

Friday, 9th October 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 | Medicare Benefits and Digital Health | Benefits Integrity | Australian CDC | Therapeutic Goods Administration | Office of Drug Control | Food Standards | AICIS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Herald Sun** (page 3) reports that Health Department figures show 6,436 people approved for a Support at Home package and waited for funding died in 2025-26, which is 33 per cent more than under the former home care system in 2024-25. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae acknowledged more work was needed and the government was committed to "delivering a stronger assessment system, bringing down wait times and building more residential beds". *Also reported by: ABC Online*
- **The Herald Sun** (page 9) reports that Victorian public hospital doctors rejected the state government's 12-month pay offer, with 89 per cent voting against the deal and industrial action potentially continuing through the election campaign.
- **The Hobart Mercury** (page 5) reports that Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White opened the new Glenorchy Medicare Mental Health Centre in Hobart, providing free and immediate support from psychologists, counsellors and social workers without an appointment or referral.

- **The Adelaide Advertiser** (page 19) reports that according to the AIHW, the daily smoking rate among Australians aged 14 and over fell to a record low of 5.6 per cent in 2025.
- **The Courier Mail reports** (page 9) reports that a Mater Research and QIMR Berghofer project aims to develop a cell-based treatment for Triple Negative Breast, which impacts up to 20 per cent of breast cancer cases.
- **The Sydney Morning Herald** (online) reports that an Australian-led clinical trial found evidence that the experimental drug SNT-4728 could reduce brain inflammation in people at high risk of Parkinson's disease, potentially slowing or preventing its development.
- **The Canberra Times** (online) reports that CSIRO and Moderna signed a five-year partnership for a biosecurity accelerator program focused on infectious disease research and mRNA technology, with Defence Minister Richard Marles saying it will ensure Australia is equipped to respond to biosecurity threats and emerging challenges.
- **The Medical Republic** (online) reports the DoHDA started reviewing a 2024 recommendation to allow allied health professionals to directly refer patients to non-GP specialists for Medicare-rebated consultations, with the review expected to take about 18 months.

MINISTER BUTLER

Becoming trusted, welcomed prescribers

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/10/2026, Mark Naunton, Page 10

Growing enrolments in the PSA's Graduate Certificate in Pharmacist Prescribing are enabling pharmacists across Australia to expand their scope of practice and gain the skills and qualifications needed to deliver prescribing services. [...] Delivering his opening address, Health Minister Mark Butler congratulated the first cohort of PSA-trained prescribers, acknowledging PSA's role as the peak professional body for Australia's pharmacists and as a leader in pharmacist education and training.

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Labor's controversial plan to scrap private health bonus under threat

CathNews, General News, 08/10/2026, Rebecca Comini

The move jeopardises the reform's passage through parliament and the $3 billion in savings Labor is banking on to fund thousands of aged care beds as well as cover its backdown from making older Australians pay for at-home care services such as showering and dressing. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has argued that repealing the bonus would make the system fairer by basing it on income instead of granting older Australians a rebate up 8 per cent higher than younger people on a similar income.

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Bed-block warning as emergency wards brace for impact

HealthTimes, General News, 08/10/2026

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 aging population was driving unprecedented demand for healthcare.

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MINISTER MCALLISTER

No relevant coverage

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MINISTER RAE

More die in queue for care at home

Herald Sun, General News, 09/10/2026, Jade Gailberger & Julie Cross, Page 3

At least 17 older Australians died each day last year waiting to receive care at home, with shocking new figures coinciding with the introduction of the federal government's new reforms. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae acknowledged there was "more work to do", adding the government was "determined to get this right by delivering a stronger assessment system, bringing down wait times and building more residential beds".

Also reported by: Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide), Daily Telegraph Australia (Online), Northern Territory News (Online), Adelaide Now (Online), Herald Sun (Online), The Mercury (Online), ABC Online (Online)

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Lay off cuts to aged care: MP

Wangaratta Chronicle, General News, 09/10/2026, Shane Douthie, Page 7

Independent MP for Indi Helen Haines has come out in support of National Seniors Australia CEO Chris Grice urging the federal government not to cut the health insurance rebate for older Australians. [...] "In a time when there is insufficient funds to support vulnerable older Australians with Support at Home packages rationed, increasing numbers of older Australians awaiting Support at Home Services, and thousands more stranded in public hospitals how does the Aged Care Minister Sam Rae allow $1.4 billion of approved funding for aged care be returned to Treasury as savings?" he said.

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Aged care fee crackdown

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/10/2026, Desiree Savage, Page 18

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

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'Waiting for people to die': Petition launched against aged care algorithm

The Senior, General News, 08/10/2026, Phoebe Loomes

A Sydney carer has called on the government to ditch a controversial algorithm which determines funding levels for older people receiving aged care at home, saying the system has left her feeling "helpless and angry". [...] McCabe has now launched a petition urging Minister for Aged Care and Seniors Sam Rae scrap its algorithm-based assessment process for Support at Home.

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Home care waitlist deaths rise in Australia

WEB OZ Arab Media, General News, 08/10/2026

According to ABC News, 6,436 older Australians approved for Support at Home but waiting for funding died in 2025-26, an average of 17 people a day. [...] Aged Care Minister Sam Rae said the death rate for people waiting for Support at Home was "significantly lower than the rate of death for older Australians in the broader population".

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ABC Radio Melbourne, 18:00 News, 08/10/2026

New Health Department data reveals almost 6500 older Australians died while waiting to receive Support at Home package last year. Council on the Ageing CEO Patricia Sparrow says the figures are shocking. Aged Care Minister Sam Rae says the government has got more work to do but is determined to bring down wait times.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Free mental health help

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/10/2026, David Killick, Page 5

Mental health services have been given a boost with the opening of a new clinic in Hobart and a state government push to address gaps in the state's North-West after a fire at a Burnie clinic. Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White officially opened Glenorchy Medicare Mental Health Centre on Thursday.

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From dark days to local hero

Riverine Herald, General News, 09/10/2026, Ivy Jensen, Page 4

A phone call from a mate helped save Luke Baker's life. [...] Moama's Luke Baker is awarded the 2026 Australian Mental Health Prize Community Hero award by Federal Assistant Mental Health Minister Emma McBride.

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Mental Health Kids Hub to open in Penrith

The Western Weekender, General News, 08/10/2026

Free specialist mental health support will be available for children at a new hub in Penrith. [...] Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride and NSW Minister for Mental Health and Minister for Youth Rose Jackson visited the site, which is also home to the recently opened Nepean Adolescent Mental Health Unit.

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Glenorchy's free Medicare Mental Health Centre officially opens

WEB Pulse Tasmania, General News, 08/10/2026

Tasmania’s fourth free walk-in Medicare Mental Health Centre has been officially opened in Glenorchy, with no appointment or referral needed. [...] Assistant Federal Mental Health Minister Emma McBride said the early numbers showed the need in the community.

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WIN Hobart, WIN News, 08/10/2026, Bruce Roberts

Work has begun to repair a Burnie mental health facility that was damaged by a fire two weeks ago. Meanwhile, a new mental health service has officially opened in Glenorchy. Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride says the centre will offer consultation from people with lived experience.

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Canberra Conference Unit, Press Conference, 08/10/2026

Press Conference with Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride on the opening of the Glenorchy Medicare Mental Health Centre. McBride says this is the 57th Medicare Mental Health Centre in Australia and the fourth in Tasmania. She notes that the Medicare Mental Health Centres have already delivered more than 500,000 free, walk-in appointments.

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ABC Radio Hobart, 11:00 News, 08/10/2026

Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride says Medicare Mental Health Centres around the country are delivering strong results for communities. A new mental health centre has opened in Glenorchy, funded by the Federal Government, offering free, walk-in mental health support.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 08/10/2026, Ryk Goddard

Interview with Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride on the opening of the Glenorchy Medicare Mental Health Centre. McBride says patients can walk in without a diagnosis or referral and still get free care tailored to their individual needs. She notes that the Glenorchy centre is is the fourth in Tasmania and the 57th across the country. She says the Medicare Mental Health Centres have already delivered more than 500,000 free, walk-in appointments. She says an independent evaluation by Chief Psychiatrist Dr Sophie Davison shows promising early results.

Continues on: ABC Radio Hobart (Hobart)

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ASSISTANT MINISTER WHITE

Free mental health help

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/10/2026, David Killick, Page 5

Mental health services have been given a boost with the opening of a new clinic in Hobart and a state government push to address gaps in the state's North-West after a fire at a Burnie clinic. Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Rebecca White officially opened Glenorchy Medicare Mental Health Centre on Thursday.

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SPECIAL ENVOY REPACHOLI

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Work quietly begins on contentious scope recommendation

The Medical Republic, General News, 08/10/2026, Holly Payne

An almost-forgotten recommendation from the 2024 scope of practice review has resurfaced, with the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing formally commencing a review of direct referrals from allied health workers to non-GP specialist doctors. An MBS Review Advisory Committee communique dated last month but published this week confirmed that the work was underway, and that the committee was currently assessing recommendation 12 of the scope of practice review final report against MRAC guiding principles.

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DoHDA, don't forget the GPs: RACGP's NDIS access ask

The Medical Republic, General News, 08/10/2026, Alyssa Talakovski

The RACGP has renewed its call this week for GPs to be formally recognised as medical specialists as the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing prepares advice for government on changes to NDIS access. While the college supported functional capacity as the key NDIS eligibility determinant, excluding GP input “wilfully ignores information to improve the evidence base” and patients’ disability experiences, which are “complex, fluctuating, episodic, and not immediately visible”, its latest submission read.

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If aged care needs the money, why isn’t it being spent?

The Weekly Source, General News, 08/10/2026, James Wiltshire

Almost $3 billion in aged care expenditure has come in below forecast over four years. [...] The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing employed 7,429 APS staff at 30 June 2025.

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A First Nations-led program the evidence already backs

Third Sector, General News, 08/10/2026, Ritchelle Drilon

It's rare for a program to get exactly the evaluation result it hoped for – strong evidence of impact, a clear funding recommendation, and a government department that commissioned the review itself. [...] In 2024, the Australian Government's Department of Health, Disability and Ageing commissioned Allen + Clarke Consulting to independently evaluate the Children's Ground Approach and make recommendations to inform future funding decisions.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Aged care support continues for rural city's older residents

Wangaratta Chronicle, General News, 09/10/2026, Page 5

Rural City of Wangaratta's move away from direct aged care service delivery has reached an important milestone, with all Support at Home clients now transitioned to new providers. The decision to step away from the sector was made earlier this year after a review of the service's longterm sustainability.

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Stop empty nesters blame

The Senior - WA, General News, 01/10/2026, Phoebe Loomes, Page 12

Experts and older Australians are pushing back against debate suggesting bigger homes with spare bedrooms are to blame for the country's housing crisis. "There has to be an incentive for seniors to downsize," reader Nellie Dyson said.

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End of tap fees: Aussies set to save after surcharging ban

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/10/2026, Page 18

Tapping a debit or credit card at cafes, supermarkets and stores will no longer come with an added fee from October 1. [...] National Seniors Australia chief executive Chris Grice welcomed the ban, saying surcharges were one reason why older Australians, and others, use cash.

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Federal Opposition admits migration cuts policy could hit aged care

The Weekly Source, General News, 08/10/2026, Ian Horswill

Opposition Leader Angus Taylor says the Coalition cannot simply insulate aged care from a major planned cut to migration. The Coalition wants net overseas migration reduced to 100,000 a year for its first two years in office, before rising to around 160,000 by year four.

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"The alternative is that we stop providing services - we're getting close to that in parts of the country"

The Weekly Source, General News, 08/10/2026, Caroline Egan

The CEO of Ageing Australia, Tom Symondson, is throwing caution to the wind to make clear the dilemma that is aged care today. He told The Weekly SOURCE on Wednesday afternoon: “I've never

said this before until today," Tom told The Weekly SOURCE, "but we could see the number of beds go backwards in Australia for the first time since 1963, when national funded care started."

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$3 billion over four years for aged care questioned

The Weekly Source, General News, 08/10/2026, Caroline Egan

The Government's plan to redirect $3 billion from private health insurance rebates into aged care has cleared a Senate inquiry. But whether the additional funding ever reaches the sector is increasingly uncertain.

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34% increase in number of people dying waiting for home care

The Weekly Source, General News, 08/10/2026, Caroline Egan

As at 30 June 2026, 106,977 seniors were waiting for a Support at Home place. Three weeks ago Senator Anne Ruston, the Shadow Minister for Aged Care, requested how many people who had been assessed as requiring home care, actually dies waiting for a package.

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Nowhere to go: Australia's aged-care bed crisis deepens

Starts at 60, General News, 08/10/2026, Maggie Benson

Thousands of older Australians are ready to leave hospital but cannot find a suitable aged-care place, and now providers say plans for more than 3,600 new beds have been shelved, raising fresh concerns about where the next wave of residents will go. The Australian reports that Ageing Australia, the peak body representing providers, says developments covering those beds have been put aside following the latest federal funding decision.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 08/10/2026, Sally Sara

Interview with University of Melbourne Honorary Enterprise Professor Dr Stephen Duckett. Sara says the Greens have refused to support the Federal Government's proposed changes to private health insurance rebate received by older Australians. Duckett says the government is saving $3b over four years to reinvest in aged care. He believes people over 65 will benefit from improved aged care services.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 08/10/2026, Sally Sara

Interview with Ageing Australia CEO Tom Symondson. Sara says the aged care sector is warning that the Coalition's immigration policy could negatively impact the industry's workforce. Symondson says the Opposition has given the assurance that the aged care workforce won't be affected, but it's still unknown how the policy will impact the sector. He notes that 51% of aged care staff were from overseas.

Continues on: Radio National (Canberra)

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DISABILITY AND CARERS

NDIS care key to bail for 'ISIS propagandist'

The Australian, General News, 09/10/2026, Mohammad Alfares, Page 5

An accused isis propagandist who receives 24-hour weekly NDIS care has been freed on bail despite allegations he shared thousands of execution videos and extremist files online. Mohamed Musse Bakit, 65, was granted bail under strict conditions on Thursday after deputy chief magistrate Gerard

Lethbridge ruled his poor health and reliance on taxpayer-funded NDIS support helped meet the high legal bar for release.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online), ABC Online (Online), Daily Telegraph Australia (Online), West Australian (Online)

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Services not only continue but will expand

Border Mail, General News, 09/10/2026, Chelsea Wilson, Page 4

When changes to the NDIS meant uncertainty for Border families, provider Kirinari celebrated continuity of care in its new home for day programs. Kirinari swiftly purchased and moved into the purpose-built Thurgoona centre last month after changes to the NDIS led Aspire Support Services to end its day program offering.

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Have your say: expanded mandatory NDIS registration

National Indigenous Times, General News, 08/10/2026, Giovanni Torre

First Peoples Disability Network have been engaged by the Quality and Safeguard Commission to gather feedback and is conducting a survey about mandatory NDIS registration for providers delivering High Intensity Daily Personal Activities and Assistance with Daily Personal Activities. These supports include complex care, such as catheter care and tube feeding, and everyday personal care, such as showering, dressing and using the toilet.

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Sunshine Coast support worker jailed for sexual offences receives permanent NDIS ban

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 08/10/2026, Chloe Grimshaw

A Sunshine Coast man has been permanently banned from working as a disability support worker with the National Disability Insurance Scheme after he was jailed for committing sexual acts against vulnerable clients. Trevor Noel Mutch was jailed in June this year after pleading guilty in the Maroochydore District Court to committing sexual acts against NDIS participants, the Australian Broadcast Corporation reported.

Also reported by: Toowoomba Chronicle (Online)

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ABC Wimmera, 7:30 News, 08/10/2026

Mallee Family Care supports changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme but warns regional Australians risk being left behind. The organisation has made submissions on changes to NDIS eligibility and a new support coordination system during consultations with the Department of Health Disability and Ageing. It says reforms could make the scheme fairer, but must account for the lack of services across the regions.

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PRIMARY CARE

Medical imaging practice to open

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 09/10/2026, Denika Anderson, Page 7

Bulk-billed CT, MRI, X-ray and ultrasound will return to the former Lime Radiology building next year with the arrival of a Broken Hillfounded imaging business. Thrive Medical will introduce a fleet of new imaging equipment accompanied by local-based radiographers and sonographers from January this year.

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Plastic surgeons push to fund 30 transgender surgeries on Medicare amid safety concerns

The Australian, General News, 08/10/2026, Rachel Baxendale

Taxpayers could foot the bill for more than 30 types of gender reassignment surgery under an Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons application currently being considered by a federal government agency, which argues the procedures can be “lifesaving”. Public submissions to the Medical Services Advisory Committee regarding the application close on Friday, with MSAC expected to meet next month to discuss the matter.

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Queensland government abandons rollout of early rape evidence kits for remote victims

The Australian, General News, 08/10/2026, Lydia Lynch

Rape victims assaulted in remote Queensland towns and mining sites are being denied access to kits to collect vital forensic evidence while they await transfer to hospital, after the Crisafulli government defied a recommendation by the landmark DNA inquiry to introduce them. Early evidence kits allow sexual assault victims to collect their own swabs available within two hours, or when they want to eat and go to the bathroom before they undergo a more thorough examination.

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WA ADHD reform set to make access to care easier for South West residents

West Australian, General News, 08/10/2026, Hayley Primmer

Stakeholders say new reforms allowing general practitioners to diagnose and treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder means people in regional WA may no longer need to travel for psychiatry appointments. The WA ADHD GP care reforms allow doctors to become accredited through the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners to assess and create treatment plans for patients older than 10.

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AAPM National Conference brings the whole practice team together

Australian Doctor, General News, 08/10/2026

The Australian Association of Practice Management (AAPM) National Conference is designed for the people who keep healthcare practices running, from reception and administration staff to practice managers and owners. Around 800 practice professionals from general and specialist practice, allied health and Aboriginal community health settings are heading to Brisbane for this year’s conference, which runs from 13 to 16 October at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre.

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Victorian pharmacists to resupply MHT

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, General News, 08/10/2026

Participating Victorian pharmacists can now dispense a one-month resupply of menopausal hormone therapy (MHT), a move that’s left one GP ‘very concerned’. The expansion of Chemist Care Now, which already allows treatment of conditions such as urinary tract infections and prescriptions of the contraceptive pill, came in an announcement from the State Government on Wednesday.

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Did lifting MS-2 Step restrictions improve access?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, General News, 08/10/2026

Patient access to medical abortion has increased across Australia, following key policy changes to remove restrictions on GP prescribing, research has found. It’s a move one GP expert says demonstrates what can be achieved ‘when policy is based on evidence’.

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Chance for GPs to upskill in WorkCover

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, General News, 08/10/2026

A new educational session aims to fill knowledge gaps for GPs managing WorkCover matters, with less than one-third saying they feel comfortable with the process. A recent newsGP poll revealed many GPs understand the basics of managing WorkCover matters but still want more support and education.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Australians butt out as smoking declines

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/10/2026, Page 19

Fewer Australians smoked daily in 2025 than ever before. The 5.6 per cent of people aged 14 plus who smoked daily was a record low, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Also reported by: Herald Sun (Melbourne)

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Long road to recovery

Ballarat Courier, General News, 09/10/2026, Nick Powell, Page 1

For years, Caleb* was drinking a litre of vodka every day, often disguised in an ordinary Pump water bottle. [...] Nearly one in three Australians aged 14 and over drink at levels that put their health at risk, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, where 'risky drinking' is consuming more than 10 standard drinks a week.

Also reported by: Ballarat Courier (Online)

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‘Unbridled rage' and other menopause symptoms doctors often don't talk about

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 08/10/2026, Jennifer Fields

For many women, the most disruptive symptoms of perimenopause (the transition leading up to menopause) and menopause (when you’ve gone 12 months without a menstrual cycle) aren’t just the hallmark ones, such as hot flashes and night sweats. Instead, they may struggle to remember names and words or feel unusually anxious.

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Clean-air advocates say wood smoke being overlooked as Victoria ditches gas

ABC Online, General News, 08/10/2026, Erin Somerville

Clean-air advocates say the Victorian government is failing to address pollution from wood heaters as its gas substitute policy returns to the spotlight ahead of the November state election. Arabella Daniel, who has asthma, has monitored air quality at her rental property in Melbourne's south-east for six years, recording significant air pollution both inside and out.

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Queensland is leading Australia's fight against illicit tobacco. Should other states follow suit?

Yahoo! News Australia, General News, 08/10/2026

Not a week goes by without a news story about illicit tobacco in Australia, which is now a serious problem across the country. [...] The Australian Council on Smoking & Health states Queensland's multi-pronged approach to illicit tobacco control is the best in the country.

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Inquiry rejects bill to ban shackling during childbirth

National Indigenous Times, General News, 08/10/2026, Dechlan Brennan

A parliamentary inquiry has recommended that a bill to prohibit the shackling of women during childbirth in prison not be passed. [...] The inquiry recommended that the Commonwealth "consider appropriate pathways to engage with States and Territories, to address the issues raised by the bill", as well as recommending that the federal government work with the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and the states and territories to collect data on how many women are pregnant and give birth while in custody in Australia each year.

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4BC, Breakfast , 08/10/2026, Jason Matthews

Parents have been warned about of popular squishy toys as more children present to doctors with rashes, nausea, respiratory issues and even burns. Australian Medical Association Queensland Director Dr Maria Boulton says parents need to take the appropriate precautions.

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CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND SCREENING

'Don't give up'

Age, General News, 09/10/2026, Clair Weaver, Page 1

Until last decade, dementia was regarded as a grim lottery. If you made it into your twilight years, you'd wait and see if it came for you. If you carried a gene linked to Alzheimer's, it was your destiny.

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'Trojan' drug for the brain

Courier Mail, General News, 09/10/2026, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 9

A world-first treatment that could stop an aggressive form of breast cancer from lethally travelling to the brain is being developed by Queensland researchers. The biological "Trojan Horse" would be used to treat Triple Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC), which impacts up to 20 per cent of all breast cancer cases and frequently impacts young women.

Also reported by: Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)

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Staying cool in a crisis

Central Western Daily, General News, 09/10/2026, Amy Rees, Page 1

A long career in PR crisis management was extremely beneficial when Danica Bunch's life was turned upside down in 2022, when she was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. Mercifully, the initial "diabolical diagnosis, which included a two-year best-case scenario" was incorrect, however she has still been on immunotherapy for nearly three years now.

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Check your breasts this month

Border Watch, General News, 09/10/2026, Page 14

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) is urging patients to speak to their doctors about breast cancer risk and screening options this October. RACGP president Dr Michael Wright also called on the Federal Government to better fund longer consultations, which were critical for cancer prevention, early detection, and ongoing care after a diagnosis.

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Breast cancer leads survival rates in the nation

Border Watch, General News, 09/10/2026, Page 16

Australia continues to lead globally in breast cancer survival rates according to recent health data. On average, 56 people everyday in Australia are diagnosed with breast cancer with it being the most

common cancer diagnosed in women in Australia and accounts for about 27 per cent of all new cancers in Australian women.

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Champion for health

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 09/10/2026, Greta Lannen, Page 25

The grief of living with an incurable neurodegenerative disease has never disappeared for Leah Alstin. She was just 17, ready to embark on her adult life, when she was diagnosed with Friedreich's ataxia (FA), a rare inherited disease of the nervous system.

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Migraine: Triggers and treatments

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/10/2026, Samantha Crawford, Page 44

Migraine is a common condition that can involve severe pain. Symptoms can vary depending on the type of migraine someone experiences, but it often involves severe headache, nausea, vomiting, and sensitivity to light or sound.

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Dealing with the deadliest skin cancer

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/10/2026, Cat Woods, Page 46

Dealing with the Melanoma is the most dangerous and deadliest type of skin cancer. It develops in the melanocytes, the skin's pigment cells, and easily spreads via the blood and lymphatic system to distant organs such as the lungs, liver, and brain.

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Advance Alzheimer's test

The Senior - VIC, General News, 01/10/2026, Carla Mascarenhas, Page 17

Australians with memory problems could soon receive an Alzheimer's diagnosis in weeks instead of months, after the approval of a breakthrough blood test capable of detecting the disease. For Geelong's Joe Coppi, whose wife Joyce was diagnosed with Alzheimer's 13 years ago after a lengthy series of tests, the breakthrough is a welcome step forward.

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Doctor Sarah explains normal bowel habits and key stool warning signs to never ignore

The Courier Mail, General News, 08/10/2026, Sarah Kleinman

One of the things that I often have to reassure people who see me for a consult is that there is nothing that the body does that is ‘embarrassing’. Everything is designed to do what it does as part of the amazing organic machine that takes us on our journey through life. Your body systems are either functioning well, or they are not, and sometimes they need a little help.

Also reported by: *Northern Territory News (Online)*, *Adelaide Now (Online)*

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

High and low of wellbeing

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 09/10/2026, Page 24

Tasmania's mental health system has had two sharply contrasting reminders this weekwhat progress looks like, and how fragile access can be when services are stretched. The opening of the Glenorchy Medicare Mental Health Centre is plainly good news.

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Special wellness retreat for city's frontline workers, responders

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 09/10/2026, Page 15

Veterans, health workers, first responders and locals will be welcomed to James Cook University's annual Mindful Warriors Retreat in Townsville on Saturday for a morning of free mindfulness sessions. Aimed at helping people in high-pressure jobs "decompress and re-centre", the retreat is from 8am to 12pm at Central Plaza on JCU's Bebegu Yumba campus in Douglas, with participants able to try yoga-based meditation, walking meditation, body-scan meditation, attention-focus meditation and mindful eating.

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November fix for mental health capacity after NWRH fire, Tasmanian government says

ABC Online, General News, 08/10/2026, Mackenzie Heard

Tasmania's health minister says most of the North West Regional Hospital's (NWRH) mental health capacity will be restored in November, after a woman allegedly set fire to the region's only public inpatient mental health facility. The 19-bed Spencer Clinic at the NWRH has been closed since the fire damaged part of the building last month, prompting concerns about mental health services in the region.

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1 in 5 Australians feel disconnected from others

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 08/10/2026

Nearly two-thirds of people (64%) believe we are becoming more disconnected from each other, despite recognising the positive impact connection and belonging have on their mental health, according to new research released by Mental Health Australia during Mental Health Month. The nationally representative Essential survey found only 21% of people feel very connected to friends, family, neighbours or their community.

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Surprising Aussie faces behind wellness boom

Daily Telegraph Australia, General News, 08/10/2026, Olivia Shying

A surfing and yoga enthusiast, a trauma psychologist and a former primary school teacher are among the unlikely faces behind the nation’s wellness boom, as high-pressure professionals and burnt-out mums pay thousands to switch off. Wellness retreats are reporting a surge in bookings, with offerings ranging from beachside relaxation to intensive psychiatric care – and the people behind them come from surprisingly varied backgrounds.

Also reported by: The Mercury (Online), Adelaide Now (Online), The Courier Mail (Online)

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ABC News, News Breakfast, 08/10/2026, James Glenday and Emma Reballato

Interview with Beyond Blue CEO Georgie Harman. Glenday says new figures estimate about half of Australians have suffered poor mental health in the past year. Harman says mental health problems are extremely common, that's why the nation's system is under pressure. She notes that many people are now seeking support earlier. She says Beyond Blue wants Australia's mental health system to no longer wait for people to reach crisis level before taking action.

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IMMUNISATION

ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 08/10/2026, Steve Austin

Interview with Mater Hospital Director of Infectious Diseases Professor Paul Griffin on the Russian

plague scare. Griffin says more information is needed to better understand the situation, but there's no reason to be alarmed because it's not as risky as COVID. Speaking of COVID, he notes that Australia has now transitioned COVID-19 vaccines into the National Immunisation Program.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Australia on alert as mystery Russian plague outbreak sparks fears of lab leak

7News.com.au, General News, 08/10/2026, James Carmody

Australia is keeping a close eye on a suspected plague outbreak in Russia, now rumoured to have claimed a second life. The federal government insists there’s no elevated risk here yet, but Moscow is keeping the details of a potential lab leak shrouded in secrecy.

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What we don't know about the government's private health rebate changes

SBS, General News, 08/10/2026, Nigel Gladstone

Older migrants could be among the hardest hit by proposed private health insurance rebate cuts, with concerns that the government has not modelled how the changes would affect people paying higher premiums under Lifetime Health Cover rules. Under the plan, people aged 65 and over, who receive a higher private insurance health rebate than the general population, would have that rebate reduced, with expected savings of $3 billion redirected into aged care beds and home care services.

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Ruston ‘very hopeful' Greens will kill PHI rebate cut

The Medical Republic, General News, 08/10/2026, Cate Swannell

The fate of the government’s $3 billion private health insurance rebate cut now sits “firmly in the court of the Australian Greens”, according to shadow health minister Senator Anne Ruston, who says the Coalition has been in direct talks with Greens senators about the legislation. Senator Ruston told The Medical Republic‘s sister publication Health Services Daily today that she remained “very, very hopeful” that the Private Health Insurance Amendment (Modernising the Private Health Insurance Rebate) Bill 2026 could be stopped after both the Coalition and Greens dissented from a Senate committee report recommending it be passed unchanged.

Read More

Private health rebate cut clears committee as April 2027 change looms

Insurance Business Australia, General News, 08/10/2026, Roxanne Libatique

A Senate committee recommended on October 7, 2026, that the Private Health Insurance Amendment (Modernising the Private Health Insurance Rebate) Bill 2026 be passed, which would remove the higher private health insurance rebate rates paid to Australians aged 65 and over. The next day, research by iSelect found that 47% of Australians were very or somewhat confident they could rely solely on the public health system without private cover.

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Channel 10, 10 News, 08/10/2026, Sandra Sully

Life insurers are now banned from using genetic test results to deny people cover or charge them more. Experts say this will save lives.

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Year-long trauma from a concussion

West Australian, General News, 09/10/2026, Bethany Hiatt, Page 3

Nearly half of adults who experience a concussion still have persistent symptoms including fatigue, headaches and difficulty concentratingup to a year after their injury, a groundbreaking WA study has revealed. The concussion recovery study, led by researchers from Curtin University, recruited adults between 18 and 65 who had been diagnosed with a mild traumatic brain injury at WA hospitals.

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Muscle loss a dementia warning sign

West Australian, General News, 09/10/2026, Brooke Rolfe, Page 11

Losing muscle while getting older could be an important warning sign for dementia. Researchers from Curtin University have helped determine those with sarcopenia a condition where people lose a greater amount of muscle mass, strength and physical function as they get older were at 42 per cent more risk of developing dementia.

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‘Absolutely staggering': Results from experimental drug trial to prevent Parkinson's disease

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 08/10/2026, Rachel Rasker

John Clowes only saw his father cry once. When he spoke about his own father's deterioration and eventual death from Parkinson's disease.

Also reported by: 7News.com.au (Online)

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Medical research investments translate into everyday lives

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 08/10/2026

The National Health and Medical Research Council is celebrating its ninth decade, and with an ageing population, rising chronic disease and evolving community needs, the role of research has never been more important. Two pieces of ground-breaking research aimed largely at both ends of the human life span prove Australia’s research community produces world-leading work that strengthens the connection between research and practice while ensuring public investment translates into improving lives.

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New daily medication offers major breakthrough for Parkinson's patients

Daily Telegraph Australia, General News, 08/10/2026, Eleanor Wicklund

A daily medication for Parkinson’s symptoms has successfully completed a late-stage clinical trial, offering hope for the first significant new treatment in decades. The drug, solengepras, significantly reduced the time patients spent dealing with movement issues related to the condition, such as stiffness, slowness, and tremors.

Also reported by: Adelaide Now (Online), The Courier Mail (Online)

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Telethon 2026: A simple way to saving preterm babies' shuteye to improve their lifelong health

West Australian, General News, 08/10/2026, Angela Pownall

Lifelong health problems suffered by premature babies could be prevented or reduced by ground-breaking WA research that could revolutionise treatment in neonatal intensive care units worldwide. The Circa Diem study, which started in WA in 2019 with Telethon funding, is analysing how using eye masks and ear plugs on premature babies in hospital can potentially benefit them by helping them to develop their circadian rhythm.

Read More

A sweet solution

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 08/10/2026

A team from Flinders University has found that vanillin – the primary chemical component extracted from natural vanilla pods – can offer a cost-effective solution for chronic wound healing and tissue regeneration.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Australia's first culturally grounded eating disorder screening tool launched in the Kimberley

National Indigenous Times, General News, 08/10/2026, Giovanni Torre

Western Australia has launched Australia's first "culturally grounded eating disorder screening tool", for Aboriginal young people in the Kimberley. Developed by WA Country Health Service, Feelings about my body and eating aims to support culturally safe early identification and timely referral for Aboriginal young people aged 12-24 years, improving access to culturally safe care.

Read More

Australian pharmacies get some LIPPE

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 08/10/2026

The Leaders in Indigenous Pharmacy Profession Education (LIPPE) Network has entered its next chapter of stewardship and governance, which will ensure equality in its balance of representatives advocating for First Nations people in the profession.

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PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH REFORM

Most services online but experts puzzled by outage

Northern Territory News, General News, 09/10/2026, Lottie Hood, Page 15

The NT government has confirmed the Territory-wide outage which has caused chaos across police, hospitals, schools and courts on Thursday is now under control but experts are still scratching their heads as to what caused the blackout. Reports of an internet and phone outage across the NT government network first came in at 5am on Thursday after the system started failing at 3am.

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Pledge for new $7.1m ambulance branch

Ballarat Courier, General News, 09/10/2026, Adam Spencer, Page 2

A critical 30km gap in emergency infrastructure in towns west of Ballarat continues to leave residents facing some of the longest ambulance wait times in the state. With no dedicated ambulance station built between Sebastopol and Skipton, paramedics dispatched to towns such as Smythesdale are routinely forced to travel from Sebastopol (16km away), Wendouree (20km away) or Skipton (more than 30km away).

Also reported by: Ballarat Courier (Online)

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Uplift great but 'our aim higher'

Border Mail, General News, 09/10/2026, Anthony Bunn, Page 3

A $700,000 upgrade to the emergency department at Corowa hospital should give patients more privacy and ease the strain on other treatment providers such as Albury Wodonga Health. Corowa hospital's facility manager Juliana Sheridan outlined the benefits of the makeover that was recently announced by NSW Health Minister Ryan Park as part of nearly $3.4 million being spent in the Murrumbidgee Local Health District as part of the government's regional minor health works program.

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Preferred sites picked after $37,500 spend

Border Mail, General News, 09/10/2026, Chelsea Wilson, Page 7

Twin City councils have each nominated their preferred location for a greenfield hospital after receiving tens of thousands of dollars' worth of strategic advice. The Alliance of Councils for Albury Wodonga Region Health Services (the health alliance) spent $37,500 on strategic and legal advice to guide its advocacy for a new hospital on a new site.

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V/Line staff cop blast

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 09/10/2026, Lincoln Holmes & Zoe De Koning, Page 2

Concerns have been raised over the handling of a "terrifying" medical emergency on a packed V/Line train near Little River on Thursday morning. Passenger Tess Caccaviello said the incident occurred about 7.30am on the crowded service, with a member of the public allegedly forced to locate and alert train staff despite an emergency button being pressed.

Also reported by: The Courier Mail (Online), Adelaide Now (Online), Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)

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NSW Supreme Court rules doctors were not negligent over partial amputation of woman's leg

ABC Online, General News, 08/10/2026

A woman who alleged doctors unnecessarily amputated her lower left leg has lost her medical negligence claim against the Hunter New England Local Health District (HNELHD). During a two-week Supreme Court civil hearing in May, Vesna Zvicer alleged medical negligence, claiming psychological and physical injury.

Read More

ABC, 7:30, 08/10/2026, Sarah Ferguson

The new Footscray Hospital, which costs $1.5b, was supposed to replace the original that was built in 1953. However, many of its beds remain closed and its emergency wait times have blown out because there's not enough staff. Victorian Health Minister Ingrid Stitt says the government is committed to make the hospital fully staffed. AMA Victoria President Dr Simon Judkins says this reflects Victoria's dysfunctional health system.

Continues on: ABC (Melbourne), ABC (Melbourne), ABC (Melbourne), ABC (Melbourne)

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

It's Dr No to new pay deal

Herald Sun, General News, 09/10/2026, Sarah Booth, Page 9

Doctors have rejected the Carroll government's 12-month pay offer, paving the way for hospital strikes during the election campaign and into 2027. The government offered public hospital doctors a oneyear stop gap deal in an effort to wrap up their lengthy industrial dispute following a statewide strike on Thursday.

Also reported by: Daily Telegraph Australia (Online), The Courier Mail (Online), Adelaide Now (Online)

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Our vital workers

Canberra Times, General News, 09/10/2026, Dana Daniel, Page 1

Shakeeb Bani-Yaseen doesn't even remember what it's like to work in his native Jordan, where he did his medical internship. The emergency physician - who works in a Canberra hospital - arrived on a visitor's visa to sit his Australian Medical Council exam as a new graduate in 2014, and practiced medicine all over Australia before settling down in the ACT.

Also reported by: Canberra Times (Online)

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Striking nurses leave plea

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/10/2026, Oscar Moodley, Page 4

Nurses and midwives on strike have called for "personal impact days" to be included in a new deal which would allow leave for those subjected to "violence and aggression" on the job and on their entry and exit from their workplace. Staff at the Mersey Hospital in Latrobe and the North West Regional Hospital in Burnie formed their picket line on Thursday in efforts to secure a better deal.

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Violence, aggression every day' as nurses take strike action

Burnie Advocate, General News, 09/10/2026, Sean Ford, Page 4

Violence and aggression take place at the North West Regional Hospital (NWRH) each day, a frustrated nurse says. Kiara Roberts, who is also a union dele gate, said it took place in all wards, and the risks to staff were not reflected in their pay.

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Sydney nurses' trial over alleged Israeli patient threats derailed by High Court challenge

The Australian, General News, 08/10/2026, Will Seitam & Bimini Plesser

The trial of two former nurses who allegedly threatened to kill Israeli patients at Sydney’s Bankstown Hospital has been vacated for a second time, after the pair launched a constitutional challenge to the High Court. Sarah Abu Lebdeh and Ahmad Rashad Nadir – who were charged with using a carriage service to menace, harass or offend after they were recorded allegedly threatening violence against Israeli patients last year – were days away from facing a jury at trial.

Read More

Nurses and doctors may have handled chemo drugs with wrong gloves for years

Australian Doctor, General News, 07/10/2026, Carmel Sparke

Hospital staff "angry" they may have been exposed to cytotoxic agents, says nurse union official Maddy Harradence. Doctors and nurses at a leading children's hospital may have been exposed to toxic chemicals for up to a decade after being supplied with gloves not rated for handling chemotherapy agents.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Report highlights need for medicines reviews

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 08/10/2026, Chris Brooker

Around 1.9 million Australians, or 7% of the population, experienced polypharmacy in 2025, a new AIHW report has revealed. The report is the first in a new Australian Institute of Health and Welfare series, looking at polypharmacy patterns by age and sex, and medicines commonly dispensed in 2025, using Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

Read More

Eczema drug back on PBS listing track

Pharma In Focus, General News, 08/10/2026

Following an extended back-and-forth with the PBAC, Leo Pharma appears to be progressing its hand eczema drug Anzupgo towards a PBS listing.

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Sydney pharmacist and fraudster Ben Huynh expecting jail time over $5.1m PBS fraud: court

Daily Telegraph Australia, General News, 08/10/2026, Shannon Tonkin

Disgraced Sydney pharmacist Ben Huynh is entering his final weeks of being a free man, after his legal team on Thursday conceded the self-confessed fraudster is facing certain jail time when he is sentenced later this year for rorting $5.1m from Australian taxpayers. Huynh, an avid supercars lover who was known for documenting his luxury lifestyle on social media, is set to learn his fate in December - nine months after he confessed to systemically ripping off the federal government's subsidised medication scheme.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Private patient records hacked

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/10/2026, Charlie Dadds, Page 7

An Adelaide hospital has had confidential patient recordsincluding Medicare numbers and home addresses hacked by a "third party". St Andrew's Hospital distributed a letter to all affected patients alerting them of an "IT security incident" that had "impacted" the CBD hospital.

Also reported by: 7News.com.au (Online)

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How governments protect sensitive medical info still unclear, doctors say

The Mandarin, General News, 08/10/2026, Melissa Coade

A parliamentary inquiry into OpenAI's breach of Australian Medicare statistics in June must give clarity to how the government is protecting sensitive health information, doctors say. AMA Victoria has called for the joint select committee on AI to probe what steps the Victorian and federal governments are taking to safeguard patient records, highlighting the importance of clear standards for safety, confidentiality, clinical oversight, and accountability.

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Why most health apps are biased even before their first lines of code are written

Yahoo! News Australia, General News, 08/10/2026

Many of us use digital health tools every day, such as period trackers, fitness apps or online quizzes to check our mental health. These mobile apps, wearable devices, and diagnostics often based on artificial intelligence (AI), are shaped by the data they are trained on, and the knowledge and assumptions of the people who build them.

Read More

Channel 10, 10 News, 08/10/2026, Kate Freebairn

Patients of St Andrew's Hospital in Adelaide are being warned their personal and Medicare details may have been stolen in a major cyberattack. The hospital says an unauthorised third party accessed its servers and downloaded files containing sensitive patient information.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 08/10/2026, Alicia Loxley

New AI models will be tested for safety in the wake of the Medicare hack. The government is finalising new guardrails for the technology, but One Nation leader Pauline Hanson has different ideas.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Channel 10, 10 News, 08/10/2026, Sandra Sully

Cabramatta pharmacist Ben Huynh has been found guilty of pocketing $5.1m by lodging over 19,000 false PBS claims using the identities of 209 customers, including dead patients.

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AUSTRALIAN CDC

CSIRO to partner with pharmaceutical giant for research

Canberra Times, General News, 08/10/2026, Andrew Brown

Australia's leading science agency has teamed up with a pharmaceutical giant to help prevent future biosecurity threats. A five-year partnership has been signed between the CSIRO and Moderna for a biosecurity accelerator.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online), Illawarra Mercury (Online), 7News.com.au (Online), Newcastle Herald (Online)

Read More

Channel 7, Seven News, 08/10/2026, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

Australia is keeping a close eye on the suspected plague outbreak in Russia, which has now rumoured to have claimed a second life. The Federal Government insists there's no elevated risk in the country yet. Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles says the Australian Centre for Disease Control is working with its international counterparts.

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ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 08/10/2026, Saskia Mabin

Interview with Federal Industry Minister Tim Ayres on CSIRO's partnership with Moderna to advance research on emerging biosecurity threats. Ayres says it's important that Australia is prepared for future pandemic events. However, he notes that the partnership predated the Plague scare in Russia. He says the collaboration was built on the deal between the Albanese Government, the Victorian Government and Moderna to base a massive mRNA vaccine facility in Melbourne.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 08/10/2026, Sally Sara

The CSIRO is partnering with pharmaceutical giant Moderna to develop measures to protect Australia from infectious diseases. The Federal Government says the partnership will reinforce Australia's role in the Asia-Pacific in responding to infectious disease risks, as well as supporting and protecting the agricultural industry and the broader economy biosecurity.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Abortion pill access jumps almost 50% after Australia eases restrictions for pharmacies

The Guardian, General News, 08/10/2026, Melissa Davey

The number of Australian pharmacies stocking an abortion pill increased by almost 50% when prescribing restrictions were relaxed, with researchers saying the findings suggest deregulation of abortion promotes safer and faster healthcare. A study published in the medical journal JAMA Network Open on Thursday examined the impact of changes by the Therapeutic Goods Administration in 2023 which meant the medication, MS-2 Step, could be prescribed by any GP.

Read More

Regulator outlaws nicotine substitute

Oncology Republic, General News, 08/10/2026, Amanda Sheppeard

Anicotine-like substance found in vaping products marketed as “nicotine-free” will become a prohibited substance from 1 October after the Therapeutic Goods Administration concluded that lesser restrictions would not adequately protect the public. The regulator has made a final decision to place 6-methylnicotine in Schedule 9 of the Poisons Standard, citing its acute toxicity, dependence potential, and appearance in unapproved consumer products.

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TGA cracks down on illegal ads, imports

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 08/10/2026

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has issued 12 infringement notices totalling $126,720 to two companies and five individuals for the unlawful importation and advertising of prescription-only medicines. Cases included advertising of lovastatin, baricitinib and ketamine, and importation of unapproved melatonin products, Mounjaro pens, prescription-only erectile dysfunction medicines and cosmetic injectable.

Read More

ABC Radio Canberra, PM, 08/10/2026, Samantha Donovan

It's been three years since the Therapeutic Goods Administration eased restrictions around prescribing and dispensing abortion pills. A new study suggests the move has seen access to the medication surge. Nearly half of all Australian post codes now stock the abortion pill, and there's been an almost 50% increase in the number of pharmacies able to dispense it.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

A med cannabis deep-dive

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 08/10/2026

Leafio, one of Australia's leading medicinal cannabis distributors, has given pharmacy members a behind-the-scenes look at the life cycle of the drug, from plant to final product. [...] The company holds

licences and permits from the Australian Office of Drug Control for the cultivation and manufacture of medicinal cannabis, as well as a psilocybin licence from NSW Health.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Shocking supermarket test finds banned pesticides on Aussie produce

7News.com.au, General News, 08/10/2026, Jackie Quist

An alarming new report has lifted the lid on illegal pesticides found on popular items of fruit and vegetables sold at major Australian supermarkets, with at least a dozen examples including one punnet of strawberries containing almost 10 times the legal limit. Pesticide Action Australia independently lab-tested 78 samples of 13 different fruits and vegetables purchased from Coles, Woolworths and ALDI for pesticide residue, with shocking results.

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AICIS

Hidden danger lurking in your car

Canberra Times, General News, 08/10/2026, Laura Berry

That new car smell is actually a combination of flame retardant and toxins in the plastics used in your car - from the seats to the dashboard. And according to recent studies the 'gassing off' in extreme heat such as an Aussie summer could be harmful, but there are three things you can do to minimise the danger.

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