



HEALTH ALERT

16 May 2016

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JUDGMENTS

Victoria

10 May 2016 - [Allie v Allied Medical Group Pty Ltd \(Human Rights\) \[2016\] VCAT 728](#)

Mr Allie alleged that his disability led to him being discriminated against by a local medical clinic. He relied upon the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic) to support his claim. Under the Act, Mr Allie was required to prove that his disability was a "significant reason" for the clinic treating him unfavourably.

The first incident relates to Mr Allie being effectively banned from the clinic. Following a disagreement with reception staff, the Medical Director informed Mr Allie that the clinic could no longer provide him with health services. This was put into writing and sent to Mr Allie the following day. Mr Allie denied ever receiving the letter. The clinic submitted that the ban was due to Mr Allie's rude, aggressive and threatening behaviour towards staff, as well as his refusal to accept its policies.

The second incident occurred when Mr Allie presented to the clinic approximately three months later. When reception staff advised him that he had been banned, Mr Allie demanded to see the paperwork. The staff could not produce this. The police were called but Mr Allie had left the clinic before they arrived. Medical records from the following day show that Mr Allie was taken by Ambulance to a nearby hospital. This was relied upon to allege that the clinic turned him away when he was in need of urgent medical attention.

The Tribunal found that Mr Allie had not demonstrated that he was refused services because of a disability. His application was dismissed.

New South Wales

11 May 2016 - [Health Care Complaints Commission v Ryken \[2016\] NSWCATOD 58](#)

In June 2014, the Commission notified the respondent chiropractor of two complaints it had received concerning inappropriate / sexual relations with three current and / or former patients. This was the first time the chiropractor had been the subject of a complaint. In his initial response, the chiropractor denied any wrongdoing. The chiropractor later admitted to failing to maintain appropriate professional boundaries with all three patients.

The chiropractor had been a friend of the patients prior to becoming their health practitioner. While treating these patients, he admitted to engaging in telephone and social media conversations that were of a personal nature. He also kissed Patient A on the lips, and kissed and cuddled patient B during a visit to his home. In relation to Patient C, the chiropractor admitted to having a sexual relationship. In an undated letter to the Chiropractic Council of NSW, the respondent expressed deep regret insofar as his conduct breached the professional obligations he owed to his patients and the public. He also stated that while the context should not excuse his conduct, his recent divorce had affected his ability to make informed decisions. Further, it was submitted that "he now understands that it is generally inappropriate to treat a friend or a relative, unless it is an emergency".

The chiropractor was found guilty of unsatisfactory professional conduct and professional misconduct. The tribunal ordered that his registration be suspended for six months, after which his right to practice would be subject to numerous conditions.

6 May 2016 - [M v Mental Health Review Tribunal and Others\(No 2\) \[2016\] NSWSC 572](#)

MENTAL HEALTH – Legal proceedings by and against mentally ill and other protected persons – Litigant in person – Belated discovery that plaintiff is under subsisting order that his estate be subject to management as a protected person under NSW Trustee and Guardian Act 2009 NSW – Stay of proceedings

12 May 2016 - [Re Application of Dr Guy Kingsley Herron \[2016\] NSWCATOD 59](#)

PRACTITIONER REGULATION NATIONAL LAW – where medical practitioner seeks to have conditions placed his registration by former Medical Tribunal of NSW reviewed by the Medical Council of NSW rather than the Tribunal – HELD Medical Council is the appropriate review body.

6 May 2016 - [Pantel v Northern Sydney Local Health District \[2016\] NSWSC 602](#)

PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE – notice of motion - claim against defendant for professional negligence – no expert's report pursuant to r 31.36 of the UCPR – unrepresented litigant - proceedings dismissed

11 May 2016 - [PF v HK \[2016\] NSWSC 590](#)

MENTAL HEALTH – Guardians, committees, administrators, managers and receivers – Appointment - Management of the estate – Tutor sought for District Court compensation proceedings – NSW Trustee to consider whether to consent to appointment as tutor

Queensland

12 May 2016 - [Tribal Health Pty Ltd v Flush Fitness Pty Ltd \[2016\] QSC 103](#)

EQUITY – EQUITABLE REMEDIES – INJUNCTIONS – INTERLOCUTORY INJUNCTIONS – SERIOUS QUESTION TO BE TRIED – where applicant entered into an agreement with respondent whereby applicant agreed to supply products to respondent – where applicant and respondent entered into a separate agreement to terminate arrangement early – where applicant alleged a number of breaches of termination agreement – where grant of injunction will have effect of finally resolving certain rights between parties – whether applicant has shown a high degree of assurance as to the merits of its claim

LEGISLATION

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

Commonwealth

10 May 2016 - [Health Insurance \(General Medical Services Table\) Regulation 2016](#) F2016L00769 - as made

9 May 2016 - [Health Insurance Legislation Amendment \(2016 Measures No. 1\) Regulation 2016](#) F2016L00745 - as made

9 May 2016 - [My Health Records Amendment \(System Operator\) Regulation 2016](#) F2016L00737 - as made

Queensland

10 May 2016 - [Abortion Law Reform \(Woman's Right to Choose\) Amendment Bill 2016](#) - introduced

10 May 2016 - [Public Health \(Medicinal Cannabis\) Bill 2016](#) - introduced

REPORTS

Australia. Department of Health

Private Health Insurance Circulars

11 May 2016 - [PHI 37/16 Private Health Insurance \(Data Provision\) Rules 2016 and Private Health Insurance \(Health Insurance Business\) Rules 2016](#)

11 May 2016 - [PHI 36/16 - Release of Final Data Specifications for HCP, HCP1 and PHDB Data Collections](#)

Consultations

6 May 2016 - [Medical Research Future Fund consultation for the development of the Australian Medical Research and Innovation Strategy and related Priorities](#)

11 May 2016 - [Increasing Choice in Home Care - Stage 1 - Proposed changes to delegated legislation](#)

12 May 2016 - [National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions: Online Public Consultation on the second draft. - Australian Government Department of Health - Citizen Space](#)

Medical Benefits Schedule

1 July 16 - [Removal of obsolete Medicare Benefits Schedule items](#)

Australia. Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the boards (AHPRA)

12 May 2016 - [Spotlight on midwives during special day of recognition](#) - This week the NMBA is recognising the achievement of midwives in supporting newborns, women and families.

12 May 2016 - [NMBA gives thanks to nurses on International Nurses Day](#) - Today, the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) celebrates International Nurses Day.

11 May 2015 - [Tribunal dismisses referral made by the Medical Board of Australia](#) - A referral by the Medical Board of Australia against a general practitioner has been dismissed.

11 May 2015 - [Connections Issue 16 released](#) - The Psychology Board releases Issue 16 of Connections newsletter.

10 May 2015 - [Communiqué from the Board](#) - The Occupational Therapy Board of Australia releases its latest communiqué.

10 May 2015 - [Communiqué from the Board](#) - The Osteopathy Board releases its latest communiqué.

10 May 2015 - [Call for applications](#) - Call for applications for appointment to the Chiropractic Board of Australia; list of approved mentors.

9 May 2015 - [Medical Board issues guidelines on cosmetic medical and surgical procedures](#) - The Medical Board of Australia has issued guidelines for medical practitioners who perform cosmetic medical and surgical procedures.

9 May 2016 - [Communiqué from the Board](#) - The Psychology Board of Australia has released its latest communiqué.

6 May 2016 - [Response to letter from Victorian Minister for Health The Hon Jill Hennessy MP](#) - We recognise and understand the Minister's concerns in relation to recent reports that chiropractors in Victoria may be performing unproven and potentially unsafe procedures on young children and infants and chiropractors advising parents against vaccinating their children.

6 May 2016 - [Communiqué from the Board](#) - The Pharmacy Board of Australia releases its latest communiqué.

6 May 2016 - [Streamlining the application process for overseas-qualified applicants](#) - From 1 June 2016 the Board will streamline the application process for overseas-qualified applicants, by overseeing the assessment of their knowledge and skills as part of their application for registration in Australia.

Australia. National Blood Authority

9 May 2016 - [The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons recommends minimising the use of blood transfusion in the Choosing Wisely Campaign](#) - Choosing Wisely Australia® is enabling health providers, consumers and healthcare stakeholders to start important conversations about tests, treatments and procedures where evidence shows they provide no benefit and in some cases, lead to harm.

9 May 2016 - [National Archives recognises the NBA as a world-class digital achiever](#) - The National Archives acknowledged the quality and execution of the NBA's digital transformation agenda by presenting the NBA with a Digital Excellence Award on Monday, 1 May 2016.

9 May 2016 - [NBA ICT team awarded Australian Government 'ICT Professional Team of the Year'](#) - The Australian Government's Chief Technology Officer named the NBA's ICT team as the 'ICT Professional Team of the Year' for 2016 at the recent eGovernment awards ceremony at CeBIT Australia 2016.

Australia. National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

5 May 2016 - [2016-17 budget outcome for NHMRC](#) - I am pleased to provide an update on the 2016-17 Federal Budget that Treasurer Scott Morrison handed down on 3 May 2016. From this budget, NHMRC will

manage similar levels of funding through the Medical Research Endowment Account over the coming years, increasing slightly over the forward estimates in line with indexation.

Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)

11 May 2016 - [Statement from the Panel for the Review of Pharmacy Remuneration and Regulation](#) - On 9 May 2016, the Australian Government went into 'caretaker' mode. After consultation by the Secretariat with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the advice received by the Panel is that even independent Government advisory panels are obliged to observe the Caretaker Conventions.

6 May 2016 - [Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee Guidelines Review](#) - The public consultation processes on the draft revised PBAC Guidelines (Version 5.0) and the assessment of co-dependent technology chapter closed on 5 April 2016 and 11 April 2016 respectively.

4 May 2016 - [PBS Expenditure and Prescriptions Report 2014-15](#) - The Expenditure and Prescriptions Report 2014-15 is now available.

Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

12 May 2016 - [Updated list of 'permissible ingredients' for use in listed medicines - list of affected ingredients](#) - Update to Therapeutic Goods (Permissible Ingredients) Determination No. 1 of 2016.

12 May 2016 - [Scheduling delegates' interim decisions and invitation for further comment: ACCS/ACMS, March 2016](#) - Interim decisions and invitation for further comment. Closing date: 26 May 2016.

12 May 2016 - [ACSOV meeting statement, Meeting 10, 3 February 2016](#) - Advisory Committee on the Safety of Vaccines meeting statement.

12 May 2016 - [The TGA updates processes for the close-out of on-site GMP inspections](#) - The process for conducting post-inspection activities have been reviewed.

12 May 2016 - [Manufacturer inspections - an overview](#) - Manufacturers of therapeutic goods are regularly inspected by the TGA using a risk-based approach to ensure compliance with GMP standards.

9 May 2016 - [Birmingham Hip Resurfacing system](#) - Update 2 - new hazard alert with updated revision rates.

9 May 2016 - [Birmingham Hip Modular Head \(used in hip replacements\)](#) - Update 2- new hazard alert with updated revision rates.

6 May 2016 - [Prescription medicines: new or extended uses of registered medicines](#) - TRUVADA is indicated in combination with safer sex practices for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 in adults at high risk.

6 May 2016 - [Documents released under Section 11C of the Freedom of Information Act 1982](#) - Added FOI 157-1516, FOI 154-1516, FOI 132-1516 documents.

Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW)

10 May 2016 - [Australian Burden of Disease Study: impact and causes of illness and death in Australia 2011](#)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

On the Radar – 9 May 2016 – Issue 272 ([PDF 254KB](#)) ([Word 299KB](#))

Australian Capital Territory (ACT). Health Directorate

10 May 2016 - [Commitment to ED reform paving the way to improved timeliness of care](#) - The ACT Government is undertaking significant reform of Canberra Hospital's emergency department to improve timeliness and access to emergency health care, Minister for Health Simon Corbell said today.

9 May 2016 - [Dedicated children's treatment areas open at Canberra Hospital emergency department](#) - The ACT's first dedicated paediatric treatment and waiting areas at Canberra Hospital Emergency Department were today officially opened by Health Minister Simon Corbell. The new dedicated

treatment facilities have increased overall capacity in the emergency department and will improve the patient journey for Canberra's youngest patients and their families.

6 May 2016 - **New \$1.25m ambulance station opens for Tuggeranong Valley** A new ambulance station, which will serve residents of Tuggeranong Valley, was officially opened by Minister for Police and Emergency Services Simon Corbell today. "The new \$1.25 million ambulance station in Greenway is a very welcome addition to the service provided by our emergency services to the people of Tuggeranong, and I am pleased to see that this project has been completed on time and on budget," Mr Corbell said.

New South Wales (NSW). Ministry of Health

Media Releases

11 May 2016 - **CBD Legionnaires' disease outbreak update** - NSW Health has confirmed that two further people with Legionnaires' disease are now linked to the Sydney CBD outbreak identified last week, bringing the total number of cases to five. Both are men who were in the CBD at a similar time as the first three cases. One of the new cases is a man in his fifties and the other is a man in his forties from Victoria. They are currently being treated in hospital.

12 May 2016 - **Celebrating nurses and midwives across NSW** - Health Minister Jillian Skinner today thanked the state's 49,000 nurses and midwives for the skill and compassion they bring to their work in public hospitals and public health facilities around the state.

9 May 2016 - **Celebrations as \$30 million Mona Vale Community Health Centre officially opens** - Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Member for Pittwater Rob Stokes today officially opened the purpose-built, \$30 million Mona Vale Community Health Centre.

9 May 2016 - **First stage of Lismore Hospital redevelopment nearing completion** - Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Member for Lismore Thomas George today visited Lismore Hospital to celebrate the completion of the first section of the \$80.25 million Stage 3A redevelopment. Construction of the emergency department and renal unit is now complete, with the finishing touches also being put on the new 270-space, multi-storey car park, which is worth \$9.3 million.

9 May 2016 - **\$88 million Byron Central Hospital officially opened** - Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Minister for Mental Health Pru Goward today officially opened the \$88 million Byron Central Hospital and mental health unit.

Policy Directives & Guidelines

10 May 2016 - **Building Strong Foundations (BSF) Program Service Standards** PD2016_013

10 May 2016 - **Minimising Restraint Use in Adults** PD2016_012

10 May 2016 - **Rural Adult Emergency Clinical Guidelines** GL2016_012

Information Bulletins

11 May 2016 - **Notification of Obsolete Policy Directive - Denture Provision (PD2010_014)** IB2016_021

5 May 2016 - **NSW Aboriginal Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections Framework 2016-2021** IB2016_020

4 May 2016 - **Medical Speciality Coding in StaffLink** IB2016_019

New South Wales. Health Care Complaints Commission

5 May 2016 - **Ian Haris – Prohibited from providing any cosmetic injection services for a minimum period of three years** - The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission completed an investigation into the professional conduct of Ian Haris, also known as Ian Norman, a non-registered health practitioner providing cosmetic injecting services.

3 May 2016 - **Dr Gerard Wain – Finding of unsatisfactory professional conduct** - The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted Dr Gerard Wain, a specialist gynaecological oncologist, before the Medical Professional Standards Committee.

3 May 2016 - **Dr Toby Greenacre – finding of unsatisfactory professional conduct and cautioned** - The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted Dr Toby David Ross Greenacre, before a Medical Professional Standards Committee.

2 May 2016 - **Dr Sanaa Mohammed Ismail – Finding of unsatisfactory professional conduct – Reprimand and Conditions imposed** - Dr Sanaa Mohammed Ismail – Finding of unsatisfactory professional conduct – Reprimand and Conditions imposed

29 April 2016 - **Mr Ian Pile - Conditions placed on his provision of herbal medicine health services** - The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission completed an investigation into the professional conduct of Ian Pile, a non-registered health practitioner providing services as a medical herbalist, including ayurvedic medicine, iridology, nutrition, reflexology and sports/herbal medicine.

27 April 2016 - **Dr Wilson Pakalu - Registration cancelled by NCAT** - The Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted a complaint before the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal against Dr Wilson Pakalu, a medical practitioner and national of Papua-New Guinea (PNG). He is the first medical practitioner from PNG to graduate from an Australian university with the degrees of MB.BS.

Northern Territory. Department of Health

9 May 2016 - **St John Ambulance Station opens in Humpty Doo** - Territorians living in the rural area who need urgent health attention will be better serviced with the opening of the Humpty Doo Ambulance Station today.

9 May 2016 - **Time to get vaccinated against the flu** - Territorians are being warned that with the flu season just around the corner it is time to get vaccinated. Director of the Centre for Disease Control, Dr Vicki Krause, said influenza activity was likely to increase in coming months.

8 May 2016 - **Celebrating the 2016 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards** - Nurses, midwives, their colleagues, friends and family joined together at the Darwin Convention Centre to celebrate the 2016 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards, which are now in their 13th year.

Queensland. Department of Health

12 May 2016 - **The unsung Florence Nightingales of the bush - remembered on International Nurses Day** - On International Nurses Day, it's apt to remember our modern day Florence Nightingales of the bush.

11 May 2016 - **Celebrating a force for change this International Nurses Day** - Tomorrow we celebrate International Nurses Day (12 May), a great opportunity to acknowledge the skill and passion of our nurses who go above and beyond the call of duty.

9 May 2016 - **McGrath breast care nurses to be honoured on International Nurses Day** - Breast care nurses Maree Wylie and Sue Fawkes have been recognised by the McGrath Foundation for their work with women recovering from breast cancer.

South Australia. Department for Health & Ageing

12 May 2016 - **Transforming Health nursing and midwifery ambassadors** - South Australian nurses and midwives will provide expert advice on Transforming Health matters as part of a new Deputy Clinical Nursing and Midwifery Ambassador program.

6 May 2016 - **Our top nurses and midwives awarded** - South Australia's dedicated and hard-working nurses and midwives have been publicly recognised at the 2016 South Australian Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards, held on Friday night.

6 May 2016 - **New palliative care unit opened** - Health Minister Jack Snelling and Member for Frome and Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock today officially opened the new Palliative Care Unit at Port Pirie Regional Health Service.

Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

12 May 2016 - **80 new nurses under Hodgman Liberal Government** - Data released under RTI today confirms the Hodgman Liberal Government's strong investment in extra nurses.

11 May 2016 - **More support for raising the legal smoking age** - An analysis of smoking rates released today by health analyst Martyn Goddard indicates that while smoking is decreasing overall in Tasmania, there is an alarming increase in smoking among younger Tasmanians, aged under 24.

9 May 2016 - **HACSU playing politics** - The timing of industrial action by HACSU during a federal election campaign reeks of Mr Jacobson's Labor Party politicking.

9 May 2016 - **Northern Hospice Feasibility Study released** - The Hodgman Liberal Government is working hard to deliver better health outcomes for all Tasmanians. Last year we commissioned an independent feasibility study into the concept of a standalone hospice facility in Launceston.

7 May 2016 - **HACSU: politics before outcome** - Negotiations with HACSU are ongoing, and it's very disappointing that the union is leading this industrial action.

Victoria. Department of Health

13 May 2016 - **Funding Boost For Wimmera Cancer Centre** - Wimmera oncology patients will be able to access first class cancer care, closer to home, thanks to a funding boost from the Andrews Labor Government's new \$200 million Regional Health Infrastructure Fund.

13 May 2016 - **Funding Boost To Improve Immunisation Coverage** - Victorian researchers will receive a funding boost to determine the best methods to overcome barriers that prevent Victorian children from being fully vaccinated. The \$290,000 grant for the Immunisation Behaviour Change project comes from the Andrews Labor Government's Public Sector Innovation Fund, established to test new approaches to complex policy problems.

11 May 2016 - **Grants Boost For Mental Health, Alcohol And Other Drugs Facilities** - The Andrews Labor Government has awarded \$5 million in grants to 36 community services to provide more support for Victorians experiencing mental health, alcohol and other drug problems. The \$5 million investment will support community-based mental health, and alcohol and other drug treatment facilities provide the best, recovery-oriented services for Victorians.

9 May 2016 - **Victoria Striking New Med Tech Deals In India** - The Andrews Labor Government today announced two new agreements to further strengthen Victoria's reputable medical technology sector and see our expertise help address major health challenges in India. During the government-led Neuroscience Victoria trade mission to India this week, Swinburne University signed two memorandums of understanding to partner with major Indian healthcare providers to tackle some of the country's biggest clinical problems.

6 May 2016 - **Vision For World Class Cardiac Care In Victoria** - The Andrews Labor Government today released a new plan to ensure heart disease patients across Victoria can access the world class cardiac care and treatment they need, when they need it. The new plan, released as part of Heart Week, comes as the Labor Government delivered \$135 million in the Victorian Budget 2016/17 to build Australia's first stand-alone Heart Hospital at Monash University in Clayton.

Western Australia. Department of Health

Media Releases

13 May 2016 - **Treasurer, Minister for Regional Development and Minister for Mental Health: New investment in health facilities for Newman** - An extensive redevelopment project will convert the existing Newman Hospital into a contemporary hospital with provision for private general practice, creating purpose-built health facilities for the Pilbara.

12 May 2016 - **Treasurer, Minister for Mental Health and Minister for Police: State Government strengthens fight against meth** - The State Government will establish an extra 52 dedicated rehabilitation beds and eight low-medical withdrawal beds across the State for people addicted to meth, with funding allocated in the 2016-17 State Budget.

11 May 2016 - **Treasurer, Minister for Health and Minister for Mental Health: Our State Budget 2016/17: Supporting and protecting our community – Mental healthcare boost for growing Joondalup** - Construction of the State's second Mental Health Observation Area (MHOA) will start soon at Joondalup Health Campus, with a \$5.1 million project funding allocation in the 2016-17 State Budget.

12 May 2016 - [Celebrating our own Florence Nightingales](#) - International Nurses Day is celebrated on 12 May, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth.

10 May 2016 - [New app to guide on necessity of CT scans for children and young people](#) - WA Health has partnered with the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care to develop DIP 4 Kids, an app to support a reduction in unwarranted exposure to radiation from CT scans for children.

9 May 2016 - [WA Health nurses take out top awards](#) - Two highly respected WA Health nurses took out the highest honours in the 2016 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards at a gala dinner on Saturday 7 May.

9 May 2016 - [Minister for Health: Tireless researcher 2016 WA Nurse of the Year](#) - Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital researcher Dr Susan Slatyer has been crowned Western Australia's 2016 Nurse/Midwife of the Year at this year's WA Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards.

Operational Directives

11 May 2016 - [OD 0668/16 Hospital Fees: Nursing Home Type Patient \(20 March 2016 Pension Increase\)](#) - This operational directive advises hospitals of increases in the Nursing Home Type Patient (NHTP) fees, which were gazetted on 3 May 2016. In accordance with commencement instructions in the gazette, the amended NHTP fees are legally effective from the day after gazettal, which is 4 May 2016.

Reports

12 May 2016 - [Elective Surgery Wait List reports](#)

New Zealand. Ministry of Health

12 May 2016 - [Mental Health and Addiction: Service use 2012/13](#) - These tables are the latest release of routine mental health and addiction data.

11 May 2016 - [Proposed Radiation Safety Regulations: A consultation document](#) - The Regulations are needed to give full effect to the [Radiation Safety Act 2016](#). The Radiation Safety Act comes fully into force on 7 March 2017 and will repeal and replace the current Radiation Protection Act 1965 and its Regulations. More information about the new legislation is available at [Changes to Radiation Safety Legislation](#). Both the current and the new legislation will be administered by the Ministry of Health's Office of Radiation Safety.

3 May 2016 - [New Zealand Maternity Clinical Indicators 2014](#) - The New Zealand Maternity Clinical Indicators present comparative maternity interventions and outcomes data for pregnant women and their babies by maternity facility and district health board region.

United States of America. Department of Health & Human Services

10 May 2016 - [HHS-sponsored study shows disrobing is vital decontamination method](#) - Ninety-nine percent of chemical contamination can be removed by carefully removing clothes and wiping skin with a paper towel or dry wipe, according to new scientific studies of decontamination methods sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR).

10 May 2016 - [HHS pursues development of single dose nasal spray anthrax vaccine](#) - For the first time, one of the nation's Centers for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing will support development of a second-generation anthrax vaccine under a task order issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

Australian Medical Association (AuMA)

12 May 2016 - [Putting Health First](#) - The AuMA today released Key Health Issues for the 2016 Federal Election - a summary of the major health issues that the AuMA considers must be addressed by the major parties during the election campaign and into the next term of Government, whichever party wins. AuMA President, Professor Brian Owler, said today that health policy will be at the core of the 2016 Federal Election.

11 May 2016 - **Two candidates for federal AuMA Presidency** - There will be an election to decide the next Federal AuMA President, with two nominations for the position being received at close of nominations today. The election will take place at the AuMA National Conference in Canberra on Sunday, 29 May.

The candidates are current Federal Vice President and former AuMA Victoria President, Dr Stephen Parnis, who is a Consultant Emergency Physician at St Vincent's Hospital and John Fawcner Private Hospital in Melbourne; and current AuMA WA President and AuMA Federal Councillor, Dr Michael Gannon, who is Head of Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, St John of God Hospital, Subiaco, and the Lead Obstetrician of the Perinatal Loss Service at King Edward Memorial Hospital, both in Perth.

3 May 2016 - **Budget confirms health policy vacuum** - The AuMA tonight condemned the extension of the freeze of the Medicare patient rebate until 2020 – a saving to the Government of almost \$1 billion. AuMA President, Professor Brian Owler, said the 2016-17 Health Budget continues the Government's stranglehold on Australia's Medicare system by taking \$1 billion out of the pockets of Australian patients and household budgets by extending the Medicare rebate freeze. "The poorest, the sickest and the most vulnerable will be the hardest hit," Professor Owler said.

29 April 2016 - **Neutrality of health workers must be respected** - The AuMA called on national governments and non-state combatants to adhere to international laws regarding the neutrality of medical staff and health facilities after the bombing of a Syrian Hospital.

28 April 2016 - **AuMA calls on Government to abandon planned cuts to pathology bulk billing incentives** - Welcoming the release of the Pathology Australia report on the community health benefits, efficiency, and cost effectiveness of Australia's pathology sector, the AuMA is again calling on the Government to abandon its planned cuts to bulk billing incentives for pathology services.

28 April 2016 - **AuMA working with General Practice to ensure patient privacy** - The AuMA acknowledges the release of the privacy assessment report undertaken by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC), which examined the privacy policies of 40 general practices across Australia. Chair of the AuMA Council of General Practice, Dr Brian Morton, who runs a busy suburban general practice in Sydney, said today that patient privacy is a priority for every GP and every general practice.

28 April 2016 - **New Doctors' Health Service Arrangements** - Doctors and medical students in NSW, the ACT, South Australia, and the Northern Territory will have access to expanded doctors' health services from 1 May 2016, a major step in the roll out of an enhanced national health program for medical professionals and students. As part of a \$2 million network of nationally-consistent doctors' health services, the Doctors Health Advisory Service (NSW) will provide services for doctors and medical students in NSW and the ACT, while Doctors' Health SA will provide services for doctors and medical students in South Australia and the Northern Territory. The other States are expected to join these arrangements in coming months.

20 April 2016 - **Peak Doctor Groups call for election commitments to fix rural health** - The AuMA and the Rural Doctors Association of Australia called on the major political parties ahead of the 2016 Federal Election to commit to practical and affordable reforms to improve health services for people in rural and remote Australia.

American Medical Association (AMA)

5 May 2016 - **AMA Applauds FDA's New Rule on E-Cigarettes and Additional Tobacco Products** - Concerned by the alarming growth of electronic cigarette use among the nation's youth, the AMA today applauded the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) new rule banning the sale of e-cigarettes and nicotine delivery products to minors.

ABOUT US

Mark Williams



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