



HEALTH ALERT

27 November 2017

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KEY DECISIONS

21 November 2017 - *Medical Board of Australia v Panegyres [2017] WASAT 146* - Medical practitioner - Disciplinary matters - Unprofessional conduct - Professional misconduct - Charging patient for services not provided - Charging patient for services not clinically indicated - Charging for services where no clinical notes - Charging Medicare Australia for services - Code of Conduct for doctors in Australia - Capacity of patient to make decisions concerning his estate - Conduct substantially below standard reasonably expected of a health practitioner of an equivalent level of training or experience.

This case concerned a referral by the Medical Board of Australia to the State Administrative Tribunal alleging that a neurologist, Dr Panegyres, was guilty of professional misconduct arising from his treatment of a patient, KW. KW was diagnosed as suffering from Lewy Body disease and was a patient at Joondalup Health Campus. The Board alleged that Dr Panegyres charged the patient for unperformed or unnecessary services, because he had charged KW for services on 78 occasions over an 87 day period (during which the practitioner was on leave for 14 days). Whilst there was insufficient evidence to prove that Dr Panegyres had charged KW for services that hadn't been provided, the Tribunal found that he had provided and charged for medical services which were not clinically indicated and which were not reasonably required for KW's wellbeing. Dr Panegyres could not produce clinical notes to explain the need for those services. Further, the Tribunal found that Dr Panegyres had charged Medicare Australia for those services when he was not entitled to do so. The Tribunal also found that Dr Panegyres should have, but did not, obtain the consent of KW's administrator to the terms and conditions of KW's treatment, even though he knew that KW did not have the capacity to make those decisions himself. The Tribunal considered that in so doing Dr Panegyres' conduct fell substantially below the standards expected of doctors by their professional peers and the community, therefore amounting to professional misconduct.

22 November 2017 - *Vlassis v Return to Work SA [2017] SAET 153* - Causation – worker sustained knee injury in the course of employment – whether in the nature of septic arthritis – whether septic arthritis caused heart, lung and kidney failure – whether supervening factor displaced original work related injury as cause of incapacity – novus actus interveniens – HELD: organ failures due to septicaemia arising from original injury – treating doctors had broken chain of causation by negligent management and treatment of the worker – worker's entitlement to compensation under ss 35 and 36 of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986 affected because entitlements are not attributable to work injury but to gross failures of treating doctors.

Mr Vlassis brought a claim for worker's compensation after he injured his knee during the course of his employment. Mr Vlassis was loading a trolley when he caught his foot between two boxes, twisting his knee. Approximately two weeks later, Mr Vlassis sought treatment from Dr Wolianskyj, complaining of feeling unwell and having pain in his knee. Mr Vlassis saw another doctor, Dr Savvoulidis, approximately 4 days later and then again 6 days after that, feeling even worse than before. Two days later, after getting back test results, Mr Vlassis was advised by Dr Savvoulidis to attend hospital immediately. At this time it was realised that Mr Vlassis had a golden staph infection in his knee. It was then too late to avoid septicaemia throughout his body and as a consequence his organs were majorly affected. The Tribunal found that, whilst at no time were any of the doctors indifferent to the worker's welfare, the standards were inexcusably bad, completely outside the bounds of what any reputable medical practitioner might prescribe and so inadequate in the circumstances as to give rise to a *novus actus interveniens*. As a result, Mr Vlassis' entitlement to compensation was affected because the basis of the claim, the entitlements to compensation under the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986* (SA), were not attributable to the work injury but rather to the gross failures of the treating doctors.

JUDGMENTS

Commonwealth. Administrative Appeals Tribunal

21 November 2017 - *Wong v Minister for Health [2017] AATA 2296* - PROCEDURE – whether application for review within time – prescribed time for lodgement ended on a State public holiday – lodged electronically to national email address on following day – time of receipt – taken to have been lodged at place of business (Registry) which has the closest relationship with underlying transaction – prescribed

time calculated by reference to the time where the Melbourne Registry is located – lodgement permitted on day following public holiday – application within time.

21 November 2017 - *Nexidus Pty Ltd v Minister for Health [2017] AATA 2295* - HEALTH – Therapeutic Goods – Advertisement – approval of television advertisement – therapeutic goods advertising code – characteristics of the reasonable person – claims, statements and comparisons – whether advertisement complies with clause 4 of the advertising code – unwarranted and unrealistic expectations – product effectiveness – correct and balanced statements – claims and statements verified by sponsor – abuse of trust or exploiting the lack of knowledge of consumers – whether language used could bring about fear or distress – Comparative advertisements – must not be misleading or likely to be misleading – public health messages – sunscreens – solar UV radiation – UVB – production of vitamin D – sunburn – decision affirmed.

Commonwealth. Fair Work Commission

20 November 2017 - *Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Ltd [2017] FWCA 6095* - Application for approval of the Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Ltd Enterprise Agreement 2017.

20 November 2017 - *Epworth Foundation T/A Epworth HealthCare [2017] FWCA 6092* - Application for approval of the Epworth HealthCare Dietitians, Psychologists, Medical Scientists and Medical Physicists Enterprise Agreement 2017-2021.

17 November 2017 - *Uniting Care Medical Imaging Pty Ltd T/A Uniting Care Medical Imaging [2017] FWCA 6071* - Application for approval of the Unitingcare Medical Imaging Nurses Agreement 2017.

16 November 2017 - *Victorian Hospitals' Industrial Association [2017] FWC 5999* - Single interest employer authorisation.

New South Wales (NSW)

17 November 2017 - *Health Care Complaints Commission v Hanna [2017] NSWCATOD 165* - PROFESSIONS AND TRADES – Where it is asserted medical practitioner is guilty of professional misconduct – where boundary violation with patient admitted by medical practitioner.

17 November 2017 - *Gary David Wood v Ali Ghaz and Ors [2017] NSWSC 1561* - CIVIL LAW – medical negligence – application to amend statement of claim – where no prejudice to the defendant – notice to produce – whether documents sought relevant to issues – “special reasons” – relevant considerations – whether amendment calculated to justify notice to produce – whether the tail is wagging the dog – costs – where success on notion dependant on amendment of statement of claim – where application to amend came after filing of notice of motion – where plaintiff largely succeeds on motion – in spite of success the plaintiff should bear the costs of the motion.

Queensland

20 November 2017 - *Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia v Laughlan [2017] QCAT 388* - PROFESSIONS AND TRADES – HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS – NURSES – DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS – where the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia referred disciplinary proceedings against the practitioner to the Tribunal – where the referral alleged that the practitioner misappropriated and/or failed to account for a Schedule 8 drug – where the referral alleged that the practitioner had taken the Schedule 8 drug to administer to herself – where the referral alleged the practitioner had replaced the Schedule 8 drug with water – where the referral alleged the practitioner had attempted to influence another health practitioner not to report the discrepancy in the level of Schedule 8 drug – where the referral alleged the practitioner threw away a note recording the discrepancy in the level of Schedule 8 drug – where the referral alleged the practitioner had not acted in accordance with professional standards in failing to properly measure and record the level of Schedule 8 drug – where the practitioner admitted to some of the conduct alleged – where the practitioner denied misappropriating and self-administering the Schedule 8 drug – where the practitioner denied replacing the Schedule 8 drug with water – whether the practitioner had engaged in professional misconduct.

South Australia (SA)

22 November 2017 - [Vlassis v Return to Work SA \[2017\] SAET 153](#) - Causation – worker sustained knee injury in the course of employment – whether in the nature of septic arthritis – whether septic arthritis caused heart, lung and kidney failure – whether supervening factor displaced original work related injury as cause of incapacity – novus actus interveniens – HELD: organ failures due to septicaemia arising from original injury – treating doctors had broken chain of causation by negligent management and treatment of the worker – worker’s entitlement to compensation under ss 35 and 36 of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986 affected because entitlements are not attributable to work injury but to gross failures of treating doctors.

17 November 2017 - [Finding of inquest into death of Geoffrey Lachlan Hogarth Frederick 29/2015 \(0870/2013\)](#) - Death at Royal Adelaide Hospital - inpatient treatment order pursuant to Mental Health Act 2009 - death by natural causes - appropriate care given.

17 November 2017 - [Finding of inquest into death of George William Cameron 37/2015 \(1635/2013\)](#) - Death at Noarlunga Hospital - detention under Mental Health Act 2009 - pneumonia and exacerbation of chronic obstructive airway disease - appropriate care given.

Victoria

14 November 2017 - [Finding of inquest into death of Sandra Michelle Liddy COR 2015 6339](#) - Death at Adult Mental Health Rehabilitation Unit at Sunshine Hospital - Heroin toxicity - appropriate care given.

Tasmania

17 November 2017 - [Finding of inquest into death of Molly Jessie Smith](#) - Death at Royal Hobart Hospital - kidney infection - severe mental illness - resident in state-operated facilities - held in care for purposes of Mental Health Act 2013 - preventable death if condition correctly diagnosed and treated at place of residence - recommendations made.

Western Australia

21 November 2017 - [Medical Board of Australia v Panegyres \[2017\] WASAT 146](#) - Medical practitioner - Disciplinary matters - Unprofessional conduct - Professional misconduct - Charging patient for services not provided - Charging patient for services not clinically indicated - Charging for services where no clinical notes - Charging Medicare Australia for services - Code of Conduct for doctors in Australia - Capacity of patient to make decisions concerning his estate - Conduct substantially below standard reasonably expected of a health practitioner of an equivalent level of training or experience.

LEGISLATION

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

Commonwealth

22 November 2017 - [Private Health Insurance \(Prostheses\) Amendment Rules 2017 \(No. 6\) F2017L01513](#) - as made.

Victoria

24 November 2017 - [Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2017](#) - passed with Amendments.

REPORTS

Australia. Department of Health

Consultations

23 November 2017 - [Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) - We are seeking information on domestic and international initiatives that align with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development (the 2030 Agenda) and contribute to the health and wellbeing of our population, to inform the health related aspects of Australia's Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2018. Closes 18 December 2017.

Media releases

24 November 2017 - **Aged Care Access to Support Cultural and Linguistic Diversity** - The Minister for Aged Care, Ken Wyatt AM, MP has released the findings of a review into how aged care services for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities are working around Australia.

24 November 2017 - **Australia's health security to be put to the test** - Australia's world-class health system will be put to the test over the next week as the World Health Organization (WHO) evaluates our nation's health security.

24 November 2017 - **Genetics Promise Personalised Treatment to Prevent Blindness** - The Australian Government has invested \$9.46 million in genetics research aimed at preventing glaucoma blindness, through personalised treatments.

23 November 2017 - **Improving Aged Care for LGBTI Senior Australians** - The Minister for Aged Care, Ken Wyatt AM, MP has released the findings of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Aged Care Strategy Review.

23 November 2017 - **Minister announces ARPANSA leads the way as a SunSmart workplace** - Assistant Minister for Health the Hon Dr David Gillespie MP attended a ceremony to recognise the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) as a SunSmart workplace.

21 November 2017 - **New Aged Care Facilities to Support Seniors in Grafton** - Major extensions of the Whiddon Grafton aged care facility will immediately benefit senior Australians living in and around Grafton.

21 November 2017 - **New movement guidelines to help keep Aussie kids happy and healthy** - New movement guidelines to help parents and carers create healthy daily practices for babies and young children have been released by the Australian Government.

20 November 2017 - **A place to call home for 60 vulnerable seniors in the Central West** - A \$14.7 million Australian Government aged care investment in the Central West of New South Wales means that 60 senior Australians who have been living rough, or are disadvantaged and at risk of homelessness now have a place to call home.

20 November 2017 - **Record \$24 million for cardiovascular disease research** - The Australian Government will invest a record \$24 million to support landmark research into cardiovascular disease by The George Institute for Global Health.

19 November 2017 - **PFAS UPDATE** - The Australian Government will extend its voluntary blood testing program, epidemiological study and mental health and counselling services to the expanded investigation area around RAAF Base Williamtown, NSW, in line with the Department of Defence's updated human health risk assessment and today's announcement by the NSW Environment Protection Authority.

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

24 November 2017 - **Pharmacy Board and Medical Board issue joint statement on compounded medicines** - The Pharmacy Board of Australia and Medical Board of Australia have released a joint statement describing good practice for practitioners when prescribing and dispensing compounded medicines.

23 November 2017 - **Connections Issue 21 released** - The Psychology Board releases Issue 21 of Connections newsletter.

21 November 2017 - **Revised registration standard for AMC certificate holders takes effect on 15 February 2018** - The Medical Board of Australia has today published a revised registration standard for *Granting general registration to medical practitioners who hold an Australian Medical Council certificate*. The revised standard comes into effect from 15 February 2018.

21 November 2017 - [Revised registration standard for specialist registration takes effect on 15 February 2018](#) - The Medical Board of Australia has today published a revised registration standard for specialist registration. The revised standard comes into effect from 15 February 2018.

20 November 2017 - [Nurse permanently disqualified after assault on patient](#) - A tribunal has reprimanded an enrolled nurse and permanently disqualified him from applying for registration after he admitted to professional misconduct concerning an assault on a patient.

17 November 2017 - [Updated infection prevention and control self-audit tool published](#) - Effective infection prevention and control is central to providing high quality healthcare for patients and a safe working environment for those that work in healthcare settings.

15 November 2017 - [Annual report tells how the Podiatry Board of Australia took a risk-based approach to regulation in 2016/17](#) - The Annual Report for AHPRA and the National Boards for the year to 30 June 2017 is now available to view online.

15 November 2017 - [AHPRA annual report reveals how the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia worked to protect the public in 2016/17](#) - The Medical Radiation Practice health workforce grew by 2.5% over the past year, to 15,683 total registrants, according to data released today in the 2016/17 annual report published by AHPRA and the National Boards.

15 November 2017 - [AHPRA and the National Boards' 2016/17 annual report shows growing awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice](#) - The Annual Report for AHPRA and the National Boards for the year to 30 June 2017 is now available to view online.

15 November 2017 - [AHPRA and the National Boards' annual report reveals a marked increase in the number of chiropractic students in 2016/17](#) - The chiropractic health workforce grew by 2.3% over the past year, to 5,284 total registrants, according to data released today in the 2016/17 annual report published by AHPRA and the National Boards.

15 November 2017 - [AHPRA annual report reveals how the Dental Board of Australia worked to protect the public in 2016/17](#) - The dental health workforce grew by 3% over the past year, to 22,383 total registrants, according to data released today in the 2016/17 annual report published by AHPRA and the National Boards.

15 November 2017 - [Annual report reveals that occupational therapy was the fastest-growing profession in 2016/17](#) - The Annual Report for AHPRA and the National Boards for the year to 30 June 2017 is now available to view online.

15 November 2017 - [Annual report highlights the work of the Optometry Board of Australia to protect the public in 2016/17](#) - The Annual Report for AHPRA and the National Boards for the year to 30 June 2017 is now available to view online.

15 November 2017 - [Raising awareness of practitioners' obligations under the National Law was a priority for the Osteopathy Board of Australia in 2016/17](#) - The Annual Report for AHPRA and the National Boards for the year to 30 June 2017 is now available to view online.

Australia. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

20 November 2017 - [Record \\$24 million for cardiovascular disease research](#) - The Turnbull Government will invest a record \$24 million to support landmark research into cardiovascular disease by The George Institute for Global Health.

NHMRC Research Tracker—17 November 2017

Australian. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)

22 November 2017 - [Chemotherapy Compounder ID mandatory within PBS claims from 1 December 2017](#) - From 1 December 2017, approved suppliers (approved pharmacists, approved medical practitioners and approved public and private hospital authorities) will be required to enter a compounder ID when submitting claims for eligible PBS EFC items through PBS Online. Claims submitted without a compounder ID from this date will be rejected.

Approved suppliers are responsible for ensuring they have the compounder ID for any eligible PBS EFC items they claim. Where they undertake their own compounding, they will need to have obtained their compounder ID from the Chemotherapy Compounding Payment Scheme (CCPS) Administration Agency, Australian Healthcare Associates (AHA).

Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

23 November 2017 - **Notifications process: requests to vary registered medicines where quality, safety and efficacy are not affected** - Updated notifications process guidance released - to take effect 4 Dec 2017 (pending legislative changes).

23 November 2017 - **Semenax capsules** - Safety Alert - Semenax Capsules

23 November 2017 - **Workshops: Codeine up-scheduling** - These sessions are designed to ensure health professionals dealing with chronic and acute pain management have alternative strategies to use in preparation for 1 February and beyond.

23 November 2017 - **Australian Public Assessment Reports for prescription medicines (AusPARs)** - Added Venetoclax [Venclexta], Levonorgestrel [Kyleena] and Ibuprofen [Pedia].

21 November 2017 - **Transition to new GMP requirements for medicinal products** - Notice about adoption of a new PIC/S guide to GMP.

20 November 2017 - **TGA presentation: The ACSS Consortium and the Generic Medicines Work-Sharing Trial, 16 November 2017** - TGA presentation on the Australia-Canada-Singapore-Switzerland (ACSS) Consortium Generic Medicines Work-Sharing Trial.

20 November 2017 - **Preparing education materials and advertising for pain relief products** - Guidance for sponsors and advertisers in the context of the up-scheduling of codeine.

20 November 2017 - **What can pharmacy assistants say to customers about specific pain relief products?** - Advice on how to provide information about specific pain relief products in a non-promotional way.

20 November 2017 - **TGA business plan 2017-18** - The business plan provides an overview of our strategic priorities and activities.

20 November 2017 - **Product information** - New format for Product Information.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

24 November 2017 - **Gen X, Y and Z: Obesity risk higher for younger generations** - You are much more likely to be obese than your parents were when they were your age, according to new analysis released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

The report, *Overweight and obesity in Australia: a birth cohort analysis*, uses historical data to determine a person's likelihood of being obese based on their year of birth. By looking at obesity in this way, we are able to better understand whether the generation a person is born into may put them at greater risk of obesity.

22 November 2017 - **A quick walk on your lunch break could significantly help Australia's physical inactivity problem** - A new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows that small increases in our levels of physical activity could have major positive health impacts for the whole population.

The report, *Impact of physical inactivity as a risk factor for chronic conditions: Australian Burden of Disease Study*, looks at the health impact - or 'burden' - of a lack of physical activity in terms of years of healthy life lost through living with an illness or injury, or through dying prematurely. Using data from 2011, the report found that 2.6% of the total disease burden in Australia was due to physical inactivity.

Australian Digital Health Agency

24 November 2017 - **Chemist Warehouse and Corum connecting to My Health Record** - Every Australian with a My Health Record will be able to walk into a community pharmacy and have their

Pharmacist upload important medicines information into their secure My Health Record to improve their health care.

Chemist Warehouse, representing 30 per cent of the community pharmacy market, and Corum representing 1,000 pharmacies, today announced their upcoming connection to My Health Record system in 2018. Every community pharmacy software vendor has now signed up to the Community Pharmacy Software Industry Partnership to connect to the My Health Record system.

23 November 2017 - **Major boost to diagnostic imaging access with 16 software companies signing** - More than 95 per cent of Australian diagnostic imaging practices will soon be able to connect to the My Health Record system with 16 new software companies finalising service agreements with the Australian Digital Health Agency.

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care

27 November 2017 - On the Radar – Issue 349 ([PDF 349KB](#)) ([Word 290KB](#))

Australian Capital Territory (ACT). Health Directorate

20 November 2017 - **\$2.7 million in health promotion grants now open** - Canberra community groups, not-for-profit organisations and school communities are now able to apply for funding as part of the ACT Health Promotion Grants Program, which opened on Monday.

New South Wales. Ministry of Health

Media Releases

18 November 2017 - **\$3 million plan to protect welfare of junior doctors** - A multi-million-dollar reform plan devised with the state's junior doctors was released today to better safeguard their health and mental wellbeing. NSW Health Secretary Elizabeth Koff said the \$3 million JMO (Junior Medical Officer) Wellbeing & Support Plan will be implemented over the next 18 months.

'The Plan focuses on 10 practical initiatives, but a key aspect is a reduction in working arrangements for junior doctors to address fatigue', Ms Koff said.

'We have met JMO calls for rostered shift periods totalling no more than 14 consecutive hours (inclusive of meal breaks and handover) similar to other states'.

'In addition, rosters must be arranged so there is a break of at least 10 hours from when a junior doctor finishes work, to when they start a rostered shift again'.

While NSW Health has adopted JMO suggestions, Health Minister Brad Hazzard wants the health system to work towards rostered shifts of 12 hours over the next years. The move would ensure doctors in training in NSW have among the shortest working hours in Australia and deliver the best possible care for patients.

23 November 2017 - **Patients to get faster access to medicinal cannabis** - The NSW Government is intent on getting more patients access to medicinal cannabis products for palliative care, under a \$6 million statewide advisory service aimed at supporting doctors.

Minister for Health Brad Hazzard today announced the NSW Medicinal Cannabis Advisory Service – the first initiative of its kind in Australia – will start in January 2018.

'NSW has led the country in its approach to medicinal cannabis. However, doctors want more support about whether to prescribe medicinal cannabis, what specific product to prescribe and how best to prescribe it,' Mr Hazzard said.

'This landmark service will give doctors the support and confidence they need to decide if their patients, particularly palliative care patients, may benefit from this type of treatment.'

22 November 2017 - **\$100 million for out-of-hospital care** - Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro and Health Minister Brad Hazzard today announced the NSW Government is building eight new one-stop shop health facilities as part of a \$100 million investment in out of hospital care in NSW.

Mr Barilaro said the HealthOne facilities bring together General Practitioners with community health and other health professionals in multidisciplinary teams under the one roof.

24 November 2017 - [More peer workers to help mental health consumers back into the community](#) - Around 30 new Peer Workers will be recruited across the state to help mental health consumers transition from hospital, back into their communities.

Minister for Mental Health Tanya Davies today announced the NSW Government will invest \$2.7 million to fund a much needed expansion of the state's peer workforce in 2017-2018.

Publications

23 November 2017 - [Annual Report 2016-17 NSW Health](#)

23 November 2017 - [Communicable Diseases Weekly Report \(CDWR\)](#)

16 November 2017 - [NSW OzFoodNet Report](#)

16 November 2017 - [JMO Wellbeing and Support Plan](#) - Information Bulletins, Guidelines and Policy Directives.

22 November 2017 - [Health Care Facility Lockdown – A framework for developing procedures](#) - Document number: IB2017_047

22 November 2017 - [Junior Medical Officer \(JMO\) - Clinical Year and Term Dates 2018 - 2026](#) - Document number: IB2017_048

19 November 2017 - [Employment Arrangements for Medical Officers in the NSW Public Health Service](#) - Document number: PD2017_042

16 November 2017 - [Growth Assessment in Children and Weight Status Assessment in Adults](#) - Document number: GL2017_021

16 November 2017 - [Nutrition Care](#) - Document number: PD2017_041

12 November 2017 - [Recruitment and Selection of Staff to the NSW Health Service](#) - Document number: PD2017_040

12 November 2017 - [Medicine ingredient name changes](#) - Document number: IB2017_045

Northern Territory

17 November 2017 - [Norovirus outbreak at Royal Darwin Hospital](#) - A gastroenteritis outbreak has occurred in a ward at Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH). To ensure the virus is contained as quickly as possible, we have implemented a strict outbreak management plan to contain any infection, which currently affects only one ward. It takes very few virus particles to cause infection so we ask that family members of patients in the ward, Ward 4B Isolation, consider delaying visits and phone the ward before coming to the hospital.

21 November 2017 - [Celebrating our Nurses and Midwives](#) - The Territory Labor Government is calling for nominations for the Territory's Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards. The Minister for Health Natasha Fyles said Territorians want and deserve high quality health services and it's important to celebrate those who help to deliver that.

20 November 2017 - [\\$990K for Substance Misuse Prevention and Rehabilitation](#) - CORRECTING DATES Applications for the AOD Youth Grants Program are open until COB Friday 1 December 2017.

Queensland. Department of Health

21 November 2017 - [What you should know about your pelvic floor: pre-pregnancy, during pregnancy and after giving birth](#) - It's never too early or late to learn about and strengthen your pelvic floor.

Squeezes, Kegels, zip-ups – whatever you call them, pelvic floor exercises are important for women at all stages of life.

Pregnancy and birth (both vaginal and caesarean) can put stress on and damage the pelvic floor. So, if you are planning to have a baby, you're pregnant or you've had a baby (or a few), now is an especially important time to pay attention to those muscles downtown.

We spoke with Women's Health Physiotherapist Marian Donnelly and the pelvic floor team from the RBWH Women's Health Physiotherapy Department about what you should be paying attention to when you think pelvic floor.

22 November 2017 - **Three unexpected drowning hazards found around the house** - The Royal Life Saver Society Queensland catalogues a number of household water sources associated with drowning in their **Home Water Safety fact sheet** [PDF 225KB]. While it includes a number of the usual suspects - pools, spas, rivers, drains - there are also entries that might catch you by surprise.

20 November 2017 - **Avoiding health hazards when moving house with your curious crawler or toddler** - They say moving house can be one of the most stressful times in life, up there with losing your job or getting divorced. Moving house with young kids in tow? Just the thought can be enough to make you need a lie down. As well as making sure everything's packed on time, organising the movers and deciding where you'll put all your furniture at the new place, it's important to keep safety in mind during your move. We've put together some tips to help you make sure your kids stay safe and well while you move.

South Australia (SA). Department for Health & Ageing

23 November 2017 - **CHSALHN - Media release: Whyalla Health Services in the spotlight** - The local community is invited to an open day on the first weekend in December to celebrate the four year anniversary of the \$69m Whyalla Hospital redevelopment.

Whyalla Hospital Director of Nursing and Midwifery Julie Marron said the Whyalla Hospital Community Open Day would be a good opportunity for people to meet staff and learn more about the hospital's services and facilities.

23 November 2017 - **Media release: Hospital survey shows positive patient experience** - Most South Australians are satisfied with the way they are treated in the state's public hospitals, but latest data indicates more work is needed to ensure consistent information is being provided to patients during their stay.

SA Health Chief Executive, Vickie Kaminski, said a total of 2,310 patients were surveyed throughout 2016, as part of the annual SA Health Measuring Consumer Experience report.

22 November 2017 - **New lifesaving defib register launched** - A state-wide defibrillator register will give South Australians a better chance of surviving cardiac arrest.

19 November 2017 - **Media release: New Seaford ambulance station opens**

Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

21 November 2017 - **White peddling false hope on health with \$88 million magic pudding** - Labor is peddling false hope on health with an \$88 million magic pudding promise she claims will fix every single issue in the health system.

In fact Ms White's \$88 million, most of which would be on a new bureaucracy and the dodgy 'medihotels' proposal, represents an increase of just 1.2 percent on the health budget over four years.

To put that in perspective, that is enough to run the health system for 18 days. Tasmanians would be duded.

And in our last budget, we increased funding over four years by \$650 million, over seven times more than Ms White is now pretending to offer.

18 November 2017 - **LGH Children's Ward major upgrade and expansion** - Tenders will be called within the next month for works to upgrade the much loved 4K children's ward at the Launceston General Hospital following final approval of the Liberal Government funding and development plans.

I was pleased to meet with staff and parents of young patients yesterday to view design plans which represent the first major upgrade of the paediatric ward since it was built more than 30 years ago.

The project will see ward 4K upgraded and expanded to meet the clinical needs of acutely ill children as well as provide a much better environment for recovery.

For the first time the ward will have a purpose-built High Dependency Unit for the care of acutely unwell children.

17 November 2017 - [Healthy choices for all Tasmanian kids](#) - The Healthy Kids Toolkit, launched today is a new preventative health initiative to help children stay healthy for life.

Victoria. Department of Health

24 November 2017 - [Saving Lives: Getting SafeScript Done In Victoria](#) - The Andrews Labor Government has taken another step in setting up Australia's first large-scale prescription monitoring system, with the appointment of an IT specialist to build Victoria's cutting-edge SafeScript system.

21 November 2017 - [Giving Mums And Babies A Healthy Start](#) - More mothers and babies across the state will receive the support they need for the best possible start in life, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government. Minister for Health Jill Hennessy today visited IPC Health in Altona Meadows to announce \$1.7 million to expand the successful *Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies* program to rural and regional Victoria. The *Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies* program aims to improve the health and wellbeing of vulnerable pregnant women and their babies by helping them access services to support them through pregnancy and beyond. The program is part of \$32.3 million from the Andrews Labor Government to establish integrated support services for mothers of children at risk of child protection notifications.

Western Australia. Department of Health

20 November 2017 - [Minister for Health: Call for immediate changes to alcoholic drink labelling](#) - The McGowan Government is calling on the Commonwealth, States and Territories to immediately support the introduction of mandatory pregnancy health warnings on alcoholic beverages.

20 November 2017 - [Three new meningococcal disease cases](#) - The Department of Health today reported that it had been notified of three new cases of meningococcal disease in the past week. The cases included an adult visitor from interstate with serogroup Y infection, and two young children with serogroup W infection – one of whom tragically died from their illness.

19 November 2017 - [Minister for Health: Western Australians to benefit from new HIV trial](#) - Western Australians at risk of HIV will have access to a free, preventative drug as part of a new trial announced by the State Government today.

Policy

21 November 2017 - [MP 0073/17 Emergency Management Policy](#) - The Emergency Management Policy sets the minimum standards to ensure that the WA Health System has suitable arrangements in place to ensure adequate preparation for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies, disasters, and other disruptive events. A number of Operational Directives listed within the policy will be rescinded and replaced by this policy.

Policy framework: [Public Health Policy Framework](#)

17 November 2017 - [Study seeks to put pulmonary rehab on firmer footing](#) - A team of WA researchers is set to discover whether weekly community-based exercise sessions for people with moderate to severe lung impairment can significantly enhance participants' wellbeing and reduce their cost to the health system.

Lung impairment, caused by chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), is a leading cause of preventable hospitalisations that limits affected individuals' quality of life. In WA alone COPD was estimated to have added more than \$30 million to public health spending in 2014.

Publications

23 November 2017 - [Your safety in our hands in hospital](#)

22 November 2017 - [Fair share for WA health care](#)

16 November 2017 - [Lessons of Location](#)

ABOUT US

Dr Gerry Bean



Gerry is a Corporate Partner and provides corporate and commercial advice to the health sector and the not for profit sector. He has over 20 years' experience as a partner. He acts for hospitals, primary healthcare networks, aged care and retirement villages, charities and health insurers. Gerry has acted on several mergers in the health and non-for profit sectors including the merger which created cohealth. Gerry is an active contributor to our pro-bono practice. Gerry is also a director of the Law Institute of Victoria and a director of DLA Piper's International Board.

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