



TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 7th August 2026

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#) |
[Assistant Minister White](#) | [Special Envoy Repacholi](#) | [Department](#)
| [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Disability and Carers](#) | [Primary Care](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The **[Herald Sun](#)** (page 13) reports that following the announcement by Health Minister Mark Butler of the Federal Government's National Nursing Workforce Strategy, the Australian College of Nursing has released data which shows that 70,000 nurses with a valid registration are currently not working as nurses. *Also reported by:* **[4BC](#)**
- The **[Daily Telegraph Australia](#)** (online) reports that the Australian Human Rights Commission has urged the Federal Government to delay reforms to the NDIS in order to consult more broadly with individuals and organisations impacted by the proposed reforms. *Also reported by:* **[Canberra Times](#)**
- **[Channel 9](#)** reports that following the announcement of reforms to prostate cancer testing standards, Special Envoy for Men's Health, Dan Repacholi, has reaffirmed the Federal Government's commitment to funding improved detection and treatment models for the disease.
- **[SBS](#)** (online) reports that the Federal Government has provided public information on appropriate care options based on three broad categories of care, with the advice to provide suitable care and avoid overburdening the hospital system.
- **[ABC Online](#)** (online) reports that the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has apologised for sending a mass email which failed to conceal the personal details of healthcare

workers who were being offered addiction and alcohol misuse training.

- **SBS** (online) reports that Private Healthcare Australia has contended that reforms to private health insurance rebate policy will result in 44,000 older Australians dropping their private healthcare cover.
- **The Australian** (page 7) reports that endocrinologist Dr Kathryn Williams has stated that a lack of access to GLP-1 medications through the PBS has led to inequality in the delivery of obesity treatment.
- **ABC Online** (online) reports that a significant increase in the use of needle exchange facilities by peptide users has led to concerns that at-risk drug users will be unable to access safe injecting equipment.
- The **Courier Mail** (page 9) reports that the Australian Medical Association Queensland has formed a working group to develop a strategy for assisting the 360,000 individuals currently waiting for a specialist consultation in Queensland.
- **ABC Online** (online) reports that medical research has found exposure to pesticides in the workplace increases the chance of an individual developing motor neurone disease by 70 per cent.

MINISTER BUTLER

Australia has the nurses...

Herald Sun, General News, 07/08/2026, Julie Cross, Page 13

Australia would not need to import so many migrant health workers if the government incentivised up to 70,000 nurses who have walked away - including thousands of new graduates - to return to the workplace. [...] It comes as Health Minister Mark Butler released the first National Nursing Workforce Strategy on Thursday, which aims for a national approach to nursing workforce planning.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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Outrage over 'unfair plan'

Launceston Examiner, General News, 07/08/2026, Lauren Richardson, Page 1

Older Tasmanians are concerned they would "probably not survive" if they were forced to use the public health system due to increased private health insurance costs. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the proposed changes meant all Australians would receive the same private health support, based on their income, not age.

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Labor holds firm as seniors face \$250 health cover hike

Dubbo Photo News, General News, 06/08/2026, Lucinda Garbutt-Young, Page 7

Labor will renew its fight to steer a controversial health insurance change through parliament as state governments and providers push back against the plan. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has acknowledged the government had made a difficult and unpopular decision, savings from which would help fund greater support for home care services for the elderly.

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Australian Human Rights Commission calls on Labor to 'hit pause' on NDIS reforms

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Nathan Schmidt

Australia's government-funded Human Rights Commission has urged Labor to "hit pause" on reforms to the NDIS, warning the scheme could be left without adequate avenues for accountability and at the whim of sweeping ministerial powers. [...] First announced by Health Minister Mark Butler at the National Press Club in April, Labor's proposed reforms would ensure the scheme was sustainable for

the long-term by targeting sorting and moving tens of thousands of people off the NDIS, according to the government.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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Butler pledges to up value of primary care nurses

The Medical Republic, Other, 06/08/2026, Holly Payne

Nurses look set to have an expanded scope of practice in the near future, with both the federal health minister and a new workforce strategy backing calls to enable "nursing innovation". Health Minister Mark Butler fronted up to the Australian College of Nursing conference on Thursday morning and vowed to "find ways in which [primary care] nurses are able to do more, without having to have a GP notionally looking over their shoulder while doing it".

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The CPAP dilemma: How aged care reform is pushing Australia's hospitals to breaking point

HelloCare, Other, 06/08/2026, Jakob Neeland

For hundreds of thousands of older Australians, the Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machine is not a luxury device. [...] At a meeting of the nation's health ministers earlier this year, state and territory counterparts collectively challenged federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler over the mounting pressure aged-care-related bed block is putting on their hospital systems, arguing that a promised pipeline of new aged care beds from 2029 does nothing to relieve the crisis already unfolding.

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The just-released catastrophic aged care numbers. Time to revolt?

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/08/2026, Lauren Broomham

I've spent 10 years writing about aged care, and I can't remember another time when the depressing financial warning signs across home and residential aged care have lined up so clearly. [...] As Sam Rae and Mark Butler note at every single press conference, around 90,000 Australians will celebrate their 80th birthday this year.

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4BC, Drive, 06/08/2026, Carla Bignasca

Interview with Australian College of Nursing Chief Nursing Officer Frances Rice, on the latest figures from the Australian College of Nursing revealing that Australia would not need a massive influx of skilled migrants to help the health system if it's able to retain nurses who are trained in Australia. Bignasca says it has been revealed that 70,000 registered Australian nurses are not currently in the workforce, and she adds that this comes as Federal Health Minister Mark Butler announces his National Nursing Workforce Strategy. Rice says there are several reasons why many nurses are not currently in the workforce, and it's a genuine issue that they need to understand properly to ensure they have the settings right to help them return to the workforce.

Also reported by: [4BC \(Brisbane\)](#).

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Koori Radio, Blackchat, 06/08/2026, Lola Forester

Compere mentions that Mark Butler, Minister for Health and Ageing and Disabilities and NDIS, Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, and Minister for Indigenous Australians and Rebecca White have worked on providing \$180 million in funding for First Nation Health Infrastructure. She states that eligible Aboriginal community-controlled organisations can now apply for the grant from the Albanese Government to bolster clinical buildings and other infrastructure.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

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MINISTER RAE

'Thanks for caring': day to honour aged care employees

Canberra Times, General News, 07/08/2026, Page 32

What does 'care' actually mean? [...] Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae said the increase would decrease turnover rates in the industry.

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

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Pay rise for aged care nurses: acting PM in Creswick

Ballarat Times, General News, 07/08/2026, Evie Lamb, Page 3

Creswick set the scene for the federal government's Saturday morning unveiling of its latest pay rise for the nation's 400,000 aged care nurses. Acting Prime Minister Richard Marles and aged care and seniors minister Sam Rae visited Creswick hospital and nursing home to announce what is the fifth increase to award wages for the sector's nurses over the last four years.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Construction begins on \$47m mental health precinct at New Town

WEB Pulse Tasmania, Other, 06/08/2026

Construction has begun on a \$47 million mental health precinct at St Johns Park in New Town that will include Tasmania's first residential eating disorder treatment centre. Health Minister Bridget Archer joined federal Assistant Minister for Health Rebecca White and Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride today to mark the start of works on the jointly funded state and federal facility.

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WIN Hobart, WIN News, 06/08/2026, Bruce Roberts

Construction on a dedicated eating disorder recovery facility is underway in St John's Park as part of a \$47m joint investment from the Tasmanian and Federal Governments. Federal Assistant Health Minister Emma McBride says she's had the chance to be at the openings of the centres in the ACT and NSW, and she's already seen their profound impact in the community.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

BreastScreen funds fall short

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 06/08/2026, Page 4

The Federal Government has announced an investment of \$1.3 million to strengthen BreastScreen Australia, to help more women detect breast cancer early and support the national screening program in keeping pace as new technology and research emerges. "We want more women to benefit from breast screening, regardless of where they live, their cultural background or their circumstances," Assistant Minister for Women Rebecca White said.

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

Channel 9, Nine News, 06/08/2026, Peter Overton

Australia is a step closer to a screening program for prostate cancer, and according to the newly released standards, men over 70 are now included in early detection, while 45-year-olds are eligible for a baseline blood test. Special Envoy for Men's Health Dan Repacholi says it's a good thing that men can have a conversation with their GPs anytime.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Brisbane\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Adelaide\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Perth\)](#)

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DEPARTMENT

Let's not make financial consent more complex: AMA

The Medical Republic, Other, 06/08/2026, Holly Payne

The AMA has rejected nearly all of the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's proposals to tighten up informed financial consent, arguing that the current focus on doctors' fees is distressing clinicians to the point that they consider leaving the profession. As part of broader work addressing non-GP specialist doctor fees – the other components being referral reform and the Medical Costs

Finder transparency legislation – the DoHDA is also looking at strengthening the laws on informed financial consent.

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Is this your next aged care development?

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/08/2026, Lauren Broomham

A proposed 158-bed aged care home in one of Australia's most under-supplied markets is looking for an operator to partner on the development. [...] The site is also classified Modified Monash 2 (regional centre) under the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Health Workforce Locator, which the developers say should provide operators with an established regional market as they assess funding, workforce availability and future demand.

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New aged care resources

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/08/2026

The department has published a toolkit to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, while ECCQ has released resources for providers delivering care to people from diverse backgrounds. The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has released a new toolkit with resources to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people access aged care services and support.

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Indigenous edtech platform championed at TechDiversity 2026 Awards

Forbes Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Daniel Van Boom

An AI-powered edtech platform that helps corporations build inclusive workplaces for First Nations cultures has been awarded the TechDiversity Champion title, the highest honour bestowed at the annual Tech Diversity Awards. [...] Developed by Miroma Project Factory with funding by the Federal Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, it has helped over a million people quit smoking.

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ANDHealth expands partnership with TGA

Pulse+IT, Other, 06/08/2026, Reesh Lyon

ANDHealth has today announced the renewal and expansion of its partnership with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) as its core industry outreach, training and education partner for Australian Software as a Medical Device (SaMD) regulation for a further 12 months. [...] TGA First Assistant Secretary, Medical Devices & Manufacturing Quality Division Tracey Duffy said the renewed partnership reflected the growing importance of SaMD regulation in a rapidly evolving digital and connected health sector.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Home care finances unsustainable

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/08/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

There has been a marked decline in financial performance for the home care sector, StewartBrown's latest financial sector survey shows. The report covers a four-month period from the former Home Care Packages Program and five months of data from the new Support at Home program. It found the operating margin fell to 58 cents per client per day from \$3.77 per client per day for the 2025 financial year.

Also reported by: [Community Care Review \(Online\)](#).

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Home care moves into a terrible position: StewartBrown

Since StewartBrown began tracking the home care sector, it has never published such a result. Support at Home has delivered the first negative quarterly operating result for home care providers.

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From home support to residential care – how to navigate the aged-care maze for ageing parents

Your Life Choices, Other, 06/08/2026, Jemma Briscoe

Trying to get an ageing parent into care can feel like trying to land a plane in a storm while also looking after kids in the back row. This is the reality for the "sandwich generation": adults who are supporting ageing parents while raising their own children.

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

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2GB, Mornings, 06/08/2026, Mark Levy

Levy is joined by Sarah Macdonald. Macdonald says more older Australians are still struggling and waiting for aged care support, and she also notes that it's taking over a year before they are assessed and get the healthcare that they deserve. She states that she has not talked to Aged Care Minister Sam Rae, but she says other people in the Federal Government understood that many struggling older Australians are in the sandwich generation, and that the Federal Government is shifting to getting more help at home.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 06/08/2026, Loretta Ryan and Craig Zonca

Interview with Chris Grice, CEO, National Seniors Australia, about some older Australians not wanting to participate in the annual Census. Grice points out that some people are concerned that their data might be utilised, as Census data will now be made available online. He states that people shouldn't be worried as the Census data transitioning to online has its own act to protect users' data.

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

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

Budget secures Australia's top credit rating

Age, General News, 07/08/2026, Shane Wright, Page 7

Australia has retained its triple-A credit rating from S&P Global, with the federal budget's property tax changes and proposed cuts to the NDIS highlighted as reasons for the nation's strong fiscal position. One of just 11 nations with the highest level rating, Australia's budget performance was sound and was likely to be even stronger than what Treasurer Jim Chalmers unveiled in his May fiscal blueprint, S&P said.

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

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Cats sponsor on 309 charges in alleged \$10m fraud

Age, General News, 07/08/2026, Cameron Houston, Page 16

Former Geelong Football Club sponsor Sy Giang Nguyen has been hit with more than 300 charges by police over an alleged multimillion-dollar fraud. [...] Despite his gilded lifestyle, Nguyen was paid an average salary for his role as an IT manager at genU one of the nation's largest not-for-profit providers for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

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Cairns leads nation for NDIS funding use but lags on service wait times

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Grace Carter

A triple paralympian coming to Cairns has said the city is "leading the country" on NDIS participation, as the federal electorate of Leichhardt has been identified as one of the highest performing markets in the country according to new data. The electorate has the top national NDIS utilisation rate of 67 per cent - 12 per cent higher than the state and national average of 55 per cent - and is ranked fourth out of 150 Australian electorates for overall market effectiveness.

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

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'Fatal impacts' feared for LGBTQI community due to cuts

Canberra Times, Other, 06/08/2026, Morgan Reinwald

Concerns have been raised there could be deaths in the LGBTQI community if the federal government pushes ahead with cuts to the NDIS. Thousands of people involved in the program could be harmed, a Senate hearing debating the future of the National Disability Insurance Scheme was told on Thursday.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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Michael Waltke, Julia Brunsdon found dead at rural Charleville property

7News.com.au, Other, 06/08/2026, Sarah Keszler

A man and pregnant woman found dead in a suspected murder-suicide on a rural property have been identified as shocked friends confirm the couple were expecting a child. [...] Waltke worked in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), where some former colleagues described him as "controlling" and said he "didn't like to be challenged".

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Eurobodalla, Shoalhaven disability support service Yumaro proposes \$5.8m Moruya group home

The Courier Mail, Other, 06/08/2026, Tom McGann

A disability support organisation with ambitions to increase their regional services has proposed a major group home build with a huge price tag for a South Coast town. Yumaro has lodged a development application with Eurobodalla Shire Council, seeking approval for a new specialised disability accommodation complex worth an estimated \$5.8 million at 7-9 Caswell St, Moruya.

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PRIMARY CARE

Doctors sick of waiting

Courier Mail, General News, 07/08/2026, Taylah Fellows & Mikaela Mulveney, Page 9

The Australian Medical Association Queensland has assembled an expert working group to tackle the state's ballooning outpatient waitlist. More than 360,000 Queenslanders are waiting to see a specialist to decide whether they need surgery - an increase of 15 per cent since 2025.

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Hats off to my saviours

Herald Sun, General News, 07/08/2026, Jackson Barnes, Page 18

Aussie actor Samuel Johnson has opened up about the accident that almost cost him his life while throwing his support behind the service that helped to save it. Best known for his breakout performance in The Secret Life of Us and founding the Love Your Sister charity in honour of his late sister Connie,

Johnson revealed the horror of being hit by a car in Melbourne's eastern suburbs in a crash that left him with a fractured skull and neck vertebra.

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Our hospital in the air has a hi-tech future

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/08/2026, Jordan Miller, Page 21

It is synonymous with helicopters, but one of CareFlight's doctors would not be surprised if the lifesaving service looks very different in the decades to come. The aeromedical charity has treated nearly 10,000 Australians per year in its first four decades of operation.

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Doctors bracing for surge in flu cases

Newcastle Herald, General News, 07/08/2026, Damon Cronshaw, Page 3

Hunter emergency departments are experiencing "significant demands", amid a rise in illnesses in the colder weather. [...] Mr Minns urged people to go to an urgent care clinic or see a GP, so ED doctors and nurses "can focus their efforts and attention on people that are about to die".

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

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Talk donations with loved

Border Watch, General News, 07/08/2026, Page 19

As you make your for your end of life plans, consider whether you want to be an organ donor and make sure to share your decision with your loved ones. South Australia leads the nation in organ donor registrations, but the Australian Medical Association in South Australia (AMA SA) warned opportunities to save lives are still being missed.

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Where stock integrity can become a bottleneck

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2026, Nikolas Scott, Page 32

Community pharmacies today look quite different from those of a decade ago. Moving well beyond filling scripts and selling OTC remedies, many now offer screenings and chronic disease management services once reserved for clinics.

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Full scope improving healthcare access

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2026, Haysam Jarid, Page 48

Full scope of practice allows pharmacists to utilise the full extent of their education, clinical training, and professional expertise to provide a broader range of healthcare services. Under full scope of practice, pharmacists can assess and manage selected health conditions, prescribe medicines within approved clinical guidelines, administer vaccinations, provide medication reviews, support chronic disease management, and refer patients to other healthcare professionals when required.

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One Geelong and four Surf Coast GPs chosen for ADHD training program

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Zoe De Koning

Geelong residents desperate for an affordable ADHD diagnosis may have to travel as far as Lorne, with just five GPs from southwest Victoria reportedly selected for an upcoming state government-funded training program. The Addy can reveal the only successful Geelong GP works primarily at the Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative medical clinic, which offers a range of health services specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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

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Community Bank and Stan Perron Foundation funding helps secure Palmerston, Pioneer Health outreach program

West Australian, Other, 06/08/2026, Claire Middleton

After-hours primary care for homeless people in Albany is set to continue after funding to maintain the Homelessness Access Program was confirmed. The WA Primary Health Alliance is providing the bulk of the money, but the Community Bank Albany has chipped in \$80,000 to expand the service in Albany over the next 12 months.

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

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Sick this winter? When to see a GP, visit an urgent care clinic or go to the emergency room

SBS, Other, 06/08/2026, Cameron Carr

Getting the help you need for a winter illness could be simpler than spending hours waiting to be seen in a busy hospital emergency room. That's the message the government is sending this flu season, a time when experts say hospitals tend to be the busiest, and wait times blow out.

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What do patients with frailty want?

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/08/2026, Megan Haggan

Digital tools can help older adults with pre-frailty and frailty obtain nutrition education that will help their conditions – but patients need input, research shows Flinders University researchers say such tools need to be co-designed by the people who use them. [Paywall]

[Read More](#)

‘Everybody assumes somebody else knows what’s going on.’

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/08/2026, Sheshtyn Paola

A Sydney pharmacist researcher believes the profession could reduce medication harm by "connecting the gaps" in transitions of care. Kingston Yeung, a PhD candidate from the University of Sydney, shared his work on supporting transitions of care (TOC) to improve medication safety at PSA26 conference over the weekend.

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Census data matters: Guild

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/08/2026, Nicholas O'Donoghue

Community pharmacists urged to "use language that reflects the healthcare role" of the profession when filling out the 2026 Census. [Paywall]

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POPULATION HEALTH

All-women hike groups hit new heights

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/08/2026, Abby Seaman, Page 18

Emily Duck says one inspiration for starting her female outdoor tour company, Cool Girls Club, was a friend going through a break-up. [...] Nerkez Opacin, a senior research fellow in nature and people at the University of Melbourne, says there is growing evidence on the benefits of spending time outdoors with others, more specifically that being in nature allows for more relaxed social interactions.

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What can a winter in Paris teach us in Perth about ‘not seeing’ the homeless?

In January–February 2012 I spent several weeks as a tourist in Paris, experiencing apartment living in an interesting quartier, walking the streets like a true flaneur (turning left, and left, and left again), visiting galleries and famous department stores and generally delighting in everything that this culturally rich, historically fascinating city has to offer. [...] More recent figures from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare show that 25,900 Western Australians received specialist homeless services in 2024–25.

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Charles Sturt University opens \$1.5m medical centre to train regional doctors

The Courier Mail, Other, 06/08/2026, Dane Millerd

A new state-of-the-art medical simulation centre in Orange is set to play a key role in addressing one of the biggest challenges facing regional Australia – building and sustaining a skilled healthcare workforce. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, around seven million Australians – more than one-quarter of the population – live in regional, rural and remote areas, where people experience higher rates of hospitalisation, injury and death, while also facing greater barriers to accessing primary healthcare.

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

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Fashion Spree still selling tobacco, vapes after closure order

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Judith Kerr

A Cleveland business, hit with an immediate 90-day closure order during Queensland's illicit tobacco crackdown, was back serving customers less than 24 hours later. [...] In a statement, Queensland Health confirmed the business had been hit with an immediate three-month closure order and insisted the government maintained a “zero-tolerance approach” to illegal tobacco and vape sales.

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

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Australian funds to help combat spiralling HIV crisis

Canberra Times, Other, 06/08/2026, Lucinda Garbutt-Young

Fiji's growing HIV crisis will be tackled partly through Australian funding to bolster health services, supplies and drug imports. Australia has committed more than \$15 million to help arrest the Pacific nation's HIV outbreak.

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

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Receipts are not results: What passport letters can, and cannot, tell us

The Mandarin, Other, 06/08/2026, Daniel Madden

Governments are good at producing receipts: a letter sent, a file opened, a case note entered, a minister briefed, a consultation held. [...] The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare describes housing affordability as shaped by “supply, cost of housing, and Australia's population growth and structure”.

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Weight-loss drugs dangerous new frontline in PBS battle

The Australian, General News, 07/08/2026, Natasha Robinson, Page 7

Doctor's despair over patients trapped by obesity and poverty In distribution centres across the country, boxes and boxes of weight-loss drugs stack up, too many to count. They'll be sent to pharmacies and sold for hundreds of dollars for a month's supply to those who have a private prescription and can afford to pay.

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PMOS link to heart disease

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 07/08/2026, Page 10

The Heart Foundation has welcomed a major new study highlighting the link between polyendocrine metabolic ovarian syndrome (PMOS) and increased cardiovascular disease risk in women. The US study of more than 400,000 women found those with PMOS have more than a four times higher risk of cardiovascular disease, including heart attack, stroke and peripheral artery disease, compared with women without the condition, even after accounting for traditional risk factors.

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What's your GLP-1 strategy?

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2026, Nick Biggs , Page 28

Australians haven't stopped trying to lose weight. They've fundamentally changed how they do it, creating one of the fastest shifts in healthcare and consumer behaviour in recent memory.

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Rest assured: Community pharmacy supporting better sleep

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2026, Margaret Mielczarek, Page 51

Counting endless sheep and watching the clock tick past 2am, 3am and 4am with sleep still elusive. If, like so many, this is your frequent experience, then the experts interviewed for this feature may surprise you with what they suggest actually helps. Defining insomnia Insomnia affects nearly 15 per cent of Australian adults in its chronic form,¹ according to the Sleep Health Foundation, and community pharmacy is increasingly recognised as a frontline setting where individuals can be guided towards more effective, longer-term solutions.

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Hay fever mismanagement

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2026, Cat Woods, Page 60

Hay fever, or allergic rhinitis (AR), is the most common allergic condition in Australia and New Zealand, according to the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA). The symptoms of this condition range from mild to severe, and often worsen seasonally in the case of allergy to pollen or grass.

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Burnout warning signs to look for and how to protect your long-term health

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Sarah Kleinman

We've all had those days – the ones where it all feels, well, a bit much. Work seems to want more than you have left to give.

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

[Read More](#)

Hope for dry macular degeneration patients as treatment costs surge

7News.com.au, Other, 06/08/2026, Amber Laidler

Dry macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in Australian adults and while there is no cure, new treatments are showing promising results. But they're costly and some are about to get even more expensive. Avid bridge player Rene Sharp couldn't believe her eyes when her game slipped out of sight.

[Read More](#)

'I wouldn't have survived': Nicole's fast response to an emergency saved her life

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 06/08/2026, Natalie Croxon

Nicole Defina-Miller was a fit, healthy 37-year-old woman until she woke up in June 2025 with a headache and an inability to move the left side of her body. [...] Dr Lisa Murphy, the chief executive officer of the Stroke Foundation, said learning the FAST acronym and immediately calling triple-0 could save lives.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 06/08/2026, Max Futchter and Sarah Greenhalgh

Dry macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in Australian adults, and while there is no cure, new treatments are showing promising results, but they are going to cost patients. It comes after Biogen withdrew its application for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and stated that the decision was based on the proposed reimbursement criteria under consideration in Australia.

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

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 06/08/2026, Angela Cox and Mark Ferguson

The number of Australians living with dementia will more than double in the next 40 years. According to new data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, a growing and ageing population will push the number of patients to 1.1 million by 2066.

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

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 06/08/2026, Joel Rheinberger

Interview with Dr Naomi Koh Belic, on endometriosis. Belic says many women have normalised not experiencing their pain, while Rheinberger states that he's seen a lot of reporting about how women are disbelieved in medical terms when they talk about pain. Belic also says there was so much medical gaslighting or dismissal, but she notes that the Federal Government has been putting more funding into endometriosis research, and she hopes to see more change as they talk about endometriosis more.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Clubs 'won't fear fallout' after mental health fine

The Australian, Sport, 07/08/2026, Jon Ralph, Page 24

The AFL says it is confident clubs won't be scared off from recruiting young players battling mental health concerns despite Carlton's \$75,000 fine for failing to remove Elijah Hollands from play earlier this year. It comes as the league prepares to kickstart a new mental health program tailored specially for Indigenous players in the wake of Tyson Stengle and Bobby Hill's departure from the game.

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

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Gippsland police face claims of brutality

Age, General News, 07/08/2026, Cameron Houston & Carla Jaeger, Page 1

Police officers across Gippsland have been repeatedly accused of using excessive force and unlawfully deploying Tasers or capsaicin spray, resulting in legal claims against the force and the recent conviction of an officer. [...] Then 23, Smith-Goode was suffering a mental health episode while

walking down a highway and wearing only a towel around his waist, when he was confronted by two officers and told he was breaching his bail conditions.

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Mental health response is still inadequate

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 07/08/2026, Page 24

Mental healthcare over the world is characterised by deficiencies and weaknesses, but the Minns government has shortsightedly balked at addressing systemic problems identified as leading to the Bondi Junction killings. A homeless Queenslander with a history of mental illness, Joel Cauchi, 40, was shot dead by NSW Police after he began his rampage in the Bondi Junction Westfield shopping centre and stabbed 16 people on April 13, 2024.

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

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

Fitting tribute to a daughter held so dear

West Australian, General News, 07/08/2026, Brooke Rolfe, Page 20

A quiet, cosy room in the heart of the city has become a sacred place for thousands of young people, but it holds the deepest meaning for Ron and Brigid Woss. The Living Room at ECU's City campus has been unveiled in the name of their daughter Melanie Woss, who died by suicide aged 17 in 1989, weeks before she was to begin studying at UWA.

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Fighting for survival

Ballarat Courier, General News, 07/08/2026, Nick Powell, Page 1

Former rough sleepers reveal the reality of life on the streets and why one simple act can make a difference. [...] Alongside Jeremy Gunning and Glenn Pierce, he is one of three former rough sleepers across regional Victoria who survived severe mental health crises, extreme isolation and the exhaustion of being moved on time and time again.

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Safe head space training for mine students

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 07/08/2026, Rosa Griffith, Page 3

Kalgoorlie-Boulder mining students can now get psychological safety training before they enter the industry. The Psychologically Safe Futures in Mining program is a free, online service for students at Curtin University's WA School of Mines in partnership with Lifeline WA.

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Speak up

Owner Driver, General News, 01/08/2026, Page 47

The transport, postal and warehousing industry in Australia is calling on everyone who works in it to have their say in a new national survey aimed at improving mental health and wellbeing. It's a chance for people on the road, in sheds and behind the scenes to share what life is really like in this essential and high-pressure industry.

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No one will be held responsible for death of man in Covid-19 quarantine, inquest hears

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Paul Brescia

No person will be held civilly or criminally responsible for the death of Matthew Carroll, who took his life on his second day of Covid-19 Brisbane hotel quarantine, an inquest has heard. The final day of the coronial inquest into Mr Carroll's death featured closing statements by Joshua Underwood, counsel assisting, emphasising the missed opportunity when no welfare check was undertaken on him after 2pm on September 27, 2021.

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

Like a bomb went off: Mum reveals carnage after daughter's suicide

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Cydonee Mardon

When 29-year-old Chloe Murray sat in her pain psychiatrist's room in September 2023, she was a young woman falling apart at the seams. Her clinician typed a series of words into her medical record: not good, pain, anxiety, anger, poor sleep.

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

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IMMUNISATION

Guild renews vaccine call as ED cases spike

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/08/2026

With NSW facing high emergency presentations, the Guild put out a reminder to get vaccinated for seasonal viruses and visit trained pharmacists for a range of other health conditions [Paywall]

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Evenings, 06/08/2026, Emma Crowe

Interview with University of Queensland virologist and coronavirus expert Professor Kirsty Short. Short says there are bird flu vaccinations for avian species and humans, and she adds that there are also mRNA vaccines available for humans. However, she notes that the vaccination of wild species has to be done in a defined context.

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

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Health insurance rebates are changing for some Australians. Here's what to expect

SBS, Other, 06/08/2026, Kevin Staub, Yuting Zhang & Nathan Kettlewell

Since the federal government announced earlier this year it would scrap the higher private health insurance rebate for people aged 65 and over, opponents have come out in force. Private Healthcare Australia, the insurers' peak body, says the government's own modelling of about 44,000 older Australians dropping their cover due to the resulting higher premiums is a "significant underestimate".

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

AFL told to 'come clean'

The Australian, General News, 07/08/2026, Jay Clark, Page 1

The AFL has been urged to "come clean" on what executives knew about a secret deal between Geelong and a player who had suffered several concussions requiring him to assume all legal risk for further head traumas. In a statement on Thursday night, the league insisted it had not approved the agreement, Geelong was removing it and all other clubs would be advised not to strike similar deals with "at risk" players in order to exonerate themselves from future legal action.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The](#)

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Digging in for diabetes

Courier Mail, General News, 07/08/2026, Page 5

People with home gardens are less likely to develop type 2 diabetes. A University of Queensland-led study found people with a substantial garden had a 6.8 per cent lower risk of developing type 2 diabetes than those who didn't have a garden.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#)

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Meningococcal jab may do double duty

Hobart Mercury, General News, 07/08/2026, Page 12

The meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine could provide protection against more than one disease. New research links it to a significant reduction in the risk of gonorrhoea.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#)

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Egg allergy in decline

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2026, Samantha Crawford, Page 38

Australian guidelines recommend introducing eggs into children's diets in the first year of life - this can be associated with the reduced number of children with egg allergy in Australia. New research led by the University of Queensland and Murdoch Children's Research Institute examined 7200 children in two population-based studies to assess whether egg allergy is in decline since the introduction of the guidelines in 2016.

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Dry needling is different to acupuncture. So what's involved? And is it effective?

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Luke C. Jenkins, Giovanni E. Ferreira, Joshua Zadro & Peter Stubbs

Physiotherapists, chiropractors and osteopaths commonly use dry needling to treat neck, shoulder, back and other types of muscle pain. It involves inserting thin needles into sensitive parts of a person's muscle, often termed "myofascial trigger points".

[Read More](#)

Popular erectile dysfunction drug could help fight cancer, scientists find

Daily Mail UK, Other, 06/08/2026, Cassidy Morrison

Viagra has become the world's best-known treatment for erectile dysfunction. Since its 1998 launch, Viagra has become one of the most recognizable drug brands in history, prescribed to millions of men - and some women - every year.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 06/08/2026, Melissa Downes and Joel Dry

New University of Queensland research analysing the health records of more than 19,000 people found those with a substantial garden are almost 7% less likely to develop type 2 diabetes. Researchers state that, along with boosting physical activity, being in the garden helps with vitamin D levels and mental health and exposes people to a range of microbes that improve gut health.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Adelaide\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Perth\)](#)

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Stuck in the middle with who?

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 07/08/2026, Matt Elliott, Page 8

Given his background as a corporate executive in agribusiness, New South Wales' Federal Member for Farrer David Farley could easily pass for a traditional Liberal Party candidate. [...] However, Monash University and Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AHMRC) research shows community-led Indigenous health and justice services consistently outperform mainstream alternatives.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Alan Wolstenholme remembered as 'social' man who 'adored' grandkids after Ballarat Hospital gave him opioids 'by mistake' before his death

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Timothy Cox

An elderly Ballarat man who was given multiple medicines, including dangerous opiates "by mistake" in the days before he died at the city's public hospital has been remembered as a great storyteller and adoring grandfather. Alan Gordon Wolstenholme, 72, died at Ballarat Base Hospital on July 29, 2024 following a medication error and a failure to complete a medical history document when he was admitted.

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

[Read More](#)

Patient's death prompts critical safety overhaul at Ballarat Base Hospital

Ballarat Courier, Other, 06/08/2026, Adam Spencer

Grampians Health is trialing expanded emergency pharmacy cover and has launched safety reforms after a coronial investigation uncovered critical communication and charting breakdowns at Ballarat Base Hospital following the death of a man in 2024. But an investigation by deputy state coroner Paresa Spanos found the medication administration errors did not cause or contribute to the man's death.

[Read More](#)

'Serious concerns': paramedic says Ballarat region ambulance system in 'crisis'

Ballarat Courier, Other, 06/08/2026, Ben Silvester

Ambulance services in the Ballarat and wider Grampians region are in "crisis" after more than a decade of under-resourcing, according to a local paramedic. The paramedic, who The Courier has not named because Ambulance Victoria (AV) officers are disciplined for speaking publicly, said the situation hit critical levels in late July 2026.

[Read More](#)

'No one has been held to account': Coalition attacks Labor over Mater failures

Newcastle Herald, Other, 06/08/2026, Damon Cronshaw

Shadow Health Minister Sarah Mitchell has slammed the Minns government over maintenance and infrastructure failures at the Calvary Mater hospital, saying "no one has been held to account". The Mater mould and maintenance inquiry report, tabled yesterday in NSW Parliament, recommended that the government terminate the hospital's public-private partnership (PPP).

[Read More](#)

Hospital identifies 'need for an extended hours clinical pharmacy service'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/08/2026, Megan Haggan

The lack of after-hours pharmacy services at a major regional hospital has been highlighted in a coroner's findings about a man who died after a medication error. [Paywal]

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 06/08/2026, Lucy Breaden/Kylie Baxter

The facility being built at St John's Park in Newtown will feature a 15-bed residential mental health unit and a 12-bed residential eating disorder service. The \$47m project was jointly funded by the Tasmanian and Federal Governments, and its completion is expected by 2028.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Albanese and the migrate divide

West Australian, General News, 07/08/2026, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 10

Anthony Albanese has returned from leave facing a fresh political headache as his Labor Party attempts to clean up the messy aftermath of an internal rift over its new migration policy. [...] Skills shortages have remained a huge impediment to business in Australia, with a recent parliamentary inquiry hearing that critical sectors like health, aged care, regional industries, and construction were desperately reliant on migration to fill workforce gaps.

Also reported by: [The Nightly \(None\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#)

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State of rage

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/08/2026, Lucy Rutherford & Brad Crouch, Page 1

There were 404 assaults on bus drivers and passengers last year as violent attacks against frontline workers including doctors, nurses and paramedics continue to soar. [...] SA Salaried Medical Officers Association chief industrial officer Bernadette Mulholland said violence towards doctors is on the rise.

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Vital screens for highrisk women scrapped

Courier Mail, General News, 07/08/2026, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 10

A shortage of radiologists at one of the state's top breast screening clinics is forcing high-risk patients to scramble for alternative services as vital, lifesaving scans are cancelled. A woman assessed as highrisk for breast cancer by doctors at the Wesley Breast Clinic last year has been denied a screening appointment by that same clinic and told she would have to wait for more than a year for an appointment.

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

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Aged care nurse pay rise

Tweed Valley Weekly, General News, 06/08/2026, Page 19

Member for Richmond Justine Elliot announced that from August 1, 2026, the Albanese Labor Government delivered a fifth increase to award wages to the dedicated nurses who provide aged care services to older Australians. "Under the Albanese Labor Government, aged care nurses have received five wage increases because we believe these workers should be properly valued for the care they provide to older Australians, including on the North Coast," Ms Elliot said.

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The future is being formulated

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2026, Divya Lal, Page 16

A new degree is never just a new pathway into the profession. It's a forecast.

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Hiring changes at Tasmanian health department spark fears for patient outcomes

ABC Online, Other, 06/08/2026, Josh Duggan

A mental health clinic leader in Tasmania's north-west has called the government's move to "declassify" some positions in the state's health service as "ludicrous". Steve Hayes, clinical lead at Devonport's Adult Community Mental Health Service, said downgrading some roles would ultimately result in waiting lists blowing out and force senior clinicians to spend more time supervising instead of helping patients.

[Read More](#)

Court intervenes to send alleged ambo stabber to trial

Canberra Times, Other, 06/08/2026, William Ton

A magistrate has intervened to enter not guilty pleas on behalf of an accused paramedic attacker, sending his case to trial. Mohamud Ali appeared before the Melbourne Magistrates Court on Thursday where he was committed to stand trial in the Supreme Court for the alleged attempted murder, intentionally cause injury and assault an ambulance worker.

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

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Specialist on 72 child sex charges

The Australian, General News, 07/08/2026, Page 7

A Perth pediatrician is back behind bars on remand after police charged him with 15 new child sexual abuse offences. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has suspended Dr Saw's registration.

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

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Nurse's scalping procedure

Courier Mail, General News, 07/08/2026, Nicola McNamara, Page 11

A Brisbane nurse has had her registration cancelled she stole gold-tier Broncos tickets and hawked them on Facebook Marketplace. Michele Lorna Pauline Peroumal had her registration suspended this week after she fraudulently sold the tickets for \$1200 without the rightful owner's knowledge.

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

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Medical sex pests revealed

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/08/2026, Ashleigh Gleeson, Page 21

The names of more than 140 doctors, nurses or allied health professionals marked with a now-permanent sexual misconduct tag can be revealed. The healthcare watchdog, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, has been adding the sex misconduct classification to the profiles of doctors, nurses, or allied health professionals after changes to national laws.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#)

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Paediatrician accused of more child sex offences against patients

West Australian, General News, 07/08/2026, Page 7

A western suburbs paediatrician accused of abusing his own patients is back behind bars for allegedly breaching his bail conditions after detectives identified seven more complainants, bringing the total to 18. Chia Liang Saw appeared at Perth Magistrates Court on Thursday, less than a month after he was granted home detention bail following allegations he had molested female patients.

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

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Physiotherapist Kannabiran Mani disqualified for six months after massaging patient's breasts, making creepy comments

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Lucy Rutherford

A physiotherapist's actions have been slammed as "reprehensible" after he massaged a patient's breasts for no clinical purpose and made creepy comments towards her. In a judgment published online, the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal disqualified Kannabiran Mani, 48, from applying to be re-registered as a health practitioner for six months after his behaviour was found to constitute professional misconduct.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#)

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Qld GP who gave family member patient \$19k, cheap rent says he was 'slowly entrapped'

The Mercury, Other, 06/08/2026, Vanda Carson

A veteran Queensland GP has been reprimanded for misconduct after he gave a patient \$19,500 and rented his house to them at "mates rates". Christopher Lionel Jones, who works at Kawana Waters Medical Centre, was found to have treated the three family members as his patients while they were living at his house and "likely" while he was also living there with them over three months in 2018.

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

[Read More](#)

Health regulator AHPRA apologises for breaching doctor privacy in bulk email about addiction webinar

ABC Online, Other, 06/08/2026, Charlotte Grieve

The national healthcare watchdog has inadvertently identified more than 100 doctors, nurses and other practitioners who were offered addiction and alcohol misuse training in a mass email that has triggered fierce backlash and privacy complaints. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) sent an email on July 29 titled "Upcoming webinar on Addiction and recovery: process, support and experiencing a health notification" that failed to hide the identities of all recipients.

[Read More](#)

Stroke victim who accused hospitals of medical negligence settles case against health district

Daily Liberal, Other, 06/08/2026, Riley Krause

An elderly man who accused multiple hospitals of medical negligence has settled his case. John Dopper, now 83, sought damages from the Western NSW LHD based on the claim that he suffered a stroke because of the care he received at Condobolin and Orange hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Sinister update after Crows great Tony Modra was critically injured in a truck crash - as SA Health launch a ninth major investigation

Daily Mail UK, Other, 06/08/2026, Josh Alston

A ninth health worker is under investigation over alleged unauthorised access of AFL great Tony Modra's medical records after he was critically injured in a truck crash. SA Health confirmed another staff member had been identified by an audit into access of the Adelaide Crows legend's patient file since his accident in June.

[Read More](#)

'Clique culture' revealed at Westpac helicopter service over workplace and safety issues

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 06/08/2026, Damon Cronshaw

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service's northern NSW operation has been accused of having a "clique culture" that targeted people who raised concerns. A NSW parliamentary inquiry report, released on Wednesday, revealed "confidential allegations" of the helicopter service "not investigating reports of multiple serious safety breaches".

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

Hinchinbrook resident recovering after contracting rare Murray Valley encephalitis virus

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/08/2026, Emily Devon

North Queensland residents are being reassured by the Townsville Public Health Unit that the risk of contracting Murray Valley encephalitis (MVE) remains "very low", following the confirmation of a locally-acquired case. The affected patient, a resident from the Hinchinbrook area, is currently recovering in a stable condition at Townsville University Hospital.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#)

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Ebola outbreak outpacing response: WHO chief

West Australian, Other, 06/08/2026

The world's fastest-growing Ebola outbreak is spreading faster than efforts to fight it, the head of the World Health Organisation has said during a visit to Congo where some health workers are striking over a lack of pay. Nearly three months into the outbreak, new cases are doubling in some hot spots, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a post on X after meeting with officials in the capital, Kinshasa.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat](#)

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Ebola virus behind massive outbreak in DRC could be mutating, officials say

The Guardian, Other, 07/08/2026, Kat Lay

The virus causing a massive outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo could be mutating, health officials fear, as confirmed cases pass 4,000. Africa's public health watchdog said the time for incremental action was over as they announced plans to scale up every aspect of the response and go "door to door" looking for patients.

[Read More](#)

Woman battles ruinous disease 'that doesn't exist' in race for life-saving surgery

Cairns Post, Other, 06/08/2026, Rebecca Nicol

A Fraser Coast woman who has been fighting a ruinous disease for more than a decade which she has been told "doesn't exist in Australia" now needs life-saving surgery leaving her partner just two weeks to raise the funds. [...] The Australian Centre for Disease Control states that Lyme disease is commonly found in parts of the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Asia.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 06/08/2026, Peter Overton

According to NSW Health, flu cases have seen a 24% increase, while COVID-19 cases surged by up to 13.5%, and RSV cases have decreased by 7%. The surge is now putting pressure on hospitals across the state.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Pharma giants' weight loss adverts skirt Australian law, say experts

Sydney Morning Herald, Business News, 07/08/2026, Elias Visontay, Page 31

Health experts have hit out at the emergence of US-inspired ads spruiking prescription medicines, as pharma giants behind blockbuster weight loss drugs skirt local laws banning promotions of their products by encouraging Australians to ask doctors about treatments. [...] In December, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) issued a safety warning over the risk of suicidal thoughts and reduced effectiveness of oral contraception linked with GLP-1 receptor agonists, including Mounjaro, Ozempic, Wegovy and more.

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

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'He told me that they were safe': Australians warned to think twice before buying unregulated peptides as online market booms

7News.com.au, Other, 06/08/2026, Jennifer Bechwati

Australians are being warned to think twice before buying unregulated peptides online, with experts cautioning the products can be dangerous and, in some cases, deadly. The warning comes as the Therapeutic Goods Administration steps up action against the booming online trade, putting those who illegally advertise, import or supply unapproved peptide products on notice.

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'Marked increase' in peptide users utilising needle exchange facilities around Australia

Experts say a "marked increase" in peptide use is leaving needle exchange facilities across Australia without enough supply to provide at-risk drug users with safe injecting equipment. The Queensland Injectors Health Network (QulHN) evolved from the Queensland Intravenous AIDS Association (QulVAA), which was established in 1988 to combat the spread of HIV and hepatitis.

[Read More](#)

Jacob thought he was served a death sentence at 24. This drug changed everything

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 06/08/2026, Lauren Ironmonger

Greg Johnston was working as a pharmacist on Oxford Street during the height of the HIV/AIDs crisis in the 1980s and 1990s. [...] Last year, the first twice-yearly injectable, lenacapavir, was approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration for use in Australia as a form of PrEP and treatment, though it's not yet available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 06/08/2026, Michael Usher and Angie Asimus

Health experts are warning Australians to think twice before buying potentially deadly unregulated peptides. The Therapeutic Goods Administration is cracking down on the booming online trade, but doctors say it's not enough.

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

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Cannabis laws could make insurance high

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/08/2026, James O'Doherty, Page 18

The Premier's overhaul of drug driving laws could push up the cost of green slips, with the government conceding it has no idea whether a three-strikes warning system for medical cannabis patients will impact Compulsory Third Party insurance costs. The Daily Telegraph can also reveal that digital drivers' licences would identify motorists who have opted into the cannabis driving register, by displaying patients' prescription status.

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

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FOOD STANDARDS

Get on board with healthy message

West Australian, Letters, 07/08/2026, Matthew Govorko & Clare Whitton, Page 51

We write in response to the full-page open letter on junk food advertising on state-owned public transport assets (The West, 3/8) as members of the health and medical coalition behind the campaign. The Cook Government, with Australia's first Preventive Health portfolio, and its forthcoming Preventive Health Strategy, says prevention is a priority.

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Mushroom foraging in New South Wales is legal but experts warn of deadly risks

ABC Online, Other, 06/08/2026, Emily Middleton

Searching through the forest for wild mushrooms is an ancient and romantic tradition. As the weather cools, foragers like Robbie Robinson head to the woods to hunt for gold.

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Workplace pesticide exposure linked to motor neurone disease risk

ABC Online, Other, 06/08/2026, Fiona Broom

Workers exposed to pesticides could have up to a 70 per cent greater risk of developing the fatal motor neurone disease ALS, a study has found. Researchers say global rates of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) have increased along with the use of pesticides, as pressures on food systems grow.

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