



TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 11th September 2026

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister McAllister](#) | [Minister Rae](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#) |
[Assistant Minister White](#) | [Special Envoy Repacholi](#) | [Department](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Australian** (page 3) reports the motor neurone disease drug Qalsody will be listed on the PBS from next month, cutting the cost from about \$28,600 to \$25 per script. Health Minister Mark Butler said the listing would make a difference to Australians living with MND. *Also reported by: [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#)*
- The **Herald Sun** (page 3) reports the federal government will amend aged care rules to prevent providers charging residents Higher Everyday Living Fees for services they previously received for free. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said the changes will strengthen protections for older Australians. *Also reported by: [The Australian](#)*
- **The Australian** (page 6) reports the Fair Work Commission has upheld the dismissal of an NDIS worker after finding she engaged in sexual misconduct and failed to maintain professional boundaries with a client with significant disabilities.
- The **Age** (page 6) reports a cancer patient has died and another is terminally ill after Mildura Base Public Hospital failed to triage 150 critical referrals left in cardboard boxes for up to 16 months. The hospital has reported the incidents to Safer Care Victoria and is investigating the delays.
- **SBS** (online) reports aged care provider Opal Healthcare has refunded and credited almost \$200,000 to about 350 residents following regulatory action over its Higher Everyday Living Fee

arrangements. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said it was “unreasonable” for providers to charge older Australians for services they previously received at no cost. *Also reported by:* [Newcastle Herald](#), [Nine.com.au](#)

- [ABC Online](#) reports a Cancer Council Victoria-commissioned report has found people affected by cancer face widespread financial and legal pressures, including high out-of-pocket treatment costs and lost income. The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing said the federal government is investing in initiatives including the Australian Cancer Nursing and Navigation Program to support access to care and specialist services.
- [ABC Online](#) reports the manufacturer behind a base formula used in 20 recalled sunscreens is facing Federal Court action over claims the products failed to meet their advertised SPF ratings. The TGA previously found the formulation was unlikely to have an SPF above 21, with some products potentially as low as SPF 4.

MINISTER BUTLER

Cost win for motor neurone sufferers

The Australian, General News, 11/09/2026, Penny Timms, Page 3

A disease-modifying drug aimed at a rare genetic subtype of motor neurone disease will be subsidised from next month, cutting the cost of a script from about \$28,600 to \$25. [...] “The listing of Qalsody for ALS on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme is a game-changer for Australian patients,” Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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

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Huge win for MND fight

Herald Sun, General News, 11/09/2026, Jade Gailberger, Page 3

Australians living with a type of motor neurone disease (MND) will have access to a new, cheaper treatment to help slow the progress of the disease and maintain muscle function. [...] “With every investment the Albanese government makes towards accelerating the development and delivery of new treatments for MND, we hope to honour the great legacy of Neale Daniher,” Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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

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\$28,000 MND jab now \$25

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2026, Brad Crouch, Page 4

Australians with a rare type of motor neurone disease who were facing a bill of \$28,600 a script for a new wonder drug will soon be able to access it for \$25, or \$7.70 with a concession card. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler will make the announcement today at the National MND Conference at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

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

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Bed-block warning as emergency wards brace for impact

Newcastle Herald, General News, 10/09/2026, Duncan Murray and Max Aldred, Page 4

Skyrocketing numbers of patients taking up hospital beds who don't medically need to be there could create seismic issues for the country's largest health system. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler stared down calls for urgent intervention and referred to his government's previous investment, adding the ageing population was driving unprecedented demand for healthcare.

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Commonwealth Home Support Program extension brings certainty to older Australians

Dubbo Photo News, General News, 10/09/2026, Lana Eather, Page 18

Older Australians and aged care providers have welcomed the Federal Government's decision to extend the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) until June 30, 2029. [...] Mark Butler MP, said the Government had listened to concerns from older Australians and providers.

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Cost of 'game changer' MND drug slashed from \$28k to \$25 after listing on PBS

The Australian, Other, 11/09/2026, Emma Kirk

Australians living with motor neurone disease (MND) will now have cheaper access to treatment through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – carrying forward Neale Daniher's extraordinary legacy. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said MND was a heartbreaking insidious disease that Australians were all too familiar with.

Also reported by: [News24 Australia \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Sound Telegraph \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#), [Countryman \(Online\)](#), [Broome Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Pilbara News \(Online\)](#), [South Western Times \(Online\)](#).

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'Rapid' IAT review misses three-month deadline

Health Services Daily, Other, 10/09/2026, Cate Swannell

A three-month deadline for a government-ordered "rapid review" of the Support at Home prioritisation mechanism has expired, with independent MP Monique Ryan telling parliament the review has still not reached aged care minister Sam Rae. [...] The following day, federal health minister Mark Butler and Mr Rae announced priority aged care access for people with motor neurone disease and directed the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to undertake a rapid review of the Support at Home prioritisation mechanism.

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Two-year extension on home support program for elderly

HealthTimes, Other, 10/09/2026

Labor has vowed to keep the first port of call for older Australians entering the aged care system operating, less than a year before it was due to be cut. [...] Merging this program and the more specialised care scheme into one system was a policy decision from the Morrison government, Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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Bulk-billing incentives for non-GP specialists on the table

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/09/2026, Jolyon Attwooll

Beefed-up bulk-billing incentive payments for non-GP specialists are among the options under consideration as the Government sets out possible ways to tackle what it deems as 'excessive' specialist fees. [...] The issue of excessive fees has become a familiar theme in this term of Government, with Federal Health and Ageing Minister Mark Butler citing it as one of his top priorities.

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80 people stuck in Canberra's hospital beds waiting for Commonwealth aged care placements

PS News, Other, 10/09/2026, Claire Fenwicke

Pressure's growing on the Commonwealth Government to do something about the more than 3600 people stranded in public hospitals across the country – including 80 in the ACT – waiting for aged care placements. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler told Sunrise the Federal Government was "ploughing" money into more Support at Home packages and supporting providers to build new facilities, but the system was facing "unprecedented demand".

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PBS widens pembrolizumab access

Oncology Republic, Other, 10/09/2026, Amanda Sheppeard

Cancer patient advocacy groups will have even bigger reason to celebrate spring – it also marks a significant expansion of the PBS listing for pembrolizumab. [...] Federal health Minister Mark Butler described the change as "ground-breaking", saying access would no longer simply depend on a patient having a particular cancer type.

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Butler's eye firmly on specialists

Oncology Republic, Other, 10/09/2026, Holly Payne

Just in case more confirmation is needed, health minister Mark Butler outright tells delegates at the AMA national conference last month that his second term as health minister is more firmly focussed on non-GP specialist care than on primary care. "I think if I took an experience or a lesson from my time as a junior health minister in the last Labor government, it was that that we tried to bite off too much at once," he said.

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DoHDA could cap out-of-pocket fees

The Medical Republic, Other, 10/09/2026, Holly Payne

Caps on out-of-pocket fees for MBS services, bulk-billing incentives for non-GP specialists, and PSR-style peer assessment of fees are just three of the options on the table for reining in "excessive" medical fees, a new consultation paper reveals. As foreshadowed by health minister Mark Butler multiple times over the last year, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing presented a wide range of potential solutions for non-GP specialist fees for consideration.

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Say 'No' to telehealth VAD

The Catholic Weekly, Other, 10/09/2026, Michael Cook

The Catholic Weekly is unashamedly, unabashedly, unconditionally pro-life. [...] "The prescribing of weight loss medications to patients who may be experiencing anorexia or other eating disorders is one example of the kind of harm inadequate supervision can produce," independent MP Monique Ryan told Federal health minister Mark Butler.

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News24, The Kenny Report, 10/09/2026, Caleb Bond

Bond reports the Albanese Government is refusing to rule out cutting the tobacco excise, despite previously saying it would not get into a bidding war with organised crime over tobacco prices. He says Health Minister Mark Butler is also leaving the door open to a cut, while the Government has introduced a bill to make it easier to prosecute people involved in the illicit tobacco trade. He adds the shift comes as the Coalition and One Nation push for major excise cuts.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

It's bye, bye ... greedy fraudster set for jail

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/09/2026, Julie Cross, Page 21

A middle-aged mother who masterminded a \$2.2m NDIS fraud is tipped to join Australia's list of the "worst of the worst" scam artists when she is sentenced on Friday. [...] NDIS Minister Jenny McAllister said she was determined to get rid of the "criminals, fraudsters, grifters and shonks" in the scheme for good.

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Albo closes loophole he opened

Herald Sun, General News, 11/09/2026, Nathan Schmidt, Page 3

The Albanese government will bar residential aged care providers from charging elderly Australians an "unreasonable" fee, as it seeks to reform the beleaguered system. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said the government had listened to older Australians and were acting to make the "rules clear and strengthen protections".

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [News24 Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [MSN Australia \(Online\)](#), [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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Labor bars aged-care providers from charging new HELF fees on older care packages

The Australian, Other, 10/09/2026, Elizabeth Pike

Labor has moved to stop aged-care providers from charging some of their residents for services they previously received at no extra cost, closing a loophole in its landmark reforms that allowed providers to gouge their consumers. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae insisted the government had "always said it was unreasonable" for the HELF to be retroactively applied to older care packages.

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Aged care giant refunds \$200,000 to residents over disputed living fees

SBS, Other, 10/09/2026, Rachael Knowles and Rayane Tamer

One of Australia's largest aged care providers has been forced to refund almost \$200,000 to residents after regulatory action from the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission. [...] "We've always said it was unreasonable for providers to start charging older Australians for services they previously received at no cost," Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said in a statement on Thursday.

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Aged care giant forced to return nearly \$200,000 in sneaky fee rip-off

nine.com.au, Other, 10/09/2026, Patrick Brischetto

An aged care giant is being forced to hand back almost \$200,000 dollars after it ripped off residents with sneaky fees for free-to-air TV and Wi-Fi. [...] Minister for Aged Care Sam Rae admitted some were taking advantage of the new system.

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

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Aged care residents winning back thousands in major fee crackdown

Newcastle Herald, Other, 10/09/2026, Desiree Savage

Tens of thousands of dollars are to be refunded to aged care residents at the centre of an alleged price-gouging dispute, while the government seeks to put better protections in place. [...] "We've always said it was unreasonable for providers to start charging older Australians for services they previously received at no cost," said Sam Rae, Minister for Aged Care and Seniors.

Also reported by: [Cessnock Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Goulburn Post \(Online\)](#), [Bega District News \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Glen Innes Examiner \(Online\)](#), [Dunggg Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Milton Ulladulla Times \(Online\)](#).

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Thousands of aged care places thrown into doubt after funding call

The Senior, Other, 10/09/2026, Phoebe Loomes

Australia is at risk of losing 2000 new residential aged care beds as outrage grows over a plan to

increase government funding at a rate below inflation, according to providers and advocates. [...] Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae said the uptick in the AN-ACC price would help provide more support to the 200,000 people in residential aged care.

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Health Services Daily, Other, 10/09/2026, Cate Swannell

A three-month deadline for a government-ordered “rapid review” of the Support at Home prioritisation mechanism has expired, with independent MP Monique Ryan telling parliament the review has still not reached aged care minister Sam Rae. [...] The following day, federal health minister Mark Butler and Mr Rae announced priority aged care access for people with motor neurone disease and directed the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing to undertake a rapid review of the Support at Home prioritisation mechanism.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Lake Haven Urgent Care Clinic services boost

Coast Community News, Other, 10/09/2026

The additional funding for the Lake Haven Medicare Urgent Care Clinic has helped deliver four new GPs and extended operating hours from 8am to 10pm, seven days a week. Member for Shortland Pat Conroy and Member for Dobell Emma McBride attended the clinic recently to announce the funding boost, which will increase the clinic's capacity and expand its services.

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Bondi Medicare Mental Health Centre opens

The Australian Jewish News, Other, 10/09/2026, Bruce Hill

A significant step forward in accessible community mental health support was taken late last month when the Bondi Medicare Mental Health Centre officially opened. There was a ribbon cutting, and Jewish House CEO Rabbi Mendel Kastel, alongside Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Emma McBride, affixed a mezuzah to the centre's doorway, to symbolise that the community is always welcome.

[Read More](#)

News24, Politics Now, 10/09/2026, Tom Connell, Kieran Gilbert, Andrew Clennell and Ashleigh Gillon

On World Suicide Prevention Day, the Albanese government has announced \$82.9m for national suicide prevention services. Assistant Mental Health Minister Emma McBride says the day is one of reflection and remembering those lost to suicide, while Parliament House will be illuminated for the first time in their memory. Around 3,000 Australians die by suicide each year, with farmer Josh Hack saying a farmer dies by suicide every 10 days. Independent Senator David Pocock notes the need to help create communities where people feel connected and comfortable seeking support.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Doctors said anxiety. Eight months later, Libby Trickett learned she'd had a heart attack

Heart disease is killing one Australian woman every hour, with experts warning the condition is still too often seen as a man's problem. [...] "Women are not just little men and the symptoms that we experience when it comes to our cardiovascular health needs to be considered," Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White said.

Also reported by: [worldtravelblog.org](#) (Online).

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 10/09/2026, Angela Cox and Mark Ferguson

Heart disease remains a major threat to Australian women, with around half a million living with a heart condition and one woman dying every hour. Women are 50% more likely to be misdiagnosed, with advocates including Olympic champion Libby Trickett and chef Mandy Hall sharing experiences of receiving a delayed diagnosis. Assistant Health Minister Rebecca White says women's cardiovascular symptoms need better recognition. A ministerial panel is examining why women are diagnosed late and will report later this year, with its recommendations expected to guide future reforms.

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

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Financial and legal costs of cancer in Australia outlined in new report

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2026, Lauren Roberts

When Neroli Padfield sat down to add up all the out-of-pocket expenses associated with her cancer journey, she knew it would be sizeable. [...] A Department of Health, Disability and Ageing spokesperson said the government was investing in initiatives such as the Australian Cancer Nursing and Navigation Program to support people to access information, nursing care, navigation assistance and specialist support services.

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DoHDA could cap out-of-pocket fees

Health Services Daily, Other, 10/09/2026, Holly Payne

The consultation paper for the excessive medical fees inquiry has finally landed, promising 'consequences' for specialist doctors who charge patients very high fees.

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Alliance demands \$700m MYEFO funding boost for CHSP

The group that helped convince the DoHDA to preserve the Commonwealth Home Support Program wants an immediate \$700m funding injection and a three-year plan to lift annual spending to as much as \$6 billion. The CHSP Alliance has called for at least \$700 million in additional annual funding for the Commonwealth Home Support Program in the December MYEFO, arguing the program has missed out on \$1.

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Bulk-billing incentives for non-GP specialists on the table

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 10/09/2026, Jolyon Attwooll

Beefed-up bulk-billing incentive payments for non-GP specialists are among the options under consideration as the Government sets out possible ways to tackle what it deems as 'excessive' specialist fees. [...] The issue of excessive fees has become a familiar theme in this term of Government, with Federal Health and Ageing Minister Mark Butler citing it as one of his top priorities.

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Your Life Choices, Other, 10/09/2026, Lauren Roberts

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Nurse helped herself to \$30k

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2026, Lucy Rutherford, Page 9

A nurse has been banned for five years after she fooled an elderly man into believing she was his daughter to steal more than \$30,000 from him. Kamila Stansfield-Labrin, 25, exploited the vulnerable patient with a cognitive impairment in the "elaborate" scheme while working at an aged care facility.

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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WA dementia service could help tackle NT's hospital bed block

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/09/2026, Page 6

"It takes, on average, about three years to get a diagnosis," Ms Meijer said. "And about five years for a young onset dementia diagnosis (those under 65 years old). "So by the time the families get to one point where they have some idea of where they need to go, they're very, very fatigued already."

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Pressure dialled up

Ballarat Courier, General News, 11/09/2026, Adam Spencer, Page 1

Dogs falling out of a bath, delivery drivers asking for help leaving food, and people phoning police for a lift home from a night out are just some of the nuisance calls Ballarat's Triple Zero operators receive. [...] Paramedics are most frequently called for chest pain, breathing problems, falls, and unconsciousness, with people aged 80 and over representing the highest proportion of callers.

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This dementia often strikes in midlife. These are the signs most people miss

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 10/09/2026, Erica Sloan

If you've heard of frontotemporal dementia (FTD), it may be because of Bruce Willis or Wendy Williams – two celebrities whose diagnoses in recent years have shed light on this infrequently discussed neurodegenerative disease. Though FTD is relatively rare, accounting for less than 10 per cent of the estimated 450,000 Australians living with dementia, it's a common form of early-onset dementia.

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Dementia prevention measures need to be broader in scope, researchers say

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2026, Georgie Hewson

Personal preventative measures alone will not decrease the risk of dementia, researchers have found. Until now there has been a focus on personal choices such as eating, exercise, social activity and mental health to prevent Australia's leading cause of death.

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'Significant losses' if no change to pricing method

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/09/2026, Natasha Egan and Katarina Lloyd Jones

As pricing moves closer to the actual cost of delivering care and hotel services, methodological issues relating to the treatment of administrative costs, payroll tax, care minutes and additional services revenue are having a significant impact on the capacity of the sector to invest in improving the supply and quality of services, Bolton Clarke has told the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority. The largest independent not-for-profit provider has shared its submission to the recent IHACPA 2027–28 Residential Aged Care Pricing Framework consultation following last week's widely unwelcome announcement about residential aged care funding.

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Alliance calls for equal CHSP expenditure

Community Care Review, Other, 10/09/2026, Katarina Lloyd Jones

The CHSP Alliance is calling on the government to start correcting the funding imbalance in Australia's aged care system and make an immediate investment in the Commonwealth Home Support Program. The group's funding submission to the Federal Government, Investing in Primary Aged Care, outlines a three-year plan to restore fair funding to the entry-level aged care program. It argues that CHSP should be recognised and funded as a core part of Australia's primary aged care system to support prevention, early intervention and ongoing support for older Australians wanting to remain at home.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 10/09/2026, Peter Overton

Australia's biggest aged care provider, Opal Healthcare, has been forced to refund \$190,000 to

residents after charging for services including free-to-air TV and Wi-Fi that had previously been provided at no cost. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae says services provided free before November 1 last year must continue without additional cost. Michael Clare, whose mother was affected by the costs, says the changes have not solved the problem of price gouging.

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

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

NDIS worker sacked for flirting, client shave

The Australian, General News, 11/09/2026, Ewin Hannan, Page 6

The Fair Work Commission has upheld the sacking of a female NDIS worker who shaved a vulnerable client's pubic hair, rejecting claims by the father of the client that he did it. Sydney-based NDIS provider Home Caring dismissed Victoria Nguyen for her conduct while performing work for the client, a 49-year-old man with significant disabilities following a stroke.

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

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Worst of the worst NDIS list

Courier Mail, General News, 11/09/2026, Page 7

A middle-aged mother who masterminded a \$2.2m NDIS fraud is tipped to join Australia's list of the "worst of the worst" scam artists when she is sentenced today. Ebtesam Mahmoud Ibrahim Fahmy, 57, is expected to receive jail time when she faces the NSW District Court.

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Integrity Care director Amy-June Collins faces court for reckless conduct after neglect death of disabled woman Annie Smith by carer

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 10/09/2026, Lucy Rutherford

The director of a disability care business which employed the carer who fatally neglected woman Annie Smith had a drug and gambling addiction at the time of running the company, a court has heard. On Thursday, Amy-June Collins – whose company Integrity Care employed and had oversight of Ms Smith's disability carer – faced sentencing submissions and denied the addictions had any link to her offending.

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

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Brisbane boy, 9, wins second battle against NDIA for crucial prosthetic eye NDIS funding

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/09/2026, Julie Cross

A young boy who was denied funding for prosthetic eyes by the National Disability Insurance Scheme has won his battle to have the support reinstated – for the second time in three years. Leo Hall, 9, was born with no eyes and eye sockets smaller than the size of a grain of rice and has been receiving NDIS funding for artificial eyes since he was five years old.

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

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PRIMARY CARE

More health options in NSW

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/09/2026, Jack Nivison, Page 8

People in NSW will be able to skirt around the usual GP clinic wait times to seek treatment for everyday health conditions at a pharmacy. The new trial announced by the Minns Labor government on Thursday will give pharmacies permission to treat ear infections and wounds and help patients deal with chronic conditions such as high blood pressure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Fighting for our health

Daily Liberal, General News, 11/09/2026, Fiona Aveyard, Page 1

For Vicki Hemley, access to healthcare can mean checking a station airstrip for kangaroos before the Royal Flying Doctor Service comes in to land. Mrs Hemley has spent 36 years living and working in remote NSW and for the past 15 years has helped run Packsaddle Station, 179 km north of Broken Hill.

Also reported by: [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#).

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4BC, Drive, 10/09/2026, Carla Bignasca

The Senate has passed amendments aimed at reversing the \$5,000 cap on allied health services for defence veterans, according to a press release by Nationals leader Matt Canavan. The amendments will now return to the House of Representatives for debate, with Shadow Veterans' Affairs Minister Michael McCormack saying he looks forward to the bill returning to the Senate next week.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Evenings, 10/09/2026, Kelly Higgins-Devine

A report by the Medicare Advisory Committee found that the current system incentivises GPs to see patients quickly and recommends increasing rebates for longer appointments. Australian Medical Association President Danielle McMullen says women are particularly disadvantaged by the current rebate structure, with reproductive planning and menopause management often requiring longer consultations.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 10/09/2026, Steve Austin

The Australian Medical Association says that health workers are currently facing an increase in occupational violence after a patient was allegedly assaulted at an emergency department in Brisbane. The 73yo medical worker was allegedly punched repeatedly by a man at the Princess Alexandra Hospital last month.

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ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 10/09/2026, Thomas Oriti

Interview with Mario Barone, NSW Pharmacy Guild, on the expansion of services allowing specially trained pharmacists to treat more medical conditions. Oriti says the Australian Medical Association has criticised the expansion, arguing pharmacists could miss underlying conditions when treating patients. Barone says specially trained pharmacists are taught to identify risk factors and refer patients to doctors or hospitals when conditions fall outside their scope.

Interview continues on: [ABC Radio Sydney \(Sydney\)](#).

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Team to tackle Cairns STI crisis

Cairns Post, General News, 11/09/2026, Catherine Duffy, Page 3

Cairns is grappling with an sexually transmitted infection (STI) crisis so severe that health authorities have deployed an emergency outbreak team. Health authorities have deployed an emergency outbreak management team after logging more than 600 cases of syphilis and gonorrhoea so far this year.

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

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Defence drive home blood bid

Cairns Post, General News, 11/09/2026, Catherine Duffy, Page 4

Defence personnel have come out in full force to donate blood in one of Australia's largest and longest-running workplace donation campaigns. Members of HMAS Cairns, including Commander Andrew Thorpe, have donated blood and plasma as part of the annual Defence Force Blood Drive.

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

The top killers of women at every age group – and how to beat them

Australian Financial Review, Other, 10/09/2026, Euan Black

Reducing women's health to reproductive organs and hormones leaves dangerous blind spots in how doctors diagnose, treat, and save female patients. That's according to Sarah White, the chief executive of Jean Hailes for Women's Health.

[Read More](#)

Epilepsy 'pushed under' with years-long treatment wait

West Australian, Other, 10/09/2026, Will Nicholas

It took 40 years for Dawn Kenny to discover what was causing her seizures. [...] Epilepsy killed 322 people in 2023, by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's most recent tally, and hospitalised almost 15,000.

Also reported by: [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail UK \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Sydney undertaker breaks down after burying two children lost to bullying Big move from council that banned Australia Day

NEWS.com.au, Other, 10/09/2026, Heath Parkes-Huption

A Sydney undertaker has broken down as he shared harrowing stories of having to bury two young children just days apart who both died after being subjected to bullying. [...] Data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare found deaths by suicide represented 31.8 per cent of all deaths in people aged 15 to 17 years in 2023.

[Read More](#)

Transgender breastfeeding row: Tribunal orders woman to reveal hormone use

Daily Mail UK, Other, 11/09/2026, Sarah Brookes

A transgender woman at the centre of a bitter breastfeeding row has been ordered to reveal what hormones she takes and what was in the liquid she fed her baby. Jennifer Adrian Buckley is suing Jasmine Sussex, an Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) counsellor, over descriptions of her as a 'man pretending to be a woman', 'a child abuser' and someone who adopted a 'delusional queer theory take' on breastfeeding.

[Read More](#)

What's the best low-pressure workout app if you hate the gym?

Mamamia, Other, 10/09/2026, Michelle Webb

If you hate the gym, the best workout app is a low-pressure one: no calorie counting, no weight-loss talk, no punishing challenges, and short, flexible sessions you can do at home. [...] According to the AIHW, around 41% of Australian women aged 18–64 don't meet the recommended physical activity guidelines — a higher rate than men.

[Read More](#)

Does exercise help anxiety and stress? What the research shows.

Mamamia, Other, 10/09/2026, Michelle Webb

Yes - regular exercise is consistently associated with lower stress and anxiety and better day-to-day mood. [...] Any movement helps: an estimated 37% of Australian adults aged 18–64 don't meet the guidelines (AIHW), so even a small, steady increase is meaningful.

[Read More](#)

Hospital care for endometriosis

Medicine Today, General News, 10/09/2026

The rate of endometriosis hospitalisations rose by 23% over the past decade, compared with a 5% increase for all female hospitalisations, a new Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report shows. Of the 24,700 admissions for endometriosis in 2024–25, more than 90% involved a procedure, most commonly diagnostic procedures, intrauterine device insertions and laparoscopic surgery

[Read More](#)

ABC News, Mornings, 10/09/2026, Gemma Veness

The Federal Government is cracking down on the illicit tobacco trade with new offences now targeting organised crime distributors and retailers. The new law aims to make it easier for police to charge people with illegally importing tobacco.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 10, 10 News, 10/09/2026, Jennifer Keyte

The Albanese Government has introduced new legislation that gives Border Force officials and police greater powers to prosecute people who import or sell illegal tobacco. Assistant Customs Minister Julian Hill says the scale and sophistication of organised crime demand stronger action, while One Nation and the Coalition are calling for 75% and 80% cuts to the tobacco tax. Smoking rates have also fallen in Australia, and making tobacco cheaper risks sending the wrong public health message.

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

Test that could save your life

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/09/2026, Lottie Hood, Page 6

As Darwin falls two-thirds below national testing standards for prostate cancer, a 95-year-old survivor and long-term advocate, has urged men not to let "manliness" get in the way of survival. It has been more than 20 years since Leayner resident, Don Lockley, was diagnosed with prostate cancer.

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

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'Seven times higher': Motor neurone disease cluster discovered in western NSW

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 10/09/2026, Frank Chung

High up in the NSW Blue Mountains, the sleepy town of Oberon, three hours west of Sydney, is largely known for its pine forests and sprawling green gardens. [...] A new first-of-its-kind study has revealed shockingly high rates of motor neurone disease (MND) in western NSW, with Oberon topping the list.

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

[Read More](#)

Tasmanian man may wait up to a year for procedure after positive bowel cancer screen

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2026, Clancy Balen

When Tony* returned a positive test result in June from a bowel cancer screening kit, he was told by his doctor that he would be put into the most urgent category for a colonoscopy. The procedure, which was meant to happen within 30 days, needs to be performed to confirm whether or not he has bowel cancer.

[Read More](#)

First Australian guideline on childhood hypertension

Medicine Today, General News, 10/09/2026, Rebecca Jenkins

Children should be screened twice for hypertension starting at 7 years of age, according to the first Australian guideline aimed at identifying and managing the condition in early life. The guideline, published in the Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health, was facilitated by BPOzKids Network and Hypertension Australia and endorsed by the National Heart Foundation of Australia.

[Read More](#)

Routine antihistamines offer little benefit for eczema

Medicine Today, General News, 10/09/2026, Sasha Ellery

Oral H1 antihistamines produce clinically unimportant improvements in eczema severity and itch, while first-generation agents increase the risk of cognitive impairment, a systematic review and network meta-analysis published in the BMJ finds. [...] He added that the Australasian College of Dermatologists specifically recommends against its use.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Sister seeking support for soldier

Daily Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2026, Taylor Dodge, Page 3

He's been to Afghanistan and Iraq to serve his country, witnessed more burials than any human ever should and faced weapons created to destroy countries. Yet when Michael McMillan needed mental health support, it simply wasn't there.

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

Walking for mental health

Border Watch, General News, 11/09/2026, Page 9

World Suicide Prevention Day was held this week with many gathering early on Thursday at Lifeline South East for the annual Out of the Shadows Community Walk. In Australia, more than 3000 people lose their lives to suicide each year including individuals who are family, friends and cherished loved ones.

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

After R U OK's founder's death, his family found a way to cope with grief

The Senior, Other, 10/09/2026, Phoebe Loomes

After her family was rocked by twin tragedies, Mary King, mother-in-law to the late R U OK Day founder Gavin Larkin, says staying connected to one another has helped her family navigate unimaginable grief. "We built on a good foundation, and somehow we got through," Mary King, 81, told The Senior.

Marked increase in mental health disorders among Australian youth

Medicine Today, General News, 10/09/2026

More than one in three Australians aged 16 to 24 years met criteria for a mental disorder in the past 12 months, up from about one in four in 2007, according to new research. [...] The 12-month prevalence of any mental disorder rose from 23.4 to 36.2%. Anxiety disorders nearly tripled, from 12.2 to 29.1%, and mood disorders rose from 4.9 to 13.3%.

[Read More](#)

Beyond R U OK? Day: Year-round mental health in the public service

The Mandarin, Other, 10/09/2026, Dan Holmes

As agencies don yellow for R U OK? Day today, the organisation's workplace program manager wants public sector workplaces to think beyond the cupcakes.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC National News, 10/09/2026, Joe O'Brien

A cosmetic surgery procedure that reshapes the ribs to create a smaller waist is now being offered in Australia, prompting warnings from eating disorder organisations and experts about social media fuelling pressure to achieve increasingly extreme body shapes. Rib contouring involves fracturing the lower ribs and repositioning them into a narrower shape, with the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons warning of complications including a collapsed lung.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 10/09/2026, Leon Delaney

Interview with Dr Michael Wright, President, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, on R U OK? Day and seeking help for mental health concerns. Wright says asking someone if they are okay can open the door to a conversation, and encourages people who are not feeling well to speak with their GP. He says people can access up to 10 psychologist visits a year through a GP care plan, but believes people with higher needs should receive more visits.

Interview continues on: [2CC \(Canberra\)](#).

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IMMUNISATION

'We haven't lost our appetite for reform': Minns

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 10/09/2026, Nicholas O Donoghue, Brett MacFarlane and Megan Haggan

Premier announces scope expansion with pharmacists to have access to all NIP vaccines, plus the ability to deliver wound care, chronic disease management, and treat ear infections. Graduates of the University of Technology Sydney and University of Newcastle's full scope training will be authorised to initiate the oral contraceptive in NSW under measures announced by state.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Why health insurance cuts for the over-65s won't swamp public hospitals after all

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 10/09/2026, Yuting Zhang

The controversy surrounding the federal government's plan to scrap extra private health insurance rebates for the over-65s continues. Not everyone agrees on the impact of the higher premiums, whether that's the number of people set to cancel their cover or the impact on the public health system.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS & RESEARCH

It's one giant leap for cancer research

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2026, Jacinta Round, Page 11

A team of South Australian cancer researchers is preparing to use space as its laboratory by sending human cells on an out-of-this-world mission to learn more about the disease. Adelaide University Centre for Cancer Biology researchers, spearheaded by Dr Nirmal Robinson, will see a rocket containing cells grown at the North Tce Robinson Laboratory launched into space in early October to learn more about Australia's biggest killer.

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Vapes just the start

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2026, Page 19

One in eight Australian teenagers admit they have tried nicotine vape, according to a new survey that found young people were more likely to try various other products once they had sampled one. Led by The University of Sydney, researchers conducted a survey of 1848 students from across Queensland, NSW and Western Australia about their use of vapes, cigarettes and nicotine pouches.

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

Urodynamic studies return

Shepparton News, General News, 11/09/2026, Bree Harding, Page 16

People with pelvic floor dysfunction or pelvic pain now have access to urodynamic studies in Shepparton. The service provides a bespoke approach for each individual, which aims to streamline their treatment and eliminate a need to travel outside the region.

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The data on contact sport, concussion and CTE is convincing. But not conclusive

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 10/09/2026, Darren Kane

The International Sport Concussion Conference was held in Melbourne earlier this week, in the days preceding the first regular-season NFL game played on Australian soil. During Tuesday's session, research figures from the Australian Sports Brain Bank were presented. Of the first 150 brains of participants in contact sport examined by the bank, 51 belonged to men who had a reported history of playing rugby league.

[Read More](#)

How Newcastle's clinical trials are changing breast cancer care worldwide

Newcastle Herald, Other, 11/09/2026

When footy fever swept through Newcastle for the inaugural NRLW Magic Round on August 2, 2025, it did more than just fill the stands. [...] Founded in 1978, Breast Cancer Trials is Australia and New Zealand's largest independent breast cancer clinical trials research group.

[Read More](#)

Sarcopenic obesity linked to greater type 2 diabetes risk than either condition alone

Medicine Today, General News, 10/09/2026, Sasha Ellery

Sarcopenic obesity is associated with a greater risk of developing type 2 diabetes than either obesity or sarcopenia alone, according to a large prospective UK Biobank study published in Diabetes Care. Researchers from Perth's Curtin School of Public Health and Dementia Centre of Excellence at the Curtin enAble Institute analysed 479,607 adults without diabetes at baseline. Participants were classified as having neither condition, obesity alone, sarcopenia alone or sarcopenic obesity.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 10/09/2026, Melissa Downes and Joel Dry

A new Australian trial of an oral drug for pancreatic cancer is offering hope after the treatment was shown to nearly double median survival in patients with the disease. Daraxonrasib targets KRAS mutations, a pathway affecting 90% of pancreatic cancers, and is now being trialled earlier in newly diagnosed patients with advanced disease. Melbourne's Epworth HealthCare is one of three Australian sites recruiting, with patient Jayne Kam saying the drug has stabilised her cancer and dramatically lowered her cancer markers.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

How boxes of forgotten referrals led to tragedy at a Victorian hospital

Age, General News, 11/09/2026, Henrietta Cook, Page 6

A cancer patient has died and another is terminal after a Victorian hospital, still reliant on paper records, failed to triage 150 critical referrals left sitting in cardboard boxes for up to 16 months. Mildura Base Public Hospital has reported the sentinel events to the state's health watchdog, Safer Care Victoria, and is undertaking its own investigation into the lengthy and potentially fatal delays.

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

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

OPERA ED clinic hitting low note

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2026, Brad Crouch, Page 11

An initiative launched just 18 months ago to help slash ambulance ramping and improve emergency healthcare for older people faces a downgrade following a report warning of its "return on investment". The Older Persons Emergency Review and Assessment (OPERA) centre, near Lyell McEwin Hospital, is a geriatrician-led clinic designed as an alternative to emergency department presentations and hospital admissions for people aged 65 and older.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 10/09/2026, Michael Thomson

Cystic fibrosis patients at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital's respiratory clinic in Nedlands say poor conditions are putting lives at risk, with the facility more than 50 years old and not meeting Australian standards of care for cystic fibrosis. Patients say they have been forced to share waiting areas with other people with cystic fibrosis or even meet with a psychologist outside, raising concerns about cross-contamination. Cystic Fibrosis WA has launched a petition with more than 1,000 signatures, while the North Metropolitan Health Service is awaiting a response from the State Government on a business case to redevelop the clinic.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 10/09/2026, Saskia Mabin

Interview with Alison Derrett, Chief Operating Officer, Canberra Health Services, about people waiting for surgery through a separate waitlist before getting into the actual main surgery waitlist. Derrett explains that once a patient sees a specialist on that separate waitlist, the specialist may decide they need a procedure or surgery, and they will then be allocated again according to clinical urgency.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 10/09/2026, Lucy Breaden

Interview with Meg Creely, AMA Tasmania President, on long waiting times for public colonoscopies. Creely says demand exceeds available capacity, with some patients waiting up to 600 days for Category 2 outpatient appointments and 900 days for Category 3 before joining the colonoscopy waiting list. She says possible solutions include more clinician input, expanding the specialist workforce, and improving hospital infrastructure.

Interview continues on: [ABC Radio Hobart \(Hobart\)](#).

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

'I don't want to hurt anyone': nurses fighting burnout

Launceston Examiner, General News, 11/09/2026, Lauren Richardson, Page 4

The worst-case "what if" scenario weighs heavily on nurses as they fight through long shifts without resourcing to best help Tasmania's sickest patients. Launceston General Hospital (LGH) emergency department nurse and Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) delegate Erin Woodcock said nurses were fighting burnout and lack of support during most shifts.

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

'I'm a nurse. I can't stop thinking about the things that happen behind hospital doors.'

Mamamia, Other, 10/09/2026, Bek Day

Keira* has the matter-of-fact outlook of a nurse who has seen her fair share of drama at work. [...] Keira's experience is far from outside the norm. In fact, according to a damning report released in March by industry union the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association (NSWNMA), it's almost universal in 2026.

[Read More](#)

'Forced, tricked or trapped': How nurses and midwives can help uncover modern slavery

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 10/09/2026, Robert Fedele

Funded through the Federal Attorney-General's Department, The Anti-Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Project developed a practical screening tool and online education modules, co-created with people with lived experience of modern slavery, to help clinicians recognise modern slavery through a public health lens and respond in a trauma-informed way. [...] Eve says modern slavery often intersects with other public health issues nurses and midwives encounter every day, such as homelessness, complex mental health issues, substance abuse, and family or domestic violence situations.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Coalition plan to attract regional health workers announced

Shepparton News Online, Other, 10/09/2026

The Victorian Liberals and Nationals say a coalition government would will invest \$40 million over four years to help attract and retain health workers in regional communities. Under a Victorian Rural Health Workforce Incentive Scheme, eligible doctors, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals, who take up hard-to-fill positions in rural and regional Victoria, could receive incentives of up to \$10,000, including support for relocation, accommodation and professional development.

[Read More](#)

Why the rental and healthcare crises are overlapping in the North East

The Border Mail, Other, 10/09/2026, Hana Humboldt

For Jaime Banks, the struggle to keep good staff in the community comes down to the most basic need. [...] Locum doctors are temporary practitioners who fill in for hospitals, clinics and general practices like Ms Banks's, generally to cover for annual leave, for weeks to several months.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

PEP gains exclusivity over Allegro's Perth Radiological Clinic

Australian Financial Review, Other, 09/09/2026, Sarah Thompson, Kanika Sood and Angira Bharadwaj

Sydney buyout firm Pacific Equity Partners' long-running charm offensive at the country's biggest radiology players has netted it not one but two potential deals.

[Read More](#)

Rebates for long GP consults should be increased, long-awaited Medicare review says

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2026, Stephanie Dalzell and Paige Cockburn

Patients who need longer GP appointments, particularly women with complex health needs, are being short-changed by inadequate Medicare rebates that should be increased, a major government review has found. The draft report from the federal government's independent Medicare advisory committee found the system is rewarding short GP appointments more generously than those over 20 minutes, financially penalising doctors for providing longer consultations with patients when clinically appropriate.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Rib contouring surgery raises ethical concerns in Australia

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2026, Shari Hams

Matilda Baxter is no stranger to cosmetic surgery, regularly sharing details of the procedures she has had done with her social media followers. [...] "The Australian programme is marketed separately and complies in full with the AHPRA (Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency) advertising guidelines and the Medical Board's cosmetic surgery guidelines," the statement said.

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Inject the truth into Covid

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/09/2026, Jason Morrison, Page 23

Doctors, scientists and academics call for royal commission into pandemic response A packed Sydney hall last night heard calls for a royal commission into Australia's handling of the Covid pandemic, with prominent doctors, scientists and academics arguing major questions about the response remain unanswered.

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

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Mozzies are causing Buruli ulcers in more parts of Australia. Here's what you need to know

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 10/09/2026, Cameron Webb, Andrew Buultjens, and Veronique Paris

Warmer weather has arrived and mosquitoes will be buzzing about before you know it. As El Niño is expected to bring an early start to summer heat, it's likely mosquitoes will make their presence felt earlier than usual.

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

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Alarming levels of chemicals from sunscreen found in most Queensland kids

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 10/09/2026, Dominique Tassell

More than half of Queensland children have high levels of a potentially hormone-disrupting chemical found in sunscreens, according to a study. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration last year recommended dozens of popular sunscreen manufacturers reformulate their products to add safeguards concerning two active ingredients – homosalate and oxybenzone.

[Read More](#)

Study finds harmful sunscreen chemical in half of Qld children

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 10/09/2026, Jackie Sinnerton

Half of Queensland children have enough of a sunscreen-linked chemical in their bloodstream to impact their health, a shock international study has found. [...] "We welcome the TGA's investigation into homosalate and we could well see it reduced in sunscreen in future."

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Health Check: After a regulatory reform, 'ya bloody maggot' becomes term of endearment

Northern Territory News, Other, 10/09/2026, Tim Boreham

As the AFL footy finals progress, the most common reference to maggots is the descriptor hurled by disgruntled fans at the officiators of the great game. [...] That's how the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) terms it, anyway.

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

[Read More](#)

Wild Child Laboratories sued for 'deceptive' conduct over recalled sunscreens

ABC Online, Other, 10/09/2026, Rachel Carbonell, Pat McGrath and Ninah Kopel

The manufacturer of the base formula used by 20 sunscreens pulled from sale for failing to meet their SPF claims is being sued for "misleading" and "deceptive" conduct. [...] A TGA Good Manufacturing Practice audit of Wild Child facilities last year "did not identify any manufacturing issues that could have contributed to the low SPF results".

[Read More](#)

Australian children found with high levels of sunscreen chemical homosalate sparking calls for tighter regulations

7News.com.au, Other, 10/09/2026, Jacquelin Robson

There are calls for tighter sunscreen regulations after a study found Australian children are carrying high levels of a common chemical found in the products. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration is partway through its own study of sunscreen chemicals, telling 7NEWS the "detection of homosalate metabolites in urine does not itself indicate a health risk".

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 10/09/2026, James Glenday and Emma Reballato

Wild Child Laboratories, the manufacturer behind 20 recalled sunscreens that failed to meet their SPF claims, is being sued in the Federal Court for alleged misleading conduct. High-profile brand Ultra Violette is seeking millions after one of its SPF 50+ products reportedly tested at SPF 4.

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

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 10/09/2026, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

New sunscreen research involving urine samples from almost 19,000 Australians has found that children had high levels of homosalate, a chemical considered a potential hormone disruptor. The study suggests stricter regulation, and the Therapeutic Goods Administration is considering requiring some sunscreens containing homosalate to be reformulated.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 10/09/2026, Brenton Ragless

An international study has found concerning levels of homosalate, a common sunscreen ingredient and potential hormone disruptor, in urine samples from Australian children. More than half of the children's samples reached a level where intervention is recommended, prompting researchers to call for stricter regulation. The Therapeutic Goods Administration says the risks are minimal compared with prolonged sun exposure and sunburn, while doctors say people should continue using sunscreen as the TGA reviews permitted homosalate levels.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 10/09/2026, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Julian Hill, Federal Assistant Minister for Customs, on the government's crackdown on illegal tobacco and vaping. Hill says the Commonwealth has provided nearly \$6m to WA to help shut illegal tobacco shops, with a recent operation resulting in 15 shop closure orders and 59 persons of interest. He says criminals are adapting by selling illegal cigarettes online and from homes, while the TGA has established a group targeting online enforcement, including taking down websites and social media posts.

Interview continues on: [ABC Radio Perth \(Perth\)](#).

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FOOD STANDARDS

Urgent recall on herbs

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/09/2026, Page 6

A peppermint leaf sold across the country has been urgently pulled from shelves after bits of metal were found inside. [...] Food Standards Australian and New Zealand said the herb "containing metal contaminants may cause illness/injury if consumed".

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#).

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Peppermint leaf recall

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 11/09/2026, Page 4

A peppermint leaf sold across the country has been urgently pulled from shelves after pieces of metal were found inside. Greenstorm Foods, which trades as Austral Herbs, urgently recalled its Certified Organic Premium Peppermint Leaf (mentha piperita) after metal was discovered inside. [...] Food Standards Australia New Zealand said the herb "containing metal contaminants may cause illness/injury if consumed".

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AICIS

Toxic forever chemicals in rainwater deemed not dangerous

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 11/09/2026, Aaron Bunch, Page 3

Toxic "forever chemicals" have been found in Australian rainwater for the first time, but not at levels dangerous to human health. Eight PFAS compounds were detected in rainwater samples collected in Melbourne between 2024 and 2025, by researchers from RMIT University and EPA Victoria.

Also reported by: [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail UK \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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

Deadly soil bacteria claims eight lives after Townsville floods, prompting urgent warning

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 10/09/2026

A deadly soil-borne bacteria claimed eight lives and hospitalised dozens more following Townsville's catastrophic 2024-25 floods, prompting an urgent new health warning for frontline doctors and residents. The unprecedented surge in melioidosis – a potentially fatal infection lurking in muddy water and tropical dirt – saw 57 severely ill patients rush the Townsville University Hospital (TUH) emergency department during the record-breaking wet season.

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

[Read More](#)

Audit finds Inpex has taken 'significant steps' to rectify emissions errors at its Ichthys LNG facility in Darwin

An independent audit has found Inpex is on track to fix major errors in reporting toxic emissions from its Ichthys LNG facility in Darwin, as the company faces prosecution and calls for better regulation. The audit by consulting firm AECOM, ordered by the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) earlier in the year, found no evidence Inpex deliberately falsified emissions data and concluded the company had implemented "appropriate improvement actions" to better the accuracy of its reporting.

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