



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 19th July 2023

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Age** (page 1) reports Australia's sports sector has lashed the Victorian government's decision not to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Commonwealth Games Australia CEO Craig Phillips said budget estimates showing a \$7 billion cost for the Games were "grossly exaggerated" and risked damaging Victoria's reputation as a world-class host for sporting events. *Also reported by:* [The Australian](#), [Canberra Times](#), [Herald Sun](#), [West Australian](#), [ABC News](#)
- The **Adelaide Advertiser** (page 1) reports a nuclear waste dump will no longer be built on native title land in the South Australian town of Kimba after a Federal Court found a decision by former federal resources minister Keith Pitt had been made with "apprehension of bias" and "prejudgement". Legal questions remain over the date from which the Ministerial ruling is cancelled, but Barngarla Determination Aboriginal Corporation chief executive Jason Bilney said the ruling was a victory "for all First Nations people". *Also reported by:* [ABC News](#), [The Guardian](#), [The New Daily](#), [SBS](#), [7News](#)
- **The Australian** (page 3) reports dementia researchers are calling for governments to urgently prepare the health system to facilitate earlier diagnosis and intervention processes for Alzheimer's disease as trials reveal new medications can slow cognitive decline. Curtin

University and Dementia Australia chair Blossom Stephen said "We need mechanisms in place for earlier diagnosis, training in individuals and healthcare professionals to make those diagnoses, scanning facilities to identify amyloid load". *Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [ABC News](#), [Daily Mail](#)*

- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 3) reports a high-fibre diet in breastfeeding mothers could potentially protect infants from serious respiratory conditions like asthma, new research from Queensland company QIMR Berghofer has found. Senior researcher associate professor Simon Phipps said the study found diet affected the health of a mother's breastmilk which was crucial to triggering a baby's immunity to severe lower respiratory infections.
- The [Northern Territory News](#) (page 5) reports the Territory government is launching a new campaign aimed at reducing teen vaping rates. Cancer Council NT chief executive Tanya Izod said that young adults may not know how much nicotine was contained within vaping products, and how addictive it could be. *Also reported by: [Northern Territory News](#)*
- The [West Australian](#) (page 7) reports the National Lung Cancer Screening Program will be a major step forward in detecting lung cancer early in the 20 per cent of patients who are non-smokers. The program has been approved and funded by Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler, and is expected to be in operation by 2025.
- The [WA Today](#) (Online) reports TAFE nursing graduate numbers in West Australia fell 40 per cent between 2017 and 2022 despite a state government program making courses free. WA's Training Minister Simone McGurk said enrolment numbers had seen a revival over the last year, with total enrolments up more than 20 per cent.
- [The Mandarin](#) reports outgoing Health secretary Professor Brendan Murphy has welcomed the commitment from Minister for Health Mark Butler to address necessary health workforce reforms that were pushed back due to the pandemic. Professor Murphy said his successor, Blair Comley, would inherit the reforms with the support of a strong APS team.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Lung cancer screening - the time has finally come

West Australian, Advertising feature, 19/07/2023, Page 7

Lung cancer kills more Australians than any other cancer. In fact, death from lung cancer is more common than breast cancer, prostate cancer and colon cancer combined. [...] The National Lung Cancer Screening Program has been approved by the Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler and is fully budgeted.

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### Labor's regional health failure

Border Times, General News, 19/07/2023, Page 4

Labor has failed to deliver on a key incentive to alleviate the regional health workforce crisis, according to a local MP. Opposition assistant minister for regional health Dr Anne Webster said almost five months after the legislation passed parliament, a Coalition-era policy of reducing or waiving doctor or nurse practitioner HELP debts if they practice in the regions was still not a reality. [...] "It only took the stroke of a pen after the 2022 election for Health Minister Mark Butler to expand the Distribution Priority Areas, bleeding the regions of doctors, but now a measure to incentivise doctors to move to the regions is getting bogged down in bureaucratic delay.

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### Medical merger

Glasshouse Country News, General News, 18/07/2023, Mitch Gaynor, Page 1

Montville's only pharmacy will close and merge with Mapleton as a direct result of the loss of the hinterland town's only GP service and the impending introduction of the federal government's 60-day dispensing policy. [...] It leaves Montville without a doctor or a chemist for the first time in decades and brings to reality fears that the Federal Government's controversial dispensing policy will negatively impact the communities that Health Minister Mark Butler said were designed to benefit.

## Pharmacies continue push for re-think

Midland Express, General News, 18/07/2023, Page 3

Regional and rural community pharmacies will likely see acute viability impact from the federal government's plan to implement 60-day dispensing scheme, a report details. [...] However, Health Minister Mark Butler referred to the guild's recent comments as a scare campaign, and confirmed that various patient and doctor groups had welcomed cheaper medicines.

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## Govt's 60-day policy is bad news for pharmacies and for regional Australia

Midwest Times & Northern Guardian, General News, 19/07/2023, Trent Twomey, Page 6

Some of you may remember the Joni Mitchell song Big Yellow Taxi with the verse, "You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone". It may as well be the theme song for 60-day dispensing, in which pharmacists will be required to dispense two months worth of medicine for the price of one month. [...] 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: [Countryman \(Online\)](#).

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## Casey ER under pressure

Pakenham Gazette, General News, 19/07/2023, Corey Everitt, Page 2

Local complaints of hours-long wait times, overcrowding and staff stretched thin have surfaced about Casey Hospital's Emergency Room as local MP Jason Wood starts a petition calling for the start to its planned upgrade. [...] Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, said the Federal Government's building of clinics would take pressure off hospitals.

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## Workforce help

Swan Hill Guardian, General News, 18/07/2023, Phoebe Doyle, Page 1

As regional centres like Swan Hill continue to struggle with a healthcare workforce crisis, opposition regional health spokesperson Anne Webster believes more can be done to alleviate the pressure. [...] "It only took the stroke of a pen after the 2022 election for Health Minister Mark Butler to expand distribution priority areas, bleeding the regions of doctors, but now a measure to incentivise doctors to move to the regions is getting bogged down in bureaucratic delay.

Also reported by: [Swan Hill Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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## Up in smoke

Education Review, General News, 01/07/2023, Emilie Lauer, Page 5

Recreational vaping will be banned nationwide under new reforms introduced by the Health Minister. In May, Mark Butler announced \$737 million dollars will be allocated to fund major actions to reduce vaping and smoking in Australia.

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## VAD laws are about to be reviewed in two states. Some argue now is the time to consider people with dementia

ABC Online, Other, 19/07/2023

Aurora Stergiou watched her husband slowly waste away to "a pitiful death". She believes a law change would help spare others the same anguish. [...] A spokeswoman for the federal Health Minister Mark Butler told 7.30 the Commonwealth government had allocated around \$660 million over four years to support people living with dementia and their carers.

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## New dawn for Health and Aged Care with secretary's changing of the guard

The Mandarin, Other, 18/07/2023, Melissa Coade

Blair Comley's era as head of the department Brendan Murphy shepherded through some of the toughest health years in national living memory has now commenced. The outgoing secretary has left some notes behind that might help with his major mission. [...] The current commitment from [health minister Mark] Butler for the government to do this is very welcome."

Also reported by: [Aged Care Housing News \(Online\)](#).

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## The PSR – a puppet of the medical profession?

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/07/2023, Paul Smith

There is now legislation before Parliament to scrap the AMA's veto power. Amid the media rage about doctors making merry with Medicare last year was concern that the watchdog dealing with the miscreants the Professional Services Review was little more than a puppet of the medical profession. [...] For Mark Butler, the federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, the arrangement is a blatant conflict of interest.

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## Citation needed

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/07/2023, Megan Haggan

Who has been editing Mark Butler's Wikipedia page? Last week, pharmacist and head of The Locum Glen Kanawati posted an image of the Health Minister's Wikipedia page commenting that "at least Mark Butler's Wikipedia profile is correct!"

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## AMA says tightening of tobacco and vaping laws a win for public health

HealthDispatch, Other, 18/07/2023

The Australian Medical Association has lodged its submission to the Department of Health and Aged Care's consultation on the legislation restricting access to tobacco and vaping products. [...] In May, health minister Mark Butler announced a plan to ban the importation of nicotine e-cigarettes unless they comply with a TGA standard, ban flavours, and single-use disposable vapes, and enforce a prohibition on their sale via retail settings.

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## Ban tobacco and vape political donations: RACGP

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/07/2023

The call is one of a number of college-recommended changes to proposed laws aimed at ensuring Australia remains a world leader' in tobacco control. [...] The submission is part of a consultation to suggested law changes designed to strengthen tobacco control legislation, with the Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler flagging the Government's intent to tighten regulation of vaping and tobacco products last year.

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## Seven Tamworth, Seven Local News, 18/07/2023, Madelaine Collignon and Nick Hose

Doctor Ricardo Alkhouri won't be giving out two-month prescriptions to his patients, despite the Labor Government's reforms coming 1 September allowing him to do so. Uralla pharmacy owner Carolyn Saville says the changes to the pharmacy benefit scheme could cost up to 40% of her profits in a worst case scenario. A Griffith University report claims as many as 20,000 pharmacy jobs could be lost. Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler says that not only would the changes halve the cost of medicine for more than 6 million Australians, but that every dollar saved will go back to pharmacy services.

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The Federal Government says an urgent care clinic in WA's north is set to open by the end of the year. A commitment to deliver 50 Medicare urgent care clinics across the country is underway with tenders out for a Broome clinic. A spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler says two have already opened in WA and all remaining clinics will be opened within the next six months.

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## MINISTER WELLS

### **Vic axing may mean games over**

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/07/2023, Annika Smethurst, Page 1

The near-century old Commonwealth Games could be permanently scrapped after a bombshell decision by the Victorian government to cancel the 2026 tournament based on a purported multibillion-dollar budget blowout. [...] There was no federal funding for the 2026 Games in May's federal budget and Sports Minister Anika Wells said last month the Albanese government was still working through a Victorian government proposal for support.

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### **Regional plan was doomed to fail: Coates**

Age, General News, 19/07/2023, Roy Masters, Page 7

Olympics powerbroker John Coates says a regional Commonwealth Games was destined to fail without federal government assistance and believes no other Australian city will fill the void left by Victoria's withdrawal. [...] There was no federal funding for the 2026 Games in the May budget, and Sports Minister Anika Wells said in June the Albanese government was still working through a Victorian government proposal for federal support.

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### **Chiefs cry foul as Victoria cancels Commonwealth Games**

Canberra Times, Other, 18/07/2023, Callum Godde

Victoria's shock decision to dump the 2026 Commonwealth Games over a \$7 billion price tag has been rubbished by organisers who say the state ignored cost-cutting options. Premier Daniel Andrews pulled the pin on hosting the Games in Victoria after updated estimates put the cost at up to \$4. [...] But federal Minister for Sport Anika Wells said the government understood Victoria's decision, noting it did not engage with the commonwealth during the bid process.

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### **Aged Care Minister Anika Wells on Berrigan's Amaroo hostel woe**

The Border Mail, Other, 19/07/2023, Anthony Bunn

The federal Aged Care Minister says the Commonwealth would consider assistance for Berrigan's embattled Amaroo hostel.

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### **Australia Commonwealth Games 2026: Victoria cancels event after costs blow out to \$7bn**

The Guardian, Other, 18/07/2023, Paul Karp, Cait Kelly and Adeshola Ore

Daniel Andrews has cancelled Victoria's 2026 Commonwealth Games, saying he is not prepared to spend as much as \$7bn on "a 12-day sporting event". [...] In June the federal sports minister, Anika Wells, told Guardian's Australian Politics podcast that the Albanese government was "still working through with the Victorian government their proposal for federal support".

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### **Commonwealth Games 2026: why has Victoria pulled out and what**

## happens now?

The Guardian, Other, 18/07/2023, Jonathan Yerushalmy

The Australian state of Victoria will not host the 2026 Commonwealth Games, after the state premier, Daniel Andrews, said the cost had blown out and he was not prepared to redirect money from other parts of his government's budget to make up the shortfall. [...] In June the federal sports minister, Anika Wells, told Guardian's Australian Politics podcast that the Albanese government was "still working through with the Victorian government their proposal for federal support".

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## Ministry of Sport brings girls to the front in fifth Women In Sport Summit

Mediaweek, Other, 19/07/2023

On Tuesday July 18th, the QT Gold Coast opened its doors to the fifth Ministry of Sport Women In Sport Summit. The conference brought together people from every corner of the sporting world to celebrate and elevate women's sports, all focussing on this year's theme: Face your Identity. [...] Meet Wisi', the AI MC The first panel of the day was then hosted by Tracey Holmes, chatting to Palaszcuk, Anika Wells (Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Sport), and Sarah Styles (Director of the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation in Victoria).

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## 'We're fine': Queensland Premier promises the Commonwealth Games spectacle won't happen to the Olympics

Mumbrella, Other, 18/07/2023, Darcy Song

After Victoria's shock decision to ditch its hosting commitments for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, Queensland has made it clear that the same thing will not happen to the 2032 Olympics. [...] Appearing at the Women In Sport Summit today in the Gold Coast, Palaszcuk sat in a panel alongside the Federal Sports Minister, Anika Wells, and the director at the Victorian Office for Women in Sport and Recreation, Sarah Styles.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### Wollongong to get one of NSW's four new children's mental health hubs

Milton Ulladulla Times, Other, 18/07/2023, Kate-Mcilwain

Wollongong will have one of four new children's mental health hubs across NSW, which are designed to address the increase in kids struggling with mental health challenges. The federal and state governments will invest \$35.8 million in the Head to Health Kids Hubs, which will also be located in the Central Coast, Orange, and Penrith. [...] Federal assistant minister for mental health and suicide prevention Emma McBride said the hubs would be a welcoming space for kids and families.

Also reported by: [South Coast Register \(Online\)](#), [Southern Highland News \(Online\)](#).

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

No relevant coverage

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

## Voice to Parliament the structural reform needed to Closing the Gap

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 18/07/2023, Natalie Dragon

"More of the same isn't good enough, we have to do better," said Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney on the release of the latest Closing the Gap report which shows slow progress with few targets on track to be met by 2031. [...] Aboriginal children enjoying ice pops Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians and Indigenous Health Malarndirri McCarthy said Indigenous people wanted to see a better future for their children, themselves and their communities.

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## Voice to Parliament will help see First Nations people's 'lives improve'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/07/2023

The Voice to Parliament is a "simple gesture" by First Nations people to see "their lives improve", says Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians Malarndirri McCarthy. "We only have to look at closing the gap month after month we've got to see something different," Ms McCarthy told Sky News Australia.

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## Yes and no campaigns revealed for Indigenous voice vote

In Daily, Other, 18/07/2023, David Eccles

Both the yes' and no' camps have revealed the arguments they will make in an effort to win voters to their respective sides in the coming referendum on the Indigenous voice to parliament. The Australian Electoral Commission published online on Tuesday the formal yes' and no' cases for the proposed constitutional change. [...] NT senator Malarndirri McCarthy said she was confident the pamphlets would persuade more people to vote yes'.

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## ABC Radio Darwin , Late Breakfast, 18/07/2023, Jo Laverty

Interview with Labor Senator for the Northern Territory Malarndirri McCarthy. Ms McCarthy says she doesn't want to see future Australian generations have to deal with closing the gap, high rates of Indigenous suicide, and poorer health, unemployment and educational outcomes.

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## DEPARTMENT

### No relief for GP rule pain

Glasshouse Country News, General News, 18/07/2023, Mitch Gaynor, Page 5

A petition led by Federal Member for Fisher, Andrew Wallace, to amend rules that deny crucial financial incentives to attract GPs to Montville has been rebuffed. Under so-called Modified Monash Model rules, Montville is essentially an urban area, while nearby Maleny is classified as rural and entitled to greater incentives to subsidise GPs. [...] "As such, medical practices and practitioners in these areas can seek a review of their eligibility for specific programs from the Department of Health and Aged Care."

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### Shape future for the end

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 18/07/2023, Page 3

With registrations climbing towards 1,000 delegates, the full program for the 2023 Oceanic Palliative Care Conference (23OPCC) to run from 13 to 15 Sep in Sydney has been released. [...] Speakers include geriatrician Dr Sue Kurrle, Canadian researcher and podcaster Dr Hsien Seow, former Health Secretary Prof Brendan Murphy, Aboriginal nurse practitioner Kat Hooper, researcher Prof David Currow and many more.

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

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## Moruya Community Workshed

The Beagle, Other, 18/07/2023

The Moruya Community Workshed is not only about using our big machinery. It is also about maintaining said machines and the smaller tools. [...] The application is supported by funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care under the National Shed Development Programme.

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## Collaboration is 'currently exploring the similarities and differences'

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 19/07/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care says the international health technology assessment collaboration is "currently exploring the similarities and differences in" partner systems but it will not reveal what information it has provided to the other partners.

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## AMA says tightening of tobacco and vaping laws a win for public health

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 18/07/2023

The Australian Medical Association has lodged its submission to the Department of Health and Aged Care's consultation on the legislation that aims to restrict access to tobacco and vaping products.

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## First week on the job for new health department secretary

HealthDispatch, Other, 18/07/2023

Yesterday was the first official day for the new secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care, Blair Comley. Mr Comley rejoins the Australian Public Service from EY Port Jackson Partners.

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## Sky News Live, Chris Kenny Tonight, 18/07/2023, Chris Kenny

Interview with Josh Hawkes, Australian Firefighters Alliance on vaccine mandate extension by Fire Rescue Victoria. Hawkes says there's no medical logical argument for it. He notes even the ex-Secretary of the Australian Health Department, Brendan Murphy, has said that mandates are no longer proportionate.

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## CORONAVIRUS

### Multiple COVID-19 strains have been eroding immunity

Border Mail, General News, 19/07/2023, Anna Houlahan, Page 7

Multiple COVID-19 variants are circulating in Australia and could be adding to the risk of re-infection. Deakin University chair of epidemiology Professor Catherine Bennett said a mix of variants could be "cycling" illness in the population. And immune systems were struggling to build the antibodies to keep up, she said. Wastewater and PCR test results in Victoria from July 14 show 83 per cent of infections were from COVID-19 XBB lineages.

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

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### Vaccine mandates prevent 'highly trained' firefighters from doing their job

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/07/2023

Vaccine mandates prevent highly trained' firefighters from doing their job Sky News host Chris Kenny grills the NSW and Victorian state governments for their authoritarian vaccine laws preventing



firefighters from doing their job if they have not received three COVID jabs.

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## **'No logical argument' for maintaining Victoria and NSW firefighter vaccine mandates**

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/07/2023

Australian Firefighters Alliance Josh Hawkes says there is no medical or logical argument for maintaining the vaccine mandate for Fire and Rescue firefighters in Victoria and New South Wales.

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## **Firefighters in Victoria and NSW remain 'barred' from working over vaccine mandates**

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/07/2023

Sky News host Chris Kenny says Fire Rescue firefighters in Victoria and New South Wales are still "barred" from doing their lifesaving work as the vaccine mandates are still in effect for the profession.

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## **Long COVID resource hub for patients**

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023

Lung Foundation Australia has released a resource hub for people living with long COVID. The resources are designed to help people navigate their long COVID journey and outline common symptoms, provide helpful self-management tips, treatment information and expert advice on how to discuss the condition with healthcare professionals, family and friends.

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## **RANZCOG: COVID-19 vaccination advice**

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) has stressed that pregnant women are a priority group for COVID-19 vaccination and should be routinely offered Pfizer mRNA vaccine (Cominarty) or Moderna (Spikevax) in Australia at any stage of pregnancy.

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## **Living with long COVID: Part 2**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/07/2023

The second half of GP Dr Fiona Mackintosh's interview about post-COVID-19 symptoms focuses on perception, management, and continuity of care. Long COVID can impact people's energy levels and often leave them feeling like they're running on empty.

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## **Researchers develop yeast based powder that can detect COVID**

The Senior, Other, 18/07/2023

It is a pivotal ingredient in bread and beer, but could yeast help detect COVID and other viruses? According to recent studies, the answer may be yes. University of Queensland researchers have developed a dust from baker's yeast that can detect COVID-19. Powdery 'nanoprobes' developed by the team are made of synthetic yeast fragments and can be deployed in environments such as airports, hospitals, stadiums and sewers to detect signs of the disease.

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## 77yo man to fight aged-care sex case

West Australian, General News, 19/07/2023, Lauren Price, Page 11

The man accused of indecently assaulting an aged-care resident after allegedly gaining access to the facility on the pretext of visiting a friend will fight the allegations. Patrick Oliver Walshe, 77, pleaded not guilty to two counts of aggravated indecent assault when he appeared in Armadale Magistrates Court yesterday, with his lawyer saying the claims would be "strenuously denied". Mr Walshe was granted bail on protective conditions.

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

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## Jobs expo promotes aged care careers

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 19/07/2023, Sarah Buchecker, Page 7

The rewarding nature of aged care work will be highlighted at a jobs expo in Mildura next Wednesday. A panel made up of managers, nurses, front-of-house staff, personal care assistants and trainers will be on hand to answer questions and discuss their experiences working in the industry.

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

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## Think outside box for care sector woe

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 19/07/2023, Jessica Greenan, Page 4

Care and support employers are being warned to rethink their recruitment techniques or risk going "backwards" amid the staff shortage afflicting the sector. The advice was given at the 'You Can't Ask That' industry panel held at the Lady Bay Resort on Tuesday, where stakeholders across the region discussed successful strategies they'd used to fill the staff crunch.

Also reported by: [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#).

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## Tick of approval for Sheoak

Border Watch, Other, 18/07/2023

Sheoak Aged Care Facility has received the tick of approval from the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner after a performance report was released earlier this year. According to the report, there was a site audit in July of last year where it was found the service was "unable to demonstrate" assessment and planning, including consideration of risks to consumers health and well-being.

[Read More](#)

## Council adopts positive ageing plan

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 18/07/2023

The City of Greater Bendigo in central Victoria has released a document outlining its commitment to support the population to age well in the community. Called the Positive Ageing Action Plan and consisting of activities and initiatives the document will help the council address the issues and challenges facing older people over the next two years.

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## Work underway to automate aged care costing

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 18/07/2023, Natasha Egan

An automated, easy way to cost residents' care will allow aged care homes to inform more accurate pricing and manage their operations better, an industry executive tells Australian Ageing Agenda While data driven costing is advanced in the acute sector, it's much more limited in aged care due to a lack of suitable resident-level electronic data that reflects the activities performed on residents, said Patrick Power, managing director of PowerHealth.

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## Pat Garcia steps away from CHA

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 18/07/2023

After four years in the role , Pat Garcia will be standing down as chief executive of Catholic Health Australia next month. However, Mr Garcia will remain in the Catholic Health sector, as group general manager public affairs and general counsel at St Vincent's Health Australia.

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## Crosswords and computers but not social outings may ward off dementia: Aussie study

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/07/2023, Kemal Atlay

Stimulating puzzles and writing letters may increase resilience against brain pathologies, authors say. Older adults who frequently use computers, write letters and take classes have a modest yet significant lower dementia risk than those less engaged with literacy-oriented activities, Australian research shows.

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## Disease burden of dementia

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023

Dementia has overtaken coronary heart disease as the leading cause of disease burden in Australia for people aged 65 years and older, being responsible for almost 230,000 years of healthy life lost in this age group in 2022. This was a 61% increase since 2011, largely due to the high disease burden in women, reports the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in its latest Dementia Australia update.

[Read More](#)

## Funding boost to pave the way for aged care nurses

Nursing Review, Other, 18/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

The Australian College of Nursing has received a funding boost to help train and upskill more nurses to work in the aged care sector. Under new rules implemented at the start of July, aged-care facilities must roster at least one RN on-site and on duty 24/7.

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## Just Cats volunteer Paul Doherty and feline friend Zander are a purrfect pair

The Senior, Other, 18/07/2023, Eileen Wood

When Launceston retiree Paul Doherty visits local aged care homes he is always joined by a very special four-legged friend - Zander the cat - and the pair are an instant hit with residents. Paul is a volunteer with Just Cats Tasmania, a not-for-profit community organisation which provides crisis care and shelter, food, veterinary treatment, affection, security, fostering and adoption to rescued, abandoned or surrendered cats and kittens.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Vape crusade targets kids

Northern Territory News, General News, 19/07/2023, Annabel Bowles, Page 5

A new campaign warning Territory teens about the dangers of vaping will be rolled out across government schools and online. Aimed at kids aged 13 to 17, the printed and digital campaign materials reveal how chemicals including acetone, weed killer, bug spray and nicotine are contained within everyday e-cigarettes. Nicotine vapes can only legally be bought with a prescription, however recent compliance monitoring has found "many" licenced tobacco outlets in the Top End are illegally selling the products.

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

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## New dads need help

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/07/2023, Olivia Shying, Page 1

Being a first-time mum is tough, but research shows new dads are also struggling and have access to fewer support services. Lara dad Shaun Tonkes felt isolated and alone when his daughter Violet, now five, was born. "It's quite daunting becoming a dad for the first time," he said.

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## 'Unconscious and not breathing': Simple phone alert helps couple save man's life

9News, Other, 18/07/2023, Allanah Sciberras

Jason Baldwin and his wife Jackie were heading out to dinner in Frankston when they received a phone alert, notifying them that someone nearby was in the middle of a cardiac arrest. The public service officer and cardiac nurse rushed to help Jim Raftopoulos, who suffered a heart attack just around the corner from their home. The pair rushed to the scene within 20 seconds and commenced CPR on Raftopoulos, before paramedics arrived 10 minutes later.

[Read More](#)

## Spironolactone: an effective alternative to antibiotics for acne in women

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Michael Doris

Spironolactone may be a valuable alternative to oral antibiotics in the management of women with acne vulgaris, according to results from a UK study recently published in the BMJ. Spironolactone is a potassium-sparing diuretic often used in the management of hypertension, but dermatologists have been prescribing it off label to treat acne, for years.

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## Channel 7, Seven News Vic First at 4pm, 18/07/2023, Rebecca Maddern and Mike Amor

Interview with Jason Trubiano, infectious diseases professor, Austin Hospital about a world-first study by the Austin Hospital found just 1 in 20 people who thought they had an allergy to penicillin. Trubiano says their study shows 95% of patients could have their penicillin allergy removed. He states penicillin allergy is a global public health issue as people with penicillin allergy are more likely to get an inferior or wrong antibiotic and develop superbugs or antimicrobial resistance.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 9, Nine News Late, 18/07/2023, Tracy Vo

Dozens of health experts are warning the Federal Government's crackdown on vaping will have catastrophic consequences. More than 40 public health and addiction experts have written to MPs across the country to say the ban could create a dangerous black market, fearing it will only get worse with more restrictions in place.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 9 Darwin, National Nine News, 18/07/2023, Paul Murphy

The health risks of vaping are front and centre under a new campaign by the Government to reduce the number of young Territorians using the product. One school has even installed vape sensors to ensure they can keep it on top of the issue. The campaign includes a toolkit of materials to allow territory teens aged 13 to 17 access to accurate information about the product.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Asthma linked to mums' diet

Courier Mail, General News, 19/07/2023, Isabella Holland, Page 3

New Queensland-based research from QIMR Berghofer has shown that a high-fibre diet in breastfeeding mothers could potentially protect infants from serious respiratory conditions such as asthma. In a preclinical study, researchers discovered that a diet rich in fibre helped reduce the risk of babies developing severe lower respiratory infections, which can predispose the infant to chronic lung diseases such as asthma.

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

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## **Lena's tough cancer battle**

Courier Mail, General News, 19/07/2023, Heidi Petith, Page 7

A Central Queensland family have opened up about their five-year-old daughter's shock cancer diagnosis and their acceptance these will be their final months with her. Little Lena started complaining of headaches and nausea in August last year and the Mackay family got the all-clear from their GP.

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

## **Red tape holding up cancer program**

Cairns Post, General News, 19/07/2023, Catherine Duffy, Page 3

A cancer specialist who has worked to establish telehealth centres in major Queensland hospitals says a potentially lifesaving clinical cancer treatment has not started at Cairns Hospital because paperwork is being "pushed around". The oncologist, who does not wish to be named, said the clinical program put together by the Olivia Newton John Cancer Research Institute in Melbourne was launched by the Department of Health in a \$75m national program.

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

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

## **Gel prevents cancer**

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 19/07/2023, Page 4

New research shows that a gel applied during surgery to treat sarcoma tumours is both safe and highly effective at preventing the cancer from growing back. The findings from Telethon Kids Institute and The University of Western Australia have formed the scientific backbone of a trial under way in Perth to test the feasibility and safety of the gel on pet dogs.

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

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

## **'I fought childhood cancer, now I'm 14 and helping other kids in their fight'**

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/07/2023, Alexandra Feiam

Elana Koenig was only a child when she began feeling immense pain in her lower hip. The year was 2016, and the young New Yorker was limping around the house before her parents took action. In July of that same year, Elana was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma , a rare and aggressive form of cancer found on the top of her femur (upper thigh).

[Read More](#)

## **'We let those children down': Review finds failures in audiology testing and cochlear implant programming**

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/07/2023, Carmel Sparke

Dozens of children have been recalled for further tests, says Townsville Hospital and Health Service chief officer Kieran Keyes. A hospital has apologised to the families of hundreds of children amid concerns they received substandard clinical care during audiological testing or cochlear implant programming.

[Read More](#)

## **A MAFS star claimed positive thinking can 'cure' cancer. The backlash was immediate.**

Last week, Ella May Ding , a podcaster and influencer who is best known for her time on Married At First Sight 2022 , made some health claims. The claims were made in an episode of her Sit With Us podcast, which she co-hosts with fellow former MAFS contestant Domenica Calarco .

[Read More](#)

## Melanoma in situ: reassuring prognostic information

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Melanie Hinze

Patients with melanoma in situ have an increased but low risk of melanoma-specific mortality, an Australian expert told Medicine Today while commenting on a recent cohort study. Professor Anne Cust, Deputy Director of the Daffodil Centre, Sydney, and Professor of Cancer Epidemiology in the Faculty of Medicine and Health at the University of Sydney, said factors associated with higher risk of death following melanoma in situ included older age (over 80 years), acral lentiginous melanoma subtype and the development of a subsequent primary invasive melanoma.

[Read More](#)

## Vericiguat: a new weapon in the heart failure arsenal

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Gratsias Adhi Hermawan

Vericiguat was recently PBS-listed as a first-in-class agent to treat selected patients with chronic heart failure and reduced ejection fraction. Vericiguat expands the therapeutic options for patients and prescribers and offers new hope to reduce the burden of heart failure in high-risk patients.

[Read More](#)

## WIN Canberra, WIN News, 18/07/2023, Bruce Roberts

Australian cancer patients are joining a world-first global trial bringing them the latest melanoma treatment. The trial is testing a type of immune therapy for advanced and metastatic melanoma that's hoped to have less of an impact on patients compared with other types of treatment.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Big decisions not for kids to make alone

Daily Advertiser, General News, 19/07/2023, Keith Wheeler, Page 8

Wheeler's wisdom "our 14-year-old daughter's behaviour is out of control. [...] That rather long preamble brings me to the ticklish subject of allowing 14-year-olds to make life-changing decisions. In the ACT, teenagers of 14 and over could be allowed to access euthanasia. Already in Melbourne, and to a lesser extent in Sydney, 14-year-olds are able to decide that they want to undertake the first steps towards sex change. All without parental permission or consultation.

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

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### ACT hospitals have the highest rate of golden staph infections: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Canberra Times, Other, 18/07/2023, Lucy Bladen

Canberra hospitals have the highest rate of golden staph infections in the country, data has shown. The ACT was the only jurisdiction to report a rate of infections higher than the national benchmark, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. But Canberra Health Services has argued it uses a different reporting method to the institute and other jurisdictions and this means the data is "not directly comparable" and that comparing jurisdictions was "not advised".

[Read More](#)

## Guidelines needed for voluntary assisted dying patients regarding

## organ donation, experts say

ABC Online, Other, 18/07/2023, Matilda Marozzi

Dan Colgan had always planned to donate his organs, then last year the 63-year-old was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. Soon after the shock diagnosis, a family member asked if he had considered voluntary assisted dying (VAD).

[Read More](#)

## Clayton Skewis's family calls for CT scanners in regions after his 12-hour wait for transfer from Chinchilla

ABC Online, Other, 18/07/2023, Tobi Loftus

Clayton Skewis can say "hello", "OK" and a few other mostly monosyllabic words, while walking is impossible unless someone holds him upright. The 61-year-old depends almost entirely on his devoted wife Jo, but their family wonders what his outcome would've been had he not sat waiting in a country hospital without a CT scanner for 12 hours.

[Read More](#)

## Preventing venous thromboembolism (VTE) in Australian hospitals

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 18/07/2023

Every year, 14,000 Australians are diagnosed with VTE, with approximately 5,000 of these cases resulting in death. VTE is one of the leading preventable causes of death in hospital. An introduction to VTE Venous thromboembolism or VTE, commonly referred to as a blood clot, occurs when blood pools and thickens inside normal, healthy veins and blocks the flow of blood through the body.

[Read More](#)

## 2CC, Canberra Live, 18/07/2023, Leon Delaney

Interview with Leanne Castley, ACT Shadow Health Minister. Delaney says data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has shown that the rate of golden staph infection in Canberra's public hospitals has outstripped all other jurisdictions in the two years 2021-22. Castley says this is another nation lagging low for Canberra's public health system. She states ACT Government scrapping plans for an elective surgery centre at the University of Canberra Hospital is another failure.

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## 4BC, 09:00 News, 18/07/2023

According to new data, dozens of Queensland hospital beds were temporarily offline during a census in February. The Queensland Opposition described the data as a symptom of under-resourcing. A State Government spokesperson says a bed may not be available due to maintenance, renovations, or sick leave.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Regional anorexia support struggle

Central Western Daily, General News, 19/07/2023, Sarah Falson, Page 4

When Liam Manning was 17 years old and living with an eating disorder, he had to travel 400 kilometres to Sydney and stay there for five months to get the medical help he needed to set him on a path to recovery. Liam needed specialised eating disorder treatment and this simply wasn't available in Dubbo.

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### 'Get help': mental health support for university students

Newcastle Herald, General News, 19/07/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 10

University of Newcastle students are experiencing rising levels of mental health challenges, but a new

program aims to help them find a better balance to their thinking. Greater Charitable Foundation has launched a two year \$220,000 partnership with batyr, a not-for-profit that provides preventative mental health programs.

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

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## Family of Gabriel Messo, who was shot dead by police while attacking his mother, sues state of Victoria

ABC Online, Other, 18/07/2023, Kristian Silva

The family of Gabriel Messo, who was shot dead by police, is suing the state of Victoria, saying he did not receive proper treatment for his mental health issues. The Messo family is seeking unspecified payouts for damages, interests and costs.

Similar coverage reported by: [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Brisbane\)](#).

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## Workplace psychosocial hazards can be devastating, but we might be getting better at managing them

ABC Online, Other, 18/07/2023, Anna Kelsey-Sugg and Nat Tencic

After months of workplace problems, unaddressed by management, Victorian teacher Sophie\* found she had no choice but to make a difficult call. Work issues she raised had been dismissed, a new boss spoke to her passive aggressively, and her concerns about that person were diminished by other leadership.

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## 5AA, 17:00 News, 18/07/2023

Psychologists warn ADHD assessments are being rushed over telehealth appointments, increasing the risk of misdiagnosis. Last year, more than half a million people were prescribed drugs to treat the disorder. ADHD Australia chairman Professor Michael Cohen says telehealth is a good starting point but there needs to be follow up.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### Birth trauma left mum unable to bond

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 19/07/2023, Kate McIlwain, Page 4

At almost six months old, baby Oliver has squishy cheeks, chubby fingers with soft pink nails and perfectly pursed lips that can crack into a smile. But until the past few weeks his Calderwood mum, Lauren, has felt unable to form a connection with her second born son after a traumatic birth which has scarred her for life.

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## TAFE nursing graduates drop by 40 per cent as pressure mounts on WA workforce

WA Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Sarah Brookes and Holly Thompson

The number of students graduating from TAFE nursing courses has dropped by 40 per cent since 2017 despite the state government slashing fees to zero. Between 2017 and 2022 the number of TAFE-enrolled nursing graduates fell from 700 to 416, and the number of students enrolling to study nursing dropped 27 per cent, from 785 to 574.

[Read More](#)

## 'My newborn wasn't feeding well ...then he was lifeless.'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/07/2023, Josephine Agostino



"He was two days old and my husband picked him up and said, He's really cold. He's not moving'," the shattered Melbourne mum reveals. On the day she welcomed her baby boy, Harry, first-time mum, Anna, was reassured her struggles with breastfeeding weren't anything unusual. "He wasn't feeding well, but no one really seemed too concerned ," the Melbourne mum tells Kidspot.

[Read More](#)

## **How early is too early to be discharged from hospital after giving birth?**

The Guardian, Other, 19/07/2023, Ranjana Srivastava

"i feel a little unprepared going home today", I said, requesting an extension of my postpartum stay in hospital. My pregnancy "story" had never unfolded well, and the latest episode was no different. This time, severe pelvic instability had confined me at home for months. One day, I crashed a plate in the kitchen, lacking the core strength to simultaneously balance a gravid abdomen and a plate of food.

[Read More](#)

## **Concerns raised over Queensland nurse shortage**

9News, Other, 18/07/2023

A series of leaked emails obtained by 9News has raised concerns about Queensland's nurse shortage.

[Read More](#)

## **Nurse Practitioners and gender affirming primary care clinics for transgender and gender diverse people**

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 18/07/2023, Toni Slotnes-O Brien and Micah Peters

Transgender (sometimes abbreviated as trans') is a term for people whose gender identity is different to the sex assigned to them at birth. [...] This challenge might be somewhat relieved by the outcomes of the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care's recently released national NP workforce plan in May 2023 which includes a short-term priority to review NP prescribing.

[Read More](#)

## **'I went into the delivery room as a fit triathlete. I came out an empty shell.'**

Mamamia, Other, 18/07/2023, Stephanie Thompson

Motherhood is a transformative journey filled with love, joy, and dreams for the future. But for some, myself included, this path may also come with unexpected challenges, leaving emotional and physical scars that reshape us at our core.

[Read More](#)

## **'A magical experience': Taryn's journey of becoming a rural midwife**

Nursing Review, Other, 18/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

A 23-year-old described her journey of becoming a midwife in rural South Australia as 'a magical experience', where she made meaningful connections and changed lives. Taryn Gartner, a midwife at Mount Gambier District Health Service, described her job as a rural midwife as meaningful.

[Read More](#)

## **Mental health experts offer tips on how nurses can tackle burnout**

Nursing Review, Other, 18/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Overworked, overstretched, and overstressed it is no secret that nurses and midwives are burning out and quitting their jobs across Australia. Data from the Department of Health and Aged Care shows that since 2016, there has been a 60 per cent increase in nurses and midwives who have taken an extended leave of absence.

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## New boss unveiled for city hospital

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 19/07/2023, Alex Gretgrix, Page 2

Bendigo Health has announced Eileen Hannagan will take over as its new chief executive later this year. 'Ms Hannagan's most recent role was chief executive at the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse, a not-for-profit Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Sydney which is dedicated to treating and researching cancer.

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## New GP clinic set to treat patients at Evandale

Launceston Examiner, General News, 19/07/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 2

After the previous clinic closed in February, patients at Evandale will no longer have to travel to seek medical care as a new GP clinic prepares to open in early August. Specialist general practitioner and Evandale General Practice director Vasuki Annamalai said while it was her dream to open a clinic, she has her work cut out for her.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### Pharmacy baby weighing and BP checks in jeopardy with 60-day dispensing, warns Guild

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/07/2023, Antony Scholefield

The guild's message to patients, printed across the back of dispensed scripts, is changing. Patients filling scripts will be handed new Pharmacy Guild of Australia graphics warning that pharmacists can no longer offer free delivery or advice as part of the guild's renewed campaign against 60-day dispensing. The Federal Government is preparing to let GPs write double-length scripts for around 100 PBS items from September and then expanding the list with hundreds more items before the end of 2024.

[Read More](#)

### Begging an option for some owners

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/07/2023

With 60-day dispensing on its way, proprietors are looking at services they can add or cut to maintain the viability of their businesses. Just over half of pharmacy owners are planning to add services to counter the impacts of double dispensing, with vaccinations, medication reviews and begging among the options being considered, a report reveals.

[Read More](#)

### Australian research highlights increase in paediatric psychotropic prescribing

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Rebecca Jenkins

Dispensing rates of psychotropic medications to children and adolescents doubled between 2013 and 2021, Australian research shows, as did the prevalence of psychotropic polypharmacy. In a retrospective cohort study, a Monash University-led research team analysed a 10% random sample of PBS data to examine the dispensing of psychotropic medications to people aged 18 years or younger, between 2013 and 2021.

[Read More](#)

### Opioid dependence treatment changes: factsheets

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023

The PBS has updated its factsheets for prescribers, pharmacists and patients on opioid dependence treatment program (ODT) medicines in light of the 1 July 2023 changes in which these medicines are listed on the Schedule. ODT medicines have now become part of the Section 100 Highly Specialised Drugs (HSD) Program (Community Access) arrangements.

## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### 'Businesses can only wait for so long'

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 19/07/2023, Rachel Clark, Page 2

Business and health professionals want Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to bring some solutions for the challenges regional communities are facing, during his visit to Tamworth next month. The Leader has spoken to local experts about what they think should be the PM's top priorities.

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### There's a new Medicare scheme on the horizon. Here's what we know

SBS, Other, 18/07/2023

Under MyMedicare, registered patients will have access to longer telehealth consultations. Here's what else to expect from the scheme. MyMedicare is a new voluntary scheme beginning on 1 October, and will aim to improve health outcomes. The scheme will allow patients to register with their GP and access longer telehealth appointments. There will be a gradual roll out and it will take three years to cover all of Australia.

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

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### My concerns about Teo were justified

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/07/2023, Henry Woo, Page 23

Calling out this famous surgeon with his ardent fans was like 'killing Bambi'. I took no pleasure in it, but I was right. Back in May 2019, I expressed concerns about the large numbers of patients of Dr Charlie Teo seeking donations to help pay for the costs of surgery on the crowdfunding site GoFundMe.

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

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### Troubled doctor seeks provisional registration as medical practitioner in Qld

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/07/2023, Patrick Billings

A troubled doctor who emailed people telling them to kill themselves and told one colleague he had "dogs\*\*t between your Chinese ears" has lost a bid for provisional registration as a medical practitioner in Queensland. [...] "I regret it," he told the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency A medical report tendered to the tribunal found Dr Hermann had a history of serious psychiatric difficulties of a depressive nature stemming from issues concerning his medical studies in Australia, ill-health, a serious car accident in 2011 and his work environment in the US.

[Read More](#)

### Clayton Skewis waited 12 hours in a rural hospital after having a stroke.

ABC Online, Other, 18/07/2023

The now 61-year-old from Chinchilla in southern Queensland can barely walk unassisted and mostly speaks monosyllabic words since he had the stroke.

[Read More](#)

### Govt pledges to do better after damning inquest into rheumatic heart

## disease deaths

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/07/2023, Heather Saxena

A cardiac specialist decried the 'national disgrace' of preventable deaths. The day 18-year-old Betty died from rheumatic heart disease complications, the two locum doctors providing care in her final hours had no time for a handover.

[Read More](#)

## 'Reckless' behaviour sees pharmacist disqualified for five years

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/07/2023, Ajp Staff

A pharmacist who made fake PBS claims for fertility drugs had a significant disciplinary history, a Tribunal has heard. A pharmacist has appeared before the State Administrative Tribunal of Western Australia over false PBS claims he made in 2014 and 2015 some of which he made while his registration was suspended.

[Read More](#)

## 3AW, 08:30 News, 18/07/2023

Whistleblowers are claiming surgeons are cancelling week day procedures to rot the state government's \$1.5 billion elective surgery blitz. Herald Sun is reporting appointments are being rebooked after hours or on weekends so surgeons can claim higher fees. The Shadow Health Minister, Georgie Crozier, wants the Auditor-General called in.

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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## SPORT

### Games 'dead' as premiers rule out bids

The Australian, General News, 19/07/2023, Remy Varga, Paul Garvey and Mackenzie Scott, Page 4

Most states and territories have ruled out bidding for the Commonwealth Games despite calls in both Western Australia and NSW for respective state governments to capitalise on the economic opportunities presented by Victoria's dramatic withdrawal as host. Former Victorian premier Jeff Kennett on Tuesday proclaimed the 93-year-old international sporting event dead after Premier Daniel Andrews announced the state would not host the 2026 Games, citing concerns over billions in cost blowouts.

*Similar coverage reported by:* [Australian Financial Review \(Australia\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Kalgoorlie\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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### Former champions condemn 'slap in the face' from Andrews

The Australian, General News, 19/07/2023, Jessica Halloran, Page 5

Seventeen years after the Commonwealth Games changed John Steffensen's life, the 400m gold medal winner, like so many athletes, was left in shock when Victoria's 2026 Games were called off. It hit Steffensen hard not only because of his athletic history but because he was also part of the Greater Victorian Games Bid taskforce.

*Similar coverage reported by:* [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#).



Grounds staff at Suncorp have been hard at work getting the stadium ready for the upcoming FIFA Women's World Cup. Suncorp Stadium general manager Alan Graham said the priority of his team was the ensuring the turf met the highest of standards.

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## In the regions, inspiration runs on empty

Herald Sun, General News, 19/07/2023, Timothy Cox and Erin Constable, Page 4

Ballarat athletes dreaming of competing in the 2026 Commonwealth Games in front of a home crowd have been left crushed, their coaches saying the impact on junior sports stars has been "heartbreaking". Runners training at Llanberris Reserve in Golden Point on Tuesday afternoon said the promise of the Games being held in Ballarat had pushed them to work harder.

*Similar coverage reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Sunraysia Daily \(Mildura\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).*

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## London Giants light up Perth

West Australian, General News, 19/07/2023, Jackson Barrett, Page 3

"It means everything, it's my religion." That's how important it is to watch a team you've followed from the other side of the world in your home town, according to diehard Tottenham fan Andy Bell. Ange Postecoglou sent his Tottenham team out last night for the first time since becoming the first Australian manager to lead an English Premier League side.

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

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## Pole champion ready for the world stage

Ballarat Courier, General News, 19/07/2023, Nieve Walton, Page 3

This Ballarat artist and athlete is preparing to represent Australia on the world stage in Poland. 'After Ashli Scott's first place in the Australian Pole Sports Federation championships in Sydney, within the elite women's 30+ division, she has qualified for the next level of competition. In October she will be heading to Poland to compete in the World Pole and Aerial Championships.

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## Big benefits for NW when state enters AFL

Burnie Advocate, General News, 19/07/2023, Leonie Hiscutt, Page 15

The appointment of born and bred NorthWest Tasmanian Grant O'Brien as the inaugural Tasmanian AFL Club chair has been welcomed across the state. I stood beside members of the Penguin Football Club for this announcement; grassroots players, supporters and administrators who know the importance of this and the significance of the announcement being made at the Dial Regional Sports Complex.

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## One-zero: AI predicts scores and Matildas success at Women's World Cup

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/07/2023, Mark Stehle

It's a game built on the passion and emotion of fans and players, so we've turned to the cold, calculating mind of our resident AI football expert, Robotinho, for impartial insights into how the Matildas will fare at the Women's World Cup as well as predictions for all the games in the group stage.

*Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).*

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## 'Gross exaggeration': Comm Games \$7b cost disputed

Canberra Times, Other, 18/07/2023, Callum Godde

The Victorian government has been accused of inflating the estimated cost of hosting the 2026

Commonwealth Games and ignoring options to justify cancelling the global sports event. Premier Daniel Andrews pulled the pin on hosting the Games in Victoria after updated estimates put the cost at up to \$7 billion.

*Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).*

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## **Brisbane 2032: Commonwealth shock triggers calls to scrap Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games**

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/07/2023, Stephanie Bennett

The Queensland Greens have jumped on the news Victoria has dumped the 2026 Commonwealth Games, calling on Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk to "seriously think" about Brisbane's 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. South Brisbane MP Amy MacMahon who has been a staunch opponent of the Games said Victorian Premier Dan Andrews' comments about the huge cost of the games was an acknowledgment they could pose a burden on the taxpayer.

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

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## **Australia's Cameron Myers takes under 18 1500m world record**

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 18/07/2023, Aaron Smith

An Australian track and field athlete has set a new world record in the under 18 category of the men's 1500 metres. Cameron Myers, 17, ran a 3.33.26 at the Kamila Skolimowska track meet in Poland shaving less than half a second off the old fastest time.

[Read More](#)

## **Aussie Diamonds prepare for 'unfinished business' at World Cup, as netball's Commonwealth Games future hangs by a thread**

ABC Online, Other, 18/07/2023, Brittany Carter

In three days, the Aussie Diamonds will board a plane to Cape Town with their hopes set on pinching back the Netball World Cup crown. The tournament runs from Friday July 28 to Sunday August 6, giving the team less than a week to adjust to the time difference and surroundings before their first game against Zimbabwe.

[Read More](#)

## **'Lightyears away': Ex-Socceroo issues warning as Australia mulls World Cup 2034 bid**

2GB, Other, 18/07/2023, Paul Gallen

The Women's World Cup is looking already like a huge success for Australia, and Football Australia are now talking about a 2034 World Cup bid. Ex-Socceroo Robbie Slater, however, feels there's no point until the country fixes the development pathways such as training centres.

[Read More](#)

## **Matildas stars 'seem to get their periods at the same time', says team doctor**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 18/07/2023, Shayne Bugden

Top researchers and doctors say that the syncing of menstrual cycles isn't a real thing, but the Matildas' team physician begs to differ and insists the Aussie stars have synced up while in camp. The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup has finally arrived and Tony Gustavsson's side is expected to go deep into the tournament. The side is brimming with talent and has prepared meticulously for the historic event - even down to their menstrual cycles, according to team doctor Dr Brandi Cole.

[Read More](#)

## **Women soccer players are more likely to tear their ACL than men. Here's why – and how we can prevent these injuries**

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 18/07/2023, Sallie Cowan

England women's soccer captain Leah Williamson and Dutch striker Vivianne Miedema will miss the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, which starts this week, due to ACL injuries. The anterior cruciate ligament, or ACL, is a piece of tissue like a rope connecting your shin bone to your thigh bone. It's only 3cm long and 1cm wide but is the most important stabiliser of the knee, alongside your muscles.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### Done deal: George Clinical sold for \$500m after FIRB snag

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 19/07/2023, Page 16

Sydney-headquartered contract research business George Clinical has rung up a big payday for its investors after Asian suitor Hillhouse Capital cleared roadblocks propped up by the Foreign Investment Review Board. It is understood Hillhouse Capital settle...

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### ASX Health Stocks: Successful toxicology tests pave way for PYC's Phase 2 clinical trial

The Australian, Other, 18/07/2023, Eddy Sunarto

The first drug to treat a blinding disease is set to enter Phase 2 human trials after PYC Therapeutics reported successful results from early testing. PYC Therapeutics ( ASX:PYC announced that it has successfully completed the non-clinical toxicology testing required to progress to a Phase 2 clinical trial.

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### Three key takeaways from our investigation into a \$20b medical research fund

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/07/2023, Liam Mannix

In case you missed it, The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald last weekend published the findings of an investigation into the \$20 billion Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). The Medical Research Future Fund is worth \$20 billion.

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### Breakthrough pill for Parkinson's could treat disease early and relieve symptoms without side-effects

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 18/07/2023, Thea Jourdan

A daily capsule could treat Parkinson's disease early and relieve symptoms without the side-effects of standard drug treatments. It involves a combination of two existing Parkinson's medications, pramipexole and rasagiline, given at low doses in a slow-release formula. The idea is that their complementary mechanisms work together to increase levels of dopamine in the brain a key trigger of the disease.

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### 'Skeletal age': a new metric to assess fragility fracture impact on life expectancy

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Melanie Hinze

Research published in eLife introduces the idea of skeletal age', as the age of an individual's skeleton based on the combined risk from a prior fragility fracture and their fracture-associated mortality. The study authors examined the link between fractures and mortality based on age, gender, fracture site and comorbidities using data from the Danish National Hospital Discharge Register.

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### History of myocardial infarction may accelerate age-related cognitive



## decline

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Rebecca Jenkins

Incident myocardial infarction (MI) is associated with an accelerated long-term decline in cognition, memory and brain function, research finds, but not an acute decline at the time of the event. The cohort study, published in JAMA Neurology, included 30,465 adults without a history of MI, stroke, or dementia at baseline, 1033 of whom went on to have one or more MI events during follow up (median 6.

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## Patients hospitalised with sepsis at increased risk of future death and rehospitalisation

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Rebecca Jenkins

Adults discharged after a hospital stay involving sepsis have an increased risk of death in addition to cardiovascular (CV) and non-CV rehospitalisation, research suggests. The retrospective cohort analysis study included data from 2.25 million US adults with pre-existing CV disease or a CV risk factor who had survived a nonsurgical hospital stay of two nights or more between 2009 and 2019.

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## Autism linked with increased risk of developing cardiometabolic disorders

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Melanie Hinze

Autism may be associated with a higher risk of developing diabetes, dyslipidaemia and heart disease, according to research published in JAMA Pediatrics. The study authors conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of 34 studies over one year from 2021 to 2022 to examine the association between autism and cardiometabolic disorders.

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## Consultation open for inflammatory arthritis guideline

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023

Version 3.0 of An Australian Living Guideline for the Pharmacological Management of Inflammatory Arthritis is open for public consultation until 30th April 2023. Released by the Australia and New Zealand Musculoskeletal Clinical Trials Network, the Australian Rheumatology Association and Cochrane Musculoskeletal, topics covered in the guideline include choice of disease-modifying antirheumatic drug, combination therapy, down-titration of treatment and managing other medications such as opioids.

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## Exercise may be especially beneficial for those at high genetic risk of type 2 diabetes

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Melanie Hinze

People at high genetic risk of developing type 2 diabetes have the most to benefit from moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA), new research suggests. Published in the British Journal of Sports Medicine, the prospective cohort study included 59,325 participants from the UK Biobank (mean age 61.1 years in 2013 to 2015). The researchers collected total, and intensity-specific, physical activity data using accelerometers linked to national registries up to September 2021.

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## Research reveals primary source of Strep A transmission

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 18/07/2023

Research has found that Group A Streptococcus (GAS) infections are more likely transmitted from asymptomatic throat carriage than skin-to-skin contact in communities with high rates of infection. This major discovery has far-reaching implications for public health approaches, vaccine development and future research as it challenges previous understanding of how the bacterium is spread.

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## Trainees get healthy start

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 19/07/2023, Daneka Hill, Page 17

A new initiative to provide culturally safe paid workplace experience and traineeships for Indigenous high school students is being launched in Mount Isa. The program - Deadly Start - will be run by North West Hospital and Health Service with the Spinifex State College and Indigenous students from Mount Isa, Doomadgee, Dajarra and Normanton are part of the first program.

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## Dr Mark Wenitong talks about the high incidence of suicide among Indigenous youth and how it can be addressed

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/07/2023, Sandhya Ram

A prominent figure in Aboriginal healthcare has called attention to the issue of suicide in Indigenous communities exaggerated in youth, revealing grave shortcomings in the health system Lifeline to establish Australia-first '24/7' Indigenous suicide prevention service

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## A Pilbara nurse's Dry July will raise money for prostate cancer and she has urged for more Indigenous support

West Australian, Other, 18/07/2023, Xander Sapsworth-Collis

A Pilbara palliative care nurse will take part in Dry July to raise funds for prostate cancer and she has urged for more support to be provided to First Nations communities. Jonita Lewis, who works on country to provide healthcare to First Nations people, has taken part in multiple Dry Julys and this year has decided to raise fund for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

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## Breakthrough in preventing heart disease in Indigenous children

ABC Online, Other, 18/07/2023

Australian researchers have discovered the possible cause of a preventable condition which leaves Indigenous children with severe heart damage.

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## ABC News, ABC News at Noon, 18/07/2023, Ros Childs

Australian researchers have discovered the possible cause of an entirely preventable condition, which leaves Indigenous children with severe and irreversible heart damage. Scientists believe it could be caused by a reservoir of bacteria in the throat, which causes no symptoms in the host. Professor Stephen Tong, infectious diseases physician, Doherty Institute says the condition is called acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, an immune response to repeated exposures to a bacteria called Strep A or group A streptococcus.

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## OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### Kimba nuked by court

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/07/2023, Sean Fewster, Page 1

The decision to establish a nuclear waste dump on Native Title land at Kimba was affected by apprehended bias, a court has ruled setting aside the choice and cancelling the \$325m project. On Tuesday, the Federal Court upheld a complaint by the Barngarla people that former federal resources minister Keith Pitt had "prejudged" the issue when their land was chosen for the dump.

Similar coverage reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [In Daily \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## Get free flu jab for best protection

Cairns Post, General News, 19/07/2023, Sandhya Ram, Page 12

Far North Queenslanders are being urged to get vaccinated against the flu and reduce the burden on the health system, following a spike in cases among youngsters. Tropical Public Health Services director Richard Gair said 2042 people had been diagnosed with lab-confirmed influenza since the start of the year across the Cairns and Hinterland region, with children aged up to five years accounting for 11 per cent of flu cases.

Similar coverage reported by: [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#), [Retail Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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## States put on measles alert

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 19/07/2023, Eli Green, Page 15

Residents in Victoria and Queensland have been put on high alert after a traveller who was infected with measles visited both states. The passenger flew on Qantas flights QF40 from Jakarta to Melbourne on Sunday, July 2, then on flight QF610 from Melbourne to Brisbane, which departed at 9.50am on the following day.

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## Healthy Canberra father's final moments before influenza B claimed his life

7news.com.au, Other, 18/07/2023, Hayley Taylor

The otherwise healthy 37-year-old began to feel sick earlier this month. Five days later, he died.

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## Young father Mate Babic died almost a week after contracting Influenza B

Ballarat Courier, Other, 18/07/2023, Bageshri Savvasachi

Mate Babic meant the world to his sons. The 37-year-old Downer man died last week after contracting influenza B.

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## The dawning of a new era in RSV prevention

Medicine Today, Other, 18/07/2023, Ian G. Barr

Professor Barr is Deputy Director at the WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza; and Honorary Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at the Doherty Institute, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Vic. Abstract Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection causes significant morbidity and mortality, particularly in children, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, older persons and immunocompromised people.

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## ABC, ABC News, 18/07/2023, Tamara Oudyn

Traditional owners on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula have won a legal challenge to stop the Federal Government building a nuclear waste facility near Kimba. The Federal Court overturned the former Coalition Government's decision to select the remote farming site, which is considered sacred to native title holders.

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## Channel 9, Today, 18/07/2023, Karl Stefanovic, Sarah Abo, Alex Cullen

## and Jayne Azzopardi

Interview with Trent Twomey, National President, Pharmacy Guild of Australia. Twomey calls for the Federal Government to provide a free influenza programme.

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## 4BC, 08:00 News, 18/07/2023

Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President Trent Twomey is calling for a national approach to flu vaccines in 2024 after the Queensland Government made them free for all residents. A similar program rolled out last year saw a 10% increase in vaccinations in a single month.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Drug slows advance of early Alzheimer's

The Australian, General News, 19/07/2023, Natasha Robinson, Page 3

Australia's health system needs to urgently adapt to facilitate earlier diagnosis and intervention in the progress of Alzheimer's disease, leading experts say, as a major international trial finds a new drug, donanemab, slows cognitive decline if given in the early stages of dementia. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration in Australia is currently evaluating an application for registration of that drug here.

*Similar coverage reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [3AW \(Online\)](#), [6PR \(Online\)](#), [Your Life Choices \(Online\)](#), [Australian Seniors News \(Online\)](#), [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#).*

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### Telehealth 'safe and effective' for medical abortion follow-up, Aussie doctors find

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/07/2023, Kemal Atlay

The use of 'less invasive' tests to confirm termination of pregnancy will make follow-up easier for doctors and patients alike, says Dr Heather McNamee. Patients who undergo early medical abortion can be safely managed with telehealth and an at-home low-sensitivity urine test during follow-up, an Australian study shows. [...] The study was published shortly after the TGA announced it was scrapping the mandatory training and registration for GPs to prescribe medical abortion from next month.

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### Control myopia

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/07/2023

Eyerising International Pty Ltd's Myopia Management Device has been listed in the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration with an ARTG No: 41275. The above snippet is the first part of an article sent to subscribers in Pharmacy Daily's issue from 18 Jul 23

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## ABC, ABC News , 18/07/2023

The global trial found a new drug donanemab could slow the disease by more than 30% in some patients, giving them and their families new hope for a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease. Australian regulators will decide whether this drug is worth the risk to patients when it's submitted for approval later this year.

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## Channel 10, 10 News First, 18/07/2023, Natalie Forrest

A clinical trial of an Alzheimer's drug has reached a major breakthrough, with researchers proving it

can slow the progression of the disease. It works best for those in the early stages, with doctors warning we need more investment in our health care system to get people diagnosed sooner.

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### **Channel 7, Seven News, 18/07/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella**

There's now hope for early onset Alzheimer's from a landmark international trial. The medicine Donanemab currently isn't approved for use here in Australia and yet to be approved by the TGA.

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### **Channel 7, Seven News Vic First at 4pm, 18/07/2023, Rebecca Maddern and Mike Amor**

Interview with Dr Kaele Stokes, Dementia Australia about breakthrough on clinical trial of an Alzheimer's drug. Stokes says the new drug will only be effective for people at the very earliest stages of the disease. She notes the new drug Donanemab has to be infused intravenously, which means that it requires a specialist to administer the drug and to keep a close eye over people. She states they want to see the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme to be able to subsidise medications like this to make them more available.

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### **Channel 9, National Nine News, 18/07/2023, Peter Overton**

A new drug which slows Alzheimer's disease, has been hailed a turning point in the treatment of the debilitating disease. Australian researchers involved in the global trial say it is the most significant breakthrough in decades. The medication slowed disease progression by 35% in the early stages of Alzheimer's.

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### **SBS, World News Australia, 18/07/2023, Janice Petersen**

A new breakthrough study on Alzheimer's drug, Donanemab, provides a glimmer of hope. The results of a global trial involving 1700 patients with mild cognitive impairment revealed the drug was able to slow Alzheimer's progression by 35% in patients in the earliest stages of the disease. That figure increased to 50% for those under the age of 75. Researchers say it can delay a patient's inevitable decline by 4 to 7 months.

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### **ABC Radio Adelaide, 07:00 News, 18/07/2023**

Results of a global drug trial show a new treatment for Alzheimer's disease can slow the progression of the condition in some patients. The trial of 1700 patients showed the drug donanemab slows progression of the disease by 35% in the earliest stages of the disease. Associate Professor Michael Woodward, who's been involved in Alzheimer's research for decades, says it's absolutely a breakthrough.

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## **OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL**

### **Report finds Australia's first drug-checking site is changing 'drug behaviours'**

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 18/07/2023, Anmj Staff

Nearly half of the drugs tested at Australia's first fixed-site pill testing service were not what the user thought they were, a new report has found. Once people accessing the service discovered what was in the drug, about one in ten discarded the drug at the service.

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A health official who runs drug checking site CanTest wants to see people who use injectable drugs test their materials in a bid to achieve drug harm minimisation. Stephanie Stephens from Directions Health, which helps run the clinic, says injectable synthetics are circulating the community and encourages users to be vigilant. Stephens hopes when small amounts of drugs are decriminalised in the ACT from October that some of the stigma surrounding those who use injectables will be removed and motivate more users to have their drugs checked to avoid overdose.

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### Combating Salmonella with Water

Australian Meat News, General News, 01/07/2023, Susan Webster, Page 22

World-first research led by Sydney scientists has found a new way of combatting the growth of dangerous Salmonella on meat surfaces. The researchers were able to achieve around 80 percent inactivation of pathogens in only 30 seconds, while preserving most of the quality attributes of the beef by using a modified form of water.

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### Cellular Meat Technologies Attract Investment

Australian Meat News, General News, 01/07/2023, Deborah Hill, Page 29

The production of cultured meat still has significant obstacles to address before it can be truly commercialised and competitive in the protein market according to a recent article 'Cellular agriculture: current gaps between facts and claims regarding cell-based meat' published in Animal Frontiers. [...] Regulatory Approval Underway with FSANZ Earlier in 2023, Australian cell-based meat production company, Vow, began the process of regulatory approval with Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) to produce lab-grown quail by 2024.

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### The WHO says artificial sweetener aspartame is a 'possible carcinogen'. What is a safe level to consume?

SBS, Other, 18/07/2023, Biwa Kwan

Two separate World Health Organization committees have conducted a cancer hazard assessment of one the world's most popular sweeteners found in thousands of products, including diet soft drinks, low fat yoghurts and sugar-free gum.

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No relevant coverage

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