



Daily media report

Saturday, 17th June 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Weekend Australian \(page 1\)](#)** reports that a number of former NRL players have come forward demanding answers on why they were not informed of brain injuries discovered as part of a code-run concussion study. Sydney University and doctors involved with the study say that participants were informed of any "potential conditions" that were identified during the study.
- **[The Weekend Australian \(page 11\)](#)** reports that the Australian Sports Commission has warned sporting codes that banning transgender women from competition could breach state and federal laws. Recommendations from the ASC find that any bans should be restricted to elite level competition, as well as identifying testosterone limits and guidelines for athletes wanting to compete at an elite level.
- **[The Courier Mail \(page 12\)](#)** reports that public health officials are working to contact any people potentially exposed to a case of typhoid fever that has been diagnosed in Mackay. Dr Steven Donohue said the risk to the public was low, and that the man is currently "doing well" in hospital care.
- **[The Courier Mail \(page 9\)](#)** reports that the Queensland government's maternity roundtable has met for a second round of consultations, with state Health Minister Shannon Fentiman

confirming that Gladstone's maternity services will remain open. Areas where maternity services are currently being bypassed due to low staffing are being prioritised as part of a \$42 million fund announced in the state's budget.

- **The Courier Mail (page 9)** reports that a Queensland woman is demanding a new investigation into the death of her baby in childbirth at Emeral Hospital, saying the death was preventable. A review into the care was handed down on May 25, finding the maternity care provided was in alignment with practice standards. State Health Minister Shannon Fentiman said the Health Ombudsman was now reviewing the case.
- **The Canberra Times (page 19)** reports that the coroner is seeking outstanding statements from multiple Canberra Hospital departments relating to the death of a 5-year-old child after suffering from myocarditis. Coroner Ken Archer ordered the statements be provided by no later than June 23, after the original deadline for statements was already extended to June 2.
- **ABC News (Online)** reports that the AHPRA is investigating allegations that drugs such as methadone were prescribed to inmates at the Fulham Correctional Centre, despite the staff member responsible not holding the relevant qualifications. Workers at the prison said they had witnessed drugs being prescribed without being overseen by a qualified health professional.

MINISTER BUTLER

What's next in our Covid response In case of emergency

The Saturday Paper, General News, 17/06/2023, Rick Morton, Page 1

As the government considers the form and breadth of a Covid-19 inquiry to examine Australia's response to the pandemic, similar hearings in Britain this week offer a taste of the future. [...] Just days before that declaration, Australia's Health minister, Mark Butler, was at the National Press Club defending Medicare and launching a war on vaping.

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

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Hooked on vapes

Sydney Morning Herald, Good Weekend Magazine, 17/06/2023, Tim Elliott, Page 1

E-cigarettes have ignited a health crisis among teenagers and young adults. Despite crackdowns by government and schools, kids are finding ways to sidestep restrictions. [...] This year, Health Minister Mark Butler committed nearly \$250 million to further crack down on the black market, with a ban on all non-prescription vapes - non-nicotine and nicotine alike - and tougher controls at the border.

Also reported by: [The Saturday Age \(Melbourne\)](#).

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Pharmacy chief chews on bitter pill

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 17/06/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 26

When members of the Pharmacy Guild appear in the public eye, they wear a Ben Casey, the official pharmacists' uniform they receive at a white-coat ceremony when they graduate. [...] Just hours after Health Minister Mark Butler made the announcement in April, Twomey was standing at Parliament House in Canberra flanked by several local pharmacists all wearing their white coats and blasting the government for throwing their sector under the bus.

Also reported by: [The Saturday Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Saturday Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

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Health is top priority

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 17/06/2023, Anne Webster, Page 28

This sitting fortnight in Canberra, health care in the Sunraysia and Mildura has been front and centre of my concerns, building on the regional health workforce summit I convened in Mildura in March as

shadow assistant minister for regional health. [...] I have also asked Health Minister Mark Butler to help us secure cutting-edge melanoma and skin cancer detection technology for the region.

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Up in smoke

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 8

Nurses will play a critical role in educating the public on the risks of e-cigarette use as the Australian government moves to crack down on recreational vaping. During last week's budget, health minister Mark Butler said the department will allocate \$737m to tackle rising use of e-cigarettes and tobacco, including banning the import of all vaping products sold without a prescription.

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'Triple virus threat'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 10

There are fresh calls for Australians to get vaccinated ahead of the winter cold and flu season amid warnings of a virus' triple threat.' [...] Australia's health minister, Mark Butler, reiterated last week that the pandemic 'was not over' after an uptick in Covid numbers in March.

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The week in review

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 17/06/2023, Megan Haggan

There were fiery exchanges in Parliament about 60-day dispensing this week, with Health Minister Mark Butler being asked by Nationals leader David Littleproud and Centre Alliance's Rebekha Sharkie for modelling on the impact on

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'We'll be left with the Woolworths and Coles of pharmacies'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 16/06/2023, Megan Haggan

Queensland MP Bob Katter has doubled down on comments made in Parliament, calling double dispensing a deregulation "nightmare" In Parliament on 13 June, Katter had asked Health Minister Mark Butler whether the divisive policy would result in a Chemist Warehouse-TerryWhite duopoly in the community pharmacy sector, saying that "Government-created duopolies to give us cheaper prices Minister,

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Bowel cancer screening rates down amid delays for colonoscopies

Canberra Times, Other, 16/06/2023, Anna McGuinness

Fewer than half of eligible Australians are screening for bowel cancer and those who receive a positive result are waiting months for diagnosis. [...] "We know cancer screening saves lives - and not screening costs us lives," Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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Race to catch up on missed bowel cancer tests

Canberra Times, Other, 16/06/2023, Rachael Ward

The race is on to boost the number of Australians taking bowel cancer detection tests with participation dropping during the pandemic and natural disasters. Just 40.9 per cent of eligible people did the test in 2020-21, down from 43.9 per cent the year before. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has revealed a \$10.8 million boost to Cancer Council Australia so it can roll out a "Get2It" campaign in several languages.

Also reported by: [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), and widely syndicated across regional publications

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Calls for more medicinal cannabis brands to be added to

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme as costs surge

Pharmacy ITK, Other, 16/06/2023

Jukka Manttari is pain-free for the first time in 30 years thanks to medicinal cannabis, but the cost of treatments is crippling him financially. [...] On June 1, federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced Cannabidiol (Epidyolex), or CBD oil, had been added to the PBS to treat seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome in patients who hadn't achieved adequate seizure control with at least two other anti-epileptic drugs.

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MINISTER WELLS

Something must give in aged care

Canberra Times, General News, 17/06/2023, Simon Cowan, Page 28

This week Labor's Aged Care Minister floated the idea of an "aged care levy" to help fund the sector's spiralling costs. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells has floated the idea of a levy to reel in the sector's spiralling debt.

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'Crucial jobs'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 6

The federal government has unveiled a simplified policy for employers to sponsor overseas skilled workers. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said the agreement helped to deliver a skilled and diverse workforce to Australia's aged care sector.

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'Fair day's pay'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 13

The federal budget is set to bear the weight of a much-anticipated salary increase for aged care workers as Labor seeks to attract more staff to the sector through \$10,000 pay hikes. [...] "This investment is a historic and deserved pay rise for a workforce undervalued for far too long," Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said.

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'Critical'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 16

Australia's nursing union has urged aged care providers to foster healthier work environments in order to attract nurses meet a new nationwide 24/7 nursing requirement by July. [...] Aged care minister Anika Wells took to social media to defend the government's decision to mandate staffing levels.

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Showdown looms for Aussie seniors refusing to leave aged care home

9Now Nine, Other, 16/06/2023

A showdown is looming for a group of elderly NSW residents refusing to be evicted from their aged care home in Byron Bay. [...] A spokesperson for Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said aged care providers have a responsibility to ensure residents are appropriately accommodated.

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First workers arrive from Papua New Guinea under revised government scheme

Aged Care Insite, Other, 16/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt

A regional Queensland aged care provider has welcomed the first group of personal care workers from overseas under a renewed government scheme. [...] "They're making a great contribution to

addressing workforce shortages, especially in regional areas," Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said.

[Read More](#)

Aged Care Taskforce launched

National Seniors Australia, Other, 16/06/2023

A taskforce has been created to put forward options to fund aged care. [...] During last week's Press Club address, Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells declared there would be a stronger focus on dementia and acknowledged that workforce shortages was the number one issue facing providers.

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Aged care 'closures risk'

Swan Hill Guardian, Other, 16/06/2023, Phoebe Doyle

Aged care reforms could spark a crisis in regional facilities and a regional aged care summit is urgently needed to address it, Member for Mallee Anne Webster says. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells was contacted for comment.

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 16/06/2023, Kate Freebairn

A new taskforce is set to examine just how Australia is going to pay for the hordes of ageing baby boomers, with aged care costs set to hit \$36b annually by 2026. Federal Aged Care Minister Anika Wells has been grappling with the latest baby boomer demand.

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Channel 10, The Project, 16/06/2023, Steve Price, Michael Hing, Georgie Tunny, and Susie Youssef

I just don't want Australians to be scared about the care that they will be provided in later life. But maybe they should be back in 1975 there were around seven tax payers for every Australian over 65.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Towards an equal Australia: Advocating for health and gender equity

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 10

Australian nurses, midwives and carers are starting to see meaningful reforms, particularly in aged care. [...] A key role for the new Council, chaired by Ged Kearney, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care and former ANMF Federal Secretary, will be to guide how the government delivers on the National Women's Health Strategy 2020-2030.

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Sky News Regional, Breakfast, 16/06/2023, Jaynie Seal

Discussions over Queensland's current maternity crisis are being held at State Parliament today. Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman and Federal Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney, alongside industry stakeholders such as the AMA, the Nurses and Midwives Association and midwives will attend the two hour meeting here at Parliament House to discuss the state's maternity crisis. They

will discuss problems plaguing the sector, including the lack of available birthing services in regional and rural areas of Far North Queensland.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

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DEPARTMENT

Winter is here

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 7

Winter is here, bringing with it the rise of colds, flus and other respiratory illnesses that are more common in the colder months. Add to that the fact that COVID-19 is still very much around with the latest numbers showing Australia's weekly COVID-19 cases are now approaching 40,000 Australia's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Paul Kelly, is urging us to do all we can to help keep ourselves and our community well this winter.

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

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Aged care providers alarmed as funding increase falls short of award wage hike

Inside Ageing, Other, 16/06/2023, Sean McKeown

Aged care providers have learnt that the increase in funding they will receive next financial year will be insufficient to cover the increase in their wage bill. Yesterday's webinar by the Department of Health and Aged Care provided details about funding the wage rise, with multiple questions from providers asking whether there would be an adjustment to cover the 5.75% increase in award wages taking effect from July 1, 2023.

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As influenza cases rise, COVID remains a danger

National Seniors Australia, Other, 16/06/2023

Winter has well and truly begun across Australia and with it has come seasonal warnings about the flu. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care advises, "If you are 65 years or over, we strongly recommend you get a 2023 COVID-19 booster vaccine.

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Scholarships open for Oceanic Palliative Care Conference

Pharmacy ITK, Other, 16/06/2023

Palliative Care Australia is excited to launch the scholarships program for the Oceanic Palliative Care Conference (OPCC) this September in Sydney. [...] With the support of the Department of Health and Aged Care and Cancer Australia, scholarships range in value between \$560 and \$5000 and can be used to cover the full cost of OPCC registration as well as travel and accommodation.

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Never say never: Recycled secretaries in vogue

The Mandarin, Other, 16/06/2023, Verona Burgess

In years gone by it was unthinkable that a department secretary, once sacked or retired, could ever be rehired as a secretary at the top of the Australian Public Service. [...] One previously recycled secretary Andrew Metcalfe (Agriculture and formerly Immigration) has declared his intention to retire , while

another former secretary (Resources and Environment departments), Blair Comley, will soon be recycled back into the APS to run the Department of Health.

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Movers & Shakers: When one secretary leaves, another enters

The Mandarin, Other, 16/06/2023, The Mandarin

The latest senior public sector appointments from across the country. [...] Former NSW heavyweight picked as new Health and Aged Care secretary will lead the Department of Health and Aged Care following Brendan Murphy's retirement, commencing his five-year term on July 17.

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Opioid dependence changes will take a leap of faith

The Medical Republic, Other, 16/06/2023

Patients should benefit overall, but communication has been poor and the changes are unlikely to improve access, clinicians say. [...] Sydney GP Dr Brad McKay said the Department of Health and Aged Care had been less than forthcoming in communicating about how the policy change would roll out.

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'Australia vs the world' digital health summit

The Medical Republic, Other, 16/06/2023

Wild Health is holding a summit which aims to compare the best of the world versus the best of Australia in digital health. [...] Our Australian speakers include Kate Ebrill from the CSIRO; Dr Susie Miller from the Victorian Virtual ED; Dr Mike Millard from St Vincent's Health; Dr Natalie Thorne, scientific director of Genomical; Daniel McCabe, First Assistant Secretary of Medicare Benefits and Digital Health at the Department of Health and Aged Care; and Professor Karen Smith, director of the Centre for Research and Evaluation at Ambulance Victoria.

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1 July aged care workers wage increase "funding is inadequate"

The Weekly Source, Other, 16/06/2023, Shushmit Pandey

Aged care providers have been left shocked after the increase in funding they will receive next financial year will be insufficient to cover the compulsory increase in their wages bill. The Department of Health and Aged Care hosted an Aged care wage increase' webinar on Thursday, providing further detail about funding of the wage rise and answering questions about the upcoming pay rise for residential aged care workers.

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ABC Radio Sydney, Nightlife, 16/06/2023, Philip Clark

[...] And the last research project was commissioned and funded by the Federal Department of Health, and that was 12 month long research project in 18 aged care homes And all of the residents who took part had some level of dementia and that showed that if it's part of their daily routine, it has a dosage effect, a little bit like medication, but it's non-pharmacological.

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CORONAVIRUS

\$300k gift after special Covid jab

Weekend Australian, General News, 17/06/2023, Michael McKenna and Sarah Elks, Page 1

Veteran Queensland Liberal MP Warren Entsch organised for a billionaire Liberal National Party donor to jump the queue and fly to the Torres Strait to have a Pfizer Covid jab, lobbied for him to be given citizenship, and arranged a private dinner for him with then-prime minister Scott Morrison. Mr Entsch

then later secured a \$304,000 donation from Sovietborn property developer Alex Sekler just before last year's federal election, which was used to bolster his campaign to hold the marginal seat of Leichhardt.

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Shameful, fearmongering leaders should pay for lockdown atrocities

Weekend Australian, General News, 17/06/2023, John Stapleton, Page 19

Australia descended in 2021 into its darkest days, a full totalitarian tilt into the abyss of government maladministration, a frightened, disoriented, confused population imprisoned in their own homes, and distrust everywhere. While a deluded and misinformed Australian public endured what on the face of it was a mass Psyop operation - a deliberately terrified population herded in one direction, towards mass vaccination and a singular loss of personal liberties - Australia's international reputation as a freedom-loving, easygoing holiday destination was being trashed.

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

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COVID weekly cases decline

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 2

Greater Bendigo recorded 76 new COVID-19 cases in the week to Friday, a drop of 162 since the previous week. According to data released by the Department of Health, the municipality recorded four cases in the 24 hours leading up to June 16.

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Uncovering long Covid

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 14

Registered nurse Kim Gibson has used her own personal experience with Covid-19 to pioneer new research linking the virus to hearing loss. In April last year, the University of South Australia lecturer came down with a "relatively mild" case of Covid which sent her to bed with cold symptoms for a week.

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NSW Covid cleaning: Minister accuses former government of 'forgetting' school contracts

The Mercury, Other, 16/06/2023, Alexi Demetriadi

The state government has accused Dominic Perrottet's administration of "forgetting" about Covid school cleaning contracts worth \$30m a term, although the previous education minister rejected that assertion and said their extension was taken on health and departmental advice.

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Rice in a public toilet? We've forgotten the lessons learned in the pandemic

The New Daily, Other, 16/06/2023

It seems the anguish delivered by COVID-19 in the form of deaths and social isolation, borders slammed closed and broken businesses has already been forgotten. No other explanation can exist for the substandard hygiene that has now crept back onto our public transport services, into our shopping queues and even public restrooms.

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2GB, 23:00 News, 16/06/2023

The number of COVID related deaths in Victoria since the pandemic began has passed 8000. The Department of Health says the figure now stands at 8005, with 113 deaths reported to authorities in the past week Now to sport.

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City turns purple as public raise awareness of elder abuse

Launceston Examiner, General News, 17/06/2023, Charmaine Manuel, Page 4

A sea of purple made its way through Civic Square, Brisbane Street Mall and the streets of Launceston on Friday as supporters marched to raise awareness of elder abuse in the community. Organised by the City of Launceston and Council On the Ageing Tasmania (COTA), the march involved a group of around thirty to forty people, including acting mayor Matthew Garwood and COTA Tasmania chief executive Craig Chadwick.

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Registered nurses unlikely

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 17/06/2023, Madeleine McNeil, Page 6

South-west aged care providers are racing against time and are "highly unlikely" to have enough registered nurses as new rules around 24-hour care come into effect from July 1. From next month, a registered nurse needs to be on site 24/7 but aged care facility bosses say that despite their best efforts, they can't get staff.

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PALM scheme workers clock on for their first shifts in aged care

HelloCare, Other, 16/06/2023, Bianca Iovino

Eight aged care workers from Papua New Guinea (PNG) attended their first shifts in aged care in Queensland this week the first PNG participants to arrive under the Federal Government's expansion of the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme. The employers will work in Southern Cross Care aged care homes in Chinchilla, Murgon and Taroom west of Brisbane to help fill staffing gaps ahead of looming mandates that require a Registered Nurse (RN) to be on-site 24/

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Why technology is just one tool for ending loneliness in aged care

HelloCare, Other, 16/06/2023, Alex Jacobs

The impact of loneliness in aged care may have become more prominent during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, however, residents have long felt the effects of isolation once they make the permanent move out of home. Doctor Barbara Barbosa Neves, Senior Lecturer of Sociology and Anthropology at Monash University, has studied the lived experiences of loneliness, isolation and exclusion among aged care residents.

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Radio Australia (Asia Pacific), Pacific Beat, 16/06/2023, Compere

Queensland communities in Australia have welcomed the first group of aged care workers to come over from PNG to work in the state. The eight workers will be employed at facilities in Chinchilla, Murgon and Taroom in Southern Queensland.

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POPULATION HEALTH

You can disarm biggest killer

AFR Weekend, General News, 17/06/2023, Euan Black, Page 20

Leading cardiologists are calling for another test of heart disease risk to be made free, writes Euan Black. Heart disease, which is the cause of almost all heart attacks, is the No.

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Dramatic change to mastitis care

The Saturday Age, General News, 17/06/2023, Henrietta Cook, Page 10

Treatment for mastitis an excruciating ailment that affects up to 20 per cent of breastfeeding mothers is undergoing a dramatic shift. For decades, the routine medical advice given to women battling the condition was to feed or pump more frequently on their sore breast, massage out lumps and to apply heat to their chest.

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Don't vape or you'll end up like me

Newcastle Herald, General News, 17/06/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

Brayden Field says he'll never vape again after he almost died from a massive asthma attack this week. The Beresfield teenager, who said he started vaping to feel "cool", spent two days in intensive care at the Calvary Mater hospital this week before he was released on Friday.

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Junk food 24/7 fear

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 84

The ice-cream truck of the future could be driverless and operate 24/7, spruiking junk food and alcohol, according to new research. The new study, published in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, suggests convenience could come at the cost of health if automated and driverless vehicles are the dominant form of road transport by 2050.

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'It always seemed like beer o'clock': Why Aussie men are ditching booze in droves

9News, Other, 16/06/2023, Joe Attanasio

A Friday afternoon beer seems like it's so synonymous with Australian culture it's almost built into our lifestyle. Some found themselves chasing an ice-cold beverage on a summer's day after being cooped up during the pandemic , while others said they created unhealthy

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Without access to opioid prescriptions, chronic pain sufferers say they're being left stranded

ABC Online, Other, 16/06/2023, Patrick Begley

Daniel King likes to do his exercises at the pool because in the water "you can cry and nobody notices". Thirty-three years after he fell down a set of concrete steps and sustained seven spinal fractures, he still deals with excruciating pain regularly.

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How to tell if you are at risk of a heart attack

Australian Financial Review, Other, 16/06/2023, Euan Black

There are several ways to assess your heart health' and determine your risk of having a heart attack, but leading cardiologists are calling for another test to be made free. Heart disease, which is the cause of almost all heart attacks, is the No.

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Wood fire heaters are a danger to public health

Canberra Times, Other, 16/06/2023, Fay Johnston and Bill Dodd

New York City air becomes some of the worst in the world Imagine a fleet of ageing factories operating in neighbourhoods across Australia. On most days the smoke from their stacks is hardly noticed. But on cold days when the smog settles in the densely populated valleys and towns, doctors notice unusually high numbers of people suffering from a range of problems, especially asthma.

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World-leading agency from Spain to inform Victoria's approach to organ and tissue donations

The Mandarin, Other, 16/06/2023, Melissa Coade

The first public hearings of Victoria's parliamentary inquiry examining how the state can encourage more people to register for organ and tissue donors will turn to experts from Spain. The initial hearings of the legal and social issues committee inquiry will take place on Monday 19 and Friday 23 June.

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Like Botox, but without the injections

The New Daily, Other, 16/06/2023, Kate Jones

Bye bye Botox. Anti-ageing alternatives are on the rise and finding favour with Australians who want to avoid injectables.

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Imagine the outcry if factories killed as many people as wood heaters

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 16/06/2023

Invisible to the naked eye, particles are inhaled deep into the lungs, enter the bloodstream and cause a range of harms throughout the body. This air pollution is linked to higher rates of heart and lung diseases, strokes, dementia and some cancers. It also increases the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes and poorer learning outcomes in children.

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Channel 9, Today Extra, 16/06/2023, David Campbell and Sylvia Jeffreys

Interview with Dr Danielle McMullen, Vice President, AMA. McMullen discusses the new data revealing women who began taking contraceptive pills as teenagers were reporting a 130% higher rate of depressive symptoms. She says it is important to see women's health research happening, although they have known for some time that the pill can be associated with mood changes in some women.

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Channel 9, Today Extra, 16/06/2023, Charles Croucher, Sarah Abo, Alex Cullen, and Brooke Boney

New data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows testing rates for bowel cancer have dropped by 3% in three years. The Government will announce a \$10.8m ad campaign today to encourage testing.

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Sky News Live, News Night, 16/06/2023

It's been revealed that two thirds of Australians are failing to take part in free bowel cancer tests. New data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows screening rates have dropped by 3% in three years.

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Sky News Live, First Edition, 16/06/2023, Peter Stefanovic

New data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows screening rates have dropped by 3% in three years. The Government will announce a \$10 million ad campaign today to encourage more testing.

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6PR, The Nightshift, 16/06/2023, Tod Johnston

Interview with Gemma O'Hanlon, Senior Dietician at the Heart Foundation [...] So anyone over the age of 45, we encourage to go and get a heart health check If you're over the age of 30, if you're Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent, it's really important to know your numbers. So what a heart health

check does. It assesses your cholesterol, your blood pressure and it gives you all the numbers you need to know what your risk is.

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6PR, The Nightshift, 16/06/2023, Tod Johnston

Continuing interview with Gemma O'Hanlon, Senior Dietician at the Heart Foundation [...] Yeah, the main message is to have two serves of fruit every day. Okay. Two serves of fruit every day and a little bit of exercise. And realistically, heart health should be at a premium if we're doing the right thing.

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ABC Radio Adelaide, 11:00 News, 16/06/2023

Education researchers are warning against suspending students as a way of fixing poor behaviour as suspension rates rise. Studies indicate vaping was a major cause of the rise in suspensions in South Australian schools over the past year.

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ABC Radio Sydney, Nightlife, 16/06/2023, Philip Clark

Interview with journalist Tim Elliott. [...] Well, do you have young people in your family who are vaping? I think by now we've all heard the stories of the teens vaping in school toilets or even in the classroom. You've probably seen the vapes here, signs that have popped up absolutely everywhere of late. Now the federal government is cracking down now on the availability of vapes.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Bowel cancer screening rates on the decline

Canberra Times, General News, 17/06/2023, Anna McGuinness, Page 24

Fewer than half of eligible Australians are screening for bowel cancer and those who receive a positive result are waiting months for diagnosis. Just 40.9 per cent of people who were sent the at-home test returned it for analysis in 2020 and 2021, according to the latest National Bowel Cancer Screening Program report.

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Long wait for bowel screen

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 27

Colonoscopy wait times in Australia largely exceed the recommended 30 days, a report reveals. The National Bowel Cancer Screening Program report shows the participation rate (2020-21) is the same as it was in 2015-16 despite almost \$20m invested by the government since 2019.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#)

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

Plea for prostate check-up

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 17/06/2023, Alex Gretgrix, Page 4

Bill Coyle now knows all too well how important a prostate cancer test can be. After years of ensuring he 'was in tip-top shape, he has since been through a "traumatic experience" having his prostate removed earlier this year.

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

Men's/women's & sexual health

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Ruth Mursa, Page 48

One in two Australian males have at least one chronic condition. Current estimates indicate that some

75% of males in Australia are affected by overweight or obesity. Males are more likely to smoke, consume fewer fruits and vegetables, drink too much alcohol, and be less physically active than females.

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

Action to tackle air pollution failing to keep up with research

The Guardian, Other, 16/06/2023, Gary Fuller

This year marks a decade since the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) gathered in Lyon, France, to unanimously declare that air pollution caused cancer in humans. Air pollution was classified as a type 1 carcinogen, the most certain category possible. This was mainly based on more than 20 years of research in particle pollution and lung cancer.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First: Midday, 16/06/2023, Narelda Jacobs

Interview with Tanya Buchanan, Cancer Council Australia. The Government is concerned about the massive drop in people having free bowel cancer screening. Buchanan notes according to data from Cancer Council Victoria, the bushfires and flooding have significantly impacted bowel cancer screening rates. She adds around four in ten eligible Australians were participating in the screening programme.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 16/06/2023, Susannah Carr and Rick Ardon

Research shows more and more Australians are avoiding getting screened for bowel cancer. Bushfires, floods and the pandemic have seen Australians prioritise their health less. The Federal Government has spent almost \$11m rolling out bowel cancer awareness ads across the country.

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News Vic First at 4pm, 16/06/2023, Blake Johnson

The Federal Government has today unveiled a \$10m advertising campaign to encourage Australians to get tested for bowel cancer. It comes after new research shows that two in three Australians are avoiding the national bowel cancer screening test. Bowel cancer survivor Dean Coulton recalls doing the test at 50 and it came back clear, but was eventually diagnosed with colon cancer when he did the test at 52 years old.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, The Morning Show, 16/06/2023, Larry Emdur and Kylie Gillies

Panel discussion with Kiya Siutz, Garry Siutz's daughter, and Jay Allen, Australian Skin Cancer Foundation. Australia has the highest incidence of melanoma in the world. Experts believe a lack of regular skin check is a big part of the problem. The very first national skin cheque truck is being launched this morning, offering free spot checks in all corners of Australia. Kiya recalls her late father who passed away due to melanoma in 2021. Allen recalls getting diagnosed with melanoma in 2008. He notes the truck will head to remote areas across the country.

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PRIMARY CARE

Calvary takeover cuts to heart of religious freedom

Weekend Australian, General News, 17/06/2023, Angela Shanahan, Page 15

Most Australians probably think of Canberra as a place apart from the rest of the nation. In many ways they are right.

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

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

Hospital staff miss coronial deadlines

Canberra Times, General News, 17/06/2023, Blake Foden, Page 19

Canberra Hospital staff have missed multiple deadlines to provide statements to an inquest into the death of a child, frustrating counsel assisting the coroner. "We have a family that wishes to know what happened," counsel assisting, Michael Fordham SC, told a preliminary hearing of the Rozalia Spadafora inquest.

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

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

Grieving mum demands to know how baby died

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Taylah Fellows, Page 9

A Queensland mother is demanding answers over the death of her healthy baby boy in childbirth, claiming the hospital "missed all of the signs" during her harrowing 18-hour obstructive labour. The tragic death of Rebecca and Tim Spreadborough's first child Alby at Emerald Hospital is being investigated by the Health Ombudsman, with new Health Minister Shannon Fentiman saying she didn't want to "see any women go through that".

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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

Birthing services 'locked in place'

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Madura McCormack , Page 9

Maternity services in Gladstone will "absolutely" stay open, Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has said, confirming the hospital had a total of 4.5 full-time equivalent obstetricians with further contingencies in place. It comes as the state government's maternity roundtable met for the second time, with the focus on "place-based solutions" that could be rolled out using a \$42m budget fund bucket.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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

More spin won't fix ills

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Kylie Lang, Page 67

The Palaszczuk government should be hiring more real doctors instead of spin doctors. Following the latest pitch aka Tuesday's budget to appease a cheesed-off public, we learnt there were 123 more government staff working in marketing, media and communication roles than there were last year.

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

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

Danger ramped

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 17/06/2023, Brad Crouch and Scott Gullan, Page 1

Geelong superstar Patrick Dangerfield has become a victim of Adelaide's hospital ramping crisis. Dangerfield was left waiting in an ambulance outside the Royal Adelaide Hospital after copping serious injuries during the Cats' AFL clash with Port Adelaide.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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

Bulli centre has expanded its urgent care hours to Saturdays

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 3

The Bulli Urgent Care Centre is now open six days a week, with hopes it will further alleviate the pressure on Wollongong Hospital's overburdened emergency department. Health Minister and Keira

MP, Ryan Park, and Member for Heathcote Maryanne Stuart made the announcement, with the centre to open its doors today for the first time on a weekend since its temporary closure in 2021.

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

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

Hospital surges ahead

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 17/06/2023, Jarrard Potter, Page 1

A tender has been awarded for the design stage of the new \$1.3bn Toowoomba Hospital. The Palaszczuk government has revealed that John Holland will be the managing contractor for stage 1 of the long-awaited project, which is set to provide an additional 118 beds across medical, surgical, maternity, coronary and intensive care units.

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'Immense efforts'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 24

People living in NSW were more likely to be satisfied with the care they received in public hospitals than those living in other states, according to a new analysis. Last week, The Bureau of Health Information released a report examining the performance of NSW's public health system during the first two years of the pandemic.

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Emergency evacuations on Plenty Highway prompt calls for more remote NT airstrips

ABC Online, Other, 16/06/2023, Victoria Ellis

A pastoralists and a road user are calling for more remote airstrips after three medical air evacuations in seven days along a remote Northern Territory road. Roley Kane was riding with a group of motorcyclists along the dirt section of the Plenty Highway, 350 kilometres north-east of Alice Springs, when his mate Jim Cullen crashed.

[Read More](#)

Young patient kept secluded for hours, restrained face down at Women's and Children's Hospital

ABC Online, Other, 16/06/2023, Che Chorley

A boy was restrained face down and secluded for more than five hours at a mental health ward at Adelaide's Women's and Children's Hospital, an investigation has found. The incidents occurred when the patient, identified only as "Mr J", was admitted to the hospital's Mallee Ward in August 2021, and breached basic restraint and seclusion rules.

[Read More](#)

Broome Hospital emergency calls double after threats and aggressive acts at staff increase

ABC Online, Other, 16/06/2023, Mya Kordic

Verbal and physical threats of aggression against nurses in the WA town of Broome have almost doubled in the past two years, as community crime and longer hospital wait times continue to increase. Statistics from the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) show 132 code black calls were made between February 1 and April 30 this year.

[Read More](#)

'\$600 for a 10-minute diagnosis': GP says patients are fighting for ADHD care

Australian Doctor, Other, 16/06/2023, Kemal Atlay

Patients with ADHD are paying hundreds of dollars for a psychiatrist diagnosis while others are missing out on timely access to stimulants because of GP prescribing restrictions. GP Dr Elana Roseth says not all of her patients make it onto psychiatrist waitlists, and even when they do, many struggle to afford the high out-of-pocket fees.

Will 60-day dispensing inflict the same catastrophic damage on pharmacies as the Medicare freeze did on General Practice?

Australian Doctor, Other, 16/06/2023, Shane Jackson

The new embrace of 60-day dispensing and the damage it will inflict has generated fierce debate among pharmacists as well various doctor and patient groups. The views diverge, but one thing remains true: even by the Commonwealth's own estimates, some \$3 billion in savings over four years will be generated.

[Read More](#)

Full-scope debate endures the test of time

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 16/06/2023

Discussions about pharmacists using their specialised knowledge and training to practice to their full scope have dominated debate around community pharmacy's future. However, the full scope of practice issue is not new and the objective has been contested throughout the healthcare profession for decades.

[Read More](#)

Peter Malinauskas can't keep plucking money out of thin air to pay for health

The Mercury, Other, 16/06/2023, David Penberthy

Politics is often described as "the art of the possible". It's a flawed definition. It is government which is the art of the possible. Opposition is the art of the impossible the shameless advocacy of concepts and solutions with no regard for their cost or achievability.

[Read More](#)

QLD Health rejects Bennett claims of financial mismanagement

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 16/06/2023, James Taylor

Queensland Health has rejected claims by Burnett LNP MP Stephen Bennett that Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service finances are out of control following the 2023-24 state budget. Queensland Health has rejected claims by Burnett LNP MP Stephen Bennett that Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service finances are "out of control" following the 2023-24 state budget.

[Read More](#)

WIN Hobart, WIN News, 16/06/2023, Bruce Roberts

Consistently high hospitalisation rates across Australia have been revealed in the AMA's latest report card on health care. A chronic backlog for services during the pandemic is believed to have been the cause. AMA President Professor Steve Robson says the pandemic has strained the system and they saw unprecedented demand.

[Play Now](#)

Triple M Adelaide, 06:30 News, 16/06/2023

Well, the nurses union is happy Health is one of the big winners from the state budget. There'll be \$2.3 billion spent on measures to free up the public hospital system and hopefully reduce ambulance ramping. Elizabeth Dabars from the Nursing Federation says they particularly welcome the new hospital avoidance clinics. There's one north and one West which will complement the existing ones that exist already in the south and centre of the city, and we're very pleased to see the continuing commitment to improve flow and to reduce ramping.

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Save our kids from an insidious disease

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 12

Desperate parents let down by the public health system are cashing in their super and taking out second mortgages to fund expensive treatments for eating disorders to keep their children alive. Almost three years after losing her daughter Jaimi to an eating disorder, which turned into an alcohol addiction, Olympian Lisa Curry says she knows what it's like to be "banging your head against a brick wall" trying to get help for a sick child in a health system that doesn't cater for them.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#)

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Workers so stressed

Daily Telegraph, General News, 17/06/2023, Lauren Ahwan, Page 81

The rising cost of living is having a severe effect on the mental health of Australia's employees. Workers' mental health has hit its lowest level since the start of the pandemic, as Aussies buckle under cost-of living pressures. Seventy-eight per cent of working Australians have a high or moderate mental health risk, according to global health care leader TELUS Health.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#)

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Reduce the stress with meditation

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 17/06/2023, Renee Gardiner, Page 155

Meditation has been used for thousands of years across various cultures and religions. Sometimes called contemplation, mindfulness, reflection or introspection, meditation encapsulates the multiple pathways and practices used to help calm the mind, and find inner balance.

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

Four-mula for concern

The West Australian (Saturday edition), Business News, 17/06/2023, Cheyanne Enciso, Page 161

Lifeline WA's chief executive Lorna MacGregor has warned that while the push for a fourday work week is sold as a panacea for mental wellbeing, the research on its benefits is not grounded in "good psychometric testing". Ms MacGregor said work was now being described as the "new tobacco" meaning the less time a person spent at work, the healthier they would be.

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Sparking action on help seeking

Daily Advertiser, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 11

Owen Dufty understands the challenges for men to look after their health - especially their mental health. Mr Dufty is using Men's Health Week to encourage fellow men, young men, and in particular tradespeople, to connect with support.

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

Young people speak after Kiama tragedies

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 17/06/2023, Natalie Croxon, Page 4

Young people of the Illawarra are facing very real struggles but feel like adults are not hearing them, leading to a disconnect between generations in the community. They are some of the findings stemming from programs that were developed after a series of youth suicides in the Kiama area in 2020 and 2021.

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

Men's health highlighted

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 17/06/2023, Wade Stephens, Page 10

A general practitioner, an exercise physiologist and a prostate cancer specialist nurse spoke at the Red Cliffs Men's Shed on Thursday to mark Men's Health Week. About 25 people gathered to listen to the

experts discuss the theme of this year's Men's Health Week healthy habits, exercise and loneliness.

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

Urgent need to fill mental health gaps

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 15

Gaps in mental health services are again back in the spotlight after the tragic death of four young people near Hamilton three weeks ago. Lee-Ann Elmes' 15-year-old son Josh was one of the four killed in the horrific car crash at Bochara, north of Hamilton.

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

Teens reveal what they wish they knew before developing eating disorders

Northern Territory News, Other, 16/06/2023, Jill Poulsen

Two Queensland teenagers are warning parents to be educated on eating disorders while exposing the harms of unrealistic beauty standards plastered on social media. High school students Tia, 17, and Bella, 15, shared their experiences of an eating disorder and their journeys to recovery in a new podcast produced by QUT and Queensland Children's Health.

[Read More](#)

'In a bad way': Stressed-out tradies urged to seek mental health support

The New Daily, Other, 16/06/2023, Sezen Bakan

Tony Toholke has an important message for tradies. More than a decade ago, Mr Toholke decided to quit booze after a health scare landed him in hospital.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC National News, 16/06/2023, Lorna Dunkley

South Australia's Health Minister says services for complex mental health patients need to be improved at Adelaide's Women's and Children's Hospital. A complaints investigation has found a young patient at the hospital was restrained, face down and left secluded for five hours.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, 07:30 News, 16/06/2023

The ACT Government will include over \$200,000 for the woke program in its upcoming Territory budget run by UC's clinical psychology, master's students and educators. The program has shown positive clinical outcomes for young people facing mental health challenges

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2CC, 06:00 News, 16/06/2023

A Safe Haven Cafe will be built on the Canberra hospital campus following its success in Belconnen Bogong reports. The ACT Government will spend more than \$2 million on an early intervention service designed to reach Canberrans before they hit a crisis point.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Celebrating International Nurses Day and International Day of the Midwife

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Robert Fedele, Page 22

Each year, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) lead global celebrations for International Nurses Day (12 May) and International Day of the Midwife (5 May). CN's theme for IND 2023 is: Our Nurses.

Big spend

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Eleanor Campbell, Page 4

What the 2023 federal budget delivered for nurses. Pay rises for registered nurses working in the aged care sector and incentives to boost the number of nurses in general practice were key health measures included in this year's federal budget.

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

'Working together'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Laura Mazzitelli, Page 6

The NSW government will establish a staff working group with Australia's largest nursing union in a bid to improve to staffing levels in state hospitals. In April the state government announced NSW hospitals would have one nurse for every three patients in emergency departments, maternity wards and intensive care units.

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'Lead the charge'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 12

Nursing and public sector unions have urged NSW's newly elected Premier to keep his end of the bargain on removing wage caps for essential workers. NSW Labor leader Chris Minns was elected the state's 47th Premier after the March 25 election. During its campaign, state Labor campaigned heavily on a promise to abolish the public sector wage cap that would raise salaries for essential workers, including nurses and midwives.

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'We are leaders'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 18

Deputy head of Monash University's nursing school Associate Professor Helen Rawson said nurses are no longer just seen as caregivers, but as leaders who make a significant impact on their patients' lives. "You're never 'just a nurse'," she said. "We are leaders leading care at the bedside, education, research and policy.

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'No excuse for harassment' specialty focus

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Elise Hartevelt, Page 20

One of Australia's leading nursing unions is calling for more research to battle the sexualisation of the workforce. In early March, 120,000 NSW registered nurses and midwives received an email from the Nursing and Midwifery Council of NSW warning them not to post content on OnlyFans.

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'A privilege to serve': Nurses and midwives recognised in King's Birthday Honours

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 16/06/2023, Robert Fedeale

Even as a young child, Elizabeth Grist knew she wanted to become a nurse. "I can remember wrapping up my brothers and sisters in bandages and trying to dress up as a nurse with bits and pieces," she recalls.

[Read More](#)

WA Premier slams nurse triple shifts as 'unacceptable' after horror 29.5-hour stint at Albany hospital

West Australian, Other, 16/06/2023, Caitlyn Rintoul

Premier Roger Cook has labelled triple shifts in State hospitals as "unacceptable" and reminded healthcare workers they "shouldn't feel obliged" to perform them. His comments came after The West

Australian revealed an agency nurse at Albany Regional Campus had worked 29.5 hours in a 40-hour period in late May.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 16/06/2023, Max Fitcher and Sharyn Ghidella

Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has attended crisis talks about maternity services in Queensland. Four hospitals remain on bypass, but she is confident financial incentives for staff will help. She adds they also talked about getting midwifery and in-patient ratios into the hospital systems.

[Play Now](#)

Sky News Live, News Night, 16/06/2023

Midwives working within Queensland's issue plagued maternity units have told Sky News they felt heard during roundtable talks with their state and federal representatives. It's the second meeting of its kind since March as birthing services at four regional hospitals remain on bypass.

[Play Now](#)

Sky News Live, Newsday, 16/06/2023, Ashleigh Gillon

A two-hour roundtable meeting to discuss Queensland's maternity crisis attended by both levels of government and industry stakeholders, has just wrapped at Queensland Parliament. Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman and Federal Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney have held a two hour roundtable with key industry stakeholders such as the AMA and the Nurses and Midwives Union to discuss the state's current maternity crisis.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

More information needed

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 8

Calls for a regional training hub for GPs and their nurses have grown louder following a huge rise in the number of people seeking sexual and reproductive health services in Bendigo. Since becoming a hub in 2019, Bendigo Community Health Services has seen the need for sexual and reproductive health services more than double in two years.

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

Every doc in Yack will quit

Border Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Ted Howes, Page 8

Every doctor in Yackandandah will resign next week if the town's health service is taken over by a national organisation. The angry medics held a meeting on Thursday night and yesterday decided to down stethoscopes if control of community-run Yackandandah Health is handed to private operator Apollo.

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Global concern

Nursing Review, General News, 01/06/2023, Eleanor Campbell, Page 4

Higher death rates are closely linked to shortages of healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, and midwifery staff, a major international study has confirmed. A new report published in the British Medical Journal analysed global health databases across 172 countries to determine how the number of healthcare workers corresponded to mortality rates.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Medical regulator AHPRA probes drug prescription allegations at Victorian prison

ABC Online, Other, 16/06/2023, Joseph Dunstan

The national medical regulator is investigating allegations that addictive opioid substitution drugs were improperly prescribed at a jail in Victoria's east. The ABC understands the investigation centres on allegations a staff member at Fulham Correctional Centre prescribed drugs such as methadone over at least several months last year, despite not holding the relevant qualifications.

[Read More](#)

Respiratory physician who performed a home cricothyroidotomy on 'choking' wife referred to prosecutors

Australian Doctor, Other, 16/06/2023, Heather Saxena

Dr Peter Spencer waited three hours to call an ambulance after 'unsuccessfully' attempting a cricothyroidotomy with a knife and pen, coroner finds. A respiratory physician who performed a cricothyroidotomy on his wife because he believed she was choking has been referred to prosecutors after he waited three hours before calling an ambulance.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

In a Nightmare, in dark: NRL's calamity

Weekend Australian, General News, 17/06/2023, Jessica Halloran and Wendy Carlisle, Page 1

The NRL's official concussion study allegedly did not warn rugby league legend Robbie O'Davis that a scan showed signs of brain injury, nor alert the families of two other retired champions they had been diagnosed with dementia during the research. A three-month investigation by The Weekend Australian has uncovered an alarming number of former Newcastle Knights champions suffering early-onset dementia as well as serious concerns from their families and a top neurologist about the research protocols of the NRL-funded study, which has been hyped as a "milestone" for the sport's treatment of long-term head trauma.

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

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

Experts question head-knock impact

Weekend Australian, General News, 17/06/2023, Wendy Carlisle and Jessica Halloran, Page 7

The men leading what the NRL calls "transformative" research have publicly questioned the links between head knocks and degenerative brain disease. Associate professor Andrew Gardner and professor Chris Levi are the NRL's main concussion advisers, who meet rugby league powerbrokers often to consult about their policies, and both have publicly disputed the mainstream science around head injuries and degenerative brain disease.

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

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

'Risky to ban trans athletes'

Weekend Australian, Edition Changes - All-round Metro, 17/06/2023, Tricia Rivera, Page 11

The nation's sporting bodies have been told not to follow international bans on transgender women competing, with the Australian Sports Commission warning them they could breach state and federal laws. New ASC guidelines recommend the banning of trans athletes be restricted to the elite level, with community sport to remain inclusive.

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

Trans athlete backs new sport guidelines

The Saturday Age, General News, 17/06/2023, Carla Jaeger, Page 5

Transgender athlete Hannah Mouncey has declared Australia's new guidelines for elite trans athletes as the best and most detailed she's seen. However, the guidelines, developed by the Australian Institute of Sport to guide Australia's sporting codes on what limits should be put on transgender athletes in elite competitions, were condemned in a scathing statement from the Queer Sporting Alliance.

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AFL, international concussion group at odds on CTE link

The Saturday Age, Sport, 17/06/2023, Jon Pierik, Page 56

The AFL's chief medical officer has contributed to a paper by the world's leading experts on head trauma in sport which stops short of rubber-stamping the AFL's own stance on the link between concussion and degenerative brain disease. The powerful Concussion in Sport Group (CISG) has not definitively linked chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a brain disease diagnosed after death through autopsy, with repeated head trauma, contradicting the stance taken by the AFL, including its chief medical officer Michael Makdissi, at a senate inquiry in April.

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

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Top sporting body backs hormone limit

Canberra Times, Sport, 17/06/2023, Page 66

Transgender athletes should be included in high level women's events, though they will have to undergo hormone suppression first, according to the country's top sporting body. The Australian Sports Commission's latest gender-diverse inclusion document has endorsed testosterone limits for transwomen in elite sports.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

Sports put on notice about inclusion of transgender athletes

Daily Telegraph, Sport, 17/06/2023, Page 102

Australian sports have been warned they could be in breach of federal laws if they follow the transgender policies from international governing bodies. The advice was included in the release of the Australian Sports Commission's guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse athletes in high performance sport.

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Paralympics on move

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 13

Paralympics Australia will have a new home in Brisbane city for at least the next two years, Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk has announced. Staff were working temporarily out of the Brisbane City Council boardroom, but on Friday the Premier declared the government had secured a CBD space nine years out from the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

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

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Adelaide's off and running

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 17/06/2023, Eva Blandis, Page 17

The sporting hits just keep on coming, with the 101st Australian Athletics Championships to be held in Adelaide next year. The championships, from April 11 to 19, will see 3500 athletes travelling to the state from the rest of the country and the Pacific for the largest annual athletics event.

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Boxer's wake-up call for football

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 17/06/2023, Jack Evans, Page 28

As a boxer, the main goal of my sport is to render my opponent unconscious. So I am more aware than most about the dangers of concussions and the high risk of brain trauma, because violence is intrinsic to the nature of my sport.

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How the Brisbane Olympics will redefine Queensland's suburbs and regions

ABC Online, Other, 16/06/2023, Brittney Kleyn and Gemma Ferguson

When it comes to infrastructure projects for the 2032 Olympics, everyone seems to be talking about the redeveloped Gabba and Brisbane Live Arena. Rightly so, with a collective price tag of \$5.2 billion.

[Read More](#)

Star's dementia Nightmare: 'Why weren't we told?'

The Australian, Other, 16/06/2023, Jessica Halloran and Wendy Carlisle

In 2018, NRL researchers gave struggling Newcastle Knights hero Robbie O'Davis a brain scan. He hoped it would explain his changing behaviour.

[Read More](#)

Australian Sports Commission release guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse athletes in sport

The Australian, Other, 16/06/2023

Australian sports have been warned they could be in breach of federal laws if they follow the transgender policies from their international governing bodies. The cautionary advice was included in the release of the Australian Sports Commission's (ASC) guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse athletes in high performance sport.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

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Broken promise accusation as kids sport vouchers change

Canberra Times, Other, 16/06/2023, Duncan Murray

About 750,000 children will be excluded from a sport and arts program, saving the NSW government an estimated \$163 million a year. Opposition Leader Mark Speakman called the changes a broken promise after Premier Chris Minns, prior to the election, said he would roll over the Active Kids and Creative Kids vouchers in a "similar" way to the existing program.

Question Time live: Big move ahead of 2032 Games

The Courier Mail, Other, 16/06/2023, Stephanie Bennett and Madura McCormack

Paralympics Australia will have a new home in the Brisbane city for at least the next two years, Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk has announced. Staff had been working temporarily out of the Brisbane City Council boardroom, but on Friday morning the Premier said the government had secured a new CBD space - nine years out from the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

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GPs face 'weekly' pressure to approve return to sport for kids with head knocks

Australian Doctor, Other, 16/06/2023, Rachel Carter

Awareness is improving slowly, a Queensland GP says Parents of children with head knocks are asking for GP sign-off for their kids to resume contact sports, even after failing medical assessments, a GP registrar says. Guidelines from major sporting codes say any child who sustains a head injury needs medical assessment and paperwork signed by a doctor declaring the child is fit to return to play.

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Australia recommends testosterone limits for transgender athletes in elite female sport

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 16/06/2023

Australia's peak sports authority has recommended testosterone limits for transgender athletes seeking to compete in elite female competitions as part of guidelines on inclusion released on Friday. The non-compulsory guidelines issued by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) allow for national federations to determine that testosterone suppression is required for eligibility to compete in female categories.

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Australia's peak sports body OKs transwomen competing – with conditions

The New Daily, Other, 16/06/2023, Kat Wong

Transgender athletes should be included in high level women's sporting events but must undergo hormone suppression first, according to the country's top sporting body. The Australian Sports Commission's latest gender-diverse inclusion document has endorsed testosterone limits for transwomen in elite sports in a move welcomed by transwomen in sport.

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ABC News, Mornings, 16/06/2023, Karina Carvalho

The Australian Sports Commission has released its transgender and gender diverse inclusion guidelines for high performance sport this morning. They are reminding governing bodies of their commitment in promoting inclusion and abiding by Australian law. The recommendations are in line with Australia's Sex Discrimination Act, which makes it unlawful to discriminate, harass or victimise on the basis of sex or gender identity.

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SBS, World News Australia, 16/06/2023, Anton Enus

The Australian Sports Commission has published guidance for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in high performance sport, which will inform the approach taken by governing bodies of sport in Australia The framework developed by the Australian Institute of Sport says eligibility rules should be minimally restrictive and that those that may exclude an athlete should be reasonable and justifiable.

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ABC Radio Adelaide, 22:00 News, 16/06/2023

The Australian Sports Commission has recommended sports opt for inclusion first when designing their transgender and gender diverse policies for high performance athletes. Tracey Holmes reports.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Is that back ache all in your head?

AFR Weekend, General News, 17/06/2023, Peter Quarry, Page 34

Possibly the most inflammatory thing you can say to someone suffering chronic pain is "It's just in your head".

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Track a path to health

Daily Telegraph, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 29

Wearable activity trackers could help patients recover faster during hospitalisation, research shows. University of South Australia researchers found patients with activity trackers were more active and had improved physical function (compared with patients undergoing usual care in hospital) and this supported faster recovery.

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

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Too tired to be healthy?

Hobart Mercury, General News, 17/06/2023, Carolyn Tate, Page 47

If you berate yourself each week for not sticking to your diet and exercise routine, small changes could be the key to upgrading your lifestyle for good. You know how it goes: you make big plans (and sometimes big statements out loud in front of other people) that you're going to revolutionise your health, start that couch-to-5km program, and make sure you get your two and five every day. Then, when your alarm goes off at 6am so you can lace up your trainers and hit the road, you turn it off and doze your exercise time away because you just need a few more minutes.

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Walk, yoga routine boost for longer life

Hobart Mercury, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 47

Walking and yoga could be more beneficial for our health than we thought, with new research suggesting these activities have the ability to reduce the risk of death in cancer patients. We know that doing some form of movement each day is good for our health, even as little as 11 minutes of walking a day has proven benefits for a longer life.

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Eat earlier to beat diabetes

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 17/06/2023, Xantha Leatham, Page 22

Consume 80pc of calories by 1pm Eating 80 per cent of your calories before 1pm could help ward off type 2 diabetes, according to a study.

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Solution to C-section problem

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 17

Babies born by caesarean section don't acquire the same healthy bacteria as those delivered vaginally, a setback to the development of their immune system thought to increase their risk of certain diseases later in life. But a new study has found applying the mother's vaginal fluids on C-section babies after birth restores the microbial balance and has neurodevelopment benefits.

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A new clue to endometriosis, a painful and poorly understood disease

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 16/06/2023, Sabrina Malhi

Emerging research points to a possible link between endometriosis, a chronic disease that causes debilitating pain, and bacteria commonly found in the mouth and gastrointestinal tract. Endometriosis has baffled physicians for years.

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Scientists have created synthetic human embryos. Now we must consider the ethical and moral quandaries

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 17/06/2023, Kathryn MacKay

Researchers have created synthetic human embryos using stem cells, according to media reports. Remarkably, these embryos have reportedly been created from embryonic stem cells, meaning they do not require sperm and ova.

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Luminoah's quest to reinvent tube feeding attracts new funding

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 16/06/2023, Devin Coldewey

Ordinary tube feeding setups are generally found in hospitals, and are wheeled around like IVs and other gear. That makes sense in a controlled, medical environment, but what if you or your loved one has to do it for months in and out of the hospital?

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ABC Radio Sydney, Nightlife, 16/06/2023, Philip Clark

Interview with Elizabeth Bowman, researcher in the Centre for Brain Mind and Markets at the University of Melbourne. [...] So for people who don't know much about nootropics, can we just get a bit of background first? This is a trend that came out of Silicon Valley, didn't it? Well, I mean, you know, people have been trying to get an edge in terms of brainpower for a long time. But yeah, recently there's been, yeah.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Channel 9, Nine Afternoon News, 16/06/2023, Alison Ariotti

Health has been the topic of debate in Queensland Parliament today, with Indigenous health services and the regional maternity crisis top of the agenda. The Opposition tabled a letter from Torres Strait Islander community leaders complaining about the service they get from Queensland Health. They claim there's been an increase in preventable deaths in the community and have been calling on the Premier to take action.

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NITV, NITV News: Nula, 16/06/2023, Natalie Ahmat

A gathering of First Nation's expert has drawn people from far and wide. Lowitja Institute's International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference in Cairns has attracted leaders from around the globe. Karen Diver, former tribal leader and former advisor to US President Barack Obama's native portfolio, says she was drawing parallels and differences with the processes taking place in Australia regarding Aboriginal governments.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Alert on typhoid case

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Page 12

A case of typhoid fever has struck Mackay and officials are moving to contain any threat of a possible outbreak. Public health physician Dr Steven Donohue confirmed a young man presented to Mackay Base Hospital for treatment for the dangerous and highly contagious disease this week, but said risk to the community was low.

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

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Tradies slowly turn to stone

Courier Mail, General News, 17/06/2023, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 22

A devastating disease that turns tradies to stone is emerging as the new silicosis, with lawyers processing skyrocketing compensation claims. Welders, miners and sandstone cutters are just some of the occupations that could be at risk from the auto-immune disease scleroderma.

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

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

WHO says toxic syrup risk 'ongoing', more countries hit

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 16/06/2023

There is an ongoing global threat posed by toxic cough syrups, the World Health Organization (WHO) told Reuters, saying it was now working with six more countries than previously revealed to track the potentially deadly children's medicines. The U.N. agency has already named nine countries where tainted syrups may have been on sale, after the deaths of more than 300 infants on three continents last year were linked to the drugs.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

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FOOD STANDARDS

Urgent recall for Coffee Table Delights meringues, contains undeclared gluten

NEWS.com.au, Other, 16/06/2023, Isabel McMillan

The Food and Drug administration has expanded its recall of frozen strawberries. A popular sweet treat has been urgently recalled over concerns it contains an undeclared allergen.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#)

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