



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Tuesday, 1st August 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Canberra Times](#)** (page 1) reports that a new report has found that Canberra's women and children's hospital's obstetrics and gynaecology department could lose its training accreditation due to chronic understaffing and high burnout levels. "The organisation appeared to be highly reactive and even when future plans were identified, there are a lack of actionable steps and appropriate communication to the workforce to demonstrate that their concerns were being taken seriously," the draft review said.
- **[The Courier Mail](#)** (page 1) reports a \$2.5 billion deal between the Commonwealth and Queensland's government will prevent the demolition of the state's police headquarters to make way for the construction of a new arena for the 2032 Olympics. Brisbane Arena will be built over Roma Street station with construction due to begin in 2027 and finish in 2030. *Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald Online](#)*
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 2) reports that leading Australian virologist Edward Holmes has claimed "bad memory" is why he didn't disclose he was listed on a paper submitted to medical journals alongside a Wuhan Institute of Virology scientist. "It shows my bad memory ... In late July this year, these 163 new bat coronavirus sequences appeared on GenBank for the Wuhan Institute

of Virology, with no paper, just this kind of posting," he said in an online interview in September 2022.

- **The Australian** (page 3) reports genomic screening of newborns to assess their future risk of genetic diseases is feasible on a population-wide scale, a new study has found. Australian gene testing company Genepath's chief medical officer Glenn Bennett said "Whole population newborn screening is a highly effective public health intervention as it reduces death and disability from treatable genetic diseases."
- **The Hobart Mercury** (page 5) reports the redevelopment of Launceston General Hospital must be a priority for incoming health minister Guy Barnett, Tasmania's opposition says. Mr Barnett said further funding for the planned \$580 million project would be provided in further budgets. "I will be engaging with the federal government as a matter of priority about how it can support this significant redevelopment," Mr Barnett said. *Also reported by: Launceston Examiner*
- **The Age** (page 6) reports that back pain and back-related disability has grown into an epidemic, with one in six Australians experiencing back pain. "If we took away all the harmful treatment, minimised imaging and surgery when it's not appropriate, injecting people, giving them crazy messages, we could halve the burden of back pain overnight," says Professor Mark Hancock, a leading back pain researcher at Macquarie University. *Also reported by: The New Daily*
- **The Daily Telegraph** (page 7) reports that a policy that would halve the price of 92 medications and increase prescriptions to 60-day supplies may be at risk of being blocked in the Senate with the Opposition needing only two independent or Greens senators to block the bill. Health Minister Mark Butler will need to table the new regulations this week for the cheaper prescription to start on September 1. *Also reported by: Courier Mail, Adelaide Advertiser, Hobart Mercury*
- **The Courier Mail** (page 10) reports a research project studying the long-term wellbeing of 400 Indigenous families will be expanded thanks to a \$4.69 million funding boost from the National Health and Medical Research Council. The study will work with Indigenous families during childbirth and monitor their long-term wellbeing for five years while also improving their access to healthcare and support.

MINISTER BUTLER

Political clash looms over script changes

Daily Telegraph, Edition Changes, 01/08/2023, Page 7

Half-price prescription medicines are at risk, with the Coalition yet to make clear whether it will support Labor's policy that faces a parliamentary showdown this week. [...] The cheaper scripts are due to start from September 1, meaning federal Health Minister Mark Butler must table regulations in parliament to enact the policy this week.

Also reported by: Geelong Advertiser (Geelong), Courier Mail (Brisbane), Gold Coast Bulletin (Gold Coast), Cairns Post (Cairns), Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide), Hobart Mercury (Hobart)

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Game-changing new approach to stopping cardiovascular disease before it strikes

Gundagai Independent, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 2

Around eight million Australians will benefit from a game-changing new approach to stopping cardiovascular disease (CVD) before it strikes. Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler this week 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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SAHMRI trial to examine benefits of donor breastmilk for premature babies

Born weighing just 620g, a "precious" gift in hospital helped baby Lockie survive. Now researchers want to know how it can benefit other infants. [...] " Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the research would generate "evidence for the scientific community, along with some hope and comfort for new parents of preterm babies across Australia".

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Half-price medicines in jeopardy as Coalition refuses support

Herald Sun, Other, 31/07/2023, Sue Dunlevy

In a highly critical letter to Peter Dutton, the Australian Medical Association lashes the Coalition for refusing to support cheaper scripts. [...] The cheaper scripts are due to start from September 1, meaning Health Minister Mark Butler must table regulations in parliament to enact the policy this week.

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

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This GP hopes Mark Butler's dreams for urgent care clinics come true

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2023, Sarah Simpkins

Australia has a lot to learn from New Zealand, says Associate Professor John Adie. As a doctor in New Zealand, Associate Professor John Adie worked within grasping distance of moon boots, splints, shoulder mobilisers and IV antibiotics.

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'No strong evidence' that video telehealth is better than phone calls: RACGP

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2023, Antony Scholefield

Health outcomes are 'generally comparable' for video and audio telehealth, the RACGP says. [...] The research cited by the RACGP included a multi-part systematic review by Bond University academics, funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care, that looked at both phone and video telehealth consultations for various conditions including musculoskeletal conditions anxiety and depression and clinical outcomes.

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Belmont Hospital, Calvary Mater GP Access clinic hours restored

Newcastle Weekly, Other, 31/07/2023, Rod Thompson

In the lead-up to the federal election, the Hunter community and local politicians joined forces to try and reinstate a much-cherished service. [...] "We've delivered on our commitment to restore the GP Access After Hours clinic, after the former Liberal government cut funding forcing the service to close its doors," Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said.

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Call to bring forward the 8CPA heard

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 31/07/2023

The psa23 conference was headlined by the Federal Health Minister Mark Butler who shared in his speech, "there have been strong arguments put to the Government around bringing forward the negotiations for the Eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA)". The above snippet is the first part of an article sent to subscribers in Pharmacy Daily's issue from 31 Jul 23

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Transition payments to ease the pain

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 31/07/2023

The Govt is investing \$148.2m in regional, rural and remote pharmacies to offset 60DD revenue reduction, said Federal Health Minister Mark Butler (pictured) at this weekend's PSA23 conference.

Opposition ‘wobbling on double dispensing’

The Medical Republic, Other, 31/07/2023

The AMA fears the LNP will block the legislation, which Mark Butler is determined to deliver. The AMA has sought assurance from the federal opposition that 60-day dispensing will proceed, saying the opposition appeared to be "capitulating in the face of an irresponsible scare campaign".

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WIN Shepparton, WIN News, 31/07/2023, Bruce Roberts

There are fresh calls for the Federal Government to press pause on the introduction of its 60-day dispensing policy. From September, patients across the country will be able to receive two boxes of prescription medication at half the cost. The Pharmacy Guild is today asked the Government to halt the implementation to prevent unintended consequences such as the loss of over 20,000 jobs and the closure of 600 pharmacies. The national president insists the new eighth community pharmacy agreement with the federal Government is needed while Health Minister Mark Butler has reiterated every single dollar saved by the government will go back into pharmacy services.

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ABC Newcastle, Early Mornings, 31/07/2023, Paul Turton / Craig Hamilton

Interview with John Jones, pharmacy owner about the 60-day dispensing policy. Jones says they're not against the policy, but they need to be funded to do it. He says Health Minister Mark Butler announced some \$140 million over four years and will help less than maybe 5% of pharmacies.

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ABC Newcastle, Early Mornings, 31/07/2023, Paul Turton / Craig Hamilton

Interview with Doctor Lee Fong, Secretary, Hunter GP Association about GP Access service in the Hunter gradually returning. Fong discusses the importance of GP Access After Hours. He thanks their local members, Sharon Claydon, Pat Conroy, Meryl Swanson, Dan Repacholi, and the Health Minister Mark Butler. He notes their commitment to restore funding to GP Access After Hours is deeply appreciated.

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MINISTER WELLS

How two women are fighting for reform in the aged care sector

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

In 2019, Amina Schipp met Yvonne Buters through a private Facebook support group when Amina's mother died due to a medication error. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells promised last week no changes would be made without consultations with consumers and the general public.

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Aged care homes owed hundreds of millions of dollars in COVID support, say providers

The Senior, Other, 31/07/2023, Eileen Wood

Aged care providers around the country are wondering when hundreds of millions of dollars of emergency COVID expenses will be reimbursed by the government. With about 70 per cent of care homes estimated to be running at a loss, providers say they cannot continue to be left out of pocket. [...] The office of Aged Care Minister Anika Wells was contacted for comment.

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DEPARTMENT

Rural dentistry is a 'broken system'

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 01/08/2023, Tom O'Callaghan, Page 5

It "defies logic" that only Melbourne-based dental schools get funding for a rural clinical placement program. [...] A federal health department spokesperson said future funding decisions on clinical placements and educators would be a question for governments.

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The case for carbs

New Idea, General News, 07/08/2023, Page 50

From mashed potatoes to warming bowls of delicious pasta, winter is the perfect time to enjoy anything starchy, bready or grainy. [...] According to the Department of Health and Aged Care, the recommended carbohydrate intake in adults and children is 45 to 65 per cent of dietary energy intake.

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'No strong evidence' that video telehealth is better than phone calls: RACGP

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2023, Antony Scholefield

Health outcomes are 'generally comparable' for video and audio telehealth, the RACGP says. [...] The research cited by the RACGP included a multi-part systematic review by Bond University academics, funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care, that looked at both phone and video telehealth consultations for various conditions including musculoskeletal conditions anxiety and depression and clinical outcomes.

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Launch of new Australian Guideline for assessing and managing cardiovascular disease risk

cesphn.org.au, Other, 31/07/2023

The 2023 Australian Guideline for assessing and managing cardiovascular disease risk, and associated Australian cardiovascular disease risk calculator (Aus CVD Risk Calculator), will become the new standard of care for the primary prevention of CVD in Australia. [...] Supported by funding from the Department of Health and Aged Care, the Heart Foundation has led the development of the new

guideline and accompanying calculator on behalf of the Australian Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance (ACDPA), represented in this project by Diabetes Australia, Kidney Health Australia and Stroke Foundation.

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Report finds aged care regulator suffering from 20 per cent staff vacancy

Government News, Other, 31/07/2023, Judy Skatssoon

A report on Australia's aged care regulator says lack of staff, including quality assessors, is affecting its ability to do its job as it faces an expanded role in the wake of the royal commission. [...] The report makes 32 recommendations to bolster and rebuild the Commission, including partnering with aged care providers and peak organisations and improving communication with the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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Medical Costs Finder sign-up session for ophthalmologists

Services Australia, Other, 31/07/2023

Ophthalmologists and their practice staff can use the Medical Costs Finder in conversations with patients about private healthcare costs. [...] Find out more about the Medical Costs Finder and the session on the Department of Health and Aged Care website.

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Vendors want data sharing standards sooner not later

The Medical Republic, Other, 31/07/2023

Once shy about government mandates, the MSIA now wants action on a standards and policy roadmap. Major software vendors say they are in need of a much clearer roadmap from the government on future data-sharing standards and policy, so they can plan and invest properly for a "sharing by default" mandated government future. [...] But in the midst of a series of new government initiatives based on the concept of "sharing by default", an initiative that senior figures in the DoHAC are openly comparing to aspects of the 21 Century Cures Act in the US, many of our major software vendors are now calling for more clarity and certainty.

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CORONAVIRUS

Scientist's 'Wuhan memory problem'

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2023, Sharri Markson, Page 2

Leading Australian virologist Edward Holmes said a "bad memory" was behind the reason he didn't disclose he was listed on a paper submitted to medical journals alongside a Wuhan Institute of Virology scientist. Professor Holmes was co-author of a paper titled the Proximal Origins of SARS-CoV-2 that claimed Covid-19 was a natural virus and "improbable" it was a laboratory construct.

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

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WorkSafe figures reveal how many essential services workers forced to have Covid jabs were harmed

Adelaide Now, Other, 31/07/2023, Alex White

Dozens of Victorians remain off work after suffering Covid jab reactions with some experiencing life-altering complications resulting in \$4.37m in WorkCover claims. Small, but real risk of heart inflammation from Covid vaccine Dozens of Victoria's frontline workers remain off work after suffering serious injuries from Covid-19 vaccines, resulting in \$4.37m in WorkCover claims to date.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

Doctors face hurdles in developing living COVID-19 guidelines

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 31/07/2023

The development of living guidelines for treating COVID-19 is vital to ensure that clinicians can provide the best quality care to their patients, but more Australian research is needed. A senior clinician has spoken of the difficulty of producing living guidelines to treat patients with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Australia.

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Scientists exposed after previously denying COVID-19 lab leak theory

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 31/07/2023

A group of scientists have been exposed privately discussing signs COVID-19 may have been genetically engineered despite publicly insisting a laboratory leak was a conspiracy theory. The University of Sydney's Eddie Holmes publicly said in April 2020 there was "no evidence" SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 in humans, originated from a laboratory in Wuhan.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Aged care watchdog suffering from staff vacancy

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

An independent review found Australia's aged care regulator to be suffering from staff vacancy affecting its ability to keep up with its expanded role in the wake of the Royal Commission. David Tune, former secretary of the Department of Finance and Deregulation, released a report about the commission's responsibility for ensuring older Australians' safety and well-being when the new Aged Care Act starts next July.

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From businessman to bus driver: A “positive” career change

HelloCare, Other, 31/07/2023, Bianca Iovino

A successful recruitment drive has seen this former corporate man jump aboard the aged care worker bus. With more jobs becoming available this month, the opening of Ryman Healthcare's Deborah Cheetham Retirement Village in Ocean Grove, Victoria has already seen many locals put their hands up to fill job roles.

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About 130 jobs on offer for new dementia care village at Repat

The Mercury, Other, 31/07/2023, Kathryn Bermingham

Looking for work in the aged-care industry? A new dementia village opening at the Repat needs up to 130 workers see how to apply here.

[Read More](#)

Antiochian Orthodox nursing home St Nicholas Senior Care Centre opens in Sydney

The Senior, Other, 31/07/2023

Ageing members of Sydney's Antiochian Orthodox community have welcomed the opening of a new nursing home in southwest Sydney. [...] It is the first aged-care centre in the state designed and completed in accordance with recommendations from the Aged Care Royal Commission.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Sickie? I'll drink to that

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 9

Aussies who drink heavily tend to take more time off work sick, according to Australian and Swedish researchers. The team looked at data from the 2019 National Drug Strategy Household Survey of working Aussies aged 20 to 69, splitting people into four categories based on how often they had a heavy drinking session ranging from never, less than monthly, monthly and weekly.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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Poor sleep linked to poor health, lower disposable income

Ballarat Courier, Other, 31/07/2023, Justin James

Sleep is one of the three key pillars of health, alongside diet and exercise, but if we're honest about it can we really say we're getting the amount or quality we need? With the help of market research consultancy CoreData WA, we surveyed 2000 Australians (including more than 1000 HIF members) and discovered there's a clear link between poor health, lower disposable income, and quality of sleep.

Also reported by: [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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6PR, Mornings, 31/07/2023, Gary Adshead

Interview with Dr Blake Lawrence, lecturer in psychology, Curtin University School of Population Health about labelling someone as obese. Lawrence says new research that came out a couple of weeks ago from some researchers in Ireland raising sort of the question around whether, you know, the label of obesity is representative for all people living in larger bodies. He notes the proposal is to change the name obesity to more of a medicalized term as Adiposity-Based Chronic Disease.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Skin cancer to the fore

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 10

Golfers have a higher risk of skin cancer than the general population, research shows. The University of South Australia study shows one in four golfers had received a skin cancer diagnosis, indicating a 2.4 times greater risk of the condition.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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Training your brain to beat back pain

Age, General News, 01/08/2023, Liam Mannix, Page 6

We're tackling an epidemic with treatments that mostly fail, writes Liam Mannix. Like many people who get chronic, crippling back pain, it came into Maree Rivero's life by total surprise.

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

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Best way to clear the air

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 14

Smoke hazard Portable air purifiers fitted with high-efficiency particulate air filters can substantially improve indoor air quality in bushfire events, according to new research. CSIRO researchers found that HEPA filters have potential, when used appropriately, to improve indoor air quality by 30-74 per cent during smoke episodes caused by prescribed burns.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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Private hospital to tackle heart disease

Burnie Advocate, General News, 01/08/2023, Rodney Woods, Page 5

North-west and West Coast residents needing a test to see if their arteries are narrowed or blocked won't have to travel to Launceston for much longer with plans to offer the service at the North West Private Hospital in Burnie. Construction on the \$7 million, privately funded, coronary angiography laboratory is planned to start in the new year at the latest and is expected to be operational before the end of 2024.

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Patients taking low dose aspirin for stroke prevention have brain bleed risk

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2023, Eileen Wood

Australian scientists are warning of an increased risk of brain bleeding among older people using low dose aspirin therapy. A Monash University-led study has concluded the risk of a brain bleed particularly in older people who are often exposed to falls and knocks on the head, outweighs any potential benefit of reducing the risk of strokes in healthy older adults who take daily low dose aspirin.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#).

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I'm a doctor and these are the five health tests to have by December to reduce your risk of early death - and the terrifying stats you need to know

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 31/07/2023, Laura House

Pathology experts have urged Australians to keep up to date with health testing this year to pick up life-threatening diseases while they're still treatable. [...] According to a 2017 study by Cancer Council Australia, screening for bowel cancer can reduce deaths from the disease by between 15 and 25 per cent.

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Lifting stroke awareness

Seniors Today, Other, 01/08/2023

Sports stars, politicians and entertainers are next week supporting Stroke Foundation in a public health education campaign which hopes to drastically lift the level of Australian men's awareness of stroke. Called Bloke Beside You, the grassroots social media video campaign sees well-known faces from

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2CC, Canberra Live, 31/07/2023, Leon Delaney

Interview with Emmanuel Stamatakis, Professor of Physical Activity, Lifestyle, and Population Health at the School of Health Sciences, University of Sydney. Stamatakis says new research from the University of Sydney shows that picking up the pace during your housework can reduce your risk of having cancer. He notes the study was done exclusively among 22,500 people from the UK who were non-exercisers.

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5AA, Breakfast, 31/07/2023, Will Goodings & David Penberthy

The National Asthma Research Agenda will be released today to make sure funding is better targeted.

Asthma Australia says it's vital to reduce the number of hospitalisations so kids don't miss school or other activities. Asthma Australia chief executive Michele Goldman says there's room for improvement of coordination of asthma research.

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PRIMARY CARE

With gene screening, ATLAS shrugs off parents' worries

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2023, Natasha Robinson, Page 3

A new method of screening for newborn babies is for the first time set to allow checking for multiple genetic conditions using a single test. The advance is the result of new DNA gene sequencing technology that allows hundreds of genes to be simultaneously analysed for variations that cause genetic diseases.

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

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Call for hospital fix to be priority

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/08/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 5

Newly appointed Health Minister Guy Barnett must make the redevelopment of the Launceston General Hospital one of his top priorities in the portfolio, Labor says. The state government has committed to spend \$580m on the stage two redevelopment of the hospital over 10 years, which will see the construction of a new mental health precinct, an expanded acute care zone, and a surgical short-stay and day procedure unit.

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

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Murdoch the best site for new hospital

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 01/08/2023, Amber Lilley, Page 2

The health minister has backed the decision to locate the Government's planned \$544 million women and baby hospital in Murdoch as the Premier and minister met regional community members during an invite-only town hall Q&A session in the Goldfields. Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson said while the QEII site in Nedlands was originally the ideal location for the relocation of King Edward Memorial Hospital, an in-depth assessment found it would not provide the best healthcare possible for high-risk mothers, with parking and accessibility also expected to be an issue.

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Stopgap GPs urgently needed

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/08/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 5

People who don't have a regular GP need an "interim measure" to ensure they can see a doctor in the daytime when needed, Dr Fiona Van Leeuwen says. Dr Van Leeuwen, chair of the Hunter General Practitioners Association, said a shortfall of GPs had coincided with a rise in chronic illness and "Medicare not being fit for purpose".

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

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Health services urged to apply for funding

Shepparton News, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 7

The Victorian Government is calling on northern Victorian health services to enter submissions for the latest round of the Regional Health Infrastructure Fund. The fund provides money to rural and regional health services and agencies across Victoria so these services can continue to provide safe and efficient care.

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Gold Coast University Hospital in lockdown after threats made against staff

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2023, Greg Stolz & Jeremy Pierce

A "Code Black" has plunged a Gold Coast hospital into lockdown, with police investigating "credible" threats made to nursing staff. A major Queensland hospital has been plunged into lockdown after threats were made against staff.

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

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'Remarkable' two decade first for Townsville University Hospital

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2023, Daniel Shirkie

Townsville University Hospital has celebrated a major milestone that's seen it recognised as one of the four best hospitals in the country in a notable nationally accredited category. The hospital is now not only the first tertiary healthcare institution to achieve a baby friendly accreditation through the Baby Friendly Health Initiative but one of only a handful of hospitals who have kept the rating for 20 years running.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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Townsville Hospital and Health Service plan maps Magnetic Island health future

The Mercury, Other, 31/07/2023, Bethany Westwood

A 10-year plan to improve healthcare delivery for Magnetic Island residents includes a focus on palliative care allowing residents to spend their final days "on their island". Townsville Hospital and Health Service and Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) have revealed the Magnetic Island (Yunbenun) Health Service Strategy to improve access and delivery for residents and tourists.

[Read More](#)

Ambulance response times improving but government says 'long way to go' to fix ramping

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 31/07/2023, Kathryn Bermingham

The majority of priority one and priority two ambulance call-outs are now arriving on time, new data shows but the government admits there is still "a long way to go" on its promise to fix ramping. Premier Peter Malinauskas said on Monday the 146 extra ambulance officers deployed since the March 2022 election were delivering results.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2023, Peter Mitchell

Genetic testing could soon reveal a person's risk of getting a deadly disease from the moment they're born. The medical world is heralding it as a breakthrough, but there are ethical concerns. It could spot high risk markers and the possibility of cancers in babies, even in curable diseases. However, there are limits to genomic screening, often only identifying a problem, not a cure. Kirsten Boggs, The Childrens' Hospital at Westmead says there's no guarantee that from recognising a gene, the patient will develop the disease.

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 31/07/2023, Sandra Sully

Parents of pre-term babies could soon have easier access to donor breast milk. A new study is seeking to prove how increasing access could benefit not only families but the wider health system.

Researchers hope to show providing donor milk to more infants will significantly reduce the likelihood of developing complications with feeding and ultimately reduce time in hospital.

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 31/07/2023, Kate Freebairn

New health data has revealed ambulance response times are improving, with life threatening emergency call outs regularly beating targets. But the SA Government admits it still has a long way to go to fix its promise to end ramping. Over 65% of cases were attended to within the recommended eight-minute timeframe in the first half of this year, 10% better than the same time last year.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2023, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

New data shows the ambulance service's target of getting two life threatening emergencies within eight minutes is now being met 65% of the time while the response for less urgent cases has improved too. But that efficiency isn't reflected once they get to the hospital, with patients still spending more than 3000 hours ramped every month. The Malinauskas government is spending \$90 million more on the ambulance service than the Libs did in their last year in office.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

The Qld Government's first satellite hospital will open this week designed to ease pressure on emergency departments. But there are concerns workforce shortages are so severe medical staff will be robbed from other hospitals. The government's multi-million-dollar programme will see some of the remaining six satellite hospitals open this year, including three in August.

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Channel 9, National Nine News, 31/07/2023, Andrew Lofthouse and Melissa Downes

Queensland's first satellite hospital has opened its doors in Caboolture, one of seven being built across the state in an effort to ease pressure on the health system. The Government says they'll take pressure off emergency departments for people who want to use them. The satellite hospitals will operate from 8 am to 10 pm each day, but there's been plenty of debate about whether they should be even called hospitals or should they be referred to as a medical centre.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Experts unite to help mums

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 01/08/2023, Tamara McDonald, Page 3

Experts are joining forces to uncover causes of peri-natal depression, amid rising rates in the region. Almost one in five women in Australia experiences depression during pregnancy or in the first year following the birth of their baby.

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One in two to have mental health disorder by 75: study

West Australian, Other, 31/07/2023, Fraser Barton

Mental health disorders are on the horizon for one in two people by the age of 75 after findings from an Australian co-led study spanning 29 countries. Researchers from the University of Queensland, in partnership with Harvard medical school, studied data from face-to-face interviews of more than 150,000 adults across nearly 30 countries.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

'Ketamine is the only thing that saved me': Depression sufferer

SBS, Other, 31/07/2023, Ciara Hain & Stergos Kastelloriou

A new clinical trial has revealed a low-cost version of ketamine can help treat severe depression. It found more than one in five people achieved total remission from their symptoms after a month of injections.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 31/07/2023, Yvonne Yong

Advocates and academics are calling for urgent action to address what they describe as a suicide crisis in WA's Great Southern region. One local Aboriginal family says it's lost count of the number of loved ones in the community who have taken their own lives.

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4BC, Afternoons, 31/07/2023, Sofie Formica

Interview with Professor John McGrath, University of Queensland's, Queensland Brain Institute. McGrath discusses concussion and the need to protect people's brains. Formica mentions global study that people will likely develop a mental health disorder by the time we're 75.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 31/07/2023, Rebecca Levingston

Interview with Professor John McGrath, University of Queensland's, Queensland Brain Institute. Levingston says worldwide study co-led by researchers from the University of Queensland in the hopes that it'll give us important clues about mental health conditions. McGrath says it involves study of 150,000 people across the world. He says mental disorders affect about 1 in 2 people. He notes that about 54% of women will have a disorder by age 75 while for men it's about 49%.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Breastfeeding isn't foolproof so stop the guilt trip

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/08/2023, Emily Cook, Page 20

In a few days, my social media feed will be "milk-washed" for World Breastfeeding Week overflowing with perfectly curated images of mothers, likely in a meadow, lovingly cradling their little nurslings, who gaze up adoringly at them as they fill their tummies with mother's milk. I'm all for celebrating a successful breastfeeding "journey", as it's now invariably termed.

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

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

Canberra parents feel pressured into having caesarean sections

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2023, Lanie Tindale

Mother-of-four Catherine Nillson has a lot of personal experience with Canberra's public maternity system. "I've had a water birth, a theatre birth, a land birth and a chaotic birth," she said.

[Read More](#)

Nursing shortage leaves Perth family struggling to fulfill 2yo son's complex care needs

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2023, Jo Trilling

The mother of a two-year-old boy with around-the-clock health needs is sometimes staying awake "48 hours straight" to look after him due to a shortage of community nurses. The Perth family, and other families in similar situations, are desperate for nurses and carers to consider filling these roles.

[Read More](#)

More women are turning to home births, but not everyone can access them

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2023, Grace Jennings-Edquist

Laura Suriawan was left so shaken by her first birth experience that she swore never to deliver in hospital again. Perth-based Laura had "wanted to stay as natural as possible" with her labour but ended up with an induction at 42 weeks.

[Read More](#)

Rihanon Shepherd and Ellen McGuignan share experience amid calls for more funding of Midwifery Group Practice (MGP)

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 31/07/2023, Sandhya Ram

A peak midwifery body is calling on the health minister to fund midwives and midwife-led models of care as a means of combating the ongoing maternity crisis in regional areas. It comes at a time when women in the Far North are having to choose between a public system and a private hospital with an uncertain future while maternity units in Cooktown and Weipa are still on bypass.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Accreditation under fire

Canberra Times, General News, 01/08/2023, Lucy Bladen, Page 1

The obstetrics and gynaecology department at Canberra's women and children's hospital is at risk of losing its training accreditation as it suffers from chronic understaffing and high levels of burnout, a review has found. The damning draft review of the department found it failed to meet most of the required standards needed to maintain its training accreditation.

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

Slipping through cracks

Daily Liberal, General News, 01/08/2023, Ciara Bastow, Page 1

A lack of staff at Dubbo Hospital is meaning young children with developmental problems are slipping through the cracks as paediatric services suffer. With recruitment at both Dubbo and Orange Hospitals ongoing, the vacant roles in the health services' Paediatric Outpatient Clinics have been identified as hard-to-fill, critical roles.

Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#).

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

RACGP looks to boost quantity of GPs in regional areas to ease pressure on hospitals and streamline healthcare

West Australian, Other, 01/08/2023, Anna Cox

For executives from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), a visit to Geraldton last week was an important stopover in a mission to bolster regional GP numbers and encourage medical students to pursue that pathway. As one of the State's biggest regional training hubs, Geraldton offered the RACGP an opportunity to speak to medical students about the importance of GPs in the healthcare system.

[Read More](#)

Overseas-trained doctors could be fast-tracked to work as Australia's staff shortage projected to swell

The Guardian, Other, 01/08/2023, Natasha May

Overseas-trained doctors may be able to start working in Australia more quickly under changes being considered by the peak body for general practitioners aimed at addressing a ballooning doctor shortage. Hundreds of foreign-trained doctors living in Australia were unable to work during the pandemic due to a complex and rigorous system of approving international medical graduates to work locally.

[Read More](#)

Physicians college board to review exam after trainees complain of racial bias

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2023, Heather Saxena

It's claimed some candidates have benefited from having a previously good working relationships with their examiner. The Royal Australasian College of Physicians is reviewing its clinical examination for paediatric trainees after candidates complained it was plagued by racial bias.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Chris Kenny Tonight, 31/07/2023, Chris Kenny

New figures show dozens of frontline staff in Victoria remain off work after suffering serious injuries from Covid vaccines. Over \$4 million worth of WorkCover claims have been lodged.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

The peak medical body says workforce shortages are so severe some hospital theatres aren't being used. There are now concerns new facilities will rob Peter to pay Paul. The facility will take 600 patients out of the emergency department at Caboolture Hospital every week. Equipped with up to 70 medical staff to ease the pressure of a growing region as calls grow for a staffing solution.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Symbion offers pharmacy support in 60-day dispensing debacle

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 31/07/2023, David Rowley & Andrew Crawley

Wholesaler making direct representation to Health Minister's office as they face halved margins PSA23 hears Wholesaler Symbion is making its own separate representations to the Federal Government over the looming double-dispensing changes, as it faces a halving of its margins.

Also reported by: [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Pharmacy can't do more for less

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 31/07/2023

Fresh funding will be critical to enabling community pharmacists to play a greater role in the provision of primary healthcare, Dr Shane Jackson, national vice president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), believes.

[Read More](#)

More than 1000 pharmacies can start prescribing antibiotics for UTIs from today

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2023, Carmel Sparke

More than half the pharmacies in NSW will be diagnosing and treating uncomplicated UTIs from

Monday, with further services planned for the contraceptive pill in the coming months. It follows the expansion of the state government's \$3 million prescribing trial, launched in May, from 94 to 1000 pharmacies.

Also reported by: [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#).

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

'Body modifier' Brendan Russell appeals convictions over fatal 'snowflake,' genital mutilation procedures

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2023, Clare Sibthorpe

A self-proclaimed "extreme body modifier" jailed for performing a botched "snowflake" procedure that killed a woman has made a bid for freedom as he fights to overturn his convictions. Brendan Leigh Russell, 42, was found guilty in 2021 of manslaughter, female genital mutilation and intentionally causing grievous bodily harm following the death of a client.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Care led to man's death

Border Mail, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 1

A coroner has raised medical treatment concerns following the death of a Yarrawonga man after a fall at his home. Reginald Benham, 85, died at Wangaratta hospital on August 25, 2019, with shortcomings found in the treatment that he was provided.

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

Pharmacist in Perth, Tasmania, filled over 100 prescriptions while drunk

7news.com.au, Other, 31/07/2023, Dominique Tassell

A Tasmanian man has been fined and disqualified from working as a pharmacist for a year after filling over 100 prescriptions while drunk Paul Nicholas Schilds case was heard in the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT) on June 1. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) later opened an investigation into Schild's actions at work.

[Read More](#)

What to know if you're considering a home birth

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2023, Grace Jennings-Edquist

There's been an increase in home births in recent years but they're not accessible to all, and they're not considered suitable for every pregnancy. [...] Public home Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency to check if your midwife is registered or has any conditions on their practice, and to report any concerns: 1300 419 495

[Read More](#)

HCCC hears aged care worker allegedly left resident tied to a chair

HelloCare, Other, 31/07/2023, Bianca Iovino

The New South Wales Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) has heard a Sydney aged care worker allegedly tied a 93-year-old resident to a chair with a bed sheet and forgot to release her before his shift ended. An investigation by HCCC found that Personal Care Assistant, Nyima Samdup,

allegedly restrained the sleeping resident just before 2am as she sat in a recliner in the dining room in November 2020 at RSL LifeCare's Wirraway facility in Narrabeen.

[Read More](#)

Newborn's death in hospital was preventable, court finds

Nursing Review, Other, 31/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

One hospital's mistake claimed the life of Jon and Diana Searle's first child, but a court has found the baby's death was preventable if staff had noticed the error in time. On Friday, South Australian coroner Naomi Kereru handed down her findings in the inquest of Bodhi Leo Searle, who died the day after his birth in the Flinders Medical Centre in Adelaide's south in August 2021.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

Others battling dementia symptoms: Lewis

The Australian, Sport, 01/08/2023, Robert Craddock & Brent Read, Page 24

Several players of his generation have told Wally Lewis they are also battling dementia symptoms as the league legend urged current players to embrace the war against concussion. Lewis believes the presence of independent doctors ruling on concussion issues is a step forward for the game.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Australia\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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Razzle dazzle

Age, Edition Changes - 2nd Edition, 01/08/2023, Greg Baum, Page 1

The Matildas saved their World Cup campaign with a dominant 4-0 win over Canada, advancing to the round of 16.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#).

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

Fans fume as World Cup kicks on behind payroll

Age, General News, 01/08/2023, Martin Boulton, Page 13

Last night's crucial Women's World Cup clash between the Matildas and reigning Olympic gold medallists Canada will be the last group match of the Australian-hosted tournament watched by many fans on TV, unless they choose to subscribe to the Optus streaming platform for \$24.99 a month. The Women's World Cup has already drawn sellout crowds and attracted big ratings for free-to-air broadcast partner Seven, but some of the biggest games have been available only to Optus subscribers.

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

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Police HQ avoids leveling

Courier Mail, General News, 01/08/2023, Hayden Johnson, Page 1

Queensland Police's Roma St headquarters will avoid demolition when construction begins on the \$2.5bn Brisbane Arena Olympic Games precinct, confidential plans reveal. Construction of the arena, slated to host swimming and water polo at the 2032 Games, was expected to result in the demolition of the headquarters and nearby arrests court.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

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'We need women and young girls to see female coaches': The push for gender parity by Brisbane 2032 for both athletes and coaches

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2023, Brittney Kleyn

Of the 10,500-odd athletes who will line up to compete at the Paris Olympics, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) predicts the gender split will be even. It will be the first time in Olympic history the Games reaches full gender parity among competing athletes.

[Read More](#)

Sunshine Coast Lightning's outgoing CEO Danielle Smith calls for in perpetuity licences to secure future of Super Netball

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2023, Linda Pearce

However accurate the speculation earlier this year that the Sunshine Coast Lightning was considering joining its former sibling Collingwood in Super Netball extinction, the Melbourne Storm-owned club is nevertheless leading a push for a key change to the terms under which it will stay. As with the Collective Player Agreement still being finalised, the renegotiation of the Team Participation Agreement has proved to be a drawn-out process that all parties hope will end later this week to enable the SSN contracting period to start, as belatedly planned, on Monday.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

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World Aquatics hatch plan for open water relay to join Olympics

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2023, Julian Linden

Australia's elite dominated at Fukuoka, now swimming's governing body is hatching a plan to cash in on the starpower of the most dominant team in world swimming. If you think Australia's swimmers have been dominating their opponents at this week's world championships in Fukuoka wait til you see what's in store next.

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

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 31/07/2023, Yvonne Yong

NRL Immortal Wally Lewis has revealed he has been diagnosed with probable chronic traumatic encephalopathy after concerns about recent memory loss. Maree McCabe from Dementia Australia says CTE is the only form of dementia that is preventable. The growing danger of head trauma in contact sport is now part of a Senate inquiry, and there's a class action underway, but it's involving AFL players with brain damage.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 31/07/2023, Natalie Forrest

Port Adelaide has been given a please explain and face possible AFL sanctions for its concussion protocols on Saturday night. Aliir Aliir and Lachie Jones have entered the AFL's concussion protocol.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

NRL legend Wally Lewis says he's diagnosed with dementia mostly caused by repeated head knocks.

Maree McCabe from Dementia Australia praises Lewis saying it's important that more people speak out.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2023, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

Port Adelaide has been given a please explain over its handling of strict concussion rules. The club's doctor, Mark Fisher, agrees he should have conducted concussion SCAT testing on both players.

[Play Now](#)

6PR, Mornings, 31/07/2023, Gary Adshead

Interview with Maree McCabe, CEO, Dementia Australia about Wally Lewis announcement that he's diagnosed with dementia. McCabe says CTE is a preventable form of dementia. She notes they don't want people to stop playing contact sports, but they want the, to be responsible about how they're played and how issues are managed if people do sustain head trauma.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Coffee could have health superpower

Australian Financial Review, General News, 01/08/2023, Hattie Garlick, Page 37

Research a new study contradicts common advice and suggests up to four cups a day could be good for the heart, writes Hattie Garlick.

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

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Incidental activities can save your life

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/08/2023, Emmanuel Stamatakis & Matthew Ahmadi, Page 20

Many people know exercise reduces the risk of cancers, including liver, lung, breast and kidney. But structured exercise is time-consuming, requires significant commitment and often financial outlay or travel to a gym.

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Risk factors for Alzheimer's disease higher for transgender and non-binary people

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

New research revealed transgender and non-binary people were at a "significantly higher risk" of Alzheimer's disease later in life. The study conducted by UNSW was pioneering as it was the first to investigate differences in dementia according to sex and gender identity.

[Read More](#)

A key to a 'faulty' lock: Why Aussie researchers are excited about naltrexone for CFS

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2023, Rachel Fieldhouse

Immunologist Professor Sonya Marshall-Gradisnik believes the opioid antagonist could be a viable intervention for affected patients. What does long COVID have in common with chronic fatigue syndrome?

[Read More](#)

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Health boost for 400 families

Courier Mail, General News, 01/08/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 10

A groundbreaking research project will put health workers in Indigenous communities across Queensland to study the long-term wellbeing of 400 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. The Mater Research pilot, launched at the Mater in South Brisbane, will now be extended to cover the Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns communities and the Metro North HHS regions thanks to a \$4.69m funding boost from the National Health and Medical Research Council.

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

The Mercury, Other, 31/07/2023, Sandhya Ram

A prominent figure in Aboriginal healthcare has called out grave shortcomings in the health system, as data reveals Indigenous youth are taking their own lives at a rate three times higher than non-Indigenous youth. Indigenous children and teenagers are taking their own lives at a rate three times higher than non-Indigenous youth, data shows, with a stalwart of the Aboriginal health sector calling attention to alarming suicide rates in Indigenous communities.

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

[Read More](#)

Broome Aboriginal Medical Service to pilot kids club program

West Australian, Other, 31/07/2023, Cain Andrews

Broome Aboriginal Medical Service has received more than \$235,000 in government funding to deliver a new Kids Club program which will aim to instil healthy habits in Broome's youth. Addressing unhealthy eating, lack of physical activity and poor mental and oral health in kids aged up to 16 years, the program will engage with up to 3000 Aboriginal children and their families living in and around Broome, aiming to instil lifelong habits and promote the importance of regular health check-ups and vaccinations.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Measles outbreaks: why it's important to keep the disease under control

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2023

While it has been declared to be eliminated in Australia, cases are occasionally brought in from overseas prompting outbreak warnings.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Atomo raises \$4m to launch rapid pregnancy test in the US as it pivots from Covid-19

The Mercury, Other, 30/07/2023, Jared Lynch

. ASX-listed diagnostics company Atomo plans to release its blood-based rapid pregnancy test in Australia by the end of the year and in the US within the next 18 months as it pivots from Covid-19. [...]

The company is awaiting approval from the Therapeutic Goods Administration to sell its rapid pregnancy test over the counter.

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

[Read More](#)

\$91.5k in fines for alleged medical cannabis advertising

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 31/07/2023, David Rowley

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has issued infringement notices to Melbourne-based medicinal cannabis clinic Trava Health for alleged unlawful advertising of medicinal cannabis on their website and social media pages.

[Read More](#)

'I am not an anti-vaxxer': how the medical regular tried to convince a Coalition senator about vaccine safety

Crikey, Other, 31/07/2023, Cam Wilson

Documents obtained by Crikey show how much time TGA staff spent responding to Gerard Rennick. Australia's medical regulator scrambled to answer a Coalition senator's frequent attacks on the science supporting COVID-19 vaccine safety and efficacy, new documents reveal

[Read More](#)

5AA, Afternoons, 31/07/2023, Jade Robran

Interview with John Williams, president of the Australian Medical Association, to discuss Ozempic. [...] So, so we have been asked by the TGA to direct it to those patients that really need it.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

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FOOD STANDARDS

Urgent warning over TikTok's 'deadly' new skincare trend which encourages teens to use cyanide to prevent acne and scarring

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 01/08/2023, Rebecca Whittaker

TikTok videos promoting the use of cyanide to tackle acne have sparked warnings from doctors. [...] Some countries like Australia and New Zealand have banned the sale of raw apricot kernels due to the danger they pose, according to Food Standards.

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