



HEALTH ALERT

27 June 2017

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JUDGMENTS

Key Decisions

22 June 2017 - *Dorris Maharaj v Northern Health [2017] FWC 2997* - Application for relief from unfair dismissal – dismissal harsh, unjust or unreasonable – applicant unfairly dismissed – remedy – reinstatement sought – satisfied could return to position occupied prior to dismissal – no conditions placed on reinstatement – ancillary matters considered - reinstatement ordered.

The applicant was an ICU nurse who had been employed by the respondent. The applicant suffered a non-work related injury, as a result of which she had taken time of work to recover from physical and psychological injuries. The respondent terminated her employment on the basis that she had been absent from the workplace for a significant period of time and she remained unfit at that time and for an indefinite period to return to her pre-injury duties and hours. The applicant claimed that she was unfairly dismissed.

The Commission concluded that the applicant was unfairly dismissed. It held that the respondent did not make adequate enquires as to the applicant's ability to return to work, either to her pre-injury role or to a similar role with reduced hours, at the time it made the decision to terminate her employment. The Commission relied on the evidence of the applicant's medical practitioner who stated that she would have been able to eventually return to her pre-injury duties and hours. The Commission highlighted that a return to work plan could have been developed for the applicant but was not. Therefore, it concluded that the respondent appeared to have chosen not to explore in any substantive ways that the applicant could return to work, when that might occur and on what conditions.

22 June 2017 - *Inquest into the death of Edward James Laurie [2017] NTLC 15* - Long term petrol sniffing, failure to realise objects of the Volatile Substance Abuse Prevention Act, failure to provide a treatment program, failure to follow processes outlined in Act.

The deceased died in his home due to inhaled solvent toxicity from petrol sniffing. Prior to his death he was admitted to hospital, during which his families, friends, Drug and Alcohol Counsellor, and the Police requested an order be made under Volatile Substance Abuse Prevention Act (NT) that a treatment program be mandated. The Act allows for people within the community and medical practitioners to contact an assessor from the Department of Health to assess the person at risk. The findings of the assessment determine whether a recommendation is made to the Chief Health Officer to apply to the local court for a treatment order.

An assessment was undertaken, following a request by treating practitioners within the hospital, but the assessment did not recommend a treatment program be mandated by court order. The Coroner concluded that an order was not sought because the hospital had not sufficiently highlighted to the assessor the lack of available treatment options for the deceased. Accordingly, the assessor made no recommendations for a court order, and the memo given to the Chief Health Officer did not provide potential treatment or intervention programs.

The Coroner concluded that, in accordance with the intentions of the Act, the deceased was at risk of severe harm and a court order should have been recommended. It was emphasised that the processes and procedures of the hospital should be amended to be in accordance with substance and intent of the Act.

Commonwealth. Fair Work Commission

19 June 2017 - *Royal Flying Doctor Service (South Eastern Section) [2017] FWCA 3253* - Application for approval of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (South Eastern Section) Medical Practitioners Enterprise Agreement 2017.

19 June 2017 - *Jeeva HealthCare Pty Ltd T/A Back In Motion Bacchus Marsh [2017] FWCA 3297* - Application for approval of the Back In Motion Health Group Bacchus Marsh Enterprise Agreement 2017.

Commonwealth. Federal Court

22 June 2017 - *Murray v Australian Community Pharmacy Authority* [2017] FCA 705 - ADMINISTRATIVE LAW – judicial review of the Australian Community Pharmacy Authority’s recommendation to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Ageing that approval be granted under s 90 of the National Health Act 1953 (Cth) (Act) to supply pharmaceutical benefits at premises – judicial review of delegate’s decision to grant the approval under s 90 of the Act – whether application was in respect of whole or part of premises.

South Australia

22 June 2017 - *Inquest into the death of Leila Marijke Baartse-Harkin*

Queensland

22 June 2017 - *Inquest into the death of Gwendoline Mead* - Coroners: colorectal surgery, post-operative fluid balance management, persisting low urine output and intermittent hypotension, hypoalbumaemia, multidisciplinary team, inter-team patient referrals.

16 June 2017 - *Zaphir v Health Ombudsman* [2017] QCAT 193 - PROFESSIONS AND TRADES – HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS – HEALTH PRACTITIONERS REGULATION NATIONAL LAW GENERALLY – where the practitioner was an unregistered health practitioner – where the Health Ombudsman took immediate action by issuing an interim prohibition order in relation to the practitioner under s 68 of the Health Ombudsman Act 2013 (Qld) – where the interim prohibition order prohibited the practitioner from any employment (paid or otherwise) in a clinical or non-clinical capacity which relates to the provision of any health service – whether the Tribunal believes the action is necessary to protect public health or safety.

New South Wales

20 June 2017 - *Wright Medical Australia Pty Limited v Johnston* [2017] NSWSC 761 - PRACTICE & PROCEDURE – Preliminary discovery - Whether applicant/Plaintiff lacks sufficient information to decide whether to institute proceedings - Whether applicant/Plaintiff had made reasonable inquiries – Whether sufficient information available to applicant/Plaintiff prior to application for preliminary discovery - Whether categories of preliminary discovery sought too wide – Order made for limited preliminary discovery – Parties to consider confidentiality regime and return of documents if proceedings not commenced.

10 June 2017 - *Health Care Complaints Commission v Tanios* [2017] NSWCATOD 94 - Professional Misconduct - Registered Pharmacist prescribing drugs without prescription - prescribing drugs for herself - prescribing in false names and recording false authority.

15 June 2017 - *Health Care Complaints Commission v Ledner* [2017] NSWCATOD 90 - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law –psychologist – complaints of inappropriate and sexual conduct with former patient – complaints of unsatisfactory professional conduct and professional misconduct admitted.

16 June 2017 - *Health Care Complaints Commission v Cheng (No 2)* [2017] NSWCATOD 93 - Medical practitioner – misconduct involved inappropriate examination of female patients for sexual gratification – held unfit to practice medicine for an indefinite period – cancellation of registration – non-review period of 7 years-costs order made.

Victoria

21 June 2017 - *Seymour v Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (Review and Regulation)* [2017] VCAT 901 - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Vic) 2009 ss 3, 178, 202 (1); positive urine and hair sample drug test results; formation of a reasonable belief that the manner in which a nurse practises is or may be unsatisfactory; whether necessary to impose conditions on practise. Group 1 urine and hair testing substituted for Group 2 testing.

16 June 2017 - *Psychology Board of Australia v Wilkinson (Review and Regulation)* [2017] VCAT 807 - Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Victoria) Act 2009 – previously decided conduct of registered psychologist in refusing to permit on-site audit at his practice and refusing to undergo a

performance assessment constituted unprofessional conduct under the National Law – appropriate determinations.

Western Australia

20 June 2017 - [Medical Board Of Australia And Nuttall \[2017\] WASAT 58](#) - National Law - Professional misconduct - Advice - Lacking experience and expertise - Natural therapies - Interpreting scan and blood test results - Hepatoblastoma.

LEGISLATION

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

Commonwealth

20 June 2017 - [Therapeutic Goods Amendment \(2016 Measures No. 1\) Act 2017 C2017A00047 • Act No. 47 of 2017](#) - as made.

21 June 2017 - [Contenance Aids Payment Scheme Amendment 2017 F2017L00718](#) - as made.

16 June 2017 - [National Health \(Remote Aboriginal Health Services Program\) Special Arrangements Amendment Instrument 2017 \(No. 1\) \(PB 53 of 2017\) F2017L00683 • PB 53 of 2017](#) - as made.

16 June 2017 - [Health Insurance \(Accredited Pathology Laboratories — Approval\) Amendment Principles 2017 \(No. 2\) F2017L00681](#) - as made.

16 June 2017 - [Health Insurance \(General Medical Services Table\) Amendment \(Bulk-Billed Services\) Regulations 2017 F2017L00682](#) - as made.

South Australia

21 June 2017 - [Health Care \(Private Day Procedure Centres\) Amendment Bill 2017](#) - Introduced.

REPORTS

Australia. Department of Health

Media releases

22 June 2017 - [Certainty for Eight Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Care Providers](#) - Federal Minister for Indigenous Health, Ken Wyatt, has continued \$8 million in funding for eight providers delivering important health care services under the Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP).

22 June 2017 - [Coalition creates history with Australia's first National Rural Health Commissioner](#) - New legislation has paved the way for the appointment of a new champion for rural health and the doctors, nurses and allied health workers who care for those living in these communities.

22 June 2017 - [Mersey Hospital ownership returned to Tasmania](#) - The Mersey National Partnership Agreement and Transfer Deed have been signed by both parties, and ownership of the Mersey will officially transfer to the Tasmanian Government on 1 July.

22 June 2017 - [More help with medications through community pharmacies](#) - The Australian Government is supporting the expansion of community pharmacy programs to help more patients around Australia better understand and manage their medications and avoid ill-health.

21 June 2017 - [Report welcomed as Government works to strengthen aged care sector](#) - The Australian Government has welcomed the Senate Community Affairs References Committee report into the future of Australia's aged care workforce.

20 June 2017 - [Call for submissions for the Review of the National Aged Care Quality Regulatory Processes](#) - Federal Aged Care Minister Ken Wyatt has today opened submissions to the Review of National Aged Care Quality Regulatory Processes.

20 June 2017 - [Streamlined Support for Aboriginal Community Health Services](#) - Federal Indigenous Health Minister Ken Wyatt says a new Network Funding Agreement will streamline the provision of \$20

million a year in health service support through the National Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Organisation (NACCHO).

19 June 2017 - [Community Awareness Grants to help boost registration of organ donation decisions](#) - The Australian Government has awarded \$430,000 in Community Awareness Grants to encourage more people to join the Australian Organ Donor Register online and to discuss their donation decision with family and friends.

Private Health insurance Circulars

[PHI 30/17 Hospital Information](#)

[PHI 29/17 August 2017 Prostheses List](#)

[PHI 28/17 Prostheses List Management System \(PLMS\)](#)

Consultations

[Obtaining Consumer Comments on Submission for Subsidisation of FreeStyle Libre Flash Glucose Monitoring System](#) - Closes 17 July 2017

Australia. Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the boards

20 June 2017 - [Are you a final year medical student? You will need to demonstrate your English language skills before you start your intern year](#) - Do you need to sit an English language test?

29 June 2017 - [Newsletter from the National Board](#) - The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia releases its latest newsletter.

Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

22 June 2017 - [Release of the Review's Interim Report](#) - The Review is pleased to present the Interim Report for the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation.

16 June 2017 - [Price Disclosure 2017 October Cycle Outcomes Summary](#) - The summary of price disclosure price reductions for the 2017 October Cycle (Third Remove Originator cycle) has now been published on the ['Price Disclosure \(SPD\) web page'](#).

Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

22 June 2017 - [Proposed new notifications process: registered medicines](#) - Update to the anticipated timeframes for implementation of the proposed notifications process to registered medicines.

22 June 2017 - [Australian Public Assessment Reports for prescription medicines \(AusPARs\)](#) - Added Diltiazem hydrochloride (Ano-Cream).

21 June 2017 - [GMP clearance process – Fees for compliance verification GMP clearance applications](#) - Update regarding GMP clearance compliance Verification (CV) fees.

19 June 2017 - [7-Days Herbal Slim-Extra capsules](#) - 7-Days Herbal Slim-Extra capsules pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken.

19 June 2017 - [Questions & answers on the code of good manufacturing practice for medicinal products](#) - The manufacturers Q&A now includes sections on dose administration aids (DAA) and compounded medicines.

19 June 2017 - [Consultation: Accelerated assessment of medical devices - Priority Review pathway - Implementation](#) - Responses and outcomes for consultation: Accelerated assessment of medical devices - Priority Review pathway.

19 June 2017 - [Submissions received: Accelerated assessment of medical devices - Priority Review pathway](#) - Submissions received on the Accelerated assessment of medical devices - Priority Review pathway have been published.

Australian Digital Health Agency

22 June 2017 - [Extension of EOI deadline to Friday 7 July, 5pm for diagnostic imaging and pathology services offers](#) - The Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency) has amended the

diagnostic imaging and pathology services offers in response to recent feedback from industry representatives to ensure we can help as many organisations as possible to take advantage of the offer. We will therefore extend the deadline for lodging EOIs by two weeks to Friday 7 July at 5pm (AEST).

We expect to publish the updated offer documents on Monday 26th June. If you are planning to submit an EOI by the original deadline, *please wait until we publish the updated offer*, so that you can consider your response in light of the updates.

Australian Institute of Health & Welfare

23 June 2017 - [Non-admitted patient care 2015–16: Australian hospital statistics](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

16 June 2016 - [Download the ANZCA and Commission joint position statement on neuraxial connectors here \(PDF 90KB\) \(Word 104KB\)](#)

3 June 2017 - [Improving documentation at transitions of care for complex patients \(PDF 862KB\) \(Word 765 KB\)](#)

3 June 2017 - [Medication Safety in Mental Health \(PDF 1MB\) \(Word 1MB\)](#)

26 May 2017 - [Literature review and environmental scan on approaches to review and investigation of health IT related patient safety \(PDF 2MB\) \(Word 3MB\)](#)

19 June 2017 - [On the Radar - Issue 326 \(PDF 311KB\) \(Word 277KB\)](#)

Australia. National Mental Health Commission

20 June 2017 - [Congratulations to recipients in The Queen's Birthday Honours List](#) - The National Mental Health Commission congratulates and commends the dedication and commitment of the five Australians named in this year's Queens Birthday Honours List who received awards and appointments for their contributions to the community in areas including mental health.

Australian Capital Territory (ACT). Health Directorate

21 Jun 2017 - [Final component of ACT Asbestos Health Study released](#) - Data Linkage Study on the Risk of Mesothelioma and Other Cancers in Residents of Affected Residential Properties in the ACT released.

22 June 2017 - [Pharmacists to vaccinate against whooping cough](#) - Canberrans will be able to receive the whooping cough vaccine from their local pharmacist under new rules announced today. The ACT Pharmacist Vaccination Standards were amended this week to enable appropriately trained pharmacists to administer the diphtheria, tetanus, a cellular pertussis (dTpa) vaccine to adults without a prescription.

22 June 2017 - [High school student's pitch for their slice of health funding](#) - Four Canberra high schools yesterday pitched their entrepreneurial ideas at the It's Your Move Festival of Great Ideas for the chance to secure funding for their healthy school projects. As one of three judges on the panel at the event, Minister for Health and Wellbeing, Meegan Fitzharris said the inspiring pitches from high school students highlight the importance Canberra's youth place on living healthier and more active lifestyles.

New South Wales (NSW). Ministry of Health

Media Releases

19 June 2017 - [NSW Budget: Nearly \\$1 billion for ambulance services](#) - There will be more paramedics to provide relief in regional New South Wales and paramedics' work conditions will be improved in measures in the 2017-18 Budget, Premier Gladys Berejiklian, Treasurer Dominic Perrottet and Minister for Health Brad Hazzard announced today. The Budget also delivers the complete rollout of the 24/7 Ambulance Helicopter Retrieval Network Service, with doctors and paramedics on every flight.

17 June 2017 - [\\$536 million heralds eHealth revolution in NSW](#) - Patients in NSW will benefit from safer and more coordinated care thanks to a record \$536 million investment in eHealth which will see the phasing out of paper patient files. Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said the investment in Information

Communication Technology (ICT) over eight years will ensure measures like patient data is accurate and accessible.

Publications

20 June 2017 - [Commissioning Evaluation Services: A Guide](#)

Northern Territory. Department of Health

21 June 2017 - [Expressions of Interest - Health Advisory Committees](#) - Territorians who are passionate about improving Health Services are urged to apply for positions with two new Health Advisory Committees for Central Australia Health Service (CAHS) and Top End Health Service (TEHS) respectively.

Expressions of Interest are being sought from people across all sectors of the community.

21 June 2017 - [Graduate Nursing and Midwifery Program open for applications](#) - Graduate nurses and midwives still have a few days to apply for the Top End Health Service's (TEHS) Graduate Nursing and Midwifery Program, providing graduates with an opportunity to put their theory into practice across TEHS.

21 June 2017 - [Women in the Top End will soon have better access to more pregnancy care and birthing options](#) - The Top End Health Service (TEHS) is integrating maternity services so women have better access to services based on their clinical needs.

Queensland. Department of Health

22 June 2017 - [Caboolture Hospital set for redevelopment and ED expansion](#) - Caboolture Hospital is set for a major upgrade and expansion thanks to funding announced in last week's State Budget.

19 June 2017 - [State Budget kickstarts \\$62M Kingaroy Hospital redevelopment](#) - Kingaroy Hospital will undergo a redevelopment worth about \$62 million, with the Palaszczuk Government committing \$8 million in the 2017-18 State Budget to begin the vital project.

19 June 2017 - [Detailed planning to start for new Toowoomba Hospital](#) - The 2017-18 State Budget will deliver \$3 million to start detailed planning for a new Toowoomba Hospital.

19 June 2017 - [Government invests in more alcohol and drug rehabilitation services](#) - The Palaszczuk Labor Government will contribute \$600,000 to help fund a Toowoomba alcohol and other drugs rehabilitation centre for up to 20 clients.

17 June 2017 - [Patient safety reporting overhaul on the cards](#) - Public reporting of patient safety reporting in Queensland's public and private hospitals will be considered as part of a new State Government discussion paper.

21 June 2017 - [Six things you might not know about bowel cancer screening](#) - No one likes to get up close and personal with their poo, but if you're over 50, spending a little quality time with your "No. 2" every couple of years could be lifesaving.

20 June 2017 - [Applications now open for Rural Doctors Upskilling Program](#) - On 7 June 2017 Health and Ambulance Services Minister Cameron Dick opened the call for applications for the inaugural Rural Doctors Upskilling Program (RDUP). The RDUP has been created in recognition that Queensland requires an appropriately skilled and distributed medical practitioner workforce to meet the primary health care needs of our community.

19 June 2017 - [Is your poo normal?](#) Hey Queensland, are you...regular? Do you really know what that means? Bowel movements, stools, faeces or poo – regardless of what you call it, it's likely you've experienced one recently. So, how do you know if yours is normal, or if you're going too often or too rarely? And what should you do if it suddenly changes texture or colour.

Queensland. Office of the Health Ombudsman

20 June 2017 - [QCAT upholds ban for former chiropractor](#) - The Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) has confirmed an interim prohibition order issued by the Health Ombudsman preventing former chiropractor George Zaphir from providing any health services.

South Australia. Department for Health & Ageing

16 June 2017 - **CHSALHN - Media release: Healthy career on horizon for local students** - Secondary school students will today learn about a range of health careers at the South East Regional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Career Expo.

15 June 2017 - **Media release: SA Health puts winter plan into place** - SA Health is today enacting its winter demand management plan following a significant increase in hospital demand this week. SA Health Deputy Chief Executive Don Frater said that a number of strategies had been prepared to ease pressure on metropolitan hospitals in peak winter periods.

13 June 2017 - **Media release: Meningococcal case - June** - A case of invasive meningococcal disease has been notified in a 15-year-old male from metropolitan Adelaide. The patient has been admitted to hospital and is in a stable condition. The case has been identified as meningococcal B strain. SA Health has identified multiple people who had contact with the patient who are being directed to receive clearance antibiotics.

Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

22 June 2017 - **Mersey deal signed, sealed and delivered** - The future of the Mersey Community Hospital has been secured with the 10-year, \$730.4 million deal signed, sealed and delivered.

Victoria. Department of Health

23 June 2017 - **Reducing Harm In Mental Health Care To Keep People Safe** - The Andrews Labor Government is helping reduce conflict and create a safer environment for patients, staff and families in Victorian mental health services. The \$2.4 million Safewards program is being rolled out across all Victorian public mental health units under a partnership between the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority and the Department of Health and Human Services.

22 June 2017 - **Demonising Vulnerable People – Not In Victoria** - The Andrews Labor Government condemns the Turnbull Government legislation introduced today that will see welfare recipients compulsory drug tested. In Victoria, at least 43 per cent of rough sleepers across Victoria are on Newstart or Youth Allowance. The Turnbull Government says that this is about 'identifying those people with drug issues and help them so they can ultimately enjoy the whole range of benefits that come from earning a living through work.' By failing to provide one additional dollar in rehabilitation services, homelessness or housing services the Federal Government isn't giving vulnerable people support, but keeping them out on the street.

21 June 2017 - **New Body Cams To Protect Paramedics On The Job** - Paramedics will get high tech body cameras as part of a new trial to keep them safe from the rising rates of violence they are experiencing on the job. From next week, paramedics at St Vincent's and Epworth hospitals, and from Point Cook Branch and Sunbury branch, will wear body cameras attached to their uniforms when responding to volatile medical emergencies.

20 June 2017 - **Strengthening Hospital Safety To Protect Patients** - The Andrews Labor Government is cracking down on dangerous and unregulated cosmetic surgery facilities as part of a suite of new laws to protect patients and strengthen the quality and safety across the health system. The Labor Government will today introduce the Health Legislation Amendment (Quality and Safety) Bill into the Parliament, delivering on key recommendations from Dr Stephen Duckett's Targeting Zero: supporting the Victorian hospital system to eliminate avoidable harm and strengthen quality of care review.

The state-wide review was commissioned by the Government following the tragic discovery of a cluster of potentially avoidable newborn and stillborn deaths at Djerriwarrh Health Services. The Bill builds on the significant work already undertaken to strengthen quality and safety across the health system, and is supported by \$215 million in the Victorian Budget 2017/18 to drive down avoidable harm in our hospitals.

Western Australia (WA). Department of Health

Media Releases

20 June 2017 - **Minister for Health: Sustainable Health Review to position WA health system for the future** - A panel has been established to conduct the McGowan Government's Sustainable Health Review that will deliver a patient first, innovative and sustainable health system for all Western Australians.

16 June 2017 - **Minister for Health: Kalamunda hospital upgrades on track** - Infrastructure improvements to the Kalamunda District Community Hospital are well under way with key contracts set to be awarded this month.

16 June 2017 - **Minister for Health: More than 19,500 to benefit from free soap through Squeaky Clean Kids program** - Free soap will be offered to communities in the Kimberley, Pilbara, Mid-West and Goldfields regions to help reduce the incidence of trachoma and other diseases in regional WA.

15 June 2017 - **Minister for Health and Minister for Regional Development: Funding extension for regional GP incentives** - The McGowan Government has locked in a further two years of funding for the medical workforce incentives component of the Southern Inland Health Initiative (SIHI).

15 June 2017 - **Minister for Health and Mental Health: State Government delivers funding boost for men's health** - Health Minister Roger Cook today announced funding to address the alarming rate of suicide in men in farming communities, and to develop a State-wide Men's Health and Wellbeing Policy.

Policy Framework

14 June 2017 - **MP 0053/17 WA Clinical Alert (MedAlert) Policy** - The WA Clinical Alert (MedAlert) Policy (the Policy) mandates the implementation of a standardised process of communicating clinical alerts across the WA health system using the PAS (Patient Administration System) for example TOPAS, webPAS, or HCare.

The objective of this policy is to reduce the risk of patients experiencing an adverse event related to a previously identified serious anaesthetic condition, specified medical condition, or serious unexpected drug reaction, by improving communication of these risks to clinicians when patients present to hospital before the medical record is retrieved.

This Policy outlines the minimum requirements for the approval and documentation of clinical alerts within patient health records and the PAS throughout the WA health system to ensure consistent, safe and immediately available clinical alert information to clinicians.

This Policy supersedes the WA Clinical Alert (MedAlert) Policy OD 0511/14.

New Zealand. Ministry of Health

23 June 2017 - **Te Ohonga Ake: The Health Status of Māori Children and Young People in New Zealand** - This publication presents indicators for Māori child and youth health, examining issues in infancy, issues for ages 0–24 years, respiratory system conditions, communicable diseases, unintentional injuries, reproductive health and mental health.

22 June 2017 - **New Zealand Health Research Strategy 2017-2027** - This strategy sets out a vision for New Zealand's health research and identifies four strategic priorities for the health research and innovation system.

15 June 2017 - **Annual Cold Chain Management Record** - The Annual Cold Chain Management Record is a tool for immunisation providers designed to allow them to keep their daily minimum and maximum temperatures recordings and a record of their cold chain actions, equipment checks and services in one place.

Health Canada

The **Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act** provides some legal protection for people who experience or witness an overdose and call 9-1-1 for help.

Australian Medical Association (AuMA)

23 June 2017 - **Role of doctors in aged care workforce to be considered** - The Doctor's role will be considered as part of the aged care sector workforce following ongoing lobbying by the AuMA. MA Vice President, Dr Tony Bartone, said that the AuMA was pleased to see that the Senate Community Affairs

References Committee has adopted several of the AuMA's recommendations to the *Inquiry into the future of Australia's aged care sector workforce*.

22 June 2017 - [AMACGP tackling key GP issues this weekend](#) - The AuMA Council of General Practice will be holding its June meeting in Canberra this weekend. The Council, which represents the largest single speciality group within the AuMA, will discuss and determine directions on a range of important GP issues. Topics for discussion will include: tackling obesity, transfer of care arrangements, aged care, health care homes, after hours GP services, caring for veterans, the My Health record, the MBS Review, Primary Health Networks, and PBS issues.

22 June 2017 - [National Broadband Network Hearings](#) - Several members of the AuMA's Council of Rural Doctors will be appearing today in Canberra before the Federal Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on the National Broadband Network. Through surveys, the AuMA has identified that access to high speed broadband is a critical policy priority for our members, particularly those working in rural areas. They recognise the significant benefits that it can bring to their communities, their families and the delivery of health care services.

22 June 2017 - [Influenza Vaccination during Pregnancy](#) - Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy, is encouraging health providers to ensure influenza vaccination is part of standard antenatal care. The Department of Health has released three videos, one for health professionals and two for consumers, highlighting the risks associated with influenza during pregnancy and the benefit of receiving the influenza vaccination.

22 June 2017 - [My Health Record Update - Release 8](#) - Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy, is encouraging health providers to ensure influenza vaccination is part of standard antenatal care. The Department of Health has released three videos, one for health professionals and two for consumers, highlighting the risks associated with influenza during pregnancy and the benefit of receiving the influenza vaccination.

22 June 2017 - [My Health Record Update - Release 8](#) - The Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) has recently released an update to the MyHealth Record that it says is designed to improve its usability.

22 June 2017 - [AuMA Family Doctor Week Poster now available](#) GPs are encouraged to download and print this year's AuMA Family Doctor Week Poster to display in their consulting suites and waiting rooms.

22 June 2017 - [New MedSearch App for doctors and patients](#) - The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has announced a new MedSearch app is now available for doctors and patients to access Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) and Product Information (PI) for medicines listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods – that is, all prescription medicines approved in Australia.

22 June 2017 - [National Cervical Screening Program interim arrangements FAQs](#) - The renewed National Cervical Screening Program will take effect on 1 December 2017. Further to the information on interim cervical screening MBS rates and other arrangements provided in our [GPNN article of 4 May 2017](#), GPs are advised that the Department of Health (DoH) has developed [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) for health care professionals about the current interim arrangements.

American Medical Association

22 June 2017 - [The Role of Patient Engagement in Addressing Parents' Perceptions About Immunizations](#) Vaccines are frequently cited as one of the greatest successes in the history of public health. The World Health Organization estimates that vaccines for diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and measles save between 2 million and 3 million lives annually. However, in recent years, parental resistance toward childhood vaccinations has increased. Many parents have become concerned and distrusting of scientific evidence about vaccinations. As a result, cases of vaccine-preventable diseases have reemerged in the United States and other countries. Unvaccinated and undervaccinated individuals are susceptible to disease and increase the risk of transmitting diseases even to those who are fully vaccinated.

ABOUT US

Nicholas Tyacke



Nicholas is the Head of DLA Piper's Life Sciences practice across the Asia-Pacific and leads DLA Piper's Life Sciences Intellectual Property and Regulatory practices in Australia.

Nicholas offers a level of experience unique to the Australian market, being both a US attorney and an Australian solicitor, and having spent his career advising and acting for many of the world's leading life sciences companies in those jurisdictions. Nicholas' experience includes acting in Hatch-Waxman patent disputes in the United States and in the Australian component of equivalent complex multi-jurisdictional patent disputes, including in patent disputes before trial courts, intermediate appeal courts (the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the Full Federal Court of Australia) and final appeal courts (the Supreme Court of the United States and the High Court of Australia) in both jurisdictions. Nicholas' experience also includes advising life sciences companies in relation to regulatory issues in Australia, including in relation to clinical trials, and managing and coordinating work for DLA Piper's life sciences clients across the Asia-Pacific.

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