



# HEALTH ALERT

14 SEPTEMBER 2015

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## JUDGMENTS

### New South Wales (NSW)

#### 9 September 2015 - *Idameneo (No 123) Pty Ltd v Auzcare Pty Ltd* [2015] NSWSC 1318

The Supreme Court considered a unique set of circumstances concerning a doctor's breach of contract and the plaintiff's resulting claim for possession of mortgaged properties.

The dispute arose in 2014 after Dr Azam breached a settlement deed entered with the plaintiff in 2012. The settlement deed was negotiated by Dr Azam, and the other defendants (Dr Azam's wife and company, Auzcare Pty Ltd), amid proceedings for his alleged breach of sale and service agreements ('the agreements').

Under the agreements, the plaintiff paid Dr Azam \$800,000 for the sale of his practice. Dr Azam agreed to provide medical services for 10 years, receiving 50% of the income generated during that period. Shortly after the payment was made, Dr Azam allegedly abandoned the practice and planned to flee retaining the benefit of the \$800,000.

The plaintiff brought proceedings in 2012. By way of settlement, the defendants agreed that Dr Azam owed a 'debt' of \$800,000, secured by mortgages, to the plaintiff pursuant to the 2012 cause of action. The settlement deed provided that the plaintiff would postpone enforcement, and ultimately forgive the debt, if Dr Azam fulfilled his obligations under the agreements.

After a further breach by Dr Azam in 2014, the plaintiff brought proceedings to take possession of the mortgaged properties pursuant to the settlement deed. The defendants argued that the plaintiff had no right to do so, submitting that the relevant provisions were unenforceable because they amounted to a penalty. The Court rejected this argument, holding in favour of the plaintiff.

#### 7 September 2015 - *BLW v Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District* [2015] NSWCATAD 184

The NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal decided to take no action in response to allegations that a hospital, operated by the respondent, had breached the applicant's privacy during her stay as an inpatient.

The applicant alleged that she had overheard the hospital's staff conversing loudly at the nurses' station about a combination of her sensitive personal and health information. The applicant further alleged that the staff had inappropriately accessed her private information via the hospital's database. If accepted, the applicant's allegations required the Tribunal to consider whether the respondent had breached the relevant privacy principles under NSW privacy legislation.

On the evidence, Senior Member Lucy concluded that it was more likely than not that the alleged conversations did not occur. Nonetheless, the Tribunal elected to consider whether the hospital would have breached privacy principles if the conversations had occurred.

In this regard, the Tribunal concluded that the allegations failed to show that the hospital had not breached its privacy obligations because the communications were made solely within the agency. The Tribunal affirmed that the mere possibility that someone outside the agency could overhear the conversation is insufficient to contravene the privacy principle for improper disclosure. On this basis, the Tribunal found that, even if the conversations had occurred, the hospital would not have breached the relevant privacy legislation.

In relation to the alleged misuse of the hospital's database, the Tribunal concluded that such conduct would be for a purpose extraneous to any purpose of the respondent and could not be attributed to the respondent.

### Western Australia (WA)

4 September 2015 - *Kezic v St John of God Health Care Inc* [2015] WASCA 182 - Workers compensation claim - appeal to arbitrator's decision.

## **Australian Capital Territory (ACT)**

### **4 September 2015 - *Hobbs v Tym & Anor* [2015] ACTSC 276**

PROCEDURE – Discovery – application for further discovery in proceeding concerning psychiatrist's treatment of patient – discoverability of documents determined by application of appropriate test considered in light of facts put in issue by pleadings – further discovery ordered.

## **Queensland**

### **4 September 2015 - *Scott v State of Queensland (Queensland Health)* [2015] QIRC 164**

INDUSTRIAL LAW - ACTION ON INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE - Classification of position - New classification structure - Employees engaged as health practitioners - Job descriptions, roles and responsibilities evaluated against new work level statements - internal appeal process unsuccessful.

## **Western Australia (WA)**

**9 September 2015 - *Woollard v The Medical Board Of Australia Sitting As A Performance And Professional Standards Panel* [2015] WASC 332** - ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW - unsatisfactory professional performance - professional misconduct - doctor.

## **United Kingdom (UK)**

**10 September 2015 - *Generics (UK) Ltd (t/a Mylan) v Warner-Lambert Company LLC* [2015] EWHC 2548 (Pat)** - PATENT INFRINGEMENT - obviousness -insufficiency - infringement -policy comment - regulation - the need for a system.

## **LEGISLATION**

10 September 2015 - ***Australian Immunisation Register (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2015***.

10 September 2015 - ***Australian Immunisation Register Bill 2015***.

10 September 2015 - ***Therapeutic Goods (Listing) Notice 2015 (No. 4)***.

9 September 2015 - ***DisabilityCare Australia Fund Act 2013***.

8 September 2015 - ***Medical Research Future Fund (Amount to be Transferred from the Health and Hospitals Fund) Determination 2015***.

## **New South Wales (NSW)**

10 September 2015 - ***Alcoholic Beverages Advertising Prohibition Bill 2015*** - Introduced by Nile, Fred - Private Member's Public Bill.

9 September 2015 - ***Health Services Amendment (Ambulance Services) Bill 2015*** - Introduced by Skinner, Jillian (Ajaka, John).

## **South Australia (SA)**

9 September 2015 - ***Liquor Licensing (Prohibition of Certain Liquor) Amendment Bill 2015***.

## **Western Australia (WA)**

10 September 2015 - ***Children and Community Services Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2014*** - Passed by Both Houses, Awaiting Assent.

## REPORTS

### Australia. Department of Health

#### Media releases

9 September 2015 - [Statement on Chris Thomas' election as World Transplant Games President](#) - A statement congratulating Transplant Australia CEO Chris Thomas on being elected President of the World Transplant Games Federation.

8 September 2015 - [Statement from Assistant Minister for Health Fiona Nash on calls to legalise the drug "ice"](#) - The Australian Government will never legalise a drug that destroys brain function, mental wellbeing, general health, employment, relationships, lives and families.

4 September 2015 - [Appointments to Cancer Australia Advisory Council](#) - Minister for Health Sussan Ley announced the appointment of a renewed membership of the Cancer Australia Advisory Council.

4 September 2015 - [Interview on 1233 ABC Newcastle with Jill Emberson](#) - Interview with Jill Emberson regarding After hours GP services, Medicare sustainability, Primary Health Care discussion paper.

3 September 2015 - [Interview on 2ue Afternoons with Justin Smith](#) - Interview with Justin Smith regarding Medicare annual figures, Medicare sustainability.

3 September 2015 - [Interview on 5AA Adelaide with Leon Byner](#) - Radio interview with Leon Byner regarding Medicare annual figures, Medicare sustainability and Medibank and Calvary negotiations.

2 September 2015 - [Letter to the Editor from Assistant Minister for Health Fiona Nash](#) - Assistant Minister for Health, Fiona Nash is urging parents to talk to their children about the dangers of the drug ice.

30 August 2015 - [Coalition Government's ice advertising cuts through](#) - Independent evaluation into the results of the Australian Government's ice advertising has heaped praise on the campaign.

7 August 2015 - [COAG Health Council Communiqué](#) - The Federal and State and Territory Health Ministers met in Darwin today at the COAG Health Council to discuss a range of national health issues. The meeting was chaired by Jack Snelling, Minister for Health, South Australia.

#### Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS)

1 September 2015 - [MBS XML, DOC, PDF and ZIP files are now available.](#)

### Australia. Department of Social Services (DSS)

8 September 2015 - [Short-Term Restorative Care Programme Interested Stakeholder Engagement](#)

The Department invites interested parties to attend a workshop or webinar to provide feedback on the proposed policy framework for the new STRC Programme.

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

10 September 2015 - [Medical Board and AHPRA endorse EAG call for action](#) - The Medical Board of Australia and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency today endorsed the call for action across the health sector to end discrimination, bullying and sexual harassment.

11 September 2015 - [Update your contact details to receive registration renewal reminders](#) - Are your contact details up to date? Registration renewal reminders will be sent to registrants soon.

9 September 2015 - [Perth forum invitation for practitioners, students and stakeholders of Chinese Medicine](#) - The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia invites practitioners, students and stakeholders of Chinese medicine to attend an information forum being held at The University of Western Australia - Claremont Campus on Monday 23 November 2015.

9 September 2015 - [Communiqué from the Board](#) - The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia releases its latest communiqué.

11 September 2015 - [Communiqué from the Board](#) The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia releases its latest communiqué.

9 September 2015 - [Perth forum invitation for practitioners, students and stakeholders of Chinese Medicine](#) - The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia invites practitioners, students and stakeholders of Chinese medicine to attend an information forum being held at The University of Western Australia - Claremont Campus on Monday 23 November 2015.

4 September 2015 - [Court finds WA man guilty of 'holding out' as a pharmacist](#) - A man who dispensed medications to patients when he was not a registered pharmacist has pleaded guilty to breaching the National Law, been fined \$4000 and granted a spent conviction.

4 September 2015 - [Call for applications](#) - Call for applications for appointment to the Notifications Committee of the Pharmacy Board of Australia.

4 September 2015 - [The National Nursing and Midwifery Board has released its quarterly registration data](#) - The National Board has released its quarterly registration data.

4 September - [Communiqué from the Board](#) - The Psychology Board of Australia has released the August 2015 meeting communiqué.

3 September 2015 - [Revised Re-entry to practice policy](#) - The revised Re-entry to practice policy took effect on 1 September 2015.

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

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

03 September 2015 - [Communiqué from the Board](#) - The Pharmacy Board of Australia releases its latest communiqué.

2 September 2015 - [The National Board sets fee for 2015/16](#) - The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia (the Board) has announced that the national registration fee for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners for 2015/16 will remain the same as in the previous year.

2 September 2015 - [The National Board sets fee for 2015/16](#) - The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (the Board) has announced that the national registration fee for medical radiation practitioners for 2015/16 has been reduced.

#### **Australia. National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA)**

28 August 2015 - [The AMT v20150831 August 2015 release is now available for download.](#)

26 August 2015 - [SNOMED CT Foundation E-Learning Course: Call for Applications.](#)

26 August 2015 - [NEHTA Implementation Resources: eMedications Management Functional Framework v1.1 - August 2015 Release.](#)

24 August 2015 - [Common - Clinical Document v1.3.1 August 2015 Release now available.](#)

21 August 2015 - [NEHTA Dose Based Prescribing Reference Sets open for review.](#)

#### **Australia. National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)**

4 September 2015 - [NHMRC Research Tracker.](#)

#### **Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)**

4 September 2015 - [Hongkong Tianli Biological 'Power' tablets](#) - Hongkong Tianli Biological 'Power' tablets pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken.

#### **Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW)**

9 September 2015 - [Interpreting cancer data.](#)

8 September 2015 - [National Youth Information Framework \(NYIF\) data portal media release: Young people better educated, fewer using substances, but weight and diet remain a concern.](#)

New data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) show that overall, young Australians are doing well. Rates for smoking, single-occasion risky drinking and illicit drug use are decreasing; however, overweight and obesity rates remain high, and fruit and vegetable consumption remains low.

7 September 2015 - [Acute kidney injury in Australia: a first national snapshot.](#)

7 September 2015 - [Media release: Acute kidney injury hospitalisations increasing.](#)

Hospitalisation rates for acute kidney injury have more than doubled over the last decade-and this condition affects some population groups more than others, according to a report released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

### [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#)

7 September 2015 - On the Radar - Issue 239 ([PDF 97KB](#)) ([Word 127KB](#)).

### [Australia. National Mental Health Commission](#)

27 August 2015 - [Gayaa Dhuwi \(Proud Spirit\) Declaration Launched](#) - Supporting Indigenous Leadership in Mental Health. The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership in Mental Health (NATSILMH) Chair and National Mental Health Commissioner Professor Pat Dudgeon launched the Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Declaration at the MHS Conference in Canberra on 27 August 2015. The National Mental Health Commission is proud to support the Gayaa Dhuwi Declaration which provides a framework for Indigenous leadership in mental health and suicide prevention.

### [Australia. National Health Performance Authority](#)

[Healthy Communities: HPV immunisation rates for girls in 2013 \(PDF 4.8 MB\)](#) - Around 38,400 of the estimated 137,460 girls aged 15 in 2013 were not fully immunised against the highly contagious virus that can cause cervical cancer, with coverage rates as low as 56% in some areas, a new report from the National Health Performance Authority finds.

### [Australia. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme \(PBS\)](#)

26 August 2015 - Updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been prepared that provide further detail on the 1 September 2015 changes to the Growth Hormone and Botulinum Tox. [Read more.](#)

4 September 2015 - [Post-market Review of Authority Required PBS Listings](#) - An Opioids Roundtable meeting was held on 27 May 2015, and an Antibiotics Roundtable meeting was held on Monday 18 May 2015 in Canberra. These meetings gathered stakeholder input to assist in the review of the PBS restrictions for opioids and antibiotics as part of the Post-market Review of Authority Required PBS Listings.

2 September 2015 - [Update to examples for No Reduction - Low Volume/Low Discount Items in 'Fact Sheet - 2015 Price Disclosure Changes'](#) - An update to the examples demonstrating application of the criteria for 'No Reduction Items - Low Volume/Low Discount' in the 'Fact Sheet - 2015 Price Disclosure Changes' has been published.

2 September 2015 - [Update to Listing Steps](#) - The 'Listing Steps (Step 4)' have been updated to include an invitation for comments in relation to making an originator brand determination.

1 September 2015 - [Pembrolizumab - information for patients](#) - Pembrolizumab has been listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) via a Managed Entry Scheme (MES). This MES provides a mechanism to address the uncertainty over the size of the additional clinical benefit of pembrolizumab while providing early access to those patients for whom there is a high clinical need. Information about the benefits of pembrolizumab in clinical practice will be collected, analysed and presented to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) for consideration in the near future.

1 September 2015 - [PBS Website Update - 1](#) - The Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits was updated on 1 September 2015 and the Summary of Changes can be found on the New, Amended and Deleted Items page.

### **Australian Capital Territory (ACT). Health Directorate**

#### Media Releases

11 September 2015 - [Have you seen the latest issue of the ACT Population Health Bulletin?](#) - Have you seen the latest Issue of the ACT Population Health Bulletin? It's all about the importance of good nutrition for population health.

### **New South Wales (NSW). Ministry of Health**

#### Media Releases

10 September 2015 - [Talk, text and tweet - R U OK?](#) - Minister for Mental Health Pru Goward marked R U OK? Day and World Suicide Prevention Day today by calling on everyone to check in with their friends and loved ones. "Suicide is the leading cause of death for Australians under the age of 44," Ms Goward said.

9 September 2015 - [Exceptional nurses and midwives honoured](#) - Some of the state's most exceptional nurses and midwives were today honoured for their outstanding contribution to health care in NSW. Health Minister Jillian Skinner presented the third annual *NSW Health Excellence in Nursing and Midwifery Awards* at a ceremony in Parliament House. The 11 award winners and 24 finalists were selected from a record field of 239 nominees.

7 September 2015 - [Celebrating multicultural health week](#) - Health Minister Jillian Skinner today launched Multicultural Health Week in NSW by encouraging communities from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to participate in their own health care journey.

5 September 2015 - [Shining Star: \\$120 Million Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Hospital Redevelopment Opened](#) - Health Minister Jillian Skinner today officially opened the latest hospital redevelopment to be delivered by the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government - the \$120 million STAR Building at Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital.

03 September 2015 - [Lift off for new NSW Ambulance helicopter base at Bankstown](#) - Health Minister Jillian Skinner and NSW Ambulance Acting Chief Executive David Dutton today turned the first sod on the new state-of-the-art NSW Ambulance/TOLL Bankstown Helicopter Retrieval and Training Base. The NSW Government has invested funding of \$151.2 million to establish a new NSW Helicopter Retrieval Network. The TOLL Group will operate NSW Ambulance's southern fleet of eight helicopters from Bankstown, Orange, Wollongong and the ACT.

#### Policy Directives & Guidelines

8 September 2015 - [NSW Health Code of Conduct.](#)

7 September 2015 - [Notification-Health Professional Councils to Chief Executive/Nominated Information Recipient: s176BA.](#)

#### Information Bulletins

10 September 2015 - [Rates of Pay and Allowances for Teachers in NSW Health Early Childhood Service Centres.](#)

8 September 2015 - [2015/16 Service Agreement Key Performance Indicators and Service Measures Data Dictionary.](#)

7 September 2015 - [General Retention and Disposal Authority - Original or source records that have been copied \(GA45\).](#)

7 September 2015 - [NSW Health Service Aboriginal Health Workers' \(State\) Award.](#)

## **New South Wales (NSW). Health Care Complaints Commission**

27 August 2015 - **David Spruce – Pharmacist – Finding of Professional Misconduct, Impairment and Lack of Competence - Disqualified for 18 months** - The Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted Mr David Spruce, a pharmacist who owned and operated his own pharmacy in Mudgee, before the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) in relation to improper conduct towards a young female client of his pharmacy. The alleged conduct, which occurred in October 2013, involved Mr Spruce inappropriately touching the client in his pharmacy and then again in her car, which was parked outside the pharmacy.

26 August 2015 - **Mr Ian Firth – finding of professional misconduct – cancellation of registration** - On 27 February the New South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal made a finding of professional misconduct against Mr Firth, a then registered psychologist.

21 August 2015 - **Mr Sow Kuan Ng - Stage 1 - finding of professional misconduct** - The Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted Mr Sow Ng, a registered osteopath before the NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal on 7, 8 and 9 October 2014, 26 November 2014 and 3 February 2015. [Read more.](#)

20 August 2015 - **Ms Myrla Cruz prohibited from providing any health services for five years** - The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission completed an investigation into the professional conduct of Ms Myrla Cruz, a personal care assistant working in nursing homes in NSW.

10 August 2015 - **Dr Bao-Quy Nguyen-Phuoc - Stage 1 - finding of professional misconduct** - The Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted Dr Bao-Quy Nguyen-Phuoc, a medical practitioner practicing complementary medicine, before the NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal. Dr Nguyen-Phuoc's registration as a medical practitioner was suspended on 10 July 2013 and he was previously prosecuted by a Medical Tribunal in 2010.

7 August 2015 - **Dr Kim Hock Liaw - cautioned and conditions imposed** - The Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted Dr Kim Hock Liaw, a general practitioner, before a Medical Professional Standards Committee.

6 August 2015 - **Updated media release - Dr Paul Bours – Suspended for 12 months** - The Health Care Complaints Commission prosecuted Dr Paul Bours, a Podiatric Surgeon, before the NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal. The prosecution was in relation to Dr Bours' care and treatment of four patients, improper and unethical conduct relating to his profession and breaches of the *Therapeutic Goods Act 1966* (NSW).

30 July 2015 - **Mr Leslie Lever - prohibited from providing any health services for five years** - The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission concluded its investigation into the professional conduct of Mr Leslie Lever, a massage therapist.

## **Northern Territory (NT). Department of Health**

10 September 2015 - **Territory declares war on ice** - The Country Liberals are pressing ahead urgently in the fight against the distribution and use of ice in the Northern Territory.

## **Queensland. Department of Health**

10 September 2015 - **New Suicide Prevention Action Plan to reduce loss of lives** - The Palaszczuk Government is aiming to reduce suicide by 50 per cent within the next decade through an integrated strategy which brings together all government and community organisations involved in the field.

9 September 2015 - **QAS staff and volunteers recognised for vital contribution** - Minister for Health and Ambulance Services Cameron Dick today presented a number of prestigious awards to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) staff as part of Ambulance Week celebrations.

9 September 2015 - **Asia Pacific Autism Conference looks at new research** - More than 1200 delegates from across the globe will gather to learn about new research surrounding autism at the fourth Asia Pacific Autism Conference (APAC) in Brisbane this week.



9 September 2015 - **Expectant mums urged to consider alcohol-free pregnancy** - Minister for Health Cameron Dick is today shining the light on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD), taking the opportunity to spread the word about this life-changing disorder on International FASD Awareness Day.

8 September 2015 - **\$7 million clinical trial funding set to save lives** - Queensland cancer patients are set to benefit from greater access to world-leading treatments thanks to a five-year funding deal worth \$7 million for independent clinical trials in Queensland hospitals.

4 September 2015 - **Robot changes face of Pharmacy at Robina Hospital** - Minister for Health Cameron Dick today witnessed firsthand how technology is improving patient care on the Gold Coast, as Robina Hospital becomes just the second public hospital in Queensland to introduce robotics to dispense medicine.

### South Australia (SA). Department for Health & Ageing

9 September 2015 - **New operating theatres to be built at Noarlunga Hospital** - Two additional operating theatres will be built at Noarlunga Hospital, as part of a \$10 million investment under the State Government's Transforming Health plans. Health Minister Jack Snelling said construction of two new theatres and other important refurbishments will ensure Noarlunga Hospital continues to provide high quality care to the community well into the future.

8 September 2015 - **More than 1200 flu cases in one week alone – the most since the swine flu** - SA Health has recorded the most influenza notifications authorities have seen in the space of a week since the 2009 swine flu pandemic. Health Minister Jack Snelling said that last week more than 1200 flu cases were notified to SA Health, including over 300 in one day.

3 September 2015 - **Patient record review complete** - An independent review into the alleged deletion of a Lyell McEwin Hospital patient's radiology record has been completed. The review was carried out by SA Health's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Paddy Phillips, who said the review found four individuals had acted inappropriately in attempting to delete the record.

1 September 2015 - **Consumers have their say on the state's hospitals** - Most South Australians would recommend an SA Health hospital to a family member or friend, but many think they aren't getting the information they need during a hospital stay, a new SA Health report reveals. Health Minister Jack Snelling said the 2015 SA Health Consumer Experience Report, which was released today, provides important feedback from consumers who spent time in a South Australian public hospital in 2014.

### Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

10 September 2015 - **World Suicide Prevention Day** - Today is World Suicide Prevention Day and all Tasmanians are being reminded of the importance of taking action to prevent suicide.

9 September 2015 - **Consultation on Proposed Commissioner for Children Legislation** - The Tasmanian Government is inviting community feedback on the draft *Commissioner for Children and Young People Bill 2015*. We want to ensure that the Commissioner for Children and Young People in Tasmania has the right functions to act as the voice of Tasmanian children and young people. The proposed legislation aims to clarify the role of the Commissioner for Children and Young People in Tasmania and we want to strengthen the Commissioner's ability to access information in order to undertake the functions of the position.

9 September 2015 - **Bill to strengthen powers of Commissioner for Children released for comment** - The Hodgman Liberal Government is committed to ensuring we do everything we can to better protect children from abuse and neglect.

8 September 2015 - **Eight new food co-operatives to serve Tasmanian communities** - Delivering improved access to fresh and affordable food is the aim of a new project supported by the Hodgman Liberal Government.

8 September 2015 - **Keeping our children safe – a job for all** - Protecting children is everyone's responsibility. That's the key message of this year's National Child Protection Week.

7 September 2015 - **RHH Helipad Approved** - A life-saving helipad at the Royal Hobart Hospital is now a reality after its construction was endorsed by the Hobart City Council tonight.

### Victoria. Department of Health

10 September 2015 - **New ambulance station for Karingal** - The Andrews Labor Government today announced that a new ambulance station will be built in Karingal as part of a \$20 million investment to modernise and upgrade ambulance facilities across Victoria. The Karingal community is currently served by the Langwarrin ambulance branch which operates out of a leased building. A new station will mean local families living in the growing suburbs of Langwarrin and Karingal will have a permanent and fit-for-purpose local ambulance branch in cases of emergency.

10 September 2015 - **New home for Frankston Hospital Specialist Clinics** - Minister for Health Jill Hennessy today officially opened the new specialist consulting facilities at Frankston Hospital, which will improve and increase access to outpatient services for residents on the Peninsula. The \$81 million redevelopment of the Frankston Hospital, opened earlier this year, delivered a new and larger emergency department, along with new special nursery cots, intensive care beds, a short stay ward and two 32-bed acute adult inpatient wards.

8 September 2015 - **New funding to raise men's health awareness** - The Andrews Labor Government will provide \$1.1 million over the next four years to raise awareness about men's health and prostate cancer, and to support research into the disease. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed among Victorian men. In 2013, there were 4,257 new cases of prostate cancer in Victoria, making up 27 per cent of all new male cancers diagnosed. Sadly, 729 men died from the disease last year. The new funding was announced at the EJ Whitten 20th Commemorative Dinner by Premier Andrews and Minister for Health Jill Hennessy.

8 September 2015 - **Boost for billion dollar boulevard of medical excellence** - World leading medical research centre Bio21 has received the go-ahead for its landmark \$140 million expansion project. Bio21, a molecular science and biotechnology research centre based at the University of Melbourne, is an internationally renowned facility that specialises in medical, agricultural and environmental biotechnology. Minister for Planning Richard Wynne has now approved stage 2B of Bio21, which will allow for another 140 scientists and students to be accommodated in a new four storey, state-of-the-art facility within the Parkville Biomedical Precinct.

8 September 2015 - **Trans advocate Brenda Appleton to head LGBTI Taskforce** - Minister for Equality Martin Foley today announced the members of an LGBTI Taskforce that will support the Andrews Labor Government's efforts to put equality for LGBTI Victorians back on the agenda. The LGBTI Taskforce will have a Justice working group and a Health and Human Services working group and will advise on current and emerging LGBTI issues, as well as the implementation of the Government's election commitments. The Taskforce will also work closely with Rowena Allen, Victoria's first Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality, to develop a work plan, ensuring that the Government's equality initiatives are driven by genuine community consultation.

7 September 2015 - **Monash Children's Hospital celebrates special milestone** - Construction of the new \$250 million Monash Children's Hospital has reached a significant milestone, with the building reaching its full height. Premier Daniel Andrews, Minister for Health Jill Hennessy, and local Members of Parliament today celebrated the building's 'topping out' milestone by signing a beam which will be installed in the state-of-the-art hospital in Melbourne's south east. The 'topping out' milestone signifies the completion of the hospital's external structure, with the focus of work now moving towards the façade and the internal fit-out.

4 September 2015 - **Funding to support Victoria's medical research institutes** - The Andrews Labor Government is providing ten of Victoria's independent medical research institutes with more than \$26 million this financial year, to support them in continuing their cutting edge work. The Government is investing significantly in health and medical research to grow Victoria's pre-eminence as a hub for world-class research.

## Western Australia (WA). Department of Health

### Media Releases

10 September 2015 - **Two cases of meningococcal infection confirmed** - The Department of Health today reported two new cases of meningococcal disease – in an infant and an older teenager.

9 September 2015 - **Minister for Mental Health: Youth summit tackles homelessness** - On any given night more than 3,700 young West Australians do not have safe or stable accommodation, according to the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia (YACWA).

8 September 2015 - **Minister for Health: First look at WA first for children's surgery** - Perth Children's Hospital will boast the State's first intraoperative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine as part of technological advances in paediatric surgery, particularly for children suffering conditions such as brain tumours.

8 September 2015 - **WA first for children's surgery** - Perth Children's Hospital will boast the State's first intraoperative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine as part of technological advances in paediatric surgery, particularly for children suffering conditions such as brain tumours.

8 September 2015 - **PMH specialists push medical boundaries** - The ear, nose and throat team at Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) has successfully fitted a conductive bone implant on the youngest person in Australia.

8 September 2015 - **Care expands into the northern suburbs** - A new children's ward at the Joondalup Health Campus is set to open in mid-2016.

7 September 2015 - **Minister for Mental Health: New alcohol and drug treatment service opens** - A 'one stop shop' for alcohol and drug treatment has opened in Joondalup to cater for the region's growing population after a move to larger premises by the North Metropolitan Community Alcohol and Drug Service.

## New Zealand (NZ). Ministry of Health

10 September 2015 - **New Zealand Maternity Clinical Indicators 2013** - 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 Kingdom (UK). Department of Health

10 September 2015 - **Government to review NHS funding of nursing in care homes.**

10 September 2015 - **Response to Welsh Affairs Committee report on cross-border health.**

10 September 2015 - **Pricing of branded health service medicines.**

10 September 2015 - **Government response to 'A new EU Alcohol Strategy?'**

7 September 2015 - **Children, Families and Maternity e-bulletin.**

7 September 2015 - **Analysis of growth in branded medicines: 2013 to 2014.**

7 September 2015 - **PPRS: quarterly net sales and payment information.**

4 September 2015 - **NHS Injury Costs Recovery scheme: April 2015 to March 2016.**

4 September 2015 - **Care and support: what's changing?.**

3 September 2015 - **Continuing care for children and young people with complex needs.**

## Australian Medical Association (AuMA)

10 September 2015 - **RACS EAG harassment report a catalyst for remedial action across the medical profession** - The AMA welcomes the release today of the draft report of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Expert Advisory Group (EAG) on discrimination, bullying, and sexual harassment. AMA President, Professor Brian Owler, said the report is a catalyst for every member of the medical profession to acknowledge the unacceptable behaviour that has occurred over a long period of

time, and work together to build a stronger profession with more welcoming and cooperative workplaces. “The RACS draft report provides a sobering picture of the extent of bullying, discrimination, and sexual harassment in the surgical workforce, but the problem is much wider,” Professor Owler said.

9 September 2015 - **Putting the spotlight on the dangers of drinking during pregnancy** - The AMA today joins with a range of health groups – including the Australian FASD Network, NOFASD Australia, and the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) – in raising awareness about the health dangers of drinking alcohol during pregnancy. FASD refers to a range of disabilities (learning, behavioural, and developmental) that result from alcohol exposure during pregnancy.

8 September 2015 - **Stronger general practice the key to primary health care reform** - The AMA Submission to the Government’s Primary Health Care Review highlights the robustness of the Australian health system, particularly the crucial role of general practice, and stresses the need to build on the proven track record of general practice with significant new investment. AMA President, Professor Brian Owler, said today that the Review must focus on strengthening the parts of the system that deliver quality, accessible, and affordable care to the community, most notably general practice.

4 September 2015 - **AMA calls for Australian Leadership to address the global health impacts of climate change** - The AMA today released the updated AMA Position Statement on Climate Change and Human Health (Revised 2015), which was last revised in 2008. The updated Position Statement takes account of the most recent scientific evidence, and is being released a day after United States President Barack Obama said that “climate change left unchecked would soon trigger global conflict and condemn our children to a planet beyond their capacity to repair”.

4 September 2015 - **AMA calls for ban on 'combat sports' for people under the age of 18** - The AMA today released its new Position Statement on Combat Sport (2015), which supersedes and builds on the AMA Position Statement on Boxing (1997. Reaffirmed 2007). AMA President, Professor Brian Owler, said that the AMA is a long-time opponent of boxing, and has now extended its concerns about the health of participants to include all so-called combat sports. Professor Owler said the AMA is recommending the prohibition of all forms of combat sport for people under the age of 18. Further, the AMA wants boxing banned from the Olympic Games and the Commonwealth Games.

### **Canadian Medical Association (CMA)**

10 September 2015 - **Canadians to political leaders: What will you do for seniors care?**

9 September 2015 - **Hill Times Platform 2015 panel will focus on health as key election issue.**

1 September 2015 - **Recession challenge: Let's think about economic growth in an aging society, CMA says.**

## ABOUT US

### Mark Williams



Mark is a partner in the Litigation and Regulatory team at DLA Piper.

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