



TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 4th June 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](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian \(page 1\)](#)** reports that the Human Rights Commission has attacked proposed NDIS reforms, declaring the cuts were "ableist" and prioritised finances above disabled people's rights.
- **[The Australian \(page 6\)](#)** reports that the Federal Government will this week amend aged care rules to recognise MND as a distinct condition, allowing patients to have urgent priority access to the Support at Home program, slashing the typical wait time of around 10 months. "Motor neurone disease is a cruel and fast-moving condition, and our care systems need to respond with the urgency it demands. Whether it's aged care or the NDIS, our job is to get the right support to people when they need it - not after," Mr Butler said.
- **[The Age \(page 4\)](#)** reports that a Victorian Labor election pledge to give eight Victorian hospitals new specialist scanners is running \$25.7 million over budget and four years late, prompting calls to prioritise the critical technology for regional and rural areas.
- **[The Canberra Times \(page 4\)](#)** reports that a new acute palliative care unit, for people who are terminally ill and needing intensive medical care, is expected to open in the ACT, with eight beds at the end of 202
- **[The Daily Telegraph \(page 12\)](#)** reports that NSW Premier Chris Minns published a comment in the Daily Telegraph discussing mental health challenges faced by boys and young men. Minns:

“If we can back them in, with a helping hand when they need it, the sky’s the limit for these incredible young Australians.”

- **The Guardian** reports that NSW Premier Chris Minns acknowledged that changes allowing medical cannabis users to drive with THC in their system would draw criticism. Minns: “For thousands of people, medically prescribed cannabis is life-changing medication that is necessary for people to go about their daily lives.”

MINISTER BUTLER

Greens, Libs in fresh talks to delay legislation

Australian Financial Review, General News, 04/06/2026, Phillip Coorey, Page 4

Government plans to ram budget legislation through parliament by July 2 could hit a snag after the Greens and Coalition resumed talks about forcing a longer inquiry into the contentious changes to capital gains tax and negative gearing.

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

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Human rights body slams NDIS reforms as 'ableist'

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, Sarah Ison and Noah Yim, Page 1

The Human Rights Commission has launched a stinging attack on NDIS reforms that the Labor government insists are essential to keeping the \$50bn-a-year scheme alive, declaring the cuts were "ableist" and prioritised finances above disabled people's rights. [...] While NDIS Minister Mark Butler has so far targeted just two "support groups" which include capacity building therapies and services aimed at taking disabled Australians into the community Dr Bennett said supports that could be next included home modifications for those with severe disability.

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Support fast-tracked for all MND sufferers aged over 65

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, Penny Timms, Page 6

Older people with motor neurone disease will get fast-tracked assessment, funding and support within 30 days amid fears some patients are dying before they even get help. [...] "Motor neurone disease is a cruel and fast-moving condition, and our care systems need to respond with the urgency it demands," federal Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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

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Local petition reaches Canberra

Latrobe Valley Express, General News, 03/06/2026, Peace Ijiyera, Page 2

Nursing graduate from Federation University, Churchill, Zoe Kapolos, saw her petition presented to the House of Representatives recently. [...] Ms Kapolos is expecting a response within 90 days from when the petition closed from Minister for Disability, National Disability Insurance Scheme and Minister for Health and Ageing, Mark Butler.

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Teacher aide appeals NDIS support reduction

Oakey Champion, General News, 03/06/2026, Page 3

Ann-Marie said the review process, and her worries about Shawn's inability to cope in a 1:3 care ratio, have been taking an emotional toll. "As you can imagine, my stress levels are extraordinarily high," she said. [...] The decision, which effectively reduces the amount of money the Federal Government has to pay Shawn by two-thirds, comes at a time when pressure is on the Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler to manage cost blowouts in the system.

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Black market boom: Australians smoking 40 per cent more than 2017

The Australian, Other, 03/06/2026, Sarah Ison

Australians are consuming 40 per cent more nicotine than they were in 2017 and 80 per cent of purchases are being made on the black market, extraordinary new figures reveal. Australians are consuming 40 per cent more nicotine than they were in 2017 and 80 per cent of purchases are being made on the black market, extraordinary new figures reveal. [...] While claiming in November last year that smoking rates had been "coming down for some time", Health Minister Mark Butler noted that the "biggest threat" to gains made in reducing smoking was the illegal market.

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Emergency doctors are 'begging for beds' and planning to quit

The Age, Other, 03/06/2026, Rachel Rasker

Emergency physicians are planning to leave the profession in overwhelming numbers after years of patient overcrowding and excessive stress, raising serious concerns about the future of Australia's already short-staffed emergency departments. [...] In a statement, federal Health Minister Mark Butler pointed to January's \$25 billion hospital funding deal with state and territory governments, a joint taskforce into bed block, and a \$3.7 billion investment in aged care.

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Human Rights Commission holds 'serious concerns' about Labor's NDIS laws

Brisbane Times, Other, 03/06/2026, Natassia Chrysanthos

Australia's peak human rights body says it holds serious concerns about Labor's new laws to govern the National Disability Insurance Scheme, warning they risk compromising the rights of disabled people and must be slowed down. The Australian Human Rights Commission's submission to a Senate inquiry, signed by Disability Discrimination Commissioner Rosemary Kayess, sounded the alarm with several elements of the package. [...] Kayess said both the bill and Health Minister Mark Butler's commentary about the changes were placing stronger emphasis on financial considerations than human rights.

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Migraine prevention drug Emgality put on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, now hundreds of dollars cheaper

Perth Now, Other, 03/06/2026

Thousands of Australians living with severe migraines will now pay a fraction of the cost for a treatment many describe as life changing. From June 1, the migraine prevention drug Emgality has been expanded on the , making it available to patients experiencing eight or more migraine days each month. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the treatment had already transformed the lives of people living with chronic migraine.

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Australians with MND will be able to remain at home

Kyabram Free Press, Other, 03/06/2026

People living with a progressive disease will be able to remain at home as their health deteriorates due to changes in government rules. Health minister Mark Butler announced the Aged Care Rules would be changed to recognise motor neurone disease (MND) as a discrete condition that needed urgent priority for Support at Home packages.

Also reported by: [Cobram Courier \(Online\)](#), [Yarrawonga Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Benalla Ensign \(Online\)](#), [Dairy News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Country News \(Online\)](#), [Campaspe News \(Online\)](#), [The Telegraph \(Seymour\) \(Online\)](#), [Corowa Free Press \(Online\)](#), [Riverine Herald \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Deniliquin Pastoral Times \(Online\)](#).

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Town's only GP clinic to close – RACGP warns more could follow

Medical Forum, Other, 03/06/2026, Aleisha Orr

Providing gp services in the town of Kalbarri has become financially unsustainable, leading to the

announcement that the town's only GP clinic will close within weeks. The RACGP has told Medical Forum this was not a matter specific to the town of Kalbarri or the Mid West, but an issue with how general practice and bulk billing is funded across the board. [...] Medical Forum has contacted Health Minister Mark Butler for comment.

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NDIS overhaul will 'harm' Australians with disabilities, government's own committee warns

MSN Australia, Other, 03/06/2026

The national disability insurance scheme's proposed overhaul will cause "material harm" to Australians with disabilities, undermine its original intentions and hand unprecedented power to the health minister, the federal government's own reform advisory committee warns. [...] Some of the proposed changes will allow the NDIS minister, Mark Butler, to progressively reduce social participation budgets for participants by 50% and tweak the meaning of permanency to restrict NDIS access to participants who can first show they have exhausted "all appropriate" treatment options.

[Read More](#)

Migraine prevention drug added to the PBS

OverSixty, Other, 03/06/2026

Thousands of Australians living with frequent migraines will now have access to a treatment at a significantly reduced cost, after a key medication was added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). From June 1, the migraine prevention drug Emgality was added to the PBS for people experiencing eight or more migraine days each month, it is expected to benefit around 135,000 Australians every year. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the treatment had already made a significant difference for many Australians living with migraines.

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'Challenging': Experts weigh up whether Congo Ebola outbreak could become global pandemic

Sky News Australia, Other, 03/06/2026, Kate Fowler

Experts have weighed in on whether the current Ebola outbreak in the Congo could become another global pandemic. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler voiced the same reasoning in a press conference on Monday, assuring Australians that there were protocols in place.

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Labor's planned NDIS overhaul is 'blunt and inequitable', thinktank says

The Guardian, Other, 04/06/2026, Sarah Basford Canales

Labor's plans to slash social participation budgets for NDIS participants in half is "blunt and inequitable", "underpinned by dubious logic" and could lead to "absurd" outcomes, an influential thinktank says. It's one of the latest scathing critiques levelled at the federal government's proposal to return the national disability insurance scheme to its "original intent" by drastically overhauling who can access supports, and how much they can receive. [...] The NDIS minister, Mark Butler, has already outlined a proposed 50% reduction in budgets for social, civic and community participation.

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DoHDA to spend \$18m on review of controversial assessment algorithm

The Medical Republic, Other, 03/06/2026, Cate Swannell

Cracks are starting to appear in the department's belief in the controversial IAT used to assess Support at Home needs without human override. The federal government will spend \$18.1 million reviewing and refining the controversial algorithm used to determine Support at Home funding levels, following sustained criticism from clinicians, assessors and sector groups. [...] Independent senator David Pocock told estimates he had seen a letter sent to aged care minister Sam Rae and health minister Mark Butler on 1 April outlining concerns the ANZSGM's had that the assessment system was failing to adequately identify key risks facing older Australians.

'Aged care home every three days': grants target just two regions

The Weekly Source, Other, 03/06/2026, Caroline Egan

Health and Ageing Minister Mark Butler consistently says Australia needs to build a new aged care facility every three days for the next 20 years. The reality is proving much tougher to deliver.

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Ebola may have spread beyond Africa. How are health authorities responding?

WEB InDaily SA, Other, 03/06/2026

The latest outbreak of Ebola is the third largest in world history and is showing no signs of slowing. The latest Ebola outbreak is showing no signs of slowing. [...] Australia has not put in place any travel or quarantine requirements for affected countries, but federal health minister Mark Butler says authorities are still monitoring the outbreak "very closely".

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International Ebola cases climbing 'fast' but Australia won't impose travel restrictions

Your Life Choices, Other, 03/06/2026

The federal government will not impose border restrictions on travellers from Ebola-stricken countries despite new suspected cases in Italy and Brazil, as the worsening outbreak prompts other countries to take action to try to minimise the spread of the disease. Health Minister Mark Butler said while suspected case numbers and deaths were "climbing very fast", at this stage Australia had no plans to impose travel restrictions or quarantine requirements on affected countries.

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Butler accuses providers of "gouging"; IHACPA pushes back

The Weekly Source, Other, 03/06/2026, Caroline Egan

Now the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) has published its Support at Home Pricing Advice 2026-27, its first for the Government's new in-home aged care program. What does it show?

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Channel 7, Sunrise 5AM News, 03/06/2026, Edwina Bartholomew

Health Minister Mark Butler has announced a major expansion of the PBS listing for the breakthrough migraine treatment Galcanezumab, throwing a vital financial lifeline to 135,000 Australians. The medication, which targets the neurological pathways responsible for high-frequency episodic migraines, will see its price plummet from a private market rate of \$500 per script down to standard PBS prices.

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Curtin FM, 14:00 News, 03/06/2026

Centre Alliance MP Rebekha Sharkie raised a question on behalf of a constituent with MND who is still waiting for an at-home support package, noting delays in access to care. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced that aged care rules will be amended to recognise MND as a specific condition requiring urgent priority access to at-home support packages for older Australians.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

MINISTER RAE

My poor Dad died waiting

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2026, Julie Cross, Page 21

The grieving daughter of a 91-year-old man who died while waiting for his aged care funding to come through, has described what happened to her father as a "national disgrace". [...] Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae boasted on Monday about waitlist numbers dropping by nearly 5000 in the latest quarterly figures; the number of people waiting for an assessment fell from 103,488 to 98,606.

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Dept draws heat on transition timeframes, price caps

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 03/06/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Bureaucrats have defended the time set to transition personal care services to clinical care, and the lack of date for introducing price caps at Tuesday evening's Senate hearing. Tensions were on the rise as this week's Senate Budget Estimates hearing into outcome three – ageing and aged care – continued into Tuesday evening. [...] Senator Ruston asked department representatives what the rationale was for not bringing those services into clinical care on 1 July 2026, pointing out that Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae had said it was essential to the dignity of care of older Australians.

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Ed Husic targets AUKUS submarine deal in revenge plot against Richard Marles

The Australian, Other, 03/06/2026, Will Glasgow

Do you remember when Ed Husic was booted out of Anthony Albanese's cabinet in 2025? The former Minister for Industry and Science certainly does. [...] Marles elevated his factional enforcer, Sam Rae, now the baby-faced Minister for Aged Care and Seniors.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

Guild puts men's health in the spotlight

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 03/06/2026, Page 1

Health leaders, policymakers, and advocates gathered in Canberra yesterday to discuss the importance of community pharmacy as part of a more accessible, patient-centred approach to men's health. [...] Speaking at the event was special envoy for men's health, Dan Repacholi MP (pictured right), who highlighted the convenience and accessibility of pharmacists for men who may be reluctant to engage with other primary care services.

Guild puts men's health in the spotlight

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 03/06/2026

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DEPARTMENT

80pc of nicotine trade is criminal

Herald Sun, General News, 04/06/2026, Olivia Jenkins and Regan Hodge, Page 9

A staggering 80 per cent of all cigarettes, vapes and other nicotine products consumed by Australians are illegal, new figures reveal. [...] The federal Department of Health, Disability and Ageing was contacted for comment.

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

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Global tensions with US President Donald Trump could threaten affordable medicines in Australia

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/06/2026

Australia's access to affordable medicines could be under threat from global tensions, with one woman forced to fork out \$220 just to walk. [...] A spokesperson for the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said the Australian Government is progressing implementation of the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Review through a staged approach.

[Read More](#)

AMA Queensland calls for Medicare rebate rise over cancer costs

The Mercury, Other, 03/06/2026, Tayla Couacaud

An Aussie mother is facing thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket costs for lifesaving radiation therapy. Does something need to change? [...] A spokesman for the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said Minister Butler has also expressed his concerns about the rising cost of medical specialist services in general.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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Game on for allergy education

Allergy and Respiratory Republic, Other, 03/06/2026, Amanda Sheppard

An interactive mystery-based learning model aims to improve allergy understanding among students during the critical transition to high school. [...] Developed by the NAC, a partnership between Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia and the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI), the program was created with funding from the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

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IHACPA releases pricing advice for Support at Home

Community Care Review, Other, 03/06/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

The November 2025 report has been released to show providers the direction of pricing and give them more time to understand how this relates to their costs, says IHACPA spokesperson. The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority has released its Support at Home pricing advice for 2026-27. [...] "The government has been considering IHACPA's advice alongside advice from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, and its own consultation with the sector regarding pricing across aged care.

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Future of CHSP remains unclear

Community Care Review, Other, 03/06/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Anne Ruston says the uncertainty on the CHSP transition and expectation that the sector will be able to respond in such a short timeframe is 'completely unreasonable behaviour by government.' Representatives from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing told Tuesday's Senate Budget Estimates hearing that there is no "drop-dead date" to transition the Commonwealth Home Support Program into Support at Home.

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Duckett review recommends sacking Cohealth board

Health Services Daily, Other, 03/06/2026

Recommendations have finally been (officially) released. The authors don't have a lot of confidence in Cohealth's ability to change, however. [...] The final version of the report — led by health economist Professor Stephen Duckett — was provided to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, and the Victorian Department of Health, on 17 March 2026.

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DoHDA to spend \$18m on review of controversial assessment algorithm

Health Services Daily, Other, 03/06/2026

Cracks are starting to appear in the department's belief in the controversial IAT used to assess Support at Home needs without human override.

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New gamified school learning tool tackles allergy awareness and safety

Medianet, Other, 03/06/2026

Australian students will soon be learning about severe allergies through an interactive mystery-solving experience designed to make allergy education more engaging, relatable and memorable for young people. [...] The Mystery of School Island was developed by the National Allergy Council, which is a partnership between Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia and the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI) and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

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3M to fight lawsuit over 'forever chemicals' at defence sites including Williamstown

News Of The Area, Other, 03/06/2026

Manufacturing heavyweight 3m is vowing to fight a multibillion-dollar lawsuit over widespread use of "forever chemicals" at Australian defence sites – including the RAAF base at Williamstown. The federal government is suing 3M for more than \$2 billion to recover costs from the per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in firefighting foam that contaminated 28 defence bases across the country.

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'One-in-a-million' exec departs

Pharma In Focus, Other, 03/06/2026

After 24 years at BMS Australia, Greg Cook is leaving the company, described by his former General Manager as 'truly, one in a million' for his exceptional talents. Cook is stepping down from his role as

Senior Director, Access Policy & Advocacy earning praise from across industry for his calm 'can-do' attitude.

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AI, algorithms and service caps kick off what will be another big week in Senate Estimates

PS News, Other, 03/06/2026, Chris Johnson

Week two of Senate Estimates kicked off on Tuesday (2 June), putting more than a few public service bosses under pressure as they took a hit or two over government policies. [...] Department secretary Blair Comley acknowledged that the algorithm currently in use was not part of the tool trialled in 2023, but he defended the current tool as being refined throughout its own trial process.

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

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Continuing antidepressants or not: Evaluating the potential benefits and harms

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

Many Australians use antidepressants for longer periods, and for less severe conditions, than current guidelines recommend.

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Bullies and cartels: what polities are saying about bulk billing

The Medical Republic, Other, 03/06/2026, Holly Payne

Another explosive senate estimates hearing saw opposition health spokeswoman Anne Ruston accuse Labor MPs of bullying GPs into bulk billing. [...] Earlier in the hearing, Labor senator Dr Michelle Ananda-Rajah asked senior public servants with the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing whether they had heard about doctors in smaller regional communities who were facing backlash from their peers for wanting to bulk bill.

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Hope you've got your quill handy

The Medical Republic, Other, 03/06/2026

Bulk billing assignment of benefit is a complex thing. The good news is, it's about to get more complicated. [...] "The patient's signature must be provided on either parchment or vellum," a Department of Health, Disability and Ageing spokesperson told The Medical Republic "No other medium is acceptable.

[Read More](#)

Wake up Jeff: Australia is going way too slow on medical data and AI

The Medical Republic, Other, 03/06/2026, Jeremy Knibbs

The man running one of the world's most consequential health data platforms – the Mayo Platform – is speaking at the Wild Health summit in Canberra next month to set out, in concrete terms, how you can actually move a health system from sickness to wellness using AI and data. [...] Department of Health, Disability and Ageing secretary Blair Comley has been refreshingly direct about why prevention proposals fail to get funded.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

How one family's fight secured urgent care for all affected

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, David Penberthy, Page 6

The Rees family are the human faces of a My Aged Care system that is unwieldy, bureaucratic,

understaffed and underfunded for our rapidly ageing population. Greg Rees is 78 and has motor neurone disease.

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Mass layoffs while chief exec in Milan

The Australian, Business News, 04/06/2026, David Ross, Page 15

Australian Unity, one of the nation's oldest firms, is suffering a significant blowout in a key technology project, forcing sweeping job cuts. But its relatively new chief executive Kelly Bayer Rosmarin wasn't on deck to deliver them.

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No place like home

Canberra Times, General News, 04/06/2026, Steve Evans, Page 1

Valerie Brown may be 95 but she has no intention of leaving her home, saying it is "absolutely essential" to her wellbeing. "It's all my memories."

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#).

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'No impact to patient care' after changes at hospital unit

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 04/06/2026, Natalie Croxon, Page 11

A hospital unit that opened in Figtree two and a half years ago to provide care for older people awaiting a suitable longer-term arrangement now has 25 per cent fewer beds following operational changes. However, the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District has reassured the community that patient care is not affected.

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Rules of robotics

Nursing Review, General News, 31/05/2026, Stefanie Schultz, Page 22

Simulative tech use is increasing in dementia care ethics need to catch up As robotic pets and virtual reality headsets become more common in aged care homes, Australian researchers are warning that the sector is moving faster than the ethical guidance needed on how to use these tools safely and respectfully.

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Thinking of lending your parents money for aged care? Check this first

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/06/2026, Rachel Lane

When a parent moves into residential aged care, it's common for adult children to want to help out financially. The Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD) is normally hundreds of thousands of dollars, so lending money to Mum or Dad can seem like a practical solution.

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'I won't be eating': Families panic over changes to aged care fees

Canberra Times, Other, 03/06/2026, Phoebe Loomes

"Every time they want me to sign something, I get agitated and just find it so difficult," said Bill, whose name has been changed to protect his privacy. Bill's wife Anne, whose name has also been changed, is living in a Victorian aged care home managed by provider Australian Unity, where she receives care for an incurable illness.

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#).

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The rot that kills our elderly and overcrowds our hospitals

Canberra Times, Other, 03/06/2026, Jackie French

What industry is never punished if it advertises and is paid for services it can't provide? The aged care provider industry.

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'It's human nature to pick easier residents': How to get patients with dementia into aged care and out of hospitals

Australian Doctor, Other, 03/06/2026

Associate Professor Steve Macfarlane says patients become stranded as aged care facilities are wary of patients with dementia. Bed block is worsening across Australia, but many doctors say the solution lies outside the hospital — that a lack of aged care beds means elderly patients languish in hospital beds, deteriorating.

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Silverchain opens clinical service centre

Community Care Review, Other, 03/06/2026

Executive director for WA Renae Lavell says the relocation will provide better clinical care spaces for clients and improved facilities for staff. Not-for-profit home aged care and health provider Silverchain is celebrating the opening of its new clinical service centre in Busselton, Western Australia.

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\$2.6m grant round open for dementia researchers

Community Care Review, Other, 03/06/2026

The Dementia Australia Research Foundation's latest grant round has a focus on supporting early- and mid-career researchers and features a memorial grant for Dr Pratishtha Chatterjee. The Dementia Australia Research Foundation has opened a new \$2.6 million funding round for dementia research.

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Support at Home not stable enough to absorb CHSP

Community Care Review, Other, 03/06/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Providers surveyed for Enkindle Consulting's latest home care outlook report say the scale and diversity of CHSP will be too much for Support at Home and that transition must wait for the new system to stabilise. Providers have low confidence in the ability of Support at Home to absorb the Commonwealth Home Support Program, part four of the Enkindle Consulting Home Care Outlook Survey Report shows.

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Australia's population hits 28 million people - and it's causing a very big problem the Albanese government don't want to talk about

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 03/06/2026

There is a reason treasurers love high immigration, even when they pretend otherwise: it makes the economy look better than it really is. Immigration masks the economic failures of the political class. Immigration masks the economic failures of the political class. It is the great Australian illusion.

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Aged care Elders share stories, culture and friendship with local children

HelloCare, Other, 03/06/2026, Jakob Neeland

A unique intergenerational playgroup bringing together Aboriginal Elders and young children inside an aged care setting has marked its first anniversary, highlighting the power of connection, culture and community during National Reconciliation Week. The Marra Elders Playgroup, hosted at the Aboriginal Elders Village in Davoren Park, South Australia, is believed to be the state's only regular First Nations intergenerational playgroup operating within an aged care environment.

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The Medical Certificate of Cause of Death: Special situations and considerations

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

In part 3 of the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death series, we investigate special situations and considerations that can arise as part of the process of completing a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (hereafter 'death certificate'). The series was introduced in an editorial in the April 2026 issue of Australian Journal of General Practice, 1 with part 1 providing an introduction to the death certificate and outlining the decision to complete, 2 and part 2 covering accurate completion.

[Read More](#)

Muscle matters: A proposed algorithm to guide screening, assessment and management of poor muscle health in primary care

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026, Per Meal, Heymsfield Sb, Wang Zm, Ross R. Skeletal, Appl Physiol, Verstraeten Lmg, Van Wijngaarden, Meskers Cgm, Cachexia Sarcopenia

Muscle health can decline from the third decade of life, potentially leading to the disease sarcopenia, which is characterised by low skeletal muscle mass, strength, and/ or impaired physical function. Sarcopenia is a serious condition associated with many chronic conditions and increased healthcare costs, emphasising the need for early detection and intervention.

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Aged care crunch fuels record hospital pressure

The Weekly Source, Other, 03/06/2026, Caroline Egan

Early signs show hospitals are under intense pressure in the first week of winter, as aged care bed shortages continue to leave older patients stranded. In the week to 1 June 2026, 426 South Australians were in hospital well enough to be discharged, but waiting for a place in residential aged care, a record high, and a 12% increase in one week – see main image.

[Read More](#)

CHSP merger prompts second thoughts on council-run aged care

The Weekly Source, Other, 03/06/2026, Caroline Egan

The Borough of Queenscliffe on Victoria's Bellarine Peninsula, a magnet for seniors, is the first council to announce a review of its home care services delivered through the CHSP ahead of the merger. The Council say it is seeking to ensure the delivery of quality services meeting community need while maintaining financial sustainability.

[Read More](#)

Inquest considers whether care of Adelaide man's bed sores was 'appropriate and reasonable'

Your Life Choices, Other, 03/06/2026

A coronial inquest will investigate whether an aged care facility in Adelaide's inner north appropriately treated the bed sores a 79-year-old man with dementia developed in the weeks before his death. John Michael Henry Allen died on September 9, 2022, at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, with his cause of death determined to be advanced Alzheimer's dementia with a background of pressure sores.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 03/06/2026, Leon Delaney

Interview with Jackie French, award-winning author and former Senior Australian of the Year. French discusses the aged care system, saying older Australians face months-long assessment delays, with a third of assessments done by computer, and then wait up to a year to receive home-care packages. She also highlights shortages and failures among providers, including limited availability in many areas and aged care listings and advertised services not matching actual care delivery.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 03/06/2026, Saskia Mabin

The inspector-general of aged care says assessors are leaving the industry in dissatisfaction with the

Integrated Assessment Tool algorithm that determines a person's eligibility for in-home aged care and cannot be overridden, even if the human assessor believes it is incorrect.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Mornings, 03/06/2026, Hamish Macdonald

The Federal Government's landmark \$3 billion aged care expansion package has been hit by a damaging reality check, with the sector's independent watchdog warning that its headline infrastructure targets are mathematically and structurally impossible. Under the newly announced federal policy, the government promised to build an additional 5,000 aged care beds nationally per year by 2029.

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Boyhood cannot be seen as a pathology

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/06/2026, Professor Frank Oberklaid AM, Page 14

In Australia, as in most Western countries, boys are diagnosed with behavioural and developmental disorders at much higher rates than girls. While biological and developmental differences may partly explain this, the gap also reflects social expectations.

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

Australia's first support service for brain disease CTE opens in Townsville

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/06/2026, Leighton Smith

ConneCTers Australia has launched its first Townsville office to help sufferers of a brain disease that affects veterans and domestic violence victims – not just footballers. In an Australian-first, an organisation dedicated to supporting people living with an incurable neurodegenerative brain disease has opened its first Townsville office, to provide support and create awareness for others who could be affected.

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

[Read More](#)

Child safety workers reveal 20-hour delays to report at-risk children

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/06/2026, Mikaela Mulveney

Queensland's child safety inquiry has exposed a department so overwhelmed that a worker waited 30 minutes on hold – then more than 20 hours – to report a child in danger. A frontline child safety worker was forced to wait 30 minutes on the phone to lodge concerns about a child before being told to leave a message and made to wait more than 20 hours before they heard back.

[Read More](#)

People with intellectual disability continue to receive substandard healthcare as programme to train doctors risks closure

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

The day Sam Stubbs decided he was so unwell he needed to go to hospital was the day before he was due to do a triathlon. And right up until the point that his parents, Chris and Debra, took him to their local emergency department, he was insisting he could still race the next day.

[Read More](#)

Girls don't get autism

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026, Ann Marie and Emma Morris

For decades autism was thought of as a "boy thing" and girls were overlooked by science. According to research, three boys are diagnosed with autism for every girl.

ABC, 7:30, 03/06/2026, Sarah Ferguson

ABC 7.30 reports on concerns about healthcare inequities for people with intellectual disabilities in Australia and accounts of clinicians misinterpreting symptoms, as well as Down Syndrome Australia's Health Ambassadors program, which aims to improve healthcare training. The Department of Health will not fund the program after 30 June, but a 12-month extension is being considered. NSW Health says that staff are trained to work respectfully with patients with disabilities, citing \$4.7 million in training materials and a \$350,000 program cost.

Continues on: [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, A Current Affair, 03/06/2026, Allison Langdon

A father of two with MND has had his NDIS plan approved to include active overnight care after previously being denied. The issue has now been escalated to the NDIS minister, and investigations into the initial refusal are ongoing. The government has also announced increased funding for MND in the aged-care sector.

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PRIMARY CARE

Cost blowouts, delays for vital scanners

Age, General News, 04/06/2026, Kieran Rooney, Page 7

A Labor election pledge to give eight Victorian hospitals new specialist scanners is \$25.7 million over budget and running four years late. The bungled rollout has prompted calls to prioritise the critical technology for regional and rural areas.

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

Extra \$231.2m for ACT health services

Canberra Times, General News, 04/06/2026, Lanie Tindale, Page 4

The ACT government will keep investing in public health and hospitals over the next four years after a record-high investment in the 2025-26 budget. A new acute palliative care unit, for people who are terminally ill and needing intensive medical care, is expected to open with eight beds at the end of 2026.

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Hellish wait for cancer biopsy tests

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/06/2026, Genevieve Holding, Page 5

Patients at the Royal Hobart Hospital are being warned to expect month-long waits for biopsy results, including in instances of urgent testing for cancer and gynaecological biopsies. The Mercury has spoken to several recent RHH patients who have been told to expect a several-week or month-long delay in receiving their biopsy results from pathology.

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Labor accuses doctors of 'cartel behaviour'

West Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, Page 6

A Labor senator has suggested some doctors in tight markets are engaging in "cartel behaviour" by acting together to boycott or hold out on joining the Government's \$8.5 billion Medicare scheme. Michelle Ananda-Rajah a doctor before entering Parliament as a Labor senator expressed concerns during Senate Estimates.

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Government blames demand for suicidal teen's nightmare

West Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, Jessica Page and Oliver Lane, Page 10

Amber-Jade Sanderson has defended the Government's handling of mental health and dismissed a senior doctor's claim that a teenager's 116-hour wait in ED was not an isolated case. In a letter of apology to Maddi and her mother Tara, Busselton Hospital Director of Medical Services Mark Holloway said that the "prolonged boarding" of patients in emergency departments has become "increasingly common".

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Coalition denies plan to cut 1500 jobs

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 04/06/2026, Ben Silvester, Page 3

The state opposition has angrily disputed a government analysis suggesting the Coalition's planned public service reductions will cost 1500 regional Victorian jobs. The Liberal and National parties asked the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) to work out how many jobs could be cut by implementing a hiring freeze across "back-office" public service jobs across the state.

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Mum's fight for affordable fertility care

Burnie Advocate, General News, 04/06/2026, Lauren Richardson, Page 3

Tasmanian women are having to travel interstate for healthcare they can't access affordably at home, saving thousands even with travel costs. Hayley Atkins has had one daughter through IVF, and is pregnant with her second IVF baby.

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No straight answer

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 04/06/2026, Ben Silvester, Page 1

Warrnambool-based Labor MP Jacinta Ermacora has failed to guarantee the Warrnambool hospital will get a piece of life-saving medical equipment promised nearly four years ago. Ms Ermacora has consistently ducked questions from The Standard about the multimillion-dollar positron emission tomography (PET) scanner Warrnambool was pledged if Labor won the 2022 state election.

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

Childcare sickness onslaught: the viruses to watch out for, advice from doctors and parents

The Mercury, Other, 03/06/2026, Samantha Landy

Gabby Bates had barely settled into childcare before a bug she picked up landed her in hospital after vomiting nine days straight. As many as 12 viral infections await the average Aussie kid in their first year of childcare, experts say – an onslaught that has added repercussions for parents' mental wellbeing, careers and finances.

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

[Read More](#)

FarmFest tackles the deadly health divide facing rural Queenslanders

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 03/06/2026, Jack Dyson Evans and Kevin Farmer

FarmFest's opening day has shone a spotlight on the city-country health divide, with exhibitors offering free mental health and prostate cancer services to isolated rural Queenslanders. Rural and regional health was at the forefront during the opening day of FarmFest with exhibitors and visitors addressing the city-country health divide.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Contraceptive pill now available from dozens of pharmacies without a GP script

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 03/06/2026, Harrison Finlay

NSW women no longer need a doctor to get the pill, with 30 pharmacies now authorised to prescribe it directly – and hundreds more set to follow. Contraceptive pill option added to PBS The contraceptive pill has been added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for the first time in 30.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#).

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Labor senator suggests doctors taking part in 'cartel behaviour' against \$8.5 billion Medicare scheme

West Australian, Other, 03/06/2026, Caitlyn Rintoul

A Labor senator has suggested some doctors in tight markets are engaging in "cartel behaviour" by acting together to boycott or hold out on joining the government's \$8.5 billion Medicare scheme. Michelle Ananda-Rajah — who was a doctor prior to entering Parliament as a Labor Senator — expressed her concerns over the roll out during Wednesday's Senate estimates.

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

[Read More](#)

Ruby reflects on 273 days in hospital as Sydney Sick Kids Day celebrates stories of hope and resilience

7News.com.au, Other, 03/06/2026, Aimee Edwards

The annual fundraiser supports life-saving treatment, research, equipment and family services for thousands of children across NSW. Sydney's Sick Kids Day has returned and Sunrise weather presenter Sam Mac spent the morning at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, meeting some of the young patients and families at the heart of the annual fundraiser.

[Read More](#)

Teen left with fractured skull after e-scooter crash, raising 'genuine concern' over e-devices

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026, Katie Spain

On Tuesday police and emergency services were called to Old Princes Highway at Nairne after reports of a 15-year-old girl crashing her e-scooter. In a separate incident an 18-year-old man crashed an e-bike into a parked car on Kensington Road.

[Read More](#)

Medicare bulk-billing model forces Kalbarri Doctors Surgery closure, director says

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026, Piper Duffy and Chloe Henville

Kalbarri Doctors Surgery has announced it will be closing its doors. The shock closure comes just under a year after another doctor's surgery temporarily closed in the neighbouring Midwest town of Northampton for similar reasons.

[Read More](#)

RACGP rejects UTI trial findings

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 03/06/2026

The Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) has cautioned against using findings from the NSW pharmacist UTI prescribing program (PD 02 Jun) to justify broader expansion, stating that "a lack of substantial evidence makes it difficult to fully assess these findings". The peak body raised concerns that the trial involved.

[Read More](#)

PSA launches cultural safety training for community pharmacists

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has launched a new education module aimed at strengthening culturally safe and responsive care and improving health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in community pharmacy settings. The new module, Deadly pharmacists: Providing culturally safe and responsive care in community pharmacy, expands PSA's existing 'Deadly pharmacists' learning suite and has been funded by the Australian Government under the Medical Research Future Fund and the NSW Ministry of Health.

[Read More](#)

Fears potential ED specialist exodus to impact GPs

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

In an interconnected system, experts warn an exodus of emergency physicians over the next decade could place added pressure onto GPs. 'Our health system is interconnected, so knock-ons like a loss of workforce in one area, affects other areas, including and especially general practice.

[Read More](#)

NSW pharmacists to prescribe contraceptive pill

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

It will be available from an initial 30 pharmacists, but the NSW Government is already facing questions about the reform's safety. A standalone, two-week training course will be up and running by October to increase the number of NSW pharmacists prescribing the oral contraceptive pill.

[Read More](#)

'Deeply saddened' GP faces closure of remote WA clinic

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

The recent Medicare rebate rise of 2.6% was among the factors behind the closure of a bulk-billed clinic in Kalbarri. Dr Tara Hamilton has lived in the area for six years and says 'not one part' of her wants to leave.

[Read More](#)

Improving primary care management and referral practices for paediatric allergic rhinitis: A quality improvement study

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

Paediatric allergic rhinitis (AR) is often referred for specialist input despite effective primary care strategies. This study evaluates AR referrals to the Cairns Hospital Paediatric Allergy Clinic against local guidelines and assesses the impact of a quality improvement project on referral patterns.

[Read More](#)

Overdiagnosis and overtesting

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

Overdiagnosis and overtesting are recognised as prevalent in medical practice and can cause harm to patients. This article seeks to define these terms, highlight some common examples and provide an approach to navigating clinical encounters where patients present for healthcare.

[Read More](#)

SA GPs call for patient-centred care as new abortion bill flagged

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

The Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) has expressed strong concern regarding a proposed abortion bill expected to be introduced to the South Australian Parliament in early June.

[Read More](#)

UTI pharmacy prescribing followed by extra GP visits

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

Long-awaited evaluations of NSW UTI and contraception prescribing trials show patient approval, but

they have done little to alleviate GPs' clinical concerns. Patients gave positive feedback on the pharmacy prescribing trials, but significant questions remain.

[Read More](#)

Fever, cough, and minor fractures: Conditions that can be treated at Urgent Care Clinics

SBS, Other, 03/06/2026

Although some urgent-care-style clinics already existed in various states and territories across Australia, the first Medicare Urgent Care Clinics under the Australian Government's national program began operating in June 2023. All non-life-threatening injuries and illnesses can be assessed at an Urgent Care Clinic.

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POPULATION HEALTH

War on smokes sees nicotine use soar

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, Sarah Ison, Page 6

Labor has vowed to stand firm on its tobacco excise policy despite extraordinary analysis showing Australians are consuming 40 per cent more nicotine than in 2017 and 80 per cent are choosing illicit cigarettes and vapes. Critics have argued the latest figures prove the government's "misguided approach to illicit tobacco has failed".

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Illegal cigarettes taint quit data

Age, General News, 04/06/2026, Brittany Busch and Shane Wright, Page 11

Up to four in five cigarettes smoked in Australia are illegal, as new evidence dragged from the nation's sewers reveals that decades of campaigning to reduce smoking rates has failed. The Australian Bureau of Statistics has quantified how the illicit tobacco trade now dominates the nation's cigarette market by using experimental testing of nicotine concentration in wastewater.

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Black market booming

Courier Mail, General News, 04/06/2026, Page 17

Eighty per cent of all cigarettes, vapes and nicotine products consumed by Australians are illegal, shocking new figures reveal. National data released on Wednesday found Aussies were spending less on tobacco products, but that the amount being spent on smoke and vape products had fallen not because more people had given up smoking, but rather because consumers had turned to cheaper, illegal products in record numbers.

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Australia Post 'our biggest illegal courier'

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2026, Jon Kaila, Page 10

Australia Post has unwittingly become complicit in trafficking illicit tobacco and vapes across the nation. Senders of parcels domestically do not have to declare what is inside the packaging and it is against the law for Australia Post to open them.

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

Nicotine use goes next level

West Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 7

Nicotine use in Australia has rocketed 40 per cent since 2017 as people turn to the black market for cheaper products because of a policy the Opposition says is "a gift to organised crime".

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

Data paints a sobering illicit tobacco picture

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 04/06/2026, Page 6

Four in five vapes and cigarettes consumed in Australia were bought on the black market, up from 12 per cent less than a decade earlier, according to new official estimates. The data, released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on Wednesday, painted a much more sobering picture of the scale of the problem compared to the government's hand-picked Illicit Tobacco and E-cigarette Commissioner.

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Kidney bias for women

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 04/06/2026, Page 3

Women with chronic kidney disease are less likely than men to be diagnosed, represented in research and given treatments that have been properly tested in them. That is the central finding of George Institute for Global Health research that warns that decades of maledominated clinical research have left women systematically disadvantaged at every stage of the disease.

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Queensland crackdown cuts illicit tobacco and vape shops, but black market adapts

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

Australian Border Force is cracking down on the illicit tobacco market in Australia, last year seizing record amounts at the border. Last financial year Border Force seized 2.6 billion illicit cigarettes, over 430 tonnes of loose-leaf tobacco, and 6 million vapes.

[Read More](#)

ABS estimates 80pc of tobacco consumed in Australia last year illegal amid 'rapid growth' in black market

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026, Jane Norman

An estimated 80 per cent of the cigarettes and vapes consumed in Australia last year were illegal, according to the ABS. Treasury downgraded tobacco excise revenue by \$8 billion over the next five years in the latest federal budget.

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The health gap no one talks about

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

For all her life, Chloe Hayden, star of Heartbreak High, has struggled to get doctors to take her health complaints seriously. And she's not alone.

[Read More](#)

Border Force busts multi-million-dollar illicit NT tobacco operation

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

The Australian Border Force has seized 433,400 illicit cigarettes, 686 kilograms of illegal loose-leaf tobacco and 50,200 single use vapes from a Darwin storage facility. The haul is worth \$1.8 million in evaded duty taxes and an estimated \$3.

[Read More](#)

Barnaby Joyce speaks at Sydney rally ahead of bill to outlaw sex-selective abortions

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

One Nation recruit Barnaby Joyce has called for tighter controls on abortions at a demonstration in Sydney. A private member's bill to ban abortions for the purpose of sex selection will be subject to a conscience vote.

[Read More](#)

Tasmanians letting fitness regimes slip as cost-of-living pressures rise

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

Many Tasmanians are reporting rising cost-of-living pressures often mean fitness and wellbeing regimes slide or are let go completely. An expert warns de-prioritising health can become a cycle and encourages cheap or free options to keep people staying active.

[Read More](#)

Semaglutide and Ozempic-like drugs may improve kidney disease outcomes

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

New research shows people with type 2 diabetes and chronic kidney disease who took semaglutide (commonly sold as Ozempic) once a week had improved kidney outcomes, even if they have heart disease or heart failure. This builds on previous research which found the drug had "consistent benefits" preventing heart attacks, strokes, and death due to cardiovascular causes in those with chronic kidney disease.

[Read More](#)

Results are in for NSW women's health

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 03/06/2026

Data from two NSW Government-sponsored clinical trials have confirmed that pharmacists are delivering safe and effective care for women when diagnosing and treating uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs) and providing resupply of oral contraception. Reports from the University of Newcastle – one evaluating pharmacist-led UTI treatment and one evaluating pharmacist.

[Read More](#)

General practitioner confidence with adolescent health: Baseline findings from a randomised controlled trial in general practice

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

General practitioners' (GPs) confidence in caring for adolescents was explored using data from a randomised controlled trial of an adolescent health assessment? Methods GPs completed an online survey.

[Read More](#)

Voluntary assisted dying: Key information for Australian general practitioners

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

Voluntary assisted dying (VAD) is now a legal option in all Australian states and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) for patients with a life-limiting illness. As trusted providers of lifelong care, general practitioners (GPs) will be approached by patients and their families seeking information and guidance when considering end-of-life (EOL) options, including VAD.

[Read More](#)

Artificial intelligence–assisted mental healthcare in general practice: Benefits, risks and future possibilities

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

General practitioners (GPs) are increasingly exploring artificial intelligence (AI) to support mental healthcare on the backdrop of a broader discourse about how AI could safely play a part in assisting people with mental health issues. This paper examines how AI tools could augment GP-led mental health services by improving access and personalisation of care, while highlighting the central role of GPs in assessment and continuity.

[Read More](#)

Practical approaches to deprescribing in general practice

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 03/06/2026

Polypharmacy is common in older people and is associated with a higher risk of adverse drug events,

hospitalisation and diminished quality of life. Deprescribing, defined as the planned and supervised reduction or discontinuation of medicines, is an important strategy to address inappropriate polypharmacy. [...] Search PubMed Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

[Read More](#)

Former deputy chief medical officer warns Australia's tobacco control program is fracturing due to sky-high tax rates

Sky News Australia, Other, 03/06/2026, Patrick Hannaford

Australia's world-leading tobacco control policy is "under threat" due to sky-high cigarette taxes, Dr Nick Coatsworth has warned. Australia's world-leading tobacco control policy is "under threat" due to sky-high cigarette taxes, a former deputy chief medical officer has warned.

[Read More](#)

Psychedelic therapy for dying patients set for TGA rejection

The Australian, Other, 03/06/2026, Penny Timms

The regulator plans to block psilocybin therapy for end-of-life distress, which critics say denies the dying access to medicine 'that could bring them peace'. Psychedelic-led therapy is unlikely to be extended to terminally ill people experiencing end-of-life distress after Australia's drug regulator flagged its intention to reject the proposal. In its interim decision, the Therapeutic Goods Administration says it believes the current scheduling for psilocybin-led therapy remains "appropriate" and does not need further expansion.

[Read More](#)

Anti-abortion activists are trying to limit access in NSW – and they are just getting started

The Guardian, Other, 04/06/2026, Tory Shepherd

The man who wants to ban "sex-selective abortions" is the first person who will tell you it won't work. New South Wales Libertarian party MLC John Ruddick has introduced legislation that would see health practitioners sent to prison or fined thousands if they carry out a termination because of the sex of a foetus.

[Read More](#)

Australians are spending less to consume more nicotine as illegal tobacco trade explodes

The Guardian, Other, 03/06/2026, Jordyn Beazley

Australians are consuming more nicotine than they were eight years ago but are spending less, new data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows, as 80% of the cigarettes smoked by the nation last year were cheaper illegal products. The analysis released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) on Wednesday showed the amount of nicotine consumed around the country soared by 40% between 2017 and 2025, despite population growth rising by just 14%.

[Read More](#)

Weight-loss drugs may prevent thousands of knee replacements, study suggests

The Guardian, Other, 03/06/2026, Anna Bawden

Taking weight-loss drugs for at least three years could prevent thousands of knee replacements a year, research suggests. Globally, more than 500 million people have osteoarthritis.

[Read More](#)

New detail in alleged MND mercy killing case

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 03/06/2026

A woman accused of murdering her terminally-ill husband allegedly told police she "wanted him to go peacefully" in a bid to end his suffering, a court has been told. In April 2025, Brisbane mother Kylie Truswell-Mobbs, 50, was charged with murder following the death of her husband in December 2023.

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Kidney bias for women

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/06/2026, Page 7

Women with chronic kidney disease are less likely than men to be diagnosed, represented in research and given treatments that have been properly tested in them. That is the central finding of George Institute for Global Health research that warns that decades of maledominated clinical research have left women disadvantaged at every stage of the disease.

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Stroke program helps restore self-esteem

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/06/2026, Damon Cronshaw, Page 11

Maryland's Kerrie Smith was feeling "down and depressed" after she had a stroke. "I couldn't feel good about anything," said Ms Smith, 66.

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Young cancer patient's stem cell transplant struggle highlights shortage of local donors

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

In December last year, Sarah Taylor started feeling fatigued. She suffered nosebleeds and experienced prolonged periods. As the months went on, her symptoms worsened, forcing her to quit her job and leaving her unable to get out of bed.

[Read More](#)

We asked Google AI about big tobacco, its answer was missing some controversial history

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026, Kate Ashton

Philip Morris International is a company with a controversial history. The tobacco giant has been accused of aggressively marketing addictive, cancer-causing cigarettes and fuelling smoking-related deaths and diseases around the world

[Read More](#)

Her doctors said it was fibroids, the coroner told a different story

Ballarat Courier, Other, 03/06/2026

Simone Crerar trusted her doctors when they told her she just had uterine fibroids. It was only after she died the truth was revealed.

[Read More](#)

Trial finds some breast cancer patients can safely avoid chemotherapy

Medical Forum, Other, 03/06/2026

A trial has found many people with breast cancer can safely avoid chemotherapy with the use of a gene test, potentially sparing them unnecessary side effects without increasing the risk of the cancer returning. The OPTIMA (Optimal Personalised Treatment of early breast cancer using Multi-parameter Analysis) trial, followed more than 4,400 patients worldwide, including 263 patients from Australia and New Zealand.

[Read More](#)

'10 of the best': how a deep breath keeps the heart safe in breast treatment

Newcastle Herald, Other, 03/06/2026, Damon Cronshaw

A Newcastle medical physicist has developed a method to reduce radiation exposure to the heart

during breast cancer treatment. Professor Joerg Lehmann, of the Calvary Mater hospital's radiation oncology department, has received an honour for his work.

[Read More](#)

Her doctors said it was fibroids, the coroner told a different story

The Senior, Other, 03/06/2026, jimmy parker

Simone Crerar trusted her doctors when they told her she just had uterine fibroids. It was only after she died the truth was revealed.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 03/06/2026, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

A new permanent BreastScreen SA clinic has opened in Modbury, funded by a \$500,000 South Australian Government investment. BreastScreen SA says each clinic can screen over 5000 patients per year, with SA Health Minister Blair Boyer noting strong initial booking demand and ongoing monitoring of service need.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 03/06/2026, Thomas Oriti

Interview with Chris Tanti, CEO of the Leukaemia Foundation. Tanti discusses a shortage in the stem cell donor register, citing funding and system challenges in attracting 18–35-year-old donors. He says about 1200 people are waiting for a donor, often from overseas, highlights the need for greater cultural diversity, and notes that donation involves a simple cheek swab and is not painful.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 03/06/2026, Thomas Oriti

Interview with Sarah Taylor, a 28-year-old from Mount Druitt in Western Sydney, who is undergoing treatment for rare blood cancer myelodysplastic syndrome, with a stem cell transplant planned after her condition worsened following an earlier bone marrow failure diagnosis. About 1200 Australians are waiting for life-saving stem cell transplants amid a low donor registry and reliance on other nations, with Sarah's procedure proceeding after a 100 per cent matched donor was identified following earlier delays due to illness.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Believe in our young men to help them grow

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2026, Chris Minns and Kellie Sloane, Page 12

When I was growing up, boys had to be tough all the time. There's nothing wrong with being strong, but the problem was a lot of my mates were still battling with their own issues - they just kept it to themselves.

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

The relationship spectrum

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

"It can be difficult...when your approach to socialising and relationships doesn't look like what other people might expect." There's a long-held stereotype that autistic people are not empathetic and aren't interested in relationships.

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Authorities 'deeply sorry' for teenager let down by WA's mental health

system

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026, Jon Daly and Nadia Mitsopoulos

A teenager from WA's South West was left in a hospital emergency department for almost five days waiting for a mental health bed. After 116 hours, the 17-year-old was transferred to a hospital 300km away.

[Read More](#)

From tragedy to the tarmac: why these men are running for mental health

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 03/06/2026, Alise Gunning

Three hundred and fifty gruelling kilometres. That's how far Ethan and Austin Comerford , and their mates Isaac and Lachlan are running to raise funds and awareness for men's mental health.

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IMMUNISATION

It's vaccination time again!

SBS, Other, 03/06/2026, Wolfgang Mueller

Ebola is just one of several dangerous infectious diseases that are currently spreading around the world. And there is already a growing fear that we could fall back into the days of quarantine and face masks like in the unfortunate Covid years.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

ABC News, News Breakfast, 03/06/2026, Emma Reballato and James Glenday

Interview with Dr Ian Norton, specialist emergency physician. Norton advocates for a targeted approach to Australia's border response to the Ebola outbreak in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which includes health messaging for returning workers, symptom awareness, and declaring exposure to ensure proper protocols and care pathways. He says the outbreak is one of the largest ever and is spreading throughout the region, stating that Australians are unlikely to be affected but raising concerns about infection prevention and control readiness in health systems.

Interview continues on: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#), [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

2GB, Mornings, 03/06/2026, Mark Levy

Interview with Dr Nick Coatsworth, Australia's Deputy Chief Medical Officer. Coatsworth discusses emergency department overcrowding and workforce burnout in Australia. He also explains an Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, with suspected or reported cases in Brazil and Italy and a close call in Victoria, noting its 30–50 per cent mortality rate, up to a 21-day incubation period, and transmission through bodily fluids, including during traditional burial practices.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

No relevant coverage

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Trailblazer Lowitja O'Donoghue honoured with statue in Adelaide

SBS, Other, 03/06/2026

A statue of Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue has been unveiled in Adelaide. It's the first in a series of six celebrating Aboriginal leaders.

[Read More](#)

Diphtheria outbreak: residents of remote NT community say health clinic has no hand sanitiser

The Guardian, Other, 04/06/2026, Douglas Smith

A remote Aboriginal community at the centre of the Northern Territory's diphtheria outbreak is struggling to cope with rising case numbers, with locals saying there is no hand sanitiser at the health clinic and limited information about how to avoid the disease or what to do if you test positive. There have been more than 240 cases of the once-eradicated disease reported in Australia since October, primarily in remote Indigenous communities in the NT, South Australia, Queensland and Western Australia, according to data released by the Australian Centre for Disease Control.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 03/06/2026, Emma Reballato and James Glenday

The Aboriginal Health Council of WA says chronic underinvestment in health services has directly contributed to the spread of diphtheria in the state, where more than 100 cases have been reported this year. Of those cases, 94 per cent have been among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, with most cases occurring in the Kimberley.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Channel 10, 10 News, 03/06/2026, Hugh Riminton

Due to pressure on GP services and emergency departments, the NSW Government will reduce the contraceptive pill training course to two weeks in October and allow the first 30 specially trained pharmacists to prescribe it on Friday. New data shows emergency doctors are burnt out and considering leaving or reducing clinical hours. NSW Health Minister Ryan Park said 1300 hospital beds are occupied by aged care and NDIS patients awaiting discharge support and urged the Commonwealth Government to help.

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Channel 10, 10 News, 03/06/2026, Natalie Forrest

WA Health apologised after 17-year-old Maddi spent nearly five days in Busselton Hospital's emergency department in March after attempting suicide twice due to bed shortages. Maddi was transferred to a Joondalup mental health facility, and the Busselton Health Campus' director of medical services admitted that the system failed to provide safe and timely care, while Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson said the case would be reviewed.

Similar coverage reported by: [Channel 7 \(Perth\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Perth\)](#).

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3AW, Drive, 03/06/2026, Jacqui Felgate

Interview with Dr Simon Judkins, President of AMA Victoria. Judkins discusses assaults on healthcare workers in emergency departments across Australia, highlighting overcrowded waiting rooms and long ED wait times contributing to the problem. He calls for improved hospital security standards, including potentially protective services officers, and greater investment in community care to reduce demand on emergency departments.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 03/06/2026, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with WA Shadow Health Minister Libby Mettam. Mettam discusses a structural failure in regional WA healthcare, such as GP services in Kalbarri becoming too expensive, as well as concerns raised by the Rural Health Alliance about local governments stepping in while state and federal governments fail to provide effective services. She also discusses the case of a mental health patient who waited nearly five days in the emergency department of Busselton Hospital, which she links to the closure of 12 acute mental health beds at Bunbury Hospital, as well as the fact that WA has only eight hospital-in-the-home beds and the second lowest public hospital bed count per capita.

Interview continues on: [ABC Radio Perth \(Perth\)](#).

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FIVEAA, Mornings, 03/06/2026, Graeme Goodings

Interview with SA Health Minister Blair Boyer. Boyer discusses the coroner's inquest into three deaths in South Australia's health system, noting the government has accepted 17 of 18 recommendations in full and one in principle. He says some recommendations are already complete or underway, with some requiring funding and including changes to emergency department triage and clearer hospital accountability for patients during ramping under a principal duty of care.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Good news

Nursing Review, General News, 31/05/2026, Stefanie Schultz, Page 9

Burnout among midwives has reached critical levels in Australia, but new research suggests a structured support program could offer meaningful relief for a workforce under immense strain. A major University of Technology Sydney (UTS) study involving almost 2,000 midwives across 12 public maternity services has found that regular group clinical supervision (GCS) sessions can significantly reduce work-related burnout.

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

Channel 10, 10 News, 03/06/2026, Kate Freebairn

Nurses and midwives at Lyell McEwin Hospital will begin a 24-hour rolling strike from 7am tomorrow, with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation stating that the action follows more than a year of negotiations over wages, staffing shortages, workloads and burnout. Emergency and essential services will remain in place during the stoppage. The SA Government says pay rises must remain within budgetary constraints, and further industrial action is planned in the coming weeks.

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Channel 9, Today , 03/06/2026, Karl Stefanovic and Sarah Abo

Interview with Maddy Harradence, ANMF Victorian Branch Secretary. Harradence discusses calls for greater protection for nurses and midwives in Victoria following violent assaults across state hospitals. She says 78 per cent of surveyed members reported workplace violence or aggression in the last 12 months and calls for a review of security and safety measures across healthcare settings.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Mornings, 03/06/2026, Hamish Macdonald

Libertarian Party MP John Ruddick has introduced a bill in the NSW State Parliament that proposes criminal penalties for sex-selective abortion, including fines and up to five years in prison for doctors. However, the bill specifically exempts pregnant women from any criminal penalties or charges. NSW Health Minister Ryan Park said there is no evidence of sex-selective abortion occurring in the state and described abortion law as a conscience issue.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Nurses to walk off job over pay

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 04/06/2026, Shashi Baltutis, Page 8

Nurses and midwives at the Lyell McEwin Hospital will walk off the job on Thursday morning for 24 hours as they continue to campaign for increased wages and improved conditions. They will gather outside the hospital in Elizabeth from 7am following more than a year of negotiations with the state government to address issues such as shortages, workloads and burnout.

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

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Medicos treated to top lights

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 04/06/2026, Elizabeth Henson, Page 10

Taxpayers foot the bill as jetsetting doctors claim business-class trips across world

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#).

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

How nurse-led telehealth is keeping patients out of hospital

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 03/06/2026

At Grampians Health in rural Victoria, a nurse-led telehealth service is cutting repeat ED presentations among patients with complex and chronic conditions by around 30%, with research demonstrating a 33% reduction in re-presentations. As manager of Hospital Without Walls, registered nurse William Ho oversees a suite of programs designed to deliver care beyond the traditional hospital setting.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacy award employees about to get 4.75% pay rise

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 03/06/2026

Minimum award workers, including pharmacy professionals covered by the Pharmacy Industry Award, are set to get a 4.75% pay rise from 01 Jul following the Fair Work Commission's (FWC) annual wage review. The increase is less than the 6% requested by Australian Council of Trade Unions, but more than the.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

6PR, Drive, 03/06/2026, Jamie Burnett

Interview with Dr Simon Torvaldsen, chair of the AMA WA General Practice Group. Torvaldsen discusses GP bulk billing sustainability, highlighting the Kalbarri doctor's surgery closure on 25 June after shifting to a fully bulk-billed model as not sustainable. He says the Medicare rebate has dropped from 85 per cent to around 40 per cent, making general practice increasingly unsustainable.

Interview continues on: [6PR \(Perth\)](#).

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ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 03/06/2026, Leon Compton

Interview with Jenny Dodd, member of the Executive Team at Stride Mental Health. Dodd discusses the Medicare Mental Health Centre being built in Glenorchy, describing it as a government-funded service that will provide free community access and support to people over the age of 18. She says the centre will open in the coming months.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

Ebola scare averted at Sunshine Coast University Hospital after father, son test negative

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/06/2026, Jackie Sinnerton

An Ebola scare at a major Queensland hospital has been averted after a father and son with symptoms of the deadly disease have tested negative. [...] Queensland's Chief Health Officer Dr Marianne Gale told The Courier-Mail that Queensland Health is working proactively with the Australian Centre for Disease Control, Commonwealth agencies and other states and territories to monitor the Ebola outbreak in parts of Africa so they can respond accordingly.

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

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Psychedelic therapy for dying patients set for TGA rejection

The Australian, Other, 03/06/2026, Penny Timms

The regulator plans to block psilocybin therapy for end-of-life distress, which critics say denies the dying access to medicine 'that could bring them peace'. Psychedelic-led therapy is unlikely to be extended to terminally ill people experiencing end-of-life distress after Australia's drug regulator flagged its intention to reject the proposal. In its interim decision, the Therapeutic Goods Administration says it believes the current scheduling for psilocybin-led therapy remains "appropriate" and does not need further expansion.

[Read More](#)

Product recall: Nature's Own health supplements urgently pulled from shelves over glass fragment risk

West Australian, Other, 03/06/2026, Peta Rasdien

An urgent recall has been issued for two popular health supplements over fears they could contain glass fragments. The Therapeutic Goods Administration has ordered the Nature's Own products, produced by Sanofi Consumer Healthcare, to be pulled from shelves.

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

[Read More](#)

Nature's Own Glucosamine Sulfate with Chondroitin and Magnesium Glycinate recalled over glass risk

7News.com.au, Other, 03/06/2026, Katharina Loesche

The products are sold nationwide at multiple chemists and some supermarkets. Two popular supplement products sold across Australia have been recalled over concerns glass fragments may be present inside some bottles. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) announced on Tuesday Sanofi Consumer Healthcare, the company behind the Nature's Own vitamin and supplement range, is recalling specific batches of two products due to concerns some bottles may contain glass.

[Read More](#)

Dope games

ABC Online, Other, 03/06/2026

This is going to be the biggest pay day in the history of swimming tonight, we've got eight million dollars for swimmers. [...] Both Sports Integrity Australia and the Therapeutic Goods Administration, which regulates medicines here, are worried about the impact of the Enhanced Games, And what is, effectively, 'advertising of unapproved peptides.

[Read More](#)

Doctors slam TGA's looser psychedelic therapy rules as 'unjustifiable risk to patient safety'

Australian Doctor, Other, 03/06/2026

The tga published the recommendations from its consultation on the Authorised Prescriber Scheme for psychedelic-assisted therapy last week. Treatment teams for psychedelic-assisted therapy will only require a minimum of one AHPRA-registered health practitioner under new TGA rules.

[Read More](#)

Glass in supplement bottle prompt recall

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 03/06/2026

Concerns over the potential presence of glass fragments in bottles of two batches of Nature's Own supplements sparks recall Sanofi-Aventis Healthcare is recalling two products due to the possible presence of glass fragments with the bottles. The recall only impacts batch #1662937 of Nature's Own Glucosamine Sulfate with Chondroitin (320 pack), and batch #1665576 of the brand's Magnesium Glycinate 1150mg (300

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Penalties weeded out for cannabis

The Australian, General News, 04/06/2026, Lachlan Leeming, Page 6

Penalties for drivers who test positive for medicinal cannabis will be dropped in NSW, in the most significant overhaul to drug driving laws in the state since random breath testing was introduced in 1982. Premier Chris Minns on Thursday will reveal legislation to establish a new testing regime

enabling motorists caught with lawfully prescribed medicinal cannabis in their systems to keep their licences.

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Road rule shift for medicinal cannabis users

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 04/06/2026, Max Maddison, Page 10

Drivers with lawful cannabis prescriptions will be offered a medical defence and subjected to a threestrike impairment test under major roadside safety reforms in NSW. Those with prescriptions who test positive will be barred from driving for 24 hours while samples are analysed, as the Minns government's legislation tries to balance the needs of a growing cohort of people lawfully using medicinal cannabis against concerns about road safety.

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

Rolling stoned

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2026, James O'Doherty, Page 1

Minns takes the bong & winding road on new drug driving laws Hundreds of thousands of medicinal cannabis users will be given the green light to drive with small amounts of THC in their system, as Premier Chris Minns initiates the biggest shake-up to road rules in two decades. The police union says it strikes the right balance but critics say it just puts the public at risk.

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

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Johns backs medicinal cannabis law change

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/06/2026, Damon Cronshaw, Page 2

Newcastle Knights legend Andrew Johns has backed the Minns government's move to provide warnings to patients found driving with medicinal cannabis in their system. The government will announce today that it will introduce legislation to change how the law treats medicinal cannabis patients who drive.

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Motorists using medicinal cannabis no longer to be automatically penalised in NSW

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/06/2026, Nathan Schmidt

Hundreds of thousands of people using medicinal cannabis are in for a massive change in one Australian state. The Labor government announced on Thursday it will seek to introduce reforms to parliament which seek "a more commonsense approach" to medically-prescribed cannabis and road laws, including a three-strike approach which seeks to recognise that some users may still test positive despite using their medication lawfully.

[Read More](#)

Sleep aid taken by 2 million people 'significantly' impairs next-day function, world-first study finds

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 04/06/2026

A common medication taken by about two million Americans, often off-label as a sleep aid, has been shown to cause potentially dangerous side effects that drag into the next day. The antipsychotic drug quetiapine, sold as Seroquel, is approved to treat schizophrenia, but it is frequently prescribed off-label for insomnia.

[Read More](#)

NSW motorists who use medicinal cannabis may soon be able to drive without fear of major penalty

The Guardian, Other, 04/06/2026, Jordyn Beazley

Premier Chris Minns says changes would balance road safety and a more practical approach for

medicinal cannabis users Motorists who use medicinal cannabis may soon be able to drive on New South Wales roads without fear of a severe penalty as the Minns government announces long-awaited reforms.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Plastic fears for lollies

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/06/2026, Page 3

A batch of popular lollies has been pulled from supermarket shelves amid fears they might contain plastic. [...] Food Standards Australia New Zealand has warned that customers who have purchased the affected batches should not eat the product and seek a refund.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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Popular Albany bakery fined \$60,750 after raw meat juice, rodent droppings found on fresh baked items

7News.com.au, Other, 03/06/2026, Melissa Sheil

Fresh food was also stored next to personal items such as reading glasses, money and a 'faecal specimen collection jar'. Albany French Hot Bread Shop has temporarily closed in the wake of being fined more than \$60,000 for severe health violations, including having rodent droppings and juice from raw meat dripping on bread.

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AICIS

PFAS accountability cuts both ways

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/06/2026, Page 24

The federal government's decision to sue chemical giant 3M for up to \$2 billion over PFAS contamination has been welcomed by many Australians. On the surface, it is easy to see why.

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

Channel 7, Sunrise, 03/06/2026, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview with ACT Independent Senator David Pocock and Parkinson's Australia CEO Olivia Nassaris. Pocock and Nassaris discuss calls to ban the herbicide paraquat amid concerns it is linked to Parkinson's disease and has been banned in more than 70 countries, with Australia's regulator reviewing it for nearly 30 years. Nassaris says the chemical's volatility may allow it to become airborne, potentially exposing people beyond farmers, while Pocock says he is concerned about health and environmental impacts and calls for alternatives rather than continued use.

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