



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 21st July 2023

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 1\)](#)** reports that staff raised concerns with management about a "culture of bullying and intimidation" in the acute psychiatric ward of Parramatta's Cumberland more than a year before the death of two nurses now at the centre of a criminal case against NSW Health. A 2019 union meeting raised safety and cultural issues on the ward which were then forwarded to management.
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 1\)](#)** reports that a father of a patient of controversial neurosurgeon Charlie Teo has spoken out after Dr Teo made statements to Channel Seven's Spotlight program. Gene Howard said Dr Teo had accused him of lying about his daughter's case, and a number of families are reportedly frustrated with Dr Teo's refusal to accept a recent standard committee's judgement that he had acted with "unsatisfactory professional conduct".
- **[The Age \(page 1\)](#)** reports a doctor will appeal a coroners ruling he provided substandard care to an Indigenous woman who later died in prison. Court documents claim the coroner Simon McGregor made six errors and misapplied legal principles in establishing Dr Sean Runacres had acted improperly.

- **The Herald Sun (page 1)** reports that four out of nine federal government funded urgent care clinics in Victoria are operating on reduced hours, with one only operating only four days out of seven due to doctor shortages. A health department spokesperson said "The Australian government has committed to properly resourcing Medicare UCCs and is working with state and territory governments and other stakeholders on options to leverage the available workforce while building capability in urgent care."
- **The Herald Sun (page 1)** reports that a Victorian parliamentary inquiry may be launched into the funding of the failed Commonwealth Games. Members of the Liberals and Nationals said they would push for transparency around the costings quoted as reason for the cancellation. *Also reported by: Australian Financial Review, The Age, ABC Online and ABC Online*
- **The Courier Mail (page 1)** reports the Gold Coast could host the 2026 Commonwealth Games if federal funding planned for Victoria were diverted to Queensland, Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate says. A spokesperson for Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said the state government's priority remained preparing for the Brisbane's Olympics in 2032. *Also reported by: Daily Mail Australia*
- **The Hobart Mercury (page 1)** reports that Tasmanian Premier Jeremy Rockliff has announced he is stepping down from the Health portfolio as part of a cabinet reshuffle. Mr Rockliff will be retaining the Mental Health and Wellbeing ministry, with a new Health minister yet to be announced.
- **The Northern Territory News (page 1)** reports that NT Chief Minister Natasha Fyles has announced that alcohol restrictions in Alice Springs will likely remain in place for another year after positive impacts were noted in domestic violence rates. Senator Malarndirri McCarthy said, "The statistics showing a drop in alcohol-related harm and violence in Central Australia are encouraging." *Also reported by: ABC Online and 9News (Online).*
- **The Adelaide Advertiser (page 8)** reports that SafeWork SA is investigating reports of mould, asbestos, pest infestations and asbestos at Adelaide's Pregnancy Advisory Centre. A spokesperson said that additional maintenance problems had been uncovered as part of recent trade works, and that surgeries had been moved from the building over four years ago. *Also reported by: ABC Online*

## MINISTER BUTLER

### "Broken promise": McIntosh on attack over Urgent Care Clinics

Western Weekender Penrith, General News, 21/07/2023, Makayla Muscat, Page 14

Although an announcement may be imminent it seems Penrith will have to wait a bit longer for the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic that Labor promised last year. [...] "I wrote to the Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler MP, in February asking for details on the plans for an Urgent Care Clinic that Labor promised us during the election," she said.

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### More GPs and emergency doctors for regional areas

Gilgandra Weekly, General News, 18/07/2023, Andrew Tarry, Page 6

The healthcare crisis continues to be a fraught and complex problem in regional areas with the inability to access medical practitioners and services an acute issue. [...] The federal minister for health, Mark Butler said "the Single Employer Model is an innovative approach and will help to attract and retain the doctors we need to provide essential primary healthcare services into the future.

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### Bad medicine for regional Australia: 'You don't know what you got 'til its gone'

Narrandera Argus, General News, 20/07/2023, Trent Twomey , Page 2

Some of you may remember the Joni Mitchell song 'Big Yellow Taxi' with the verse, "You don't know what you got 'til it's gone." [...] The Health Minister, Mark Butler's response so far is, "Every single dollar

saved by the Government will go back into pharmacy services," but his Department's figures just don't add up.

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

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## **Framingham scrapped: Heart Foundation releases new CVD risk calculator and guidelines**

Australian Doctor, Other, 20/07/2023, Rachel Fieldhouse

GPs now have access to revamped CVD prevention guidelines and a risk calculator, with the outdated Framingham-based equation officially confined to the scrap heap. [...] Heart Foundation chief medical advisor Professor Garry Jennings, who unveiled the new guidelines alongside federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler on Thursday, said it would lead to better patient outcomes.

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## **The Week in Australian Foreign Affairs**

Australian Institute of International Affairs, Other, 21/07/2023

[...] On 13 July, Wong, Minister for Health Mark Butler, and Minister for International Development Pat Conroy jointly announced that the Government is investing \$13.3 million in new partnerships between the Therapeutic Goods Administration and governments in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

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## **Over 40 leading experts issue warning over new vaping laws**

Convenience & Impulse Retailing, Other, 20/07/2023, Thomas Oakley-Newell

In an open letter to the Hon Mark Butler, 45 leading tobacco control and addiction experts have warned of the consequences of the new vaping laws. Penned by Dr Colin Mendelsohn, Founding Chairman of the Australian Tobacco Harm Reduction Association, and co-signed by 44 other leading tobacco treatment, public health, and addiction experts from Australia and New Zealand, the letter asks Butler to reconsider his proposal to further restrict access to nicotine vaping products in Australia.

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## **Where's the public health messaging, Health Minister?**

Croakey, Other, 20/07/2023, Melissa Sweet

Views differ about the best way to manage Australia's current COVID situation, with some focused on vaccination and antivirals, and others urging a comprehensive, multi-faceted public health campaign and wider systemic health reforms. [...] Chair of the Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport Dr Mike Freeland told Croakey he has been working with Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler and the DOH to continuously monitor the situation "with a particular focus being on how policy and clinical guidance is shaped going forward, whilst also improving health outcomes and increasing awareness of COVID and long COVID in the community".

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## **Local pharmacists debate 60-day dispensing**

Gippsland Times, Other, 20/07/2023

The row between the federal government and pharmacies is not letting up, with two local Sale pharmacists expressing concern about the 60-day dispensing policy ahead of its expected start on September 1. [...] In an email response to a series of questions from the Gippsland Times, spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler said the government is delivering "cheaper medicines through 60-day dispensing for more than six million Australians".

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## **Australia makes strides towards eliminating HIV**

Healthcare Channel, Other, 20/07/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

According to the latest data from UNSW Sydney's Kirby Institute, Australia is making significant strides towards eliminating HIV transmission, even amidst disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. [...] The Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, praised the data and reiterated the

government's commitment to work closely with community organisations and research centres like the Kirby Institute to maintain Australia's leading position in HIV elimination.

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## Bitter pill to swallow for local chemists

MyCity Logan, Other, 20/07/2023, Chris Manning

A local pharmacist says the federal government's latest policy reform won't benefit those in need, and ultimately drive up prices for dependent customers. [...] But a spokesperson for the federal minister for health, Mark Butler, said the government hadn't and wouldn't cut any funding that goes towards those services.

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## Medical Research Future Fund has \$20 billion to spend. Here's how we prioritise who gets what Assess gaps in evidence Seek public input Consider our comparative advantages

OverSixty, Other, 20/07/2023, Adrian Barnett and Philip Clarke

The Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) is a A\$20 billion fund to support Australian health and medical research. [...] The current Health Minister, Mark Butler, has instituted a review.

Also reported by: [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## New CVD toolkit

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 20/07/2023

The Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler today launched the country's new Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Guideline and accompanying CVD Risk Calculator, a 'tool kit' that sets improved clinical standards for the prevention of cardiovascular disease before it takes hold.

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## Australia halves HIV diagnoses over past decade, on track to eliminate HIV transmission

Sydney Star Observer, Other, 20/07/2023, Shibu Thomas

Australia has made significant strides in the fight against HIV, with new data from the Kirby Institute at UNSW Sydney showing a remarkable 50% reduction in HIV diagnoses over the last ten years. [...] Australia's Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, expressed optimism about achieving targets for HIV elimination but warned against complacency.

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## New CVD risk calculator and prevention guidelines

The Medical Republic, Other, 20/07/2023

The launch of the Australian-based tools has been described as a turning point for healthcare. [...] "The cardiovascular disease calculator is the new gold standard in assessing the risk of cardiovascular disease in Australians, [and the] new guidelines will help medical professionals across the country to provide earlier detection and treatment for the disease, bringing new hope and help to thousands of Australians," Health Minister Mark Butler said at today's launch.

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## Channel 9, National Nine News, 20/07/2023, Peter Overton

There's a new weapon in the fight against cardiovascular disease, which claims 118 Australian lives every day. GPs are being armed with a calculator which can tell them how likely a patient is to have a heart attack or a stroke in the next five years. Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler says an Australian is losing their life through cardiovascular disease about every 12 minutes.

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**SBS, World News Australia, 20/07/2023, Janice Petersen**

Advocacy groups say Australia should follow the UK's example of making PrEP free of charge regardless of immigration status A HIV taskforce has been established by the Health Minister Mark Butler. It is considering expanding access to PrEP for people who are not eligible for Medicare as part of the government's 2030 elimination strategy.

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## 2SM, 12:00 News, 20/07/2023

Around 8 million Australians will benefit from a new approach to stopping cardiovascular disease. Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler has launched the country's new cardiovascular Disease Prevention Guide's health care programmes Manager at the Heart Foundation, Natalie Raffoul, says the new toolkit sets the standard for prevention of the disease.

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## 6PR, 18:00 News, 20/07/2023

New guidelines are being introduced to help prevent heart disease. The Federal Government has updated recommendations to doctors for the first time in a decade. Health Minister Mark Butler says heart disease research has come a long way in recent years.

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## MINISTER WELLS

No relevant coverage

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### \$38.5M for children's mental health care

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 20/07/2023, Page 26

A Head to Health Kids Hub to provide mental health care for young children will soon be located on the Central Coast. [...] Federal Member for Dobell and Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Emma McBride, said the Australian Government was partnering with NSW to fund Head to Health Kids Hubs so children and families could get the help they needed when and where they needed it.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

### Women's health call

Herald Sun, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 7

Women are being urged to share their experiences in the health system in a bid to improve outcomes and reduce gender bias. [...] Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said the government needed help to create change.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

## Booze ban blindside

Northern Territory News, General News, 21/07/2023, Annabel Bowles and Laura Hooper, Page 1

The Alice Springs mayor has slammed the government for extending alcohol restrictions without community consultation. [...] NT Senator Malarndirri McCarthy said she welcomed the extension because the safety and wellbeing of communities "must come first".

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## DEPARTMENT

### Action call as vaping takes hold

Hobart Mercury, General News, 21/07/2023, Alex Treacy, Page 13

The Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council Tasmania says it does not support a punitive approach to combat the vaping epidemic that has seen some schools take drastic action such as removing all bar one student toilet. [...] A May 2023 paper prepared on behalf of the federal Department of Health and Aged Care found that 8.9 per cent of the Australian population aged 14 and older vaped, while there were more vapers than smokers in the cohort aged 14-35.

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### QLD aged care staff and residents urged to get flu jab

Aged Care Insite, Other, 20/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Free vaccinations will roll out for Queenslanders amid a spike in cases across the state, with calls for aged care staff, residents, and visitors to get vaccinated. [...] So far, the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care data showed 1.61 million Queenslanders who have received the flu vaccine.

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### Proposed law tells families to do it our way or risk prosecution

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 20/07/2023

The Senate is considering new laws that have raised serious alarm amongst families who have each contributed significantly to patients and the health system. [...] In its submission to the inquiry, the Department of Health and Aged Care (department) said, "The Bill seeks to broaden the disclosure of information provisions in the OTA Act to allow DonateLife agencies, grant recipients and authorised family members' to publish, disseminate or disclose information about deceased donors/recipients for the purposes of the OTA's community awareness, promotional, educational or commemorative activities, without breaching law of a state or territory."

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### On COVID complacency, what are the costs?

Croakey, Other, 20/07/2023, Melissa Sweet

Complacency and a lack of information and awareness about the ongoing risks of COVID are a major concern, according to health and aged care leaders, who describe how health services and workers, as well as priority populations, are being affected. [...] The Lung Foundation Australia looks forward to contributing to the Department of Health and Aged Care's development of a national plan to respond to long COVID, Preston said.

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### More clarity needed on Federal Government's COVID strategy

Croakey, Other, 20/07/2023, Alison Barrett

It's clear that most Australians have largely moved on from COVID-consciousness, and have returned to a new-normal in their workplaces and family lives. [...] Most recently we've seen the outgoing Federal Health Secretary Brendan Murphy, claiming that the media was to blame for the public's negative perception of the rollout of COVID vaccinations, ignoring the Australian National Audit Office's finding from late 2022 that the Health Department had failed to meet six out of nine measurable targets

for the wider vaccine rollout and that it consistently failed to meet vaccine targets among vulnerable populations.

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## Confronting COVID amid many public health challenges

Croakey, Other, 20/07/2023, Melissa Sweet

Many questions are being asked about the adequacy of Australia's COVID responses, whether more could be done and by whom, and about who is bearing the brunt of the status quo. [...] There is monthly data published on vaccine uptake by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

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## Pay packets of Queensland's top execs reflect demanding roles | full list

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 20/07/2023, Judith Kerr

They are sometimes called fat cats' for their chunky pay packets, but Queensland's top-level public servants often have to pay a high price, shouldering immense responsibilities and intense scrutiny. [...] The federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Secretary Andrew Metcalf earned \$845,650 in 2021-22 while the Department of Health and Aged Care Secretary Blair Comley was on \$845,650.

Also reported by: [Redlands Questnews \(Online\)](#).

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## ANAO to assess effectiveness of health department's procurement of medical products

HealthDispatch, Other, 20/07/2023

The Australian National Audit Office plans to assess the effectiveness of the Department of Health and Aged Care's procurement activities to secure the supply of critical medical goods and services. The audit is planned in response to decisions taken during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the former Government's agreement with CSL Seqirus, under which the Australian company is constructing a new manufacturing facility in return for a flu vaccine and other product supply commitment.

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## 2023 Census takes global view of specialist digital health workforce

Pulse+IT, Other, 20/07/2023

People working in the increasingly broad sector of digital health are being invited to take part in a census of the specialist digital health workforce, which is thought to have expanded massively since the COVID 19 pandemic. [...] The project is a collaborative project between the RMIT University, University of Melbourne, the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care, Australian Digital Health Agency, Australian Library and Information Association Health Libraries Australia, Australasian Institute of Digital Health, the Health Information Management Association of Australia, and Telstra Health.

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## CORONAVIRUS

### Asymptomatic COVID-19 linked to HLA gene variant and exposure to the common cold

ABC Online, Other, 20/07/2023, Anna Salleh and Billy Cooper

Scientists have found a gene that can help the body fight SARS-CoV-2 so well that people with it may not have any COVID symptoms at all, especially if they've previously had a cold. One fifth of people in the study who had asymptomatic COVID-19 had a gene called HLA-B15

Similar coverage reported by: [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

## 5AA, Breakfast, 20/07/2023, Will Goodings and Lucy Lokan

Research suggests there may be a genetic link to strong immunity against Covid 19. Australian scientists have helped identify a genetic shield which helps people to dodge the virus.

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## Radio National, Breakfast, 20/07/2023, Patricia Karvelas

A joint Australian and US study has found people with a specific gene are more likely to show no symptoms when they catch Covid. The study, published in the scientific journal Nature, has found people with one copy of the gene HLA-B15 were twice as likely to be asymptomatic. Lead researcher Professor Stephanie Gras from La Trobe University says not enough attention has been paid to asymptomatic cases.

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Putting residents in the driver's seat

Launceston Examiner, General News, 21/07/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 10

In a national first, aged care residents are making their voices heard by co-designing the level of care they receive. Residential aged care provider Calvary Riverside Views in Launceston is pioneering a new care model designed to prioritise the wellbeing and dignity of individuals in the aged care system.

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### The time is ripe to reimagine operations

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 20/07/2023

A growing ageing population in Australia, staff shortages, limited funding and several other factors, including those caused by the pandemic, have put unprecedented pressure on the aged care sector. [...] The Aged Care Royal Commission's report found that the "aged care system is well behind other sectors in the use and application of technology."

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### Regulation impacting workforce mental health, says expert

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 20/07/2023, Christopher Kelly

The aged care sector needs to recognise the effect compliance measures are having on workers' wellbeing, a psychologist has told Australian Ageing Agenda. "There is an impact of regulation on workforce mental health," said Sue Jauncey, founder and CEO of Appellon a provider of research-backed workforce engagement programs.

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### Police officer said 'nah, bugger it' before fatally tasering aged care resident, court told

Australian Doctor, Other, 20/07/2023

The police were called after aged care staff told paramedics that Clare Nowland had a knife, court documents allege. A police officer said "nah, bugger it" before fatally tasering a 95-year-old aged care resident with dementia, according to court documents filed by NSW Police.

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

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### As regional aged care homes close their doors, are increased consumer contributions the answer?



While aged care home closures have dominated the news this week, there was one in particular that caught my attention. As we report in this issue, a Council in NSW's Northern Tablelands is looking at expanding its 36-bed aged care home to 50 beds because the 24/7 Registered Nurse requirement makes it more financially viable to have a higher number of residents.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Black market on social media

Hobart Mercury, General News, 21/07/2023, Alex Treacy, Page 13

Illegal nicotine-containing e-cigarettes remain highly accessible in Tasmania courtesy of a thriving online market. While they remain largely inaccessible under the counter compared to mainland capitals Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane where they can be purchased for as little as \$15-\$20 Tasmanian punters are able to purchase them easily from Facebook Marketplace.

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### State's young vaper numbers blow out

Burnie Advocate, General News, 21/07/2023, Isabel Bird, Page 5

As evidence mounts that children and young Tasmanians are taking up vaping at growing rates, a peak advocacy group is calling for urgent action on prevention. A "recent surge" of vaping in the Tasmanian community has made it difficult for education, treatment and support services to keep up with demand, according to the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Council of Tasmania (ATDC), but specific state data on vaping use is lacking.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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### Cadia not source of lead

Central Western Daily, General News, 21/07/2023, Mark Logan, Page 1

A comprehensive lead fingerprinting analysis conducted by the University of South Australia has revealed no evidence linking Cadia Valley Operation's gold mine to the lead detected in district rainwater tanks. The study involved examining 88 sludge samples collected by Cadia during the district water sampling program, comparing them with samples from Cadia's ore body, as well as other soil and rock samples from the surrounding area.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#).

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### Deakin fights microplastics

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 18

A team of Deakin University materials scientists is spearheading research to increase awareness and promote behavioural changes to combat the global microplastics problem. Backed by the Australian Research Council, the group from Deakin's Institute for Frontier Materials (IFM) and led by Associate Professor Alessandra Sutti, collaborates with the textile and advanced manufacturing industries to enhance sustainability practices and reduce microplastic pollution.

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### One in three at risk of heart disease

Newcastle Herald, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 18

Ever been told that having an "apple" body shape is less healthy than a pear-shaped body? Or that the most dangerous place to store fat is around your waist?

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

## Woolworths removing confectionery from checkouts

Retail World, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 12

Confectionery products for children are being removed from checkout areas at all Woolworths supermarkets. The move follows changes at checkouts introduced last year by the retailer, with increased ranges of "healthier" options available, including wholegrain crackers and bars. Now, Woolworths claims that at least 80 per cent of snacks at checkouts have a Health Star Rating (HSR) of 3.5 stars or more.

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## Getting tougher on tobacco and vaping

Retail World, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 50

The draft of proposed tobacco control legislation in Australia was released on World No Tobacco Day (31 May). The federal government's Public Health (Tobacco and Other Products) legislation is promoted as a critical step in the government's fight against tobacco and nicotine addiction.

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## SA cracks down on illegal nicotine vape sales

Retail World, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 50

The South Australian government announced in June it would be imposing tougher licence conditions to help stamp out the illegal sale of nicotine vapes, combined with a two-month enforcement blitz targeting the sale of nicotine. "The stringent new licence conditions will make clear that selling nicotine e-cigarettes is already illegal and will require retailers to show proof that vaping products being sold are nicotine free," read a statement.

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## Teen smoking on the rise

Retail World, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 51

The number of Australian teenagers who smoke has increased for the first time in 25 years, according to new data from Cancer Council's Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer (CBRC). The data indicates a three-fold increase in current tobacco smoking by 14-17-year-olds in the four years to 2022, from 2.1 per cent in 2018 to 6.7 per cent last year.

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## No sausage sizzles, no fried takeaway a turning point for WA community's diabetes battle

ABC Online, Other, 20/07/2023, Mya Kordic and Mike Williams

It is a tradition embedded in Australian community meetings and gatherings, but a community in Western Australia's far north has opted to ban sausage sizzles in a bid to tackle ongoing health problems and promote healthier living. Community leaders in Djarindjin, 200 kilometres north of Broome on the Dampier Peninsula, want healthier options served up.

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## Firsthand on fentanyl

Medical Forum, Other, 21/07/2023

Given the global surge in fentanyl use, the highly potent synthetic opioid 100 times more powerful than morphine and 50 times more toxic than heroin that has overwhelmed the US with more than 1,500 deaths each week this year, Medical Forum spoke with leading WA addiction expert Dr John Edwards, to get his perspective on Australia's vulnerability to the drug.

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## Pay attention to your waist line

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 20/07/2023

While the focus is often on weight and one's body mass index (BMI), experts say that we should be

paying attention to our waist size when it comes to heart attack risk. In fact, cardiologists at the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Centre want more people aware of what's referred to as metabolic syndrome, or syndrome X, which includes a cluster of conditions that increase cardiovascular disease risk.

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## **New guidelines and heart calculator a potential life saver**

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 20/07/2023

New cardiovascular guidelines as well as an online risk calculator have been released, highlighting the close link between kidney disease and cardiovascular disease. The new guidelines 2023 Australian Guideline for assessing and managing cardiovascular disease risk which were last updated in 2012, identify the importance of kidney disease as a major risk factor for heart disease, reinforcing the need for GPs to do a Kidney Health Check before completing their cardiovascular assessment.

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## **Aussie wellbeing tracker shows room for improvement**

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 21/07/2023, Maeve Bannister

Less vaping, more vegetables and improving online safety are some of the messages in a framework aimed at boosting Australia's wellbeing. The first national wellbeing framework outlines five themes to track how healthy, secure, sustainable, cohesive and prosperous Australians are.

*Also widely syndicated across regional online publications*

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## **2GB, Drive, 20/07/2023, Chris O'Keefe**

Interview with Dr Bruce Willett, Vice President, RACGP. Willett says it makes no sense in 2023 that companies selling products that are known to be addictive and harmful can buy political influence through political donations. He notes the ban on vape products will reduce the uptake for new people and particularly kids. He states the legislation absolutely needs to capture new ways of marketing and developing vaping products as well because they're all damaging, addictive and problematic.

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## **5AA, Afternoons, 20/07/2023, Angie McBride**

Interview with Professor Gary Jennings, Chief Medical Adviser, National Heart Foundation. Around 8 million Australians will benefit from a new approach to stop cardiovascular disease before it strikes. Jennings says the new guideline is a new way of informing doctors and or clinicians anyway about how they can evaluate people for their risk of cardiovascular disease down the track or within the next five years. He notes the big risk factors for cardiovascular disease are blood pressure, cholesterol, tobacco, smoking.

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## **6PR, Perth Live, 20/07/2023, Oliver Peterson**

New guidelines are being introduced in Australia to help prevent heart disease. The Federal Government has updated the recommendations to doctors for the first time in a decade.

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## **ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 20/07/2023, Ryk Goddard**

Goddard says Covid is still having an impact with 9% excess mortality across Australia. He states Tasmania leads the nation in excess mortality with 17.3%, substantially higher than the national average.

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## Nation scores a bare pass in its first wellbeing report card

Canberra Times, General News, 21/07/2023, Adrian Rollins, Page 9

Australia is falling behind or making little progress on almost half of the 50 measures of national wellbeing being tracked by the federal government, including family financial security, chronic health problems, national security, biodiversity income and wealth inequality, and trust in government. In its first comprehensive effort to assess how the country is faring, the government's inaugural Measuring What Matters report has identified 20 areas of improvement, seven where there has been little change, 12 where there has been a deterioration and eight where progress is mixed.

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## Giulia and Claudia's very special bond

Canberra Times, General News, 21/07/2023, Megan Doherty, Page 16

A chance encounter has revealed a unifying bond between former MLA Giulia Jones and hair stylist Claudia Cataldo and strengthened their resolve to urge young women to be vigilant about the risk of breast cancer. Mrs Jones, now chief executive of Painaustralia, is currently undergoing chemotherapy after revealing in May she had been diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent a lumpectomy soon after.

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## CFA 'caused my cancer'

Herald Sun, General News, 21/07/2023, Olivia Jenkins, Page 22

A volunteer firefighter who battled the Black Summer bushfires has launched legal action against the Country Fire Authority after his cancer compensation claim was rejected. Robert Riordan, 71, alleges he was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukaemia as a result of being exposed to cancercausing chemicals at the CFA's Fiskville training centre.

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

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## Dubbo key part of personal mission

Daily Liberal, General News, 21/07/2023, Allison Hore, Page 1

A "life saving" clinical trial could change the way cancer treatment is delivered in the Dubbo region. Gold Logie-winning actor Samuel Johnson, whose charity Love Your Sister funded the Macquarie University trial, visited Dubbo this week to see just what impact it will have for local cancer patients.

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

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

## Oncology patients forced to travel after hospital unit shuts

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 21/07/2023, Glenn Ellard, Page 4

Nowra Private Hospital is closing its day oncology service less than three years after it opened - leaving private patients with the prospect of having to travel to Wollongong for treatment. Ramsay Health Care confirmed the oncology unit would close on Wednesday, August 2.

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

## World-first cancer drug test trial in Wollongong

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 21/07/2023, Kate McIlwain, Page 9

A Wollongong Hospital patient became the first person in the world to receive a new immunotherapy drug last month, as part of a cancer trial now underway in the Illawarra. A research team is investigating a new treatment for multiple myeloma - a blood cancer which starts in white blood cells known as plasma cells and usually affects multiple areas of the body.

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## Heat disrupts cancer tests for a million rural Aussies

Hot weather could disrupt vital cancer screening for one million rural Australians, prompting calls for better public health education in country communities. The national bowel cancer screening program delivers home tests to Australians aged over 50, but the kits are not sent out when regions experience average heat above 30.

[Read More](#)

## ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 20/07/2023, David Bevan

Interview with Doug Brooks, Centre for Cancer Diagnostics and Therapeutics, University of South Australia. Brooks discusses biomarker, a protein or another molecule that is part of cancer biology. He notes its key control point in the biology of the cancer that can be used to actually visualise what's happening in a particular cancer. He says the PSA screening tests are normally done in men over the age of 50 yet 50% sensitive and specific.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Abortion v the pill, and the question of access

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 21/07/2023, Madison Griffiths, Page 24

As of last Tuesday, the road map of abortion in Australia has been made significantly more accessible. A landmark decision was announced: to have the medication required to terminate a pregnancy stocked in pharmacies, as well as permission granted to doctors and nurse practitioners to prescribe it.

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

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### Couldn't care less

Herald Sun, General News, 21/07/2023, Jade Gailberger, Page 1

Almost half of the urgent care clinics which Prime Minister Anthony Albanese pledged would open every day between 8am and 10pm in Victoria are closing early or opening late, or both. In the most shocking example, the Shepparton centre has been forced to close entirely for three days a week at least temporarily - due to doctor shortages.

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

### Hospital pass

Hobart Mercury, General News, 21/07/2023, David Killick, Page 1

Premier Jeremy Rockliff will step down as Health Minister in a Cabinet reshuffle to be announced in the coming days. Addressing a Committee for Economic Development of Australia lunch in Hobart on Thursday, Mr Rockliff said the reshuffle would not see any new members in Cabinet, but rather a redistribution of portfolios among current ministers.

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

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

### Patients urged to go to another ED

Border Mail, General News, 21/07/2023, Anthony Bunn, Page 2

A nurse shortage has prompted the closure of some services at Jerilderie's health service from next Monday. Murrumbidgee Local Health District, which oversees the clinical outpost, made the announcement yesterday.

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

### State's offload on health 'unhealthy approach'

Border Mail, General News, 21/07/2023, Anthony Bunn, Page 6

A Wodonga councillor has accused the Victorian government of "abrogating" its responsibility for health

by saying it was providing a grant to NSW for Albury hospital's upgrade. Danny Chamberlain was speaking at this week's council meeting during debate over the city's advocacy priorities list which has a new Border hospital at No.1.

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## **\$37m bill for repairs**

Cairns Post, General News, 21/07/2023, Sandhya Ram, Page 4

More than \$37m for capital maintenance work is required across hospitals in Far North Queensland but the health minister has denied there is a backlog. According to figures released after a parliamentary question by the state Opposition, Cooktown Hospital required more than \$18m for capital maintenance, Thursday Island \$9m, Bamaga Hospital \$6.5m, and Mareeba Hospital more than \$3.5m.

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

## **New doctor will bolster medical services in Armidale**

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 21/07/2023, Rachel Gray, Page 2

A trainee doctor will soon join the team at the West Armidale Clinic, as it transitions away from telehealth. [...] Dr Puxty said she heard about the remote supervision model at the GP22 conference in Melbourne last year, saying they then approached the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) before they could get approval.

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

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

## **Spring Ridge finally has an on-site doctor**

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 21/07/2023, Rachel Clark, Page 7

Residents of a small community on the Liverpool Plains have welcomed their first doctor in 30 years. Just a few hours into Dr Owen Boyd's first day at the new Spring Ridge practice, he was completely booked out. Before catching up with the Leader on Thursday July 20, Dr Boyd had just finished his round of appointments for the morning.

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

## **Nurse's touch can help patients avoid hospital return**

Canberra Times, Other, 21/07/2023, Rachael Ward

Fewer vulnerable patients would be re-admitted to hospital if a local nurse could help them into medical services in their own community. A study by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians found the number of at-risk patients returning to hospital fell by 66 per cent if they had help from a professional within 30 days of being discharged.

[Read More](#)

## **WA Government confirms GP practices won't be chased over payroll tax, saving patients on consultations**

West Australian, Other, 20/07/2023, Josh Zimmerman

GP practices in WA will not be pursued over payroll tax in a decision doctors say will spare patients from further hikes on medical consultations in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis. A ruling earlier this year by the NSW Court of Appeal cleared the way for GPs to be treated as employees of the practices they work out of, making those businesses liable for payroll tax on their remuneration.

[Read More](#)

## **Gunnedah mayor calls for transparency over Gunnedah hospital upgrade**

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 20/07/2023, Rachel Gray

Gunnedah mayor Jamie Chaffey is calling on the state government to provide the additional amount it will cost to deliver the full Gunnedah hospital upgrade. NSW Health briefed Gunnedah Shire Councillors earlier in July about the revised design and scope of the highly anticipated \$53 million upgrade of the Gunnedah Shire hospital.

[Read More](#)

## Physical rehabilitation clinic opens in Wallaroo to give rural patients local healthcare

ABC Online, Other, 20/07/2023, Christian Cominos

A new physical rehabilitation ward has opened in South Australia's Wallaroo Hospital, which will allow local patients to receive care closer to home rather than travelling to Adelaide. It will cater to people who have suffered from a stroke or have had a hip replacement and will also help patients who have spent a long period of time in hospital.

[Read More](#)

## Transgender care risk management: Are MDOs fortune telling or cost shifting?

Australian Doctor, Other, 20/07/2023, Craig Lilienthal

Your Honour and distinguished members of the AusDoc jury, may I respectfully disagree with the defensive views of my learned colleague and friend, Dr Paul Nisselle. It covered the decision by MDA National to restrict cover for those in private practice initiating gender-affirming hormone therapies to under 18s and who work outside a hospital-based multidisciplinary team.

[Read More](#)

## 'Strong concerns': ACCC queries pathology merger bid

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 20/07/2023, Jolyon Attwooll

The regulator has said a proposed takeover of Healius by ACL, a move opposed by the RACGP, could have an adverse effect on patients. A merger could impact the extent of pathology bulk billing, according to the ACCC.

[Read More](#)

## No change to payroll approach: WA Government

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 20/07/2023, Jolyon Attwooll

The RACGP WA Chair has been told by the State Government that most GPs are still considered as contractors running an independent business'. The news has been described as a relief for GPs' across the state.

[Read More](#)

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Utopia Jim turns back time

The Australian, Edition Changes - All-round Metro, 21/07/2023, Patrick Commins, Page 1

Jim Chalmers' long-awaited "wellbeing" budget has used outof-date data to declare homeowners are finding it easier to repay mortgages, disabled Australians are less satisfied with services, and mental health is not a rising concern. The old data fails to reflect the Covid-19 pandemic, billions of dollars in extra NDIS spending, and the most aggressive series of interest rate hikes in a generation.

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

### Stressed at work? It's not always a bad thing

Herald Sun, General News, 21/07/2023, Carolyn Tate, Page 55

Are unrealistic deadlines or a demanding boss keeping you up at night? It might not seem like it right now, but that work stress could be a good sign and, compared with your chilled-out colleagues, you could find you're leading a more meaningful life.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#)

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### Pandemic 'perfect storm' for disorders

More people are seeking help for an eating disorder since the pandemic, and those in remote areas like Dubbo are experiencing the added difficulty of accessing specialised support. Joyce Tam, National Helpline Manager at Butterfly Foundation, said more people are seeking support for an eating disorder, disordered eating and body image concerns since COVID-19, and the subsequent cost-of-living crisis further complicated the situation.

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

## Tom tackles mental health

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 21/07/2023, Ben Cameron, Page 48

Reviewing his own performance and moving on after a substandard display have been the biggest mental obstacles superstar Geelong defender Tom Stewart has had to grapple with since joining the elite level. The South Barwon product is a proud ambassador for the burgeoning Tackle Your Feelings program, which aims to strengthen the ability of netball and football coaches through the use of a local psychologist, to see the signs of poor mental health in their players.

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

## Alarming reports detail mental health issues

Shepparton News, General News, 21/07/2023, Murray Silby, Page 8

Two recent reports have highlighted the desperate state of mental health among blue collar workers in Australia. TIACS, an alliance of businesses that helps fund accessible mental health counselling to blue collar industries, announced on Wednesday, that it had experienced a "concerning surge" in the number of apprentices seeking counselling across the country.

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

## Loss brings friends home

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 21/07/2023, Emily Devon, Page 7

From the moment Anna Willcocks received a call from her best friend Emily Beil one Sunday night in February, she could sense the devastation in her voice. As Anna spoke to Emily from her new home on a North Queensland cattle station, she revealed heartbreaking news Emily's brother Harrison had died by suicide.

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

## Breaking down barriers

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 38

TAFE Queensland graduate Neville Penny is using his training on the frontline to break down barriers and provide people in Townsville and Ayr with vital mental health support. Mr Penny, 31, is a proud Aboriginal and South Sea Islander man who identifies with the Nywaigi Tribe of Crystal Creek, north of Townsville, and the Bundjalung people, from the New South Wales North Coast.

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

## Navy accused of failing to provide psychological support after traumatic incidents

SBS, Other, 20/07/2023

Three former divers have told a royal commission that the navy has failed to implement safety measures or provide psychological support following traumatic incidents. An elite diver sustained traumatic injuries during a drill in Sydney Harbour in 2009.

[Read More](#)

## 5AA, Mornings, 20/07/2023, Graeme Goodings

Interview with Simon Tyler, PhD candidate Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Research Group, University of South Australia. Tyler says there's disturbing figures on suicide rates in the construction industry. He notes we lose about 190 construction workers to suicide every single year.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### 'Bullying' pre-dated nurse deaths

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 21/07/2023, Michael McGowan, Page 1

Staff raised concerns about bullying and intimidation at Cumberland Hospital more than a year before the deaths of two nurses which are the subject of a criminal case against NSW Health. Resolutions passed at a 2019 union meeting of nurses at Cumberland, the state's largest psychiatric hospital, detailed a series of safety and cultural concerns in the running of the acute psychiatric ward called Hainsworth.

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

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

### Come clean on grime

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 21/07/2023, Shashi Baltutis, Page 8

The state's work safety watchdog is investigating reports of mould, asbestos, structural faults and bug infestations at the Pregnancy Advisory Centre in Adelaide's western suburbs. SafeWork SA inspectors are this week conducting an inquiry into the state of the Pregnancy Advisory Centre at Belmore Tce at Woodville after reports of numerous issues from union members.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#). Similar coverage reported by: [ABC Online](#)

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

### International expert to take top job at new Goldfields University Department of Rural Health

West Australian, Other, 20/07/2023, Amber Lilley

Curtin University has appointed an internationally recognised rural health expert to take on the role of inaugural director of the new Goldfields University Department of Rural Health. Professor Fiona Doolan-Noble from the University of Otago will be based at Curtin's Kalgoorlie campus and is expected to bring expertise in rural health and interprofessional education.

[Read More](#)

### API strike ends after close to a month

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 20/07/2023, David Rowley

An in-principle agreement over pay and working conditions has been reached between Australian Pharmaceutical Industries (API) and the United Workers Union (UWU) for the API Dandenong distribution centre in Victoria.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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### AI predicts poor personal performance

Medical Forum, Other, 21/07/2023

A world-first study by the CSIRO has shown the potential benefits of using AI to improve patients' engagement and health outcomes from digital health programs. The study, published in The Journal of Medical Internet Research, used a CSIRO-developed algorithm to accurately predict when a person would drop out of an online weight loss program.

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Teo's TV tales add to father's pain

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 21/07/2023, Kate McClymont, Page 1

Gene Howard's trust in Charlie Teo had already been shattered when he discovered a year ago that the controversial neurosurgeon's disastrous operation on his daughter's tumour was one no other surgeon in the world would have done. "It makes me angry that he took advantage of our family, charging so much for a useless operation," Howard said.

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

### Doctor fights coroner's finding in Nelson case

Age, General News, 21/07/2023, David Estcourt and Erin Pearson, Page 1

A doctor referred to Australia's medical watchdog over the prison death of Indigenous woman Veronica Nelson is appealing against adverse findings made by a coroner, who ruled the medical practitioner provided substandard care in the hours before the woman died. [...] Following his findings, McGregor ordered those parts relevant to Runacres be sent to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency for consideration.

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

### WA coroner says Joondalup Health Campus made mistakes before newborn's death

ABC Online, Other, 20/07/2023, Alicia Bridges

The father of a newborn who died at Joondalup Health Campus in circumstances the coroner found to be "preventable" said his family's battle for answers was not over. Jono and Jodie Reindl lost their baby daughter Ashlee Jade Reindl on October 27, 2019, after she was delivered by caesarean section at the hospital in Perth's northern suburbs.

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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## SPORT

### Andrews' support dives after Games call

Australian Financial Review, General News, 21/07/2023, Gus McCubbing and Patrick Durkin, Page 1

Support for the Victorian government and Premier Daniel Andrews has plunged after the cancellation

of the Commonwealth Games, according to pollster Roy Morgan.

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## Chiefs knew of runaway Games cost for months

Age, Edition Changes - 2nd Edition, 21/07/2023, Chip Le Grand and Greg Baum, Page 1

Commonwealth Games bureaucrats and Victorian Treasury officials knew in April that the estimated cost of running the event had blown out to double the \$2.6 billion figure quoted a year earlier by the government's bid team. The Office of the Commonwealth Games, the government department responsible for overseeing the planning and delivery of the now aborted event, submitted a detailed business case and operational plan to the Treasury before the May budget asking for a \$5 billion funding allocation to cover the increased costs.

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

## Fox sets the stage for an iconic event

Daily Telegraph, General News, 21/07/2023, Elliott Stewart, Page 6

Fox Sports USA has cut no corners with its jaw-dropping studio on Sydney Harbour. The broadcasting heavyweight has made its mark in Sydney for the FIFA Women's World Cup with two studios located in Hickson Road Reserve an open-air studio surrounded by views of the Harbour Bridge and their "bread and butter" studio with views directly to the Opera House.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).

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## Goals before rankings

Daily Telegraph, General News, 21/07/2023, Eilidh Sproul-Mellis, Page 24

A Sydney principal is on a mission to destroy the "entrenched" belief that getting a great rank in the HSC is the best measure of success after abolishing the ATAR at her own school. GOAL College, formerly known as SEDA but now rebranding and expanding, sells itself as the alternative for sporty Year 11 and 12 kids who are disillusioned with mainstream schooling and don't want to be set backwards on their path to professional sport by sticking their heads exclusively in the books for two years.

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

## Games up for probe

Herald Sun, General News, 21/07/2023, Kieran Rooney, Mitch Clarke and Matt Johnston, Page 1

The Victorian parliament could examine the Commonwealth Games cancellation fiasco, as the Andrews government dug in for a third straight day still refusing to explain the event's multi-billion dollar blowout. The Herald Sun on Thursday asked the government 11 questions about how it arrived at a whopping \$6bn to \$7bn price tag for the Games just 18 months after declaring it would cost \$2.6bn in total.

Similar coverage reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Australia\)](#), [Australian Financial Review \(Australia\)](#), [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Shepparton News \(Shepparton\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## GC's game to be host Coast could go for gold

Courier Mail, General News, 21/07/2023, Jeremy Pierce and Greg Stolz, Page 1

Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate has boldly declared the Tourist Strip could step up to host the doomed 2026 Commonwealth Games if the federal government diverts Victorian funding to South East Queensland. Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews sent shockwaves through the sporting landscape on Tuesday by bailing out of the next instalment of the Games, due to be held in just three years.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury](#). Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## Games launch crashes like so many drones

It was like an episode of the classic mockumentary "The Games" this week as Brisbane prepared to mark nine years to go before the curtains go up on the 2032 Olympic Games. But unlike the show that poked fun at the organisers of the Sydney Games in the lead-up to 2000, this week's disasters for the Brisbane organisers were all real.

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## Adults to get in the swim

Courier Mail, General News, 21/07/2023, Rose Innes, Page 15

Free swimming lesson for adults will be launched after a survey revealed up to 60 per cent of adults can't swim or don't feel confident in the water. The eight-week program, a partnership between Allianz Australia, AUSTSWIM and Masters Swimming Australia, is set to run in 15 pools across Australia from October, with 800 spots available.

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## Ready, set, go for new housing

Courier Mail, General News, 21/07/2023, James Hall, Page 18

The long-term vision for Northshore Hamilton can be revealed as the state government forges ahead with plans to transform the riverside precinct. The Olympic Athlete Village will be based at the site in 2032 before it further evolves into a thriving community with nearly 25,000 residents.

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## Matilda mania hits Adelaide

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 21/07/2023, Miles Kemp, Page 1

Airbnb host Lisa Reynolds is one of those riding the Adelaide wave of World Cup soccer enthusiasm. Lisa, 54, works full-time but hosts Airbnb renters in three bedrooms of her house in Croydon. In the next month she will host a mother and daughter from Melbourne, two people from Korea and other international visitors in a third room.

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## Albo's public holiday pledge

Northern Territory News, General News, 21/07/2023, Courtney Gould, Page 24

Anthony Albanese says he will personally lobby state premiers to declare a public holiday should the Matildas take home the FIFA Women's World Cup trophy. The national team has a redhot chance to claim victory for the first time in World Cup history but will face a tough fight to make it to the round of 16 after being drawn into Group B with reigning Olympic champions Canada.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#).

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## Junior Sports fund

Border Watch, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 12

Mount Gambier City Council will donate \$8730 to local sporting organisations as part of the Junior Sports Assistance Fund in an effort to help it conduct specialised coaching clinics for the juniors. Member organisations had the opportunity to apply for financial assistance for the coaching of juniors, coaches of juniors and umpires of juniors.

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## New rooms christened

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 21/07/2023, Wade Stephens, Page 6

Murrayville's new \$2 million sports hub has been described as testament to what can be achieved in small communities. The pristine buildings had their first test run on the weekend, as the Murrayville Blues played their long-awaited inaugural home game in the Murray Valley Football Netball League.

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

## Hopes to bring 'world's largest inclusive sporting event' to Australia struggle to attract government funding

ABC Online, Other, 20/07/2023, Keane Bourke

Jordan Hill describes his connection with his horse as "like father and son". When he's riding "Spidey", any stress and frustration fades away, leaving the equestrian rider with a grin from ear to ear.

[Read More](#)

## The Matildas effect: How the home World Cup is inspiring the next generation of players

SBS, Other, 20/07/2023, Biwa Kwan

Demand for the Women's World Cup opening match between Australia and Ireland doubled to 80,000 spectators, forcing organisers to change venue. There's hope that it's a sign of a bright future for grassroots female football in Australia.

Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Businesses join the Q for gold at Brisbane Olympics

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 20/07/2023

The collapse of Victoria's 2026 Commonwealth Games has prompted the Queensland government to remind taxpayers of the \$180 million pot of gold at the end of the 2032 Brisbane Olympic rainbow. Queensland-based businesses are primed to share in the billions of dollars in government procurement in the lead-up to the international sporting event, Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk said.

[Read More](#)

## Dan Andrews had pulled the pin on another international sporting event to be held in Victoria just months before his Commonwealth Games backflip

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 20/07/2023, Brett Lackey

Premier Dan Andrews abandoned another global sporting event Victoria was set to host just months before his shock decision to ditch the Commonwealth Games. The state government on Tuesday revealed it would not host the Games in 2026, blaming a forecast \$2.6billion to \$6billion cost blowout, yet vowed to proceed with infrastructure upgrades and housing builds connected to the event.

[Read More](#)

## Enormous pay disparity in Women's World Cup exposed

NEWS.com.au, Other, 20/07/2023, Brooke Rolfe

The Matildas have released a video calling on football's domestic and international governing bodies to further invest in the women's game. As the globe turns its collective focus towards the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, a spotlight has been shone on the enormity in pay difference between the men's and women's teams.

[Read More](#)

## 'Woke up quickly': World Cup teams staying near horror shooting in Auckland

NEWS.com.au, Other, 20/07/2023, Chantelle Francis

New Zealand Sports Minister Grant Robertson has confirmed the FIFA Women's World Cup tournament will still go ahead after a gunman opened fire inside a building in Auckland's CBD. "The tournament will go on and tonight's game will be played," Mr Robertson said in a media conference on Thursday morning.

[Read More](#)

## AFL should limit 'full contact practice' to cut brain risk, Shane Tuck inquest told

The Guardian, Other, 20/07/2023, Stephanie Convery

The AFL should consider following the lead of American football in "severely limiting full contact practices" to "dramatically reduce the risk" of players developing neurodegenerative disease, a US expert has told the first hearing of the inquest into the death of the late AFL player, Shane Tuck. Tuck played 173 games for Richmond Football Club between 2004 and 2013, and later had a brief boxing career, from 2015 to 2017.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### ACCC baulks at Healius takeover

The Australian, Business News, 21/07/2023, Jared Lynch, Page 15

Australian Clinical Labs has failed to win the competition regulator's support for its hostile reverse takeover of rival Healius. The Australian Competition & Consumer Commission believes the nil-premium takeover would substantially lessen competition in the pathology market, particularly in rural and regional areas, and veterinary services.

Similar coverage reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Australia\)](#).

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### Prostate cancer hope

Daily Telegraph, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 5

Researchers have identified three new biomarkers for prostate cancer to help identify and differentiate potentially aggressive cases of the disease that kills more than 300,000 men each year. An international team of scientists led by UniSA Professor of Molecular Medicine Doug Brooks has made the breakthrough, which assists pathologists when visualising prostate cancer in patient tissue samples.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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### Med diet best to conceive

Daily Telegraph, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 19

Experts say more research is needed on preconception diets after an Australian review found a lack of evidence about the best foods to help boost the chances of becoming pregnant. The study by researchers at Monash University found benefits in the Mediterranean diet, reducing trans fats and consuming less junk food and sugar-sweetened drinks, but there was insufficient evidence to support a specific diet for improving fertility.

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

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### Malaria vaccine hope

Herald Sun, General News, 21/07/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 10

The technology that helped to deliver successful vaccines against Covid during the pandemic may now lead to an effective treatment for malaria, a disease that claims more than half a million lives globally every year. A trans-Tasman team that includes researchers from Melbourne's Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity announced overnight the development of a new mRNA vaccine that targets immune cells in the liver, suggesting this may hold the key to tackling malaria.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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### Blister packs to building material

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 21/07/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 26

Tonnes of used plastic "blister" packs of medicines will be recycled into construction material instead of

being dumped in landfill under a new program being launched in South Australia today. A pilot program began in December 2022 and in its first eight months has collected 1.5 million blister packs, or 2.2 tonnes of material. The scheme is being expanded to National Pharmacies in SA, Victoria and NSW in partnership with pharmaceutical company Viatris Australia.

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

## Sleep deprived and struggling

Medical Forum, Other, 21/07/2023

Young Australians are struggling with their sleep with one in four saying they are unsatisfied with their sleep and as many as three in five saying their sleep hours are irregular. The study of around 1,200 22-year-olds found that one in three said they slept less than seven to nine hours a night, and one in five took more than 30 minutes to fall asleep.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### NT government extends Alice Springs takeaway alcohol restrictions for at least 12 months

ABC Online, Other, 20/07/2023, Sinead Mangan

The Northern Territory government will extend takeaway liquor restrictions in Alice Springs for at least the next 12 months, citing a dramatic reduction in harm to the community since their introduction. First announced in January, the restrictions include limited bottle shop trading hours, and takeaway alcohol-free days on Mondays and Tuesdays.

*Similar coverage reported by: [9News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).*

[Read More](#)

### Improving healthcare services for WA's rural Aboriginal population main focus for Kimberley youth MP

West Australian, Other, 19/07/2023

Improving healthcare services for Aboriginal Australians living in rural areas of WA was the main focus for Broome local Georgia Carter, who travelled to Perth last week to represent the Kimberley electorate for 2023 WA Youth Parliament. The 20-year-old joined 58 other participants aged between 15 and 25 to present and debate bills they crafted based on their interests to current Members of Parliament, including Minister for Youth Simone McGurk and Speaker of the Legislative Michelle Roberts.

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### Sky News Live, AM Agenda, 20/07/2023, Laura Jayes

The Northern Territory Government has announced alcohol restrictions in Alice Springs will be extended for at least the next 12 to 18 months.

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## OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### Nuclear waste too hot to handle

The Australian, Editorials, 21/07/2023, Page 10

Australia must go back to the drawing board on an already four-decade-long quest to find a place to store radioactive waste from hospitals and nuclear medicine after approvals for a low- and medium-level facility in South Australia were blocked this week by the Federal Court. The court ruled in favour

of the Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation, which claimed it had not been properly consulted after ratepayers in the town of Kimba voted by a majority to have the facility located there.

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## Native title a smokescreen for anti-nuclear campaign

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 21/07/2023, Caleb Bond, Page 17

The use of native title to stall progress and economic prosperity in South Australia is a disgrace. Through tenuous legal technicalities, the Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation have managed to kill what would have been the Kimba nuclear waste dump a project found through a ballot to have the support of the local community.

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

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## Influenza numbers paint murky picture

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 21/07/2023, Gabriel Rule, Page 3

A drop in recorded Influenza B cases may not paint a true picture of the virus in the Bendigo region, a public health physician has warned. Greater Bendigo and Loddon Mallee regions recorded 239 and 778 cases respectively as of July 17, 2023, compared to 451 cases and 1285 at the same point last year.

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## Inquiries into Hendra virus horse death

Daily Liberal, General News, 21/07/2023, Luke Costin, Page 4

An unvaccinated horse has died of the bat-borne Hendra virus in NSW, sparking inquiries into whether it passed to a human. The Hendra virus is often fatal in the rare cases it is detected in humans, usually after they had significant contact with horse body fluids.

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## School holidays provide circuit breaker for flu cases

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 21/07/2023, Page 3

The school holidays have provided a circuit breaker for this year's flu season, with the number of new cases - especially those in school-aged children dropping significantly in the past week. COVID-19 cases - and other indicators of the virus such as hospital presentations, sewage surveillance and health worker absences have also continued to decline.

Similar coverage reported by: [Sunshine Coast Daily \(Maroochydore\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## Free flu jabs as experts weigh in

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 21/07/2023, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 5

For the first time in years infectious disease experts say antivirals need to be a critical part of the fight against the horror flu season. "Many Queenslanders already have the flu so the vaccination is not going to work, it's too late," infectious disease expert Professor Robert Booy, from the Immunisation Coalition, said.

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

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## Home owners urge Victorian government to help as Mr Fluffy loose-filled asbestos found in houses

ABC Online, Other, 20/07/2023, Mikaela Ortolan

Aileen Munt, 89, thought she was getting a "good deal" when a salesman knocked on her door in the late 1960s and offered to install new insulation on her roof. "It was a lot cheaper than the batts at the time it was a new product, and you just blow it in," she said.

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## Radio National, Breakfast, 20/07/2023, Patricia Karvelas

Interview with Dr Skye McGregor, epidemiologist and head of the Surveillance Innovation Research Group, Kirby Institute. New figures show Australia is well on the way to becoming one of the first countries in the world to virtually eliminate the spread of HIV. Preventative drug treatments have dramatically reduced the number of new infections being recorded, but researchers say there are still some groups of people that aren't being tested soon enough. McGregor says they saw 555 diagnoses in 2022, which is stable numbers from 2021, and there's still tends to be the majority of diagnoses are among people reporting male to male sexual contact. She states they're seeing very high uptake of prevention strategies like pre-exposure prophylaxis among gay and bisexual men.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### New Alzheimer's drug trial shows promising results

Aged Care Insite, Other, 20/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

New results from a medical trial have revealed that a new drug may be able to slow the progression of early symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. [...] Donanemab is currently waiting to be approved by the TGA, however, the cost and accessibility of the drug pose a major issue.

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### Liquid morphine discontinuation could leave kids with 'poorly managed pain'

Australian Doctor, Other, 20/07/2023, Sarah Simpkins

Ordine distribution will end in January next year, with wholesalers expected to run out of stock by April. [...] The TGA said it was investigating overseas-registered morphine liquids as alternatives and encouraging pharmacists to "only order what they need to facilitate equitable distribution of stock".

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## OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

### Let's talk about weed: Informing practice

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 20/07/2023, Cate Nagle, Theresa Oke, Wendy Smyth and Jane O'Connor

Opioid misuse has increased over the last two decades, accompanied by an increasing number of deaths associated with overdose from opioids. In fact, problems related to the therapeutic (prescription misuse) and non-therapeutic (illicit use) of opioids have become a global public health concern.

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### JS Health owner claims competitor has 'unhealthy obsession' with her in Federal Court fight

NEWS.com.au, Other, 20/07/2023, Lauren Ferri

A popular milk alternative is being recalled by Woolworths after a contamination scare. Food Standards Australia says the JS Health milk products are not correctly labelled outlining the milk's storage instructions.

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