



TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 9th July 2026

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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The West Australian \(online\)](#)** reports that two multiple sclerosis (MS) medications, which go by the brand names Ocrevus and Kesimpta, could be pulled from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme by their manufacturers due to the way drugs on the PBS are priced. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said he wants to ensure the two drugs remain on the PBS, acknowledging how important they are to Australians living with MS. *Also reported by:* **[The Australian](#)**, **[ABC Online](#)**
- **[The Northern Territory News \(page 5\)](#)** reports that Kingsley Ovuakporieroro Ebelebe, a former assistant director for the NT National Disability Insurance Agency, has been accused of using his position to defraud \$5 million of NDIS funding over six years. The Australian Federal Police, NT Police, the NDIA and Services Australia conducted a raid of his home in February, however his case was adjourned due to the large scale of evidence that had been seized.
- **[The Australian \(page 1\)](#)** leads widespread coverage reporting that Telstra had a nationwide outage on Wednesday morning due to a "software defect", affecting customers, regional train services and EFTPOS systems. Telstra operates the Triple Zero system, and Communications Minister Anika Wells and Emergency Management Minister Kristy McBain said the Triple Zero Custodian reported that some emergency calls did not connect and were being investigated. *Also reported by:* **[Sydney Morning Herald](#)**, **[Herald Sun](#)**, **[Canberra Times](#)**, **[ABC Online](#)**

- [The Herald Sun \(page 9\)](#) reports that a new Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report has revealed that Australians are living longer, with life expectancy at birth 81.1 years for males and 85.1 years for females, but that chronic conditions and mental-health conditions are still affecting many people.
- [The West Australian \(online\)](#) reports that a new study from RMIT University, along with international heavyweights Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, has developed a potential replacement for delivering vaccines via needles, using patches made up of hundreds of tiny tips which deliver the vaccine into the skin, rather than via a traditional injection.
- [The Australian \(page 2\)](#) reports that Commonwealth prosecutors have appealed the decision to exclude from evidence a video of two Sydney nurses, Sarah Abu Lebdeh and Ahmad Rashad Nadir, allegedly threatening to kill Israeli patients, after a judge ruled it inadmissible ahead of their criminal trial.

MINISTER BUTLER

Patients in limbo as price disputes swamp PBS medicine approvals

The Australian, Other, 08/07/2026, Natasha Robinson

The body that's supposed to approve new drugs for listing on the PBS is instead forced to deal with pharma companies refusing to accept Australia's prices. [...] MS patients are lobbying hard for ongoing access to the medicines and federal Health Minister Mark Butler has made it clear he does not want to see the medications removed from the PBS.

[Read More](#)

MS patients face losing cheap access to \$30,000 drug

West Australian, Other, 08/07/2026, Zac De Silva

A decision is looming on whether thousands of Australians with multiple sclerosis will continue getting subsidised access to two life-changing drugs. [...] But the two drugs needed to remain on the PBS, which caps prices at \$25 for general patients and \$7 for concession card holders, Health Minister Mark Butler said.

Also reported by: [Pilbara News \(Online\)](#), [Cobram Courier \(Online\)](#), [Kyabram Free Press \(Online\)](#), [Busselton Dunsborough Times \(Online\)](#), [Corowa Free Press \(Online\)](#), [The Telegraph \(Seymour\) \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

PBS dispute could see MS patients pay thousands for crucial drugs Ocrevus and Kesimpta

ABC Online, Other, 08/07/2026, Clare Armstrong and Stephanie Dalzell

A dispute over how Australia prices medicines has sparked fears 10,000 people with multiple sclerosis will be forced to pay up to \$33,000 a year to access life-changing treatments. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has declared he wants the medicines to remain on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and has linked the dispute with global drugmakers Roche and Novartis to changes in US policy.

[Read More](#)

The Zap: latest health and aged care news, plus key consultations now open

Croakey, Other, 08/07/2026, Melissa Sweet

Health Ministers do like to promote listings of new medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). Related media statements tend to read like pharma promotions rather than level-headed assessments of the potential benefits and harms of new treatments. [...] A statement from Minister Mark Butler on 29 June was no exception: "July is a bumper month for cheaper medicines with 10 new listings giving Australians expanded access to effective and affordable medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme... "These medicines will give Australians with cancer and chronic

conditions more treatment options to manage their health and provide vital financial relief to Australians battling these conditions."

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About 44,000 to be affected by reduced health insurance subsidy

Aged Care Housing News, Other, 08/07/2026

Health Minister Mark Butler has defended reducing the subsidy for health insurance for over-65s.

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One year on, lung cancer screening is proving itself valuable

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), Other, 08/07/2026

Although it could be doing better, according to an Australian expert. Almost 100,000 people have participated in Australia's national lung cancer screening program since its launch in July 2025, with 285 joining the program every day on average, according to federal health minister Mark Butler.

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ABC News, News Breakfast, 08/07/2026, James Glenday and Catherine Murphy

The Federal Government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Advisory Committee will be meeting today to discuss the future of two medicines that are currently listed. It comes as Health Minister Mark Butler mentioned that the drugs will be providing huge benefits to MS patients and should remain listed.

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

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ABC Northern Tasmania, Drive, 08/07/2026, Sunshine Wood

Interview with MS Australia CEO Rohan Greenland. Wood notes the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Advisory Committee is meeting today to discuss the future of two treatments that are currently on the PBS amid a pricing dispute with the drug makers. Greenland notes the Department has written to the two manufacturers of these really high-efficacy disease-modifying therapies and demanded very steep price cuts, and he expresses concerns that the steep price cuts could force the companies involved to withdraw them from the market. He says Minister for Health Mark Butler said the drugs must stay on the PBS.

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ABC Northern Tasmania, Breakfast, 08/07/2026, Kim Napier

Interview with Health Minister Mark Butler, about the concerns seen at the Launceston General Hospital. Butler admits that they need more aged care supply in general and the demand for aged care as the number of people who are entering retirement rise, as well. Butler admits that the rise of demand for aged care is putting pressures on hospitals and the health system as a whole.

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SEA FM , Breakfast, 08/07/2026, Ben Lawrence

Interview with Health Minister Mark Butler, about the government's push to continue to add in urgent care clinics in Tasmania. Butler explains that he's currently visiting the third opened aged care clinic in the North, namely in Launceston today, as well as visiting Devonport yesterday, while he also looks to visit the newest one in Burnie.

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2GB, Mornings, 08/07/2026, Mark Levy

Levy notes a pricing dispute between the Federal Government and pharmaceutical companies Roche and Novartis has placed two critical multiple sclerosis treatments at risk of being removed from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. He says Health Minister Mark Butler insisted on both drugs staying on the PBS and he pointed changes to US drug pricing policy.

2SM, 18:00 News, 08/07/2026

A dispute between the Federal Government and US drug makers could leave multiple sclerosis patients cut off from life-changing medication two drugs. Manufacturers are refusing to lower the prices so they can stay on the PBS. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says it could see patients paying up to \$30,000 for treatment.

Similar coverage reported by: [2SM \(Sydney\)](#).

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ABC Radio Canberra, Drive, 08/07/2026, Georgia Stynes

Interview with Canberra-based patient Bronwyn Saunders. Stynes notes a pricing standoff has emerged after pharmaceutical manufacturers rejected a federal government request to reduce the costs of subsidised multiple sclerosis therapies by up to 50%. She says Federal Health Minister Mark Butler stated that he intends for these vital medications to remain listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Saunders emphasises that losing access would be catastrophic, noting that families simply cannot afford out-of-pocket costs reaching \$30,000 annually for treatment.

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ABC Radio Hobart, 11:00 News, 08/07/2026

Tasmania's Health Minister Bridget Archer says a significant factor contributing to growing General Hospital, a patients that can't be discharged as they're waiting for NDIS funding or an aged care place. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the flow of patients through hospitals is a shared responsibility.

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Radio National, Big Ideas, 08/07/2026, Natasha Mitchell

Health consumer advocates say thousands of Australians on crucial multiple sclerosis medication are in limbo. The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Advisory Committee is discussing the future of two MS medicines after disputes with drug makers. Health Minister Mark Butler blames on changes in US policy.

Similar coverage reported by: [ABC Radio Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC Radio Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Triple J \(Sydney\)](#), [ABC Gold Coast \(Gold Coast\)](#), [ABC Radio Canberra \(Canberra\)](#).

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

SBS, World News Australia, 08/07/2026, Janice Petersen

The Federal Government has announced the establishment of a dedicated First Nations Connect support line within the National Disability Insurance Agency to address cultural safety gaps. NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister has said the Government wants people to feel culturally safe when they call the NDIS.

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

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MINISTER RAE

Humans over algorithms

There was some hopeful news from towards the end of the two weeks of Parliamentary sitting in Canberra which finished last Thursday. [...] Then because of this pressure, suddenly in the House of Representatives the Minister for Aged Care Sam Rae suddenly announces that IAT decisions could be changed, in so called extenuating circumstances.

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Aged care assessments need experts not algorithms

HelloCare, Other, 08/07/2026, Jakob Neeland

Older people, their families and taxpayers are the losers in aged care system that trusts an algorithm over expert clinical assessors. The national Support at Home program for older people went live on 1 November 2025. [...] Referring to the previous Home Care Packages program, Minister Sam Rae said: And what we ended up with was an aged care system where there was essentially \$4 billion of unspent funds that could have been better distributed to older people in need of care.

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Permanent First Nations aged care commissioner an important step for Elders

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), Other, 08/07/2026, Declan Brennan

The peak body for Victorian Aboriginal community-controlled health organisations has welcomed the federal government's move to establish a permanent aged care advocate for First Nations people, labelling it a significant step towards ensuring older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a stronger voice in the sector. [...] Federal Aged Care Minister Sam Rae last week said the commissioner would help address longstanding inequities experienced by First Nations people in the aged care system.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

20 headspace outreach centres announced for regional communities

ABC Online, Other, 08/07/2026, Sally Sara

The government is investing almost 28-million-dollars to establish youth mental health outreach services in 20 regional and remote communities across the country - from Derby in Western Australia to Naracoorte in South Australia. [...] GUEST: Emma McBride, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

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Governor General briefed

Euroa Gazette, Other, 08/07/2026

Bushfire recovery and ongoing financial support were top of the agenda when Strathbogie Mayor Scott Jeffery and CEO Rachelle Quattrocchi visited Canberra last month. They met with Ministers, Shadow Ministers, and local Members of Parliament to advocate for disaster recovery support while attending the Australian Local Government Conference. [...] They also met with Emergency Management Minister Kristy McBain, Assistant Minister Emma McBride, Senator Jana Stewart, and Senator Anthony Chisholm.

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Coasties save more than \$16 million

www.centralcoastsun.au, Other, 08/07/2026

Central Coast residents have saved more than \$16M on cheaper medicines as a suite of Federal Government cost-of-living measures takes effect. Since the \$25 cap on most PBS prescriptions was introduced, around 3.16 million cheaper scripts have been filled across Dobell, saving locals an

estimated \$16. [...] Member for Dobell Emma McBride said the measures were providing practical support.

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ABC North Queensland, Mornings (Late), 08/07/2026, Susan Graham-Ryan

Interview with Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Emma McBride. McBride explains that in Australia, two in five young people are experiencing struggles with their mental health in any 12-month period, and that is even higher in regional and remote communities. She states that headspace is designed to provide outreach programmes to assist young people with concerns regarding mental health, physical, sexual, and even drug-related.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 08/07/2026, Sally Sara

Interview with Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Emma McBride, about the Federal Government's investment of \$28 million to build youth mental health outreach services in 20 regional and remote communities by 2029. McBride explains what headspace is, which is Australia's national youth mental health support service and provides support for mental health and related physical and sexual health. Compere mentions that one of the centres will be located in Leeton, in NSW.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Paid parental leave expands to six months for Tasmanian families

WEB Pulse Tasmania, Other, 08/07/2026

Eligible parents can now access up to 26 weeks of government-backed leave Tasmanian families welcoming a new baby can now access six months of paid parental leave. The scheme expanded to 26 weeks from July 1, up from 24 weeks, in the final stage of a staged expansion. [...] Federal assistant women minister Rebecca White said the change would help families when it mattered most.

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Tips to help ditch devices on family road trip

Naracoorte Community News, General News, 08/07/2026, Triple P □□, Page 4

The school holidays are here and whether it's a day trip or a longer adventure, Triple P Positive Parenting Program experts have got you covered with simple strategies to reduce the road-trip screen time, avoid the familiar cries of 'are we there yet?', and supercharge your family connection. [...] Delivery of the Triple P Positive Parenting Program to parents and carers of children in Australia is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care under the Parenting Education and Support Program.

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TGL to support remote care manuals

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 08/07/2026, Page 1

Therapeutic Guidelines Limited (TGL) has been appointed by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing as the new digital health care publisher of the Remote Primary Health Care Manuals. Transitioning to a new digital platform will enable easy access to regular updates and guidance for the diverse users delivering healthcare in remote Aboriginal Health Service settings, and support a more user-friendly resource that continues to uphold the clinical quality of the manuals.

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Allied health must be at the centre of healthy ageing reform

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 08/07/2026

Reforms must move beyond treatment-focused approaches to explicitly integrate allied health across settings, writes Anita Westera. Many in the ageing and aged care sectors, including members of the Australian Association of Gerontology, recognise the importance of a multidisciplinary, cross-sector, co-designed approach to enabling people to live well as they age. [...] These findings align with the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's national movement guidelines, which emphasise frequent, achievable activity and supportive environments over high-intensity exercise alone.

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CHSP Manual questions answered

Community Care Review, Other, 08/07/2026

The department has responded to Ageing Australia's questions on accessing urgent CHSP services and interactions between the different aged care programs. Peak body Ageing Australia has published answers from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to questions about the Commonwealth Home Support Program Manual 2025-27.

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NDIS impact analysis update 'administrative only': DoHDA

Health Services Daily, Other, 08/07/2026, Caitlin Wright

The department denies that two substantive changes it made to the NDIS impact analysis will affect the result of the overall analysis. The department denies that two substantive changes it made to the NDIS impact analysis will affect the result of the overall analysis.

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Aged Care Act HELF explained for providers

HelloCare, Other, 08/07/2026, Jakob Neeland

The Higher Everyday Living Fee (HELF) commenced on 1 November 2025, replacing the Additional Service Fee and Extra Service Fee frameworks. If you're admitting residents, managing agreements, or fielding questions from families, here's what's actually changed operationally. [...] Where to check current figures and guidance Rather than working from fee amounts quoted informally, direct your team to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's guidance on higher everyday living, additional and extra service fees, and the HELF fact sheet, for current caps, indexation, and any framework updates.

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Barbara Conway obituary

The Guardian, Other, 09/07/2026, Fiona Conway

My mother, Barbara Conway, who has died aged 94, was a civil servant and a volunteer both at her

local church and as a school governor. [...] Returning to the workplace in the early 1970s as a clerical officer in the former Department of Health and Social Security, Barbara rose to the role of executive officer.

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GPs lose special dispensation to write PBS adrenaline scripts

The Medical Republic, Other, 08/07/2026, Holly Payne

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee has reportedly ended long-standing arrangements allowing GPs with special dispensation to initiate PBS-eligible adrenaline prescriptions for their anaphylactic patients. [...] TMR contacted the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing for confirmation of and comment on the PBAC decision but did not hear back before deadline.

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DoHDA 'sneakily' updates NDIS reforms impact analysis with substantive changes

The Medical Republic, Other, 08/07/2026, Cate Swannell and Caitlin Wright

The department denies that two substantive changes it made to the NDIS impact analysis will affect the result of the overall analysis. The credibility of the federal government's narrative about NDIS reforms has been undercut by an update to its own impact analysis, which the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has "sneakily" published.

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New GP clinic to take off in rural Queensland

The Medical Republic, Other, 08/07/2026, Alyssa Talakovski

The Royal Flying Doctor Service will steer the latest interim GP access arrangement for the outback. Clermont residents will regain access to local GP services in six to eight weeks, following the closure of their only clinic in December 2025, the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) announced on 29 June.

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Support at Home Senate Inquiry announces five public hearings

The Weekly Source, Other, 08/07/2026, Caroline Egan

The latest round of Support at Home Program Senate Inquiry hearings will begin in Brisbane on 27 July, moving to Melbourne, Launceston, Adelaide, and finally to Alice Springs on 25 August. No speakers or schedule details had been released at the time of publishing. [...] The Committee interrogated representatives of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing over concerns about the Integrated Assessment Tool.

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ABC Northern Tasmania, Breakfast, 08/07/2026, Kim Napier

Interview with Health Minister Mark Butler, about the concerns seen at the Launceston General Hospital. Butler admits that they need more aged care supply in general and the demand for aged care as the number of people who are entering retirement rise, as well. Butler admits that the rise of demand for aged care is putting pressures on hospitals and the health system as a whole.

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ABC Radio Hobart, 07:00 News, 08/07/2026

News was stranded in a hallway at the Launceston General Hospital for hours, says more needs to be done to deal with bed block. Scout Wallen reports.

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ABC Radio Hobart, 06:00 News, 08/07/2026

News but, you know, the nurses were doing the best they could. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says he believes the hospital lacks good patient flow systems as Tasmania's Health Minister Bridget Archer has called on the federal government to better address bed block.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 08/07/2026, Sally Sara

Interview with Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Emma McBride, about the Federal Government's investment of \$28 million to build youth mental health outreach services in 20 regional and remote communities by 2029. McBride explains what headspace is, which is Australia's national youth mental health support service and provides support for mental health and related physical and sexual health. Compere mentions that one of the centres will be located in Leeton, in NSW.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Resmed returns to sleep in software sell-off

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 09/07/2026, Michael Smith, Page 17

Resmed has sold an underperforming software business focused on residential aged care to a US private equity firm for \$707 million, about a third less than what it paid for the asset eight years ago, in a move analysts say reflects the risk that [...]

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Life expectancy rises along with rates of dementia death

Newcastle Herald, General News, 09/07/2026, Gabriel Fowler, Page 12

Dementia has overtaken heart disease as the leading cause of death in Australia as more people live longer, while being overweight has overtaken smoking tobacco as the leading risk factor contributing to disease burden. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has released its 20th biennial report card on the nation's health showing that overall Australians are living longer, but access to healthcare and overall disease burden is dotted with inequality and influenced by lifestyle as well as environmental factors.

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How the 'cheapest' retirement village could leave you paying more

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 08/07/2026, Rachel Lane

For many Australians considering a retirement village, the biggest financial question is not whether they can afford to move in — it is what happens when they leave. Retirement village contracts have been built around an exit fee model.

Women and university graduates in Australia most at risk of losing jobs to AI, report finds

The Guardian, Other, 08/07/2026, Josh Butler

Artificial intelligence has yet to cause widespread job losses but the federal government has warned that telemarketers, advertising staff and accountants are among the occupations "most exposed" to being replaced by the technology. According to a first-of-its-kind national report, people in the more exposed occupations are more likely to be women and have university qualifications.

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First months of reform see spike in incident reports

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 08/07/2026

The regulator has published sector performance data for November and December 2025, showing a rise in reportable incidents across residential and home care. Between 1 November and 31 December 2025, the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission received 9,605 reportable incidents in residential aged care – 4,659 of which related to the unreasonable use of force.

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WA Govt to fund new TCP@Home+ pilot

Australian Seniors News, Other, 08/07/2026

The WA Government has announced it will invest \$20.3 million in the new TCP@Home+ pilot, providing older Western Australians with extra around the clock monitoring and wellbeing checks from the comfort of their home. Strengthening on the Transition Care Program (TCP), the pilot is being delivered as part of the Government's \$140 million Winter Strategy, which is investing in innovative ways to improve patient flow, strengthen care for older people, and help them recover safely at home.

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Workforce readiness essential to sector's future

Community Care Review, Other, 08/07/2026

Experts have come together to urge collaboration and action on preparing the workforce for the rising demand for in-home care. As Australia shifts its focus to providing more home-based care, the country needs to rethink how it builds workforce preparedness for home and community care.

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Gap in dementia knowledge and action

Community Care Review, Other, 08/07/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

Curtin University-led research has found personalised and community-driven changes are more likely to influence behavioural changes that reduce dementia risk than large-scale health awareness campaigns. Current public health approaches are falling short of driving real behaviour change in modifiable risk factors that could prevent dementia, new research from Curtin University suggests.

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One in three aged care workers considering second jobs as cost of living bites

HelloCare, Other, 08/07/2026, Jakob Neeland

Australia's cost of living crisis is placing growing pressure on the aged care workforce, with new research suggesting many workers are taking on extra employment just to make ends meet, raising fresh concerns about fatigue, burnout and the quality of care provided to older Australians. New data from recruitment company Randstad has found that one in three Australian health and aged care workers has either taken on, or is considering taking on, a second job to cope with rising living costs.

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Behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia: a seven-tiered

model of service delivery

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 08/07/2026

People with dementia usually experience behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD) during the course of their illness. Currently, in Australia, there is a lack of comprehensive planning for managing and preventing BPSD, and the resources required for optimal care are inadequate and unevenly distributed.

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Nurse prescribing a step forward

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 08/07/2026

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has described legislation enabling endorsed registered nurses to prescribe medicines under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PD 03 Jul) as "a positive step toward improving timely access to care for patients and reducing pressure across Australia's stretched health system".

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Three disease clusters shape health of older Australians: Study

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 08/07/2026

Three quarters of Australians aged 65 and over have two or more chronic conditions, and one third have five or more. A new national study has revealed that multimorbidity affects more than three quarters of older Australians, with chronic conditions tending to occur in one of three key 'clusters'.

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Lessons from the Telstra chaos: how to protect yourself from the next outage

The Senior, Other, 08/07/2026, Carla Mascarenhas

Another week, another major telco outage But don't despair, there are ways to withstand the inconvenience or even life-threatening situations these outages inevitably bring. In the past year Australia's three major telcos - Telstra, Optus and Vodafone (owned and operated by TPG Telecom) all experienced significant outages impacting millions of Australians.

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National home care provider take over rural operator

The Weekly Source, Other, 08/07/2026, Caroline Egan

Not For Profit Life Without Barriers , which has been in operation for more than 30 years and operates across the Australian mainland, has merged with Victorian home care provider Mallacoota District Health and Support Service (MDHSS). Neil Egan, Executive Lead Life Without Barriers, on behalf of both Life Without Barriers and MDHSS, told The Weekly SOURCE: "MDHSS and Life Without Barriers are partnering to deliver ongoing essential services to the people of Mallacoota."

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Another Victorian council exits home care

The Weekly Source, Other, 08/07/2026, Caroline Egan

After providing home care services for almost 30 years, a rural Victorian council has decided to exit the sector, citing "long-term sustainability issues". The Rural City of Wangaratta 's decision will impact Support at Home and Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP), as well as other service clients, totalling 1,500 people.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 08/07/2026, Tim McMillan and Angela Tsun

News Hewitt Feld, 7 News. The state government is hoping to ease pressure on our hospital system with more at-home aged care support.

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Darwin man's alleged \$5m rort of the NDIS

Northern Territory News, General News, 09/07/2026, Zizi Averill, Page 5

For years a Darwin father was entrusted to care for the Territory's most vulnerable people, instead investigators allege he was defrauding the national disability system to the tune of \$5m. Over 20 weeks, prosecutors and defence have worked through the extensive digital and document footprint of former NT National Disability Insurance Agency complex needs assistant director Kingsley Ovuakporieroro Ebelebe.

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Hunter's real jobs crisis isn't a skills shortage, new research finds

Newcastle Herald, Other, 08/07/2026, Dylan Nicholson

Low unemployment and record job vacancies are masking a deeper problem in the Hunter's workforce, according to new analysis from the University of Newcastle's Institute for Regional Futures. The Institute argues the region is losing workforce capacity at almost every stage of people's working lives, a problem as the region undergoes a transformation under the energy transition.

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Nominees revealed for the best personal trainer in Burnett – now you decide

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 08/07/2026, Celeste Müller

They wake up at 4:30am to beat you to the gym and push you through the final set. Now, it's time to reward their hustle and vote for your local fitness champion.

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'Heartless': decision to remove bus upsets families whose children rely on it

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 08/07/2026, Katrina Lovell

Plans to remove "critical" buses from Scope-operated supported living facilities in Warrnambool have upset families who are campaigning to save the service. A petition - which labels the move "heartless" - has already attracted more than 1000 signatures.

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Using the policy recipe, part 2: From abstract idea to practical application

The Mandarin, Other, 08/07/2026, Sean Innis

Many ideas struggle to make the leap from abstract thought to practical application. Sometimes this is because they are treated as silver bullets, when they aren't.

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PRIMARY CARE

Telstra's \$30m on the line

The Australian, General News, 09/07/2026, Jared Lynch and Jack Quail, Page 1

Labor is threatening Telstra with \$30m fines and branded the entire telecommunications industry Australia's "least trusted", after a broken data centre clock sparked its worst nationwide outage in a decade, triggering economic chaos and leaving more than 300 people unable to make triple-0 emergency calls.

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'Time travel' bug triggers catastrophic Telstra crash

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 09/07/2026, David Swan, Page 1

A 20-year "time travel" glitch triggered by a botched firmware upgrade is the likely culprit behind Telstra's catastrophic nationwide mobile network outage that led to more than 300 Triple Zero calls failing and six people needing emergency service attention. Two internal Telstra sources said the outage early yesterday was caused by a software bug linked to the network's timekeeping systems in Sydney and Melbourne after a firmware update went wrong.

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V/Line chaos to roll into day 2 after Telstra fail

Age, General News, 09/07/2026, Cassandra Morgan, Page 1

Regional train passengers in Victoria face being stranded without transport for a second day, after yet another major telco outage sparked nationwide chaos, resulting in dropped Triple Zero calls and downed infrastructure around the country. Police were conducting welfare checks yesterday afternoon on 32 people in Victoria who had called Triple Zero but couldn't get through during Telstra's nationwide outage.

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

Lives on the line

Herald Sun, General News, 09/07/2026, Jordan McCarthy and Zac Crnjac, Page 1

V/Line says it will pursue Telstra for hundreds of thousands of dollars, with the outage wiping out the vast majority of its train services on Wednesday and on Thursday morning. Almost all regional travel across Victoria was suspended on Wednesday, with limited bus services throughout the day, but commuters eventually were told to "make your own way home".

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Alarm as 32 calls get zero response

Herald Sun, General News, 09/07/2026, Sarah Booth, Page 7

Telstra is aware of at least 32 failed attempts to call triple-0 in Victoria during its outage. Police were carrying out urgent welfare checks on affected people on Wednesday, with no adverse events identified yet.

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

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Dialling a disaster

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/07/2026, Eilidh Sproul-Mellis, Ellen Ransley and Sarah Perillo, Page 1

Telstra's five-hour nationwide mobile network outage brought down train services including The Ghan closed cafes and left up to 333 triple-0 calls unanswered. The Ghan was stranded at Keswick station after being scheduled to leave around noon yesterday, with passengers soothed with free drinks as the afternoon wore on.

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

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

Network out(r)age

Canberra Times, General News, 09/07/2026, Farid Farid, Page 1

The federal government has blasted Telstra following yesterday's network outage that left thousands of people unable to make calls and access data on their phones. "This is not a triple zero outage. This is a Telstra retail outage that has affected their customers right across the country," Communications Minister Anika Wells said.

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Telstra's triple-o shocker

More than 300 calls to triple-0 were blocked yesterday after a suspected software glitch crashed the Telstra network, disrupting services to millions of customers. Telstra chief financial officer Michael Ackland said the welfare of 79 of those customers was still uncertain last night.

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

Workers to rally for better deal

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 09/07/2026, Joseph Najjar, Page 7

Health workers will rally outside Bendigo Health today in their campaign for a better pay deal after the union claimed they had received a state government offer which was "very much short of the mark". The Victorian Allied Health Professional Association represents a wide range of workers in different specialties, including physiotherapists, occupational therapists and speech pathologists.

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

'A good death': How to plan your end-of-life care

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 09/07/2026, Dr Sarah Kleinman, Page 15

My mother is a nurse and definitely of the "old school" she has firm views on many health issues and we may not always agree. But there is something that she said to me when I was a medical student that has been really formative.

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

Eighteen more beds planned for Westmead Hospital busiest departments

Adelaide Now, Other, 08/07/2026, Joanne Vella

More beds will allow 'some breathing space' for one of the nation's busiest hospitals but the doctors' association has warned it won't resolve western Sydney's growing health crisis. More desperately-needed beds have been planned for Westmead Hospital but the doctors' association has warned it won't resolve western Sydney's growing health crisis as bed blocks continue to plague the facility.

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

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Call for formal emergency responder network to save lives on country roads

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 08/07/2026, Danielle Marsland

A Ravensthorpe doctor says a formal emergency responder network that includes rural generalists could save lives on country roads. Michael Livingston is the clinical director of Livingston Medical and runs 17 rural clinics across the Great Southern and Wheatbelt.

[Read More](#)

How the Telstra outage impacted these Australians

ABC Online, Other, 08/07/2026

At the break of dawn, Lourdes Alvarado first noticed her Telstra phone was not working. She was listening to the radio then everything suddenly went "dead".

[Read More](#)

Legislation changes requirements for pharmacists

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 08/07/2026

Pharmacists in NSW will no longer be required to record the sale of Schedule 3 pseudoephedrine or personally hand S3 medicines to patients, under new reforms Legislative and regulatory reforms coming into effect in NSW from 5 November 2026, will change requirements for pharmacists in the state.

[Read More](#)

'I had a facelift at 33. Here's the brutal reality I wish I knew beforehand.'

Mamamia, Other, 08/07/2026, Erin Docherty

If your social media algorithm looks anything like mine (I digress, I have a fascination with cosmetic surgery results — blame Extreme Makeovers and Botched !), your feed is probably flooded with smooth, snatched, filtered post-op reveals of women who flew overseas for cosmetic surgery. The ones who seem to return looking like they simply slept for a thousand years.

[Read More](#)

Views of early career GPs sought to shape RACGP direction

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 08/07/2026

A national New Fellows Survey will help the college better understand what's working and what's not, and the path forward. The anonymous survey takes around 15 minutes to complete and closes on 20 July 2026.

[Read More](#)

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POPULATION HEALTH

Smoke out the cartels

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/07/2026, David Killick, Page 6

The state's police minister has added his voice to calls for the federal excise on cigarettes to be lowered, saying it would reduce crime. Australia has one of the highest excises on tobacco in the world, working out to be \$1.52 per cigarette or \$2400 per kilogram of loose tobacco. A thriving black market has emerged as a result.

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Public farewell for young footy player

Canberra Times, General News, 09/07/2026, Nick Wilson, Page 11

A grief-stricken reserves football team has backed out of a scheduled match to instead spend the day mourning the tragic death of a beloved teammate. Nathan Fitzgerald, 27, suffered head injuries while playing at Lalor Recreation Reserve, in Melbourne's north, on Saturday and died in hospital on Monday.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#).

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

Do I hate men? Should I hate them?

Crikey, Other, 08/07/2026, Jane Gilmore

The backlash against feminism is shifting from #NotAllMen to accusations of 'man-hating'. It's a revealing and useful change.

[Read More](#)

Birth to back pain: 52 Aussie parents share why pilates helps their mental and physical health

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 08/07/2026, Ruby Kraner-Tucci

We spoke to 52 Australian mums and dads who said regularly practising this low-impact exercise helped them in four key ways. See the full list of what each parent had to say.

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

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Sugar takes rap for bad habits

The Nightly, General News, 08/07/2026, Tamar Haspel, Page 29

"Eat more sugar," said nobody ever. Why? Well, sugar provides only calories, and in a country where obesity and its attendant diseases remain a pressing public health issue, that's not a good thing.

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Living longer but toll remains

Herald Sun, General News, 09/07/2026, Page 9

Health outcomes in Australia continue to improve and remain high by global standards, but chronic conditions and mental-health conditions are still affecting many people. A new Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report shows Australians are living longer, with life expectancy at birth 81.1 years for males and 85.1 years for females.

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

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AI to aid hunt for breast cancers

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/07/2026, Brad Crouch, Page 5

Artificial intelligence technology will review breast screen images in a bid to increase the early detection of breast cancer potentially missed by human checks. BreastScreen SA's BRAIx trial, now under way and running for up to nine months, pairs specifically developed software with a specialist radiologist to read breast screening images of participants.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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Brighter start for our babies

Courier Mail, General News, 09/07/2026, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 9

An Australian-first pregnancy program is improving outcomes for high-risk women with diabetes and their babies. The Queensland project, based at The Mater Mothers' Hospital's Obstetric Medicine Midwifery Group Practice, has improved the mean gestational age of babies from 36 weeks to 37.4 weeks.

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Survival rate due to wealth

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/07/2026, Page 13

Much of the burden of cancer felt around the world is now about a lack of access to care rather than a lack of knowledge on how to prevent and treat it. The World Health Organisation's 2026 global status report on cancer outlines how global inequity means many common cancers now only have high survival rates in high-income countries.

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Why Ava is all smiles after two years of being brave

West Australian, General News, 09/07/2026, Hannah Cross, Page 10

How Telethon beneficiary helped a family fight cancer together With 100 days to go until Telethon, there's another highly anticipated countdown being looked forward to by five-year-old Ava O'Kelly.

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

Fatal flaw in Aus cancer trials

Cairns Post, General News, 09/07/2026, Page 7

Sex and gender reporting in Australian cancer clinical trials has worsened despite global guidelines and potentially serious consequences for patients. Fewer than two per cent of trials report results separately for men and women, the George Institute for Global Health research reveals.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) threatens to sue anti-abortion activist Dr Joanna Howe for defamation

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 08/07/2026, Dasha Havrilenko

Anti-abortion activist Dr Joanna Howe has been threatened with legal action for defamation after calling a prominent medical body "the Royal College of Abortionists" in a viral social media video. High-profile anti-abortion activist Dr Joanna Howe is being threatened with a defamation case after labelling a prominent medical body a crude name in a widely circulated video online.

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

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'So dystopian': Diner gets 'fat-shamed' by restaurant order screen at all-you-can-eat buffet

The Courier Mail, Other, 08/07/2026

A viral post has sparked debate after a diner claimed they were calorie-shamed by all-you-can-eat restaurant's ordering screen system. A diner was shocked and appalled after allegedly getting calorie-shamed by a restaurant's order screen, per a viral Reddit post.

[Read More](#)

Australians with cancer are living longer but diagnosis rates on the rise for younger people, report reveals

The Guardian, Other, 09/07/2026, Kat Wong

Australians with cancer are living longer than ever, a flagship health report has revealed, but falling childhood vaccination rates and increasing rates of measles, diphtheria and whooping cough have given experts cause for concern. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's (AIHW) biennial report card, released on Thursday, shows the five-year relative survival rate for people with cancer has increased from 50% to 72% in 30 years.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Little boy failed by system that is meant to protect

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 09/07/2026, Page 18

The killing of a child by their parent is rare in NSW. The cases are complex and distressing.

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

"Sometimes the strongest people in the room are carrying the heaviest burdens."

Rail Express, General News, 01/07/2026, Jenny Valentino, Page 48

The person everyone depends on is desperately hoping someone notices they are struggling. And sometimes all it takes is one conversation to interrupt a tragedy.

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

Why we need to start saving our own

Behind every project deadline and track possession are people suffering in silence. The Permanent Way Institution of New South Wales (PWI NSW) shares why changing the conversation around mental health could save lives.

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

Heartbreak as suicide prevention campaigner, 22, dies four years after her brother took his own life

Daily Mail UK, Other, 09/07/2026

A popular young woman who passionately campaigned for more suicide prevention support after her brother's death has been farwelled at an emotional funeral. The heartbroken parents of Poppy Reynolds, 22, from Bundaberg in Queensland, remembered their daughter as a 'darling, golden-heart girl' at the service on Friday following her death late last month.

[Read More](#)

Mum's tribute to 'darling' daughter who died four years after her brother

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 08/07/2026, Taylor Penny and Tiffany Torrie

The heartbroken parents of 22-year-old suicide prevention advocate Poppy Reynolds have paid tribute to their "darling, golden-heart girl," four years after losing their son. A "loving" young woman who tragically died just four years after losing her brother to suicide was always there to help others despite masking her own pain after his death, her heartbroken family has told loved ones at her funeral.

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

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Mental health boost for Warren-Blackwood communities

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 08/07/2026

Mental health and wellbeing initiatives across the Warren-Blackwood region have received major support, with organisations sharing in almost \$400,000 in national funding. The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal has awarded \$392,884 to 25 not-for-profit and community-led projects across Australia in round 11 of its In a Good Place program.

[Read More](#)

My patients use ChatGPT for therapy. Now I use it too

The Guardian, Other, 08/07/2026, Sarah Darghouth

"Chat told me I should break up with him." I instructed my face to remain therapist-neutral, but I must have smirked.

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IMMUNISATION

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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Patches could replace needles in vaccines of the future

West Australian, Other, 08/07/2026, Annabelle Banfield

Newly developed, incredibly small patches could eventually eliminate the need for vaccine injections. A study from RMIT University, along with international heavyweights Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, found a potential neat solution to needing to store vaccines at low temperatures.

Also reported by: [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#).

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Is porn actually addictive? The science isn't straightforward

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 08/07/2026

Porn is a topic we tend to avoid talking about – whether it be at school, work or around the dinner table. But in Australia, roughly three-quarters of men (76%) and more than one-third of women (41%) report to have looked at pornographic material in the past year.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Two Nhulunbuy doctors named winners of \$20,000 scholarships

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 08/07/2026, Lottie Hood

A couple of doctors who recently relocated to remote East Arnhem Land have claimed the NT's most prestigious GP scholarship securing \$20,000 each. Two registrars from East Arnhem Land are part of an NT cohort of promising health professionals who have secured prestigious scholarships for their outstanding commitment to their communities.

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

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New First Nations NDIS support line to improve cultural safety

SBS, Other, 08/07/2026

The federal government says it is listening to the concerns of First Nations NDIS participants, with sweeping reforms looming. Today, it announced the establishment of a new dedicated support line to deliver culturally appropriate help through the National Disability Insurance Agency, a move tentatively welcomed by some advocates.

[Read More](#)

Educating students about cultural safety and trauma informed practice

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 08/07/2026, Naomi Howell and Lynne Stuart

In Australia, mental health statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people remains deeply disproportionate. In 2018–19, over a third of Indigenous People (37%) reported having a current mental health condition, with suicide remaining a devastating issue highlighted in Closing the Gap targets.

[Read More](#)

Culture remains at the heart of care

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 08/07/2026, Jorgia Burke

Naidoc Week presents an opportunity to honour enduring strength, depth of knowledge and the rich tapestry of culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. 'NAIDOC has always been more

than a week — it's a platform, a protest, a celebration, and a statement of survival.

[Read More](#)

Beyond Mammography: Sovereignty and Relational Breast Care With Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 08/07/2026

Despite Australia's universal breast screening programs, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have lower screening participation rates and higher breast cancer mortality. Public health explanations focus on awareness of breast cancer risk and the accessibility of screening, yet these framings often overlook how biomedical screening practices assume a colonial anatomical lens of the body that does not align with Indigenous relational understandings of embodiment.

[Read More](#)

Type 2 diabetes in young Indigenous Australians in rural and remote areas: diagnosis, screening, management and prevention

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 08/07/2026

The burden of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) among Indigenous children and adolescents is much greater than in non-Indigenous young people and appears to be rising, although data on epidemiology and complications are limited. Young Indigenous people living in remote areas appear to be at excess risk of T2DM.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacist to lead \$5m AMR project

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 08/07/2026

Flinders University researchers have been awarded almost \$5 million from Australia's Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR), a growing and under-recognised health threat in rural and remote Australia. Shortcomings in remote area diagnosis mean that 26% of antimicrobial prescriptions in remote primary healthcare clinics are deemed.

[Read More](#)

Flinders researchers receive \$5m to tackle antibiotic resistance in remote NT

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 08/07/2026

Flinders University researchers have secured almost \$5 million from the Medical Research Future Fund to address rising antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in remote Northern Territory communities, where diagnostic limitations mean more than a quarter of antibiotic prescriptions in remote primary healthcare clinics are considered unsuitable.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

No relevant coverage

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Unions slam CFMEU Games ban as an 'attack on workers' rights'

The Australian, General News, 09/07/2026, Marcus de Blonk Smith, Page 5

Queensland unions have accused the Crisafulli government of launching a "concerted attack" on workers' rights after it blacklisted the CFMEU from Brisbane 2032 Olympic infrastructure projects. At a press conference on Wednesday, Queensland Council of Unions state secretary Jacqueline King hit

back at Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie after he declared the government would not accept tenders for any Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games projects from contractors with an existing agreement with the CFMEU.

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'Wicked' carpark woes

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 09/07/2026, Emma Cam, Page 1

Townsville healthcare workers say they are being forced to walk long distances through poorly lit and isolated car parks, navigate daily congestion and face worsening conditions as the wet season approaches - and staff with disabilities are among those most affected. The Queensland Nurses and Midwives' Union is calling for more security officers, expanded shuttle bus services operating at all hours, and greater consultation with staff on parking and safety arrangements.

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Danger signs

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 09/07/2026, Page 14

The nurses union says Townsville hospital must do more about staff safety concerns. Every day, the nurses, midwives, and staff at Townsville University Hospital put themselves on the frontline to care for our community.

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

Cessnock Hospital's \$138m upgrade ignores maternity services

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 08/07/2026, Amy Ziniak

A Hunter Valley hospital might be getting a \$138 million facelift but expectant mothers still won't be able to give birth there - instead being forced to drive at least 40 minutes away. Expectant Hunter Valley mums are being forced to brave active labour to drive almost an hour away due to a lack of birthing facilities at their nearest hospital.

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

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Prosecutors appeal against nurses' kill-threat video exclusion

The Australian, General News, 09/07/2026, Bimini Plessner, Page 2

Commonwealth prosecutors have appealed the decision to exclude from evidence a video of two Sydney nurses allegedly threatening to kill Israeli patients, after a judge ruled it inadmissible ahead of their criminal trial. Sarah Abu Lebdeh and Ahmad Rashad Nadir made global headlines last year after Israeli influencer Max Ilinski recorded their conversation in an online chatroom, in which Mr Nadir allegedly suggested he had sent Israeli patients to "hell", and Ms Abu Lebdeh allegedly claimed she would "kill" Israelis rather than treat them.

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

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'Pure panic': Physio's hit-and-run conviction

Northern Territory News, General News, 09/07/2026, Zizi Averill, Page 11

A Darwin physiotherapist who drove his ute into a man, 'tossing him in the air' before leaving his body on the bitumen, has pleaded with the courts to escape a custodial sentence and save his medical licence. On Wednesday, James Lindgard Cardwell was sentenced after pleading guilty to a dramatic hit and run on Mitchell St in July last year, with CCTV capturing the moment his car slammed into an older Aboriginal man crossing the road.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News](#)

Pysch's terror charge

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 09/07/2026, Alex Treacy, Page 1

A Gold Coast psychologist whose eldest son was previously charged with sharing violent extremist material has now also been arrested and charged by the Australian Federal Police. Pacific Pines man Dr Ghassan Eltatary, 51, a consultant psychiatrist and psychotherapist who works at pediatric mental healthclinics at Pacific Pines and Springwood, appeared in Southport Magistrates Court on Wednesday afternoon for a bail application.

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

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ACT paramedics experience occupational violence every two days

ABC Online, Other, 08/07/2026

The ACT Ambulance Service (ACTAS) is speaking out over "absolutely unacceptable" instances of violence directed at Canberra paramedics. There were more than 190 occupational violence incidents recorded last financial year, which equated to more than one every two days.

[Read More](#)

Doctor defends 'sociopath' claim post-Patterson trial

Daily Mail UK, Other, 09/07/2026

He blew the whistle on evil mushroom killer Erin Patterson - but now the hero doc is unemployed and flat broke after branding her a 'crazy b***h' Dr Chris Webster gave evidence at Erin Patterson's trial He was hauled into the health regulator for discussing the case

[Read More](#)

Male nurse's unspeakably vile acts to struggling women patients are revealed - and his sickening claim one was hallucinating: 'Oh God, don't tell my wife'

Daily Mail UK, Other, 08/07/2026

A father-of-two nurse was suspended after he pushed his penis against a woman psychiatric patient's hand and shocked others with his intimate touching and sex talk. Suresh Kumar Balasubramaniam, 47, has been found guilty of professional misconduct while working at St John of God Hospital, a private mental health facility in Richmond, north-west of Sydney.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacy fundraising for floods

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 08/07/2026

Territory Pharmacy stores marked World Chocolate Day yesterday with the launch of a special promotion offering customers half-price handcrafted Bumble Bean Chocolates, while helping raise funds for flood relief across the Top End. Proceeds of chocolate sales from its Royal Darwin Hospital, Stuart Park, Karama and Palmerston Oasis pharmacies will.

[Read More](#)

APC thanks outgoing NAPSA president

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 08/07/2026

The Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has congratulated Mia Avram on her appointment as president of the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (PD 06 Jul), and paid tribute to outgoing president Sebastian Harper's "outstanding leadership and collaboration" over the past two years.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Pharma giants refuse to slash lifesaving MS drug costs

6PR, Other, 08/07/2026, Chrissy Morrissy

Two pharmaceutical companies have rejected calls to lower prices for two lifesaving multiple sclerosis medications, potentially costing patients up to \$33,000. Dr Julia Morahan of MS Australia told 6PR Mornings host Chrissy Morrissy that the essential drugs must remain on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme to preserve patient quality of life.

[Read More](#)

Critical drugs could be pulled from PBS

ABC Online, Other, 08/07/2026

Advocates and patients have warned losing access to key MS medications could cost people their lives. There are fears thousands of Australians will be left without lifesaving medication because of a PBS stoush between drugmakers and the federal government.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

'A disaster': Morrison's mea culpa on grave Covid error

The Australian, General News, 09/07/2026, Paul Kelly, Page 1

Former prime minister Scott Morrison concedes his mistake in the Covid crisis, saying his legal campaign against the closure of the West Australian border was a political "disaster" and reveals he has changed his mind about the border policy of WA's then Labor premier Mark McGowan. In his interviews for my book *The Twilight of Exceptionalism* The Liberal and Conservative Era 2013-22, Mr Morrison said he now believed closing the WA border was a sensible move although his opposition at the time was critical in Labor winning four seats in WA, allowing the West to underpin the Albanese majority at the 2022 federal election.

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Perth workers in PPE bag up dead birds

West Australian, General News, 09/07/2026, Page 17

Two more wild seabirds found dead in WA are suspected to be positive for H5 bird flu, including one that had travelled as far north as Northampton in the Mid West. Two dead petrels, at Horrocks Beach in Northampton and at Mullaloo Beach in Perth, were positive for the virus in preliminary WA testing.

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

SA records second positive bird flu case as two suspected cases of

bird flu identified in giant petrels on Kangaroo Island

Adelaide Now, Other, 08/07/2026, Aden Hill

A giant petrel found at Hardwicke Bay late last week was confirmed on Wednesday by the CSIRO to be carrying bird flu, after it was sent to their lab in Geelong for testing. The state government on Tuesday said the bird had returned low levels of bird flu at the SA lab, and that the bird had been euthanised, with samples sent to Geelong.

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Mayor warns residents to be on alert for bird flu after first NSW was is confirmed

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 08/07/2026, Joel Ehsman

Wollongong City Council is asking residents to be on the lookout for birds with symptoms of a dangerous strain of bird flu. The H5N1 strain of bird flu on the mid-north coast of NSW on July 5, 2026, in samples from a giant petrel, after the first confirmed cases of the bird flu in Western Australia and South Australia in June.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Priority status could mean Wegovy in pill form by early next year

Australian Financial Review, Other, 08/07/2026, Michael Smith

Novo Nordisk, the Danish company that makes Ozempic and Wegovy, said Australia is a high-priority market for its new weight-loss pill which went on sale in Britain this week, raising hopes the alternative to a weekly injection will be available by early [...]

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

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Safety alert for pharmacy supplement ingredient

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 08/07/2026, Kate Cowling

Rare liver injuries have been linked to the herbal substance found in more than 300 approved medicines, according to the TGA. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has issued a renewed warning about Ashwagandha (also known as Withania somnifera) after new reports of liver injuries.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 08/07/2026, Peter Mitchell

Danish pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk has submitted a formal regulatory application to the Therapeutic Goods Administration to bring a once-daily pill version of its blockbuster weight management drug, Wegovy, to the Australian market. The oral treatment, which contains the appetite-suppressing GLP-1 peptide semaglutide, has recently launched in the United Kingdom following its initial rollout in the United States.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 08/07/2026, Brenton Ragless

Australia's medical regulator is evaluating two oral weight-loss therapies following a formal application by Danish drugmaker Novo Nordisk to register a once-daily pill version of its blockbuster injection, Wegovy. The appetite-suppressing oral treatment matches the 15% to 17% weight-loss benchmarks of its needle-based equivalent while removing the clinical requirement for continuous refrigeration. However, because the Therapeutic Goods Administration has not yet finalised its review, Australian patients who do not wish to use injections must continue paying entirely out of pocket for un-subsidised options.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Massive kava haul seized by police after tip off

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 08/07/2026

More than 2000 bags of kava have been seized in a remote community in a major blow to the illegal supply of the intoxicant, police say. A tip off led to police discovering a huge haul of the alcohol substitute worth more than \$100,000 in the Arnhem Land community of Ramingining, located about 550km east of Darwin. [...] The Department of Health's Office of Drug Control says on its website that incoming passengers can bring up to 4kg of kava powder into most of Australia for personal use, but this is not allowed in the NT.

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What are peptides? And why am I hearing so much about them?

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 08/07/2026

Peptide may not yet be the 2026 Oxford Word of the Year, but it must surely be in the running. From your friendly neighbourhood influencer, to the gym bros , injectable peptides have been all over social media and are now making mainstream news when things go horribly wrong.

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