

HEALTH ALERT

15 JULY 2013

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JUDGMENTS

Australia. Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

14 June 2013 - [Real Health Care Reform Pty Ltd and Department of Health and Ageing \[2013\] AICmr 60](#)

Freedom of Information - charges - whether agency should exercise discretion to reduce or not impose charge — (CTH) *Freedom of Information Act 1982* ss 29(5)(a), 29(5)(b).

New South Wales

[Cox v Fellows \[2013\] NSWCA 206](#)

Cox, a general surgeon with a sub-specialty in gastrointestinal surgery, removed Fellow's gall bladder using diathermy. During diathermy, small clips are placed on a tube leading to the gall bladder, which remain in place after the procedure. Some months after the procedure, Fellows experienced a stricture near where the clips were placed, and sued for negligence. At first instance, the judge found the application of the diathermy "at or near the clip" on the cystic duct caused the structure. The application of the diathermy "at or near the clip" was a breach of duty because there was a departure from the required standard of care. Cox appealed.

The Court of Appeal had to decide:

1. What was the cause of the stricture?
2. Was the diathermy applied too close to the clips?
3. If the diathermy being applied too close to the clips was the cause of the stricture, was this the result of Cox's negligence?

The Court rejected the appeal. The Court found Cox used diathermy too close to the clips, which was the direct cause of the stricture. The injury was avoidable and not an inherent risk. The doctor's departure from the discipline of following his usual technique did not involve a clinical judgment of how close to the clips he should exercise diathermy; rather it was a departure from the usual standard of care expected of the ordinary skilled person exercising and professing to have that special skill of a surgeon in Cox's position in the conduct of the procedure.

Victoria. Coroners Court

[Inquest into the death of Long Ngoc Dinh COR 2010-1458](#)

[Inquest into the death of Bradley Piper COR 2007-0350](#)

The deceased was born on 22 January 2007 at 34 weeks gestation via spontaneous vaginal delivery. No heart beat or respirations were recorded, and Apgars were 0 at one minute and 3 at five minutes. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was commenced and intubation was required. The baby was transferred from the district hospital to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at a tertiary hospital. It was decided, due to the poor neuronal state and severe brain damage shown on an electroencephalogram (EEG) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), that intensive treatment would be withdrawn. The baby died on 27 January 2007.

The mother had an uneventful prenatal history, and there was no foetal distress during the spontaneous precipitant labour. Coroner Ollie relied on expert evidence given during the inquest throughout his findings. Issues identified included:

- The level of reliance on a fibronectin test;

- Monitoring of mother and baby, including CTG tracing and the decision to transfer the baby to a NICU;
- The utilisation of Newborn Emergency Transfer Service/Perinatal Emergency Referral Service, as both transportation and advice services; and
- Resuscitation of the baby.

It was concluded that much or all of the insult the baby sustained had occurred before the last hour or so of labour, in that he had established neurological abnormality at birth. It was concluded that it was unlikely that any action in the last hour or two of labour would have made any difference, and even if the mother had been transferred to a tertiary centre for the birth, the result would not have altered.

Western Australia (WA) State Administrative Tribunal

Medical Board of Australia and Woolard [2013] WASAT 101

Health Practitioner Regulation - medical practitioner - disciplinary action - orders prepared by consent following mediation.

USA. Wisconsin

10 July 2013 - ***Dane County v Sheila W***

This is a review of an unpublished opinion of the court of appeals dismissing this appeal because the issues presented are moot. The petitioner, Sheila W., is a minor who was diagnosed with aplastic anemia. She opposed on religious grounds any life-saving blood transfusions and her parents supported her position.

LEGISLATION

Commonwealth

Health and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2013.

Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment (Base Premium) Act 2013.

Private Health Insurance Amendment (Lifetime Health Cover Loading and Other Measures) Act 2013.

Charities Act 2013.

Aged Care (Bond Security) Levy Amendment Act 2013.

Australian Aged Care Quality Agency Act 2013.

Australian Aged Care Quality Agency (Transitional Provisions) Act 2013.

Aged Care (Bond Security) Amendment Act 2013.

Aged Care (Living Longer Living Better) Act 2013.

User Rights Amendment (Various Measures) Principle 2013.

Aged Care Revocation Instrument 2013.

Complaints Amendment (Living Longer Living Better) Principle 2013.

Aged Care (Flexible Care Subsidy Amount - Multi-Purpose Services) Determination 2013 (No. 2).

Quality of Care Amendment (Home Care) Principle 2013.

Aged Care (Residential Care Subsidy — Dementia and Severe Behaviours and Veterans' Supplement Amounts) Determination 2013.

Classification Amendment (Dementia and Severe Behaviours Supplement) Principle 2013.

Aged Care (Home Care Subsidy Amount) Determination 2013.

Approval of Care Recipients Amendment (Home Care) Principle 2013.

Home Care Subsidy Principles 2013.

Residential Care Subsidy Amendment (New Supplements and Other Measures) Principle 2013.

Private Health Insurance (Benefit Requirements) Amendment Rules 2013 (No. 3).

REPORTS

Australia. Department of Health & Ageing

Media releases

11 July 2013 - **\$500,000 upgrade of newstead medical officially opened.** Residents in the Launceston area will benefit from a \$500,000 federally funded upgrade to Newstead Medical.

11 July 2013 - **Boosting the Health of Northern Tasmanians**-The trial of an innovative exercise program, called Strength2strength will help Northern Tasmanians live healthier, more active lives.

11 July 2013 - **Launceston General Hospital (LGH) acute medical unit officially opened.** Official opening of the acute medical unit at Launceston General Hospital.

10 July 2013 - **\$13.5 million for primary health care research.** The Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, Tanya Plibersek, has announced an extra \$13.5 million for new primary care research, including Australia's first international primary health care research organisation.

10 July 2013 - **New mental health help for Lesbians, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Australians.** A new mental health telephone counselling service will be established across the country for people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status.

10 July 2013 - **Training more specialist Doctors for Tasmania.** Up to 51 additional training places for specialist doctors will be created in Tasmania's public hospitals to help meet demand in key areas, including general obstetrics and surgery.

09 July 2013 - **Ballarat headspace to help young people through tough times.** Young Ballarat residents with mental health issues will get better care and support with the launch of a new *headspace* service to help the region's 12 to 25 year olds.

9 July 2013 - **Launch of new mobile mental health service for Melbourne.** A partnership between Victoria Police, The Alfred Hospital and the Australian Government will create a mobile mental health service to help people with mental health crises in Melbourne's Bayside area.

8 July 2013 - **Geelong cats promote the deadly choices message.** The Geelong Football Club will run programs in Victoria to share anti-smoking, smoke-free and healthy lifestyle choice messages with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth.

5 July 2013 - **Australia's first home care packages.** The first Home Care packages for older Australians have been announced by Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, Senator Jacinta Collins, as part of more than \$500 million in new annual aged care funding.

4 July 2013 - **Organ donation and transplantation benefiting more Northern Territorians.** Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing, Shayne Neumann, has acknowledged the Northern Territory for its contribution to increasing organ donation outcomes as part of the Federal Government's national reform agenda.

3 July 2013 - **Extra support for people living with Machado Joseph Disease (MJD) in the Territory.** The Australian Government will provide more than \$91,000 to further support people and their families living with MJD in the Northern Territory.

3 July 2013 - **Paramedic science simulation centre to boost training opportunities.** The number of paramedic students passing through a new paramedic science simulation centre at the University of Queensland's Ipswich campus is expected to increase significantly by 2014.

3 July 2013 - [Stronger science base for food standards agency](#). Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) will gain a stronger science base and continuity through the appointment of its new board.

1 July 2013 - [Appointment to medical research portfolio](#). Minister for Health, Tanya Plihersek comments on being sworn in Australia's first ever Federal Minister for Medical Research.

30 July 2013 - [New generation medicines added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme \(PBS\)](#). A new medicine that can significantly extend the life of people with deadly melanoma (skin cancer) has been approved for inclusion in the PBS.

28 July 2013 - [First early psychosis service opens in Melbourne](#). The first of nine new early psychosis services has been opened in South East Melbourne by Federal Minister for Mental Health Mark Butler.

28 July 2013 - [Janette Hall Scholarship winners announced](#). Four health specialists in the organ and tissue donation sector will receive scholarships to further their professional development announced Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing Shayne Neumann.

28 July 2013 - [Severe mental illness support to flow through partnership services](#). Australians with severe and persistent mental illness will benefit from \$472.7 million provided to organisations in 48 Medicare Local regions for coordinated and flexibly funded support.

28 July 2013 - [Young people to benefit from new headspace sites](#). Fifteen new *headspace* youth mental health services will open across the country to support young people dealing with depression, substance abuse and other mental health issues.

Private Health Insurance Circulars

[PHI 41/13 New Private \(same day\) Hospital Information.](#)

[PHI 40/13 New Private \(Same Day\) Hospital Information.](#)

[PHI 39/13 Private Health Insurance \(Benefit Requirements\) Amendment Rules 2013 \(No. 3\) Changes to the Private Health Insurance \(Benefit Requirements\) Rules 2011.](#)

[PHI 38/13 Private \(same day\) Hospital Information - Name and Address Change - VIC.](#)

[PHI 37/13 Private Health Insurance Amendment \(Lifetime Health Cover Loading and other Measures\) Bill 2012 and Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment \(Base Premium\) Bill 2013.](#)

[PHI 36/12 Changes to Second-Tier Eligible Hospitals.](#)

[PHI 35/13 Private Health Insurance \(Benefit Requirements\) Amendment Rules 2013 \(No.2\) and Private Health Insurance \(Complying Product\) Amendment Rules 2013 \(No.2\).](#)

Aged care

1 July 2013 - [Important information about key 1 July 2013 changes under the Living Longer Living Better Aged Care Reform Package](#)

28 June 2013 - [Schedule of resident fees and charges: from 1 July 2013](#)

28 June 2013 - [Accommodation Bond Balance Refund Interest Rates](#)

26 June 2013 - [Living Longer Living Better Aged Care Reform Legislation Package](#)

21 June 2013 - [Australian Government Response to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee Report](#)

[Better Practice Guide to Complaint Handling in Aged Care Services](#). This booklet provides an evidence-based approach to complaint handling in a plain English, easy-to-understand format. It highlights

the role of communication in effective complaint handling and the benefits of resolving complaints within a service.

Australia. Private Health Insurance Ombudsman

28 Jun 2013 - Removal of the rebate from Lifetime Health Cover (LHC) - from 1 July, the Rebate will not apply to LHC loading.... [Read more](#)

Australia. Private Health Insurance Administration Council

3 July 2013 - [Capital Adequacy Standard – Interest Rate June 2013](#) - Private Health Insurance Administration Council (PHIAC) has determined that the interest rate applicable for the calculation of the renewal option amount to be applied by all private health insurers for the quarter ended 30 June 2013 is 2.471% per annum.

25 June 2013 - [2012–13 End of Year Reporting Requirements](#). 2012–13 End of Year Reporting Requirements

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)

9 July 2013 - AHPRA has published a request for quotation (RFQ) for developing a customised Governance training course. Submissions close 19 August 2013.| [Read article](#)

2 July 2013 - The Chinese Medicine Board of Australia releases its latest communique.| [Read Article](#)

4 July 2013 - The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (MRPBA) has issued a position statement on using a protected title, such as "radiographer", under the National Law.| [Read Article](#)

5 July 2013 - The Ministerial Council has extended a transitional provision under section 284 of the National Law to 30 June 2015 for midwives in private practice providing intrapartum care for women who choose to homebirth.| [Read Article](#)

5 July 2013 - The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia releases its latest newsletter.| [Read Article](#)

3 July 2013 - The National Board has published important information on new applications for notation as an eligible midwife.| [Read Article](#)

1 July 2013 - The Occupational Therapy Board of Australia invites occupational therapists in South Australia to a free breakfast forum.| [Read Article](#)

5 July 2013 - The Osteopathy Board releases its latest communique.| [Read Article](#)

2 July 2013 - The Physiotherapy Board of Australia releases its latest communique. | [Read Article](#)

Australian Commission on Safety & Quality in Health Care

[Medication Safety Update July 2013.](#)

[On the Radar – 8 July 2013 – Issue 134.](#)

[On the Radar – 1 July 2013 – Issue 133.](#)

[Advisory A13/04: Collection and reporting of Accreditation Evidence by Accrediting Agencies.](#)

[Accreditation evidence of implementation of the National Safety and Quality Health Service \(NSQHS\) Standards.](#)

[Data set specification for NSQHS Standards.](#)

[NSQHS Standards Guide for Small Hospitals Workbook.](#)

[National Inpatient Medication Chart Private Hospital Single Sheet \(Day Surgery\).](#)

[National Inpatient Medication Chart \(Day Surgery\).](#)

[National Inpatient Medication Chart \(GP e-prescribing\).](#)

[National Inpatient Medication Chart long-stay version \(Paediatric Private Hospital version\).](#)

[National Inpatient Medication Chart \(Paediatric Private Hospital version\).](#)

National Inpatient Medication Chart long-stay version for acute care (Private Hospitals).

Australian Institute of Health & Welfare

3 July 2013 - **Child and teenager oral health and dental visiting: results from the National Dental Telephone Interview Survey 2010.** |Media release.

11 July 2013 - **Disability support services: services provided under the National Disability Agreement 2011-12.** |Media release

9 July 2013 - **National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: July 2011 - June 2012 monitoring report.** |Media release

5 July 2013 - **Stroke and its management in Australia: an update.** |Media release

5 July 2013 - **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework 2012 report: Australian Capital Territory.**

4 July 2013 - **National housing and homelessness data dictionary: version 1, 2013.**

Australia. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

NHMRC Research Tracker - 28 June 2013.

NHMRC Licensing Committee 21st Biannual Report to Parliament.

Australia. Therapeutic Goods Administration

11 July 2013 - **Australian Public Assessment Reports for prescription medicines (AusPARs).** Added imatinib (as mesylate) (glivec), exenatide (byetta) and docetaxel (docetaxel-PF).

11 July 2013 - **Documents released under Section 11C of the Freedom of Information Act 1982.** Added Freedom of Information (FOI) 242-1213 and FOI 244-1213.

10 July 2013 - **Orphan drugs.** Added elosulfase-alpha.

10 July 2013 - **Consultation: Options for reform of the regulatory framework for pharmacy compounding**-This consultation closing date has been extended to 5pm, Friday 26 July 2013.

9 July 2013 - **Advisory Committee on the Safety of Medicines (ACSOM).** Added two new members.

9 July 2013 - **GE Healthcare nuclear medicine imaging systems.** GE Healthcare, in consultation with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), has initiated a recall for product correction for a number of its nuclear medicine imaging systems.

9 July 2013 - **Cementless Columbus Knee System - used in knee replacements.** Health professionals and consumers are advised that B. Braun Australia is withdrawing the cementless version of the Columbus Knee System from the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

9 July 2013 - **Hydroxyethyl starch (Voluven and Volulyte) and increased risk of mortality.** The TGA has commenced a full risk benefit review of products containing hydroxyethyl starch.

9 July 2013 - **Low value turnover application forms.** Updated forms for 2013-14 financial year.

8 July 2013 - **Complementary medicines: Cancellations from the ARTG following compliance review.** Added four products cancelled from the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) following compliance review for June 2013.

8 July 2013 - **TGA Office of Complementary Medicines (OCM) road shows.** A schedule informing stakeholders about the TGA's upcoming OCM roadshows in July and August.

8 July 2013 - **Nite Rider capsules.** The TGA has tested Nite Rider capsules and found that they contain an undeclared prescription substance.

8 July 2013 - **Tocotrienols complex - palm: Proposed revision of draft compositional guideline, 2nd round consultation**-Added submission received and TGA response.

8 July 2013 - [Compositional guideline: Tocotrienols complex - palm](#). Added to current compositional guideline page.

5 July 2013 - [A career as a Medical Officer at the TGA](#). The TGA employs about 35 medical officers, at various levels, in both full and part time positions. Additionally, we consistently seek applications from medical practitioners interested in working as medical officers at the TGA with non-ongoing opportunities.

5 July 2013 - [Consultations on adoption of European Union guidelines in Australia](#). Added 8 guidelines proposed for adoption by TGA.

5 July 2013 - [Early Warning System: health professional questions and answers](#). Questions and answers for health professionals about the Early Warning System.

5 July 2013 - [Global crackdown against counterfeit and illegal medicines](#). Between 18 and 25 June 2013, the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, the Therapeutic Goods Administration and the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority took part in a week-long international crackdown on fake and illegal medicines purchased over the Internet.

5 July 2013 - [Consultation: Regulation Impact Statement: Regulating the advertising of therapeutic goods to the general public](#). The closing date for this consultation has been extended to 19 July 2013.

4 July 2013 - [Prescribing medicines in pregnancy database](#). Added fidaxomicin, pertuzumab, vismodegib, micafungin, retigabine, ruxolitinib phosphate.

Australia. National Mental Health Commission

11 July 2013 - [Join the conversation](#).

1 July 2013 - [Mentally healthy workplaces](#).

Australia. National Blood Authority

8 July 2013 - Release of Australian Bleeding Disorders registry annual report - (ABDR) Annual Report for 2011-12 now available for download. This report provides demographic information on patients with bleeding - [Read more](#).

3 July 2013 - Suppliers update presentation now available - Presentations from the June Suppliers' Update are can now be downloaded from the National Blood Authority (NBA) website by visiting our - [Read more](#).

2 July 2013 - Suppliers update presentation now available. Presentations from the June Suppliers' Update are can now be downloaded from the National Blood Authority (NBA) website by visiting our - [Read more](#)

Bloodnet Lis interface specifications - Specifications to interface health provider Laboratory Information Systems into BloodNet have been released and are available from the - [Read more](#).

Australia. Parliament. Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs **Roundtable Discussion on Indigenous birthing issues.**

Australian Capital Territory. Health Directorate

Media releases

5 July 2013 - [Health grants program shifts focus to tackle obesity](#) - Katy Gallagher, MLA.

3 July 2013 - [Construction starts on new aged care facility in Crace](#) - Katy Gallagher, MLA.

10 July 2013 - [Healthy Living With Long-Term Conditions](#) - Do you have a chronic health condition? Check out this course on Living a Healthy Life With Long-Term Conditions

10 July 2013 - [Noise & vibration at Canberra Hospital](#) - Refurb work on L5, Building 1 at Canberra Hospital will be noisy for L4 and L6 from 11 July - Aug.

5 July 2013 - [ACT Health is looking for Flu Trackers](#) - Flu Tracking is a national online health surveillance system which monitors seasonal flu activity.

New South Wales. Ministry of Health

Media releases

10 July 2013 - [\\$3 million equipment boost for western NSW hospitals.](#)

8 July 2013 - [Minister celebrates excellence in multilingual communications.](#)

5 July 2013 - [New era of health care begins at Tamworth hospital.](#)

11 July 2013 - [New strategy to control whooping cough spread in NSW.](#)

5 July 2013 - [NSW Health reminds public to 'get tested' following increase in HIV.](#)

4 July 2013 - [Preferred site selected for Parkes Hospital.](#)

3 July 2013 - [Minister marks milestones for Aboriginal health graduates.](#)

3 July 2013 - [New anophysiology laboratory opens at Bankstown Hospital.](#)

11 July 2013 - [Advance Planning for Quality Care at End of Life - Action Plan 2013–2018.](#)

Policy directives

8 July 2013 - [Executive Performance Management.](#)

Information bulletins

10 July 2013 - [Labour Agreement for NSW Health.](#)

5 July 2013 - [Multiple Assignments - Public Health System Nurses' and Midwives' \(State\) Award.](#)

4 July 2013 - [Protecting People and Property: NSW Health Policy and Standards for Security Risk Management.](#)

New South Wales. Bureau of Health Information

Patient experiences to drive hospital improvements

Northern Territory. Department of Health

Media releases

3 July 2013 - [Robyn Lambley - Minister welcomes food for future.](#) Health Minister, Robyn Lambley, has congratulated the YWCA of Darwin for the successful implementation of its training and catering 'Food For Futures' project.

2 July 2013 - [Robyn Lambley - Lambley welcomes Macklin's support for income quarantining.](#) The Northern Territory Government has welcomed Federal Community Services Minister Jenny Macklin's support for welfare quarantining measures to apply to problem drinkers placed into Alcohol Mandatory Treatment.

1 July 2013 - [Robyn Lambley - Day one of alcohol mandatory treatment.](#) Up to 800 problem drinkers every year will undertake alcohol rehabilitation as part of the Country Liberals Government's Alcohol Mandatory Treatment measures, which get underway today.

Queensland. Department of Health

Media releases

11 July 2013 - [Another Labor debacle: \\$800 million lost in mismanagement of private patients in Queensland Hospitals](#). A financial scandal to rival Queensland's infamous health payroll fiasco has been unearthed by the State's Auditor General in a report that found losses of \$804 million in the mismanagement of private patients in State-run hospitals.

10 July 2013 - [Queensland Mental Health Commissioner drives strategies across Government](#). Whole-of-Government strategies will be the key to improving frontline mental health services across the state, as Queensland's first Mental Health Commissioner Dr Lesley van Schoubroeck begins work.

9 July 2013 - [Health Minister opens TPC Library and Clinical school](#). Health Minister Lawrence Springborg has officially opened The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH) Library following its relocation to a new site on the top floor of the Children's Services wing.

2 July 2013 - [Helicopter Rescue merger boosts services in South East Queensland](#). Health Minister Lawrence Springborg has congratulated the State's two largest and longest-serving helicopter rescue services on their merger, announced today in Maroochydore.

[Response to Auditor-General's Report on Right of Private Practice \(RoPP\)](#).

[Impact of the recent legislative changes on Queensland Health](#).

Queensland Audit Office

[Report 1 : 2013-14](#). Right of private practice in Queensland public hospitals.

South Australia. Department of Health

Media releases

5 July 2013 - More hospital beds for Adelaide's north - Patients in Adelaide's northern suburbs will be cared for in spacious, state-of-the-art private rooms when Lyell McEwin Hospital opens its new \$51.8 million building to patients on Monday. [Read more](#)

4 July 2013 - New contract keeps flying doctors in South Australian skies. The Royal Flying Doctor Service will provide fixed-wing aeromedical services for South Australians for up to the next nine years. [Read more](#)

Tasmania. Department of Health & Human Services

Media releases

11 July 2013 - [Welcome Increase in Elective Surgery](#).

10 July 2013 - [Increase in specialist training places welcomed](#).

5 July 2013 - [More Liberal Fear Mongering](#).

2 July 2013 - [Psychiatric Emergency Nurses Secured at the Royal](#).

11 July 2013 - [Child Health Checks](#).

27 Jun 2013 - [Advocacy for children in Tasmania](#).

Victoria. Department of Health

Media releases

10 July 2013 - [New ambulance station for Swan Hill](#). The Victorian Coalition Government is investing \$1.67 million to build a new state-of-the-art ambulance station and provide two SRU vehicles in Swan Hill, Health Minister David Davis said today.

8 July 2013 - [Kerang Hospital's next stage is set to go](#). Kerang residents will soon see plenty of activity at the \$36.3 million Kerang District Health redevelopment with the building contract being awarded to Nicholson Construction of Ballarat, Health Minister David Davis announced today.

7 July 2013 - [Melbourne to host 2014 Australian Transplant Games](#). Melbourne will stage the prestigious Australian Transplant Games 26 years after hosting the inaugural event, Health Minister David Davis announced today.

5 July 2013 - [Daylesford's ambulance service better than ever](#). The Daylesford community can be confident in the service provided by their ambulance station and its paramedics, Health Minister David Davis said today.

5 July 2013 - [Ballarat helipad plans unveiled](#). Architectural plans for Ballarat Base Hospital's new helipad were unveiled today by Health Minister David Davis.

5 July 2013 - [Stepping out for Geelong's new health service](#). Barwon Health is working hard to streamline the way patients are seen and treated with the opening of the new specialist outpatient annexe at the Geelong Hospital, Health Minister David Davis said today.

July 2013 - [Health Victoria newsletter](#).

9 July 2013 - [2013 Victorian Public Healthcare Awards launch](#). Victoria's most prestigious health awards program is proudly presented by the Premier of Victoria, the Minister for Health, the Minister for Mental Health and the Department of Health Secretary. [Read More](#)

28 June 2013 - [Federal Government Cuts to Promised Funding](#). In 2012/13 the Federal Government cut \$107 million in hospital funding. The delay in returning funding created significant disruption to Victorian patients and hospitals. [Read More](#)

28 May 2013 - [Melbourne hosts International Council of Nurses Congress](#). The international nursing community comes together to exchange evidence, experience and innovation at the 25th ICN C.

[Nominate a volunteer for 2013 Victorian Senior of the Year Awards - closing July 19.](#)

June 2013 - [Streamlining Clinical Trial Research](#).

Hospital circulars

3 July 2013 - [Publication Number 09/ 2013](#). Subject: Changes to Health Service 2013-14 Payment Schedule.

28 June 2013 - [Publication Number 08/ 2013](#). Subject: Change in Admission Time for Emergency Patients.

2 July 2013 - [Chief Psychiatrist's annual report 2011-12](#) - "The Chief Psychiatrist's annual report for 2011-2012 is now available. Media reports expressed concern that 171 mentally ill patients had died of

unexpected, unnatural or violent causes in Victoria, Most of these deaths occurred in the community and included suspected suicides. The number of deaths that occurred inside hospitals was small. The highest number of deaths was among patients aged in their 30s".

Western Australia. Department of Health

Media releases

10 July 2013 - [Minister for Health: Still time to get flu jab before the winter peak.](#)

10 July 2013 - [Minister for Health: Finalists announced in WA Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards.](#)

9 July 2013 - [Neighbourhood health impact researcher awarded.](#)

8 July 2013 - [Report card for Western Australian children shows room for improvement.](#)

8 July 2013 - [Infant and maternal mortality rates continue to fall in WA.](#)

Health and Wellbeing of Children in Western Australia 2012, Overview and Trends

Read Healthview Winter 2013

3 July 2013 - [OD 0442/13](#). Post-Fall Management Guidelines in Western Australian Healthcare Settings-The Falls Prevention Health Network's statewide policy to enable a consistent and best-practice approach to post-fall assessment, management and follow-up in WA hospitals, health services and multi-purpose sites (MPS).

3 July 2013 - [OD 0441/13](#). Hospital Fees and Charges 2013-14-This directive informs all WA public hospitals and health services of the amended schedule of Hospital Fees and Charges 2013-14, as approved by Executive Council on 25 June 2013 and gazetted on 28 June 2013 and which will be operationally effective from Monday, 1 July 2013.

3 July 2013 - [IC 0152/13](#). Protocols For Evidentiary Recovery By Health Professionals-To inform health care professionals of protocols to follow in order to preserve and recover evidence in terrorism-related Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI).

New Zealand. Ministry of Health

5 July 2013 - [Rural Agricultural Drinking-Water Supply Guideline: Draft for consultation.](#)

4 July 2013 - [Survey of Selected Samples of Tattoo Inks for the Presence of Heavy Metals 2013.](#)

United Kingdom. Department of Health

[New proposals to ensure care and compassion in the NHS and in social care.](#)

[Focusing on the fundamentals.](#)

[DNA mapping to better understand cancer, rare diseases and infectious diseases.](#)

[New proposals to improve care for vulnerable older people.](#)

[NHS 65th anniversary: David Cameron celebrates "this great national treasure".](#)

[Hold care abuse directors to account, says Minister.](#)

[Proposals to reform migrant access to health and housing unveiled.](#)

[New vaccine offers babies protection against rotavirus.](#)

[New members appointed to mutagenicity of chemicals committee.](#)

[Social care users will be guaranteed a minimum level of council help under new plans.](#)

[Innovative genetic treatment to prevent mitochondrial disease.](#)

[Opening up debate on safe and compassionate healthcare.](#)

Mental health nurses to join police on the beat.

Canada. Health Canada

Health Canada Launches Consultation Process to Improve Labelling and Classification of Workplace Chemicals - Government of Canada moves forward on key Regulatory Cooperation Council initiative [2013-07-05].

World Health Organization

One third of world's population benefits from effective tobacco control measure - Population covered by ban on tobacco advertising has doubled.

Emergency Committee meetings on MERS-CoV announced - WHO is convening an Emergency Committee under the International Health Regulations (IHR) for Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV). The Emergency Committee met on 9 July and a second Committee meeting is set to be held on 17 July 2013. Members of the Emergency Committee on MERS-CoV are listed. [Read about the IHR Emergency Committee on MERS-CoV](#) - [More about Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus \(MERS-CoV\)](#).

Australian Medical Association (AMA)

Make healthy start for indigenous children a priority.

Peak professional bodies unite to oppose tax on learning.

AMA backs tax cap inquiry.

AMA opposes fragmentation of care.

Time for a new take on where pharmacists work?

Revised after hours standards a welcome move.

British Medical Association (BMA)

11 July 2013 - [Organ debate needed now, say doctors](#). A public debate on an opt-out system for organ donation, with safeguards.

10 July 2013 - [BMA wants emergency medicine training deterrents uncovered](#) - Ministers and NHS bosses need to address the emergency department culture.

10 July 2013 - [Dismay as prizes are ignored](#)-Medical students will no longer receive credit for educational prizes when they apply for the mainstream.

9 July 2013 - [Call for further engagement with medical research welcomed by BMA](#). Medical research should be at the heart of being a doctor and at the core of the NHS, doctor leaders.

8 July 2013 - [Contract critique enrages consultants](#). Doctors leaders have expressed concern that a highly critical report on NHS consultants has misrepresented.

3 July 2013 - [Overseas visitor NHS charges require more thought, warn doctors leaders](#). Government plans to charge overseas visitors for using the NHS must be discussed.

3 July 2013 - [Research reveals 'shocking' NHS staff conduct](#). Reports of shocking professional behaviour by healthcare workers stress the need for a culture changes.

2 July 2013 - [Students face resits following smartphone gaffe](#). Hundreds of London medical students will have to retake an exam after questions from a smartphone.

2 July 2013 - [BMA urges shadowing caution](#). Final years should check with employers about what tasks they can perform.

Canadian Medical Association (CMA)

7 November 2013 - [CMA, QMA wrap up "amazing visit" to James Bay, Nunavik](#).

7 August 2013 - [CMA's online CME courses earning high marks from users](#).

7 May 2013 - [As CMA meeting nears, debate over end-of-life care increasing.](#)

7 January 2013 - [CMA, CPhA issue "bold vision": no more paper prescriptions by 2015.](#)

American Medical Association (AMA)

Media releases

10 July 2013 - [Two Leading Health Care Quality Organizations Recommend Strategies to Minimize Overuse of Five Treatments](#) - Appropriate Use Will Improve Quality and Safety of Patient Care; Extend Finite Health Care Resources.

10 Jul 2013 - [AMA President: Major Study from JAMA Shows Overall American Health Improvements, But Chronic Disease Burden Must Be Addressed](#) - A new study published by the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) shows a measurable improvement in the health of Americans.

26 Jun 2013 - [AMA Releases Updated Pain Management Education Program](#) - Emphasizes balance between appropriate pain management and prevention of prescription drug abuse and diversion.

ABOUT US

Anthony Willis



Although maintaining a government focus, Anthony also advises corporate clients particularly in the technology and research and development sectors. He advised the government on proposed changes to Australian patent legislation concerning pharmaceuticals in the context of the US Australia Free Trade Agreement.

He has also advised on the patenting of genetic technology in the context of the BRCA genes.

Contact Details

T +61 2 6201 8725

anthony.willis@dlapiper.com

MORE INFORMATION

Contact your nearest DLA Piper office:

BRISBANE

Level 29, Waterfront Place
1 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4000
T +61 7 3246 4000
F +61 7 3229 4077
brisbane@dlapiper.com

CANBERRA

Level 3, 55 Wentworth Avenue
Kingston ACT 2604
T +61 2 6201 8787
F +61 2 6230 7848
canberra@dlapiper.com

MELBOURNE

Level 21, 140 William Street
Melbourne NSW 3000
T +61 3 9274 5000
F +61 3 9274 5111
melbourne@dlapiper.com

PERTH

Level 31, Central Park
152–158 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000
T +61 8 6467 6000
F +61 8 6467 6001
perth@dlapiper.com

SYDNEY

Level 38, 201 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000
T +61 2 9286 8000
F +61 2 9286 4144
sydney@dlapiper.com

www.dlapiper.com

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