



HEALTH ALERT

31 July 2017

Judgments	2
Key Decisions	2
Commonwealth. Fair Work Commission	2
New South Wales	2
South Australia	3
Victoria	3
Legislation	3
Commonwealth	3
Reports	4
Australia. Department of Health	4
Media releases	4
Australia. Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the boards	4
Australia. National Health and Medical Research Council	5
Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	5
Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)	5
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care	6
Australia. National Mental Health Commission	6
New South Wales (NSW). Ministry of Health	6
New South Wales. Health Care Complaints Commission	6
Queensland. Department of Health	6
Queensland. Office of the Health Ombudsman	7
South Australia (SA). Department for Health & Ageing	7
Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services	8
Victoria. Department of Health	8
Western Australia. Department of Health	8
United Kingdom Department of Health	9
Australian Medical Association (AuMA)	9
American Medical Association	10
About us	10
More information	10

JUDGMENTS

Key Decisions

20 July 2017 - [Pierides v Monash Health \[2017\] VSC 426](#) - PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE – Medical negligence claim – Leave sought by defendant to adduce additional expert evidence on first day of five week trial – Opinion evidence going to causation – Whether leave should be granted – Adjournment – Whether trial date should be vacated – Overarching purpose – Civil Procedure Act 2010, ss 7–9, Supreme Court (General Civil Procedure) Rules 2015, O. 44.

This case relates to a claim made by the plaintiff, a minor, seeking damages from the defendant, a hospital, for injuries caused by the obstetric management of his mother's labour and his delivery. In this proceeding the defendant sought leave to adduce additional expert evidence on the first day of a five week trial and an adjournment of the trial date. The evidence was supplementary expert reports going to causation, the key issue in dispute, which the defendant sought to serve late.

The plaintiff argued he would be prejudiced by the delay that would be caused by the need to consider, investigate and respond to the new material. The defendant contended it would be prejudiced if it were excluded from contesting causation.

The Court permitted the defendant to rely on the additional material and adjourned the trial date, on the condition that the defendant provide statements setting out the relevant material, letters of instruction and sources of documents on which the opinions of the expert are based. The Court held that a greater risk of harm would flow from denying the defendant the opportunity to run a defence that the plaintiff's injury was not caused by its conduct. The Court departed from cases which have decided in favour of the plaintiff because of the wasted costs and considerable inconvenience and stress caused to individuals, on the basis that it would be ameliorated by only being suffered for the relatively short delay in the adjournment.

24 July 2017 - [Medical Board of Australia v Soo \[2017\] SAHPT 10](#) - In this proceeding, the respondent, a physiotherapist, was alleged to have backdated patient visits relevant to Medicare claims, engaged in claim splitting to private health insurers of patient visits and inadequate record keeping.

The Tribunal found in favour of the Medical Board. It held the respondent behaved in a way that constitutes both professional misconduct and unprofessional conduct under the *Health Practitioner National Law (South Australia) Act 2010*. It noted the respondent did not show any genuine remorse and lacked insight as to the seriousness of her overall conduct, and had made attempts to mislead the Tribunal by altering electronic records.

The Tribunal made orders that the respondent's registration as a physiotherapist be suspended for a period of 18 months and a requirement that she be supervised by a Board approved supervisor for at least 2 years following the end of the suspension. It also imposed a requirement that the respondent submit to random audits for 2 years relating to patient documentation, clinical record keeping and billing practices.

Commonwealth. Fair Work Commission

25 July 2017 - [Baxter Healthcare Pty Ltd T/A Baxter Healthcare v Mr Andrew Portelli \[2017\] FWCFB 3891](#) - Appeal against decision [2017] FWC 2523 of Commissioner Johns at Sydney on 9 May 2017 in matter number U2016/11819 – application for costs – permission to appeal refused.

27 July 2017 - [Phoenix Health Fund Limited \[2017\] FWCA 3949](#) - Application for termination of the Phoenix Health Fund Collective Agreement 2009.

New South Wales

24 July 2017 - [Gunasegaram v Blue Visions Management Pty Ltd \[2017\] NSWCA 187](#) - PRACTICE – stay of execution pending appeal – appellant had paid undisputed amount of judgment debt – respondent had obtained post-judgment freezing orders – appellant failed to adduce evidence of his total assets and liabilities – inconsistencies in appellant's evidence of value of assets – respondent had obtained garnishee orders – respondent acknowledged that accounts held by appellant jointly with his wife and mother had

wrongly been frozen by banks – respondent undertook to repay all amounts received by it – appellant offered to provide security in respect of a small proportion of judgment debt - respondent asked for whole of unpaid judgment debt to be paid into court, and acknowledged that if that occurred, the freezing orders should be set aside – stay of execution of judgment and garnishee orders granted on terms that appellant pay a proportion of judgment debt into court or into joint account.

21 July 2017 - [Dr Praneal Dutt Sharma v Dr Phillip Segal and Dr Greg Chen \[Costs\] \[2017\] NSWSC 973](#) - COSTS – where adjudication of a single issue ultimately determines the outcome of proceedings and cross-claims are not pressed – HELD – no reason to depart from the primary rule that costs follow the event.

South Australia

21 July 2017 - [Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia v Barnes \[2017\] SAHPT 11](#) - Complainant alleged that the respondent behaved in a way that constitutes professional misconduct – the respondent, an enrolled nurse, admitted that he engaged in professional misconduct as alleged in the complaint – the respondent admitted that he engaged in an improper sexual relationship with the spouse of a patient whilst the respondent was providing nursing services in the course of his employment as an enrolled nurse to the patient – HELD – the conduct set out in the complaint constitutes professional misconduct – the respondent is reprimanded in the strongest possible terms – the respondent's registration is cancelled – the respondent is disqualified from applying for registration as an enrolled nurse for a period of two years – the respondent is to pay the complainant's costs of and incidental to the proceedings to be agreed or in default of agreement to be adjudicated – Ss 195 and 196 of Schedule 2 Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (South Australia) Act 2010.

Victoria

21 July 2017 - [Re Bendigo Central Pharmacy Pty Ltd \[2017\] VSC 419](#) - CORPORATIONS – Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), s 459 – Graywinter affidavit – Whether genuine dispute raised in 21 day affidavit expressly, by necessary inference or available inference – Setting aside statutory demand for 'some other reason' does not include a genuine dispute.

LEGISLATION

Commonwealth

28 July 2017 - [Therapeutic Goods Information \(Sharing information about in-house in vitro diagnostic medical devices\) Specification 2017](#) F2017L00965 • as made.

28 July 2017 - [Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Management Legislation Amendment \(2017 Measures No. 1\) Regulations 2017](#) F2017L00964 • as made.

28 July 2017 - [National Health \(Efficient Funding of Chemotherapy\) Special Arrangement Amendment Instrument 2017 \(No. 7\)](#) (PB 58 of 2017) F2017L00963 • PB 58 of 2017 as made.

27 July 2017 - [National Health \(Originator Brand\) Amendment Determination 2017 \(No. 6\)](#) (PB61 of 2017) F2017L00962 • PB 61 of 2017 as made.

27 July 2017 - [National Health \(Highly specialised drugs program\) Special Arrangement Amendment Instrument 2017 \(No. 6\)](#) (PB 57 of 2017) F2017L00959 • PB 57 of 2017 as made.

27 July 2017 - [National Health \(IVF Program\) Special Arrangement Amendment Instrument 2017 \(No. 1\)](#) (PB 59 of 2017) F2017L00957 • PB 59 of 2017 as made.

25 July 2017 - [National Health \(Price and Special Patient Contribution\) Amendment Determination 2017 \(No. 5\)](#) (PB 56 of 2017) F2017L00950 • PB 56 of 2017 as made.

25 July 2017 - [National Health \(Listing of Pharmaceutical Benefits\) Amendment Instrument 2017 \(No. 6\)](#) (PB 55 of 2017) F2017L00948 • PB 55 of 2017 as made.

REPORTS

Australia. Department of Health

Consultations

13 July 2017 - **Future reform – an integrated care at home program to support older Australians** - Important reforms in home care were introduced in February 2017 to give consumers more choice in selecting a home care provider. There is now also a nationally consistent process for assigning home care packages to consumers. Before making decisions on future reform, the Government wants to hear further from the sector on what you believe is the best way forward. Closes 21 Aug 2017.

Media releases

28 July 2017 - **National approach to prescription drug misuse** - The Australian Government will invest over \$16 million to deliver the national roll-out of real time prescription monitoring for medicines to directly address the needless loss of life from misuse of these drugs.

26 July 2017 - **Conference Strengthens Indigenous Suicide Prevention** - Leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people involved in tackling suicide have received Australian Government scholarships to enable them to attend this week's National Suicide Prevention Conference.

26 July 2017 - **FFA teams up with DonateLife in winning bid to save lives** - Lifesaving organ and tissue donation is set for a boost with the Football Federation Australia and DonateLife teaming up to encourage more people to register their intentions online.

26 July 2017 - **More youth mental health support** - Young people seeking help to deal with the pressures of life will benefit from a \$500,000 Australian Government investment in better online mental health support.

23 July 2017 - **Health funding to protect Australians** - The Australian Government is providing \$27 million to strengthen the planning and response to a national health emergency, should one be triggered by bioterrorist attack or contagious disease outbreak.

11 July 2017 - **National Immunisation Program – Expansion** - From 1 July 2017, all individuals aged 10 to 19 years and refugees and humanitarian entrants aged 20 years and over are eligible to receive free catch-up vaccinations through an expansion to the National Immunisation Program. For the eligible cohorts, the NIP expansion measure will enable free access to a nationally consistent catch-up schedule for recommended early childhood vaccines.

Australia. Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the boards

28 July 2017 - **Newsletter from the Board** - The Chiropractic Board of Australia releases its latest newsletter.

28 July 2017 - **Newsletter from the National Board** - The Medical Board of Australia releases its latest newsletter.

28 July 2017 - **AMC and Medical Board join forces on intern survey** - A survey designed to find out how work-ready interns feel after medical school and improve how medical schools prepare graduates for internship will be sent to all interns in Australia in August 2017.

27 July 2017 - **Medical practitioner reprimanded, has conditions imposed for professional misconduct** - A medical practitioner has been reprimanded with conditions imposed on his registration for behaving in a way that constitutes professional misconduct.

24 July 2017 - **Former midwife found guilty of claiming to be a current midwife** - A Victorian woman has pleaded guilty to claiming to be a registered midwife.

21 July 2017 - **Call for applications** - Call for applications for appointment to the Registration and Notification Committee of the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia.

Australia. National Health and Medical Research Council

27 July 2017 - [Professor Willis Marshall AC reappointed as Chairman of the Commission](#) - One of Australia's most distinguished and respected healthcare leaders, Professor Willis Marshall AC, has been reappointed to the role of Board Chair for the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care to guide the organisation for a further three years.

28 July 2017 - [Download a PDF of the five CARAlert infographics \(PDF 233KB\)](#).

24 July 2017 - [On the Radar – Issue 331 \(PDF 263KB\) \(Word 221KB\)](#).

Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

26 July 2017 - [Post-Market Review of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Medicines – Public Consultation Process](#) - The public consultation process on the Post-Market Review of the Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension medicines has now closed.

25 July 2017 - [Post-market Review of the use of biologics in the treatment of severe chronic plaque psoriasis - Stakeholder Forum](#) - A Stakeholder Forum will be held for the *Post-market Review of the use of biologics in the treatment of severe chronic plaque psoriasis* on 20 October 2017 in Melbourne. For further information, please refer to the [Review's webpage](#).

Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

28 July 2017 - [Gadolinium-based contrast agents for MRI scans](#) - Safety advisory - potential retention in the brain but no known adverse effects.

28 July 2017 - [Labelling changes: information for health professionals](#) - Information for health professionals about changes to medicine labels.

27 July 2017 - [SME Assist workshop: Meeting your obligations - medicines](#) - Learn about your roles and responsibilities at different stages of the regulation process.

27 July 2017 - [Infections associated with heater-cooler devices](#) - Update.

27 July 2017 - [Bittermelon Slimming Capsules](#) - Safety Alert - Bittermelon Slimming capsules.

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

26 July 2017 - [Minor variations to registered prescription medicines: chemical entities and biological medicines](#) - Prescription medicines Minor Variation E-form now available.

25 July 2017 - [RUFF Natural Formula capsules](#) - Safety Alert - RUFF Natural Formula Capsules.

25 July 2017 - [Sirrori Green Viagra Tablets](#) - Safety Alert- Sirrori Green Viagra Tablets.

25 July 2017 - [Annual Charge Exemption \(ACE\) scheme forms](#)

Sponsors may now apply for the Notification of turnover and Application for reinstatement of an ACE on an ARTG entry.

24 July 2017 - [Jing Pin Heijin Gang Tablets](#) - Safety Alert- Jing Pin Heijin Gang Tablets.

24 July 2017 - [V8 tablets](#) - Safety Alert - V8 tablets.

24 July 2017 - [Submissions received in response to: Consultation: Criteria for comparable overseas regulators](#) - Submissions received in response to consultation on Criteria for identifying Comparable Overseas Regulators for prescription medicines.

24 July 2017 - [Codeine information hub](#) - New updates to the Codeine Information Hub are now available under 'Codeine use can be harmful'.

24 July 2017 - [Updates to the list of designated orphan drugs](#) - Added Lenvatinib and Nitisinone (Disanit).

21 July 2017 - [Updates to the Permissible Ingredients Determination for listed medicines](#) - An updated version of the Permissible Ingredients List for use in listed medicines has been published.

21 July 2017 - [TGA presentation: Prescription medicines minor variations e-Form: Information sessions, 3 and 5 July 2017](#) - Prescription medicines Minor Variation electronic form.

20 July 2017 - [ACMD meeting statement, Meeting 31, 24 February 2017](#) - ACMD 31 meeting statement has been published.

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

24 July 2017 - [On the Radar – Issue 331 \(PDF 263KB\) \(Word 221KB\)](#).

Australia. National Mental Health Commission

25 July 2017 - [Call for equality in health care for people with mental illness](#) - The National Mental Health Commission is calling for equality in health care for people who live with a serious mental illness, as they do not currently receive the same level of care as others.

The Commission's Chair Allan Fels launched its Equally Well National Consensus Statement today, and said people with a mental illness live between 14-23 years less than the general population.

'We've launched Equally Well to inspire a commitment to putting health care for people living with mental illness on an equal footing with people with physical problems,' Professor Fels said.

New South Wales (NSW). Ministry of Health

26 July 2017 - [Addressing ageism in mental health care](#) - Two new resources exploring the mental health needs of older people in NSW have been launched today by Minister for Mental Health and Minister for Ageing Tanya Davies.

'A decline in mental health should not be seen as simply part of the ageing process,' Mrs Davies said. 'We need to call out ageist attitudes when we see them and do all we can to improve supports for older people living with, or at risk of developing, mental illness.'

The resources, Living Well in Later Life: The case for change and an accompanying Statement of Principles, published by the Mental Health Commission of NSW, further guide the NSW mental health reform process.

Publications

27 July 2017 - [Safe Sleeping for Your Baby](#)

Policy Directives

25 July 2017 - [Engagement and Observation in Mental Health Inpatient Units](#) - Document number: PD2017_025

New South Wales. Health Care Complaints Commission

21 July 2017 - [Dr Niroshan Sivathasan – Unsatisfactory professional conduct](#) - The Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted a complaint against aesthetic physician and general aesthetic surgeon, Dr Niroshan Sivathasan before a Medical Professional Standards Committee ('the Committee'). The Commission's complaint concerned Dr Sivathasan's care of a 21 year old female patient for whom he performed a surgical breast augmentation procedure at The Cosmetic Institute in Parramatta on 29 January 2015. During the procedure, the patient suffered a cardiac arrest. CPR was performed and the patient's condition was stabilised. Dr Sivathasan continued and completed the breast augmentation surgery.

The complaint alleged that Dr Sivathasan failed to prioritise the patient's safety and welfare by continuing and completing breast augmentation surgery.

Queensland. Department of Health

28 July 2017 - [Thursday Island Hospital redevelopment designs underway](#) - The first designs for the \$46 million redevelopment of Thursday Island Hospital and the primary health care centre will be available by early December.

27 July 2017 - **Removing the monster saved Saanvi's life** - Five-year-old Saanvi fully intends to be a nurse when she grows up and by all accounts, she will be an exceptionally good one. Just ask her Dad Vijay who was recently 'counselled' by young Saanvi as to how he should approach a minor medical procedure. She pointed to the scar on her tummy 'from where they removed the monster' and let him know if she was brave enough to go through all that, then he could be brave too.

27 July 2017 - **The science behind a broken heart** - While there's still a lot to discover about how and why we experience love and heartbreak and the effect these have on our bodies, scientific study has provided us with some clues about why heartbreak makes you feel so rubbish, and some strategies to use if you're feeling really down.

26 July 2017 - **40 extra paramedics to boost access to Emergency Departments** - Forty extra paramedics will join the frontline as part of the Palaszczuk Government's \$10 million South East Queensland Emergency Care Action Plan to boost access to emergency care at some of the state's busiest hospitals.

26 July 2017 - **\$5 million bariatric surgery initiative to address type two diabetes** - The Palaszczuk Government will launch a \$5 million initiative over two years for potentially life-saving bariatric (weight loss) surgery for up to 300 Queenslanders with type 2 diabetes.

26 July 2017 - **Capital works projects advancing in Aurukun and Kowanyama** - Capital works projects totalling \$11 million are set to boost health facilities in Aurukun and Kowanyama.

25 July 2017 - **Pharmacists to notify weekly when they dispense prescription painkillers** - Queensland will slash the reporting time for pharmacists to notify when they dispense prescription painkillers – from monthly to weekly.

24 July 2017 - **Caring for someone with chronic pain** - If you know or care for someone who has chronic pain, there are things you can do to help support them in managing their condition.

23 July 2017 - **\$7.5 million to improve hospital car parking access for patients, carers and families** - The State Government will invest up to \$7.5 million over the next four years to make an extra 100,000 free and discounted car parking spaces available at public hospitals each year, as part of a four-point plan to improve hospital car parking access across Queensland.

21 July 2017 - **\$4.3 million public dental clinic upgrade to deliver 15,000 extra appointments** - Logan residents now have access to an additional 15,000 dental appointments following the opening of a \$4.3m expansion of public oral health services at the Logan Central Community Health Centre.

27 July 2017 - **The key to Davina's new heart** - In 2015 a healthy, happy, bouncy baby girl named Davina (affectionately called 'D' by her family and doctors) Mann was born at the Gold Coast University Hospital. For three months, the youngest of four girls, baby D did all of the normal things that babies do but then she got a cold.

Queensland. Office of the Health Ombudsman

25 July 2017 - **Health Ombudsman supports action on prescription medicines** - The Health Ombudsman today welcomed the announcement by the Minister for Health of action to reform the management and regulation of the most potent and addictive drugs used in the Queensland health system. Health Ombudsman Leon Atkinson-MacEwen said the planned reforms adopted a number of the recommendations from his comprehensive 18-month review into the regulatory system for scheduled medicines in Queensland.

South Australia (SA). Department for Health & Ageing

25 July 2017 - **Media release: Meningococcal case July 2017** - A case of invasive meningococcal disease has been notified in a 51-year-old female 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.

25 July 2017 - **Ambulance agreement reached** - The State Government, the SA Ambulance Service and the Ambulance Employees Association have today agreed to a joint-working party that will develop a long-term plan to respond to growing demand for ambulance services.

24 July 2017 - **Media release: Meningococcal case, July 2017** - A case of invasive meningococcal disease has been notified in a five month old girl from metropolitan Adelaide. The patient has been admitted to hospital and is in a stable condition. The meningococcal strain has been identified as serogroup B.

21 July 2017 - **Media release: Recall action undertaken after raw cow's milk linked to gastro cases** - SA Health has today taken action against the Moo View Dairy, after at least five cases of gastro have been linked with consuming unpasteurised (raw) cow's milk. Under the *Food Act 2001* and the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*, all raw cow's milk from Moo View Dairy must be recalled and the dairy will be prohibited from selling and distributing raw cow's milk.

Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

27 July 2017 - **New 24/7 ambulance crew to be based at Glenorchy** - Ambulance Tasmania is a crucial part of the Tasmanian Health Service and the Hodgman Liberal Government is committing more resources to this important service. With a total of 35 additional paramedics to be employed across the state, I am pleased to announce today a number of changes that will enhance ambulance services across the Greater Hobart area.

26 July 2017 - **Launceston ambulance station upgrade** - The Hodgman Liberal Government made a commitment to Ambulance Tasmania to upgrade facilities at the Launceston station and the finishing touches are almost complete. A total of \$850,000 has been allocated for works at the Launceston station, which have been badly needed for some time and these have been carried out in two stages over the past seven months.

25 July 2017 - **Meningococcal W vaccine available for older teens** - A free meningococcal W vaccination program will be offered in Tasmania for older teens aged 15 to 19 years during school term three of 2017. Meningococcal W has increased significantly across Australia in the last two years, with Tasmania having a higher rate of disease than other states.

Victoria. Department of Health

28 July 2017 - **More Prescription Pills To Be Monitored To Save Victorian Lives** - The Andrews Labor Government today announced high-risk prescription medicines to be monitored under a new real-time prescription monitoring system currently being developed. The system will monitor strong painkillers, all benzodiazepines and 'Z class' medicines in a bid to reduce the number of Victorians dying from prescription medicine overdoses.

25 July 2017 - **Voluntary Assisted Dying Model Established Ahead Of Vote In Parliament** - The Andrews Labor Government will incorporate all 66 recommendations from the Ministerial Advisory Panel's final report on Voluntary Assisted Dying into a Bill to be introduced into the Parliament in coming months. The Panel, chaired by neurosurgeon and former AMA President Dr Brian Owler, was established by the Labor Government to assist drafting a safe and compassionate legislative framework for assisted dying in Victoria.

23 July 2017 - **Celebrating 30 Years Of Women Paramedics In Victoria** - Record numbers of women are choosing a career as a lifesaving paramedic, 30 years since the very first female paramedics hit the road in Victoria. Minister for Ambulance Services Jill Hennessy today celebrated the historic anniversary and met Victoria's pioneering first female paramedics in operational roles.

Western Australia. Department of Health

27 July 2017 - **New meningococcal disease case** - The Department of Health today reported that an elderly West Australian is currently recovering in hospital after being diagnosed with serogroup Y meningococcal disease.

21 July 2017 - **Expressions of Interest – Members and Deputy Members Human Research Ethics Committee** - The Department of Health Human Research Ethics Committee has a special responsibility for the ethical oversight of the use and disclosure of health information held by the Department.

Publications

20 July 2017 - [Review of Safety and Quality in the WA health system](#).

20 July 2017 - [Elective Surgery Wait List reports](#).

United Kingdom Department of Health

23 July 2017 - [More people will be able to give blood following scientific review](#) - How the rules around blood donation will change for some groups of people, following a clinical study with recommendations.

Australian Medical Association (AuMA)

28 July 2017 - [Prevention Better Than Cure—Visit Your Family Doctor For A Check-Up](#) - Every day, almost 35,000 GPs across Australia play a fundamental role in providing personalised care and advice that helps keep people healthy, and keep health costs down. AMA President, Dr Michael Gannon, said that AMA Family Doctor Week 2017 was a time to recognise GPs for the work they do, not only to keep people out of hospital, but to conserve precious health resources.

27 July 2017 - [AuMA Submission to the Five Year Review of the Health Star Rating System](#) - The AuMA has provided a [submission](#) to the Five Year Review of the Health Star Rating System. The AuMA has long recognised the need to improve food labelling and is a supporter of the HSR system. However, the system does require clarification and refinement to ensure that it continues to work as intended. The AuMA believes that the HSR system should be part of the response to addressing obesity in Australia and calls for increased consideration around the role HSR can play in reducing consumption of added sugar, which is known to impact on obesity.

27 July 2017 - [AuMA Pays Tribute to All Australia's Hardworking GPs](#) - AuMA Family Doctor Week 2017 (July 23-29) has been in full swing this week, giving us time to celebrate and reflect on the hard work our GPs provide across Australia. This year the theme is *Your family doctor: all about you*, a reminder to the community that GPs provide care that is tailored to the individual needs of every patient. In launching Family Doctor Week, AuMA President, Dr Michael Gannon, [urged all Australians](#) to establish and maintain a close cooperative relationship with their local family doctor.

27 July 2017 - [MJA Insight Summary](#) - This week MJA Insight featured four articles with interesting and relevant issues for GPs about effective break rooms for doctors, unconscious bias, farmers and mental health, and GP colleges.

27 July 2017 - [Women GPs outnumber Men GPs for first time in Australian history](#) - Women GPs now outnumber men GPs, according to recent data from the Medical Board of Australia, with 19,965 women versus 18,992 men in the specialty. This is the first time in Australian history women have numerically dominated general practice. Women are also the majority in medical schools according to the Federal Government's latest Medical Training and Review Panel report. They dominate obstetrics and gynaecology traineeships (79.7%), paediatrics (74.9%) and public health medicine (68.8%).

27 July 2017 - [AuMA Queensland Private Practice & Medico-Legal Conference](#) - Discounts are available for AuMA members to attend the Private Practice and Medico-Legal Conference 2017. The focus of the program on offer is on future-proofing your practice. Join practitioners and other health care professionals to address some of the most challenging decisions doctors face in the workplace. Issues to be discussed include e-health, passing accreditation, exploring new income streams for private practice, digital marketing and managing emerging risks in practice.

Presentations and discussions will be held on difficult ethical decisions, compliance with ever-changing legislation and the day-to-day difficulties of managing a practice.

27 July 2017 - [Communication Materials to support the NIP Expansion Measure](#) - The AuMA is pleased to provide GPs with a range of communication materials developed by the Department of Health to support awareness of the extension in eligibility of the National Immunisation Program (NIP). As outlined in a [previous issue of GPNN](#), the Government now offers free catch-up immunisations to all 10-19 year olds and refugees of all ages as part of a \$14.1 million announcement in the 2017-18 Budget.

27 July 2017 - [NPS MedicineWise Update](#) - NPS MedicineWise, of which the AMA is a member, has recently announced a new Statins: optimising therapy, addressing intolerance educational program.

27 July 2017 - [Australasian College of Physician Executives \(Sponsored Article\)](#) - The Australasian College of Physician Executives provides a professional home for doctors and dentists who pursue corporate or commercial careers.

27 July 2017 - [AuMA response to report on GP after-hours services](#) - The AuMA has provided its comments on the MBS Review Taskforce's preliminary report, Urgent After-Hours Primary Care Services funded through the MBS.

American Medical Association

27 July 2017 - [Health and Spirituality](#) - This Viewpoint argues that patients' spiritual and religious views should be part of the discussion when making treatment decisions.

26 July 2017 - [New data buttress SPRINT findings on 120 mm Hg BP target](#) - Differences between clinical-trial and real-world measurements of BP should be considered when deciding how aggressive an approach to pursue.

25 July 2017 - [High anxiety: Patient worries can hinder prediabetes screening](#) - Many patients engage in 'health-information avoidance' which can be overcome by emphasizing the reversible nature of prediabetes.

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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