



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 29th June 2023

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports women's political advocacy group Emily's List will call for nationwide abortion access and more assistance for women in regional areas to access abortion services at Labor upcoming national party conference. Motions to be presented by the organisation will include calls for abortion services to be made available at all public hospitals, and for nurses to be able to prescribe termination medication like Mifepristone.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports the ACT government will today release a community consultation report on framework for voluntary assisted dying legislation ahead of a final model expected to be ready by the end of the year. Human Rights Minister Tara Cheyne said the government would consider access for VAD to people as young as 14, with an expected death timeline outside the six to 12-month prognosis used by other states, and would consider expanding access to patients with dementia after the legislation was in place. *Also reported by: [The Australian](#)*
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports job losses at Victoria's local public health units may render some facilities unable to manage future workloads forcing their closure. The North Eastern Public Health Unit will see job cuts of 40 per cent of its workforce over the next year, including 31 of 93 positions from tomorrow, forcing the closure of two of its three worksites this week.

- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 1) reports Queensland Health director-general Shaun Drummond has resigned following submissions to a state government review of Public Interest Disclosure laws perceived to gag whistleblowers. Australian Medical Association Queensland chief Maria Boulton said Mr Drummond's successor needed to bring cultural change to Queensland Health and focus on healthcare workers. *Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review](#), [Courier Mail](#), [Cairns Post](#), [ABC News](#)*
- The [Hobart Mercury](#) (page 1) reports Tasmania's nurses and midwives will consider strike action if the state government's forthcoming new employment agreement offer doesn't up pay and ease workloads. Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian branch secretary Emily Shepherd said "Our members haven't put a figure on it but we say we should at least be at national average. Because we just cannot recruit."
- [The Australian](#) (page 2) reports the federal government will examine ways to support regional pharmacies through the industry's transition to 60-day script dispensation rules, Health Minister Mark Butler says. Mr Butler said the government would double the allowance made to rural pharmacies. "We have to make sure that particularly pharmacies in rural communities are supported through this process," Mr Butler said.
- The [Herald Sun](#) (page 3) reports an international study, including Melbourne's Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health, has identified a "genetic flag" for multiple sclerosis able to predict the severity of the disease. The report says the finding is the first step to preventing long-term disability for people with MS.
- The [Adelaide Advertiser](#) (page 3) reports South Australia's Health Minister Chris Picton has intervened to allow private obstetricians to deliver babies of private patients at the Adelaide Women's and Children's Hospital. Mr Picton said a plan by the hospital's executive to prevent private OBGYN's delivering patient's children in the hospital was made without health department consultation. *Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser](#)*
- [The Australian](#) (page 7) reports health minister Mark Butler has reiterated Labor's commitment to expanding Australia's newborn screening program following criticism from the Australian Pompe Foundation the process is moving too slowly. "Every dollar spent in the health system is precious and must be backed up by robust processes and informed by independent experts," Mr Butler said. "Australian families can have confidence the streamlined process for considering conditions for screening will help us expand the program in a much quicker and more transparent way." *Also reported by: [West Australian](#), [Canberra Times](#)*
- The [Herald Sun](#) (page 11) reports people living with diabetes undergoing kidney dialysis represent one in 20 hospital admissions nationwide, but this figure will almost double by 2040, a report by Diabetes Australia says. Health Minister Mark Butler on Thursday will announce a new medication called Kerendia will be added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme to help close a gap in treatment for Australians with diabetic kidney disease. *Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Courier Mail](#)*
- [The Guardian](#) reports PwC's audit of an aged care sector workforce grants program has been suspended until further notice, a health department spokesperson says. "It remains to be seen if, and which, further work programs or contracts may be disrupted as a result of ongoing discussions between the department and PwC," the department spokesperson said.

MINISTER BUTLER

Labor to better protect regional pharmacies

The Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Jess Malcolm, Page 2

Health Minister Mark Butler says the government is looking at "other ways" to support regional pharmacies during the sector's move to 60-day dispensing after internal concern in Labor that the policy may force rural chemists to shut down. The commitment comes after The Australian revealed calls from Labor Senator Helen Polley who said "everything should be on the table" to protect smaller pharmacies from closure.

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

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Fury over delayed newborn screening

The Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Natasha Robinson, Page 7

Labor is denying accusations it has broken an election promise on expanding the nation's newborn screening program, insisting it is making steady progress on "mapping out a transparent and consistent process" between states to identify and consider conditions for which genetic screening will apply. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler yesterday reiterated Labor's commitment to the policy, issuing a press release that vowed the government would "continue expanding Australia's screening towards the 80 benchmark" as part of a transparency process being mapped out with states and territories.

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

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Diabetes' double whammy

Herald Sun, General News, 29/06/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 11

One in 20 admissions to hospitals across the nation are the result of people living with diabetes who are undergoing kidney dialysis. [...] This will be announced on Thursday by federal Health Minister Mark Butler, who says subsidising it will be life changing for Australians living with diabetic kidney disease.

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

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Screening boost for babies

West Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Page 20

Babies will be screened for more rare health conditions, paving the way for early diagnosis as the Federal Government expands its national program. The number of genetic conditions tested through newborn blood-spot screening programs will increase to 50 and a more streamlined system will be implemented as part of a \$39 million overhaul. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler on Wednesday said Australia was seeking to screen 80 conditions, which was world's best practice.

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A huge health disparity

The Land, General News, 29/06/2023, Jamieson Murphy, Page 10

Regional Australians miss out on nearly \$850 a year in healthcare access, which equates to a total annual rural health spending deficit of \$6.5 billion, a new report has found. The National Rural Health Alliance, which commissioned the report, said the damning document provided clear evidence for the need to bring the country's scattered rural health initiatives under one umbrella. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the government's recent healthcare measures would benefit regional patients, pointing to a \$6.1 billion investment to strengthen Medicare and a \$3.5b bulk billing incentive.

Also reported by: [Stock & Land \(Melbourne\)](#), [Stock Journal \(Adelaide\)](#), [Queensland Country Life \(Brisbane\)](#), [Farm Weekly \(Online\)](#).

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Rural patients miss out on \$850 a year in healthcare access

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 29/06/2023, Page 6

Health regional Australians miss out on nearly \$850 a year in healthcare access, which equates to a total annual rural health spending deficit of \$6.5 billion, a new report has found. The National Rural Health Alliance, which commissioned the report, said the damning document provided clear evidence for the need to bring the country's scattered rural health initiatives under one umbrella. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the government's recent healthcare measures would benefit regional patients, pointing to a \$6.1 billion investment to strengthen Medicare and a \$3.5b bulk billing incentive.

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Cheap medicine makes pharmacies crook

Stock Journal, General News, 29/06/2023, Jamieson Murphy, Page 10

By more than 150 regional pharmacies would be forced to close, with thousands laid off if the government pushes ahead with its plan to extend scripts from 30 days to 60, a report commissioned by

Pharmacy Guild says. But the Health Minister and the Australian Medical Association blasted the pharmacy industry's attempt as a "scare campaign" against a policy that would give millions access to cheaper medicine. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler slammed the Pharmacy Guild for campaigning against a policy that would make medicine cheaper for more than six million people.

Also reported by: [Queensland Country Life \(Brisbane\)](#).

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Wider screening for rare health conditions in babies

Canberra Times, Other, 28/06/2023, Mibenge Nsenduluka

Babies will be screened for more rare health conditions, paving the way for early diagnosis as the federal government expands its national program. The number of genetic conditions tested through newborn blood-spot screening programs will increase to 50 and a more streamlined system will be implemented as part of a \$39 million overhaul. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler on Wednesday said Australia was seeking to screen 80 conditions, which is world best practice.

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

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Health Minister drops by to discuss Voice to Parliament

Coast Community News, Other, 29/06/2023, Terry Collins

Health Minister Mark Butler and Member for Robertson Gordon Reid at Yerin Health Minister Mark Butler was on the Central Coast on Tuesday, June 27, to talk about the coming referendum on the Voice to Parliament and how it might affect health policy. Accompanied by Member for Robertson Gordon Reid, he toured the Yerin Eleanor Duncan Service at Wyong.

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National Rural Health Alliance report finds \$6.5 billion funding shortfall

The Land Australia, Other, 28/06/2023

"Why should people living in rural Australia pay twice or thrice the amount for the same health care available in cities, yet still have poorer health? This is the unfortunate reality faced by many rural Australians." [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the government's recent healthcare measures would benefit regional patients, pointing to a \$6.1b investment to strengthen Medicare and a \$3.5b bulk billing incentive.

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Urgent care clinic opens in Sunbury

Star Weekly, Other, 28/06/2023

Sunbury residents will receive extended medical care with the opening of the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (UCC) at the Goonawarra Medical Centre Sunbury on June 27. The medical centre will be open seven days a week with extended open hours, and all services will be fully bulk billed with no need for an appointment. [...] Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said the Sunbury UCC will cut down medical wait times for locals.

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Labor MPs 'break rank' on government's 60-day prescriptions policy

Sky News Australia, Other, 28/06/2023

Labor MPs break rank' on government's 60-day prescriptions policy Two Labor MPs have broken ranks on the Albanese government's 60-day prescriptions policy, according to Sky News host Peta Credlin. "Government backbenchers are increasingly on edge, even to the point of an out revolt by some who don't think the Health Minister Mark Butler has really thought this through and they want action," she said.

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Identifying some opportunities to change conversations about lung cancer

Croakey, Other, 29/06/2023, Jason Staines

It is time to remove the stigma around lung cancer and disrupt assumptions about it being solely attributable to someone's decision to smoke, according to researchers at the University of Sydney. [...] Gianni Tien, Alex Broom, Katherine Kenny and Malinda Itchins write: Earlier this year, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced a new national Lung Cancer Screening Program.

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'The dirty disease' – both smokers and non-smokers get lung cancer. They face stigma on top of illness

Knowridge Science Report, Other, 28/06/2023

Earlier this year, federal health minister Mark Butler announced a new national Lung Cancer Screening Program. The first of its kind for lung cancer, the screening program will open initially to current and former smokers aged 50 to 70 years by July 2025.

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Butler backs greater global collaboration

MedNews, Other, 28/06/2023, Megan Brodie

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has backed further collaboration for Australia in... [This is subscriber-only content]

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Is the 60-day medication dispensing policy putting financial burden on older Australians?

Starts at 60, Other, 28/06/2023, Ysabelle Alesna

Proposed reforms on pharmacy dispensing by the Australian government have sparked concerns about the unintended consequences for older Australians. Anthony Tisoni, Vice President of the Pharmacy Guild, has raised alarm bells over the potential financial burden that the 60-day medication dispensing policy may place on this demographic. [...] Health Minister, Mark Butler, had previously argued that every dollar saved by the government would be reinvested in pharmacy services to enhance the role of pharmacists in Australian healthcare.

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Sky News Live, Chris Kenny Tonight, 28/06/2023, Steve Price

Interview with Pauline Hanson, One Nation Leader about changes to prescriptions which will double the medicine supply from its current 30 day maximum. Hanson says it's going to alleviate the pressure on doctors of patients having to go back purely for a script. She states Health Minister Mark Butler told her they are very concerned about regional and rural communities with their pharmacists. She notes she recommended that instead providing \$100,000 subsidy to rural and regional pharmacies the Government must look the pharmacy tax returns. Hanson suggests that the Pharmacy Guild is looking after their own hip pocket and increase the dispensing fees to the chemists.

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Sky News Live, Credlin, 28/06/2023, Peta Credlin

Interview with Anthony Tassone, Vice President, Pharmacy Guild of Australia about the Pharmacy Guild's campaign against marginal Labor held seats. Credlin says blowback against the government's plans is worrying a lot of backbenchers, and they're demanding the Health Minister Mark Butler to rethink the scheme. Tassone explains the Federal Government's double reforms on dispensing is unsustainable and will force pharmacies to shut and cut jobs. He adds they had conversations with the Government but notes the Health Minister hasn't apologise.

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2MCE, 16:00 National Radio News, 28/06/2023

Minister of National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill Shorten has dismissed using co-payments or means testing as a way to reduce the soaring cost of the programme. The \$39 million investment will detect 50 more rare genetic health conditions than is currently available Pompe disease, Batten

Disease, Sanfilippo Syndrome and GMT deficiency are among those conditions. Health Minister Mark Butler said the programme will become a world best practise allowing it to screen 80 conditions in total.

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Triple M Gold Coast, 13:00 News, 28/06/2023

More than 5000 patients have been cared for at the Morayfield Minor Illness and Accident Centre since it reopened its doors in April. It follows a \$3.75 million injection by the Albanese Government. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says similar clinics will open across the country to ease pressure off hospitals.

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2SM, 12:00 News, 28/06/2023

Pharmacy owners will launch a new campaign against marginal Labor held seats as MPs speak out against dispensing changes. The Pharmacy Guild has warned the changes to allow patients to collect two months of medicine for the price of one will force regional pharmacies to close and cut 20,000 jobs. News Corp reports Labor Senator Helen Pollicie expressed concerns about pharmacy closures and has called for further dialogue, while Labor MP Mike Freeland has called for better compensation for pharmacies. The guild will launch a campaign against eight marginal seats across Australia, which has been described by Health Minister Mark Butler as the latest scare campaign from the pharmacy lobby group.

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ABC Central Coast, Breakfast, 28/06/2023, Scott Levi

Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler visited Wyong yesterday with the Member for Robertson, Gordon Reid. Dr Gordon Reid. They had a tour of Yarran Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Health Service at Wyong and they were also looking at promoting the voice to Parliament and how it will impact the health of First Nations people in their opinion.

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Triple M Central Coast, Breakfast, 28/06/2023, Paddy Gerrard and Rob Palmer

The Health Minister has paid a visit to the Central Coast to highlight the importance of the voice to Parliament. Mark Butler says it will be a crucial part of improving health outcomes for First Nations communities, stopping at Wyong to deliver an address.

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MINISTER WELLS

Taskforce must get it right

Area News, General News, 28/06/2023, Page 11

The federal government taskforce will begin work on funding reforms to be included in a new Aged Care Act due mid-2024.[...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells has warned of both an ageing population and an ageing workforce. That's nothing new... we've known about it for years, and every government brings out the "ageing population" line whenever discussion turns to seniors and dollars.

Also reported by: [Southern Highland News \(Bowral\)](#), [Glen Innes Examiner \(Glen Innes\)](#), [Moree Champion \(Moree\)](#), [Tenterfield Star \(Tenterfield\)](#).

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New taskforce holds first discussions

Community Care Review, Other, 28/06/2023

The need to address long-term funding of the aged care sector was among the topics discussed at the inaugural meeting of the aged care taskforce last week. Chaired by Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells

and attended by industry stakeholders the taskforce was established to review financing of the industry and to oversee the final design of the new in-home care program.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Legislation tabled for National Occupational Respiratory Disease Registry

Australian Institute of Health & Safety, Other, 28/06/2023

The Federal Government recently introduced legislation that aims to capture, record and share the causes of deadly occupational respiratory diseases like silicosis. [...] "Silicosis can have a devastating impact on workers and their loved ones this is an entirely preventable illness, and all too often leads to entirely preventable deaths," said Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney.

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Junk food gets the boot from Woolworths checkout aisles in a major overhaul of the supermarket giant

Sky News Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Amy Landsey

Woolworths has vowed to remove children's lollies and chocolates from its checkout aisles in a major overhaul. Products like Chupa Chups, Kinder Surprise and Caramello Koalas are all in the firing line and are set to be removed from the checkout section of all stores [...] Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney told 9News the supermarket chain was "leading the way".

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Channel 9, National Nine Early News, 28/06/2023, Alex Cullen

Drying dry finish rinse aid. A big change at Woolworths could make life easier for parents dealing with pester power kids. The supermarket giant has started removing kids confectionery from its checkout aisles while increasing the number of healthier snacks. It's the added pressure parents can well do without the pleading for treats at the checkout at the end of a shopping trip. Starting today, all Woolworths supermarkets will remove enticing kids confectionery things that are directly marketed for children.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Race to restore credibility

The Australian, Business News, 29/06/2023, Glenda Korporaal, Page 21

PwC has to work fast to stem the bloodletting Beleaguered accounting firm PwC Australia is in a race against time to restore confidence in the group or risk a complete break-up. [...] She said PwC was currently advising the federal Department of Health and Aged Care on future pricing for residential aged care from July 2024 while also "putting out for work to the private sector" on how to price aged care services.

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

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Methadone shortage fears

Port Stephens Examiner, General News, 29/06/2023, Michael Parris, Page 9

Hunter pharmacists fear a methadone shortage could push patients into the hospital system and put staff at risk of violence from angry customers. Raymond Terrace pharmacist Tim Mizzi said he had run out of methadone last Thursday, while Newcastle pharmacist James Reid was due to run out the same day but received an 11thhour delivery.

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State matters: Dave Layzell

Singleton Argus, General News, 29/06/2023, Page 7

The Legislative Council's Standing Committee on State Development is calling submissions for an inquiry into the feasibility of undergrounding transmission infrastructure for renewable energy projects. [...] Australia's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Paul Kelly, has issued a public reminder that COVID-19 is still very much around and remains a health risk.

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PwC Australia faces partner exodus amid tax crisis

The Australian, Other, 28/06/2023, Glenda Korporaal

PwC Australia faces the exit of 70 partners from its business this financial year, in addition to the 130 set to move to a new private company, as the firm battles to cut costs in a falling market according to information released after a partner meeting on Wednesday [...] She said the Department of Health and Aged Care was currently examining whether there was any conflict of interest in PwC's current advice to the government over aged care pricing and its advice on issues of pricing to private companies involved in the age care market.

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Federal government suspends big aged care contract with PwC

The Guardian, Other, 29/06/2023, Henry Belot

The federal government has suspended a major project with embattled consultancy firm PwC as it continues to seek assurances about potential conflicts of interest. The health and aged care department secretary, Prof Brendan Murphy, told an estimates hearing earlier this month the government was having "very frank discussions" with PwC after the misuse of confidential tax policy information.

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MenB vax catch-up program should be permanent: PBAC

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/06/2023, Antony Scholefield

The temporary program for under-2s was scheduled to end this Friday. The meningococcal B vaccination catch-up program for Indigenous children should become a permanent fixture on the NIP, the PBAC has recommended. [...] The federal Department of Health and Aged Care has yet to announce whether the recommendation will be taken up before the temporary program ends on Friday.

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Enrolled Nurse minutes a key pillar of funding for aged care reforms

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 28/06/2023, Robert Fedele

Enrolled Nurses are a key part of increased funding provided by the Australian Government to ensure all nursing homes have an appropriate mix of RNs, ENs and PCWs/AINs as they meet minimum care

minute responsibilities, in line with recommendations made by the landmark Aged Care Royal Commission. [...] Positively, as care minute responsibilities become mandatory from October and beyond, the Department of Health and Aged Care's latest Quarterly Financial Snapshot of the Aged Care Sector (October to December 2022) shows residential care providers are averaging 189 minutes of care per resident per day, including 35 minutes of RN time, 15 minutes of EN time, and 139 minutes from personal care workers.

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Are you prepared for the new ODT program?

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 28/06/2023, Chloe Hava

With the Opioid Dependence Treatment (ODT) Community Pharmacy Program kicking off on Saturday 1 July, Australian Pharmacist explains the steps you need to take before, during and after the transition. Treatment for opioid dependency is about to become much more affordable and accessible for patients. [...] Before claiming for daily ODT dispensing fees, patients must sign a consent form granting pharmacists permission to provide their details to the Pharmacy Programs Administrator (PPA) and the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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Consultation on the National Health and Climate Strategy

Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF), Other, 28/06/2023

Climate change is the single biggest health issue facing people everywhere. In Australia, we've seen this in recent years as catastrophic weather events have become both more frequent and more damaging. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care has released a consultation document for the development of the National Health and Climate Strategy.

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Concerns raised about KPMG conducting National Health and Climate Strategy consultation

Croakey, Other, 29/06/2023, Melissa Sweet

The appointment of one of the Big 4 consultancy firms, KPMG, to run a consultation for the National Health and Climate Strategy has raised concerns, coming at a time of increasing scrutiny of these firms and their work for governments, and amid growing understanding of how the commercial determinants of health can undermine public policy. [...] Note from Croakey We asked KPMG and the Department of Health and Aged Care to respond to the concerns raised above.

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Amid global concerns about the threat of misinformation and disinformation, is the Australian Government doing enough?

Croakey, Other, 29/06/2023, Melissa Sweet

The spread of misinformation and disinformation on digital platforms is a global threat that is undermining health, peace, democracy and human rights, the United Nations has warned in a policy brief urging wide-ranging responses. [...] In response to these questions from Croakey, the Department of Health and Aged Care provided this statement: "Misinformation and disinformation pose a threat to the safety and wellbeing of Australians, as well as our democracy, society and economy.

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Welcome to this time of year

PS News, Other, 28/06/2023

Yes readers , it's this time of year when Mother Nature imposes super unwellness on its mild-mannered reporters of great metropolitan newspapers and it has certainly succeeded in doing just that for PS-sssst! and its sorry season. [...] The answer was Belle', and the two lucky winners who scored the popular movie freebies were Suzanna A from the federal Department of Home Affairs and Scott M from the national Department of Health and Aged Care in Canberra.

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Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 28/06/2023, Kenny Heatley

Interview with Tim Costello, Chief Advocate, Alliance for Gambling Reform about gambling ad ban. Costello believes a blanket ban on gambling ads will work citing countries that implemented policies like Italy, Spain and Belgium. He says there's not one health bureaucrat in any state health department, let alone federal health department dealing with gambling. He states Independent MP Sophie Scamps is right in saying the gambling industry in Australia is our equivalent of the NRA.

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ABC Pilbara, Statewide Drive, 28/06/2023, Andrew Collins

Interview with Tim Costello, Chief Advocate, Alliance for Gambling Reform. A parliamentary committee has today released the findings of its inquiry into the harm posed by online gambling. There are 31 recommendations on how the industry should be regulated, including one that calls for a ban on betting advertising during sports events to be phased in over three years. Costello says this report recommends a national regulator with a national ombudsman treating it as a national health issue. He adds the state health departments right across Australia and in the Federal Health Department doesn't treat gambling as health issue.

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ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 28/06/2023, David Bevan

Interview with Anthony Tassone, Vice President, Pharmacy Guild of Australia about reforms on dispensing. Tassone states massive change without consultation is what they are concerned and upset about. He says the Department of Health's own impact analysis report on 60-day dispensing estimated that the impact for pharmacies was \$158,000 reduction in their remuneration each year.

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ABC Radio Melbourne, Drive, 28/06/2023, Rafael Epstein

Interview with Adjunct Associate Professor Violet Platt, CEO, Palliative Care Victoria about the discontinuation of fast acting morphine called Ordine by next year. Platt says they need to be having conversations at the federal level because this will have impact across Australia. She notes there are conversations happening between the Federal Government, Palliative Care Australia, the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia.

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CORONAVIRUS

Qld scientists in long Covid breakthrough

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/06/2023, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 41

Queensland scientists are leading the world in the development of an oral drug that will not only treat debilitating long Covid but has the potential to stop reinfections of the virus even if new variants emerge. The breakthrough, by researchers at QIMR Berghofer, is the biggest discovery in the fight against Covid since 2020 when the University of Queensland joined international laboratories in the global race to invent a vaccine to stave off the killer virus.

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Where is the government's promised royal commission into the COVID pandemic?

Canberra Times, Other, 28/06/2023, Scott Prasser

Recently, the Australian Medical Association joined the growing number of organisations, commentators, law professors, left- and right-wing think tanks, former and current government leaders and senators who have called on the Albanese government to honour its pre-election promises and subsequent statements to appoint a royal commission into assessing Australia's response to the pandemic.

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Police deny COVID fine targeting claim

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 28/06/2023, Allan Murphy

Victoria Police has rejected any suggestion that officers targeted First Nations people in issuing COVID-19 fines after a report found almost one in three fines issued in Mildura were to people of Aboriginal descent. The report, by Inner Melbourne Community Legal (IMCL), found Mildura has the second highest percentage of COVID fines issued to Aboriginal people with 27.8 per cent of fines throughout 2020.

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New drug could herald breakthrough in fight against Long Covid

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023

Queensland researchers say a new drug they've developed could transform the treatment of Long Covid, which can have debilitating effects even after mild infections.

[Read More](#)

QLD clinic one step closer to long covid treatment

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023

A new drug being developed in Queensland could hold the key to treating long COVID. It's still early days, but pre-clinical trials offer hope it could protect against infection and reverse the inflammation that is a major driver of long COVID.

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Is this why it feels like everyone keeps getting COVID?

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023

Transcript Tegan Taylor : Dr Norman Swan, I presume? Norman Swan : I think so. Tegan Taylor : I presume but I want to test it. It is time for me to test whether you are actually a real doctor, and I have some medical questions for you. Are you ready? Norman Swan : This is terrifying. Yeah, okay, go. Tegan Taylor : It's an anatomy quiz. This time I thought about giving you astronomy terms, but that really has nothing to do with your area of expertise. So what is the popliteal fossa?

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A world-first drug could reduce symptoms of long COVID

4BC, Other, 28/06/2023, Peter Gleeson

Brisbane's Berghofer Medical Research Institute, has created a drug that could combat the symptoms of long COVID. Long COVID affects 10 to 20 percent of individuals, causing symptoms such as fatigue, breathlessness, and brain fog.

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ABC, ABC News, 28/06/2023, Jessica Harmsen

Australian scientists say they've developed a treatment for long Covid. is a drawn out, debilitating illness that affects a small number of people who contract coronavirus. Researchers from Brisbane's Berghofer Medical Research Institute say they've found a way to block the virus and prevent reinfection. The treatment to undergo clinical trials later this year.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 28/06/2023, Susannah Carr and Rick Ardon

Queensland scientists have become the first in the world to develop an oral drug which not only treats long Covid but could prevent reinfections of the virus. This is a really big breakthrough from what we have found.

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Channel 7, Sunrise , 28/06/2023, Matt Shirvington and Natalie Barr

News An astonishing new drug developed by Queensland researchers could be the Covid breakthrough the world's been looking for.

Radio National, Breakfast, 28/06/2023, Patricia Karvelas

Researchers from the Qimr Berghofer Medical Research Institute say the second major study into the drug they've developed has revealed it's able to reverse the persistent inflammation. That's a major driver of long Covid. Co-lead author professor Sudha Rao says the peptide based drug known as Nice I not only prevents the inflammation which causes organ damage in long Covid, but it also repairs any existing damaged lung tissue.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Young shouldering more of tax burden

Age, General News, 29/06/2023, Shane Wright, Page 1

The federal budget's growing reliance on personal income tax is risking the nation's long-term finances, with an independent agency warning the country faces a tradeoff between providing services to older Australians and hurting the finances of young people. [...] "With an ageing population, Australia's tax mix poses a risk to fiscal sustainability," it said. "For the current tax mix, with its high dependence on personal income tax, there is a trade-off between providing sufficient support for the ageing population and maintaining intergenerational fairness for younger Australians whose primary income is wages."

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

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

Seniors say no point raising the pension age, as so few are on it

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/06/2023, Angira Bharadwaj, Page 18

An ageing population and an expected growing impact on the nation's bottom line are among the reasons for raising the retirement age. In 2009, Kevin Rudd's Labor government legislated to increase the pension age to 67 through gradual increases between July 2017 and July 2023.

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

How to navigate changes to aged care packages

Australian Financial Review, Other, 28/06/2023, Bina Brown

Indeed, the hourly rate charged by some providers for a carer has already increased from about \$60 to about \$70 this calendar year, with \$80 to be the going rate from July 1. Paradoxically, the impact of increases like these means less care hours are covered...

[Read More](#)

Fire probe launched after elderly woman dies in retirement village blaze on NSW North Coast

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Elena Couper

Fire crews and police are investigating the cause of a fire at a retirement village, which claimed the life of an elderly woman. Fire crews and police are probing the cause of a devastating fire at a retirement village on the NSW North Coast, after an elderly woman died from smoke inhalation.

[Read More](#)

Woman dies after fire at Palm Lakes Resort retirement home, NSW

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Alexandra Jones

A woman has died after a fire at a retirement village on the New South Wales North Coast. Fire crews were called to Palm Lakes Resort in Yamba just after 9pm and found the woman suffering from smoke inhalation. The woman, believed to be aged 73, was treated by paramedics but died at the scene. She is yet to be formally identified.

[Read More](#)

Intergenerational playgroups bring joy to older and younger Australians alike

SBS, Other, 28/06/2023

In an effort to address community isolation, some facilities are adopting a novel approach to social interactions - inviting children's playgroups to come and spend some time with residents. Research suggests up to 40 percent of people in aged care homes across Australia don't get any visitors, leaving many residents without important social connections that often lead to feelings of isolation and anxiety.

[Read More](#)

Australia may be headed for a 'perfect storm' of age discrimination. Here's why

SBS, Other, 28/06/2023

Australia is being urged to tackle age discrimination and elder abuse as the population ages. Key Points Age Discrimination Commissioner Kay Patterson will speak at the National Press Club.

[Read More](#)

Woman dies in house fire at Yamba retirement village

7news.com.au, Other, 28/06/2023, Ailish Delaney

A woman has died in a house fire at a retirement village on the NSW coast. The woman, believed to be 73 years old, was suffering smoke inhalation when she was found unconscious outside the one-storey home on Orion Drive, Yamba, about 9.15pm on Tuesday. Paramedics performed CPR on the woman as Fire and Rescue NSW crews battled the blaze, however, she could not be saved.

[Read More](#)

Campaign aims to support at home dementia carers

Community Care Review, Other, 28/06/2023

A national television campaign has been launched to help carers of people living with dementia. Called Dementia affects us all and developed by Dementia Support Australia the hard-hitting campaign shines a particular focus on the increasing number of people living with dementia being cared for in their own homes.

[Read More](#)

Poor consultation, communication top cause of complaints

Community Care Review, Other, 28/06/2023, Natasha Egan and Christopher Kelly

Complaints made against home care providers continued to rise in the most recent reporting period. There were 2,446 complaints directed against aged care services during the January-March 2023 quarter including 1,102 for home care, up from 944 the previous quarter the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission's sector performance report shows.

[Read More](#)

Read the list of questions that still have to be answered after grandmother with dementia was Tasered by cop at nursing home before she died

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Ben Talintyre

A high-profile politician has put forward a list of questions he demands to be answered following the death of a grandmother who was Tasered by police. NSW opposition leader Mark Speakman has called on the state government to release more information on the Tasered of Clare Nowland at Cooma on May 17. Ms Nowland was tasered during a confrontation with police while walking with a frame and holding a steak knife at the Yallambee Lodge. The mother-of-eight, who had dementia, died a week later in hospital.

[Read More](#)

Horror as woman, 73, dies after retirement village goes up in flames

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Elena Couper

A fire which erupted in a retirement village on NSW 's North Coast has claimed the life of a 73-year-old woman, who is yet to be formally identified. The blaze broke out at the Palm Lakes Resort on Orion Drive, in Yamba, at about 9.15pm on Tuesday. Fire and Rescue NSW were able to extinguish the blaze, which caused extensive damage to the building, while NSW Ambulance paramedics treated the resident, believed to be the 73-year-old, at the scene.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, 15:00 News, 28/06/2023

Outgoing Age Discrimination Commissioner Kay Patterson says a national power of attorney register is needed to help deal with the growing number of elder abuse.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Left to push Albanese on abortion and boats

The Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Jess Malcolm and Sarah Ison, Page 1

Anthony Albanese will be urged to provide free abortions across Australia, end offshore processing and close Nauru at Labor's upcoming national conference, as the party membership pushes to government to adopt a more leftwing agenda. The Australian can reveal the motions that will be put up by Labor for Refugees and the influential women's group Emily's List, which is co-convened by NSW Left faction MP Sharon Claydon.

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

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

Smokes a draw for mums-to-be

Hobart Mercury, General News, 29/06/2023, David Killick, Page 15

Tasmanian women's smoking rates during pregnancy are the second-highest in the nation, new figures show. An Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report Australia's Mothers and Babies showed a 6-7 per cent increase in the number of babies born nationwide in 2021. There were 313,407 live births in Australia in 2021, 6053 of them in Tasmania, the report notes.

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

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Age no barrier to baby boom

West Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Page 3

A record number of babies were born in Australia in 2021. According to a report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the 315,705 new bubs set the highest annual figure on record. The AIHW says women are continuing to give birth later in life, with one in four women who gave birth aged 35 years or older during the year.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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

Police seize \$1m vape shipment destined for illegal sale

West Australian, Edition Changes, 29/06/2023, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 5

A vape haul worth \$1 million has been seized by WA Health as part of a crackdown on their illegal sale in WA. The haul of 17,000 vapes was seized on a truck travelling to WA from NSW 10 days ago. A 22-year-old Perth man is assisting the department's compliance team and could face a \$45,000 personal fine if found guilty of selling nicotine products.

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

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

When it's worth taking out health insurance as a young person

Australian Financial Review, Other, 28/06/2023, Lucy Dean

While Cullen's not earning above the threshold that triggers the Medicare levy surcharge, tax partner at BDO James Trainor says there are two financial elements that could change Cullen's calculations his age and his income. As people look to the new fina...

[Read More](#)

Australian men's health card revealed with nearly half of men affected by chronic conditions

The Australian, Other, 28/06/2023, Eli Green

The health report for Australian men is not in good shape with half suffering from chronic health conditions. New research from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has revealed what issues men are suffering from including heart disease, dementia and mental health disorders. Half of males (49 per cent) suffer from at least one of the top ten chronic conditions including diabetes, asthma, cancer, arthritis and heart disease.

[Read More](#)

What data on Queensland's newborns reveals about state's newest mums

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 29/06/2023, Felicity Caldwell

Queensland's population is booming as people flock to the Sunshine State, but the birth rate continues to drop. The rate of women of reproductive age 15 to 44 years giving birth in Queensland dropped from 65 out of 1000 women in 2011 to 60 out of 1000 women in 2021, mirroring an Australia-wide trend.

[Read More](#)

Gut microbiome targeted by insomnia treatment clinical trials in Queensland

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Jessica Ross

For insomniacs like Jodie Chambers, getting a good night's sleep is a nightmare. The 23-year-old began losing sleep in high school. "It's continued into my adult life," Ms Chambers said. "I've had to take sick days off work, I often find it very hard to have conversations with people and regulate my own moods. "It really is a day-to-day struggle of trying to get to sleep, stay asleep and just feel alive the next day."

[Read More](#)

Is it time to stop using the BMI?

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023

Experts have long been speaking out about the flaws and harms of using the Body Mass Index to determine health, and now the tide looks to be turning. The American Medical Association has changed its policy on clinical use of the BMI, declaring the measure is not enough to determine health and that it has been used to cause harm.

[Read More](#)

Australia has long treated gambling harm differently to tobacco and alcohol. Now we can change that

The Guardian, Other, 28/06/2023, Samantha Thomas

Sometimes politicians get things very right. Today is one of those days. The Australian parliamentary inquiry into online gambling has released a landmark report recommending comprehensive reform of online gambling regulation in Australia. It signals a significant departure from the long-held resistance of Australian governments to tackle the predatory tactics of the gambling industry.

[Read More](#)

WA authorities seize state record vape haul worth \$1 million

7news.com.au, Other, 28/06/2023, Bryce Luff

WA authorities say their crackdown on vapes is more than huff and puff following the record seizure of

illegal electronic cigarettes worth a staggering \$1 million. At a secret location in Perth on Wednesday, Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson displayed the significant haul while trumpeting the work of compliance officers after a truck carrying 17,000 vapes from NSW was intercepted in WA's capital.

[Read More](#)

Aussie couple behind 'beautiful' bedding brand share heartbreaking personal tragedy behind their line

7news.com.au, Other, 28/06/2023, Sophie Haslett

Mum and dad of three Tegan and Jacob Cole said there is a deeply personal meaning behind their brand's name, Selah and Stone. An Aussie couple have revealed how suffering not one but three personal tragedies inspired them to create a business and sanctuary for those grappling with the painful realities of miscarriage and infant loss.

[Read More](#)

Illegal vapes worth \$1m seized on way into WA

9News, Other, 28/06/2023, Sarah Swain

A million dollars worth of illegal vapes has been seized from an interstate truck heading into Perth in Western Australia's biggest bust of its kind. The 17,000 nicotine vapes were intercepted on a truck from New South Wales thanks to a mystery tip-off. It's part of a WA government crackdown on sales of the illegal devices. Department of Health chief pharmacist Meeghan Clay said the problem was getting harder to tackle.

[Read More](#)

\$1m vape haul

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/06/2023, Megan Haggan

WA's chief pharmacist says illegal vapes are "popping up everywhere," as the state makes its biggest seizure to date. Many people do not understand that all vapes sold outside the pharmacy channel in the western state are illegal, says WA chief pharmacist Meeghan Clay. WA Health compliance officers have seized \$1 million worth of vapes.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 28/06/2023, Pamela Medlen

Around 17,000 vapes with a retail value of \$1 million were recently seized following a tip off about a truck arriving in WA from New South Wales. Health Minister Amber-jade Sanderson says ending the trade in illegal vapes can only be done through strengthened federal laws.

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6PR, 18:00 News, 28/06/2023

Authorities in WA have seized \$1 million worth of illegal nicotine vapes. 17,000 of the flavoured e-cigarettes were intercepted in a truck coming from New South Wales following a tip off. Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson says the record seizure is a significant win.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, 13:00 News, 28/06/2023

Deakin University Public Health Expert Samantha Thomas says a Federal Parliamentary inquiry into online gambling means gambling addiction can be treated as a health problem, like alcohol and smoking. The report has made 31 recommendations including the ban on online gambling ads in three years. Independent MP Kate Chaney was part of the panel and states the Government must prove it's not helped captive by gambling companies.

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ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 28/06/2023, Lish Fejer

Interview with Arnagretta Hunter, cardiologist. Hunter discusses the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's new report that shows life expectancy is rising. Fejer says average Australian woman now

lives up to 85.4 years old while man lives on average of 81.3 years. She notes coronary heart disease is the main killer of men aged 45- to 74-year-olds.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Honouring Emily

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 29/06/2023, Natalie Croxon, Page 1

Emily So was just five years old when she died of brain cancer last year. Emily, pictured here with mum and dad Dr B.J. and Heather So, and big sisters Caitlin and Annabelle, underwent the only established treatment, extensive radiotherapy, but succumbed to the disease seven months after she was diagnosed. Now to honour Emily's life - and hopefully prevent other families from suffering the same pain - Dr So, alongside family and friends, will cycle from Mount Kosciuszko to Wollongong later this year to raise funds for brain cancer research.

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Bladder warrior on one-man mission

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/06/2023, Greg Johnson, Page 49

In 1993, just one year after my dad died with cancer, decided to have a colonoscopy. The results were negative, and since then I've been fortunate to receive free, biennial tests courtesy of the "National Bowel Cancer Screening Program." When I told mum I'd received the all-clear she inquired as to why I'd had the procedure in the first place, to which I responded, "Because dad died of bowel cancer." She, as only mums can do, replied "Your father died of bladder cancer" oh well.

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Rosie May was told she had a cyst. It turned out to be a rare cancer

9News, Other, 28/06/2023, Sarah Swain

Rosie May Fisher can't remember when she first noticed a pea-sized lump on her left palm. The painless mass had been there for around 12 years, the 32-year-old single mother said. When she asked her GP to check it she was sent for scans which came back clear - twice. She was told it was probably just a cyst. But a few years later, after the birth of her son Bobby, the lump began to hurt.

[Read More](#)

Tammy Hembrow is slammed for sunbathing just weeks after having a melanoma removed... while still wearing the bandaid from the surgery on her leg

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Monique Friedlander

Tammy Hembrow has been eviscerated by her own fans for sunbathing just weeks after having a skin cancer removed. The fitness influencer, 29, sparked outrage on Wednesday after she shared several Instagram photos of herself lounging by the pool in a skimpy bikini, with the bandage from her melanoma removal surgery still on her leg.

[Read More](#)

'The dirty disease' – both smokers and non-smokers get lung cancer. They face stigma on top of illness

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 28/06/2023

Since the 1980s, highly successful public health campaigns have raised awareness about the dangers of smoking and, in economically wealthy countries like Australia, the rate of smoking has dropped considerably. Unfortunately, the success of anti-smoking campaigns has been accompanied by growing stigma around lung cancer.

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PRIMARY CARE

'Euthanasia for teens': ACT push

The Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Rhiannon Down, Page 1

Teenagers as young as 14 could access euthanasia in Canberra as the Labor-Greens government considers the most liberal voluntary assisted dying framework in Australia. The ACT government led by Chief Minister Andrew Barr on Thursday will release its community consultation report on an assisted-suicide framework, with a final model to be ready by the end of the year.

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

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Stop the rot and sack council that is out of control

The Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Geoff Chambers, Page 1

Anthony Albanese needs to call in the administrators and sack the glorified local council that is the ACT government. The Labor-Greens coalition, which has run Canberra for almost 22 years, is out of control and behaving like a regime that can do what it wants with impunity. [...] On Thursday, the ACT government will release its community consultation report on an assisted-suicide framework to guide what is expected to be Australia's most radical euthanasia laws.

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

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Shutdown of public health sites attacked

Age, General News, 29/06/2023, Aisha Dow, Page 1

Dozens of job losses at Victoria's local public health units will force the closure of sites at the Northern Hospital and Eastern Health tomorrow and leave Victoria under-resourced compared with NSW's lauded system, public health leaders say. There are concerns the lessons of Victoria's second COVID-19 wave, when the state's small and underfunded public health unit was overwhelmed, are being forgotten, amid claims the cuts threaten the ability of Victoria's nine new public health units, still in their infancy, to manage their existing workload.

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Shocked Minister halts WCH plan

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 29/06/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 3

A furious Health Minister Chris Picton has bawled out senior management of the Women's and Children's Hospital and intervened to stop a plan to bar some private obstetricians from delivering the babies of their private patients at the hospital. The plan, originally due to start from Saturday, would have meant such women could only go to the WCH as public patients, or if they used a WCH-employed obstetrician if they went as a private patient.

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Baby blunder hard labour for Picton

Adelaide Advertiser, Editorials, 29/06/2023, Page 22

SA Health is a huge organisation with thousands of employees, an \$8bn budget, multiple Local Health Networks and untold decisions made every day. It is impractical, indeed implausible, to think Health Minister Chris Picton would be consulted or even advised of each of them.

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Air ambos set to take off globally

Courier Mail, Business News, 29/06/2023, Vanessa Croll, Page 54

Australia's leading international air ambulance service, Gold Coast-based Medical Rescue, is expanding overseas and recruiting locally as demand surges. The aeronautical medical company was launched in 2010 by Glenn McKay, who as a doctor realised the need for a private sector medical service to remote areas. It has since grown to employ 500 people specialising in remote medical

clinics, ambulances, rescue helicopters, fixed-wing air ambulances and telemedicine support, servicing the Asia-Pacific region.

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Virtual stroke care a life-saver

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 29/06/2023, Page 3

At least 20,000 patients have received life-saving stroke care over the past decade thanks to the Victorian Stroke Telemedicine (VST) service. Run by Ambulance Victoria and now operating across 20 regional hospitals throughout Victoria and Tasmania, VST allows clinicians to collaborate across organisational boundaries and provide time-critical care locally.

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Palliative care heads north

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 29/06/2023, Kate McIlwain, Page 7

Rehab and palliative care staff at Port Kembla Hospital have been notified they will be moving from the ageing 1960s building and into newly fitted out wards at Bulli Hospital in just over a month. At a recent meeting, staff were told their move was scheduled for early August, as the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District prepares to decommission the old hospital, which has "reached the end of its useful life".

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Minister questioned over screen service

Shepparton News, General News, 29/06/2023, Caleb Francis, Page 3

State Member for Northern Victoria Wendy Lovell has called out the Victorian Government's failure to deliver its 2021 commitment to establish a BreastScreen Victoria Reading and Assessment Service in Shepparton. Ms Lovell addressed Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas in parliament during a constituency question where she referred back to May 4, 2021, when former health minister Martin Foley announced that Shepparton would house Victoria's ninth reading and assessment service, indicating in his media statement that the service would commence by the end of that year.

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The pandemic is over, so why are our hospitals still in crisis?

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Sue Dunlevy

Nearly 700,000 Australians are waiting for surgeries, including hip and knee replacements, as public hospital performances plunge to their lowest level in a decade. The hospital system, with patients stuck in ambulances and emergency department corridors, is in such crisis it would need to operate at 132 per cent of capacity to meet demand. New analysis by the Australian Medical Association (AMA) showed in April this year there were 293,563 patients waiting for elective surgery in public hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 28/06/2023, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

Health Minister Chris Picton has pulled the pin on plans to stop private obstetricians from delivering babies at the Women's and Children's, saying he was blindsided following a backlash. The hospital says it will now spend 12 months consulting stakeholders. The proposed change would allow expectant mothers to be admitted as private patients, but they'd be restricted to using an obstetrician employed by the hospital.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Problem gambling rising for city's youth

Ballarat Courier, General News, 29/06/2023, Bryan Hoadley, Page 9

As the Federal Government prepares to crack down on betting advertising, young people in Ballarat are increasingly seeking help from support agencies to fight damaging addictions. A parliamentary inquiry has made 31 recommendations to the Federal Government on gambling reform, which included a raft of changes, such as phasing out online gambling ads within three years, and a ban on ads during live sport.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#)

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More young people seek counselling

Launceston Examiner, General News, 29/06/2023, Isabel Bird, Page 7

Young people in Tasmania impacted by drug and alcohol use are increasingly looking for help, but with few specialist counsellors available to assist, support services are being stretched thin, say advocates. For example in North West Tasmania there are 2.5 youth drug and alcohol counsellors servicing the region, from Smithton to Port Sorell, while in Launceston young people facing substance issues have access to a specialist counsellor one day a week.

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

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Mental health patients deserve apology

Canberra Times, Other, 28/06/2023

The "Not Before Time" report was produced to provide advice to the Victorian Department of Health on how to address harms caused in the mental health system. "In order to get to a better mental health system we've really got to confront with what's gone wrong in the past and in the present," report co-author and mental health consultant, Simon Katterl, said. "We were really conscious in this report that there's huge unmet and unaddressed need here around trauma, and around human rights breaches."

[Read More](#)

5 tips for managing your mood during winter

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Diane Young

'SAD' affects one in 300 Australians If you find your mood hits rock bottom during the cooler months, you could be dealing with a case of seasonal affective disorder. As the days grow shorter and colder, many people begin to notice feeling unusually down, unfocused or lacking in energy For those who haven't experienced feelings like this before, it can be worrying.

[Read More](#)

headspace hits 10 year milestone amid growing demand for services

Ballarat Courier, Other, 28/06/2023, Michelle Smith

Over the past 10 years, the health needs of adolescents have become more complex, requiring more 'wrap around' services according to headspace Ballarat centre manager Janelle Johnson. The centre celebrates a decade of service in Ballarat next week and while some things are still the same, many have changed.

[Read More](#)

People with psychosocial disability may be diverted from NDIS in future, as government forecasts 27,000 reduction in participant growth

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Jake Evans

Fewer people with psychosocial disability may be added to the NDIS in the future, as the minister flags that the government expects to divert 27,000 people to outside supports in the next four years, who would have otherwise joined the scheme. Stressing that current participants would not be removed from the scheme, NDIS Minister Bill Shorten said the program should not serve as a catch-all for disability, and that some people with psychosocial disability could be better supported outside the NDIS.

[Read More](#)

Samoans urged to discuss mental health and suicide following reports

of deaths

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Kyle Evans

On the program today: Samoans are being urged to use their family and village fonos or meetings to talk about mental health. Australia's deputy prime minister, and defence minister, Richard Marles says his government is open to keeping police and troops in Solomon Islands longer than planned. The last refugee held by Australia is flown off Nauru, but that won't be the of the facility, which will be maintained at a very steep price in the event of new arrivals.

[Read More](#)

Allyship from senior leadership crucial for these neurodivergent public servants

The Mandarin, Other, 28/06/2023, Anna MacDonald

The importance of allyship, particularly with senior executive leadership, is critical to creating an inclusive bureaucracy, according to two neurodivergent public servants. For the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts' Dani Maidens, simple questions from her boss Hillary Jones about how she would like to work in the office provoked an emotional response.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Drive, 28/06/2023, Anna Vidot

Interview with ACT Minister for Disability and Health Emma Davidson about funding on mental health and disability in ACT. Vidot says Mental Health Community Coalition of the ACT CEO Melanie Poole concerned about funding going towards the acute end of the system rather than early intervention services in the community. Davidson says the ACT Government has more than \$28 million in new initiatives for mental health in this year's budget. On report that 48 community managed mental health services in the ACT drastically under-resourced, Davidson acknowledges it is being experienced across the country and they're getting through a process of commissioning mental health services within the community sector.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Nurses in pay fight

Hobart Mercury, General News, 29/06/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 1

Tasmanian nurses and midwives are threatening strike action if they are not granted better pay and more favourable rostering and workloads, as the government prepares to table an offer for a new employment agreement. A survey by the nurses' union found 98 per cent of members supported taking industrial action.

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

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Family's generosity to help nurses specialise

Border Mail, General News, 29/06/2023, Beau Greenway, Page 2

A new program supporting nurses to branch into kidney dialysis has been made possible thanks to a major donation from the family of Albury Wodonga Health's former chief executive. The late Michael Kalimnios' legacy with the health service will be carried on by a \$40,000 contribution to support the dialysis unit, after \$100,000 was raised at a charity dinner in his honour in Brisbane last year.

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Nurse awarded \$1.6 million in damages after work injury

Canberra Times, Other, 28/06/2023, Laine Clark

Every shift, a nurse would be verbally abused by patients at the Gold Coast hospital ward where Trinet Ruth Wilson worked. And every second shift at the Robina Hospital unit, a nurse would be "slapped or

bitten or punched". However, Ms Wilson said she had not been taught how to safely restrain a patient, recalling "one little course about aggressive behaviour management". In March 2016, a dementia patient became disruptive and Ms Wilson helped restrain her.

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

[Read More](#)

Port Pirie Hospital nurses attacked by patient during second violent incident in a week

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Christian Cominos

There has been a second violent incident at the Port Pirie Hospital within a week after a patient attacked two nurses. Last Thursday, about 8am, a woman in her 70s with dementia punched one nurse in the stomach and one in the torso. Police were called to the scene to assist staff in restraining the patient, who was then sedated and flown to Adelaide for review. They said no-one was injured and hospital staff did not want to report the patient.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, 07:00 News, 28/06/2023

The nurses union is urging the Tasmanian Government to make a formal pay and conditions offer before the current agreement expires on Saturday. The Government has been negotiating with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation about the new pay deal since December but has yet to make a formal offer.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Queensland Health chief resigns after whistleblower controversy

Australian Financial Review, General News, 29/06/2023, John Crouch, Page 11

The head of Queensland Health is stepping down after his department recommended criminal penalties for staff who disclosed "inappropriate" information to journalists. Director-general Shaun Drummond told staff he would finish on July 23, nine months since...

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

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

Dr Peter Scott's legacy lives on

Canberra Times, General News, 29/06/2023, Megan Doherty, Page 22

His name is on the building. And his legacy lives on. The Dr Peter Scott Education and Training Centre has been officially opened at the Muder [Mother] Ignacia Hospital in West Timor. Dr Scott's widow, midwife Ann-Maree Parker, and Canberra obstetrician, Dr David O'Rourke, held hands as they did the honours opening the centre, which became a reality a little over a year since Dr Scott's death. "We're not here because Pete died, we're here because he lived," Ms Parker said at the June 10 opening.

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

Minister is blindsided

Courier Mail, General News, 29/06/2023, Stephanie Bennett and Jackie Sinnerton, Page 1

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk has publicly embarrassed her Health Minister Shannon Fentiman by announcing the shock resignation of the boss of Queensland Health just as Ms Fentiman was across town expressing her full confidence in him. Shaun Drummond will quit his post just eight months into a five year tenure amid rumours of a clash of styles with Ms Fentiman (pictured).

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

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Roy's round up

This year seems to be moving along at a cracking pace, and 2023 is now half over, despite the fact that parliament has only been sitting for two months and next month it takes a month-long break. [...] Last week in Parliament I asked the health minister, Ryan Park, a question about health services in Barwon. I asked him, "what is being done to ensure that health facilities in regional New South Wales do not need to reduce hours for services because of staffing shortages?"

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

Opinion: Health minister and department boss an uneasy pairing

The Courier Mail, Other, 28/06/2023, Stephanie Bennett

The odd couple pairing of a numbers-focused, analytically-minded bureaucrat and a personable politician who wanted to reform a broken system has been brought into sharp focus with the sudden resignation of Queensland Health boss Shaun Drummond. It was a relationship that was never going to work: a numbers-focused, analytically-minded bureaucrat and a personable politician who wanted to reform a broken system.

[Read More](#)

CDU's Centre for Better Health Futures to tackle unique NT challenges

Northern Territory News, Other, 28/06/2023, Sierra Haigh

The NT's unique health challenges will be addressed in a new multimillion-dollar training facility and prep the future workforce for a career in the Territory. A \$25.8m training facility could be key to alleviating pressure on the NT's healthcare workforce and ensuring the Territory has access to specialised healthcare to match its unique challenges.

[Read More](#)

Shaun Drummond quits as acting director-general of Queensland Health after disagreement with minister over whistleblowers

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Rachel Riga and Janelle Miles

Shaun Drummond has resigned as acting director-general of Queensland Health just days after facing criticism over a submission to a review on the state's whistleblower laws. Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said Mr Drummond informed her of his decision to step down in a letter and that it was his own decision.

[Read More](#)

Payroll tax: GPs secure another state amnesty but with a catch

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/06/2023, Sarah Simpkins

Practices in SA will have to register and agree to disclose wage information to the state revenue office. GP practices that provide wage information to tax officials in SA will be granted a year-long payroll tax amnesty and protection from retrospective audits.

[Read More](#)

RACGP responds to IMGs' claims of exploitation

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/06/2023, Heather Saxena

'It's a hidden scourge,' Associate Professor Michael Clements said. The RACGP says poor working conditions for IMGs are a "hidden scourge" but has backed its supervision rules for GPs trained in countries like New Zealand Last week AusDoc reported on two doctors, Dr Vasuki Annamalai and Dr Corinne Glenn, who said the rules for IMGs had made Australia an ugly option for overseas doctors.

[Read More](#)

Injectables change for ACT pharmacists

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/06/2023

Pharmacist in the ACT are now authorised to administer medicines for injection, including Long-Acting Injectable Buprenorphine (LAIB). The legislative change follows a campaign by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia to expand scope of practice for pharmacists, the organisation said, welcoming the new authorisations announced by the ACT Government.

ADA NSW celebrates landmark 95th anniversary

Bite Magazine, Other, 28/06/2023

The Australian Dental Association New South Wales is honouring its highly valued members and highlighting the crucial role dentistry plays in healthcare as it celebrates its 95th anniversary. Having launched in 1928 with 70 members, ADA NSW now has about 5250 members across NSW and the ACT, 70 per cent of whom are registered dentists.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 29/06/2023, Craig Zonca and Loretta Ryan

Queensland Health is on the search for a new director general after the resignation yesterday of Shaun Drummond from The Post. He was appointed last October for a five year term, a five year term. He's pulled the pin just days after being at the centre of a storm over a controversial departmental submission that was seen as an attempt to gag whistleblowers.

[Play Now](#)

6PR, 11:00 News, 28/06/2023

The WA branch of the Australian Medical Association wants the State Government to make country positions for health staff more attractive, particularly midwives. More than 100 expectant mothers around Carnarvon have given birth. AMA state president Michael Page says the Government needs to put more money on the table so staff will work in the regions.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, 11:00 News, 28/06/2023

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners says that some GP clinics have been saved from closing down after being granted amnesty from payroll tax. A recent case in New South Wales found the tenant GPs were liable for payroll tax, which caused concern that they could follow suit. But the college says the State Treasurer has granted them amnesty, which also means they won't be retrospective tax audits on those GPs.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Broader use of medication recommended

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/06/2023, Chris Brooker

PBAC recommends extending eligibility criteria for Covid medication to an additional population group. In an out-of-session consideration, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) has recommended changes to the circumstances under which nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid) is available on the PBS.

[Read More](#)

Sixty-day 'catastrophe' for patients with low health literacy

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/06/2023

Rural pharmacy owner and former young pharmacist of the year Taren Gill gets "fired up" about the changes to opioid dependence therapy, and the impact on rural and regional pharmacy of 60-day dispensing. Taren Gill, who owns a pharmacy in Victoria's western region in the state's lowest socioeconomic shire, talks to AJP Podcast.

[Read More](#)

Curtin FM, 15:00 News, 28/06/2023

Regional doctors are backing the Federal Government plan to double medicine supply from its current 30 day maximum. The Rural Doctors Association of Australia says the 60-day dispensing measure will benefit rural patients.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

‘An investment with no guarantees’: Can I afford IVF?

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 28/06/2023, Sophie Walker

One less income and one more family member is a stressful prospect for many couples, especially if they have to navigate the unpredictability of infertility. [...] Medicare rebates are available for fertility treatment, but the upfront costs are still profound ; expect to pay \$1500 for each round of intrauterine insemination (IUI) and \$5500 for each round of in vitro fertilisation (IVF).

[Read More](#)

Patient from Australia suffered a serious chemical burns injury

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Emily Stearn

A trans woman intentionally burnt her own penis in a desperate attempt to get it removed. The 57-year-old, from Australia, was born a man but felt that she had been living in the wrong body. The unidentified woman only sought medical help seven days after suffering a self-inflicted chemical burn injury. [...] Gender-affirming surgery, which can involve removing the penis, is currently not covered by Medicare, Australia's national public health insurance.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Secret ballot to consider future Sydney Local Health District CEO Dr Teresa Anderson

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 29/06/2023, Natalie O'Brien

Sydney healthcare staff have said the public would be appalled if they knew what was going on with patient care at some hospitals. See their claims.

[Read More](#)

Private obstetricians' access to Women's and Children's Hospital under review

Adelaide Now, Other, 28/06/2023, Brad Crouch

Pregnant woman wanting to give birth at the Women's and Children's Hospital may not be able to use private obstetricians, with a review into the practice. Social commentator Prue MacSween says the nation's midwife shortage may be due to "inept politicians" failing to invest in the health system.

[Read More](#)

‘Begging for them to kill me’: Young mum claims hospital mistreatment and neglect

Sunshine Coast Daily, Other, 28/06/2023, Chelsea Heaney and Elizabeth Neil

A young mum missed weeks worth of precious moments with her newborn baby after spending a horror 34 days in two Sunshine Coast hospitals. A young mum says she has missed weeks worth of precious moments with her newborn baby after spending a horror 34 days in two Sunshine Coast hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Private ambulance operators allegedly directed staff to contract jobs on day of Eynesbury school bus crash

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Bridget Rollason

Private ambulance crews asked to help on the day of last month's horror Eynesbury school bus crash were instead directed to do non-urgent private contract jobs, workers have alleged, saying operators are putting profit over patient care every day. Multiple students were left with traumatic injuries, including amputations and crushed limbs, when a school bus carrying 45 children collided with a truck on May 16 in Melbourne's outer west.

[Read More](#)

Victoria Ambulance Union alleges transport crews directed away from emergencies

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023

Did you know Ambulance Victoria relies heavily on private patient transport operators? Workers and union representatives allege it's putting further strain on the state's ambulance network, including on the day of the Eynesbury school bus crash.

[Read More](#)

NSW Health tells GPs not to blanket test residents living near Cadia hill goldmine

The Guardian, Other, 29/06/2023, Fleur Connick

Doctors working near Cadia Hill goldmine in central west New South Wales have been advised not to test patients for heavy metals unless they have symptoms of toxicity or there is a clear and known source of exposure. In a webinar for local doctors on 14 June, NSW Health advised against conducting blanket screening of concerned community members and said there was no clear exposure pathway of toxic dust from the mine which would indicate testing was necessary.

[Read More](#)

So sick: Woman shaves all her hair off and allegedly fakes terminal cancer as part of an elaborate scam to con her community out of thousands of dollars

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Eliza Mcphee

A childcare worker allegedly scammed her kindhearted community out of \$18,000 after pretending she was dying from cancer Olivia Ward, 27, has been charged with three counts of fraud, and one count each of forgery and uttering. She'd been working at the Amaze after-hours childcare centre in Mudgeeraba on the Gold Coast in February last year when she allegedly cooked up the lie.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 28/06/2023, Juanita Phillips

More women have come forward with stories of traumatic maternity care in southern New South Wales. It comes after a group of 30 women lodged a formal complaint about Wagga Wagga Base Hospital. An Upper House inquiry into birth trauma across the state will hear their stories.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, RN Drive, 28/06/2023, Andy Park

Park is joined by Bridget Rollason, State Political Reporter. Park says private ambulance crews asked to help on the day of last month's horror school bus crash in Victoria were allegedly directed to do non-urgent private contract jobs instead, according to frontline workers. An Ambulance Victoria spokesperson said there was no shortage of non-emergency patient transport crews on 16 May and they said using private bus transport for uninjured patients escorted by paramedics was a normal part of ambulance.

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SPORT

Olympics plan can change: Liveris

The Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Jamie Walker, Page 7

Brisbane Olympics president Andrew Liveris has warned that the Games' controversial governance arrangements could be changed in the run-up to 2032. After delivering his first update to the International Olympic Committee in Switzerland, the former Dow Chemical boss said the planning and organisational structures were still being bedded down and would be reviewed.

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'Total disregard for the racing': Parton

Canberra Times, Sport, 29/06/2023, David Polkinghorne, Page 48

Mark Parton slammed the ACT government for trying to "starve" the Canberra racing industry to death, with the opposition racing spokesperson saying the increased point-of-consumption tax showed a "total disregard" for the sport. The ACT government upped the PoC tax, or betting operations tax, from 20 to 25 per cent as part of Tuesday's budget to make it the highest in Australia.

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

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The deal that could end Canberra's stadium war

Canberra Times, Sport, 29/06/2023, Chris Dutton, Page 52

The ACT government wants to spend more than \$500 million to build a 30,000-seat stadium at Bruce by 2033, committing to another location feasibility study in the hope of ending a 14-year debacle. In a fatal blow to those still clinging to a Civic stadium dream, ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr will announce a new infrastructure plan on Thursday and a vision to reinvigorate the AIS campus.

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FIFA trophy takes warm-up lap of honour

Courier Mail, General News, 29/06/2023, Isabella Holland, Page 5

Queenslanders will this week have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the FIFA Women's World Cup trophy up close, ahead of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023. The official FIFA trophy will be toured around Brisbane, the Sunshine Coast and the Gold Coast ahead of the World Cup event.

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Legacy Gabba Olympics revamp 'excites' IOC

Courier Mail, General News, 29/06/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 7

The International Olympic Committee has publicly backed the flagship \$2.7bn revamp of the Gabba as the Brisbane 2032 Games bosses travelled to Olympic House in Lausanne, Switzerland. President Andrew Liveris and chief executive Cindy Hook made the trip for the first meeting of the IOC Coordination Commission for Brisbane 2032, with the duo providing the body with an update of the progress so far on the Games set to be held in nine years.

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

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

Pride and joy

West Australian, General News, 29/06/2023, Bethany Hiatt, Page 3

Players from West Perth and Perth football clubs will don rainbow-coloured socks as they take part in

the WAFL's inaugural Pride game next month. Organisers hope the match, scheduled for August 5 at Pentanet Stadium in Joondalup, will pave the way for a future WAFL Pride round. Danielle Laidley, a former West Perth and West Coast player and later a senior AFL coach, will reveal the challenges she faced living with gender dysphoria when she serves as a special ambassador for the Pride game in the week before the event.

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

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Catastrophic signing so obviously stupid

West Australian, Editorials, 29/06/2023, Page 2

What on earth were they thinking? It's difficult to comprehend how National Premier League WA team Sorrento thought that signing Scot David Goodwillie who was found by a UK civil judge to have raped a woman was even a remotely good idea. In terms of inexcusable decisions by sporting administrators, this is just about as bad as it gets. Why did Sorrento think this signing would go off without a hitch when there was plenty to show that outrage would follow?

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

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

QRL's bid to end racism

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/06/2023, Jason Gibbs, Page 6

Two of Australia's leading sporting organisations have thrown their support behind the QRL's bid to end racism in rugby league. The support comes as Toowoomba Rugby League continues to investigate allegations a 15-year-old boy and his Indigenous teammates were the focus of racial abuse during a Toowoomba Junior Rugby League match between Gatton and South Burnett on Saturday, June 10.

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

TRL clubs must adopt zero tolerance policy

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/06/2023, Jason Gibbs, Page 6

Racism is killing rugby league, and it's time we take a stand. Where would the game be without the likes of Arthur Beetson, Eric Simms, Frank Fisher and Larry Corowa? What would today's NRL look like if we didn't have Johnathan Thurston, Greg Inglis, Wendell Sailor and Matt Bowen to honour and celebrate?

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

All online gambling ads should be banned, says government inquiry

Australian Financial Review, Other, 28/06/2023, Sam Buckingham-Jones

"Australians are the biggest losers in the world when it comes to gambling," Ms Murphy said in a statement. "We have a culture where sport and gambling are intrinsically linked.

[Read More](#)

'It's going to grow': Australia mulls bid to host new-look Club World Cup

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 28/06/2023, Vince Rugari

Football Australia is considering a bid to host not only a future men's World Cup, but a new event devised by FIFA president Gianni Infantino that would pit the world's top club teams against each other on Aussie soil. FA chief executive James Johnson and New Zealand Football chair Johanna Wood have confirmed an interest in the expanded Club World Cup, with a potential trans-Tasman bid for 2029 to be discussed once the Women's World Cup is over.

[Read More](#)

Brisbane 20-thirty-who? Olympic bosses' challenge to tell world who we are

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 29/06/2023, Cameron Atfield

Olympic organisers have discovered a daunting task ahead of the 2032 Games letting the world know Brisbane exists. Brisbane 2032 supremos Andrew Liveris, the chairman of the organising committee

board, and its chief executive Cindy Hook were in Lausanne, Switzerland, overnight for a meeting of the International Olympic Committee's co-ordination commission.

[Read More](#)

Victorian government quells opposition's contamination fears for Ballarat athletes' village site

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Lexie Jeuniewicz

The Victorian government has allayed concerns from the opposition about the safety of the Ballarat site set to transform into an athletes' village for the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Tender documents show contaminated soil is set to be removed from the site of Ballarat's Commonwealth Games Village

[Read More](#)

International rugby league plots new paths during wait for World Cup hosts

The Guardian, Other, 28/06/2023, Gavin Willacy

In the next couple of weeks, the International Rugby League (IRL) will decide where and when the next Rugby League World Cup will be held. Five potential bids have emerged since France pulled out as hosts last month. Word from the antipodes is the NRL is willing to put enough of their copious money on the table for Australia to host a pared back, men's only tournament for eight teams to plug the gap.

[Read More](#)

The 'life-changing day' Matildas goalkeeper Mackenzie Arnold transformed her hearing loss journey

7news.com.au, Other, 28/06/2023, Joel Martelli

The amount of messages I've got from young kids that have the same thing... it's been so rewarding.' Matildas goalkeeper Mackenzie Arnold always knew her "hearing was not great", however she did not expect the effect her hearing loss journey would have on others. Arnold became a reluctant hero in April when she was fitted with hearing aids as her partner Kirsty Smith, a West Ham teammate, filmed the "daunting process" and uploaded the video to Instagram.

[Read More](#)

Esports tournament with \$250,000 prize coming to Sydney

9News, Other, 28/06/2023

Intel Extreme Masters, one of the biggest esports events in the world, is heading to Sydney this year with a huge prize pool up for grabs. Gamers will be going head to head in the classic shooter Counterstrike competing for \$250,000 USD.

[Read More](#)

FIFA Women's World Cup fans up in arms over entry rules

3AW, Other, 28/06/2023, Tom Elliott

Drive Fans are up in arms at news they won't be allowed to bring their own food or drinks into AAMI Park during the FiFA Women's World Cup. Associate Dean of higher education and sport at Holmesglen, Dr Sam Duncan says this will be detrimental to the fan experience.

[Read More](#)

Olympic leaders in Brisbane promote policies to keep 2032 Games safe from financial wrongdoing

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 29/06/2023

Olympic organizers from Australia said Wednesday they have safeguards in place to stop the 2032 Brisbane Games ever joining Paris, Tokyo and Rio de Janeiro under investigation for financial wrongdoing. One week after Paris authorities raided offices and homes linked to organizing the 2024 Olympics, Brisbane officials were at the IOC in Switzerland for a first detailed progress meeting on their own project.

[Read More](#)

Beer on menu for fans at 2032 Brisbane Olympics, but not in Paris for 2024 Games

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 29/06/2023

No worries about spectators getting a beer at the stadium when Australia hosts the 2032 Olympics. "We'll serve a beer because we can," Brisbane organizing committee president Andrew Liveris said Wednesday when asked about an alcohol prohibition for ordinary fans at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

[Read More](#)

Olympics-Brisbane 2032's long lead-in a double-edged sword

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 29/06/2023, Nick Mulvenney

The long lead-in to the Brisbane 2032 Summer Games is a blessing and a curse, local organisers said on Wednesday before they held the first of what will be many meetings over the next nine years with Olympic chiefs. While most modern Olympics have had seven years from winning hosting rights to opening ceremony, Brisbane had a big headstart after being awarded Australia's third Summer Games back in 2021.

[Read More](#)

Football Australia could bid to hold men's World Cup and a brand-new competition that would see the planet's biggest clubs face off Down Under

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/06/2023, Andrew Prentice

Football Australia could bid to host a revamped Club World Cup competition in 2029 that would see the best football clubs face off on local shores for the first time. That's in addition to plans to potentially have Australia hosting the men's World Cup in 2034, possibly with New Zealand and a third nation, from Asia. Currently involving the six confederation champions and a representative of the host nation, the annual Club World Cup hasn't been a hit on the global football calendar - but FIFA, led by president Gianni Infantino, are keen to change that.

[Read More](#)

Australia, NZ consider joint bid for 2029 Club World Cup

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/06/2023

Football Australia (FA) chief James Johnson believes FIFA's expanded Club World Cup is going to be a big success and is mulling a joint bid with New Zealand to host the second edition in 2029. Australia and New Zealand will co-host the Women's World Cup in July and August this year and Johnson has already said that could be a springboard for a joint bid for the men's version, possibly in 2034.

[Read More](#)

Fifa Women's World Cup 2023 banned items include ladders and jam jars

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 29/06/2023, William Mata

Fans attending this summer's Fifa Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand will have to enter stadiums without frisbees, ladders, inflatable toys and many other prohibited items. Football's international governing body has issued lengthy advice to supporters attending the World Cup.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

'Missing link' in disease puzzle

Herald Sun, General News, 29/06/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 3

For the first time, scientists have identified a genetic "flag" for the auto-immune disease multiple sclerosis (MS) that can predict disease severity. A major international study that included scientists from The Florey in Melbourne has reported the genetic variant is associated with faster disease progression and suggests those with the gene are more likely to need walking aids sooner.

Success in QS rankings shows the quality of Australian universities

The Australian, Other, 28/06/2023, Mark Scott and Attila Brungs

Australian universities have just scored top marks in one of the world's most prestigious rankings report cards. [...] An interim report from the federal government's Universities Accord process will be released next month and will trigger significant debate on issues ranging from the quality and accessibility of higher education to the sustainability of research funding.

[Read More](#)

'Gamechanging' TB vaccine within reach after \$500m pledge to run final trials

The Guardian, Other, 29/06/2023, Sarah Boseley

The first new tuberculosis vaccine in 100 years may be within reach, after the announcement that more than \$500m (395m) has been pledged by philanthropic institutions for final trials involving 26,000 people in Africa and south-east Asia. The M72/AS01E vaccine, developed by the giant pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline, was shown to be 50% effective in phase 2b trials in 2018, but the company pulled out rather than invest in the large-scale trials needed for a licence, saying it did not see a market.

[Read More](#)

Reducing AMR saves economy millions

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 28/06/2023

First of its kind research examining the impact of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in Australia has shown the clinical and economic benefits of reducing 'superbug' infections. The above snippet is the first part of an article sent to subscribers in Pharmacy Daily's issue from 28 Jun 23

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Queensland Health Ombudsman report into death of Bamaga child Charlie Toza found deficiencies

Cairns Post, Other, 28/06/2023, Bronwyn Farr

A health service says it addressed systemic failures leading to the death of a six-year-old boy at Bamaga Hospital, just nine months before the sudden death of a two-year-old girl in the remote town. A health service says it addressed systemic failures leading to the death of a six-year-old boy at Bamaga Hospital, just nine months before the sudden death of a two-year-old girl in the remote town.

[Read More](#)

'Neglect': Calls for independent review of Torres Strait healthcare

Cairns Post, Other, 28/06/2023, Kristina Puljak

First nations community leaders from across the Cape and Torres Strait have joined voices to demand an independent review of the "neglect" of essential primary healthcare after a meeting on Monday. The meeting, which involved a Coalition of Torres Strait First Nations leaders and leader of opposition David Crisafulli, heard calls for an independent review of local health services, held at arms-length from Queensland Health.

[Read More](#)

"I have feelings here": Elders leave community behind for dialysis treatment

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Jonathon Kendall

Australia Wide On today's program: In one of the most remote communities in the country, end stage

kidney disease is rife. Many elderly people in Balgo lived on cattle stations or in missions where they were rationed white flour and sugar, and the epigenetic consequence of inter-generational poor nutrition means Elders must leave their Country for life-saving dialysis care.

[Read More](#)

Call to close the homelessness gap for First Nations people

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023

New ABS Census analysis has revealed that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are vastly over represented in the nation's homeless population. First nations Australians make up for a fifth of those experiencing homelessness, despite representing less than four per cent of the overall population.

[Read More](#)

MinRes champions life-long learning for Indigenous students

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/06/2023

Moorditj Yorga means "strong woman" in the Noongar language of Western Australia's South West and it is a fitting description for Susan Ford-Young. At 67, the Noongar woman is a first-year student at Perth's Curtin University, where she is pursuing a career in Indigenous mental health.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Telethon Kids Institute FluBub vaccine trial for newborns

The Australian, Other, 28/06/2023, Anthony Anderson

Perth researchers are launching a vaccine trial for children as young as two months old to help protect them against influenza. Babies at two hospitals will be given a full adult dose of the vaccine, under supervision, as part of the Telethon Kids Institute study. Institute professor Chris Blyth said the FluBub study would take place at Perth Children's Hospital and Adelaide's Women and Children's Hospital.

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

[Read More](#)

The Echidna: Blokes won't suffer in silence this cold and flu season

Canberra Times, Other, 28/06/2023, John Hanscombe

Self-loathing is exhausting. I should know. I've been doing a lot of it this week. Beating myself up for not having the fortitude to just soldier on. Hearing myself moan after every sniffle, sneeze and cough. Catching myself whingeing about the unfairness of it all. Wondering feebly whether the box of Kleenex will last the day. It's been two whole days and I'm over it.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 28/06/2023, Sandra Sully

Health authorities are on alert after three children on Brisbane's Southside were infected with hepatitis A. The outbreak has sparked urgent calls for parents to be cautious and monitor for symptoms.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, The Morning Show, 28/06/2023, Matt Shirvington and Natalie Barr

Interview with Dr Ginni Mansberg, Sunrise GP. Mansberg discusses new vaccine developed by Perth and Adelaide researchers to protect babies from the flu.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Vaxxas rides the biomedical wave as life sciences surge

The Australian, Commercial Property, 29/06/2023, Chris Griffith, Page 4

Vaccination by skin patch rather than needle was once regarded as a futuristic harebrained idea. But now it is reality with Australian biotechnology firm Vaxxas at the forefront of research and production. [...] The facility would enable Vaxxas to make phase two and three trial patches that would meet Therapeutic Goods Administration requirements.

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

TGA head Lawler

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 28/06/2023, Page 1

The new head of the TGA is Prof Tony Lawler (pictured), who was the Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Secretary for Clinical Quality, Regulation and Accreditation for the Tasmanian Department of Health from 2012 until Jun this year. Lawler posted the news on LinkedIn saying, "I'm pleased to share that I've started a new role as Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Group at the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

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

New TG cushions the blow of ABX shortages

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 28/06/2023, Chloe Hava

With the help of a new Therapeutic Guidelines (TG) summary table, which includes advice on managing antibiotic medicine shortages, pharmacists can ensure patients receive alternative antibiotic therapy and formulations when first-line options are unavailable. Australia's medicine shortage crisis is no closer to ending, as antibiotics continue to be in consistently short supply.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 28/06/2023, Lucy Breden

Interview with Emily Granlund, Red Cross Lifeblood. Granlund says people can now donate blood seven days after getting a fresh tattoo. She says the change could lead to an extra 10,000 blood donations each year. She states the Therapeutic Goods Administration has approved a submission that would allow gay and bisexual men to donate plasma. She adds it now needs agreement from governments and CSL varying which processes the plasma into patient medications.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Wider approach needed on drugs

Hobart Mercury, General News, 29/06/2023, Chris Jones, Page 37

Archbishop Desmond Tutu once said: "There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in." For more than 30 years, Anglicare has provided non-judgmental, trauma-informed, practical support to people in our community who use drugs. We help people to pull themselves out of the river.

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

'Australia must brace itself': Top docs back calls for drug testing amid fears of deadly fentanyl explosion

9News, Other, 28/06/2023, Joe Attanasio

"This common-sense measure will save lives," RACGP Alcohol and Other Drugs spokesperson Dr Hester Wilson said. "People using drugs, particularly opioid drugs such as heroin, are flying blind and

risking their lives every day because no one can tell them whether what they are taking contains fentanyl, fentanyl analogs or other deadly substances.

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2SM, 12:00 News, 28/06/2023

There are renewed calls for drug testing services to be expanded around the country. Experts are urging the Victorian Government to establish drug checking facilities following an increase in fentanyl use in Australia. Dr Hester Wilson from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners says it's a concern when people think they're buying one recreational drug but are given another substance.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Woolies checkouts get a little sweeter for parents

Canberra Times, Business News, 29/06/2023, Page 37

Grocery shopping is about to get a little easier for harried parents as a major Australian supermarket pledges to remove children's lollies and chocolates from its checkouts. Retail giant Woolworths will strip its checkouts of children's confectionary in a bid to help customers make healthier choices.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#).

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Woolies wipes check-out item

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/06/2023, Rebekah Scanlan, Page 22

Woolworths is removing children's confectionary from check-outs in a bid to help customers make healthier choices. The supermarket giant has announced products aimed at children, such as Chupa Chups, Kinder Surprise and Caramello Koalas, will no longer be available beside tills.

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Sport supplements and vitamins often just 'expensive urine'

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023

An audit of sports foods by researchers from Deakin University's Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition revealed up to 33 per cent of products appeared to have incorrect nutrition information. Less than half the products displayed the correct warning and advisory statements and around a third of sports foods, particularly protein bars, provided nutrient information that did not match the stated energy content on the nutrition panel.

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Surviving the beach ... and making sure your seafood is sustainable

ABC Online, Other, 28/06/2023, Anita-Barraud and Natasha-Mitchell

Seafood: How sustainable is sustainable? When you are at the supermarket buying fish, how do you know it has been caught sustainably? What does sustainable fishing even mean? It's not just about the health of the sea and the fish but the fisherfolk, and the impact of fish farming. How can science help identify a healthy sustainable industry?

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Woolworths supermarket to remove all lollies and chocolates from checkouts - here's why

7news.com.au, Other, 28/06/2023, Amy Sinclair

The controversial change will take place in all stores in the coming weeks. Woolworths supermarkets has announced that kids confectionery will be removed from all checkouts. The retail giant will also

only offer healthier food choices with a Health Star Rating (HSR) of 3.5 or above for sale on the front and back of food aisles. Woolworths says it is making the controversial move to help make it easier for customers to discover healthier food choices when shopping across the store.

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AICIS

Tara Moriarty confirms the Williamstown Special Activation Precinct is under review

Newcastle Herald, Other, 28/06/2023, Matthew Kelly

The future of the Williamstown Special Activation Precinct is uncertain after the state government announced a review of the massive economic development project. [...] The previous state government committed to streamlining planning approvals and tailoring infrastructure investment in areas such rail, roads and drainage to support the precinct's establishment on 10,000 hectares of land, much of which was contaminated by PFAS.

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The Daily Advertiser

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 28/06/2023, Taylor Dodge

Compensation for Forest Hill residents whose properties have been contaminated by firefighting foam used on the city's air force bases is not good enough according to Wagga businessmen Greg Semple. [...] The contamination was caused by the use of firefighting foam known as Aqueous Film Forming Foam which consists of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at RAAF bases from the 1970s to at least 2004 according to Shine Lawyers.

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