



TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 27th June 2026

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [Weekend Australian](#) (page 8) reports former US FDA commissioner Scott Gottlieb has warned Australia's PBS could face delays in access to new medicines under US "Most Favoured Nation" pricing, while Health Minister Mark Butler said the government is monitoring global developments and pursuing PBS reform. *Also reported by:* [Weekend Australian](#)
- [ABC Online](#) reports a member of the Thriving Kids advisory panel has warned the state-based rollout risks leaving vulnerable families behind, while a spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler said states and territories have been provided with a definition of low to moderate support needs and consultation began in early May.
- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 12) reports women and miscarriage support groups said hospital emergency departments are failing women experiencing miscarriage, while Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White said the Federal Government will work with states to improve trauma-informed care and women's experiences.
- The [Weekend Australian](#) (page 17) reports pro-Palestine healthcare workers are campaigning against AHPRA's adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism after the regulator moved to address antisemitism in the health sector.
- The [Weekend Australian](#) (page 3) and [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 10) lead coverage reporting that police are investigating the death of an 84-year-old woman at a Rooty Hill aged

care home after a 53-year-old relative allegedly administered a medical-related substance, with police saying it is too early to determine whether the woman's death was an "assisted dying scenario". *Also reported by:* [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [7News.com.au \(Online\)](#).

- **ABC Online** reports menopause and perimenopause support will be expanded to all 33 endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics from July 1, with Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White saying the investment will improve women's health and workforce participation.
- The **Daily Mail** reports the TGA has stepped up enforcement against illegal peptide products as Department of Health, Disability and Ageing Deputy Secretary and TGA head Professor Anthony Lawler warned growing availability of unapproved peptides poses increasing health risks to consumers.

MINISTER BUTLER

Trump policy highlights need for PBS reform

Weekend Australian, General News, 27/06/2026, Natasha Robinson, Page 8

Leading figures in health policy in the United States have warned their country's push to force the rest of the world to pay more for innovative therapies poses a serious risk that patients in countries such as Australia will miss out on access to new medicines. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has vowed to steward reform to the PBS to ensure it is sustainable but nimble in responding to the changing medicines market.

Also reported by: [Weekend Australian \(Australia\)](#).

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

Labor cannot lose next big budget battle

AFR Weekend, General News, 27/06/2026, Michael Smith, Page 18

The Albanese government scored a critical win this week, securing support from the Greens for its changes to capital gains tax and negative gearing in the Senate, but it now has a new fight on its hands.

Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#), [AFR Weekend \(Australia\)](#), [The Saturday Paper \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Crikey \(Online\)](#).

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Government NDAs stifle employment reforms

The Saturday Paper, General News, 27/06/2026, Karen Barlow, Page 1

As the Albanese government drafts its sweeping reforms to employment services, community sector groups say they are being forced to sign legal agreements that prevent them from discussing the reforms even inside their own organisations. [...] They say Minister for Disability and the NDIS Mark Butler is in a worse position now as he navigates community distress while seeking to substantially restrain growth of the \$50 billion-a-year scheme.

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

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Member for Cowper responds to aged care changes

Coffs Coast News of the Area, General News, 26/06/2026, Page 10

Concerns are growing across the aged care sector as new Medicare requirements set to begin on 1 July could create barriers to healthcare for some of Australia's most vulnerable residents. [...] "The risk of delayed treatment or even loss of GP care is a very real concern to the industry" Mr Conaghan has requested an urgent meeting with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler to seek a delay to the changes until alternative arrangements can be developed for the aged care sector.

Also reported by: [Nambucca Valley News Of The Area \(Nambucca Valley\)](#).

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Thriving Kids program not intended to be state-based, advisory panel member claims

ABC Online, Other, 26/06/2026, Nas Campanella, Mary Lloyd & Andy Burns

A member of the Thriving Kids advisory panel has voiced concern about how the program is being rolled out, saying a state-based model is a departure from the panel's original intention and could leave vulnerable families at risk. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the government is working constructively with the states and territories on the changes.

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

[Read More](#)

Health minister Mark Butler slams Senator Alex Antic's bird flu 'conspiracy theory' outburst: 'Remarkable even for him'

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 26/06/2026, Sarah Brookes

Liberal senator Alex Antic has sparked a furious backlash after claiming bird flu fears are being hyped up by pharmaceutical companies to sell more flu shots. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler hit back in Parliament, accusing Antic of peddling conspiracy theories.

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Assignment of benefit was always going to fail

The Medical Republic, Other, 27/06/2026, Holly Payne

Last Thursday, following weeks of speculation, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing announced that it would be delaying the worst and most difficult of the scheduled assignment of benefits changes. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler stepped in almost immediately and promised to find a fix ASAP. Crucially, he announced that DoHDA would not be pursuing broad compliance campaigns looking at patient consent to be bulk billed until streamlined arrangements were in place.

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3BA FM, 17:00 Local News, 26/06/2026

Australians are being urged to participate in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says 14 million Australians have participated in the screening program over the last 20 years, and it's saved thousands of lives.

Similar coverage reported by: [2MCE \(Orange\)](#), [2ST \(Nowra\)](#).

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ABC Radio Brisbane, 08:00 News, 26/06/2026

The Queensland Government is resisting signing up to the Commonwealth's Thriving Kids program, which is designed to support children with autism or developmental delays. Queensland Minister for Disability Amanda Camm claims the Federal Government was lying to families by suggesting no one would fall through the cracks as changes were made to the NDIS, but will see more than 200,000 people moved off it over the next four years, while Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler says the Federal Government is working constructively with states and territories.

Also reported by: [ABC Riverland SA \(Renmark\)](#), [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#), [ABC Radio Perth \(Perth\)](#), [ABC Radio Darwin \(Darwin\)](#), [ABC Radio Sydney \(Sydney\)](#), [ABC Radio Canberra \(Canberra\)](#), [ABC Northern Tasmania \(Launceston\)](#), [ABC Radio Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#).

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

Politics with Michelle Grattan, Podcast, 26/06/2026, Michelle Grattan

Interview with NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister. McAllister says they want to see supports in place for people who are no longer accessing the NDIS, and the Federal Government has announced investments to provide support to autistic adults and children. She also says they intend to ensure that

people have their health needs met in the health system, make significant investments in the health system, and ensure that the NDIS exists for people with permanent and significant disability.

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MINISTER RAE

No relevant coverage

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Council vote unanimously in support of 'Caring for our Regions'

Clarence Valley Independent, General News, 26/06/2026, Emma Pritchard, Page 6

A Mayoral Minute tabled by Clarence Valley Council (CVC) Mayor Ray Smith during the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of Council on June 18 seeking Council's endorsement of the Local Government NSW's 'Caring for our Regions' Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health was carried unanimously. Describing it as a Mayoral Minute which was close to his heart, Mayor Smith called on Council to formally adopt the advocacy plan and to advocate directly to the NSW Minister for Regional Health Ryan Park, the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health Emma McBride, Member for Clarence Richie Williamson, and Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan in order to engage their support.

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ABC Western Queensland, Breakfast, 26/06/2026, Danny Kennedy

Pharmacists say patients are at risk following the removal of a pharmacy subsidy for bulk medication packs such as Webster-paks from the Support at Home program. Meanwhile, Shire of Murweh Mayor Shaun Radnedge says they are requesting a meeting with Assistant Minister Emma McBride to look at the issue.

Also reported by: [ABC North West Qld \(Mt Isa\)](#).

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Left alone to lose their babies

Courier Mail, General News, 27/06/2026, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 12

The "horror" treatment of women who miscarry in hospital emergency departments is heightening the trauma of losing a baby, sparking an outcry for improved services for the one in four mothers who experience early pregnancy loss. [...] "Hospitals, emergency departments and triage arrangements are managed by state and territory governments, but we are committed to working with states, clinicians and advocates to strengthen care pathways and improve women's experiences of care," Assistant Minister for Health Rebecca White said.

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

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Menopause and perimenopause support expands into nationwide clinics

ABC Online, Other, 26/06/2026, Crystal McKay

Increased support for women experiencing menopause and perimenopause symptoms will be available from next month as the federal government expands existing services. [...] Federal Assistant Minister Rebecca White, who helps oversee the health and women portfolios, said there was "a lot of evidence that tells us that women are dropping out of the workforce when they're dealing with menopause".

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ABC, ABC News, 26/06/2026, Guy Stayner

More Australian women will be able to get treatment to manage the symptoms of menopause and perimenopause from next month, and the services will be available at 33 federally funded endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics around Australia. They have been given an extra \$40m to offer treatments including physiotherapy, dietary advice and psychological support, with Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White saying this is an investment in the productivity of the economy and the lives of the women who are living with menopause and perimenopause.

Similar coverage reported by: [Seven Tasmania \(Hobart\)](#), [WIN Hobart \(Hobart\)](#)

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6PR, 12:00 News, 26/06/2026

The Federal Government is expanding access to care for menopause and perimenopause, with more than 30 existing endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics set to offer treatment for women from next week. Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White says patients will not need a referral.

Similar coverage reported by: [i98 FM \(Wollongong\)](#), [Smooth FM 95.3 \(Sydney\)](#), [Hope 103.2 \(Sydney\)](#), [2CC \(Canberra\)](#), [4BC \(Brisbane\)](#), [FIVEAA \(Adelaide\)](#), [2GB \(Sydney\)](#), [C91.3FM \(Campbelltown\)](#), [Curtin FM \(Perth\)](#), [Triple M Townsville \(Townsville\)](#), [Triple M Goldfields \(Kalgoorlie\)](#)

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

The weight loss 'quick fix' driving a wave of hospitalisations

Australian Financial Review, Other, 26/06/2026, Euan Black

Doctors extol their virtues on popular podcasts while social media influencers wax lyrical about their transformative powers, but the evidence that unapproved peptides work is virtually non-existent, and significant harms are stacking up.

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Menopause and perimenopause support expands into nationwide clinics

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Doctor gives warning to socialites about the peptides on streets

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 26/06/2026, Kinta Walsh-Cotton

Peptides are the latest health craze taking the Eastern Suburbs by storm, with fitness personalities and

influencers spruiking them to followers. [...] Professor Anthony Lawler, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and head of the TGA, said it comes as a response to an evolving market.

[Read More](#)

Unfair catch after Services Australia restores 'stripped' aged care funds

The Senior, Other, 26/06/2026, Phoebe Loomes

Services Australia has quietly reinstated thousands in aged care funding which had been "stripped" from recipients in error, but some have only been given days to use it. [...] "We will continue to work with providers and the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to support accurate claiming and budget information and apologise for any confusion."

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Ruston introduces bill to amend IAT

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 26/06/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Shadow Minister for Health and Aged Care Anne Ruston has introduced the Aged Care Amendment (Restoring Human Override for Aged Care Needs Assessments) Bill 2026 into the Senate this week. [...] During June Senate Estimates, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing first assistant secretary Robert Day shared that as of 31 March 2026, there had been 989 requests for review of IAT outcomes.

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Is pressure on remote clinics getting worse?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 26/06/2026, Jolyon Attwooll

A little more than 1000 people live in the West Australian town of Kalbarri, an area known for its age-old gorges, white-sand beaches and marine life in the waters where the Murchison River meets the Indian Ocean. [...] A Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DoHDA) spokesperson confirmed that it, together with Rural Workforce Agencies and PHNs, monitors where general practices may be at risk.

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Assignment of benefit was always going to fail

The Medical Republic, Other, 27/06/2026, Holly Payne

Last Thursday, following weeks of speculation, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing announced that it would be delaying the worst and most difficult of the scheduled assignment of benefits changes. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler stepped in almost immediately and promised to find a fix ASAP. Crucially, he announced that DoHDA would not be pursuing broad compliance campaigns looking at patient consent to be bulk billed until streamlined arrangements were in place.

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Why non-GP specialist fee reform could go awry

The Medical Republic, Other, 26/06/2026, Holly Payne

Planned changes to non-GP specialist doctor fee transparency not only risk introducing "perverse incentives", but also overlook the expertise of GPs themselves, medical indemnity firm Avant warns. [...] Avant held a roundtable in Canberra with various industry stakeholders and Department of Health, Disability and Ageing representatives earlier this week.

[Read More](#)

Here's everything changing on 1 July

The Medical Republic, Other, 26/06/2026, Holly Payne

The dawn of a new financial year brings MBS indexation, verbal consent for bulk billing and sharing-by-default. [...] Assignment of benefit Following the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's move to delay some of the more contentious assignment of benefit changes, very little will change on a day-to-day level for most GPs.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Boy, 9, at possible mercy killing

Weekend Australian, General News, 27/06/2026, Rhiannon Lewin & Kate Stephenson, Page 3

Police have revealed a nine-year-old boy was at the scene of a potential mercy killing of an elderly woman he knew at an aged care home in Sydney's west. [...] Superintendent Batchelor stopped short of describing the incident as a mercy killing, although he noted the 84-year-old "suffered" from numerous medical conditions at the time of her death.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [7News.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Weekly Source \(Online\)](#).

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It takes a village to bridge the years

Herald Sun, General News, 27/06/2026, Amelia Swan, Page 30

Sisters Fiona and Anna Glumac will never forget watching their "wild, vibrant" grandmother Mary lose her spark after moving into residential care. [...] The very next day the pair set out to bring the concept to Australia, writing to aged care homes around Victoria asking if they could set up a childcare centre at their facility.

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Movers & Shakers: Indigenous aged care commissioner appointed

The Mandarin, Other, 26/06/2026

Carla Jago has been appointed deputy auditor-general at the Australian National Audit Office. Band 2 - The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission has appointed Bronwen Jagers deputy commissioner for corporate.

[Read More](#)

CHSP's future must be co-designed, say peaks

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 26/06/2026

Aged care peak bodies have welcomed the Senate Community Affairs Committee report recommendation that consultation occurs before any long-term decision is made about the future of the Commonwealth Home Support Program – including whether it remains a standalone program. As CCR reported on Wednesday, the Senate committee recommended keeping CHSP separate from Support at Home, extending funding for three years beyond July 2027 and undertaking a cost-benefit analysis.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 26/06/2026, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Older Persons Advocacy Network CEO Craig Gear, on Ageing Australia, Council On The Ageing, and Older Persons Advocacy Network, welcoming the publication of a Senate Community Affairs Committee report that recognises the role of Commonwealth Home Support Programs. Gear says there are around 300,000 people on the Support at Home program, but 800,000 are using the Commonwealth Home Support Program, which is an early intervention program that provides services like cleaning, gardening, and low-level personal support. He also states that the Commonwealth Home Support Program should be maintained for people who need it, and that there needs to be some change to ensure equity of access right across the country.

Also reported by: [2CC \(Canberra\)](#).

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Schools schooled on autistic students

Weekend Australian, General News, 27/06/2026, Natasha Bitá, Page 1

Schools have been told to hire autistic teachers and provide "safe spaces" with trampolines for students with autism, who should be free to stand or fidget during lessons. As teachers struggle with surging numbers of students diagnosed with autism, and the federal government cuts disability funding for children, the Autism Co-operative Research Centre has released the first national guidelines on inclusive education.

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

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Housing dispute legal threats

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2026, Agnes Gichuhi, Page 8

A housing dispute between people with disabilities and their former housing provider has fiercely escalated, with claims made in parliament they face losing access to their fridge, oven, and even food. [...] On Thursday, Ms Hildyard told parliament the matter had escalated to legal threats against a parent, conflict with the residents' NDIS support provider, and attempts to restrict access to parts of the property.

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NDIS cuts force 8yo girl into carer role

Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 27/06/2026, Ashleigh Jansen, Page 5

Gold Coast children as young as eight are becoming carers as families grapple with a lack of federal government support. [...] An NDIA spokesperson said funding decisions were based on "all submitted evidence" and in line with the NDIS Act, and that it was common for NDIS plans to go "up and down" over time.

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

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Disabled man 'freed' from NDIS provider after allegedly being held 'hostage'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 26/06/2026, Julie Cross

A disabled man who was allegedly held "hostage" by his NDIS provider for his \$1m a year NDIS package, has been "freed" after a long legal battle. The 63-year-old – who cannot be named for legal reasons – has dystonia, which causes crippling muscle spasms.

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Sydney mum pleads to bring life-changing treatment for her sick son to Australia

NEWS.com.au, Other, 26/06/2026, Rebecca Borg

When Rick was 18 months old, his mum Vanessa Bestetti received tragic news no parent wants to hear. [...] "Bringing this treatment here, we are investing in improving the quality, in fighting the disease, in bringing more healing to people, less dependency on the health system, less dependency on drugs, less dependency on supports from NDIS."

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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PRIMARY CARE

ADHD training for docs a worry

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2026, Zoe De Koning, Page 1

Details of a training program that will grant Victorian GPs the power to diagnose and treat ADHD have been revealed, with practitioners expected to undergo two days of in-person training and two online

modules. [...] The exact details of the training program which starts in September led by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) have not yet been publicly released.

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Veterans call for \$5,000 allied health cap to be removed

ABC Online, Other, 26/06/2026, James Tugwell, Emily Anderson & Susan Graham-Ryan

An Australian Defence Force veteran says caps on allied health spending for veterans are a betrayal and that any politician supportive of the changes will not be welcome at Anzac Day events. This year's federal budget introduced an annual limit of \$5,000 on allied health expenditure for veterans from July 1, 2027, saying this would "help limit unnecessary over-servicing".

[Read More](#)

Prevention is better than cure

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 26/06/2026, Nicholas O'Donoghue

Federal, state and territory governments are being urged to look to primary care to address challenges in the hospital sector. The Australian Medical Association's (AMA's) Ambulance Ramping Report Card revealed more than 2.4 million patients arrived at hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacists part of ramping solution

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 26/06/2026

As ambulance ramping worsens nationally, putting lives at risk and crippling emergency departments across the country, the Pharmacy Guild of Australia national president Professor Trent Twomey has highlighted that community pharmacists are well placed to be part of the solution.

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Poll shows GPs want more disability care support

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 26/06/2026, Morgan Liotta

Dr Maya Luks knows firsthand about caring for patients with disability, but she is also on a mission to fill current workforce gaps for GPs providing this care. As a GP and practice owner of a multidisciplinary clinic for people with a disability in Adelaide, Dr Luks is a member of RACGP Specific Interests Disability. She is also a current RACGP Future Leaders Program participant, with her project focusing on building capability of GPs in disability health.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 26/06/2026, Michael Usher & Angie Asimus

A major change to Medicare is threatening to make it harder and in some cases impossible for the country's most vulnerable to be bulk billed. The new system would force patients to physically sign every time they see a doctor.

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

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2CC, Breakfast, 26/06/2026, Stephen Cenatiempo

Cenatiempo says the Australian Medical Association ACT is supporting the release of the ACT Health System Inquiry Final Report, which confirms that systemic pressures and issues need coordinated action. He also says AMA ACT President Betty Ge noted that the report should be used as a roadmap to move forward.

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Mum lost 15 pregnancies

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2026, Jackie Sinnerton & Brad Crouch, Page 21

There are few women who know more about the devastating impact of miscarriage than Rebecca Marino. The Adelaide mother has gone through 15 miscarriages and is fighting to change the clinical indifference she encountered.

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Experts urge fertility talks

Hobart Mercury, General News, 27/06/2026, Alison Foletta, Page 22

Tasmanian fertility experts have joined forces with national clinics to launch a major campaign tackling Australia's hidden reproduction crisis. TasIVF was one of a group of leading fertility clinics to launch "The F Chat", a campaign to get more people to openly discuss fertility, reproductive health and family planning.

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Drug-driving law change 'not backed by evidence'

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 27/06/2026, Max Maddison & Michael McGowan, Page 3

The state government has come under fire over its planned drugdriving law changes as experts say there is little evidence to support the proposed legal limit for the presence of cannabis and the research behind the decision remains secret. The Monash University research relied on while designing the policy did not recommend the 50 nanogram per millilitre threshold the government is proposing for THC in saliva, while another leading expert said there is "little evidence that it reliably predicts impairment".

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Laws to boost smokes fight

Hobart Mercury, General News, 27/06/2026, David Killick, Page 19

Tough new laws to crack down on the sale and supply of illegal tobacco and vaping products will help retailers whose bottom line has been devastated by the illicit trade. [...] The Public Health Amendment (Prohibited Tobacco and Other Products) Bill passed by the Legislative Council on Thursday introduces new offences and increased penalties for the sale and supply of illegal tobacco and vaping products, and new powers to shut down businesses that sell illegal products.

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

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

MND tracking breakthrough

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 27/06/2026, Allan Murphy, Page 9

New South Wales is poised to become the first jurisdiction in the world to establish a Motor Neurone Disease notification and surveillance framework, following a seven-year campaign led by Member for Murray Helen Dalton. The framework will establish a statewide MND register requiring diagnoses to be formally notified and recorded - for the first time, creating a system capable of tracking MND, identifying patterns and supporting research into this cruel disease.

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Cancer Council experts encouraging regional residents to screen for cancer bowel early

West Australian, Other, 26/06/2026, Jacki Elezovich

Experts from Cancer Council WA are encouraging residents in the region to seek medical advice earlier for symptoms of diseases like bowel cancer. [...] "In 2021, 13,421 West Australians were diagnosed with bowel cancer and 437 people died from the disease," she said.

[Read More](#)

When celebrities talk about their prostate cancer, here's what happens next

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 26/06/2026, Brooke Nickel, Jeremy Millar, Katy Bell, & Mark Morgan

When high-profile figures publicly discuss their prostate cancer, the public health impact can be immediate. [...] The revised draft Australian guidelines are likely to recommend that men who ask for testing must be informed of the benefits and harms first.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 26/06/2026, Brenton Ragless

A pop-up home has been set up in Rundle Mall to show South Australians how easy it is to test for bowel cancer. Free tests are available for those 45 and over who register for national screening and sent to you automatically from age 50.

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Channel 9, Today , 26/06/2026, Sarah Abo

Interview with Dementia Australia Honorary Medical Advisor Dr Michael Woodward, on a new blood test that can be used for early detection of Alzheimer's. Woodward says amyloid is a protein that gives a person the symptoms and the features of Alzheimer's disease, and the new blood test will show whether one has amyloid in the brain. He notes that anyone, particularly those who have significant memory problems, are eligible for the test, and it will be available from September.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

New rules in place to protect children from harmful content

Sydney Morning Herald, Business News, 27/06/2026, Tim Biggs, Page 2

Search engines from today must have reasonable methods to determine the age of their users, and limit the risk of children being accidentally exposed to inappropriate content, or face potential fines of up to \$49.5 million per breach. [...] Provide a referral to appropriate mental health support services as the top result for any search related to self-harm or suicide.

Also reported by: [The Saturday Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#)

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'Failing system': Psychological distress among Australian farmers on the rise

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 26/06/2026, Melissa Pedelty

Mental health care in regional areas remains hard to access despite the marked rise in psychological distress among Australian farmers over the past 10 years. [...] Professor Jacki Schirmer painted a stark picture of a sector under mounting pressure with nowhere near enough support to meet it at the NFF-Suicide Prevention Australia parliamentary breakfast on Tuesday.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Evenings, 26/06/2026, Sirine Demachkie

Interview with National Suicide Prevention Office Lived Experience Partnership Group Member Jo Riley, on the launch of the National Suicide Prevention Outcomes Map. Riley says the National Suicide Prevention Outcomes Map is the next step following last year's release of the National Suicide Prevention Strategy, and it brings together both qualitative and quantitative data on people's stories and experiences. She notes that the Outcomes Map helps them see some of the more important differences so they can take clearer actions to do more and prevent suicide.

Also reported by: [ABC Radio Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC Radio Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC Radio Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC Radio Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC Radio Sydney \(Sydney\)](#), [ABC Radio Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC Radio Sydney \(Sydney\)](#).

IMMUNISATION

Pneumococcal NIP changes

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 26/06/2026

Changes to the adult pneumococcal vaccination schedule under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) from 01 Jul will see the age at which adults are recommended for pneumococcal vaccination lowered, the vaccine schedules simplified, and more strains of the disease covered.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

At last, a brain game to remember

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 27/06/2026, Adam Spencer, Page 28

Since the dawn of using our brains, we've wondered how to strengthen them, and I've been as guilty as anyone of craving a quick life hack that will galvanise my grey matter. [...] But now a respectable journal, Alzheimer's & Dementia, has linked a computer game to lower dementia risk, and some experts are cautiously excited.

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Charity 'toxic' leaders survive

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2026, Erin Jones, Page 3

The board of a high-profile medical research charity has decided not to implement independent recommendations to remove two senior leaders at the centre of its alleged toxic workplace as five board members leave the organisation. In a newly leaked staff memo, The Hospital Research Foundation Group chairwoman Rilka Warbanoff reveals the not-for-profit charity will engage an external whistleblower provider and conduct a work health and safety audit following workplace culture revelations.

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

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Superbugs on call

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 27/06/2026, Page 28

Hospital workers' phones are teeming with deadly superbugs. A team of researchers analysed DNA samples from 95 mobile phones belonging to healthcare workers and identified bacterial species responsible for a significant proportion of the 13.7 million global deaths caused by bacterial infections in 2019 alone.

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Beyond teenage breakouts: understanding adult-onset acne

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 26/06/2026, Jala Moushi

Far from being a cosmetic footnote, adult and menopausal acne is clinically significant, emotionally burdensome, and common in the community, yet it remains poorly recognised and inadequately managed.

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Alarm over transition prescribing

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 26/06/2026

Prescribing patterns experienced by many older Australians as they transition into residential aged care may be increasing the risks of medication-related harms, with researchers calling for medication reviews at key transition points.

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Inclusive practice 'isn't a checkbox'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 26/06/2026, Jo Roberts

Australians who identify as bi+ experience far poorer sexual health and safety outcomes than people in the general population, reporting higher levels of sexual violence, psychological distress and illicit drug use, according to a new study. The findings of the Bi+ Sexual Health and HIV study of sex, health and relationships of 2100 people within Australia's bi+ community, conducted through a survey by the Kirby Institute and the University of New South Wales (UNSW), point to an 'urgent need' for the recognition of the growing cohort's specific health needs, say researchers.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

'Functional collapse'

The Saturday Paper, General News, 27/06/2026, Denham Sadler, Page 10

When Stephen* was in Hakea Prison in Western Australia, he slept on a mattress on the floor, just centimetres from a toilet he shared with two other people. [...] Among the serious issues highlighted are the rising rates of violence being used against people in prison, self-harm, deaths in custody, extended and normalised lockdowns without any access to showers or fresh air, and little to no access to education or rehabilitation programs.

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Minister silent on union voice bid

Weekend Australian, General News, 27/06/2026, Thomas Henry, Page 2

Anthony Albanese's Indigenous Affairs Minister has refused to push back on trade union calls for an Aboriginal voice, as the Coalition's strongest backer of the Uluru Statement from the Heart warned against a return to truth-telling and treaty instead pushing for a shift to economic empowerment. [...] "The ongoing failure to close the gap calls for a laser focus on measures that will shift the dial in areas like suicide prevention, school completion and economic empowerment."

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

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Mobile trailer targets hygiene-related disease in the Pilbara

West Australian, Other, 26/06/2026, Phoebe Solon

Something as simple as having access to washing facilities should not be an issue communities have to face, yet for many families living in remote parts of the North-West, it remains a daily challenge. A new initiative led by Curtin University is helping tackle that issue, with a mobile washer-dryer trailer designed to improve access to clean clothing and bedding gifted to the Pilbara Meta Maya Regional Aboriginal Corporation in South Hedland.

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

[Read More](#)

Washer-dryer trailer gifted to Ngaanyatjarra Lands by Curtin University and Rotary

West Australian, Other, 26/06/2026, Isabella Davis

A washer-dryer trailer is helping communities in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands stay clean and healthy — all while working to prevent a leading cause of blindness. The trailer — made up of two washer-dryers, a handwashing station, a barbecue and bouncy castle — was gifted to the Ngaanyatjarra Council Group by Curtin University and Rotary.

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

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There's a lot we can do: NSW campaign aims to boost bowel screening in Aboriginal communities

National Indigenous Times, Other, 26/06/2026, Giovanni Torre

A Cancer Institute NSW campaign is encouraging Aboriginal people to do the bowel screening test, to reduce the impact of bowel cancer and support healthier communities. Aboriginal men are 1.6 times more likely and Aboriginal women are 1.3 times more likely, to be diagnosed with bowel cancer than non-Aboriginal people.

[Read More](#)

NT Aboriginal leaders urge return of direct homeland funding amid infrastructure concerns

National Indigenous Times, Other, 26/06/2026, Dechlan Brennan

Northern Territory Aboriginal leaders are calling on the Federal Government to restore direct funding for homeland communities, arguing years of underinvestment have worsened social, housing and health outcomes for First Nations people. Led by NT independent politician Yinjya Guyula, a delegation travelled to Canberra this week to meet with ministers and MPs across a range of portfolios, seeking long-term funding for homelands administered by an independent Aboriginal-controlled organisation and a renewed commitment to genuine partnerships with Aboriginal communities.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Staff crime data secrecy

Hobart Mercury, General News, 27/06/2026, Duncan Abey, Page 3

Tasmania's health department has refused to state how many of its employees have recently been found guilty of criminal offences, three years after a landmark inquiry urged the government to embrace greater disclosure following the handling of a pedophile nurse scandal at Launceston General Hospital. Despite multiple requests for information about the number and types of crimes staff have been convicted of in the current financial year, the department told the Mercury that it would not provide the data.

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New hospital in play

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 27/06/2026, Lochlainn Heley, Page 1

Coalition leaders say they have not abandoned the idea of a new Mildura hospital, following the latest commitment of a \$180 million upgrade if elected to power. Leader of the Opposition Jess Wilson's Fresh Start tour landed in Mildura on Friday, officially announcing a Coalition commitment to fund upgrades of the Mildura Base Public Hospital's existing facilities.

Also reported by: [Sunraysia Daily \(Mildura\)](#).

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Warning in graduate nurses burning out

Courier Mail, General News, 27/06/2026, Emma Cam, Page 19

Crushing workloads, relentless role stress and unsupportive workplaces are pushing newly registered nurses to their limits, a report has found. Researchers are calling for urgent action after a James Cook University study revealed graduating nurses frequently experience a lack of support, inadequate feedback and unclear responsibilities.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Weekend Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal \(Online\)](#).

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Mid West GP workforce experiencing slight growth, while region records highest level of rural GP turnover

West Australian, Other, 26/06/2026, Imogen Wilson

The Mid West has recorded the highest turnover of GPs in regional WA, according to new data from Rural Health West, as some communities in the region struggle to hold on to even one doctor. With regional surgeries struggling to keep their doors open as they tackle funding models and staff shortages, a new report has revealed the Mid West has only welcomed a small number of new general practitioners to the region.

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

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Medicare changes delayed after concerns vulnerable Australians could lose easier access to GPs

7News.com.au, Other, 26/06/2026, Amanda Abate & Katharina Loesche

A controversial Medicare change requiring patients to physically or electronically sign for every claim has been delayed after warnings it could make it harder for vulnerable Australians to access healthcare. The federal government has delayed controversial changes to Medicare claiming after widespread concern they would make it harder for some of Australia's most vulnerable people to access bulk-billed healthcare.

[Read More](#)

The lifeline saving regional mums through a computer and their internet connection

7News.com.au, Other, 26/06/2026

For many new parents in regional Australia, specialist mental health care is not just hard to find — it

can be hours away. [...] Gidget Foundation Australia is trying to close that gap by bringing specialist perinatal mental health support directly into people's homes through telehealth.

[Read More](#)

Average pharmacy sale prices hit record hit: broker

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 26/06/2026, Nicholas O'Donoghue

The average sale price for a pharmacy across Australia is now \$2.7 million, based on data from pharmacy business services specialist AP Group.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Treating hatred in our hospitals

Weekend Australian, General News, 27/06/2026, Megan Goldin, Page 17

Weeks before first responders fought valiantly to save lives at Bondi Beach in Sydney in December last year, an international medical conference on the latest battle-tested techniques to treat gunshot wound victims in the critical minutes after injury was to be held in Perth. [...] Even now, with the Royal Commission on Antisemitism and Social Cohesion under way, an orchestrated campaign by pro-Palestine healthcare workers groups, the Australia Palestine Advocacy Network and other activist groups and influencers has been launched to pressure the national medical oversight body, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, to withdraw its recently announced adoption of the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism.

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

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Family GP's infidelity 'lies'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2026, Brad Crouch, Page 11

A family GP told a female patient her husband was being unfaithful, as he allegedly successfully "groomed" the woman for an affair while the "emotionally exposed" woman was seeking help with fertility treatment, a tribunal has heard. [...] The restrictions followed a complaint to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency.

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

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

Winging into action

The Saturday Paper, General News, 27/06/2026, Bianca Nogrady, Page 5

It's the moment Australian wildlife researchers and rescuers, infectious disease specialists, veterinarians, poultry and dairy farmers, zoos and aquariums and governments at all levels have been dreading since 2021. [...] About 110 human cases of infection have been reported worldwide most in the US.

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Whereabouts of nearly 300 people with Ebola unknown in DRC

The Guardian, Other, 26/06/2026, Kat Lay

The whereabouts of almost 300 people who have tested positive for Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is unknown, according to Africa's top public health official. The humanitarian crisis amid the conflict in the affected areas means more than 1 million people are living in camps to which health

workers have no access, Dr Jean Kaseya, director general of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), said on Thursday.

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

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ABC Radio Darwin , Breakfast, 26/06/2026, Jess Ong

Interview with public health physician Dr Ashish Yadav. Yadav says the diphtheria outbreak in the NT is stabilising due to the massive vaccination rollout. He notes that the territory has recorded a total of 244 cases of diphtheria since the response began, and they are now clearly seeing a reduction in clinical severity of the cases.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 26/06/2026, Leon Delaney

Interview with RSPCA ACT CEO Michelle Robertson, on Australia recording its first confirmed case of H5N1 bird flu in WA. Robertson says it is unfortunate that the disease hit the Australian shores, but they have been preparing for it so they can take the matter seriously, and they have now learned that people do not need to panic. She urges people, particularly pet owners, to be more cautious when going outside and to keep their environment clean.

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ABC Radio Adelaide, Evenings, 26/06/2026, Spence Denny

Another suspected case of bird flu has been discovered on Roses Beach near Esperance on Western Australia's south coast. It marks the fifth suspected or confirmed case of avian influenza in the country, but WA Agriculture Minister Jackie Jarvis says there's nothing to suggest the virus has spread to native wildlife.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Breakfast, 26/06/2026, Sally Sara

Interview with SA Minister for Minister for Primary Industries Clare Scriven, on the detection of H5N1 bird flu strain in SA. Scriven says there has not been any further detections in wild birds or in poultry facilities. However, she also says they are encouraging people to be very alert and to look out for any numbers of dead birds or dead wildlife.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Raids net huge tobacco haul

Hobart Mercury, General News, 27/06/2026, Molly Appleton, Page 18

More than 365,000 illicit cigarettes were stopped from reaching Tasmania's streets following a joint police operation targeting the illegal trade. [...] The agencies also included the Therapeutic Goods Administration and Department of Health Tasmania.

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Geelong tobacco raids get results

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2026, Luke Griffiths, Page 7

The results of a multi-agency taskforce targeting Geelong retail outlets suspected of selling illicit cigarettes and vapes have been revealed, with its haul highlighting the local extent of the issue. [...] It is led by the Australian Border Force's national disruption group and includes members of Tobacco Licensing Victoria, the Therapeutic Goods Administration, Victoria Police, Sheriff's Office and WorkSafe.

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

Channel 7, Seven News, 26/06/2026, Peter Mitchell

Researchers at Monash University have found using two very common antibiotics paired together helped kill and stop the spread of a bacteria notorious for being highly drug resistant. This particular bacteria has been known to cause life-threatening bloodstream infections, pneumonia, and even meningitis.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 26/06/2026, Angela Cox & Mark Ferguson

4DMedical has secured an approval from the Therapeutic Goods Administration for its lung imaging software. It clears the path for commercial rollout across Australia.

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

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Drivers getting into the weeds

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 27/06/2026, James O'Doherty, Page 19

A secret government study has found more than half of medical cannabis users are misusing their medication including by taking more than prescribed or using the drug recreationally. Research from Transport for NSW's Centre for Road Safety also found that 45 per cent of medical cannabis users got behind the wheel within six hours of using the drug.

Also reported by: [Weekend Australian \(Australia\)](#).

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FOOD STANDARDS

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AICIS

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