



HEALTH ALERT

22 May 2017

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JUDGMENTS

Key Decisions

16 May 2017 - [Realview Holdings Pty Ltd And City Of Busselton](#) [2017] WASAT 71 - Town planning - Development application - Land use classification - Restricted Business zone - Whether use correctly classified as 'Medical Centre' or 'Medical Centre and Shop' under local planning scheme - 'Best fit' - Words and phrases: 'pharmacy', 'pharmacist', 'medical centre', 'consulting rooms', 'professional accommodation', 'shop'.

The applicant sought a review of the respondent's decision to refuse a development application. The proposed development involved internal works to a previously approved building to use the premises as a medical centre, by creating consulting rooms, reception area, surgery and treatment room, staff room, pharmacy and toilets.

The issue was whether the proposed development application, and in particular the 'pharmacy' element, should be characterised as a 'Medical Centre' or 'Medical Centre and Shop' under the City of Busselton Local Planning Scheme No. 21. The land upon which the development was proposed was zoned as 'Restricted Business', meaning a 'shop' is prohibited. The applicant contended that the 'pharmacy' component is properly defined as a 'Medical Centre' or 'forming part of a Medical Centre', whereas the respondent argued it was a 'Shop' and therefore a prohibited use.

The Tribunal approved the application and set aside the respondent's initial decision. The decision was based on the definition of 'Medical Centre' in the Planning Scheme which included the "*professional accommodation for...pharmacists*". It concluded that a pharmacy provides 'professional accommodation' for pharmacists, and therefore should be categorised as a 'Medical Centre'. It rejected the respondent's argument that the decision would enable retailers to locate to the area, because most 'retailers' clearly fall within the term 'Shop' and would not be permitted in the 'Restricted Business' zone.

12 May 2017 - [Lifeplan Australia Friendly Society Ltd v Ancient Order of Foresters in Victoria Friendly Society Limited](#) [2017] FCAFC 74 - EQUITY – causation in equity – causal connection between knowing assistance in dishonest breaches of fiduciary duty and profits made in the course of business – where profits are accountable because the business that generated them would not have been established without knowingly using information dishonestly gained – where confidential information was used for the supervision and governance of the business EQUITY – account of profits – considerations involved in assessment of account of profits – remedy to fit the nature of the case and account for the true measure of the profit or benefit obtained – account of profits ordered based on net present value of business contracts up to a particular date CORPORATIONS – s 79 of the Corporations Act – principles of statutory accessory liability – conduct sufficient to form the conclusion that a party is knowingly concerned in breaches of statutory duty – meaning of profits in s 1317H(2) of the Corporations Act.

the appellant and respondent engaged in the business of funds management including investment bonds and funeral bonds. The respondent employed two individuals who were previously employed by the appellant. The respondent employed the individuals to develop a particular segment of its business using confidential information obtained by the employees, in breach of statutory duties owed by the employees to the appellant under the *Corporations Act* 2001 (cth) (**the Act**).

The issue WAS whether the respondent was knowingly concerned in the statutory contravention of the employee, giving rise to the appellant's right to be compensated for damage under the Act.

The Court found in favour of the appellant. It concluded that on the facts the respondent's Board was actually aware and had actual knowledge of the taking and using of confidential information. It held that the utilisation of confidential information by the Board in its decision-making process indicates the respondent was knowingly concerned in the breaches. The conduct of the respondent's CEO in working with the employees to prepare disclosure documents reinforced that the respondent was knowingly concerned in the relevant breaches. Accordingly, the Court awarded the appellant damages in the value of the respondent's capital profit for a five year period, being the five-year business plan established by the employees and the respondent using the confidential documents.

Commonwealth. Fair Work Commission

12 May 2017 - [Mildura District Hospital Fund Inc T/A Mildura Health Private Hospital](#) [2017] FWCA 2621.

Application for approval of the Mildura Health Private Hospital Nurses Enterprise Agreement 2016.

12 May 2017 - [Adam Powell v Centacare Catholic Family Services](#) [2017] FWC 2209 - Application for an unfair dismissal remedy – jurisdictional objection – whether applicant protected from unfair dismissal – whether minimum employment period met – meaning of “service” considered – whether certain absences were unauthorised – whether other absences were unpaid leave or unpaid unauthorised absences – whether excluded periods considered on basis of scheduled work days or calendar period – unpaid leave absence found – some unauthorised absence – periods to be excluded – excluded periods mean service insufficient to meet minimum employment period – applicant not protected – unfair dismissal application dismissed.

12 May 2017 - [Alliance Care Management as the trustee for the Amberlea Aged Care Facility Unit Trust T/A The Trustee for Amberlea Aged Care Facility Trust](#) [2017] FWCA 2620 - Application for approval of the Alliance Care Management Pty Ltd as Trustee for the Amberlea Aged Care Facility Unit Trust Nurses Enterprise Agreement 2017.

15 May 2017 - [Wyndham Wellness Centre Pty Ltd T/A Back In Motion Point Cook](#) [2017] FWCA 2659 - Application for approval of the Back In Motion Health Group Point Cook Enterprise Agreement 2015.

16 May 2017 - [Carrum Downs Health Services Pty Ltd T/A Back In Motion Carrum Downs](#) [2017] FWCA 2677 - Application for approval of the Back In Motion Health Group Carrum Downs Enterprise Agreement 2017.

16 May 2017 - [Ms Angela Iurato v Crossmark Australia Pty Limited](#) [2017] FWCFB 2607 - Appeal against decision of Commissioner Ryan at Melbourne on 12 May 2015 in matter number U2015/4172. Permission to appeal only, extension of time, Fair Work Commission Rules 2013 r56(2)(c), Fair Work Act 2009 s400, permission to appeal refused.

16 May 2017 - [Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation](#) [2017] FWCA 2707 - Application for approval of The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (SA Branch) Employees Agreement 2017.

New South Wales

17 May 2017 - [Health Care Complaints Commission v Brennan](#) [2017] NSWCATOD 75 - Medical Practitioner – Disciplinary proceedings – Allegation that Doctor formed intimate and sexual relationship with patient – Stage 1 hearing.

18 May 2017 - [Health Care Complaints Commission v Saedlounia \(No. 2\)](#) [2017] NSWCATOD 77 - Unsatisfactory professional conduct – professional misconduct – medical practitioner no longer registered – Tribunal would have cancelled registration for two years if registered – practitioner disqualified from registration for two years.

16 May 2017 [Health Care Complaints Commission v Kennedy](#) [2017] NSWCATOD 72 - PROFESSIONS AND TRADES — health practitioner — whether conduct particularised amounts to “improper and unethical” conduct — whether conduct admitted or found proven amounts to professional misconduct — appropriate protective orders practitioner found guilty of professional misconduct.

Queensland

15 May 2017 - [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia v Faulkner](#) [2017] QCAT 141 - PROFESSIONS AND TRADES – HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS – NURSES – DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS – where the registrant was allocated to care for a patient – where the registrant had pre-signed medication charts – where the registrant failed to administer medication to the patient – where the registrant had signed the patient’s medication chart to indicate she had administered the medication – where the registrant stated she had administered the medication – whether the provision of that information was false, inaccurate and/or misleading – whether the combined conduct constitutes professional misconduct.

South Australia

18 May 2017 - [Community Living Options Inc. v McDougall & Anor \(No 2\)](#) [2017] SADC 53 - PROCEDURE - civil proceedings in state and territory courts - ending proceedings early - summary disposal - summary judgment for plaintiff or applicant - equity - trusts and trustees - the cestui que trust.

11 May 2017 - [Inquest into the death of Daniel Scoleri](#) 48/2016 (1255/2014)

11 May 2017 - [Inquest into the death of Scott Robinson](#) 48/2016 (1255/2014)

Tasmania

17 May 2017 - [Inquest into the death of Anne Maree Woulleman-Jarvis](#) 2017 TASCDC 188

Victoria

15 May 2017 - [Al Raheb v Medical Board of Australia \(Review and Regulation\)](#) [2017] VCAT 637 - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Victoria) Act 2009; ss 156, 157 and 202. Immediate action taken by the respondent to suspend applicant's registration. Decision of respondent confirmed.

16 May 2017 - [Medical Board of Australia v Dr Das \(Review of Regulation\)](#) [2017] VCAT 668 - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Victoria) Act 2009 – s196 – whether medical practitioner sexually assaulted a patient in the course of a chest examination whether – whether a medical practitioner breached condition that a chaperone must be present when he examines female patients – whether medical practitioner breached condition requiring signage advising a chaperone will be present when he treats female patients.

16 May 2017 - [Pereira v Psychology Board of Australia \(Costs\) \(Review and Regulation\)](#) [2017] VCAT 610

15 May 2017 - [MLC Nominees Pty Ltd v Daffy](#) [2017] VSCA 110 - INSURANCE – Appeal - Total and permanent disability policy – Construction of insurance policy – Businesslike interpretation – Whether construction posited by insurer so unjust as to suggest error - Liability to pay benefits not already accrued ceasing on termination of employment – Whether benefit had accrued at time of termination of employment – Time at which a benefit accrues - Benefit not already accrued when employment terminated – Appeal allowed.

LEGISLATION

As a general rule, this bulletin tracks subsidiary legislation at Commonwealth, but not at state level

Commonwealth

19 May 2017 - [Medical Indemnity Amendment \(High Cost Claim Threshold\) Regulations 2017](#) F2017L00551 • as made.

17 May 2017 - [Biosecurity Amendment \(Ballast Water and Other Measures\) Bill 2017](#) Assented.

South Australia

15 May 2017 - [Industrial Hemp Act 2017](#) Assented.

REPORTS

Australia. Department of Health

Consultation

15 May 2017 - [Budget staff briefing event feedback](#) - Thank you to all staff who attended, in person or virtually, the staff budget briefing on Wednesday 10 March at 10:30 am. We used Live Stream to bring you the briefing and Poll Everywhere to capture your questions and voting on questions for the Secretary. What did you think of both the Live Stream and Poll Everywhere?

Please tell us through this survey. It will help us to improve the service in future. Could you please respond by cob Friday 26 May.

Media releases

19 May 2017 - [Information Sharing on Digital Health, a Focus of Health Cooperation with Germany](#) - Information sharing on the best uses of digital health to improve the health status of populations is a key focus of a Joint Declaration of Intent on Bilateral Health Cooperation.

18 May 2017 - [New headspace centre for Mandurah](#) - The Australian Government will establish a new headspace in Mandurah to provide mental health services to young people in the region.

18 May 2017 - [New pathology centre delivers for Bunbury](#) - Patients at Bunbury Regional Hospital are receiving faster diagnosis and an improved range of treatments as a result of the hospital's redeveloped pathology centre.

16 May 2017 - [Australia to attend G20 Health Ministers' Meeting to advance international health cooperation](#) - The Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health, Ken Wyatt, leaves for Germany to attend the first ever G20 Health Ministers' Meeting, where he will represent the Australian Government at this premier forum for international economic cooperation.

16 May 2017 - [Expansion of the Australian Nurse-Family Partnership Program](#) - The Federal Minister for Indigenous Health, Ken Wyatt, announced three new sites for the Australian Nurse-Family Partnership Program that supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who are pregnant, or women pregnant with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child.

16 May 2017 - [Medical Research Future Fund delivering better health outcomes for Victorians](#) - The Australian Government will provide \$2 million from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) to Monash Partners to support collaborative health and medical research into ways to make the health system work better for Victorians.

15 May 2017 - [Review of Community Visitors Scheme](#) - The final report of the review into the Australian Government's Community Visitors Scheme was released by the Minister for Aged Care, Ken Wyatt.

15 May 2017 - [Strongest bulk billing rates since Medicare's inception](#) - More Australian patients are visiting their doctor without having to reach for their wallet than ever before, with GP bulk billing rates for the March 2017 quarter increasing to 85.6% compared to 85.1% in the same quarter last year.

Private Health Insurance Circulars

[PHI 22/17 Private Health Insurance \(Risk Equalisation Levy\) Rules 2017](#)
[PHI 21/17 Private Health Insurance \(Data Provision\) Rules 2017 and Private Health Insurance \(Health Insurance Business\) Rules 2017](#)

Australia. Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the boards

17 May 2017 - [Registration opens for CLEAR](#) - The Fifth International Congress on Professional and Occupational Regulation will be held this November in Melbourne, Australia.

17 May 2017 - [Nurses and midwives reminded to renew by 31 May](#) - Time is running out for nurses and midwives to renew registration on time and avoid paying a late fee.

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority

16 May 2017 - [APRA releases private health insurance statistics for March 2017](#) - The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) today released its quarterly private health insurance publications for the March 2017 quarter. The publications provide industry aggregate summaries of key financial and membership statistics of the private health insurance industry.

Australia. National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

19 May 2017 - [NHMRC to announce changes to its grant funding program](#) - NHMRC is moving forward with improvements to its grant funding program to ensure it continues to support the best Australian health and medical research and researchers. A restructured grant funding program will be implemented in late 2018 – early 2019, for peer review during 2019 and funding in 2020.

The Minister for Health and Sport, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, and the NHMRC CEO, Professor Anne Kelso, will announce these changes at Parliament House next week. A live stream of the announcement will be

available on Thursday 25 May 2017, commencing at 10am (AEST). Details on how to connect to the live stream will be provided early next week – please check the NHMRC website for updates.

Further information will also be provided on the NHMRC website after the announcement.

Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

19 May 2017 - [Post-market Review of Ezetimibe – Revised Draft Report Public Consultation](#) - The public consultation on the revised draft Ezetimibe Post-market Review Report to the PBAC will open on Tuesday 23 May 2017 and close at 5pm Tuesday 6 June 2017.

Interested organisations and individuals will be invited to provide a submission addressing the revised Draft Report to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). To make a submission please go to the [Public Consultation page](#) after 23 May.

Further information about the Review is available on the [Ezetimibe Review page](#).

Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

18 May 2017 - [Tamper-evident packaging](#) - A new consumer information page on tamper-evident packaging is now available.

18 May 2017 - [Code of practice for tamper-evident packaging of therapeutic goods](#) - A new version of the code of practice for tamper-evident packaging of therapeutic goods is now available.

18 May 2017 - [Poster: What happens in post-market reviews of medical devices in Australia](#) - This presentation provides an update on post-market reviews of medical devices.

17 May 2017 - [Scheduling delegate's interim decisions and invitation for further comment: ACCS/ACMS, March 2017](#) - Interim decisions and invitation for further comment. Closing date: 31 May 2017.

17 May 2017 - [Compounded medicines and good manufacturing practice \(GMP\)](#) - This guidance assists in the interpretation of the PIC/S GMP requirements when manufacturing compounded medicines.

17 May 2017 - [Consultation: Proposed Amendments to the Poisons Standard - ACCS, ACMS and Joint ACCS/ACMS meetings, July 2017](#) - The TGA is seeking comments from interested parties on the proposed amendments to the Poisons Standard. Closing date: 15 June 2017.

15 May 2017 - [Philips IntelliVue MX40 wearable patient monitor](#) - Suspension – safety concerns.

15 May 2017 - [Conference participation by the TGA](#) - The TGA is participating in these events and conferences.

15 May 2017 - [Advertising cosmetic services that include schedule 4 substances](#) - Updated to include new prescription only medicines and acceptable general terms.

12 May 2017 - [Allergies and medicines](#) - Information for consumers about finding potential allergens on medicine labels.

12 May 2017 - [Man XXX Herbal capsules](#) - Man XXX Herbal capsules pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken.

12 May 2017 - [Meditech ultrasound gel](#) - Safety advisory - risk of bacterial contamination.

12 May 2017 - [Australian Public Assessment Reports for prescription medicines \(AusPARs\)](#) - Added Daclizumab (Zinbryta).

12 May 2017 - [Infections associated with heater-cooler devices](#) - A total of five Australians have been confirmed with Mycobacterium chimaera infections following heart surgery.

Australian Institute of Health & Welfare

17 May 2017 - [media release: Hospital admissions growing steadily, more Australians going private in hospitals](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

11 May - [Time with your doctor is precious – We can help you make the most of it](#) - A tool to help people make the most of their medical appointments has been launched today, Thursday 11 May.

Called Question Builder, the tool guides patients through a series of steps, from selecting which type of appointment they are preparing for, to selecting the most important questions to ask first. It then creates a list of questions that a patient can print or email to themselves, or someone else, and take to their medical appointment.

18 May 2017 - [Osteoarthritis of the Knee Clinical Care Standard](#)

18 May 2017 - [Recommendations for the control of Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae \(PDF 3MB\)](#)

11 May 2017 - [National subcutaneous insulin chart \(PDF 208KB\)](#)

11 May 2017 - [Subcutaneous insulin chart evaluation report \(PDF 156KB\)](#)

On the Radar

15 May 2017 – Issue 321 ([PDF 230KB](#)) ([Word 147KB](#))

Australia. National Mental Health Commission

18 May 2017 - [National Mental Health Commission acts on seclusion and restraint](#) - The National Mental Health Commission calls for all mental health services to increase their effort towards eliminating the use of seclusion and restraint. The Commission's CEO, Dr Peggy Brown said everyone in a mental health service has a right to receive safe and contemporary care and to be treated with dignity and respect.

"A guiding principle underpinning safe and contemporary care of individuals with a mental illness is respect for human rights," Dr Brown said. "The system needs to be closely examined, so care can be delivered without using interventions that are experienced as adverse by consumers, carers and staff alike.

"We recommend the universal adoption of strategies and training guidelines which support the goal of eliminating seclusion and mechanical and physical restraint in mental health services."

The Commission produced the [A case for change: Position Paper on seclusion, restraint and restrictive practices in mental health services](#) and supports the newly released [National Principles to Support the Goal of Eliminating Mechanical and Physical Restraint in Mental Health Services](#).

New South Wales. Ministry of Health

Media Releases

15 May 2017 - [Family initiatives to stop the obesity cycle](#) - An innovative video teaching families how to make healthy choices at the supermarket, and a healthy weight calculator for children, are just two of the practical tools offered by a new website, Healthy Kids for Professionals, launched today in the battle against childhood obesity.

The back-to-basics approach follows the release of new data indicating that parents have limited awareness of overweight and obesity in their children. Chief Health Officer, Dr Kerry Chant, said more than one in five school-aged children is above a healthy weight and obesity remains unacceptably high. "We have to find new and clear ways of reaching the families of these children to improve their understanding of healthy weight ranges and healthy habits."

The new supermarket tour video, developed in collaboration with the Australian Medical Association (NSW), takes viewers on a guided tour of a supermarket with a dietician, to help show how to make healthy food choices

18 May 2017 - [\\$4 million for schizophrenia research](#) - People with schizophrenia will benefit from \$4 million in State Government funding awarded to Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA) for the prevention, improved treatments and research on a cure for the psychiatric disorder.

Mental Health Minister Tanya Davies and Health Minister Brad Hazzard today announced the funding as part of Schizophrenia Awareness Week. The funding is over four years to support the work of the Chair in Schizophrenia Research at NeuRA, a leading brain and nervous system research institute at Randwick.

16 May 2017 - [Improvements underway for Bega's hospital](#) - Health Minister Brad Hazzard today welcomed a plan for the future of the South East Regional Hospital in the Bega Valley as a great opportunity for positive change. Mr Hazzard said NSW Health would implement all 10 recommendations of a review of the management and operation of the new hospital, which are aimed at strengthening clinical governance, communication and leadership.

12 May 2017 - [Review into mental health practice](#) - Minister for Health Brad Hazzard and Minister for Mental Health Tanya Davies have directed that the State's Chief Psychiatrist review the policy and practice of seclusion, restraints and observations across the entire NSW mental health system, in response to the death of 46-year-old Lismore patient Myriam Merten.

The review will be conducted by NSW Chief Psychiatrist Dr Murray Wright with the assistance of the Principal Official Visitor, Karen Lenihan and an international expert in mental health nursing, Kevin Huckshorn. "NSW's Chief Psychiatrist Dr Murray Wright has the complete backing of the NSW Government and the NSW community to review the system from top to bottom, both practice and culture across the board," Mr Hazzard said. "The circumstances surrounding Ms Merten's treatment and subsequent death in 2014 are shocking, and the lack of humanity in her care astounding."

Publications

17 May 2017 - [Safe Sleeping for Our Babies](#)

16 May 2017 - [Review of South East Regional Hospital](#)

11 May 2017 - [NSW Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey \(SPANS\) 2015: Full Report](#)

Policy Directives & Guidelines

14 May 2017 - [Nurse Delegated Emergency Care Nurse Management Guidelines](#) - Document number: GL2017_009.

Northern Territory. Department of Health

19 May 2017 - [Streamlining Governance for Better Health Services](#) - The Territory Labor Government has today announced sweeping changes to the governance of Northern Territory Health Services. The Health Minister, Natasha Fyles, said the Top End and Central Australia Health Service Boards would be dissolved as of June 30 this year – with a new streamlined system brought into play.

Queensland. Department of Health

19 May 2017 - [Process underway to appoint health sector watchdog](#) - The Queensland Government has embarked on a recruitment exercise to appoint the state's Health Ombudsman, an independent role tasked with protecting the health and safety of the general public.

18 May 2017 - [Townsville Hospital to roll out body-worn cameras](#) - Health and Ambulance Services Minister Cameron Dick was at The Townsville Hospital to announce the successful trial of body worn cameras in the hospital's Emergency Department and public areas.

17 May 2017 - [Australia-first ED social work service helping domestic violence victims](#) - Researchers are studying an Australian first 24/7 social work service at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) Emergency Department, which is helping domestic violence victims.

16 May 2017 - [12-year-old girl and a smartphone app save the day](#) - A grandmother who suffered a serious fall at a waterfall on the Atherton Tablelands has her quick-thinking 12-year-old granddaughter and a smartphone app to thank for receiving urgent medical assistance.

15 May 2017 - [Call centre helps three million Queenslanders in need](#) - Queensland Health's vital Health Contact Centre (HCC) has celebrated a key milestone, receiving its three-millionth call.

15 May 2017 - [Ana-phyl-what? Understanding anaphylaxis](#) - Anaphylaxis: it's a scary looking word for a serious condition. But public awareness of this serious allergic reaction can make life for people with allergies a lot easier.

15 May 2017 - [Why you should take the time to have a breast screen](#) - Breast cancer is the most common cancer affecting women in Queensland. Approximately one in eight Queensland women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. A breast screen can detect breast cancer very early, when it is too small to be felt or noticed. Having regular breast screens through BreastScreen Queensland is one of the best things you can do to detect breast cancer early and improve your chance of survival. With the help of early detection, the five year breast cancer survival rate is 90%. If you're aged 50-74 years, you should [book in for a breast screen](#) every two years.

15 May 2017 - [Tap on technology gives clinician's more time for patient care](#) - Clinicians across Queensland have gained thousands of 'extra' hours thanks to a swipe-on/swipe-off computer log-in system allowing them to quickly and securely access patient information at different workstations across the hospital.

14 May 2017 - [Mother's Day a good reminder to book a breast screen](#) - This Mother's Day, a new Queensland Health campaign is calling on family members and friends to encourage the women in their lives to book a breast screen.

12 May 2017 - [New blood for South West health board](#) - The South West Hospital and Health Board takes on a new look with the State Government today appointing a new Chair, welcoming three new members and reappointing an existing one.

12 May 2017 - [Central Queensland health board to benefit from continuity](#) - In a show of confidence in the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Board, six members have been reappointed for further terms of between two and four years by the State Government.

12 May 2017 - [Central West health board to benefit from continuity](#) - In a show of confidence in the Central West Hospital and Health Board, four members have been reappointed for four more years by the State Government.

12 May 2017 - [Children's health board to benefit from continuity](#) - In a show of confidence in the Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Board, five members have been reappointed for further terms of between two and four years by the Governor in Council.

12 May 2017 - [Darling Downs health board to benefit from broad experience](#) - A respected academic with a wealth of experience in business and governance has become the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Board's newest member.

12 May 2017 - [Gold Coast health board to benefit from continuity](#) - In a show of confidence in the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Board, three members have been reappointed for further terms by the State Government.

12 May 2017 - [Mackay health board to benefit from continuity](#) - In a show of confidence in the Mackay Hospital and Health Board, six members have been reappointed for further terms by the State Government.

12 May 2017 - [Metro South health board to benefit from new blood](#) - The Metro South Hospital and Health Board takes on a new look with the appointment of three new members.

12 May 2017 - [New blood for Wide Bay health board](#) - The Wide Bay Hospital and Health Board takes on a new look with five new members welcomed to the nine-person board.

12 May 2017 - [New face for Metro North health board](#) - An executive with a wealth of experience in indigenous health has become the Metro North Hospital and Health Board's latest member.

12 May 2017 - [North West health board to benefit from continuity](#) - In a show of confidence in the North West Hospital and Health Board, five members have been reappointed for further terms by the State Government.

12 May 2017 - **Sunshine Coast health board to benefit from continuity** - A former State MP who has a wealth of experience in social work, community health and governance has become the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Board's latest member.

12 May 2017 - **Torres and Cape health board to benefit from continuity** - In a show of confidence in the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Board, two members have been reappointed for further terms by the State Government.

12 May 2017 - **West Moreton health board to benefit from continuity** - In a show of confidence in the West Moreton Hospital and Health Board, four members have been reappointed for further terms by the State Government.

12 May 2017 - **Townsville health board to benefit from more clinical experience** - A medical specialist with vast international experience in women's health has become the Townsville Hospital and Health Board's latest member.

12 May 2017 - **Cairns leader at helm of new-look health board** - Respected business and community leader Clive Skarott AM has been appointed chair of the new Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Board.

12 May 2017 - **Increasing diversity a hallmark of Hospital and Health Boards** - Queensland's Hospital and Health Boards will have more than 50 per cent female membership for the second consecutive year following the announcement of new appointments today.

South Australia. Department for Health & Ageing

18 May 2017 - **Media release: Meningococcal case - May 2017** - A case of invasive meningococcal disease has been notified in a 58-year-old man from metropolitan Adelaide. The man has been admitted to hospital in a serious condition. The meningococcal strain has been identified as serogroup W.

SA Health has identified multiple people who had contact with the patient, three of whom have been directed to receive antibiotic chemoprophylaxis. There have been eight cases of invasive meningococcal disease reported in South Australia this year, compared to 11 cases recorded at the same time last year. Three of these cases have been B strain, three have been W strain and two have been Y strain.

12 May 2017 - **CHSALHN - Media release: Volunteers celebrated across the state** - Hundreds of volunteers who selflessly give their time to health services across rural South Australia are being thanked for their tireless dedication and support. During National Volunteer Week, Country Health SA Chief Executive Officer Maree Geraghty thanked all of the volunteers who work in hospitals, aged care and community health facilities across the state.

12 May 2017 - **Media release: Businesses urged to check cooling towers following legionella cases May 2017** - Cooling tower operators in the southern metropolitan area are being urged to decontaminate air-conditioning and industrial cooling towers following the notification of three cases of Legionnaires' disease. SA Health's Director Health Protection Dr Chris Lease said cooling towers can grow and disperse Legionella bacteria if they are not properly maintained.

Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

16 May 2017 - **Full funding committed for the new St Helens District Hospital** - Next week's state Budget will fund in full the \$12.1 million new St Helens District Hospital.

The Hodgman Liberal Government is Building Tasmania's Future and that includes investing in regional health facilities so local communities get the health care they deserve in facilities that are fit for purpose.

The St Helens District Hospital has long been an integral part of the St Helens community, however continued flooding at the current site has meant that we need to rebuild. This year's Budget will confirm an additional \$4 million has been allocated to complete the project, on top of funding in previous state Budgets.

15 May 2017 - **Significant new investment in mental health** - Improving our health system is a key priority of the Hodgman Liberal Government. I am very pleased to announce that the upcoming state

Budget will contain more than \$16 million in additional funding for the mental health sector, over and above the \$11.7 million additional investment in mental health in previous Hodgman Liberal Budgets.

Victoria. Department of Health

17 May 2017 - **New Pakenham Community Health Centre Opens Its Doors** - Pakenham residents now have better access to the vital community health, mental health and family services they need – all under one roof – with the opening of the new Pakenham Health Centre.

18 May 2017 - **Victorian Medical Jobs And Research In The Fast Lane** - More Victorian jobs will be created in the pharmaceutical, medical and biotechnology sectors following the announcement today of a major Chinese partnership that will open up opportunities for Victorian companies, universities and research institutes. Premier Daniel Andrews signed the Partnership Agreement between the Shanghai Institute of Medical Quality and the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct in Shanghai today, during his official visit to China and Hong Kong.

Based at Parkville, the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct partners include The Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre, Peter Mac, the University of Melbourne and Melbourne Health. With a strong focus on cancer treatment, this landmark international agreement will enable the sharing of expertise in health care and patient safety, and investment in Victorian medical breakthroughs and technology development.

17 May 2017 - **Better End-Of-Life Care In Regional Victoria** - The Andrews Labor Government is ensuring that people in regional Victoria can access high quality and compassionate end-of-life care, closer to home. Minister for Health Jill Hennessy today announced the second round of the Andrews Labor Government's popular *Regional Health Infrastructure Fund* will open next Monday and, for the first time, be expanded to include publicly funded community palliative care services. The \$200 million fund – the largest of its kind in Victorian history – will rebuild rural and regional hospitals to ensure all Victorians can access the high quality care and facilities they need, no matter where they live.

16 May 2017 - **Funding Top Up To Save The Wimmera Cancer Centre** - The Andrews Labor Government has stepped in to guarantee the Wimmera Cancer Centre is built so local patients will be able to access world-leading oncology care, close to home and when they need it.

12 May 2017 - **Monash Telehealth Links Top Kids Surgeons To Gippsland** - Doctors treating the sickest children in Gippsland will now have a direct video link to world leading experts in paediatric care thanks to Victorian-first telehealth technology at the newly opened Monash Children's Hospital.

Western Australia. Department of Health

Media Releases

15 May 2017 - **Fiona Stanley Hospital delivering bubs up to 10 weeks premature** - Fiona Stanley Hospital is the only hospital south of the river that can care for babies delivered up to 10 weeks premature.

12 May 2017 - **Study helps prepare for Zika threat** - Australian health authorities will be better prepared for an outbreak of the Zika virus here following a new study that has examined the prevalence of microcephaly across our population over the past 35 years.

Publications and Reports

15 May 2017 - **Elective Surgery Wait List reports**

New Zealand. Ministry of Health

15 May 2017 - **Problem Gambling and Family Violence in Help-Seeking Populations: Co-occurrence, Impact and Coping** - This study was conducted by Auckland University of Technology to investigate co-existing problem gambling and family/whanāu violence. The study took place between June 2013 and March 2015, involving 454 clients of Ministry of Health funded problem gambling intervention services.

Australian Medical Association (AuMA)

18 May 2017 - **AuMA welcomes deferral of Health Care Homes introduction** - The Government has responded to AuMA advocacy and announced, as part of the 2017-18 Budget, that Health Care Home services will now have a deferred and phased start, with up to 20 Health Care Homes that are ready to

start delivering services commencing on 1 October 2017 and the remainder commencing on 1 December, 2017.

18 May 2017 - [PIP eHealth Incentive – update on compliance processes](#) - Further to the GP Network News articles published on [20 April 2017](#) and [10 May 2017](#), the Department of Health has now written to practices that it believed had not met their Shared Health Summary (SHS) upload targets under the PIP eHealth Incentive for the period 1 May 2016 to 31 January 2017. The AuMA advises practices to check their records to confirm that the SHS uploads and payments received concurs with the amounts stated in the Department's letter.

18 May 2017 - [Federal Budget changes to the PIP QI incentive](#) - In line with AuMA advocacy and consistent with the advice of the PIP Advisory Group, of which the AuMA is a member, the Government confirmed in the Federal Budget a revised scope of the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) new Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive and a deferred commencement of twelve months until 1 May 2018. The revised QI Incentive will now combine five existing incentives instead of the previously announced seven incentives.

18 May 2017 - [AuMA Vice President discusses the medical workforce](#) - AuMA Vice President, Dr Tony Bartone, took part in an hour-long discussion on ABC local radio's Nightlife program about the [changing face of the Australian medical workforce](#). Dr Bartone said that balancing the numbers of GPs and other specialists, and medical workforce numbers in rural and regional Australia, was a challenge.

18 May 2017 - [Celebrate being a Family Doctor by using the AuMA Family Doctor Logo](#) - Today, as the World Organization of Family Doctors celebrates World Family Doctor Day, the AuMA is encouraging all our GP members to download and display the 2017 AuMA Family Doctor Logo. The Logo is a reminder to the community and your medical and health professional colleagues of the patient-centred, holistic, and longitudinal medical care you as a family doctor provide.

18 May 2017 - [What's new in the latest MJA?](#) - This month's issue of the *Medical Journal of Australia* features a Perspectives article on Australia's Health Care Homes by Professor Claire Jackson and past President of the AuMA, Dr Steve Hambleton. An editorial and research article discuss how to improve the frequency of eye examinations in people with diabetes.

18 May 2017 - [Australia's Health Care Homes: Laying the right foundations](#) - discusses the implementation of the Government's Health Care Home (HCH) initiative and the take home messages for HCHs in 2017. The authors state that refining the model for broader implementation is vitally important and that clinician leadership, patient engagement and commitment to digital change will be critical for success.

In - [Adherence to diabetic eye examination guidelines in Australia: the National Eye Health Survey](#) - Joshua Foreman and colleagues explored how well people with diabetes are adhering to the 2008 recommendations by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for regular eye examinations. It found that about half of all Indigenous Australians with diabetes and almost one-quarter of non-Indigenous Australians with diabetes did not have their eyes examined at the recommended frequency, placing them at risk of vision-threatening retinopathy. The authors recommend an integrated diabetic retinopathy screening service, particularly in remote areas. The [editorial](#) discusses the implications of the study's findings and further action that could be taken.

18 May 2017 - [Still Searching for the right medical job?](#) - Are you seeking a new position, looking to expand your medical career, or looking to recruit staff to your practice? doctorportal Jobs can assist you. doctorportal Jobs provides job seekers and medical employers with a secure, user friendly and affordable way to connect.

Doctors can create a secure job seeker profile where they can access job opportunities from the best practices and institutions and save and manage their job applications and searches. Using the "private resume" option, this profile can remain anonymous to employers and recruiters, so a doctor's current employer won't be able to see that they are looking for new opportunities.

ABOUT US

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