



TODAY'S NEWS

Tuesday, 23rd 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](#)
| [Population Health](#) | [Chronic Conditions and Screening](#) |
[Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Immunisation](#) | [Health Systems Strategies](#)
| [Health Economics & Research](#) | [First Nations Health](#)
| [Public Hospital and Health Reform](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)
| [Medicare Benefits and Digital Health](#) | [Benefits Integrity](#) | [Australian CDC](#) |
[Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) | [Office of Drug Control](#) | [Food Standards](#)
| [AICIS](#)

LINKS

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The **Canberra Times** (page 6) reports that the Commonwealth Ombudsman has issued a warning to the government that its plan to slash \$35 billion from the NDIS could risk a repeat of the Robodebt scandal. The legislation would enable the NDIA to remove at least 240,000 participants from the scheme and cut support for many who remain.
- **The Australian** (online) reports that an urgent measles alert has been issued after a returned traveller visited multiple locations across inner Sydney while unknowingly infectious, visiting multiple locations between June 16 and 20.
- **The Australian** (page 3) reports that women who have survived breast cancer are considering taking radical steps including the surgical removal of their ovaries, Breast Cancer Network Australia has revealed, after pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca announced plans to pull the cancer and endometriosis drug Zoladex from Australian shelves.
- **Daily Mail Australia** (online) reports that the government has confirmed that the H5N1 bird flu virus has arrived in WA after sixteen birds tested positive, and there are fears it could wipe out birds and mammals if it takes hold. The Australian CDC has advised H5 bird flu is a low health risk to the public, and rarely affected humans. *Also reported by: [Herald Sun](#), [Northern Territory News](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [ABC](#), [Channel 7](#) and [Channel 9](#).*

- The [West Australian](#) (page 3) reports that West Australian children reaching out to the Kids Helpline has increased by 74 per cent in just one year, underlining the staggering prevalence of mental health problems among young people. The latest Kids Helpline 2025 Impact Report revealed 10,392 youths in WA called the mental health service in 2025.
- The [West Australian](#) (online) reports that six passengers from a Hantavirus-struck cruise ship forced to quarantine in a facility north of Perth are finally heading home after 42 days in isolation. A Federal health department spokesman said there would be “no further isolation, quarantine or public health follow-up” required by the passengers after they leave the facility.
- The [Hobart Mercury](#) (page 16) reports that Australia has recorded its deadliest year on record for drug overdoses. Penington Institute data showed that more than 80 per cent of drug induced deaths across Australia were unintentional, and opioids were the most common drug involved in these deaths.
- The [Herald Sun](#) (page 12) reports an Australian-first clinical trial will test the nutritional supplement creatine to see if it can help support cognition, mood and wellbeing in postmenopausal women who have noticed changes in their memory or thinking. The study team said the findings would inform future research, not establish whether the supplement is effective.

MINISTER BUTLER

Warning on govt risk of 'Robodebt 2.0'

Canberra Times, General News, 23/06/2026, Dana Daniel, Page 6

The Commonwealth Ombudsman has issued a stark warning to the Albanese government that its plan to slash \$35 billion from the National Disability Insurance scheme could risk a repeat of the Robodebt scandal. The legislation would enable the National Disability Insurance Agency to remove at least 240,000 participants from the scheme and cut support for many who remain, which Health Minister Mark Butler says is necessary to slow the scheme's growth and make it sustainable.

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

Freedom day: Hantavirus cruise ship passengers to be released from Perth quarantine early Tuesday morning

West Australian, Other, 22/06/2026, Caitlyn Rintoul

Six passengers from a Hantavirus-struck cruise ship forced to quarantine in a facility north of Perth are finally heading home after 42 days in isolation. [...] Despite isolation being mandatory under the biosecurity Act, Health Minister Mark Butler thanked the group for their "sacrifice" and labelled them "terrific Australians."

[Read More](#)

NDIS Bill hits the disabled harder than the fraudsters

Michael West Media, Other, 22/06/2026, Claudia Weisenberger

Three years of public debate about fraud and rorts has produced a Bill that cuts the supports of people with permanent, significant disability — the people this scheme was built for — while leaving the structural problems largely untouched. [...] On 22 April 2026, Minister Mark Butler told the National Press Club that Social and Community Participation budgets would be reduced by 30%.

[Read More](#)

New aged care law gives providers, not the elderly, choice and control

Green Left Weekly, Other, 22/06/2026, Josh Adams

When the Anthony Albanese government's new Aged Care Act 2024 came into force last November, it was promoted as the sector's most significant reform in a generation. Aged care minister Mark Butler announced it as a "new era of aged care", built around dignity, choice and person-centred care.

[Read More](#)

WA Govt land deal tied to future aged care project

The Weekly Source, Other, 22/06/2026, Caroline Egan

A regional council has secured State Government land at a heavily discounted price under an agreement linked to the delivery of accommodation for older residents. [...] The States have also been under pressure in recent weeks from Federal Health, Disability and Ageing Minister Mark Butler, who claimed State development application processes are slowing aged care developments

[Read More](#)

Inside the menopause workforce revolution: What's holding this reliable demographic back?

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 22/06/2026, Robyn Riley

Around 81 per cent of women going through menopause are still in the workforce, and data shows post-menopausal women are the fastest-growing workforce demographic in Australia. [...] Assistant Minister for Health and Ageing Rebecca White said at the launch that the stigma around menopause and perimenopause needed to end.

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

[Read More](#)

'There is no compassion': mental health cost of NDIS funding cuts laid bare

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 22/06/2026, Maryam Sulaiman

Billiejo Gabriel was "distressed" when told she would no longer receive the same amount of support for her disability. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler recently announced a host of changes to NDIS funding, including a drop in the taxpayers' contribution from \$70 billion to \$55 billion by 2030.

Also reported by: [Coly Point Observer \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Senate inquiry delays NDIS reforms for second time

CathNews, Other, 22/06/2026, Rebecca Comini

The Albanese Government's plans to radically overhaul the National Disability Insurance Scheme have hit a stumbling block after a parliamentary report into the reforms was delayed for a second time. [...] Speaking ahead of the announcement on Friday, Health Minister Mark Butler said: "There will be debate around this.

[Read More](#)

Slow has a body count

The Medical Republic, Other, 22/06/2026, Jeremy Knibbs

Australia is building one of the most ambitious health data projects on earth. [...] Courageous is pulling Mark Butler into a room deep inside the Department of Health Disability and Aged Care and backgrounding him on the realities of what is going on here, so he, a pretty smart minister, understands what is going on and where he has to juggle the politics of a transformation.

Also reported by: [Health Services Daily \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Senate, Sitting, 22/06/2026, Parliament

Live Coverage of Kerryne Liddle speaking at the Senate sitting. Liddle says she wrote to Senator Jenny McAllister and Federal Minister Mark Butler about the devastating impact of recent changes to the NDIS related specifically to health impacts for residents living with Machado-Joseph disease on Groote Eylandt in the Northern Territory. She says the Australian Physiotherapists Association told them that the services in the area are already limited, and she is asking the ministers to give urgent attention to the matter and provide her and the service providers with advice.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER MCALLISTER

PM's old faction opposes NDIS cuts

The Australian, General News, 23/06/2026, Noah Yim, Page 4

The Young Labor faction that launched Anthony Albanese's political career says it is opposed to his National Disability Insurance Scheme reforms, claiming they will cost lives and foreshadowing a fight ahead of July's ALP national conference. [...] The organisation said proposed ministerial powers which would go to NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister were "ludicrously lax" and provided only a "vague safeguard against misuse of ministerial powers".

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

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

ABC, 7:30, 22/06/2026, Sarah Ferguson

A deal between the Federal Government and the Greens is very close and could be settled as early as tomorrow, with the minor party considering an offer from Labor to extend debate over NDIS reforms until mid-August. NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister says she is determined to deliver an NDIS that is sustainable for the long term.

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

[Play Now](#)

Senate, Sitting, 22/06/2026, Parliament

Live Coverage of Federal NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister speaking at the Senate sitting. McAllister says the Federal Government believes the NDIS is one of Australia's great human rights achievements, and that it was built on collaboration between parliamentarians and disabled people, who advocated for themselves in partnership with unions. She states that there are significant challenges threatening the sustainability of the NDIS and its social licence, and that the Federal Government is considering what would be required to sustain the scheme in the future.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER RAE

Government quietly tweaks aged care algorithm rules, but the fundamental problem remains

HelloCare, Other, 22/06/2026, Jakob Neeland

The Albanese government has quietly made changes to the way errors in aged care funding assessments can be corrected. [...] The Accountability Gap Aged Care Minister Sam Rae's handling of this issue has been, to put it plainly, evasive.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Darwin , 19:00 News, 22/06/2026

Baralaba woman Olive Eather has been living with dementia, but she and her family are struggling to access support in their rural location, and for them, staying there might not be possible due to limited beds. Dementia Australia says delays in residential care are common, while Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae says the Federal Government is investing \$47b to deliver more beds and 20 new specialist dementia care units.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Tropical North, Breakfast, 22/06/2026, Rob Kidd

As dementia sufferer Olive Eather spends time on a waitlist, she has struggled to access support. In a statement, a spokesperson for Minister for Aged Care Sam Rae says the government is investing \$47

billion to deliver more aged care beds, as well as 20 new specialist dementia care units.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

This Perth mental health clinic has already had 25,000 bookings since opening

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 22/06/2026, Michael Philipps

Two new free mental health support centres have opened in Bunbury and Kalamunda, after new federal government figures revealed just one clinic in Perth's east had delivered more than 25,000 appointments since it opened. [...] Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride said one in five Australians experienced a mental disorder in the past 12 months.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Beating brain fog

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 23/06/2026, Robyn Riley, Page 12

An Australian-first clinical trial will test the nutritional supplement creatine to see if it can help support cognition, mood and wellbeing in postmenopausal women who have noticed changes in their memory or thinking. [...] Assistant federal health minister Rebecca White said for many women menopause can be a confusing and isolating experience, made harder by conflicting advice and misinformation.

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

Inside the menopause workforce revolution: What's holding this reliable demographic back?

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 22/06/2026, Robyn Riley

Around 81 per cent of women going through menopause are still in the workforce, and data shows post-menopausal women are the fastest-growing workforce demographic in Australia. [...] Assistant Minister for Health and Ageing Rebecca White said at the launch that the stigma around menopause and perimenopause needed to end.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

Sky News Live, Politics Now, 22/06/2026, Tom Connell

Interview with Special Envoy for Men's Health Dan Repacholi and bowel cancer patient Julian, on bowel cancer patients gathering at Parliament today to raise awareness as part of the Never Too Young campaign. Repacholi says not enough test kits are being sent back to the government, and they need to make sure that people are getting some good awareness around the matter because they are losing around 101 lives every week to bowel cancer. Julian also says they need to educate GPs on the signs and symptoms of young-onset bowel cancer.

Also reported by: [Sky News Live \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

DEPARTMENT

'Hot flush gold rush' fuelling latest study

Herald Sun, General News, 23/06/2026, Robyn Riley, Page 12

An Australian-first clinical trial will test the nutritional supplement creatine to see if it can help support cognition, mood and wellbeing in postmenopausal women who have noticed changes in their memory or thinking. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has extended the Serious Scarcity Substitution Instrument for these products to the end of February 2027.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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

Hantavirus isolation ends

West Australian, General News, 23/06/2026, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 9

Six passengers from a Hantavirus-struck cruise ship forced to quarantine in a facility north of Perth are finally heading home after 42 days in isolation. The cohort which includes four Australian citizens, one permanent resident and one New Zealander were cleared to leave WA's Bullsbrook quarantine facility on Tuesday morning after consistent negative tests.

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

'I'm panicking'

Launceston Examiner, General News, 23/06/2026, Annika Rhoades, Page 1

Wheelchair user Scott Whatley says he's scared of losing his independence over a bureaucratic grievance with the NDIS regarding transport funding. [...] A Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) spokesperson said: "The NDIS was never intended to fund everyday costs of living such as the purchase or lease of vehicles."

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

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

New-look PBS website launched

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 22/06/2026, Page 2

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has launched a redesigned Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) website, featuring enhanced search functionality, advanced filtering options, and improved visibility of updates to PBS-listed medicines. The PBS team is inviting enquiries and feedback - visit the website.

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

NDIS Bill hits the disabled harder than the fraudsters

Michael West Media, Other, 22/06/2026, Claudia Weisenberger

Three years of public debate about fraud and rorts has produced a Bill that cuts the supports of people with permanent, significant disability — the people this scheme was built for — while leaving the structural problems largely untouched. [...] On 22 April 2026, Minister Mark Butler told the National Press Club that Social and Community Participation budgets would be reduced by 30%.

[Read More](#)

Controversial NDIS overhaul blasted at senate probe

Honi Soit, Other, 22/06/2026, Victor Zhang

NDIS participants, disability advocates, and doctors blasted the Federal Labor Government's proposed NDIS overhaul over three days of hearings at a snap inquiry. [...] Department of Health, Disability, and Ageing officials revealed to the probe that they had yet to model the specific impact of removing and diverting 350,000 people from the scheme at a state and territory level.

[Read More](#)

Oil health star ratings don't stack up

Shepparton News Online, Other, 22/06/2026, Nicholas Spandler

One of the world's most researched health foods is being outranked by cheaper, chemically processed seed oils under a proposed mandatory Health Star Rating system. [...] A spokesperson for the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said the HSR system was designed to help consumers compare similar products based on saturated fat, sodium, sugars, energy, protein and fibre, but not processing method or bioactive compounds.

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

[Read More](#)

Medicare revision

102.5 Edge FM, Other, 22/06/2026, Emma Roberts

Older Australians in aged care across northern Victoria and the Southern Riverina will continue to have easier access to bulk-billed GP appointments following a Federal Government decision to revise planned Medicare changes. [...] Ageing Australia Chief Executive Officer Tom Symondson said providers had been working closely with the Federal Government and the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to find a practical solution.

[Read More](#)

Slow has a body count

The Medical Republic, Other, 22/06/2026, Jeremy Knibbs

Australia is building one of the most ambitious health data projects on earth. [...] Courageous is pulling Mark Butler into a room deep inside the Department of Health Disability and Aged Care and backgrounding him on the realities of what is going on here, so he, a pretty smart minister, understands what is going on and where he has to juggle the politics of a transformation.

Also reported by: [Health Services Daily \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Software vendors left holding the assignment of benefit bag

The Medical Republic, Other, 22/06/2026, Holly Payne

After months of preparation – and in some cases, hundreds of thousands of dollars – major GP software vendors like Best Practice only found out that the government was pushing back assignment of benefit changes when the broader public did. Last Thursday, with just eight working days until implementation, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing confirmed that it had significantly watered down the assignment of benefit (AoB) changes scheduled to come into effect on 1 July.

[Read More](#)

New-look PBS website launched

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 22/06/2026

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has launched a redesigned Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) website, featuring enhanced search functionality, advanced filtering options, and improved visibility of updates to PBS-listed medicines. The PBS team is inviting enquiries and feedback – visit the website here.

[Read More](#)

ABC Southern Queensland, 06:30 News, 22/06/2026

Toowoomba's first endometriosis and pelvic pain clinic has officially opened in Drayton. The clinic is one of 33 being rolled out across Australia, funded by the federal Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Sunshine Coast, Drive, 22/06/2026, Kaitlyn Sawrey

Report by ABC reporter Grace Nakamura. Toowoomba's first endometriosis and pelvic pain clinic has officially opened in Drayton Medical Centre. The clinic is one of 33 being rolled out across Australia,

AGEING AND AGED CARE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

DISABILITY AND CARERS

Greens demand tax changes cover SMSFs

The Australian, General News, 23/06/2026, Matthew Cranston, Page 5

Negotiations between the Greens and Labor over the budget tax bill have hit another hurdle, with the left-wing party demanding removal of limited recourse borrowing arrangements in self-managed super funds and raising concerns about big business benefiting from new capital gains changes. The Greens - in return for their support for the budget tax changes - have been demanding a record number of ministerial discretions embedded in the tax bill be removed and clarified within the law before it was passed, such as what government payments allow someone to be exempt from a new minimum 30 per cent CGT.

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

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

Alleged NDIS fraudster facing 20 years

The Australian, Business News, 23/06/2026, Angelica Snowden, Page 13

Gold Coast man David McWilliams is facing up to 20 years in jail if found guilty of criminal charges linked with an alleged \$10m NDIS specialist disability accommodation fraud. Mr McWilliams faced the Southport magistrates court on Monday on the Gold Coast, after the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions levelled 13 criminal charges.

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

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

'Relief and reform': What we know about Mookhey's budget

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 23/06/2026, Max Maddison, Page 2

Treasurer Daniel Mookhey will deliver his fourth budget today and, in a departure from the typical pre-election spending bonanza, he has been laying the groundwork for sober reading. In his final budget before next year's state election, the treasurer says his design principles are "relief and reform" while accounting for a "period of tremendous uncertainty".

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

Director in NDIS housing charged

Courier Mail, General News, 23/06/2026, Alex Treacy, Page 13

A Gold Coast man whose NDIS housing companies were wound up amid an ongoing investigation has been hit with 13 criminal charges over an alleged \$10m fraud, with prosecutors claiming he spent the money on luxury cars and real estate. Surfers Paradise man David George McWilliams, 53, the former director of a string of companies collectively known as ALAMMC Developments, faced Southport Magistrates Court on Monday for a first mention of his charges.

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

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

Greens deal on NDIS reform

Greens leader Larissa Waters has all but confirmed the party is leveraging support in the upper house for Labor's tax overhaul in exchange for a longer probe into controversial changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. The government is reportedly weighing up offering an extended inquiry into the NDIS reforms which will cut more than 200,000 people from the scheme by the end of the decade - in exchange for the Greens' support to pass the tax reforms by the end of the sitting fortnight or July 2.

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

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

Greens demand cut to SMSF borrowing 'loophole' for budget support

Australian Financial Review, Other, 22/06/2026, Phillip Coorey

The Albanese government could be forced to change its budget for a second time in less than a week, with the Greens demanding it close a loophole allowing people to buy investment properties through self-managed superannuation funds.

[Read More](#)

NDIS laws could make or break budget tax reform

West Australian, Other, 22/06/2026, Andrew Brown

The final weeks of federal parliament before MPs depart for the long winter break are being dominated by debate on changes to the NDIS and tax reform. What's the state of play?

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

[Read More](#)

Leaders locked in negotiations on NDIS, tax overhauls

Canberra Times, Other, 22/06/2026, Tess Ikonou

Twin fights over tax and disability support will dominate parliament in the coming days as the government tries to ram through reforms before MPs leave Canberra for the long winter break. Labor is attempting to hash out a deal with the Greens to pass controversial changes to capital gains tax and negative gearing, in exchange for extending an inquiry into a planned overhaul of the NDIS.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Property developer David McWilliams charged over alleged \$10 million disability housing fraud

ABC Online, Other, 22/06/2026

A Gold Coast property developer has been charged over an alleged \$10 million fraud scheme perpetrated against NDIS participants in Queensland and Western Australia. ALAMMC Developments co-owner David McWilliams appeared in Southport Magistrates Court today facing 13 criminal charges relating to alleged misappropriation of funds set aside for the construction of specialist disability housing.

[Read More](#)

Queensland charity closes 'life-changing' NDIS employment support program the ORCA Project

ABC Online, Other, 22/06/2026, Sarah Richards

A charity that supported 90 young people with disability to become workplace-ready last year will close its National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) employment service. Oli Evans joined the ORCA Project, run by Wesley Mission Queensland, about six months ago after leaving high school.

[Read More](#)

Labor facing fight to push tax, NDIS reforms through parliament

SBS, Other, 22/06/2026, Angelica Waite

Federal Parliament has returned for two final sitting weeks before a five-week long winter recess. Twin fights over proposed tax reform and an overhaul to the National Disability Insurance Scheme are set to dominate debate in the coming days.

[Read More](#)

'Dirty deal': Labor seeks Greens support for controversial tax package in exchange for NDIS concessions

Sky News Australia, Other, 22/06/2026, Oscar Godsell

The Albanese government has turned to the Greens to pass controversial capital gains tax and negative gearing changes before parliament rises for the winter break. Labor has been expected to rely on the Greens to pass the reforms in exchange for concessions on its NDIS overhaul, which would strip about \$17 billion from the scheme.

[Read More](#)

Negotiations over tax reforms and NDIS cuts underway

Crikey, Other, 22/06/2026, Rich James

Federal parliament returns today and we all know what the government wants done over the next two sitting weeks. With the five-week winter recess looming, the Albanese government is very keen to get its tax reforms through the Senate and then wants everyone to move on from being so mean about the budget.

[Read More](#)

Rising construction costs threaten new seniors living projects

The Weekly Source, Other, 22/06/2026, Ian Horswill

Retirement village and aged care developers face another three years of above-average construction cost growth, according to new forecasts. Data from quantity surveying firm WT's latest Australian Construction Market Conditions Report shows national building cost escalation is expected to reach 5.5% in 2026, easing only slightly to 5.3% in 2027 before rising again to 5.8% in 2028.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

NT government aborts \$1.1m midwifery contract

Northern Territory News, General News, 23/06/2026, Lottie Hood, Page 5

Nine months after a \$1.1m contract was handed to a Darwin midwife after the closure of the Top End's only private maternity ward, the Northern Territory government has axed the agreement. The decision comes after months of deliberation and multiple concerns raised by health professionals.

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

Business case 'is missing crucial detail'

Border Mail, General News, 23/06/2026, Anthony Bunn, Page 7

A long-awaited business case, which finds there is a "compelling investment rationale" for the \$558 million revamp of Albury hospital, has come under fire for failing to be clear on bed numbers and ignoring the merits of building on a greenfield site. Infrastructure NSW yesterday released a summary of the final business case, a move that clears the way for a tender to be awarded to construct the seven-storey clinical services building that is the centrepiece of the hospital expansion.

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

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

Veteran MP Phillip Thompson blasts Labor's \$5000 health cap as a 'betrayal'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/06/2026, Cameron Bates

A "terrified" Herbert MP and former soldier Phillip Thompson has blasted Labor's annual \$5000 cap on allied health care as a "betrayal of our veterans". "The cap on veteran's allied health is dangerous to veterans' well-being," Mr Thompson, OAM, said on Monday after releasing an online petition "to scrap the cap".

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

[Read More](#)

RTPM is making a difference, data shows

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 22/06/2026, Chloe Hava

New research has found that real-time prescription monitoring (RTPM) is changing prescribing behaviour – ultimately saving lives. The study, led by Monash University researchers, is the first Australian research to examine the association between prescription drug monitoring program implementation and changes in multiple prescriber rates.

[Read More](#)

Revised standards to meet evolving needs: APC

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 22/06/2026

New accreditation standards for pharmacist prescriber education programs are set to underpin nationally consistent prescribing frameworks. Stakeholders invited to provide feedback on revised draft Accreditation standards for pharmacist prescriber education programs, as part of a public consultation process.

[Read More](#)

Indexation 'a minimum' for pharmacy programs

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 22/06/2026

Pharmacists delivering medicines safety programs in aged care facilities and in patients' homes should need sustainable funding, the PSA's strategic agreements lead negotiator, Brooke Shelly, says. Indexed increases to the fees paid to pharmacists participating in the Aged Care On-site Pharmacist (ACOP) program from 1 July 2026 are being welcomed by the Pharmaceutical Society.

[Read More](#)

Radio National, Life Matters, 22/06/2026, Hilary Harper and Beverley Wang

A new AMA report warns that ambulance ramping in Australia has reached its most dangerous levels yet. AMA President Dr Danielle McMullen says increasing demand across the healthcare system is leading to longer wait times

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Drive, 22/06/2026, Gary Hardgrave

The Australian Medical Association is calling on governments to help reduce ambulance ramping outside hospitals.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Breakfast , 22/06/2026, Dean Miller and Sofie Formica

Average GP bulk billing in Australia has seen a shift alongside rising out-of-pocket costs. It comes as new data from Cleanbill reveals that while electorates have access to bulk-billing clinics, patients without bulk-billing coverage are paying more.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Overdose is not simply a drug issue, it's also a social, a health and an equity issue

Hobart Mercury, General News, 23/06/2026, Claire Ripper, Page 16

Australia has recorded its deadliest year on record for overdoses. Last week the Penington Institute released its overdose snapshot with the most recent data evidencing 2596 Australians died from drug-induced causes in 2024 an average of more than seven people every day.

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

FIVEAA, Mornings, 22/06/2026, Graeme Goodings

Interview with Dr Michael Finlay, on the latest South Australian Wastewater Monitoring Report, revealing that smoking and alcohol levels have gone down in the state. Finlay says smoking rates are now the lowest that they have ever seen in SA, and the monitoring via wastewater is one of the tools that they use to keep them informed about what's going on. He also states there have been concerns about the increased levels in vaping, but there is work being done to understand it better and ensure there are treatment pathways and support for people who start vaping.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Women forced to consider 'catastrophic' surgery

The Australian, General News, 23/06/2026, Penny Timms and Natasha Robinson, Page 3

Women who have survived breast cancer are considering taking radical steps including the surgical removal of their ovaries, Breast Cancer Network Australia has revealed, after pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca announced plans to pull an important cancer and endometriosis drug from Australian shelves. "What we're hearing and seeing now is that women are looking at really drastic measures and options of removing their ovaries," said Vicki Durston, director of policy, advocacy and support services at Breast Cancer Network Australia, which estimates about 7000 women with breast cancer use the drug Zoladex.

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

New angle on diabetes

Herald Sun, General News, 23/06/2026, Page 3

A digital program focused on nutrition education and behaviour change could help reverse type 2 diabetes and improve how the condition is managed. The first-of-its-kind Australian study by La Trobe University researchers evaluated Defeat Diabetes, a digital program to support type 2 diabetes, over a year.

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

Focus on heart health

Herald Sun, General News, 23/06/2026, Page 5

Australians living with heart failure may face annual costs of up to \$18,000, rising to as much as \$29,000 for those also managing chronic kidney disease. Australians are being urged by leading charity Hearts4heart to better understand the health conditions that can be connected to heart failure.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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

More than pain in back

Herald Sun, General News, 23/06/2026, Page 15

Eighty-three per cent of Australians aged 61 and over have experienced back pain in the past 12 months, industry figures have found. The Australian Chiropractors Association says 48 per cent of this age group suffer chronic pain lasting three months or more the highest rate of any age group.

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

Channel 10, 10 News, 22/06/2026, Natalie Forrest

Researchers at the University of Western Australia believe they are closer than ever to a breakthrough in dementia diagnosis. Dementia Australia estimates more than 440,000 Australians now live with different forms of the disease, including Alzheimer's, with 1.7 million people involved in providing care for someone with the condition.

[Play Now](#)

SBS, World News Australia, 22/06/2026, Janice Petersen

Australians living with or beyond early-onset bowel cancer have been gathering in Canberra today, calling on parliamentarians to do more to raise awareness about the deadly disease. According to Bowel Cancer Australia, rates of early-onset bowel cancer are on the rise in Australia, and they are expected to double every 20 years.

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

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 22/06/2026, Thomas Oriti

Interview with Asthma Australia CEO Kate Miranda, on Asthma Australia launching a new campaign designed to raise awareness of the changing nature of asthma over a lifetime, especially for women. Miranda says the She Needs To Breathe campaign aims to educate people, particularly women, about asthma and getting them to talk about the condition with their GPs. She notes that hormones like oestrogen and progesterone have an important role in regulating airway inflammation, and when the hormones fluctuate, they can impact the airways, triggering worsening symptoms in asthma.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

The kids are not all right

West Australian, General News, 23/06/2026, Claire Sadler, Page 3

West Australian children reaching out to the Kids Helpline has increased by 74 per cent in just one year, underlining the staggering prevalence of mental health problems among young people. The latest Kids Helpline 2025 Impact Report revealed 10,392 youths in WA called the mental health service in 2025 - 4420 more inquiries than the previous year.

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

Schooling and care a tough juggle for kids

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 23/06/2026, Rose Innes, Page 9

One in 10 Queensland children is struggling to continue their schooling while looking after their own parents and siblings with chronic illnesses and disabilities. It comes as experts and psychologists call for better support for carers in the classroom, including upskilling teachers on how to identify them earlier.

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

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

[Back to Top](#)

IMMUNISATION

Free flu vaccine program extended into July in bid to increase take-up

Free flu vaccines will be available for West Australians through July, with low vaccination rates and an expected looming spike in cases driving the State Government to extend the program for another month. Current vaccination rates remain low with about 24 per cent of West Australians getting the jab as of June 14 - the exact same coverage rate for the same period in 2025.

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

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

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

2GB, Drive, 22/06/2026, Clinton Maynard

Interview with Catholic Health Australia acting CEO Dr Katharine Bassett, on latest figures revealing that private hospitals collectively lost more than \$750m in the last financial year, but private health insurers recorded almost \$2.7b in profits, and calls for the insurance companies to direct more of their premium revenue back into patient care. Bassett says the cost of delivering care has been increasing, but the funding from insurers hasn't been keeping pace, and they've been banking big profits. She states that the CHA wanted to see a private national efficient price, where money is flowing from insurers into hospitals.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

Handheld device that can spot skin cancer

Cairns Post, General News, 23/06/2026, Molly Frew, Page 9

A prototype that could revolutionise rural healthcare by helping GPs identify skin cancers with specialist-level accuracy has been unveiled in Cairns today. Dr Lena Kranold and her team at the University of Western Australia have developed a handheld device which can distinguish between cancerous and non-cancerous skin lesions and identify specific skin cancers.

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

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

AI designed a cancer vaccine for dog, but scientists say 'outdated' red tape barrier for human care

ABC Online, Other, 22/06/2026

An Australian staffy named Rosie gave hope to cancer patients around the world when her tumours were successfully treated with the help of artificial intelligence. Now, scientists say outdated regulatory hurdles are preventing Australia from leading the future of cancer care in the face of an AI revolution.

[Read More](#)

Can we cure asthma? Yes, and we have a plan

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 22/06/2026

Asthma is conventionally viewed as "treatable but incurable". In other words, we can manage its symptoms but not reverse the underlying condition.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

\$4.7m study to support Indigenous kids

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 23/06/2026, Page 3

A new \$4.69 million health initiative is giving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in Townsville access to early support during pregnancy and the first 1000 days of their child's life. Mater Research is recruiting families in Cairns, Townsville and Rockhampton for the Strong Families Study, which will track the health and wellbeing of mothers, fathers and babies.

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

[Back to Top](#)

PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Data shows WA's ambulance ramping worsening at alarming rate

West Australian, General News, 23/06/2026, Jessica Page, Page 7

A national report card has revealed a hospital "logjam" is getting worse at a faster rate in WA than anywhere else in the country, pouring doubt on claims the problem is largely due to growing demand. Only 65 per cent of patients in WA were transferred from ambulance to the emergency department within 30 minutes in 2024-25, a three percentage point decrease from the previous year.

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

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

Demand has ambos under the pump

Hobart Mercury, General News, 23/06/2026, Rob Inglis, Page 6

One in nine scheduled paramedic shifts have gone unfilled in the past year as Ambulance Tasmania staff work increasing amounts of overtime in response to surging demand for their services. Documents tabled in state parliament last week by Health Minister Bridget Archer confirmed that more than 50,000 paramedic shifts had been scheduled in the 2025-26 financial year as at June 12, but nearly 5800 of these, or 11 per cent, had not been worked.

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

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

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Changes to diagnosis and treatment of asthma – new resources

Medical Forum, Other, 22/06/2026

Additional resources to help implement the latest national guidelines around asthma are now available to assist health professionals. The resources – a quick reference guide (QRG) and information paper – align with the updated version of the National Asthma Council's Asthma Handbook.

[Read More](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Medical watchdog, workers clash on antisemitism call

Age, General News, 23/06/2026, Henrietta Cook and Kate Aubusson, Page 13

Australia's medical watchdog is facing a backlash from more than 1400 health workers after adopting a controversial definition of antisemitism to assess complaints against practitioners. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) announced last week it would use the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism, which its critics say conflates criticism of Israel with antisemitism.

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

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

Accused doctor Sina Adl granted laptop access to start new business

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/06/2026, Michael Nolan

A Southern Downs doctor accused of possessing child exploitation material has been granted permission by the courts to have access to a laptop so he could start a new business after his medical licence was suspended. Sina Adl, who lives in Toowoomba but practised medicine in Warwick, was arrested at the end of 2025 and charged with six child exploitation material charges, including possessing and accessing the material.

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

[Read More](#)

PSA seeks inaugural harm reduction champion

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 22/06/2026

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia is searching for its first PSA harm reduction champion to act as a national spokesperson, advocating for and supporting PSA's work in policy, professional practice and community engagement. The champion will elevate pharmacist leadership in harm reduction, and strengthen the profession's role in improving access.

[Read More](#)

Addiction trailblazer honoured

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 22/06/2026

It has been quite a time for Professor Suzanne Nielsen, who was named winner of the health category for the Financial Review Women in Leadership Awards, then days later the PSA Victorian Pharmacist of the Year (PD 15 Jun).

[Read More](#)

Virtual care standard on way

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 22/06/2026

As virtual care is increasingly used to access health services, the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has been tasked with developing national safety and quality standards for service, supported by the Federal Department of Health.

[Read More](#)

Prof Lisa Nissen to give Sansom lecture

The Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has announced that this year's Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom AO Distinguished Lecture will be delivered by internationally recognised leader in pharmacy workforce policy and practice, Professor Lisa Nissen.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AUSTRALIAN CDC

Alarm raised at new bird flu case

Herald Sun, General News, 23/06/2026, Jack Nivison, Nathan Schmidt and Peter Hunt, Page 6

A second bird has tested positive for bird flu as authorities scramble to determine whether the highly contagious pathogen has been established in Australia. Agriculture Minister Julie Collins said a northern giant petrel, found in the same region of southwestern Western Australia where a brown skua bird tested positive for H5 on Saturday, had also returned a positive result.

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

NT on bird flu alert

Northern Territory News, General News, 23/06/2026, Camden Smith, Page 3

The Northern Territory government has established a cross-agency working group to counter the spread of the deadly H5 bird flu from Western Australia. [...] The Australian Centre for Disease Control has advised H5 bird flu was a low health risk to the public, and rarely affected humans.

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

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

Major measles alert issued for Sydney after infected traveller visits multiple locations in Potts Point, Darlinghurst, Sydney CBD

The Australian, Other, 22/06/2026, Emma Kirk

An urgent measles alert has been issued after a returned traveller visited multiple locations across inner Sydney while unknowingly infectious. NSW Health urged people in Potts Point, Darlinghurst and the Sydney CBD to watch out for signs and symptoms of measles, following the confirmed case.

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

[Read More](#)

Dire fears bird flu is spreading after deadly virus was detected in Western Australia - as Albanese government calls for calm

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 22/06/2026

The Albanese government has called for calm over fears a deadly avian flu strain is spreading in the country's biggest state, with 16 birds dying or becoming sick. The H5N1 variant of the virus was confirmed in a sick brown skua found on a remote beach near Esperance in Western Australia, about 700km south-east of Perth.

[Read More](#)

What's the risk of humans getting sick from bird flu?

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 22/06/2026, Raina MacIntyre and Pan Zhang

Australia was the only continent free of H5N1 bird flu, until last week when a brown skua was found in Cape Le Grand National Park in Western Australia, about 700km from Perth, with the virus. Within days, authorities identified at least 16 other dead birds.

[Read More](#)

ABC, 7:30, 22/06/2026, Sarah Ferguson

Report by ABC reporter Jason Om. The Australian continent has been immune to the global outbreak of the H5N1 strain of bird flu until now. The CSIRO has confirmed that the virus has arrived in WA after two birds tested positive, and there are fears it could wipe out birds and mammals if it takes hold.

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

[Play Now](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 22/06/2026, Yvonne Yong

Poultry and egg producers in WA are in lockdown tonight following a second confirmed Australian case of the deadly H5 bird flu. The positive test results from two migratory birds in the state have prompted emergency meetings across all levels of government on preventing a potentially crippling outbreak.

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

[Play Now](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 22/06/2026, James Glenday and Emma Reballato

Australia's response to the potential spread of bird flu is being heightened. This comes as authorities in WA handle 16 separate reports of sick or dead birds from the public following the initial detection of the deadly H5 variant on the Australian mainland.

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

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 22/06/2026, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

Drastic measures are in place for the feared arrival of the H5 bird flu strain in South Australia. Members of the public are being advised to stay alert and report any sick bird life to authorities.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 22/06/2026, Michael Thomson

The MV Hondius cruise passengers, consisting of five Australians and one New Zealander, will complete their mandatory 42 days of quarantine for Hantavirus in Perth. After consistently testing negative, the Federal Government is confirming it's assisting the passengers with transport to the airport, as well as flights to their home states.

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

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 22/06/2026, Peter Overton

A second bird has tested positive for the deadly H5N1 bird flu strain in WA, sparking fears of a larger outbreak. Ingham's has locked down its WA operations, which means that non-essential workers are no longer allowed on farms or near operation processes, and while the risk to humans is low, some scientists say that there may be a slim chance that the virus could mutate.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 22/06/2026, Thomas Oriti

Oriti is joined by ABC reporter Andrew Chounding. Oriti says a second bird on WA's South Coast has tested positive on the H5N1 bird flu. Chounding says there is a laser-focus on the Esperance Region to identify if there are any further sick or already dead birds that may contain the strain.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, PM, 22/06/2026, Samantha Donovan

Report by ABC reporter Kimberley Price. Authorities have confirmed that a second sick bird found on a

remote beach on WA's South Coast has tested positive for H5N1, a deadly strain of bird flu. The detection of strain is putting the agriculture industry on high alert, with Nannup Natural Eggs, one of Australia's largest poultry producers, locking down its operations in WA so it can upgrade its biosecurity.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 22/06/2026, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with WA Agriculture Minister Jackie Jarvis, on the latest testing, which confirmed that the brown skua had the deadly H5 strain of bird flu. Jarvis says they have several vets based across the state who will conduct tests where required, and she also notes that they have had a few years to prepare for the disease, but they know that the risk is to wild populations of birds that are vulnerable. She also states that there is a vaccine available, but the vaccine requires two doses, and it can only be used in contained environments.

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

[Play Now](#)

2GB, Afternoons, 22/06/2026, Michael McLaren

Interview with University of Sydney Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health Professor Jenny-Anne Toribio. Toribio says the H5N1 virus is a highly pathogenic virus that can cause clinical disease and deaths amongst poultry and some other species. She also says governments, industries, and academia have been spending several years preparing for the likelihood of a highly pathogenic H5 virus, and they should look to strengthen their general protection of birds.

[Play Now](#)

2GB, Drive, 22/06/2026, Clinton Maynard

The Federal Government maintains it is prepared for an outbreak of a deadly strain of bird flu. The H5N1 strain has been confirmed in two wild birds in Western Australia.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Weight-loss drugs no 'quick fix'

Newcastle Herald, General News, 23/06/2026, Damon Cronshaw, Page 5

Erin Davis wanted to lose 10 kilograms, but couldn't shift the weight naturally. This was despite training to run an ultramarathon.

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

Health Check: Investors are wide awake for Avecho's pending insomnia trial results

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/06/2026, Tim Boreham

Avecho (ASX:AVE) shares this morning entered trading halt ahead of interim results from the company's phase III insomnia trial – the next in a swelling queue of pending local late-stage study reveals. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration has not approved any OTC therapies to date.

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

[Read More](#)

Recce advances anti-infective gel to Phase III trial for diabetic foot infections in Australia

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/06/2026, Special Report

Recce Pharmaceuticals has advanced its RECCE 327 Topical Gel program into a pivotal Phase III trial for diabetic foot infections (DFI) in Australia after receiving Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC)

approval for a major protocol expansion. [...] The trial is being conducted to Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration and US Food and Drug Administration regulatory standards, with expected full enrolment by the end of 2027.

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

[Read More](#)

Real-time prescription monitoring linked to drop in high-risk medication prescribing

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 22/06/2026, Anmj Staff

Victoria's prescription drug monitoring program, SafeScript, has helped significantly reduce patients being prescribed high-risk medicines such as opioids and benzodiazepines by multiple doctors, new research has found. The Monash University study, published in the Medical Journal of Australia, analysed over 6.7 million prescriptions for over 810,000 patients across 562 general practices in Victoria between 2017 and 2023, covering three Primary Health Networks representing about 52% of the Victorian population.

[Read More](#)

Prescription monitoring curbs multiple prescriber use

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 22/06/2026

Research highlights the benefits of real-time prescription monitoring in Victoria. The rollout of Victoria's SafeScript prescription monitoring systems has delivered a sustained reduction in the rates of patients accessing monitored drugs through multiple prescribers, a study reveals.

[Read More](#)

Unapproved peptides 'pose growing public health risk'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 22/06/2026

Health leaders voice concerns over increased availability, promotion and use of unapproved peptides. Australians are being urged to steer clear of peptide products that are not listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG), with experts raising safety concerns.

[Read More](#)

3AW, Afternoons, 22/06/2026, Tony Moclair

Interview with Swinburne University Obesity Specialist and Adjunct Professor John Dixon, on weight loss drugs. Dixon says it is important to recognise that weight loss drugs, such as Ozempic, Mounjaro, and Wegovy, treat obesity, but they would love them to be more accessible to the most obese people who have several complications and reduced life expectancy. He also says they want to see 10% of weight loss drugs cause substantial changes in health and physical function, activity, and reduced cancer deaths.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

