Australia's biggest retail chains has dumped a franchisee after several of their outlets were swept up in an operation that shut 17 Sydney CBD stores over alleged illicit tobacco and vape sales.

[...] NSW Health Minister Ryan Park praised enforcement personnel but took aim at federal inaction on the tobacco excise fuelling the black market.

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

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Public jury to advise on assisted dying decision process

Canberra Times, General News, 28/05/2026, Lucy Arundell, Page 9

A jury of Canberrans will advise on a decision-making process for people desiring voluntary assisted dying who have lost their capacity to make decisions. A citizens' jury will be established to bring Canberrans together on the sensitive project, supported by clinicians, legal experts, consumers, carers and advocacy groups.

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

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Bowel cancer on rise

Herald Sun, General News, 28/05/2026, Page 9

A disturbing health trend has emerged over the past 20 years, with new generations of young Australians diagnosed with bowel cancer in increasing numbers. Research published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute says if the trend continues, rates of early-onset bowel cancer (under 50) will double about every 20 years in Australia, Canada, England and the US and in both sexes.

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

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From all clear to a rare cancer

Burnie Advocate, General News, 28/05/2026, Freddie Moffat, Page 9

When Terina Tipene-Herbert had a mole cut out four years ago, everyone thought that was the end of the story. The mole was deemed non-cancerous, and the 19-year-old psychology student from Hellyer Beach was given the all clear.

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Facing 'scanxiety'

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 28/05/2026, Page 8

Nearly one in two Australians living with blood cancer experience "scanxiety" a constant fear their next test, scan or biopsy could reveal their cancer has returned. Blood cancer patients often face lifelong monitoring and confronting relapse rates, with cancers such as myeloma relapsing in up to 80 per cent of patients, the Leukaemia Foundation says.

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Simple blood test could unlock personalised treatments for lung cancer

The Courier Mail, Other, 27/05/2026, Rachel Riley

A simple new blood test could end the cruel guessing game for lung cancer patients by matching them with personalised treatments to fight the deadly disease sooner. Desperate cancer patients are forking out up to \$500,000 a year on cutting-edge immunotherapies that might not save their lives.

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

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Husband and wife both had sore backs and put it down to 'kidney stones'. Turns out they had the same cancer

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 27/05/2026, Matt Jones

A couple has told how they both suffered pain most Aussies get from time to time before being diagnosed with cancer months apart. Last year, Phil and Robyn Neven had niggling lower back pain which Phil put down to kidney stones, as he had experienced them in the past.

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Video games were Cassandra's refuge. Then she began to lose her sight

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 27/05/2026, Nell Geraets

Since she was in her teens, video games have been much more than a pastime for Cassandra Gray. [...] Gray developed peripheral and optic neuropathy, a chronic illness that eventually caused her eyesight to deteriorate.

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ABC News, ABC National News, 27/05/2026, Joe O'Brien

Tzield, a newly approved treatment for type 1 diabetes in Australia, targets immune cells that attack insulin-producing cells in the pancreas, delaying disease onset by an average of two years. It has already been approved in the UK, EU, and US and has been described as the first new therapy for type 1 diabetes since the discovery of insulin more than a century ago. St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research Professor John Wentworth and Type 1 Foundation CEO Ange Liston-McCaughley have called for broader screening to identify eligible patients earlier.

Similar coverage reported by: [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 10 \(Brisbane\)](#), [SBS \(Sydney\)](#).

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Channel 10, 10 News, 27/05/2026, Natalie Forrest

More than 100 volunteers in Western Australia took part in the 18th annual "65 Roses" fundraiser, wrapping a record 30,000 roses to raise funds and awareness for cystic fibrosis. Jordan Fitzgerald, who was born with cystic fibrosis, credited the 2022 PBS listing of the drug Trikafta, which previously cost more than \$200,000 per year, with providing significant relief.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 27/05/2026, Joel Rheinberger

Interview with Maria Said, Health Strategy and Advocacy Manager of Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia. Said discusses oral allergy syndrome and food allergy reactions, including mouth, lip, and throat itching caused by pollen-related proteins found in fresh fruit, vegetables, and tree nuts. She also explains that severe allergic reactions, such as difficulty breathing or dizziness, require adrenaline injections into the outer thighs or nasal adrenaline.

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6PR, Afternoons, 27/05/2026, Tod Johnston

Interview with Dr Hun Chuah and Shao Tneh from Royal Perth Hospital. Chuah and Tneh discuss blood cancer awareness for World Blood Cancer Day, including symptoms to look out for and advances in treatment that mean it is no longer a death sentence. They also highlight research and support efforts, including a national stem cell registry for healthy people aged 18 to 35 via Australian Red Cross Lifeblood.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Ministers duck hard questions

Courier Mail, General News, 28/05/2026, Thomas Chamberlin, Taylah Fellows & Hayden Johnson, Page 12

Two ministers have refused to answer questions about whether their departments failed to protect a four-year-old girl allegedly murdered by her mother at Lowood, west of Brisbane. Health Minister Tim

Nicholls and Child Safety Minister Amanda Camm also rejected calls to launch internal investigations into how child safety or mental health services may have failed Jessie Renee Phillips.

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Ministers should answer questions

Courier Mail, Editorials, 28/05/2026, Page 22

Queenslanders deserve answers from Health Minister Tim Nicholls and Child Safety Minister Amanda Camm after a four-year-old girl was allegedly murdered by her mother at Lowood this week. Her name was Cleo, and her mother Jessie Renee Phillips is believed to have had interactions with state mental health facilities and the Department of Child Safety before the tragedy.

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New details emerge after mother charged with four-year-old's murder

NEWS.com.au, Other, 27/05/2026, Bianca Soldani

The Queensland mother who was charged after the death of her four-year-old daughter on Monday is understood to have recently undergone mental health treatment. Nurse Jessie Renee Phillips, 31, has been charged with one count of murder (domestic violence offence) against a child, after her daughter Cleo Rose Catterall was found unresponsive on Monday night.

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IMMUNISATION

Vax cost a sharp shock

Herald Sun, General News, 28/05/2026, Shannon Deery, Page 13

The Allan government has come under fire for refusing to fund a new needle-free flu vaccine that is costing Victorian families up to \$75 a dose. Governments in NSW, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia are funding the revolutionary new vaccine for children.

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

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Noah 'nose' trick to avoid the needle

Newcastle Herald, General News, 28/05/2026, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

Noah Liddy was among the first children to get a free nasal spray vaccine for influenza under an expanded state program to boost immunisation and reduce hospitalisations. The Minns government announced yesterday that young people aged two to 17 were now eligible for the nasal spray.

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NSW expands FluMist access

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 27/05/2026, Kate Cowling

The NSW Government has rolled out nasal influenza spray to more children and teenagers, as flu numbers begin to climb.

Also reported by: [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#), [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#).

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Channel 7, Seven News, 27/05/2026, Angela Cox & Mark Ferguson

The NSW Government has expanded the free nasal flu vaccine to include all children up to the age of 17, with the Health Watchdog stating that the FluMist is effective, painless, quick, and free. More than 185,000 confirmed cases were recorded last year, and health officials warn that more severe Northern Hemisphere flu strains could push the flu season into spring.

Similar coverage reported by: [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#).

Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 27/05/2026, Tom Connell

Interview with infectious diseases expert Dr Clay Golledge. Golledge discusses a widespread diphtheria outbreak in Australia, with about 250 or more cases, mainly in the Northern Territory and about 25 per cent in Western Australia, linked to declining vaccination rates below 90 per cent. He also discusses the Ebola outbreak in Central Africa, which the WHO warns is outpacing emergency health response and involves the Bundibugyo strain, raising concerns about its spread beyond Africa.

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ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 27/05/2026, Thomas Oriti

Interview with RACGP President Dr Michael Wright. Wright discusses the NSW Government's announcement that free flu nasal spray vaccinations will be expanded to include children and teenagers up to the age of 17. He says the nasal vaccine offers the same level of protection as the needle vaccine, thereby reducing severe flu and transmission to others.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

New Mount Hospital owner won't be the State Labor Government

West Australian, General News, 28/05/2026, Oliver Lane & Rebecca Le May, Page 8

Perth's Mount Hospital could soon have a new owner, with the outcome of bids for Healthscope's private health assets believed to be imminent. Despite rumours the State Government could be a buyer, it's unlikely to fall into public hands.

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

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'She was not on death's door'

Newcastle Herald, General News, 28/05/2026, Jamieson Murphy, Page 1

When Fiona Harrison last spoke to her mother at the Calvary Mater hospital, the 84-year-old cancer patient's health was so stable they were discussing moving her to an aged care facility. [...] Ms Harrison is among the 120 families who have registered for the class action into alleged mould-related deaths at the Calvary Mater hospital, seeking answers and justice.

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Breaking news: Estia Health sold by Bain Capital in billion-dollar deal

The Weekly Source, Other, 27/05/2026, Lauren Broomham

The agreement delivers a substantial return for Boston-based Bain Capital, which acquired Estia Health in December 2023 for \$838 million. Global infrastructure investment firm Stonepeak has partnered with Axight, an investment firm based in Abu Dhabi that works with Middle Eastern sovereign wealth funds, as a co-investor to purchase Australia's second-largest residential aged care operator.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

Big breakthrough for the tiniest patients

Herald Sun, General News, 28/05/2026, Robyn Riley, Page 9

Little Louis weighed a tiny 1.1kg when he was born early to first-time parents Claire and Wilson Boyd. [...] Called the ALLO trial, an acronym for Allogeneic (donor) Cord Blood Cells, it is an international

study led by Monash Children's Hospital and Monash University in Melbourne.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [7News.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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Trailblazers cop body blow

West Australian, Business News, 28/05/2026, Rebecca Le May, Page 20

Innovative health, biotechnology and life sciences companies that promise to transform lives risk being driven overseas under big changes to Australia's research commercialisation. The sector is on edge after this month's Federal Budget restricted refunds of the research and development tax incentive to firms under 10 years old from July 2028.

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

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Gene treatment lowers bad cholesterol with one dose in early testing

The Australian, Other, 27/05/2026

Pharma giant Eli Lilly has announced that its gene-editing therapy can reduce LDL ("bad") cholesterol by up to 62 per cent with a single infusion in early testing. Not only was the experimental treatment successful, but the results were still apparent in some participants 18 months after they received the dose.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 27/05/2026, Rosanna Mangiarelli & Will Goodings

Fifteen-year-old concussion patient Macy Watson participated in a trial at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute concussion clinic, where she received weekly care from a physiotherapist, psychologist, and specialist doctors, leading to her improvement within weeks. According to Professor Vicki Anderson, 70 per cent of children recover from concussions without assistance, while 30 per cent of those in the trial had serious problems.

[Play Now](#)

FIVEAA, Mornings, 27/05/2026, Graeme Goodings

Interview with Professor Vicki Anderson of Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Anderson discusses their study, which found that starting early coordinated multidisciplinary concussion treatment in children within three weeks led to 94 per cent fewer symptoms and more than twice the rate of complete symptom resolution compared to standard care. She explains that the intervention includes physiotherapy, mental health support, and exercise physiology, whereas traditional care is limited.

Interview continues on: [FIVEAA \(Adelaide\)](#).

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Australia finally catches up to 163 other countries by eliminating trachoma

Australian Doctor, Other, 27/05/2026, Jamie Thannoo

In the 1970s, Professor Fred Hollows predicted the condition would only go away once Indigenous communities had control of their health. It was considered one of Australia's national shames.

[Read More](#)

Earlier atrial fibrillation screening suggested for Indigenous Australians

Medical Forum, Other, 27/05/2026

Findings from research out of the University of New South Wales indicate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be screened for a common heart rhythm condition at least 10 years earlier than current national guidelines recommend. The research published in the Medical Journal of Australia found Indigenous Australians develop atrial fibrillation (AF) nearly 16 years earlier on average than non-Indigenous Australians, contributing to substantially higher stroke rates at younger ages.

[Read More](#)

First Nations research hopes to transform dementia care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 27/05/2026

Aged care is often high-task-oriented, and First Nations cultural practices are a reminder of the importance of connection, presence and time in dementia care, says Kathleen Bright. Researchers Kathleen Bright and Felicity Dougherty have been leading a pilot project to explore how First Nations cultural practices can help strengthen person-centred dementia care for people of all backgrounds.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Blacklisted patients get thrown out of hospitals

Age, General News, 28/05/2026, Grant McArthur, Page 1

Patients with a history of violence who are on Victorian hospitals' secret banned lists are being brought to emergency departments by ambulance, only to be ejected by security guards and left untreated and on the street. While the state government has promised to address hospital "not welcome lists" and aggression against paramedics through an antiviolence roundtable it established last year, The Age can reveal that the group of health leaders has not met since first being called together in November 2025.

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Hospital shortfall

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 28/05/2026, Tom Gillespie, Page 1

Health Minister Tim Nicholls has vowed to overcome a looming shortfall of workers to staff the upcoming Toowoomba Hospital, as the landmark health project reaches a key phase. Mr Nicholls made the pledge amid news the Crisafulli government had agreed to terms with contractor John Holland for stage one of the new hospital, which will include 538 beds across seven storeys of wards and departments.

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

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Angst at perceived lack of medical care lands man in court

Burnie Advocate, General News, 28/05/2026, Helen Kempton, Page 5

A criminal lawyer has raised serious concerns about the level of care provided by the North West Regional Hospital (NWRH) as she defended a man charged with threatening police who went to the facility to escort him from the premises. Legal Aid lawyer Claire Willis told the Burnie Magistrates Court her client acted out of sheer frustration after he was repeatedly turned away despite telling NWRH staff of his pain and suspected kidney failure.

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Staff 'commitment' praised as regional ED records Victoria's longest wait times

Ballarat Courier, Other, 27/05/2026, Ben Silvester

Staff working under significant pressure at Ballarat Base Hospital emergency department (ED) have been praised for their efforts as the hospital records the longest wait times in Victoria. Government figures for January to March 2026 revealed many regional hospitals struggling to deliver timely

emergency care, elective surgery and ambulance transfers despite billions in government hospital funding.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#)

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

'So just why are we here?' Judge rules to end doctors' college infighting

The Australian, General News, 28/05/2026, Penny Timms, Page 3

A meeting to reset the board of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, and potentially restore some order to the embattled institution, will go ahead as planned on Friday after a truce was agreed to by all parties in the Supreme Court of NSW. Legal representatives for the RACP had asked the court to rule on four things: was an April extraordinary general meeting valid?

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

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Rare truce between warring doctors at court hearing

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 28/05/2026, Kate Aubusson, Page 15

Warring factions of the Australasian College of Physicians have reached a rare agreement at a seemingly pointless Supreme Court hearing, scuttling an eleventh-hour attempt to delay a meeting to help determine who will run the organisation. The RACP responsible for the training and accreditation of more than 33,000 doctors across 33 specialties in Australia and New Zealand appeared before Justice Francois Kunc yesterday, who, at the outset, questioned whether the hearing was necessary at all.

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

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Can't stem the 'bleeding'

Canberra Times, General News, 28/05/2026, Lanie Tindale, Page 1

The ACT is "bleeding out" disrespected and exhausted doctors who are sick of stepping in to save "systems that are right on the precipice of failing," representatives say. Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation (ASMOF) ACT executive officer Tom Fischer said despite retaining more ANU students, doctors were leaving the capital due to low pay and working conditions.

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

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St John Ambulance NT considering body-worn cameras amid ongoing assaults on paramedics

ABC Online, Other, 27/05/2026, Tilda Colling

St John Ambulance NT is considering introducing body-worn cameras following rioting in Alice Springs last month and ongoing assaults on frontline workers. Paramedics in the Central Australian town say they are being assaulted up to three or four times each week.

[Read More](#)

Ill feeling over wages

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 28/05/2026, Olivia Shying, Page 9

Geelong hospital pharmacists, psychologists and dietitians held a snap rally on Wednesday, demanding better pay and conditions. Pharmacist Renae Munzel, who has worked at Barwon Health since 1999, said hospital pharmacists were becoming increasingly hard to attract, with those in the field burnt out and leaving in droves.

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

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Strikes possible as key South West Healthcare staff start industrial action

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 27/05/2026, Ben Silvester

Critical healthcare staff at South West Healthcare (SWH) started industrial action on Tuesday, May 26 in a standoff with the state government that could escalate to strikes. Allied health workers - including social workers, radiographers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech pathologists, radiographers, radiation therapists and podiatrists - started scaling back their work in a bid to push the government to a deal.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

New PBS wholesale mark-up confirmed

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 27/05/2026, Nicholas O'Donoghue

Changes to the PBS wholesale mark-up rate structure and how it is calculated will come into effect from 1 July Under the First Pharmaceutical Wholesaler Agreement (1PWA) a new wholesale mark-up rate structure and calculation model will be introduced in the new financial year.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

New digital patient records system causing 'huge stress'

Newcastle Herald, General News, 28/05/2026, Damon Cronshaw, Page 5

A \$1 billion digital system to store patient medical records went live in the Hunter yesterday, amid concerns about the effects on staff and patients. The system will store people's medical records in one place, including electronic referrals, test results, appointments and treatment history.

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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Telstra Health launches Corus data platform

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 27/05/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Telstra Health has launched a new cloud-native, standards-based, interoperable care intelligence platform – Telstra Health Corus. Corus brings together a person's medical history, diagnoses, results, medications and care decisions so individuals don't have to repeat their health story multiple times and clinicians across different care settings can efficiently access relevant data.

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Virtual specialists improve patient care

Shepparton News Online, Other, 27/05/2026

GV Health has recently taken part in an eight-week pilot program exploring the benefits of providing specialist medical care through virtual technology. Known as the Virtual Hospital Virtual Ward Rounds, the initiative connects neurologists from the Royal Melbourne Hospital and gastroenterologists from Austin Health with medical teams and their patients via an iPad.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

'Ebola is running out of control'

Daily Telegraph, International News, 28/05/2026, Page 24

Ebola is racing through the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo faster than health workers can respond, the World Health Organisation warned, as the number of deaths attributed to the disease passed 220. Before he arrived in the Congo to oversee the response, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, head of the UN agency, said: "The epidemic is outpacing us".

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Hantavirus cruise outbreak rises with new case in Spain

Canberra Times, Other, 27/05/2026, Olivia Le Poidevin

The number of cases of hantavirus linked to a cruise ship at the centre of an outbreak has increased to 13, the head of the World Health Organization says. "Spain reported a new case among the passengers who are in quarantine, which brings the total number of cases to 13," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a post on X on Wednesday.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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Measles cases rise in Australia as authorities monitor deadly outbreaks in South and South-East Asia

ABC Online, Other, 27/05/2026, Sally Brooks

More cases of measles have been reported in Australia in 2026 than the same period in 2025, data from the Australian Centre for Disease Control shows. Many of the cases are travellers returning from South and South-East Asia, where there are outbreaks of the disease.

[Read More](#)

Diphtheria outbreak reaches WA's prisons

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 27/05/2026, Cameron Myles

The outbreak of diphtheria in Western Australia's north has reached the state's prison population, WA Health has confirmed, with two inmates having tested positive to the bacterial disease. A Department of Justice spokesperson confirmed two cases linked to West Kimberley Regional Prison at different times over the past two months.

[Read More](#)

Perth biotech duo Avicena, Syngenis forge biosecurity shield

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 27/05/2026, James Pearson

Two Perth biotechnology companies are positioning themselves at the front line of Australia's future biosecurity defence, combining cutting-edge molecular diagnostics with automated large-scale testing to tackle infectious disease threats before they spread out of control. Perth-based Avicena Systems and Syngenis Laboratories have teamed up to develop rapid-response pathogen detection systems capable of identifying dangerous biological threats across agriculture, livestock, food supply chains and human health settings.

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

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WA's worsening diphtheria outbreak has spread to a prison with two positive cases detected

West Australian, Other, 27/05/2026, Charlton Hart

The state's worst Diphtheria outbreak is spreading with the potentially deadly bacterial infection making its way into WA's prison system as authorities scramble to contain the problem. The Department of Health has confirmed that it is "aware" of two cases within the prison system which it says have been "appropriately managed" by the local public health unit.

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

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Uganda closes border with DR Congo to curb Ebola spread

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2026

Uganda has closed its border with neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo with immediate effect to try to limit the spread of Ebola, Uganda's government says. The border will be closed for four weeks, except for Ebola response teams, humanitarian and security operations, and food and cargo transport, senior health official Diana Atwine told a press conference.

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

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Climate crisis is accelerating antibiotic resistance across world, study says

The Guardian, Other, 27/05/2026, Andrew Gregory

The climate crisis is accelerating a global increase in antibiotic resistance that poses a serious threat to human health, experts have said as figures show a rise in salmonella antibiotic resistant genes. Antibiotic resistance is one of the fastest-growing threats to global health.

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Parks Australia leverages resilience to take on bird flu threat

The Mandarin, Other, 27/05/2026, Melissa Coade

The federal budget has set aside \$2.7 million of a total \$4.5 million in biosecurity efforts to support on-ground staff safety and preparedness across Commonwealth marine and national parks. This includes remote area surveillance using artificial intelligence.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

'Game-changing' diabetes treatment approved

Canberra Times, Other, 27/05/2026, Farid Farid

Pricking the skin with insulin syringes could be a thing of the past for more than 145,000 Australians living with type 1 diabetes due to the approval of a breakthrough treatment. [...] It has now been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration to delay the onset of stage three type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1D) in adult and paediatric patients aged eight and older living with stage 2.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#).

Landmark drug that aims to delay type 1 diabetes approved for use by TGA

Australian Doctor, Other, 27/05/2026

Patients in the pre-symptomatic stage of type 1 diabetes can now be treated with the first non-insulin medicine, which aims to slow the immune system attack leading to lifelong insulin treatment. [...] The TGA has now approved it for use in Australia for adult and paediatric patients aged eight and older with stage 2 type 1 diabetes.

[Read More](#)

Biggest T1D development in over 100 years

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 27/05/2026

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has approved the biologic therapy Tzield (teplizumab, Sanofi), the first non-insulin therapy for type 1 diabetes and the first medicine of any sort to delay the onset of the clinical stage of the condition.

[Read More](#)

TGA approves treatment delaying clinical type 1 diabetes onset

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 27/05/2026, Michelle Wisbey

Touted as the first new therapy approved for the disease in 100 years, teplizumab (sold as Tzield) could delay progression by two years. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved teplizumab (sold as Tzield) to 'delay the onset of stage 3 type 1 diabetes in adult and paediatric patients aged eight years and older with stage 2 type 1 diabetes'.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

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FOOD STANDARDS

Albany bakery cops fines over \$60,000 after inspectors find rodent faeces and animal blood on bread

ABC Online, Other, 27/05/2026, Rosemary Murphy

Albany French Hot Bread Shop was ordered to pay more than \$60,000 for failing to comply with food safety requirements. City inspectors found rodent faeces on food and raw meat dripping on fresh bread among a string of other breaches.

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AICIS

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