



Daily media report

Sunday, 18th June 2023

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)
| [Assistant Minister Kearney](#) | [Assistant Minister McCarthy](#) | [Department](#)
| [Coronavirus](#) | [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Population Health](#)
| [Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions](#) | [Primary Care](#)
| [Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)
| [Medicare Benefits and Digital Health](#) | [Benefits Integrity](#)
| [Health Systems Strategies](#) | [Sport](#) | [Health Economics and Research](#) |
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| [AICIS](#)

LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 22) reports that there has been a resurgence in COVID-19 deaths, up to 200 in the past week. One of the leading uncertainties surrounding the deadliness and transmissibility of Covid-19 is its propensity to mutate in different variants, which according to Chief Medical Officer Paul Kelly makes the “accurate prediction of the timing, nature, impact and severity of future waves very difficult.” Mr Kelly also said, “Many of these circulating variants will likely die out without causing a significant disease burden, but others have been shown to have stronger growth potential, with some exhibiting considerable capacity.” *Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#).*
- **[The Sun Herald](#)** (page 9) reports a survey from Resolve Strategic found that only 37% of Australians have noticed COVID-19 cases increasing. The study also reported that 73% of respondents do not use a mask in public spaces and 70% of respondents have not taken a Covid 19 test. “About a third of people report taking a COVID test in the last month, but it’s intriguing that the vast majority of those were taken by people without symptoms. This may indicate that they are doing so to protect elderly relatives or because of their work environment,

so it's being done as a preventative measure," said Resolve's director Jim Reed. *Also reported by: [Sunday Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).*

- **[The Sunday Herald Sun](#)** (page 17) reports that a new study conducted by researchers at the University of Melbourne has found that non-ADHD users of ADHD medication, such as Ritalin, Adderall and Provigil, perform worse and have less focus performing complex tasks while on the drug. "People without ADHD – especially people who are already high-performing – who take these drugs to try to gain an edge in their workplace or studies may experience unintended consequences," lead researcher Elizabeth Bowman said. "Cognition is a complex thing, and there are no shortcuts to improving it. You can't get smarter with a pill." *Also reported by: [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#).*
- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 1) reports the Victorian state government is cutting funding for COVID-era local public health units from \$80 million to \$55 million in the 23-24 financial year and \$47 million in the 24-25 financial year. This comes after Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas announced a \$103 million funding boost for emerging local public health units. "The change reflects the reduced impact COVID-19 is now having and that the response to COVID is now more aligned with other communicable," a spokesperson for the Victorian Department of Health said. *Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).*
- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 11) reports that Dying with Dignity has called on the Victorian government's Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board to keep pace with other states' VAD laws and remove "unnecessarily restrictive, onerous" clauses. The organisation's vice president, Jane Morris, said that they are pushing for the removal of the safeguard that bars physicians from initiating conversations with dying patients about voluntary euthanasia and for a review into the 6-12 month waiting period. *Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).*
- **[The Sunday Mail Adelaide](#)** reports that new research from the University of South Australia published in the Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport suggests young sports players receiving a concussion are 50% more likely to receive an additional injury in the future. The study's lead researcher, Dr Hunter Bennett, has called for the 12-day mandatory recovery period for under-18 football players who have received a concussion to be expanded. "Concussion ... can lead to impairments in balance, coordination, reaction time and decision-making – and these impairments can increase the risk of other injuries," he said. *Also reported by: [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).*
- **[ABC News](#)** (online) reports that after the Therapeutic Goods Administration approved the prescription of MDMA for post-traumatic stress disorder patients and psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression, medicinal cannabis distributors are pivoting to importing and supplying psychedelic medications. "We're really looking forward to getting these therapies into the hands of the most vulnerable in our community, including veterans, first responders, and those who are suffering treatment-resistant depression," Rodney Cocks, the CEO and co-founder of Vitura Health, said.
- **[The Australian](#)** (online) reports that the federal Department of Health and Aged Care has yet to complete modelling for its 60-day prescription policy, and has contracted McKinsey and Company and the University of Technology Sydney for modelling support. Health Minister Mark Butler has said that analysis put forward by the Office of Impact Assessment has suggested that there would be "substantial benefit" in providing cheaper medicine to patients. "As the assessment makes clear the phasing of the medicines eligible for 60-day prescribing, the reinvestment of the government savings of \$1.2bn into community pharmacy, and targeted programs for rural and regional pharmacies will support pharmacies during the transition," Mr Butler said.
- **[The Sunday Mail Brisbane](#)** (page 1) reports that after a month visiting 30 different hospitals, Queensland's Health Minister, Shannon Fentiman, has said that her new role has proved more complex and challenging than her previous Attorney-General position, but says she is "very clear" on her priorities, which include reducing ambulance ramping and accelerating the process of getting patients into beds. "It's huge and challenging, but it's also such an opportunity to do good things," Ms Fentiman said. "I am actually just so amazed at the work of our frontline health workers each and every day. And it has been a real privilege to meet them and to see the work that they do." *Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph](#)*

MINISTER BUTLER

'Announce first, consult later': Labor's fail on 60-day pharmacy dispensing plan

The Australian, Other, 17/06/2023, Sarah Ison and Jess Malcolm

The Albanese government is yet to complete modelling on its 60-day dispensing policy despite announcing it almost two months ago, sparking outrage from the Coalition and Pharmacy Guild over why such work is only now being undertaken. The Weekend Australian can reveal the Department of Health and Aged Care has quietly contracted McKinsey and Company and the University of Technology Sydney for modelling to "support the Department's analysis" of the policy. [...] The Guild rejected the claim it had acted in contravention of the NDA on the policy through communicating details on the government's proposal to its members, something the lobby group said the office of Health Minister Mark Butler had agreed was appropriate.

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Health is top priority

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 17/06/2023, Anne Webster MP

This sitting fortnight in Canberra, healthcare 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 met this week with the Assistant Minister for Regional Health Emma McBride to update her on my work on expanding health services in Mildura and to seek her support. [...] I have also asked Health Minister Mark Butler to help us secure cutting-edge melanoma and skin cancer detection technology for the region.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS

Aged care taskforce to find equitable solutions

Sun Herald, Business News, 18/06/2023, Rachel Lane, Page 28

They say "change is inevitable except from a vending machine". But in the world of aged care, change is constant. Last week the Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells, announced a new aged care taskforce to review fees and funding arrangements in the sector. It is expected to provide interim advice to the government in October and a package of recommendations by year's end.

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

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Something must give in aged care

Sunday Examiner, General News, 18/06/2023, Simon Cowan, Page 18

This week Labor's Aged Care Minister floated the idea of an "aged care levy" to help fund the sector's spiralling costs. Claiming two decades of inaction have left the government scrambling for options to fund the sector, all options are on the table. But whatever the impost is called, the "aged care levy" would be nothing more than a fancy name for an increase in income tax.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Creating momentum towards a greener healthcare system

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Kathryn Anderson, Page 16

Health service delivery in Australia currently contributes 7% to our nation's emissions. Fortunately, the response to climate change is increasingly being recognised as a healthcare priority across the sector. [...] "As well as adapting to the new challenges of climate-related health issues, it's important that our health system is included as part of the climate solution by reducing its own carbon footprint," Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney MP said when speaking about the strategy.

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Rollout begins on new national nurse and midwife health service

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Natalie Dragon and Robert Fedele, Page 42

The Albanese Government has invested \$25.2 million to establish and run a national nurse and midwife health service to provide peer-to-peer counselling, case management and referrals after years of lobbying by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF). [...] "Our nurses and midwives contribute so much to our communities, and it's imperative that we support them to manage their health in a way that works for them. Expanding this program nationally is about providing that support in a welcoming, accessible way," said Federal Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ged Kearney.

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

Federal government pledges mental health support for flood-affected First Nations communities

National Indigenous Times, Other, 17/06/2023, Emma Ruben

First Nations communities affected by floods in Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland will receive extra mental health funding the federal government announced Friday. The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) will receive \$4.8 million to boost mental health services for First Nations communities impacted by these floods. [...] Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health, Senator Malarndirri McCarthy said floods are "particularly devastating" for remote communities.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Virus now in seventh wave

Sunday Age, General News, 18/06/2023, Aisha Dow and Henrietta Cook, Page 22

Brett Wallace almost died three weeks ago. As maskless Canberrans grabbed their morning coffees and shuffled off to bustling offices, the 64-year-old found himself struggling to breathe. [...] Some of this uncertainty is due to the "soup" of variants now present in Australia, which Chief Medical Officer Paul Kelly says make the "accurate prediction of the timing, nature, impact and severity of future waves very difficult".

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

CoNNMO: Australia's nursing and midwifery alliance influencing healthcare across the lifespan

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Natalie Dragon, Page 34

Australia's national coalition of nursing and midwifery organisations (CoNNMO) has secured renewed funding from the federal government, including for the first time, sitting fees for member attendance, recognising the inherent value of the alliance. [...] The Coalition, which started out as an informal forum sponsored by the ANMF in 1991, is now supported with funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care and, ANMF as the secretariat, is responsible for day to day operations.

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Aged care – Change is afoot

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Julie Reeves, Page 36

Nurses and care workers working in aged care understand firsthand the desperate need for change within the sector to improve care delivery and working conditions. The ANMF has been campaigning for decades to improve the visibility of the long-standing issues in aged care and improve care delivery. [...] Medication management: The Department of Health and Aged Care released their Guiding Principles for Medication Management in Residential Aged Care Facilities late last year.

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'Announce first, consult later': Labor's fail on 60-day pharmacy dispensing plan

The Australian, Other, 17/06/2023, Sarah Ison and Jess Malcolm

The Albanese government is yet to complete modelling on its 60-day dispensing policy despite announcing it almost two months ago, sparking outrage from the Coalition and Pharmacy Guild over why such work is only now being undertaken. The Weekend Australian can reveal the Department of Health and Aged Care has quietly contracted McKinsey and Company and the University of Technology Sydney for modelling to "support the Department's analysis" of the policy. [...] The Guild rejected the claim it had acted in contravention of the NDA on the policy through communicating details on the government's proposal to its members, something the lobby group said the office of Health Minister Mark Butler had agreed was appropriate.

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Signs of CMV: How Aussie mum's instinct saved baby after she refused to terminate pregnancy due to infection

7news.com.au, Other, 17/06/2023, Sarah Fittock

Brigitte was faced with a tough decision after she was told her devastating diagnosis could pose grave risks to her unborn baby. Early on in Brigitte Drakos' pregnancy in 2016, she recalls experiencing symptoms similar to those of hay fever. [...] CMV is considered the "most common infectious cause and the second most common overall cause of congenital malformation", according to the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care.

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[Back to Top](#)

CORONAVIRUS

Fifth wave yet less concern about COVID

Sun Herald, General News, 18/06/2023, Anthony Galloway, Page 9

More than a third of Australians say they have noticed COVID-19 cases are increasing, but there isn't the same level of concern about the virus as during previous outbreaks. Australia is experiencing a fifth wave of the virus: 21,502 cases of COVID-19 were reported across the country last week, an average of 3072 cases per day.

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[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

Teen vape sales slammed

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 18/06/2023, Suzan Delibasic and Kaitlyn Smith, Page 31

The mother of a young teen has slammed the owners of a Chapel St tobacconist after discovering her daughter purchased illegal nicotine-containing vapes without presenting identification. The concerned mother told the Sunday Herald Sun she was left angered after her 14-year-old daughter was able to purchase a strawberry flavoured vape from TSG Tobacco Station in Windsor.

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Brayden Field, 17, vows never to vape again after 'massive asthma attack almost killed him

Newcastle Herald, Other, 17/06/2023, Damon Cronshaw

A 17-year-old Beresfield boy who had a massive asthma attack and almost died has vowed to give up vaping. Brayden Field, a year 11 student at Francis Greenway High School at Woodberry, spent two days in intensive care at Calvary Mater Newcastle this week.

[Read More](#)

Imagine the outcry if factories did this

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 18/06/2023, Bill Dodd, Bin Jalaludin and Fay Johnston, Page 16

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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Weather alert

Sunday Territorian, Editorials, 18/06/2023, Page 14

The Dry season is upon us but so too is peak time for some adverse health effects [...] Asthmatics and those with respiratory conditions are most at risk of adverse health effects as the smoke haze fills Darwin and Palmerston, but it's not healthy for anyone. The Asthma Foundation NT recommends everyone avoid outdoor activities where possible, where a P2 mask and put air conditioners on air-recycle mode.

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How a single decision nearly cost Sydney model her life

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 18/06/2023, Emily Kowal, Page 114

It took just two missed mammogram appointments for Sydney model Lisa I Seiffert's life to change forever. The forty year old Sydney model had always been diligent with screening, but like many during the pandemic she found she neglected her appointments. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, there were 145,000 fewer mammograms performed between January and July 2020 compared with the same period in 2018.

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

Wadeye's fight for peace

ABC Online, Other, 17/06/2023, Matt Garrick

[...] With its battered roads, overcrowded homes and low rates of employment and schooling, the West Daly region is statistically the fourth most disadvantaged local government area in Australia. In 2019 the average age at death was 62, more than 20 years younger than the national average, according to data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. For men in Wadeye, according to Australian National University research, that age drops below 50.

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Terrified boy forced to kiss his bully's shoes in vile fight clip

The Courier Mail, Other, 17/06/2023, Jasmine Kazlauskas

The sickening moment a pack of cruel bullies torment a school boy and force him to kiss their shoes has been caught on video. [...] According to a report cited by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 7 in 10 Australian children aged 12-13 experienced at least one bullying like behaviour in a year, while 1 in 5 year four students were bullied on a weekly basis.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

My MS propelled me to Ms Universe

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 18/06/2023, Fiona Byrne, Page 118

Miss Universe Australia finalist Maddison Cottle has revealed she is battling Multiple Sclerosis and that her frightening and sudden diagnosis was the catalyst for her joining the beauty pageant. Cottle, 22 was diagnosed with MS two years ago, just two months before her 21st birthday. [...] According to MS Australia, MS affects three times more women than men.

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Cancer claims brave battler

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 18/06/2023, Shayla Bulloch, Page 22

A young advocate for melanoma awareness has lost her battle with the insidious disease she fought for eight years. Gina Savage, the founder of The Six Hour Project, passed away on Monday after a long fight with melanoma.

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Take heed of Gina's message, and check

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Editorials, 18/06/2023, Page 72

The loss of Gina Savage to melanoma last Monday is a tragedy. In 2015, at just 20 years of age, Gina's life became a blur of medical appointments and surgery as she fought this insidious disease for eight years.

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Queensland melanoma advocate Gina Savage dies aged 28

NEWS.com.au, Other, 17/06/2023, Natalie Brown

Queensland woman Gina Savage has died at the age of 28 after a years-long battle with melanoma. [...] According to current statistics from the Cancer Council, two in three Aussies are predicted to be diagnosed with some form of skin cancer by the age of 70 yet research this year from life insurer TAL

found that 63 per cent of the population have not had a skin check in the last 12 months, and 30 per cent have never had one.

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

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Brave young woman who waged high-profile campaign for more public awareness after she was diagnosed with melanoma tragically loses her fight aged 28

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 17/06/2023, Ashley Nickel

A young woman who spent the last years of her life spreading awareness about melanoma has died. Brisbane advocate Gina Savage, 28, died on Monday, eight years after she was diagnosed with incurable metastatic melanoma. [...] The Melanoma Institute Australia warns one Australian is diagnosed with melanoma every 30 minutes and one Aussie dies from the cancer every six hours.

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ABC News, ABC Evening News (Weekend), 17/06/2023, Mariam Saab

Australia and New Zealand have the highest rates of skin cancer in the world and that goes for the most deadly type, melanoma, which claims more lives than the road toll. Older men living in the bush are most likely to get skin cancer. Landline's Kristy O'Brien reports it's set to worsen, with rates expected to double in the next 50 years.

[Play Now](#)

The courage to make every moment count

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 17/06/2023, Laura Turner

A rare, lifelong form of epilepsy could end Skyler Coghlan's life, and almost did. Parents Dan and Bianca tell of grieving a life that could have been, while trying every day to save a life that deserves to be.

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Channel 7, Weekend Sunrise, 17/06/2023, Monique Wright and Michael Usher

Interview with Dr Ginni Mansberg discussing the fall in rates of free bowel cancer screening.

[Play Now](#)

Sky News Live, Saturday Edition, 17/06/2023, Tim Gilbert and Jaynie Seal

Interview with Australian Men's Health Forum CEO Glenn Poole. Poole says Men's Health Week is massively important. He says men's health is a major issue and Australian-born men are dying seven years younger than women on average.

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[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

'People dying during the process': Push to free up euthanasia laws

Sunday Age, General News, 18/06/2023, Melissa Cunningham, Page 11

Once a national leader with its "groundbreaking" voluntary assisted dying legislation, Victoria is now trailing all other Australian states, euthanasia advocates say. Tomorrow will mark the start of the fifth year of Victoria's euthanasia laws.

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

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Why I'm ready to end my life at 23

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 18/06/2023, Agnes Gichuhi, Page 24

Lily Thai will be departing from this life on Wednesday – a decision she's made to free herself from her body aged just 23. Crippled with illness and pain for most of her young life, she hopes to finally find peace and freedom in self-imposed death. The young South Australian will use the state's voluntary assisted dying laws, legalised in South Australia since January 23, having signed the final paperwork last week.

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

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Assisted dying: Ethical considerations

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, James Lloyd, Page 28

Voluntary assisted dying (VAD) in Australia is a controversial topic that has been widely debated in recent years. At its core, the issue revolves around whether individuals should have the right to end their own lives if suffering from a terminal illness that causes significant pain and suffering.

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This is about life and love, not death

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 18/06/2023, Emily Kowal, Page 26

Hospice. It's a word said in hushed tones, with lowered eyes and an apologetic grimace. When coupled with "children and young adults," its implications become almost unimaginable. But when Niki Markou hears the word, her whole body changes.

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Haven of love

Sunday Telegraph, Editorials, 18/06/2023, Page 92

The act of nursing a terminally ill child is an unimaginable horror for a parent, and it is a task made more difficult because the healthcare system has not been very good at purpose-built facilities for young people who are dying. Today, we focus on the first-ever adolescent hospice and the impact it is having on families in such a short space of time is already miraculous.

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Mission to fix hospitals

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 18/06/2023, Madura McCormack, Page 1

Tackling Queensland's healthcare system has proved even more complex than she expected, new Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has admitted. In an exclusive interview after spending the first month in her new job visiting 30 hospitals in a statewide blitz, Ms Fentiman said she was clear on her priorities, including reducing ambulance ramping.

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

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Nursing boost set for July

Sunday Times, General News, 18/06/2023, Joe Spagnolo, Page 3

Historic new nurse-to-patient ratios will begin at Perth Children's Hospital on July 17 – two years after the tragic death of seven-year-old Aishwarya Aswath shone a light on an understaffed and overwhelmed emergency department the night she died. Two months after Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson revealed in the Sunday Times the introduction of the unprecedented change in the way WA hospitals are staffed, Ms Sanderson has now confirmed July 17 as the start date of a new model which will see a one-to-three nurse-to patient ratio for the hospital's emergency department.

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Lives at risk

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 18/06/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 1

The state government is being pressed to hold an urgent summit to address the ambulance ramping crisis, with new figures showing more than 15,000 patients were ramped outside hospitals in the first nine months of this financial year alone. According to official Health Department statistics, almost half (47.8 per cent) of ambulances at the Royal Hobart Hospital were ramped on arrival in 2022-23, up from 42.6 per cent in the previous year.

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

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Patrick Dangerfield among patients forced to wait outside RAH as state's ramping crisis worsens

ABC Online, Other, 17/06/2023, Dylan Burns

AFL star Patrick Dangerfield was forced to wait in a ramped ambulance outside the Royal Adelaide Hospital with a partially collapsed lung and a cracked rib after Geelong's clash against Port Adelaide on Thursday night. Opposition Leader David Speirs said the state's ramping crisis was worsening and a "code white" had been called six times already this month across the metropolitan hospital system.

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NSW Ambulance apologises after paramedics refuse sick toddler's hospital transfer

ABC Online, Other, 17/06/2023, Alasdair Mcdonald

NSW Ambulance has apologised to a toddler and family after paramedics refused to transfer the one-year-old to a larger hospital for treatment due to ongoing low-level industrial action. A family member told the ABC the ill boy was taken to Moruya Hospital on the NSW far south coast on Wednesday, after a doctor's referral.

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Central Queensland couple wants answers after newborn baby's death at Emerald Hospital

ABC Online, Other, 17/06/2023, Rachel McGhee

Rebecca and Tim Spreadborough could not wait to meet their baby boy. After going through fertility treatment, Rebecca's pregnancy was low risk, with regular antenatal appointments at their local hospital in Emerald, central Queensland. But Alby's delivery in February at the Emerald Hospital ended in tragedy.

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Grieving mum seeks action on harrowing death of her healthy baby boy after traumatic 18-hour labour

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 17/06/2023, Hannah Wilcox

A grief-stricken mother is demanding answers after losing her newborn son following complications during a horror 18-hour labour that she claims staff at a Queensland hospital were 'not equipped for'. Tim and Rebecca Spreadborough are now pushing for an independent review after her baby boy Alby died at Emerald Hospital in central Queensland on February 5.

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Woman reveals why her birth made her feel she had no say

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 17/06/2023, Mary Madigan

A traumatised woman has shared her scary birth story and the horrible reality she was forced to face. Local Sydney woman Alexa Kirchen was left completely shocked when she realised her body her choice would not be the case when she asked to be induced to give birth to her son.

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[Back to Top](#)

Police guide for mental crises cut

Sun Herald, General News, 18/06/2023, Charlotte Grieve, Page 1

NSW Police axed an award winning training program to help front-line officers deal with people suffering from mental health issues, including dementia, in a move that former commanders claim has put lives at risk. Former NSW Police commander David Donohue said there were real questions about whether the death of 95-year-old Clare Nowland, after a police officer Tasered her during a dementia episode, would have been preventable if the training he designed was still available.

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

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Mental health crisis training a must for police

Sun Herald, Editorials, 18/06/2023, Page 26

Days after 95-year-old Clare Nowland was tasered by NSW Police last month, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission released a crucial report featuring some damning insights into police training in this state. The report, examining five years of police actions in critical incidents, deserves to be front of mind of this state's politicians, police commissioners and anyone involved in the mental health sector.

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The 'terror' driving kids to school refusal

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 18/06/2023, Jessica McSweeney, Page 15

Tiana Andrews was dragged screaming from her home by her school principal when she was just six years old. Her autism meant the staring eyes of other children, the tough love of teachers and the general sensory overload of the school grounds sent Tiana into complete shutdown.

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

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Help for mums, dads, bubs

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 18/06/2023, Sarah Booth, Page 37

New and expectant parents can get free mental health support from the only Australian pregnancy app that is focused on parents. Experts hope it can tackle perinatal illness, which they say increased during the pandemic and is exacerbated by the "picture-perfect" portrayals of parenthood on social media and in advertisements.

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A healthy property market?

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 18/06/2023, Tom Bowden, Page 60

Rather than launching straight into my column this week I want to start it with a warning that it discusses suicide and may be triggering for some. I really don't want you to get part way in and be blindsided by something confronting, so if this isn't something you want to deal with, please jump to the next article now.

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Finding the light

Sunday Times, STM, 18/06/2023, Jade Jurewicz, Page 1

When a dark cloud of depression hung over Alex Pearce's identity and footy career, he sought help. Now he's working to make sure others can do the same.

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WA's first short-stay service for youth at risk of suicide to open later this year, following funding boost

West Australian, Other, 18/06/2023, Sarah Makse

The State's first short-stay accommodation service for young people experiencing thoughts of suicide is set to open in October. An ageing Subiaco office building is being refurbished as a place for people

aged 16-24 experiencing suicidal thoughts or behaviours to stay for up to four nights without the need for a medical diagnosis or referral.

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Sky News Live, Weekend Live , 17/06/2023, Peter Stefanovic

Interview with Movember director of mental health training Dr Zac Seidler. Seidler says data reveal that every year more and more men are willing to get support for their wellbeing. He says we need to chip away at stereotypes getting in the way of men reaching out for help.

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Radio National, Saturday Extra, 17/06/2023, Geraldine Doogue

Interview with Movember director of mental health training Dr Zac Seidler, discussing the impact of loneliness on men's health.

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[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Interventions needed to curb 'high-risk' drinking among Australian nurses

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 6

Tailored interventions are urgently needed to address growing alcohol consumption among Australian nurses, with booze levels within the profession now rivalling high-risk industries such as mining and construction, according to a new paper. A national survey of 1,159 nurses, conducted from June to October 2021, found Australian nurses were drinking more than previously reported, with the COVID-19 pandemic emerging as a leading contributing factor.

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Nurse Practitioners transforming healthcare

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 46

Projects to develop the Nurse Practitioner role began in Australia in the 1990s, with the first two Nurse Practitioners approved in 2000. Now in 2023, we have around 2,500 nurse practitioners. So how far have we travelled in 23 years?

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Final-year clinical placement helps recruit to aged care sector

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 6

A novel final-year university placement in aged care is helping nursing students transition work-ready into the sector on graduation. One of the first in Australia, the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) and aged care provider Lutheran Services have expanded a pilot final-year placement program to three aged care sites across South East Queensland.

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The importance of enrolled nurses in Australian healthcare

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 27

Australia, like many nations, faces current and future nursing shortages. These shortages have been exacerbated by the pandemic and ongoing pressure in aged care, however signs of the impending shortfall have precedent.

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

New mobile app helps patients access My Health Record

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 7

The Australian Digital Health Agency has launched a new mobile app, my health, to make it easier for Australians to instantly access key health information contained in My Health Record. Offering users greater autonomy over their health journey, from the home screen users can quickly see medicines information history, check pathology results, view vaccination history, look over hospital discharge summaries, and share documents with others.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Fears for public health as state funding slashed

Sunday Age, General News, 18/06/2023, Chip Le Grand, Page 1

The state government has slashed future funding for one of its most significant pandemic-era reforms: the local public health units established at the height of the COVID-19 crisis to rebuild the state's public health capacity and defence against infectious disease. Despite Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas announcing a \$103 million funding "boost" to support the work of the nascent local public health units, last month's state budget hid deep cuts that will reduce funding for the nine metropolitan and regional units by 40 per cent over the next two years.

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

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SPORT

Club heads in right direction to prevent injury

Sun Herald, General News, 18/06/2023, Billie Eder, Page 2

A football club on Sydney's north shore has taken it upon itself to bring in head injury prevention experts to educate coaching staff on heading the ball. Lindfield FC consulted experts in the off-season to provide coaches with information about if and when players should be heading the ball, following decisions to ban the technique for junior players overseas.

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Concussed kids warning

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 18/06/2023, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 15

Kids and young people who suffer a head knock may need to be sidelined for much longer up to a month, according to new Adelaide research. University of South Australia-based sports experts say there's also new evidence to suggest concussion in young sports people can increase their future risk of injury by 50 per cent.

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

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

Boxer's wake-up call for football concussion management

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 17/06/2023, Jack Evans

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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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

What we can learn from our DNA

Sun Herald, General News, 18/06/2023, Jackson Graham, Page 1

Did we really inherit that singing voice? What about our maths brain?

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'Smart' drugs a foolish choice

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 18/06/2023, Sarah Perillo, Page 17

Illegally obtained ADHD medications do not work as "study drugs", new research shows. Students, white-collar workers and shiftworkers have long fuelled a huge black market for prescription drugs such as Ritalin, Adderall and Provigil. But research led by the University of Melbourne has found the drugs actually make it harder for people without ADHD to perform complex tasks.

Also reported by: [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#).

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Personalised approach in advanced heart studies

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 18/06/2023, John Kidman, Page 3

Despite medical advances, one in four Australians will die from cardiovascular disease. That's a life every 12 minutes, yet experts still don't understand why heart attack, stroke and coronary heart disease develop and progress differently in each patient.

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Tassie Parkinson's test on world stage

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 18/06/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 17

A Tasmanian academic has been selected to present at a global conference in Barcelona, where she will showcase cutting-edge technology designed to detect early symptoms of Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease using artificial intelligence. Associate Professor Jane Alty, of the University of Tasmania's Wicking Dementia Research Education Centre, will address the most esteemed neurology researchers on the planet at the World Parkinson Congress in Barcelona, which is being held from July 4-7.

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

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Individual approach for matters of the heart

Sunday Examiner, General News, 18/06/2023, John Kidman, Page 12

Despite medical advances, one in four Australians will die from cardiovascular disease. That's a life every 12 minutes yet experts still don't understand why heart attack, stroke and coronary heart disease develop and progress differently in each patient. But now, pioneering technology harnessed at Sydney's Heart Research Institute is poised to revolutionise diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

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

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Shift workers eat more and face higher illness risk than day workers

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 6

Rotating shift workers eat more kilojoules, snack more on junk food and consume fewer nutritious foods, increasing their risk of diet-related illness. A Monash University-led systematic review of dietary habit and energy intake studies found rotating shift workers ate on average 264 more kilojoules than regular day workers.

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Alarming bias among healthcare students could impact future care

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Page 7

Healthcare students often hold negative attitudes and beliefs towards people living with obesity, which could lead to poor clinical care and outcomes, according to new Curtin University-led research. The study, which surveyed 900 healthcare students across 39 Australian universities, found students held explicit and implicit weight-biased attitudes and beliefs, were fearful of 'gaining weight' and lacked confidence in clinical settings when helping patients living with obesity.

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Promising new Network set to boost nursing and midwifery research

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, General News, 01/06/2023, Kathryn Andersons, Page 32

The recently formed Australasian Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Trials Network (ANMCTN) is set to elevate and support nursing and midwifery research across Australasia. The world first Network, formed in 2020, brings together academic institutions to enhance, support and facilitate nurse or midwife-led clinical research.

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[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

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[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immunisation campaigner Catherine Hughes calls RSV vaccine rollout preparation as jabs bring new hope

West Australian, Other, 18/06/2023, Caitlyn Rintoul

WA immunisation campaigner Catherine Hughes, whose baby Riley died from whooping cough complications, has urged the State and Federal Government to prepare for RSV vaccine rollout as new jabs near regulatory approval. Ms Hughes will join medical experts at the Communicable Diseases and Immunisation Conference 2023 in Perth at the weekend, including a symposium on RSV.

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Australian health insurers and pharmaceutical companies reckon with new psychedelic mental health treatments

ABC Online, Other, 17/06/2023, Kate Ashton

Medicinal cannabis companies are trying to get a foothold in Australia's new psychedelics market, with therapies using MDMA and psilocybin to treat severe mental health conditions permitted from next month. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) surprised many in February when it approved the prescribing of MDMA for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression , with the decision to take effect from July 1.

[Read More](#)

Amy Schumer has revealed the lengths she's taken to lose weight

NEWS.com.au, Other, 17/06/2023, Mary Madigan

Comedian Amy Schumer has revealed exactly what she has done to lose weight and how it impacted her. In a recent chat on Andy Cohen's show, she said that she'd dabbled with the drug Ozempic with the aim to shed some kilos. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration explained it is still a prescription-only medicine and should only be determined as an appropriate treatment option in consultation with a medical practitioner.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

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[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

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[Back to Top](#)

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[Back to Top](#)

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