



TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 9th 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](#)
| [Population Health](#) | [Chronic Conditions and Screening](#) |
[Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Immunisation](#) | [Health Systems Strategies](#)
| [Health Economics & Research](#) | [First Nations Health](#)
| [Public Hospital and Health Reform](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sunday Age \(page 1\)](#)** reports that Health Minister Mark Butler endorsed a deal made by the prior Coalition government, locking 14 million privately insured Australians into high prices for medical devices, despite departmental advice that it primarily benefited industry.
- **[The Sunday Times \(page 22\)](#)** reports that the federal government has released updated clinical guidelines for the early detection of prostate cancer which will see Australian men aged 50 to 69 able to test every two years. Health Minister Mark Butler said the change would "ensure men and their families get the right support earlier".
- **[The Sunday Herald Sun \(page 1\)](#)** reports that a Victorian nurse continued working without restrictions for months following the death of a 94-year-old aged-care resident after the nurse mistakenly gave her another resident's medication and staff delayed calling emergency services for 75 minutes.
- **[The Sunday Herald Sun \(page 1\)](#)** reports that today Victorian Opposition Leader Jess Wilson will announce a \$24.5m policy that would see protective services officers deployed to some of the state's busiest hospitals in a bid to prevent violence against nurses and doctors.
- **[The Sunday Telegraph \(page 4\)](#)** reports that Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation president Nicholas Spooner has criticised NSW Premier Chris Minns' call for the public to stay away from hospital emergency departments due to the flu season rush, stating: "The Minns

government cannot continue treating predictable increases in demand as an unexpected emergency. "It is an indictment of the NSW health system that the Premier's response is to ask sick and injured people not to come to hospital."

MINISTER BUTLER

Paying through the nose, mouth, ear...

Sunday Age, General News, 09/08/2026, Clay Lucas, Page 1

[...] That deal, bureaucrats later told Mark Butler, who succeeded Hunt as health minister, went against their advice as it "predominantly benefited industry rather than providing a negotiated balance of benefits to industry and the Australian community". [...] A Department of Health spokesman confirmed that the margin of 7 per cent above what public hospitals pay for devices remained in place.

Also reported by: [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#).

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Prostate cancer screening overhaul

Sunday Times, General News, 09/08/2026, Nathan Schmidt, Page 22

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the change would "ensure men and their families get the right support earlier". Labor MP Dan Repacholi, who is the Government's special envoy for men's health, said he was committed to ensuring better detection and treatment.

Also reported by: [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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'A cry for help': Cop reveals GP failure and suicide attempts

NEWS.com.au, Other, 08/08/2026, Samina Rakhshani

A Tasmanian cop went to the doctor complaining he was feeling nauseous. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler announced the launch of the Men in Mind program this week saying the government has invested a staggering \$11.3 million to meet the needs of men and boys.

[Read More](#)

Albanese's \$10 million child gender conversion therapy grant must be axed

Oz News Today, Other, 08/08/2026

Family First National Director and NSW Legislative Council candidate Lyle Shelton has condemned the Albanese Government's latest \$10 million funding package for "gender-affirming care" training, saying Australian taxpayers should never be forced to finance the promotion gender conversion therapy to children. [...] "Instead of listening, Health Minister Mark Butler is using taxpayers' money to expand a model of care that he himself has acknowledged is 'contested and evolving' while it remains under review by the National Health and Medical Research Council."

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[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER MCALLISTER

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[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER RAE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

Prostate cancer screening overhaul

Sunday Times, General News, 09/08/2026, Nathan Schmidt, Page 22

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the change would "ensure men and their families get the right support earlier". Labor MP Dan Repacholi, who is the Government's special envoy for men's health, said he was committed to ensuring better detection and treatment.

Also reported by: [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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DEPARTMENT

Paying through the nose, mouth, ear...

Sunday Age, General News, 09/08/2026, Clay Lucas, Page 1

[...] That deal, bureaucrats later told Mark Butler, who succeeded Hunt as health minister, went against their advice as it "predominantly benefited industry rather than providing a negotiated balance of benefits to industry and the Australian community". [...] A Department of Health spokesman confirmed that the margin of 7 per cent above what public hospitals pay for devices remained in place.

Also reported by: [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#).

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Death nurse ban delay

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 09/08/2026, Sarah Booth, Page 1

A nurse who killed an aged care resident in a fatal medication mix-up was allowed to keep working for several months, while the victim's family was left in the dark. [...] Ms Giles, while praising changes subsequently made by Faversham House, found Australia had no aged-care national medication standards and urged the federal Health Department to correct this.

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

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Weighing the merits of move to retirement village

Sunday Telegraph, Business News, 09/08/2026, Brenton Miegel, Page 76

My wife and I are in our 80s. We are considering selling our quite large villa and moving to a retirement village.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Territorian \(Darwin\)](#).

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Five numbers you need to know to choose aged care

Sunday Telegraph, Business News, 09/08/2026, Noel Whittaker, Page 76

As Australia's population ages, more and more people face the challenge of helping a parent move into aged care. It's stressful for many reasons, and what people often overlook is that it can also be one of the most tricky financial decisions a family will ever make.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Territorian \(Darwin\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Times \(Perth\)](#).

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[Back to Top](#)

DISABILITY AND CARERS

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[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Outback women face long trips following loss of pelvic health physio

ABC Online, Other, 08/08/2026, Jay Carstens

Leanna Testa was at a mother's group in the outback town of Longreach, in Western Queensland, when she heard about the help other women were receiving for post-birthing issues. "I was talking to a few mums at the Feral Mums Club about it, just wanting to know with ab[dominal] separation, what I'm dealing with, if it's severe or if it's minor," Ms Testa said.

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[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

'I have two beautiful little miracles'

Sun Herald, General News, 09/08/2026, Kate Aubusson, Page 1

One child in 16 is now conceived via IVF in Australia as success rates creep up, but would-be parents face a high-stakes numbers game in which age, and the clinic they choose, can determine success. More than 50,000 women in Australia had IVF treatment in 2024, totalling 104,721 IVF cycles, according to the latest analysis of the database tracking every cycle performed at every IVF clinic in Australia and New Zealand.

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

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Drug death rate rises to 5.5 per day

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 09/08/2026, Page 25

Drug-induced deaths and hospitalisations in Australia have risen, with the trend driven by increased harm from amphetamine-type stimulants and cocaine, new data shows. Latest annual reporting by the

National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre shows more than 2000 deaths in 2024 about 5.5 deaths per day from drug overdoses.

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Plea for blood donors

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 09/08/2026, Page 19

Ongoing shortages of type O and A blood supplies have prompted an urgent call for an extra 12,000 people to donate immediately, as peak winter illness levels keep donors away and emergency orders remain high. Australian Red Cross Lifeblood says recent appeals have prevented supplies falling to critical levels, but have not been enough to replenish low supplies of the O-positive and O-negative blood types used in emergencies.

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IVF add-ons under the microscope

Sunday Times, General News, 09/08/2026, Angela Pownall, Page 24

Infertility now affects one in six Australian couples, leading more people to turn to IVF to have a baby. Australia has one of the highest rates of IVF uptake per capita in the world, with more than 100,000 cycles performed a year.

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Unnecessary prenatal supplements marketed at expectant parents, experts say

ABC Online, Other, 08/08/2026, Lauren Roberts

Do this, take this, buy that: social media is a minefield of misinformation for expectant parents. And health experts say they're increasingly concerned about influencers spruiking prenatal multivitamins and promoting unnecessary supplements on their social media platforms.

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The mystery of the millions of missing periods.

Mamamia, Other, 08/08/2026, Bek Day

How was your cycle in June? Did you skip a period? Have two in the same month?

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The next generation's definition of success may surprise you

SBS, Other, 08/08/2026, Andrew Chappelle and Avneet Arora

The future was everywhere at this year's Garma Festival — in the conversations between young leaders, in the children who eagerly reached for the microphone between interviews, and in the questions about what comes next. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, around 15 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people live in remote or very remote areas, where distance can shape access to services, education and employment opportunities.

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After a nasty fall, this simple habit saved Sira's independence

The Senior, Other, 08/08/2026, Phoebe Loomes

After Victorian woman Sira Rodrigues suffered a nasty fall, she feared she was on the cusp of losing her independence. [...] A good sense of balance helps prevent falls and the injuries that can come from falls, which were the leading cause of injury-related deaths in 2023-24, killing more than 6700 people, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

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[Back to Top](#)

'Watershed moment' in men cancer fight

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 09/08/2026, Nathan Schmidt, Page 12

Australian men aged between 50 and 69 will be able to test every two years for one of the country's most common cancers, under world-leading reforms. The Albanese government has released its updated 2026 Clinical Guidelines for the Early Detection of Prostate Cancer, the first major update in 10 years.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#),

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We deserve a right to live

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 09/08/2026, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 20

Patients with motor neurone disease are being blocked from accessing a medical procedure that could add years to their lives. Families are campaigning against the medical barriers on tracheostomies for people living with MND, claiming they are being denied the chance to see their children grow up, spend more time with loved ones, or live long enough to see a cure.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#).

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The girl who was adamant she'd live past 10

Sunday Times, General News, 09/08/2026, Amy Cavender, Page 15

When Carolyn Boyd was born with cystic fibrosis in 1967, her parents were told she would not survive past her 10th birthday. Now, as she approaches her 60th, new data shows there are more adult Australians with the genetic disorder than children.

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[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Inside fatal failures of quarantine

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 09/08/2026, Paul Brescia, Page 30

Queensland Health staff missed an opportunity to save highly accomplished engineer, RAAF pilot and father Matthew Carroll who took his life on his second day of Covid-era hotel quarantine, an inquest has heard. The coronial inquest into his death has revealed how a system designed to save lives instead created a place where people would threaten suicide weekly only to be written off as "tantrums".

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50 per cent of Aussies lonely

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 09/08/2026, Page 26

One in two people living in Australia experience some form of social disconnection. Royal Australian College of GPs research for Loneliness Awareness Week Australia also found having one close friend could reduce loneliness and isolation by 89 per cent.

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'Crucial': Parents urged to talk about eating disorders with children as rates skyrocket in Australia

NEWS.com.au, Other, 08/08/2026, Alexandra Feiam

Parents have been urged to speak openly – but cautiously – with their children about mental health and body image as the rates of eating disorders skyrocket among young Australians. This week, media personality Carrie Bickmore said she didn't know "how to think or feel" about videos of American singer Ariana Grande, who appeared severely underweight.

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IMMUNISATION

Vaccine able to fill dual role

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 09/08/2026, 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.

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

SAHMRI in 'messy divorce'

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 09/08/2026, Andrew Hough, Page 5

State taxpayers and a major university are set to exit from the state's embattled medical institute as a controversial "messy divorce" is on the cusp of being signed. The South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute was born more than 16 years ago in the \$200m "cheesegrater" building in the CBD's \$3.6bn biomed precinct.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

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[Back to Top](#)

PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

ED stay away plea slammed

Sunday Telegraph, Edition Changes, 09/08/2026, Page 4

A top doctor has hit out at NSW Premier Chris Minns' bid for people to stay away from hospital emergency departments amid the flu season rush unless they were in life-threatening situations. The Premier's comment came after close to 10,000 people went to Sydney emergency departments on Monday the largest ever number in a single day.

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Fears mum's hip wait will end up fatal

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 09/08/2026, Matilda McDermott, Page 1

A 74-year-old pensioner, who may be forced to wait up to five years for an urgent hip replacement, is in constant agony with her daughter worried she may die within 12 months. Pensioner Maxine Manuel, 74, of Craigmare, has been living with a collapsed hip caused by severe osteoarthritis.

Baby, we're still here for you

Sunday Examiner, General News, 09/08/2026, Lauren Richardson, Page 1

Ten years ago, Tasmanian women turned to one provider, desperate for a service the private health sector was no longer providing - but where is it today? When the Calvary St Vincent postnatal unit closed at the end of 2016 due to staffing issues, Northern Tasmania's new mums were left without private postnatal care options in the days following the birth.

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[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Guards in hospitals

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 09/08/2026, Alex White, Page 1

Protective services officers would be deployed to guard some of Victoria's busiest hospitals under a Coalition plan to prevent violence against nurses and doctors. Opposition Leader Jess Wilson will on Sunday unveil the policy to trial 70 PSOs at seven major hospitals at a cost of \$24.5m.

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

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\$3500 a day to lure GPs to island

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 09/08/2026, Jacinta Round, Page 13

Free childcare and a daily wage of \$3500 are just some of the perks a Kangaroo Island medical clinic is offering in its desperate bid to secure doctors. Free accommodation and a vehicle are also being dangled to address the shortage.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#)

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Vulnerable patients fear implications of stoma nurse shortage

ABC Online, Other, 08/08/2026, Sam Bradbrook and Jenae Madden

David Platt was unsure what his future held when he awoke from surgery with a urostomy bag. Living in Mount Gambier, in regional South Australia, he was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2004, but the disease spread throughout his body, including to his bladder.

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[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Medic's morphine misstep

Sunday Times, General News, 09/08/2026, Caleb Runciman, Page 14

A paramedic who stole expired morphine for his heroin-addicted friend has been found to have engaged in professional misconduct by the State Administrative Tribunal. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency suspended his paramedic registration in June 2021, which remains the case today.

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

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Widow of SA baking icon Vili Milisits drops wrongful death lawsuit against medical professionals and hospitals

Adelaide Now, Other, 08/08/2026, Sean Fewster

A bitter, years-long legal war over legendary baker Vili Milisits – thought unresolvable by a judge – has taken an unexpected turn. The widow of SA baking icon Vili Milisits has withdrawn all of her lawsuits over his final days, ending a years-long legal battle over his alleged "wrongful death".

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Twist in trial of Double Bay chiropractor accused of choking ex-girlfriend as 'private' emails and early-morning phone calls emerge between alleged victim and senior cop

Daily Mail UK, Other, 08/08/2026, Stephen Gibbs

A multilingual Double Bay doctor facing domestic violence charges has been asked to translate his alleged victim's French medical certificate excusing her from flying home from Europe to get in the witness box. Lotus-driving Walid Kesserwani is the founder and CEO of Medisport Clinic in Sydney's eastern suburbs and boasts of treating professional sportspeople including NRL and players.

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[Back to Top](#)

AUSTRALIAN CDC

Senior managers at St Basil's aged care, where 50 died from Covid, can't remember it all. Grieving loved ones can't forget

The Guardian, Other, 08/08/2026, Melissa Davey

Quiet sobs could be heard in Melbourne's coroner's court, as several families attended to finally hear from the pair who were the most senior managers when, throughout July and August 2020, almost a quarter of the 188 residents at St Basil's aged care home died from Covid-19 or neglect.

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[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Vital sings

Sunday Times, STM, 09/08/2026, Jade Jurewicz, Page 12

From ice baths to biohacking, men are rewriting what health looks like. [...] In June the Therapeutic Goods Administration released a statement highlighting its increasing concern over the growing

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Spirits council demands major crackdown on pubs selling counterfeit alcohol

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 09/08/2026, Harrison Finlay

Pub and bottle shop owners caught selling counterfeit or smuggled alcohol should face strict new penalties under a proposal to stamp out a burgeoning spirits black market. The Spirits Council of Australia (SCA) last week launched a direct appeal to the Minns government to close a gaping legal loophole in state liquor laws, warning that organised crime networks are increasingly infiltrating licensed venues with illicit alcohol or “bootleg booze”.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, Weekend Breakfast, 08/08/2026, Fauziah Ibrahim and Lorna Dunkley

The ACCC has confirmed that it initiated inquiries in line with its usual practises regarding allegations about potentially misleading consumer conduct. The Four Corners probe found that some products being sold at major supermarkets didn't match their labels, including their country of origin.

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[Back to Top](#)

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[Back to Top](#)

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