



Daily media report

Thursday, 15th June 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports Victoria's aged care workforce rules are exacerbating sector workforce shortages and may see one in five care facilities close, a report by the Victorian Healthcare Association says. Aged Care Minister Anika Wells rejected opposition claims the introduction of the government's 24/7 nursing targets would further strain the state's care facilities. Ms Wells said the vast majority of aged care homes would meet the new requirements and the government would offer assistance to help those unable to meet targets.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 2) reports three scientists working on SARS-CoV2-related projects at the Wuhan Institute of Virology were the first people to contract COVID, journalists Michael Shellenberger and Matt Taibbi have alleged. A report in the Substack newsletter Public claims Wuhan researchers Ben Hu, Ping Yu and Yan Zhu will be identified as "patients zero" by a previously classified report expected to be released next week by the US Directorate of National Intelligence. *Also reported by: [The Australian](#)*
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 6) reports federal Senators are expected to vote on whether the ACT government's takeover of Calvary Hospital will be referred to an inquiry on Thursday. Nationals Senator Matt Canavan lodged a motion calling for an inquiry to examine the takeover's impact

on health services in the ACT and the territory government's consultation process. Senator Canavan is said to be sounding out independent Senator David Pocock's support.

- The **Daily Telegraph** (page 16) reports Australia ranked third in 2019 behind the US and Canada for the highest number of opioid overdose deaths, new data from Medical Aid has shown. Drug-related deaths have rose over 14 per cent between 2000 and 2019, accounting for 5.38 deaths in every 100,000 Australians. Australian Alcohol and other Drugs Council chief executive Melanie Walker said "In order to save lives, governments need to ensure that people who need drug treatment are able to access it." *Also reported by: The Australian, West Australian, Cairns Post, Geelong Advertiser*
- The **Adelaide Advertiser** (page 7) reports South Australia's budget will include an extra \$2.3 billion for the state's health system, Treasurer Stephen Mulligan says. The funds will aim to reduce ambulance ramping time, expand hospital capacity and a "Living with COVID" framework. Mr Mulligan said the spend was about more than meeting election promises. *Also reported by: Canberra Times*
- The **Illawarra Mercury** (page 11) reports general practitioners have been continually undervalued and Australia is paying the price for "decades of neglect" by successive governments, Australian Medical Association president Steve Robson says. Mr Robson said funding models for GPs had to change so they did not have to rush through patients in order to make a living. Mr Robson said AMA research showed Australia was likely to face a future shortfall of over 10,000 GPs. *Also reported by: Canberra Times, West Australian, Bendigo Advertiser, Daily Advertiser, Kalgoorlie Miner, Newcastle Herald, Warrnambool Standard*
- **Canberra Times** (Online) reports Australia's lack of national guidelines on bereavement care for miscarriage patients are leaving women hurt and dissatisfied by insensitive and unprepared responses from health care professionals, Miscarriage Australia's Dr Jade Bilardi says. Queensland recently commissioned an urgent report into miscarriage care in the state after one woman's harrowing experience. Federal assistant minister for health and aged care Ged Kearney said miscarriages could have a devastating impact on women and their families. "Our government is committed to supporting those in our community who experience miscarriage to receive timely and appropriate care," Ms Kearney said.
- **Canberra Times** (Online) reports increasing use of IVF technologies could see a future genetic divide where wealthier people could pick healthier embryos with a lower risk of disease, Australian Medical Association president Steve Robson says. Mr Robson said low-income Australians faced being locked out of access to the prohibitively expensive technology. "We're seeing this in America at the moment ... so we'll have genetic haves and genetic have nots, and that's the next frontier," Mr Robson said. "If we get to that stage as a society we're in trouble."

MINISTER BUTLER

Wimmera pharmacists call on minister to discuss plans

The Weekly Advertiser, Other, 14/06/2023, Abby Walter

Wimmera pharmacists continue to join a national stand against a proposed 60-day dispensing scheme they say could have serious consequences for residents. Horsham Amcal Pharmacy owner Carlie Streeter joined colleagues from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia in Canberra to discuss the proposal and its possible consequences. [...] Ms Streeter said she met with various ministers during her visit to Parliament, but the group was unable to secure a meeting with Health Minister Mark Butler.

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Every dollar spent on health is 'precious': Mark Butler

Sky News Australia, Other, 14/06/2023

Health Minister Mark Butler says now more than ever, every dollar spent on health is "precious". Mr Butler said during Question Time on Wednesday that the government was able to "deliver" on its promise to strengthen Medicare in the May budget with a \$6 billion package.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacy losses from 60-day dispensing 'just 1.5% of revenue'

Australian Doctor, Other, 14/06/2023, Antony Scholefield

The Federal Government still needs support from Senate crossbenchers to enact its plan. The AMA and RACGP have written to federal politicians urging them to ignore pharmacy lobby groups and wave through the Federal Government's plan to let GPs to write double-length scripts. [...] However, Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler needs to get draft laws through Federal Parliament, including the Senate, where the Labor Government lacks a majority.

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Blair Comley to return as DoHAC secretary

Hospital and Healthcare, Other, 14/06/2023

Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler welcomed the news and praised Comley's extensive experience and record of proven leadership in navigating complex issues. Wednesday, 14 June, 2023
The five-year appointment begins on 17 July 2023, with Comley taking the reins as Secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care following the retirement of Professor Brendan Murphy AC.

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Former PwC advisor named new Secretary of Health

Oncology Republic, Other, 14/06/2023, Cate Swannell

Blair Comley, an economist and former special advisor with PwC, has been named as the new Secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care. His five-year appointment, taking over from Professor Brendan Murphy AC, begins on 17 July. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler welcomed the news of the appointment.

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MINISTER WELLS

Don't tax workers to pay for Boomers' aged care

Australian Financial Review, General News, 15/06/2023, John Kehoe, Page 39

Will Labor take the lazy option of imposing more income tax on wage earners, or find the reformist zeal to move towards a user-pays model for those who can afford it? The Albanese government's looming decision on aged care funding will reveal a...

Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#).

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Aged-care beds forced to close

The Australian, General News, 15/06/2023, Jess Malcolm, Page 1

One in five public aged-care beds is being forced to close under Victoria's union-backed nurse-to-patient ratio rules, sparking warnings that Labor's 24/7 nursing targets will trigger residential aged-care shutdowns when they come into force next month. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said facilities would not be forced to shut down if they could prove they had made genuine attempts to have a nurse onsite 24/7.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Backlash

Byron Shire Echo, General News, 14/06/2023, Page 40

The conversation about whether Byron Shire should abandon long-standing height limits and restrictions on developments on farmland is underway - see page 6. Yet without a clear framework and pathway, rezoning land for new housing simply won't provide homes for those who can't afford the current market rate. [...] And Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells, told the National Press Club last week that within the next ten years, there will be more people over the age of 65 than under 18, for the first time in Australian history.

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Webster calls summit on aged care

Dimboola Banner, General News, 14/06/2023, Page 18

Member for Mallee Anne Webster has called a Regional Aged Care Summit to address the aged-care crisis in the Mallee electorate and across regional Australia. Dr Webster said she was "so concerned" about regional aged care that she had called a first-ever national Regional Aged Care Summit in Mildura, on Thursday July 6. [...] Dr Webster has invited Labor Assistant Minister for Regional Health, Emma McBride, to attend the Regional Aged Care Summit in Mildura.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Australia lacks national guidelines on bereavement care for miscarriage

Canberra Times, Other, 14/06/2023, Millie Costigan

Grieving after miscarriage and welcoming rainbow babies Miscarriage healthcare must be urgently reformed after a woman's harrowing experience in a Queensland hospital prompted an internal review, advocates say. Australia doesn't have any national guidelines on bereavement care for miscarriage despite evidence that up to one in five women who know they are pregnant will have a miscarriage before 20 weeks. [...] Federal assistant minister for health and aged care Ged Kearney said miscarriage could have a devastating impact on women and their families.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

Answering urgent call

PerthNow Wanneroo, General News, 15/06/2023, Christopher Tan, Page 14

One of Perth's largest and fastest growing areas in the northern corridor has been given a major healthcare boost. The third of WA's urgent care clinics will open in Clarkson and start taking patients in August in a bid to ease pressure on the State's emergency departments.

Also reported by: [PerthNow Stirling \(Perth\)](#).

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Only four Closing the Gap targets on track

Australian Financial Review, General News, 15/06/2023, Tom McIlroy, Page 9

Only four of Australia's 19 Closing the Gap targets on Indigenous disadvantage are on track, with new data showing intentional self-harm is the leading cause of death for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults under 40. New Productivity Commission d...

Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#).

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Stubborn Indigenous gap adds to case for Voice: govt

Canberra Times, General News, 15/06/2023, Adrian Rollins, Page 5

The federal government has seized on figures showing little progress is being made on improving the health and wellbeing of First Nations people to argue the need for a Voice to Parliament. As

campaigning around the forthcoming Voice referendum intensifies, Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney and Assistant Minister Malarndirri McCarthy said data showing the nation was going backwards on key measures including rates of Indigenous incarceration and out of home underlined the "yes" case.

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Successful voice will help with Closing the Gap: Burney

Canberra Times, Other, 15/06/2023, Rudi Maxwell

Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney knows the latest figures on Closing the Gap show there's a long way to go. But she believes a successful referendum on a First Nations voice is the way to turn that around. [...] Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians Malarndirri McCarthy said the lack of progress was frustrating.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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DEPARTMENT

GenesisCare charged bulk-bill patients in full

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 15/06/2023, Jemima Whyte and Carrie Lafrenz, Page 15

The country's largest cancer care provider, GenesisCare, charged patients for treatment when they were contractually required by the federal government to only bulk-bill them, company disclosures show. Brisbane-founded GenesisCare, which became a major me...

Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#).

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GP urges patients to stay healthy this winter

Mount Barker Courier, General News, 14/06/2023, Joseph Moore, Page 18

Winter is the time of year when respiratory illnesses and other poor health outcomes can peak, with Hills communities especially prone, according to Stirling GP Stefan Wajs. [...] More than 27,000 laboratory confirmed cases of influenza were recorded in SA in 2019, but that number fell to 1536 in 2020 and just 38 in 2021, according to the Federal Health Department's National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (NNDSS).

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Comley to lead

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 14/06/2023, Page 1

Blair Comley has been appointed as the incoming Secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care (PD breaking news yesterday). Guild National President, Trent Twomey, noted Comley's "strong qualifications in economics are impressive".

Also reported by: [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#).

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Why America's eyes are on Australia's flu season

The New Daily, Other, 14/06/2023, Sezen Bakan

Australia's flu season is yet to peak, but United States health authorities are already looking for signs of what might be in store for their own winter. CNN reports scientists in the US typically look to Australia and some other countries to try to anticipate exactly how bad the American flu season will get at the other end of the year. [...] From January 1 to May 28, the Department of Health and Aged Care received 57,816 notifications of laboratory-confirmed influenza, of which more than 17,000 were diagnosed in the last fortnight of May.

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Blair Comley announced new Secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care

Aged Care Insite, Other, 14/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt

Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has announced Blair Comley as the Secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care. Prime Minister Albanese said Mr Comley would bring 'innovation and policy rigour' to tackle the nation's health system challenges.

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Reducing the risk of sexual assault in aged care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 14/06/2023

An online education course aimed at preventing sexual assault in residential aged care launches Thursday World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. [...] Funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care, the e-learning facilitator course takes a top-down approach and is geared toward aged care educators and clinical governance or compliance managers.

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Girl, 16, is left unable to walk or talk after being struck down by a brutal bout of the flu

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 15/06/2023, Ben Talintyre

A teenage girl has been left unable to walk after the flu took 'everything from her'. Kayla Jennings, 16, contracted a respiratory illness two weeks ago which rapidly progressed into something more serious, leaving her bedridden in hospital. [...] The latest Federal Department of Health and Aged Care figures showed there have been more than 17,000 cases of the flu, or influenza-like illnesses, recorded between May 15 and 28.

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Group Homes Australia introduces training initiative to transform living with dementia

Inside Ageing, Other, 14/06/2023, Sean Mckeown

Group Homes Australia has announced an initiative aimed at revolutionising the way individuals live with dementia. The organisation has secured a grant from the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care to enhance post-diagnostic support for people living with dementia and their partners (PLWD), focusing on immediate needs as well as long-term empowerment.

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We're not ready to use AI in healthcare

The Medical Republic, Other, 14/06/2023

Privacy and safety concerns need to be addressed before generative AI is routinely used in the clinic. [...] Neither the Department of Health and Aged Care or the Australian Digital Health Agency have a formal position on generative AI so far, but the ADHA has indicated it was staying very close to the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and the Digital Transformation Agency (DISRDTA) led discussion focused on AI (under Minister Ed Husic) and was keen to start working with industry to help bridge the gap between policy and implementation of AI applications in the health sector in the near future.

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Evaluating cultural safety in outreach eye and ear surgical pathways

Partyline Magazine, Other, 14/06/2023, Philippa Hawke and Kylie Rixon

In Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are disproportionately affected by sight and hearing-related health conditions, especially those living in rural and remote areas. To address this issue, the Eye and Ear Surgical Support (EESS) program, funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care under the Indigenous Australians' Health Program, aims to reduce instances of avoidable blindness and deafness through expediting access to eye and ear surgery, with services prioritised for people living in rural and remote areas.

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Video-based coaching to improve non-technical skills for rural surgeons

Partyline Magazine, Other, 14/06/2023, Dannii Dougherty and Deanna Mazzarolo

One-third of Australians live in rural and remote areas, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. On average, residents of these communities have a higher incidence of disease and injury and poorer health outcomes. [...] Funding is provided by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care's Specialist Training Program

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Seven Wagga Wagga, Seven Local News, 14/06/2023, Madelaine Collignon and Nick Hose

Wagga Wagga donors were out in numbers today to give them much needed plasma and red blood donating plasma. According to the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care One blood donation can save up to three lives. However, only 3% of people in Australia give blood annually.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Gippsland, Breakfast, 14/06/2023, Mim Hook

Interview with Dr Anthea Rhodes, Paediatrician, Royal Children's Hospital. The latest influenza surveillance data by the Federal Health Department reveals that children under the age of 16 are most at risk of this year's strain of flu. Rhodes says influenza as a virus has always had a propensity for children since a lot of them haven't been exposed to flu and common viruses due to lockdowns.

[Play Now](#)

ABC South Western Victoria, Breakfast, 14/06/2023, Jeremy Lee

Interview with Stephanie Bansemer-Brown, National Marketing and Publicity Director, Bowel Cancer Australia. Lee mentions the Department of Health and Aged Care's bowel cancer screening test. He says according to a recent report, only 44% of people actually do the test. Bowel Cancer Australia doesn't send out the free screening tests, but they are advocating for those tests to be made available to younger people. Bansemer-Brown says they've been advocating that there should be a drop in screening age from 50 to at least 45 if not 40.

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CORONAVIRUS

Wuhan scientists first to get Covid

The Australian, General News, 15/06/2023, Tricia Rivera, Page 2

Three Wuhan scientists toying with the closest relatives of SARS-CoV-2 were the first to contract Covid-19, as evidence the virus came from a lab leak rather than a live animal trade market grows. An investigation by journalists Michael Shellenberger and Matt Taibbi, published on the Substack newsletter Public, reported that Wuhan Institute of Virology researchers Ben Hu, Ping Yu and Yan Zhu were identified as "patients zero" of the virus by US government sources.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Discovery of patient zero was just a matter of time

The Australian, General News, 15/06/2023, Sharri Markson, Page 2

Three unknown Chinese scientists working inside the Wuhan Institute of Virology's coronavirus unit fell sick with Covid-like symptoms around November 2019. One of them, a relatively junior scientist, had started a project that year examining whether two new bat coronaviruses could infect humans.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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PM cannot run from COVID-19 inquiry promise

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 15/06/2023, Page 18

A massive three-year government inquiry to examine Britain's response to, and the impact of, the COVID-19 pandemic began in London this week, but where is Australia's inquiry? Nearly 18 months after Anthony Albanese promised some form of inquiry into the nation's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, he has done nothing.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#)

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Taking us to the cleaners

Daily Telegraph, General News, 15/06/2023, Alexi Demetriadi, Page 1

A school COVID cleaning program costing the state government more than \$30m a term and labelled "questionable" by a disease expert has been scrapped after it was raised by The Daily Telegraph. NSW Deputy Premier and Education Minister Prue Car said she had now asked the department to "discontinue the enhanced cleaning service from next term" when asked by the Telegraph yesterday.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#)

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Queries on air purifiers

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 15/06/2023, Mandy Squires, Page 13

A \$113.6m state government investment to install air purifiers in every classroom at public and low-fee private schools has seemingly failed to prevent winter Covid outbreaks. A total of 110,000 air purifiers were rolled out in Victorian schools in 2021 and 2022 "to help reduce the transmission of illness", an Education Department spokesperson said on Wednesday.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Aged care sector strain prompts tax call

Herald Sun, General News, 15/06/2023, Jade Gailberger, Page 5

Fears aged care providers could collapse following increased financial strain from Premier Dan Andrews's payroll tax hike have prompted calls to reverse the decision. State opposition health spokeswoman Georgie Crozier said the impact could be disastrous for older Victorians. "These unfair taxes imposed by Andrews and his government are punishing some of our most vulnerable," Ms Crozier said.

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Elder abuse set to rise as population gets older

Launceston Examiner, General News, 15/06/2023, Molly Appleton, Page 4

Rates of elder abuse is expected to continue to rise as Australia's population ages, says Tasmanian advocate. Relationships Australia Tasmania director of family law services Michelle Ewington said it was critical to have elder abuse at the forefront of public discussion to combat the increasing risk facing older people.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#)

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Elder abuse is rising

Newcastle Herald, General News, 15/06/2023, Gabriel Fowler, Page 11

Elder abuse is rife in the Hunter region, with older women most likely to be targeted and more often than not by their own children, experts say. The most common form of abuse is verbal and psychological abuse, followed by a failure to meet support needs, neglect, and financial exploitation. Nicola Hirschhorn, a domestic and family violence specialist worker at the Newcastle Women's

domestic violence Court Advocacy Service, said the Hunter was home to one of the highest rates of elder abuse reports in NSW.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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Victoria's biggest family-owned aged care provider says soaring costs will force closures

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023

A major Victorian aged care provider says energy price hikes and increases to payroll tax are compounding burdens on the sector. TLC Healthcare CEO Lou Pascuzzi told ABC Radio Melbourne Mornings he is raising the issue after years of biting his tongue, with his organisation facing a \$2 million increase to expenses.

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Victorian public aged-care beds being forced to close

Sky News Australia, Other, 14/06/2023

One in five public aged-care beds is being forced to close under Victoria's union-backed nurse-to-patient ratio rules, says Sky News host Jenna Clarke. The closure has sparked warnings that "Labor's 24/7 nursing targets will trigger residential aged-care shutdowns when they come into force next month," Ms Clarke said.

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Aged care boss slams Andrews government over skyrocketing power bills

3AW, Other, 14/06/2023, Neil Mitchell

TLC Healthcare CEO, Lou Pascuzzi, has hit out at the Andrews government over a hefty increase to power bills and payroll tax. TLC Healthcare runs 12 facilities across Melbourne and Geelong, and has been slapped a massive power bill, going from \$420,000 to \$850,000 in 12 months, while also paying a whopping \$1.

[Read More](#)

Project aims to build new generation of gerontology nurses to work in aged care

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 14/06/2023, Emma Larouche

The University of Canberra will lead a \$2.1 million Commonwealth project aimed at building and sustaining the nursing workforce in aged care settings. The project will have two main educational components: training and support for nurse educators, and clinical placements for second and third-year nursing students in residential aged care.

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Combating elder abuse and safeguarding our seniors: A call for action

HelloCare, Other, 14/06/2023, Bianca Iovino

Elder abuse is a pressing issue that demands our attention. It knows no boundaries and its consequences are far-reaching and detrimental to the well-being of older Australians. As the community becomes more informed about elder abuse, we are seeing an increase in cases being identified. Just like the prevalent and insidious community issues around family violence or child abuse, elder abuse is a community issue that is everyone's responsibility.

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We need more than a 15% pay rise to beat the 3 stigmas turning people off aged care jobs

HelloCare, Other, 14/06/2023, Bianca Iovino

Aged care workers will see their award wages increase by 15% at the end of this month. It's recognition that their work has been undervalued, and that something needs to be done to solve the looming critical shortage of aged care workers as the population ages.

Cases rise 20 per cent

The Senior, Other, 15/06/2023, Therese Murray

Alarming figures from the NSW Ageing and Disability Commission reveal elder abuse rose by 20 per cent in the first three months of this year. Women are the main victims; adult children are the culprits. Psychological and financial abuse were the main types of abuse reported.

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Adult children to blame for senior abuse in SA

The Senior, Other, 15/06/2023, Therese Murray

Money-hungry children are behind a rising tide of elder abuse in South Australia. In 2021-22, the Aged Rights Advocacy Service provided advocacy and information support to 518 people. The abuse was mostly psychological and financial, while sons and daughters were reported as the most common abusers. Risk factors for older people experiencing some form of abuse included family conflict, cognitive impairment, isolation, lack of information and financial stress.

[Read More](#)

WA's Wise Up, Rise Up campaign to beat the issue

The Senior, Other, 15/06/2023, Cheryl Field

Western Australians are being urged to Wise Up, Rise Up Against Elder Abuse. It is estimated that elder abuse affects one in 20 older people in the state, with calls to the WA Elder Abuse Helpline, run by Advocare, rising throughout 2022. The helpline received 1127 calls and has attributed the increase to factors including COVID-19, housing shortages, the rising cost of living and interest rates.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Pregnant pause as new fears hit birth rate

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 15/06/2023, Laura Banks and Angus Thomson, Page 13

Maternity wards across the state experienced their quietest start to any year in more than a decade as families weigh up having children against financial pressures, climate anxieties and lingering effects of the pandemic. Boosted by conceptions during COVID-19 lockdowns, the number of babies born in NSW public hospitals peaked at 19,081 between April and June 2021.

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Time to step off the 10,000 goal

Age, General News, 15/06/2023, Gretchen Reynolds, Page 10

If you're struggling to reach 10,000 steps a day, here's some good news: the latest science suggests fewer daily steps may be the sweet spot for many of us, depending on our age, fitness and health goals. There is nothing magical or evidence-based about 10,000 steps a day. The notion stems from a marketing ploy: as the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympics approached, a Japanese researcher decided to nudge his nation to be more active by offering pedometers with a name that loosely translated as "10,000-step meter".

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Perth tobacco chain, bosses caught up in WA Health vape crackdown

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 14/06/2023, Jesinta Burton

A popular Perth tobacco chain and its two directors have pleaded not guilty to illegally selling e-cigarettes after becoming among the first to be charged since Western Australia's vaping crackdown. Up in Smoke and its co-directors Kareem Hassan and Hussein Awada fronted Perth Magistrates Court on Wednesday morning over two charges relating to the unlawful possession and supply of a prescription drug.

Pharmacy customers over-sharing personal details in public, committee on UTIs hears

Adelaide Now, Other, 14/06/2023, Brad Crouch

Some pharmacy customers are "over-sharing" while revealing highly person details in public, a state parliament committee on UTI antibiotics has heard. Researchers from Flinders University and The Children's Hospital at Westmead have now reported that consuming cranberry products is an effective way to prevent a UTI before it gets started.

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Syphilis warning as cases spike across Geelong, Surf Coast

Geelong Advertiser, Other, 14/06/2023, Alexander Blain and Olivia Shying

Geelong health authorities are concerned about climbing rates of syphilis and gonorrhoea across the region. Barwon Health infectious diseases specialist Dr Sarah Huffan warned syphilis was particularly concerning for women of child-bearing age and could lead to adverse pregnancy outcomes including congenital syphilis. She said Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) rates had dropped during the Covid-19 pandemic, but were steadily returning to pre-pandemic levels.

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Elusive form of cholesterol could increase heart attack risk for older Australians

9News, Other, 14/06/2023, Mikala Theocharous

A form of cholesterol, known as lipoprotein (a), more commonly known as Lp(a), sticks to the artery wall, causing blockages and eventually heart attacks. A build-up of Lp(a) was found in 20 per cent of the elderly population in Dubbo, New South Wales, with a majority of them suffering heart attacks due to bad cholesterol, researchers from the University of New South Wales found.?

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Clap capital: How one particular Aussie region has seen a huge surge in sexually transmitted diseases

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 14/06/2023, Zak Wheeler

Rising cases of sexually transmitted diseases are causing concern among doctors in Geelong, with fears the surge will lead to adverse pregnancy outcomes. Cases of syphilis and gonorrhoea are returning to pre-pandemic levels in the Victorian region, particularly in women of a child-bearing age.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Breast cancer success

Daily Telegraph, General News, 15/06/2023, Page 9

The average risk of dying within five years of a breast cancer diagnosis is about a third of what it was in the '90s, according to international experts. Researchers used British cancer registration data to investigate the survival rates of women diagnosed with early breast cancer from 1993 to 2015, with mortality rates highest during the first five years after diagnosis.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#)

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Breast cancer rate of survival improves dramatically

West Australian, General News, 15/06/2023, Page 5

Women diagnosed with breast cancer are two-thirds more likely to survive than their counterparts 20

years ago, scientists say. Patients diagnosed with early invasive breast cancer between 1993 and 1999 had a 14 per cent chance of dying from the disease within five years.

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

We must maintain focus on prostate cancer

Northern Territory News, General News, 15/06/2023, Rob Smith, Page 21

Telling my kids I was in the fight for my life as I underwent surgery to remove a tumour on my prostate was one of the hardest conversations I'd ever had. There was no sugar coating the situation. At 54, I was diagnosed with one of the most aggressive prostate cancers you can have. Like many men, I had no warning signs and no symptoms, it just struck out of nowhere in the prime of my life. Hearing the news felt like being hit by a truck. I was shocked.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#)

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The skin cancer 'breakthrough' to save everyday Aussies

2GB, Other, 14/06/2023

A major health breakthrough for everyday Australians will take place this week when the very first skin cancer truck launches at Manly Beach. The truck will offer free skin and spot checks for anyone who takes advantage, with the initiative kicking off on Friday.

[Read More](#)

Prostate cancer risk, early detection, treatment & support

2GB, Other, 15/06/2023, Luke Grant

Yesterday, the Overnight program featured a call from Peter, a listener who emphasised the importance for men to be aware of their status regarding prostate cancer. He shared his experience of receiving regular PSA blood tests that indicated normal levels, but his doctor discovered an issue during a physical examination.

[Read More](#)

The new 'bad cholesterol' linked to CHD

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 14/06/2023

Elevated Lipoprotein(a) is the latest variant of bad cholesterol' found to increase the risk of recurrent coronary heart disease. Future therapeutics to reduce elevated Lp(a) might help prevent recurrent disease. Increased levels of Lipoprotein(a), a variant of bad cholesterol', in the bloodstream are a risk factor for recurrent coronary heart disease (CHD) in people aged 60 or over, according to the results of a new study that tracked the issue over the course of 16 years.

[Read More](#)

Save Your Skin campaign targets Victoria's men for melanoma testing

The Senior, Other, 15/06/2023

Gentlemen, have you not checked your skin for a while because "she'll be right, mate"? Well, a look over it could save your skin, as SunSmart Victoria shares scary data about the rates cancers such as menalomas affect males. [...] Cancer Council Victoria chief executive officer Todd Harper AM said men are twice as likely to lose their life to melanoma compared to women, because of lifestyle habits including spending more time outdoors but also being less likely to seek medical advice if they notice changes.

[Read More](#)

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PRIMARY CARE

Senators to vote on Calvary

The Australian, General News, 15/06/2023, Page 6

Senators will vote on whether the ACT government's controversial takeover of Calvary Hospital will be referred to a formal inquiry, as the Catholic health provider awaits detailed legal findings on its failed legal challenge to the move. Nationals Senator Matt Canavan lodged a motion on Wednesday to refer the forced acquisition of the north Canberra hospital by the ACT Labor government to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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WCH regains important paediatric creds

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 15/06/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 7

A day after the state government promised \$20m to upgrade the Women's and Children's Hospital's paediatric intensive care unit after it lost its teaching accreditation, it has regained its credentials. Premier Peter Malinauskas and Health Minister Chris Picton convened a hasty press conference on Wednesday to announce the news, hours after their scheduled health-focused press conference.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

\$130m to keep us out of the ED

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 15/06/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 7

More than \$130m will be in the state budget for virtual health care in a bid to free up hospital beds, unclog emergency departments and ease ambulance ramping. The money will see children and adults assessed at home or in places such as aged care facilities by clinicians working online and via telehealth.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Wheeze are not just coughing up for pledges

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 15/06/2023, Kathryn Bermingham, Page 7

An extra \$2.3bn will be ploughed into the health system in Thursday's state budget as Treasurer Stephen Mullighan leaves open the prospect of yet more spending to bring down ambulance response times. In a pre-budget interview with The Advertiser, Mr Mullighan said the funding would address increased demand on the hospital network.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Hospital unlikely to have crosses after takeover

Canberra Times, General News, 15/06/2023, Lucy Bladen, Page 9

The removal of religious iconography around Calvary Public Hospital Bruce will be a matter for Calvary, the ACT Health Minister has said. Rachel Stephen-Smith has said it would be unlikely the Catholic-run hospital would have crosses when it is taken over by the ACT government next month.

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Deaths prompt health service changes

Ballarat Courier, General News, 15/06/2023, Page 4

Grampians Health has responded with action to recommendations from the coroner after the deaths of two former patients. Grampians Health - the successor to Ballarat Health Services - wrote to the coroner saying it "fully accepted" both recommendations. It comes after a report into 292 recommendations across 121 findings between September 2021 and December 2022. Of those, 67 responses were still under consideration by the court - including a letter from Grampians Health outlining the changes it had made since the death of Taylor Zachary Oliver in 2019.

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Crossbench says budget falls short for regions

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 15/06/2023, Caitlan Charles, Page 7

North Queensland MPs on the crossbench believe the state government's 2023-24 budget has fallen short for both the LNP and Katter's Australian Party. KAP deputy leader Nick Dametto says funding for a CT scanner for Ingham Hospital should have been in the 2023-24 budget. Mr Dametto said following his question on notice about the scanner, he had felt positive it would be delivered in the budget.

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Chief named for CQ hospital

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 15/06/2023, Zoe Devenport, Page 7

More than six months after board members of a major Mackay hospital were sacked, a new captain is ready to steer the ship. Susan Gannon, who has worked as a nurse, midwife, and in various management roles, has been appointed as Mackay Hospital and Health Service's new chief executive.

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Health spending boost as SA budget slides into the red

Canberra Times, Other, 14/06/2023, Tim Dornin

The South Australian government has rolled out more budget spending on health despite a significant deterioration in the state's finances during the past six months. Thursday's financial blueprint will reveal a plunge into the red of \$249 million for 2022/23 after the government predicted a \$203m surplus in the December mid-year budget review.

[Read More](#)

Increase in patient numbers sparks third 'code yellow' of the year at Royal Darwin, Palmerston hospitals

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023, Che Chorley

A Code Yellow has been declared for the Royal Darwin and Palmerston hospitals for the third time this year, following a "steady increase of patient admissions". In a statement, NT Health said elective surgeries had not been deferred at this time.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

New dads struggling with mental health

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 15/06/2023, Gabriel Rule, Page 2

Chris was on duty as a nurse when he got a call from his worried partner about their crying, inconsolable baby. Wanting to rush home in support, and despite him and his partner working as nurses, Chris says common sense evaded him. "My boss said, 'you know, we are the emergency department, maybe you should bring bub in here instead'," Chris said.

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When food's an enemy

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 15/06/2023, Tamara Mcdonald, Page 11

Barwon Health is seeing more patients suffering an eating disorder characterised by an aversion to food but not motivated by weight loss. Hollie Laver, manager of Barwon Health's eating disorder service, which sees patients up to 25, said the average age of its users was 13- 14. She said demand had remained steady since the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

Lifeline extends to combat rising rate of suicides

Canberra Times, Other, 15/06/2023, Mibenge Nsenduluka

More mental health support will be made available to Victorians in response to alarming suicide rates. Up to three people take their own lives each week across the state while nearly 10 die by suicide nationwide every day. Suicide prevention organisation Lifeline Narm will open its first crisis support

centre on Thursday to help combat the issue. It will service the Merribek to Manningham region to help the 360,000 Victorians who call Lifeline each year.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Mental health will be easier to access for Pilbara's youth as two headspaces open in Karratha and Hedland

West Australian, Other, 14/06/2023, Xander Sapsworth-Collis

Mental health services for young people in the Pilbara just got a big boost as two new headspace centres open up in Karratha and Port Hedland. Last week, the National Youth Mental Health Foundation held launch events for its two new Pilbara headspace centres. Pilbara manager for Anglicare Charlene Senior said there was a big demand for the new centres as the Pilbara currently lacks quality mental health services for young people.

[Read More](#)

Home-based eating disorder treatment plea after son discharged from hospital without adequate support

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023, Matilda Marozzi

It was not until Vanessa's son had collapsed four times due to severe malnutrition that he was admitted to a hospital in Victoria last month. The 23-year-old has avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID), an eating disorder where persistent food avoidance and restriction leads to a failure to meet nutritional needs.

[Read More](#)

Crisis support centres set up in Singleton and Branxton after NSW Hunter Valley bus crash

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023, Lauren Pezet and Kia Handley

Crisis support centres will remain open in the NSW Hunter Valley region for the next week as the community comes to grips with a bus crash that killed 10 people on Sunday night. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers and viewers are advised that this article contains the image and name of a person who has died.

[Read More](#)

Mental health support vital after bus crash

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023, Bridget Fitzgerald

As the shock of the Hunter Valley bus crash continues to sink in, experts say it's vital there's plenty of mental health support for the emergency service personnel who went to the scene.

[Read More](#)

Men addicted to pornography are more likely to have an eating disorder, study suggests

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 14/06/2023, Caitlin Tilley

Men who engage in problematic pornography use are more likely to display symptoms of eating disorders, a study has suggested. Nearly 1,000 men were asked to complete questions about their pornography use and whether they binge ate or purged. Researchers found that those who felt porn was essential to their lives also reported eating disorder behaviors. It is thought that porn makes people more insecure in their own bodies as they compare themselves to the typically svelte physiques seen on screen, leading to restrictive eating practices.

[Read More](#)

'A robot is not a form of support.' The complications of relying on chatbots for eating disorder support.

Mamamia, Other, 14/06/2023, Isabella Ross

Across the globe, eating disorders are one of the deadliest mental illnesses. With this in mind, the strategies and support services for combatting this health issue are multiplying and for good reason.

But amid this effort, it's coincided with the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) technology. In the last few years, numerous organisations have looked into how AI can help people seeking advice and support for various eating disorders and body image concerns.

[Read More](#)

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Labor's \$1m plan for nurse training

Hobart Mercury, General News, 15/06/2023, David Killick, Page 10

A Labor government would spend \$1m to boost the training of Tasmania's nurse practitioners to help ease the strain on the state's health system, Opposition health spokeswoman Anita Dow says. Continuing a series of policy announcements in the state's North, Ms Dow and party leader Rebecca White said the lack of professional training pathways was one of the major barriers to more nurse practitioners.

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Outrage over ED nurse's triple shift

West Australian, Edition Changes, 15/06/2023, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 3

An under-pressure hospital has apologised after an emergency department nurse was asked to work a "dangerous" triple shift which included a 22.5-hour block with only an hour break. In a 40-hour period between May 23 and May 25 at Albany Health Campus, the agency nurse clocked a total of 29.5 hours on duty, performing general ED tasks as well as working in a one-on-one paediatric setting.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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'Waste of nursing skill': A third of primary health care nurses not working to full scope, survey finds

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 14/06/2023, Anmj Staff

A third of Australia's primary health care (PHC) nurses believe their skills are not being fully utilised most of the time, according to a new survey. More than half (53%) of 'under-utilised' nurses had requested to use their skills and experience more.

[Read More](#)

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

GP shortage stems from 'decades of neglect'

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 15/06/2023, Page 11

Australia's peak medical body says the nation's general practitioners have been undervalued by successive governments, with the country now paying the price for "decades of neglect". The Australian Medical Association is calling for an overhaul in how investment in health care is framed, releasing a report linking health outcomes for Australians to economic growth and productivity.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Kalgoorlie\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#).

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Victorian health service has 530 staff vacancies

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023, Oliver Gordon

One of Victoria's biggest regional centres has more than 500 health jobs vacant. It's not just doctors and nurses who are in demand in Shepparton and the Goulburn Valley, positions like radiographers and physiotherapists are also wanted.

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Medicare 'stuck in the nineties'

Herald Sun, General News, 15/06/2023, Nathan Schmidt, Page 12

Australians have lost more than \$8bn in medical rebates, a leading doctor has warned, with Medicare remaining frozen at pre-2000 levels. Australian Medical Association president Stephen Robson said many rebates remained pegged to prices paid for during the Hawke era. "Almost 40 years ago, the rebates offered to Australians reflected the cost of providing services," Dr Robson said.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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Medication abortions need to be free in state

Launceston Examiner, General News, 15/06/2023, Matt Maloney, Page 5

A parliamentary inquiry has heard Tasmanian women are significantly financially disadvantaged by Medicare rebates compared to men due to complex needs throughout their reproductive life and beyond. Appearing before a joint committee looking into gender bias in healthcare on Wednesday, Family Planning Tasmania clinical services manager Jessica Willis said it was a simple fact that quality sexual reproductive health care, or contraception, pregnancy, and abortion services, could not be provided in short consultations.

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Sydney pharmacists criticise government's 60-day medicine dispensing policy

dailytelegraph.com.au, General News, 13/06/2023, Joanne Vella

Sydney pharmacists are pleading with the federal government to reverse reforms that change the way medicines are dispensed – with some fearing it will exacerbate shortages. Pharmacists are speaking out against the federal government's changes to the way medicines are dispensed, fearing they will be forced to cut opening hours and slash frontline services.

[Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Clinic vax error

Hobart Mercury, General News, 15/06/2023, David Killick, Page 1

The Health Department is contacting hundreds of patients of a Hobart area GP clinic to warn them vaccinations they received over the past 20 years may not have been effective. Director of Public Health Mark Veitch said vaccines at Dodges Ferry Medical may have been exposed to temperatures that were too hot or too cold during storage, with 1948 people identified as having been potentially affected.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#).

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

'Unfair dismissal' rejected

Northern Territory News, General News, 15/06/2023, Fia Walsh, Page 3

A Royal Darwin Hospital nurse who incorrectly administered drugs, used derogatory language about Indigenous patients, refused to take a patient to the toilet, and laughed when told she had mixed up names on a blood sample has had her claim of unfair dismissal thrown out by the Fair Work Commissioner. Julie Tait was fired on January 16 after less than a year in her first job as a registered nurse, with the hospital citing "significant concerns" over patient safety and her attitude towards patients and colleagues.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

No evidence medical clinic followed vaccine guidelines

Canberra Times, Other, 14/06/2023, Ethan James

Patients of a Tasmanian medical clinic may have been given less effective vaccines across two decades, with a probe revealing there was no documented evidence the facility followed national storage guidelines. The state's Department of Health is working with Dodges Ferry Medical to provide advice to people who were vaccinated at the clinic between July 2003 and March 22, 2023.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Obstetrics and gynaecology training accreditation reviewed at Centenary Hospital for Women and Children

Canberra Times, Other, 14/06/2023, Lucy Bladen

Cultural issues in obstetrics and gynaecology at Canberra's women's and children's hospital are an "ongoing matter of concern" after the unit had its training accreditation reviewed. The review at the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children took place last week and feedback from the accreditors suggested there were challenges.

[Read More](#)

Yajuvendrasinh Parmar appeal against Queensland Health not to be heard

Sunshine Coast Daily, Other, 15/06/2023, Elizabeth Neil

A scientist who applied for a job at a major Sunshine Coast hospital has accused Queensland Health of racism and corruption after he was an unsuccessful applicant. A Sunshine Coast scientist has accused Queensland Health of corrupt conduct and racism after he unsuccessfully applied for a job based at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital in 2022.

[Read More](#)

20 years of vaccinations compromised after Tasmanian medical clinic's record-keeping fail

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023, James Dunlevie and Adam Langenberg

A Tasmanian medical clinic's record-keeping failure has meant 20 years of vaccinations at the facility including "routine childhood vaccines" are compromised, with people affected being urged to "discuss revaccination" with their local GP. In a statement, Tasmania's director of public health said authorities were "working with Dodges Ferry Medical to provide advice to patients who were vaccinated at the clinic between July 2003 and 22 March 2023".

[Read More](#)

20 years of vaccinations may need repeating due to cold chain breaks at GP practice

Australian Doctor, Other, 14/06/2023

State health officials are sending letters to patients encouraging them to speak with their current GP. Patients of a Tasmanian GP practice may have been given ineffective vaccines from 2003 to 2023, the state Department of Health has warned. The state's director of public health, Dr Mark Veitch, said on

Wednesday an investigation into Dodges Ferry Medical found no evidence to show the GP practice had followed cold chain guidelines.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Doctors call for overhaul of nation's 'sickcare' system

Canberra Times, Other, 14/06/2023, Tess Ikonomou

Australia is spending billions on a "sickcare" system that is failing to prevent chronic disease, as elective surgery wait lists blow a \$4.6 billion hole in the economy every year. The Australian Medical Association is calling for an overhaul in framing investment in health care. In a speech to the National Press Club in Canberra on Wednesday, AMA president Steve Robson will make the case that improving health outcomes for Australians will drive growth and lift productivity.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Let all GPs diagnose and treat ADHD to end 'postcode lottery': RACGP

Australian Doctor, Other, 14/06/2023, Sarah Simpkins

The RACGP says inconsistent rules between states and territories are detrimental to patients. Allowing GPs to diagnose and initiate medications for ADHD would stop patients languishing on psychiatry waitlists and save them hundreds of dollars in specialist fees, the RACGP says.

[Read More](#)

IVF technologies could lead to genetic divide: AMA

Canberra Times, Other, 14/06/2023, Tess Ikonomou

Australian Medical Association president Steve Robson has warned society may face a divide between the "genetic have and genetic have nots" as wealthier people opt to create healthier babies. Asked about the gap between rich and poor in access to health services, Professor Robson said the rising use of IVF technologies could lead to a genetic divide where wealthier people could pick embryos which have a lower risk of disease.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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SPORT

Treasurer defends debt surge

The Australian, General News, 15/06/2023, Lydia Lynch, Page 6

Queensland Treasurer Cameron Dick has defended the government's decision to rack up debt for its expensive infrastructure program, saying his state would grow while NSW and Victoria contracted. After raking in huge coal royalty windfalls this financial year, the Sunshine State will ramp up borrowings over the next four years as it embarks on an \$89bn capital program to transition away from coal and prepare for the Brisbane 2032 Olympics.

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How cyclists can be 'dehumanised' when sharing the roads

Canberra Times, General News, 15/06/2023, Sarah Collyer and Mark Limb, Page 18

Getting more people to ride bikes has been flagged as a simple and effective way to improve public health while tackling climate change. However, research has repeatedly found safety concerns deter people from cycling. Australia's limited cycling infrastructure often forces cyclists to share the road with

motor vehicles. This puts them in a vulnerable position as, unlike motorists, they have little to protect their flesh and bones from the road or the vehicles on it.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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Diamonds in rough

Daily Telegraph, Sport, 15/06/2023, Emma Greenwood, Page 66

Netball Australia says it understands the impact its decision to rigidly enforce selection criteria is having on Diamonds players but "must uphold good governance standards" and will not announce a World Cup squad before player contracts are signed. The national body earlier this week reneged on a previously agreed time frame in which to inform Diamonds squad members of their involvement in the World Cup, insisting they sign player contracts under the national team's as yet unresolved Collective Player Agreement before the team could be nominated.

[Read Plain Text](#) [Read More](#)

May need to change kids' rules

Herald Sun, General News, 15/06/2023, Page 17

There is not enough evidence on managing concussions in primary-school aged children, and some sports should consider rule changes to "minimise collisions". That's the consensus from more than 100 leading global concussion experts, a group which includes former AFL doctor Dr Michael Makdissi and a Murdoch Children's Research Institute expert, after more than five years' research.

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Pay war disrupting the Diamonds' World Cup preparations

Burnie Advocate, General News, 15/06/2023, Page 31

Netball Australia insists it is yet to hear back from the players' union after tabling a fresh offer to end the messy pay dispute that has begun disrupting World Cup preparations. The Diamonds' squad for next month's World Cup in South Africa was meant to be announced on Tuesday. But Netball Australia boss Kelly Ryan said the squad cannot be confirmed until negotiations with the Australian Netball Players' Association are completed and new contracts are signed.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Figures reveal most dangerous sports

Launceston Examiner, General News, 15/06/2023, Benjamin Seeder, Page 8

The two rugby codes, motor sports, roller sports and equestrian sports all topped the list of the most injury-prone sports, according to the latest figures from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The rate of hospitalisations in 2020-2021 was about 1200 per 100,000 participants for both rugby and wheeled motor sports, 1130 per 100,000 participants for roller sports, and 917 per 100,000 participants for equestrian activities.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#).

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Festival's global ambition

Launceston Examiner, General News, 15/06/2023, Rob Shaw, Page 36

An audacious plan has been unveiled to bring the World Road Running Championships to Launceston. In the wake of Sunday's successful Launceston Running Festival, which featured Australia's fastest ever women's 10-kilometre race, organisers announced a project to make the event global.

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Australian netballers fume as governing body refuses to name World Cup team until CBA talks conclude

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 14/06/2023, Roy Ward and Carla Jaeger

Australia's netballers have called on Netball Australia to "preserve the sanctity of the Australian uniform" and end its refusal to name the Diamonds squad for the Netball World Cup. NA took the

unprecedented move on Monday of refusing to announce the much-anticipated squad for the World Cup in South Africa, which starts on July 28, until the players signed off on a new collective bargaining agreement.

[Read More](#)

Legend's battle defies odds as concussions continue to rock AFL

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 14/06/2023, Nick Wright

After a distinguished career as a player for the Essendon Bombers and coach of the Melbourne Demons, Neale was diagnosed with motor neurone disease, a degenerative condition that comes with a life expectancy of two to five years upon diagnosis. He learned his fate a decade ago, yet on Monday night marched through a guard of honour for the King's Birthday clash between the Demons and Collingwood much to the ecstasy of his nephew and Brisbane Lions star, Joe Daniher.

[Read More](#)

Sporting clubs the winner as Brisbane City Council hands down \$4.3 billion budget

ABC Online, Other, 14/06/2023, Jack McKay

Dozens of sports and community clubs will share in millions of dollars in grants to boost their flood resilience under a new initiative from Brisbane City Council. The measure will be unveiled by Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner on Wednesday as he hands down a \$4.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Male mums 'an option'

Daily Telegraph, General News, 15/06/2023, Clarissa Bye, Page 3

One of Sydney's top hospitals is pioneering medical research in transplanting uteruses and doctors say they are even considering transplanting wombs into biological men. The Royal Hospital for Women in Randwick achieved Australia's first uterus transplant in January and now some gynaecologists from the hospital say they are looking at transplants as an "option" for the transgender population who are "assigned male at birth".

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Bionic visions of future

Herald Sun, General News, 15/06/2023, Ian Royall, Page 13

A tiny device that can mimic human vision and memory has raised hopes for the next generation of bionic eyes, thanks to a team of Melbourne researchers. The single chip "sees" and can create memories in a similar way to humans. The invention could also be used in self-driving cars and autonomous operations in dangerous environments, RMIT lead researcher Sumeet Walia said.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Government says updated Closing the Gap data highlights need for structural change

ABC Online, Other, 15/06/2023, Dana Morse

Life outcomes for Indigenous Australians are continuing to worsen, as initiatives to Close the Gap offer mixed outcomes in the pursuit of ending systemic disadvantage. In the latest Productivity Commission data, which monitors life outcomes across 19 areas, delivers mixed results, with incremental shifts in the data across a range of areas, but currently, only four areas are on track to be met by 2031.

Fewer than a third of Indigenous youth in remotest communities have a job or study

The Australian, General News, 15/06/2023, Paige Taylor, Page 5

The proportion of Indigenous youth in Australia's very remote communities who have a job, a traineeship or study has fallen below a third, according to new data compiled under the redesigned national agreement on Closing the Gap. A partial update published on Thursday shows a jump in the rate at which Indigenous juveniles are jailed. It also shows that intentional self-harm remains the leading cause of death among Indigenous youths aged 15 to 19, and is rising.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Influenza fears for children

Ballarat Courier, General News, 15/06/2023, Melanie Whelan, Page 3

Young children in the region have not been immune to the soaring influenza rates and hospitalisations from the virus infecting the nation. Grampians Public Health Unit chief strategy and regions officer Robert Grenfell said the uptick in children admitted to Ballarat Base Hospital was on trend with the national issue.

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Perth teenager learning to walk and talk again in Fiona Stanley Hospital after catching influenza A

West Australian, Other, 14/06/2023, Letitia Wallace

A Perth teenager is in hospital facing the prospect of learning to walk and speak again after contracting the flu. Kayla Jennings' mother is now issuing an urgent warning to get vaccinated as her daughter faces a heartbreaking battle. The 16-year-old started feeling ill a fortnight ago.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Youngest 2023 influenza death recorded as vaccination lags

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 14/06/2023, Chloe Hava

The recent death of a healthy 3-year-old boy from influenza is a reminder of the dangers of the virus and the importance of vaccination. Muhammed Segaff, who was infected with influenza, was taken to Fiona Stanley Hospital in Perth, Western Australia, after experiencing difficulty breathing last month.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

People who use 'smart drugs' worse at complex tasks, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 15/06/2023, Melissa Davey

People who use so-called "smart drugs" to boost their mental performance tend to be worse at complex tasks despite tackling them with more enthusiasm, a study has found. [...] According to the Australian drug regulator, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), the drugs are particularly popular among students, shift workers and people working in high-stress jobs, who obtain the drugs illegally online.

[Read More](#)

OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Aussies' overdose deaths climbing

Daily Telegraph, General News, 15/06/2023, Elena Couper, Page 16

The extent of Australia's drug crisis has been highlighted by data showing the country now ranks third behind the US and Canada for the highest number of opioid overdose deaths. New data from Medical Aid revealed opioid-related deaths have increased by 14 per cent since 2000 and, in 2019, were up to 5.38 deaths in every 100,000 Australians.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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FOOD STANDARDS

TikTok cheese favourite burrata recalled because of listeria monocytogenes contamination?

The Australian, Other, 14/06/2023, Nathan Schmidt

An internet favourite cheese featured in thousands of online videos has been urgently recalled over fears it could cause serious illness. Australian-based That's Amore Cheese announced on Tuesday it was recalling its burrata cheese 125g product due to contamination from listeria monocytogenes.

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That's Amore Cheese burrata product sold across NSW, QLD and Victoria recalled over contamination fears

7news.com.au, Other, 14/06/2023, Hayley Taylor

The affected product could cause severe illness' among some people and illness across the general population. A cheese product sold in Victoria New South Wales and Queensland has been urgently recalled over contamination fears.

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