



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 26th July 2023

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian Financial Review](#)** (page 1) reports a taskforce assembled by Aged Care Minister Anika Wells to consider the challenges facing the sector has focused early meetings on greater means testing and more reliance on a user pays model. Taskforce members are understood to have voiced support for a tax or levy to boost aged care, following recommendations made by a royal commission during the Morrison administration.
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports that Melton has the highest rate of diabetes out of all Melbourne suburbs with 8.2 per cent of residents reporting they have the disease. Census data found diabetes was more prevalent in suburbs with higher rates of disadvantage, with Professor Elif Ekinici from the the Australian Centre for Accelerating Diabetes Innovations stating that people on lower-incomes tend to have less food knowledge and less time to do physical activity.
- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) reports that researchers from the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute have developed AI software that will hopefully be able to detect declining heart failure over the phone. 200 Australians with heart failure will test the software that will analyse breathlessness and disease severity through an app on their phone. *Also reported by:* [Daily Telegraph](#), [Courier Mail](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#)

- **The Courier Mail** (page 1) reports that the latest ambulance ramping data has revealed some Queensland patients are waiting more than 10 hours on stretchers to get into the state's hospitals. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman said "The QAS is the busiest ambulance service in the country, responding to 1.2 million incidents a year, and is the only mainland state that is free," while Opposition Leader David Crisafulli claimed that ambulance ramping was a "barometer" of the health of the hospital network."
- **Courier Mail** (page 1) reports that Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate has continued to advocate for the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be held on the Gold Coast, which he believes could be staged there for \$1bn. Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk ruled out Queensland hosting the 2026 games last week, stating that the government's focus is on preparing for the 2032 Olympics and Paralympics.
- **The Age** (page 6) reports Health Minister Mark Butler says government research funding should be awarded through an independent peer-review process, saying he has long held concerns about the degree of ministerial involvement. Mr Butler said "[The government's] focus is on putting in place the most robust governance and administration arrangements to the MRFF for the future."
- **The Herald Sun** (page 6) reports a new commercial scale lab in Melbourne will boost the production of cell and gene therapy for cancer patients by 400 per cent. Attending the lab's opening in Melbourne on Tuesday, Health Minister Mark Butler said it was inspiring to see life changing treatments manufactured locally in Melbourne.
- **Herald Sun** (page 6) reports that Daniel Andrews will give evidence at a Senate committee into Australia's preparedness to host the Commonwealth Games. Senator Bridget McKenzie claims the decision to cancel the 2026 games has tarnished Australia's "international reputation" and calls on Sport Minister Anika Wells to reveal if a solution was available after Victoria cancelled the games.
- **The Daily Telegraph** (page 13) reports Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney encourages people to discuss organ donation with their family and considering registering as an organ donor this DonateLife Week. Ms Kearney says one organ donor can save the lives of up to seven people.

MINISTER BUTLER

Pharmacy to close ahead of new rule that's feared will make regional chemists 'unviable'

Sunshine Coast News, Other, 26/07/2023, Francis Witsenhuysen

A hinterland town is set to lose its only pharmacy in what's been described as a direct result of the loss of its GP service and an impending government policy. On the back of Montville's Ochre Heath closing in January, the upcoming closure of its pharmacy is feared to be part of a domino effect on the town's businesses. [...] Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said the government was delivering cheaper medicines through the 60-day prescriptions for more than six million Australians.

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Butler backs shake-up for science grants

Age, General News, 26/07/2023, Liam Mannix, Page 6

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says government research funding should be distributed using an independent peer-review process, as he weighs changes to the beleaguered \$20 billion Medical Research Future Fund. The Age revealed last week that the fund had spent more than \$500 million on "ad hoc" and non-competitive grants under the Coalition government, some of which went into projects in or near marginal seats.

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

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Boost to cancer battle

Herald Sun, General News, 26/07/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 6

The country's first biomedical manufacturing facility in Melbourne will increase the production of lifesaving cell and gene therapy doses for cancer patients by 400 per cent. Opening a new laboratory at the commercial-scale facility at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre has also created 75 new jobs. [...] At Tuesday's opening Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said it was inspiring to see how much individualised cancer treatments, being developed and manufactured in Melbourne, could change people's lives.

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

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More junior doctors heading to regional and rural Queensland

4RO 990AM, Other, 25/07/2023, Louise Nilsson

Young medical professionals are being enticed to come live and work in our region. [...] Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler says people who train in regional areas are more likely to stay in the community.

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MTPConnect backing 'homegrown Australian innovation'

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 25/07/2023

Health minister Mark Butler and MTPConnect have announced \$6.2 million in funding for six medical technology projects through the Clinical Translation and Commercialisation Medtech Program. ...

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

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Aussie made CAR-T ready for surge

Pharma In Focus, Other, 25/07/2023

Australia is a step closer to developing sovereign capability to meet demand for CAR-T therapies with on-shore manufacturing. Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler opened the Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing Facility in Melbourne today (Tuesday), run by Cell Therapies and the Centre of Excellence in Cellular Immunotherapy at Peter Mac.

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Seven Tasmania, Nightly News, 25/07/2023, Kim Millar

Federal bureaucrats have left a man and his family heartbroken after rejecting their application for life saving cancer treatment. Medical panels supported the patient, but the health department rejected his pleas on a technicality. The Federal Health Minister opens an expansion of Peter Mac CAR-T cancer treatment just hours after his department rejected Geoff Nyssen's application for it. Myeloma specialist Miles Prince says the department is arguing that the word curative is not realistically curative. Mark Butler says he will not intervene.

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ABC News, Mornings, 25/07/2023, Chris Mitchell

Report by Linton Besser, ABC investigative reporter about sugar tax. Two thirds of Australians are going to be overweight or obese by 2030, and this will result in more than 13,000 preventable deaths. The Australian Council of Social Services, the Grattan Institute, and even the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners have all called at various times for a levy on sugar and in particular a levy on sugar sweetened beverages. The Albanese government now doesn't seem to be interested in bringing in a sugar tax. The Health Minister, Mark Butler, he's basically said as much.

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Aged care body leans to user pays

Australian Financial Review, General News, 26/07/2023, Phillip Coorey, Page 1

A high-level taskforce charged with finding a long-term solution to aged care funding is leaning towards greater means testing and increased reliance on user pays, rather than the introduction of a tax or levy.

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FIFA slammed over 'empty' armband gesture

Age, General News, 26/07/2023, Vince Rugari, Page 8

An Indigenous-led football body has accused FIFA of "empty symbolism" by leveraging Indigenous culture at the FIFA Women's World Cup without committing any legacy funding towards programs that support First Nations involvement in the game. [...] FIFA's secretary-general Fatma Samoura and chief women's football officer Sarai Bareman are also copied in, along with Football Australia chair Chris Nikou and federal sports minister Anika Wells.

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Please explain, Dan

Herald Sun, General News, 26/07/2023, Jade Gailberger & Mitch Clarke, Page 6

Senate to probe Games fiasco Daniel Andrews will be called to give evidence at a Senate probe into Australia's preparedness to host the Commonwealth Games following his government's shock decision to cancel the global event. [...] Senator McKenzie also took aim at Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Sport Minister Anika Wells, demanding they reveal if there was an opportunity to find a solution after Victoria canned the event.

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

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Pressure on Daniel Andrews to 'set record straight' and appear before federal inquiry into Commonwealth Games

The Australian, Other, 25/07/2023, Courtney Gould

Daniel Andrews could be called to give evidence before a federal parliamentary committee in the wake of the cancelled Commonwealth Games. [...] But athletes snubbed the call on Tuesday, attending a press conference with Sports Minister Anika Wells to announce an additional \$20m commitment ahead of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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Increased support announced for Olympic and Paralympic athletes

auscycling.org.au, Other, 25/07/2023

AusCycling has welcomed the introduction of a new funding arrangement from the Australian Government and Australian Sports Commission (ASC), aimed to help athletes on the road to the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Announced this morning by the Minister for Sport Hon. Anika Wells and the ASC, the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games Preparation Fund is a \$20 million one-off investment that will support athletes attending qualification events in the final 12 months before the 2024 Games.

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Nationals Senator Bridget McKenzie formally asks committee to investigate Victoria's 2026 Commonwealth Games bungle, Premier Daniel Andrews could be invited to give evidence

Sky News Australia, Other, 25/07/2023

Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews and his ministers responsible for the Commonwealth Games cancellation are set to be invited to give evidence at a Federal Parliament committee investigating the nation's preparedness for major events. [...] "By the way, where is Anika Wells? The Sports Minister happy to pop up in a photo op with the Matildas during the week.

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‘Egregious omission’: First Nations football groups call for World Cup legacy inclusion

The Guardian, Other, 26/07/2023, Jack Snape

Indigenous Football Australia criticises Fifa over Legacy 23 planGroups want more investment to capitalise on tournament First Nations football groups have called for more investment as part of efforts to capitalise on the Women's World Cup, citing a lack of focus on Indigenous programs in the tournament's Legacy 23 strategy. [...] "The Indigenous Football Australia Council urges you to immediately commit financial support from Legacy 2023 into the future of John Moriarty Football and other, Indigenous-led initiatives such as the Indigenous Roos and Koalas, the community-led National Teams of First Nations Australia and South Australian Indigenous Football," said the letter, which was also sent to Football Australia (FA) and the federal sport minister, Anika Wells.

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Andrews ducks questions over call up to Games inquiry

The New Daily, Other, 25/07/2023

Live Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews and his deputy are not volunteering to face questions from a federal inquiry over cancelling the Commonwealth Games. A Senate committee investigating Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games has agreed to reopen public submissions following Victoria's decision to scrap hosting the 2026 event. [...] "By the way, where is Anika Wells?

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ABC Broken Hill, 07:30 News, 25/07/2023

The aged care sector says care homes are carrying an estimated half \$1 billion in debt due to delays in the payment of Covid grants. A spokesperson for Federal Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells said more staff were being brought on to deal with the backlog.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Relief as mental health nurse position extended

Gundagai Independent, General News, 25/07/2023, Page 1

Gundagai will have the continued services of a mental health nurse until at least June 30 next year, with plans to develop an integrated and sustainable model in the long term. It comes as a welcome move after the mid-July announcement that the position would not be funded past September 30. Member for Riverina Michael McCormack was advised of the breakthrough late Friday afternoon by the Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health Emma McBride, and has welcomed moves to extend the mental health nurse position.

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Seven Wagga Wagga, Seven Local News, 25/07/2023, Madelaine Collignon and Nick Hose

The Assistant Minister for Mental Health, Emma McBride, is extending funding for Gundagai's mental health nurse position until 30 June 2024. It comes after MP Michael McCormack called on the Federal Government to continue funding, which was set to be cut on 30 September.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Donating organs precious way of giving life to others

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/07/2023, Ged Kearney, Page 13

It's Donatelife Week. Have you talked to your family about donation? [...] Ged Kearney is the Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care.

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

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Advances in medical robotics manufacturing highlighted in Society of Robotic Surgery event

Australian Manufacturing, Other, 25/07/2023

Over 1000 participants from 32 countries have packed Melbourne's Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) to hear from hundreds of the world's best surgeons and medical specialists about the newest breakthroughs in robotic surgery technology, manufacturing, and education. [...] The three-day conference was officially launched on Monday by Victorian Parliamentary Secretary for Jobs Bronwyn Halfpenny, and today Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care and nurse Ged Kearney will address 50 nurses at the Nursing and Allied Health session.

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Robots, artificial intelligence and synthetic human torsos fill the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

ITWire, Other, 25/07/2023, Gordon Peters

Melbourne's Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) has become home to some of the latest cutting-edge robotic technology and international pioneers of robotic surgery, with the Society of Robotic Surgery (SRS) conference currently in full swing. One thousand four hundred delegates from 32 countries have filled the MCEC, to learn about the latest advances in robotic surgery technology and education from hundreds of the world's top surgeons and medical experts. Victorian Parliamentary Secretary for Jobs Bronwyn Halfpenny officially opened the three-day conference on Monday, and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care and nurse, Ged Kearney MP will address 50 nurses at the Nursing and Allied Health session.

Also reported by: [News For Business \(Online\)](#).

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Robotic surgery and AI unite at the Society of Robotic Surgery Conference, Melbourne

The Market Herald, Other, 25/07/2023, Bianca Gimondo

In the heart of Melbourne's Convention and Exhibition Centre, cutting-edge robotic technology and pioneering minds from around the globe have converged for the Society of Robotic Surgery conference. [...] The SRS conference has drawn significant attention, attracting leading surgeons, medical experts, and government officials, and the Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Ged Kearney MP, praised the event for being the first of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere.

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2SM, Breakfast, 25/07/2023, Richard King

The latest figures show that there are nearly 1800 seriously ill Australians currently waiting for a potentially lifesaving transplant, including more than 30 children. Australian Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney says that it's vitally important that more Australians register and discuss their decision with their family.

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4BC, Afternoons, 25/07/2023, Sofie Formica

Interview with Dr Gino Pecoraro, obstetrician about maternity services that are available in Queensland. Pecoraro says they're heartened to hear that there's been some extra money allocated to increase the training of general practitioners in the area of delivery of maternity care. He states they've got an issue in Cairns where they can't fill the diploma of obstetrics jobs that are already funded. He

notes they need premiers and the federal department involved. He adds they've spoken with Assistant Minister for Health Ged Kearney 5 or 6 times, but nothing has changed.

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SENQ, 06:00 News, 25/07/2023

Australians are being urged to start a conversation with family about organ and tissue donations on Donatelife Week. With 1800 Australians on the transplant waitlist, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney says it's important to discuss your wishes with loved ones.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Psychiatrists reveal 'alarming' issues in youth healthcare

The Courier Mail, Other, 25/07/2023, Sarah Booth

Top psychiatrists have sounded the alarm on Australia's "ineffective" mental healthcare system as Headspace is overwhelmed by rising cases and staff shortages. Young Australians' mental health is "rapidly declining" and rising case numbers are "overwhelming" Headspace's capacity, while fragmented health services offer "non-evidence-based," "ineffective" "salami slices" care, three leading psychiatrists say. [...] A Federal health department spokeswoman said they were committed to "real reform" of the mental health system including boosting workforce shortages, tripling the GP bulk-billing incentive and considering recommendations from last year's Headspace audit.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#),

[Read More](#)

Turnbull government's \$33m grant went to company part-owned by mental health commissioner after lobbying

The Guardian, Other, 26/07/2023, Melissa Davey and Henry Belot

The former government led by Malcolm Turnbull awarded a \$33m grant to a company that was developing a mental health app after months of lobbying from one of its own mental health commissioners who was also a shareholder in the months-old startup. [...] Despite repeated questions from Guardian Australia, neither the federal health department nor Innowell have provided a breakdown of how the money was used.

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Aged Care Providers Want COVID Reimbursement

Tasmanian Times, Other, 25/07/2023

Amid a sector-wide crisis in financial sustainability, aged care providers around the country are still wondering when hundreds of millions of dollars of emergency COVID expenses will be reimbursed. [...] The delays in providing these reimbursements are hard to understand given the wealth of information the Department of Health and Aged Care hold on the cost of COVID outbreaks in aged care facilities.

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Majority of human rights complaints about Victorian COVID-19 vaccine mandates not proceeding

ABC Online, Other, 25/07/2023, Matilda Marozzi

Only 15 per cent of complaints made to the Victoria Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC) about mandatory COVID-19 vaccination requirements are proceeding, with the majority of claims dropped. Red Union, the organisation that filed most of the complaints, said it now planned to run a small number of test cases in the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

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Data of some Victorians put at risk during the pandemic

Ballarat Courier, Other, 25/07/2023

The Victorian Health Department is under fire after the state's privacy watchdog found there were multiple breaches of personal information during the pandemic. One of the worst cases involved a call centre worker who had a criminal record and used a department system to get the details of a young woman who was isolating at home.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Healthia for everyone

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 26/07/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 14

The ACH Group's \$40m Healthia residential aged care, health and education development in the Playford health precinct will start taking its first residents from next month. The residential care home comprises eight purpose-built single-storey homes, located in a village setting and joined via interconnected walkways.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

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Fig Tree Point aged care found wanting

Newcastle Herald, General News, 26/07/2023, Gabriel Fowler, Page 7

The level of care being provided to the residents of Fig Tree Point Aged Care facility on the water at Toronto is so poor it is driving staff away, including qualified nurses, according to a former member of staff. The former staff member who recently resigned from her job at the 75-bed nursing home, one of three run by Hunter Valley Care Pty Ltd, said it broke her heart to walk away from residents, many of whom she had known for years.

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Stress-free storage

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 71

How the right medical storage solution can improve infection control in aged care. It's no secret that the Aged Care sector has endured a difficult period over the past few years due to COVID-19.

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ECH sets new five-year strategy amid shortage of retirement accommodation

The Courier Mail, Other, 25/07/2023, Giuseppe Tauriello

Retirement living group ECH has launched a five-year plan amid a shortage of units that's causing providers to rethink the way they support older Australians. [...] "I think with the changing environment,

the outcomes of the Royal Commission reforms, and also around the shift in housing expectations - I think this is probably the perfect opportunity and time to reset that strategy," she said.

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Building an aged care workforce

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 25/07/2023, Faye Spiteri

To meet the increasing and diverse demands for aged care, our approach to recruiting a workforce needs to evolve, writes Faye Spiteri. The aged care sector in Australia has been under intense scrutiny in recent years, particularly with the royal commission's findings exposing significant gaps in a skilled workforce, leading to neglect in the care provided to our elders.

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Reforms inadequately recognise allied health

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 25/07/2023, Christopher Kelly

The aged care reforms are overly focused on the delivery of nursing care with not enough consideration given to allied health care, said an industry expert. "I think the royal commission did focus too much on nursing care as though it is the be-all and end-all," Bryan Lipmann chief executive officer and founder of Wintringham told Australian Ageing Agenda .

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Blue Care Mackay Homefield responds to damning audit

Cairns Post, Other, 25/07/2023, Janessa Ekert

A North Queensland aged care home will reopen as the company behind it responds to a damning report by the regulator which revealed residents were left in soiled clothing and at risk of repeated falls. The company behind a Mackay aged care home says "no serious risks" have been identified despite a damning report by the regulator which revealed repeated falls, residents left in soiled clothing and untrained staff.

Also reported by: [Daily Mercury News \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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Volunteers recognised as virtual emergency department arrives at Warramunda

Shepparton News Online, Other, 25/07/2023

Warramunda Village has recently been selected as a launch partner of the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department. Warramunda Village Aged Care facility will recognise its volunteers with a morning tea on Wednesday, August 9. The 10.30am celebration will be held at The Hub and is also being used as an opportunity to promote the opportunities available for people in the Kyabram district to volunteer at the nursing home.

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Our understaffed, poorly led aged care regulator has major problems

The Mandarin, Other, 25/07/2023, Bernard Keane

The aged care quality regulator established by the Coalition has invisible leadership, is badly short-staffed, has failed to handle aged care complaints effectively, and has relied too much on outsourced quality assessment, among myriad other findings by a review undertaken by public service veteran and former finance secretary David Tune.

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Capability review proposes critical reforms for the Commission

Healthcare Channel, Other, 25/07/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

In response to the pressing need for a robust and effective Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (ACQSC), the Australian Government commissioned David Tune to conduct an independent Capability Review. The comprehensive report highlights both achievements and critical gaps in the Commission's performance.

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Computers, crosswords and chess help reduce dementia risk, say Monash researchers

The Senior, Other, 25/07/2023, Eileen Wood

Activities such as computer use, crosswords, adult learning and chess are better for cognitive health than knitting, painting or socialising, a Monash University study has found. The findings may help older individuals and aged care professionals plan more targeted approaches to reducing dementia risk.

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

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Evenings, 25/07/2023, Kelly Higgins-Devine

Interview with Ian Connellan, Editor-in-chief, Royal Institution of Australia. Connellan discusses study of 10,000 older Australians which suggests engaging in mentally stimulating activities can help preserve cognitive function and may help delay the onset of dementia.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Mining inquiry to examine pollution impacts on health

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 25/07/2023, Laura Chung

The mining industry has been put on notice with a parliamentary inquiry to examine whether they are contaminating NSW residents and if regulations should be strengthened in response. The NSW upper house inquiry will investigate the current and future impacts of gold, silver, lead and zinc mining on human health, as well as the effects on land, water and air quality.

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Why there has never been a better time to cut down your drinking

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Penelope Clifton

The price of alcohol is tipped to go up and even in moderation, it's not doing your health any favours. So, is now the best time to quit booze for good?

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Single photo highlights alarming and illegal 'Splendour In The Grass' trend and young Aussies have no idea how dangerous it is

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Antoinette Milienos

Hundreds of young Aussies have been spotted puffing on vapes despite a ban on the highly addictive and dangerous devices. Despite a national ban on the dangerous and highly addictive devices, hundreds of festival goers at Splendour on the Grass were seen using an electronic cigarette.

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Radio National, AM, 25/07/2023, Sabra Lane

Research analysing data from almost 500,000 teenagers in 100 countries links soft drink consumption to being overweight or obese. For every 10% increase in daily soft drink consumption, there was a corresponding rise in overweight and obesity of about 4%. National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health's Dr Huan Hu acknowledges fatty food and physical inactivity also play a role. He suggests sugar taxes help reduce soft drink intake. Meanwhile, Geoff Parker from the Australian Beverages Council rejects the study's conclusions.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

The suburbs at risk in city's diabetes divide

Age, General News, 26/07/2023, Henrietta Cook, Page 1

When Rudi De Graaff was diagnosed with diabetes 30 years ago, he didn't know anyone with the disease. Now, he estimates that 40 per cent of the residents living in his retirement village have the health condition.

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'G, this is my field of dreams

Herald Sun, General News, 26/07/2023, Samantha Landy, Page 11

Renee Jones was 12 weeks pregnant with her second child when diagnosed with breast cancer. After enduring lumpectomy surgery at 16 weeks and then chemotherapy until her son was almost full term, welcoming Jagger in the world was a triumph.

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Grandfather finally gets to see specialist

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 26/07/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 4

Graham Wilson has finally seen a cancer specialist, more than five months after a bowel cancer test returned a positive result and is now on another list to wait for a colonoscopy. The Seaview Downs grandfather finally saw a specialist on Tuesday afternoon who put him on the "urgent" list for a colonoscopy but was then told this could take another month.

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

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Brisbane woman diagnosed with rare no-name sarcoma cancer

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Taylah Fellows

A Brisbane woman has been diagnosed with a complex tumour so rare it remains unnamed and is often misdiagnosed, despite it being more deadly than brain cancer, after she made a simple discovery on her foot. A Brisbane woman has been diagnosed with a complex tumour so rare it remains unnamed, despite it being more deadly than brain cancer.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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Healthy Hearts cardiovascular disease pop-ups to come to Ballarat

Ballarat Courier, Other, 25/07/2023, Bryan Hoadley

A free and easy heart health assessment is coming to Ballarat, as cardiovascular disease (CVD) continues to ravage the community. Healthy Hearts CVD pop-up clinics in Central Square Ballarat Shopping Centre from November 23 to 25, and Wendouree Shopping Centre from December 6 to 8 will provide a free 15-minute heart screening, where patients will be provided with on the spot results.

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South Australian grandfather Billy Hassan was diagnosed with 'curable' cancer - but has now been given one year to live after being forced to wait seven months for treatment

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Zak Wheeler

A grandfather who was told his cancer was curable has since been informed that it is stage four and terminal after he spent months on a waitlist for follow-up scans. Doctors discovered a treatable tumour in 67-year-old Billy Hassan's lung in January, but after spending seven months waiting for treatment, he has 12 months left to live

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Pain expert turned Survivor's tips for chronic pain

2GB, Other, 25/07/2023

Dr Hayley Leake joined John Stanley to discuss National Pain Week, which draws attention to the many Australians living with chronic pain. As a Survivor super-fan, John also had to ask about Hayley's relationship with George on the program, and any future plans to once again Outwit, Outlast and Outplay.

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I had a high chance of getting cancer, so this is how I turned to AI to save me

SBS, Other, 25/07/2023

After seeing the indecision on his GP's face, Danny Hansen turned to AI to find out if he had cancer. He credits the technology for helping to save his life.

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Cognitive ability of breast cancer patients during and after chemo is reduced, say USQ researchers

The Senior, Other, 25/07/2023, Eileen Wood

Breast cancer patients and survivors frequently report a condition called "cancer fog" also known as "chemo brain" - and now a University of Southern Queensland study might have uncovered the reason why. Researchers believe reduced cerebrovascular function, which refers to blood flow in the brain, could explain why breast cancer survivors experience changes to the way they think, concentrate and remember information - and the research may also help devise new treatments for cognitive impairments.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 25/07/2023, Jennifer Keyte

A lifesaving cancer treatment has been expanded in Victoria, with the opening of a new cell Engineic therapy manufacturing facility at Peter Mac. The state-of-the-art facility is the only location in Australia capable of producing breakthrough blood cancer treatments onshore.

[Play Now](#)

2GB, Afternoons, 25/07/2023, Deborah Knight

Interview with Anjelo Ratnachandra, Chronic Pain Australia. Ratnachandra discusses making chronic pain a chronic condition like having diabetes or asthma.

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PRIMARY CARE

Better health not just about bigger hospitals

Age, Editorials, 26/07/2023, Page 16

Victoria's health system emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic bruised and battered. It was no surprise, then, that health was the central issue during last year's state election, with Labor promising close to \$10 billion in spending on large health projects, including new hospitals in West Gippsland and Melbourne's east.

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

Patience stretched

Courier Mail, General News, 26/07/2023, Madura McCormack , Page 1

Some patients are waiting more than 10 hours on ambulance stretchers to get into the state's hospitals, new figures have revealed. Queensland Ambulance statistics show in the first three months of the year

the longest time paramedics waited to transfer patients into a public hospital was 631 minutes at Ipswich Hospital.

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

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Big overhaul of MedicAlert IDs

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 26/07/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 5

New QR codes to be engraved on MedicAlert bracelets "will save lives" by giving clinicians and ambulance officers instant access to a patient's medical records in an emergency. The innovation means health professionals will get immediate access to critical medical information when seconds matter, without waiting for phone calls or trying to speak to worried relatives or confused patients.

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

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

Council keeps open mind on health

Border Mail, General News, 26/07/2023, Anthony Bunn, Page 6

Federation Council has backed away from supporting an expansion of Albury hospital after receiving an invitation from Wodonga Council to attend a health care forum. Meeting at Urana yesterday, councillors supported mayor Pat Bourke and general manager Adrian Butler attending the Wodonga event on August 16.

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

'Take one minute' to save a life

Launceston Examiner, General News, 26/07/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 2

Have you ever considered organ donation? If so, have you wondered how many lives you'd save? In 2003, Launceston resident Michele Polley did not know much about organ donation.

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

The role of empathy in design

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 20

The construction of Redlands Satellite Hospital has been completed with work now underway to equip and prepare the facility ahead of an official opening later in the year. The hospital will have the capacity to deliver each week: walk-in care for up to 490 patients for minor injuries and illnesses, 144 renal dialysis treatments, 90 chemotherapy treatments and 280 outpatient appointments.

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

Kidney recipient Dwayne Jones grateful as DonateLife Week begins

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 25/07/2023, Helen Kempton

Donate Life Australia Dwayne Jones was building a shed on his Henrietta property the day he was asked what organ donation meant to him. Climbing up ladders and heavy manual labour would probably not have been on the agenda if Mr Jones had not received a new kidney from his sister five years ago.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Federation Council reacts to Wodonga invite to discuss hospital

The Border Mail, Other, 25/07/2023, Anthony Bunn

Federation Council has backed away from supporting an expansion of Albury hospital after receiving an invitation from Wodonga Council to attend a health care forum Meeting at Urana on Tuesday July

25, councillors supported mayor Pat Bourke and general manager Adrian Butler attending the Wodonga event on August 16.

[Read More](#)

Injured man waits 19 hours on floor of hospital alongside shackled prisoner - exposing state of public health system

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Padraig Collins

An injured man's ordeal in an emergency department, in which he had to sleep on the floor of the reception area as he awaited minor surgery, has sparked outrage at the state of the public health system. Gary Radford was among dozens of people waiting many hours for treatment at Blacktown Hospital in Sydney's west on Monday night, with some sleeping on the floor and others seated beside a shackled prisoner in handcuffs and under armed guard.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 25/07/2023, Tiffany Warne

Local paramedics have helped create new technology delivering patient care faster, and South Australia is first in line to benefit. Mustafa Kadir knows easy access to medical information is much more than a convenience after recently developing an allergy to a common anaesthetic.

[Play Now](#)

5AA, Afternoons, 25/07/2023, Jade Robran

Interview with Chris Rabone, CEO, MedicAlert. Rabone discusses their partnership with the SA Ambulance Service to design a new way in which clinicians and health professionals and ambulance officers can get access to people's health information. He notes they're now using QR codes for sort of health care professionals to get instant access to people's health information.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Governments must get serious with commitments to mental health and wellbeing

Hobart Mercury, General News, 26/07/2023, Connie Digolis, Page 18

This week the Mental Health Council of Tasmania released the second report of our Access and Affordability Project. The report is informed by a series of community consultations held earlier this year, and a survey of over 400 people who access services across the state, as well as the friends, family and carers who support them.

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

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

Mental health 'storm'

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 26/07/2023, Sarah Booth, Page 11

Young Aussies' mental health is "rapidly declining" and "overwhelming" Headspace, as top psychiatry professors warn our system has led to ineffective, "salami slices" care. In an online article for the Medical Journal of Australia, Headspace founder Patrick McGorry, RCH Developmental Mental Health chair David Coghill and Deakin University and Barwon Health psychiatry chair Michael Berk, say the situation is unacceptable.

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

What to consider as we embrace medicinal psychedelics

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Amy Sarcevic, Page 16

After decades of little innovation with new treatment options, Australia's mental health sector is

experiencing a major paradigm shift, with the introduction of medicinal psychedelics. From the first of July this year, people experiencing treatment-resistant depression or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) have been allowed access to psilocybin or MDMA through an authorised psychiatrist, as part of their therapy.

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

Psychological screening tool

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 35

For registered specialist plastic surgeons, looking for signs of mental health issues has always been an important part of training. Anything that may negatively impact a patient's ability to make a good decision regarding cosmetic surgery must be carefully assessed to ensure the patient is making the right decision for the right reasons.

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

Guidelines for safer opioid deprescribing

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 32

New guidelines provide eleven recommendations on when, how and in what situation it may be appropriate for clinicians to reduce opioid use by placing the patient at the centre of the equation. The University of Sydney-led guidelines, developed by Australian and international experts, recommend that clinicians develop personalised deprescribing plans from the beginning for any patient being prescribed opioids.

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

Queensland trans teenager dies by suicide after alleged bullying at school

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Georgina Noack

A Queensland family has made a desperate call for change following the suicide of a transgender teenager who was allegedly tormented by school bullies when he started using male pronouns. Onyx John, who recently began identifying as male, was found dead by his mum at home in the rural town of Beaudesert, Queensland, on July 16.

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

[Read More](#)

Mental health support service gap leaving thousands in South Australia in the lurch

ABC Online, Other, 25/07/2023, Priscilla Du Preez

Almost 20,000 South Australians may not be getting the basic mental health support they need because of a lack of services and funding at a grassroots level, an independent review has found. According to the report, as much as \$125 million per year is needed to address the problem but a lobby group representing local mental health workers has said the cost could easily be met by the state government.

[Read More](#)

SA's \$125m mental health gap leaves 19,000 with unmet needs

In Daily, Other, 25/07/2023, David Simmons

A highly anticipated study into the state's mental health sector reveals it would cost \$125 million every year to fund support services for 19,000 people who can't get the assistance they need. A study that mental health advocates have been demanding the government release was unveiled today, detailing a major gaps in the state's support for people with mental health needs.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 25/07/2023, Tiffany Warne

A major report has revealed how the state's mental health support system is letting down those who

are vulnerable. Following calls from the Mental Health Coalition, the SA Government today released the findings of the unmet needs study.

[Play Now](#)

2GB, Afternoons, 25/07/2023, Deborah Knight

A US study into the use of psychedelic mushrooms to treat people with anorexia is reported to be showing promising results.

[Play Now](#)

5AA, Mornings, 25/07/2023, Matthew Pantelis

Men and women with diagnosed depression could have more than twice the risk of developing dementia, according to international research.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, Breakfast, 25/07/2023, Stacey Lee and Nikolai Beilharz

Interview with Chris Picton, SA Minister for Health and Wellbeing about independent review into South Australia's mental health system. Picton says he's committed to doing everything to tackle the issues of suicide. On the Mental Health Coalition's campaign, he shares the concern on the way it was framed. He states they should listen very carefully to the advice of Chief Psychiatrist Dr John Brayley. Picton notes non-government organisations such as Uniting Communities and Anglicare provide vital mental health support to thousands of South Australians, but that cuts in recent years have restricted access to home-delivery programs. Picton says a solution on the annual cost of \$125 million to address the service shortfall would require joint state and federal government input.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Concerns over WA's nurse-to-patient ratio rollout

Nursing Review, Other, 25/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Nurse-to-patient ratios have been met with concern after coming into effect last week at Perth Children's Hospital. Last Monday, nurse-to-patient ratios of one nurse to every three patients started at Perth Children's Hospital emergency department, with other emergency departments following across the state.

[Read More](#)

Nursing for a stronger tomorrow: one mental health nurses' journey

Nursing Review, Other, 25/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

A mental health nurse graduated with her master's degree, hoping to climb the ranks to help patients at her hospital. Sonia Bayley was a consultant liaison nurse at Alice Springs Hospital when she realised she needed to further her studies to help the community at her hospital.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Ambos strike again over 'insultingly low' pay offer

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/07/2023, Madeleine Bower, Page 4

Paramedics across the state will refuse to respond to non-emergency transfer jobs for 24 hours from Wednesday after rejecting the Minns government's pay rise offer. A wave of new industrial action will

commence today, which will see paramedics refuse to enter patient billing information, report KPIs and refuse to attend special events.

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

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Riverina health model success

Daily Advertiser, General News, 26/07/2023, Allan Wilson, Page 3

A ground-breaking model trialled in the Riverina to attract GPs and doctors to the bush is set to be expanded across the state. It comes after the success of the single employer model (SEM) trial, also known as the Murrumbidgee model, was relayed at a forum in Wagga last week.

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

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

Councillors to consider RDN's Bush Bursary Program at meeting

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 26/07/2023, Rachel Gray, Page 6

The arrival of two medical students on short-term placements in the Liverpool Plains could pump more life into a region sorely needing more doctors. Councillors from the Liverpool Plains Shire Council (LPSC) are expected to discuss whether to endorse their participation in the Royal Doctors Network's (RDN) Bush Bursary Program, during the ordinary meeting on July 26.

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

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

VR tech for ICU training

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 62

The partnership between The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in South Australia and Vantari VR will see the hospital roll out VR technology for medical education and training in the ICU. Through its 'flight-simulator' style technology, Vantari VR delivers medical training via a VR headset and laptop, allowing clinicians to perform and perfect clinical procedures, in accordance with their mission to eliminate medical error through standardisation in the delivery of training across the board.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Parliamentary inquiry into ADHD community's support and assessment needs wraps up hearings in Perth

ABC Online, Other, 25/07/2023, Molly Schmidt Pixabay

Imogen Innes describes life with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) as "like running a race and realising you're the only one wearing weights on your ankles". [...] He said some of the solutions proposed by medical experts and advocates included "listing all ADHD medications under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and bringing child and adult diagnosis into Medicare so it can be fully covered".

[Read More](#)

Calls to ration emergency diabetes drug amid supply crisis

Australian Doctor, Other, 25/07/2023, Rachel Fieldhouse

Doctors have been urged to hold off on discarding soon-to-expire GlucaGen HypoKits, says Dr Gary Deed. GPs are being advised to ration emergency glucagon kits and identify patients with type 1 diabetes with existing prescriptions in the wake of a critical shortage.

[Read More](#)

Australian nurses advocate for right to prescribe abortion pill

Peak nursing and midwifery bodies have countered warnings around regulations restricting who can prescribe the abortion pill in Australia. Obstetricians and Gynaecologists president Dr Gino Pecoraro recently told the media that allowing nurses to prescribe the abortion pill would see "lesser trained practitioners" administering the medication.

[Read More](#)

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Virtual doc targets students

Daily Telegraph, Business News, 26/07/2023, Jared Lynch, Page 20

Bupa has seized on the Australian Medical Board's telehealth changes, marketing its virtual doctor consultations to international students as it seeks to capture a greater share of the \$2bn digital healthcare sector. The medical board sought to clamp down on virtual medical consults after they exploded during pandemic lockdowns.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#)

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Diagnosing weaknesses in healthcare BMS

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 59

Luke Zappara, Healthcare Regional Director, APJ, Claroty Modern hospitals are laden with a complex network of machines and handheld devices. Their numbers have exploded in recent decades as new technologies have been developed and deployed for patient monitoring and treatment.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Doctor faces court on suspension counts

Age, General News, 26/07/2023, Marta Pascual Juanola & Erin Pearson, Page 11

A doctor has appeared in court accused of working while her medical licence was suspended amid an investigation into claims her clinic was handing out a high volume of COVID-19 vaccination exemption certificates. Valerie Jean Peers faced Melbourne Magistrates' Court yesterday where she also failed in a second attempt to have her name suppressed from publication.

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

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Psychiatrist Hemant Kumar Sharma given three-year practise ban over inappropriate relationship

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Vanessa Marsh

A Queensland psychiatrist who became "infatuated" with a vulnerable female patient half his age and splashed \$1.5 million to impress her, including buying her a house, has been suspended for the "appalling breach" of his professional obligations. A Queensland psychiatrist who became "infatuated" with a female patient half his age splashed \$1.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#)

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Coroner's findings into Kimberley child's hospital death prompts questions over reliance on agency nurses

Australia's nurses union has called for urgent changes to health care in the Kimberley after an inquest into the death of an 11-year-old girl at Halls Creek Hospital revealed a lack of resources may have contributed to her deteriorating health. The girl, dubbed Child R, presented to emergency in January 2017 with a sore, swollen stomach and vomiting from complications of an intestinal obstruction.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Bringing a rural focus to NHRA Addendum

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 69

The mid-term review of the National Health Reform Agreement Addendum (2020-2025) (NHRA) - an agreement between the Australian Government and all state and territory governments to improve health outcomes for Australians - is underway. The National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) has, like many others, been asked to provide input.

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SPORT

'Olympic truce' would make losers of Ukrainian athletes

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 26/07/2023, Roy Masters, Page 9

In one year, the City of Light will burst with colour, celebrating the Opening Ceremony of the Olympics, yet a cloud hangs over the participation of Russian and Belarusian athletes. While the war continues in Ukraine, the International Olympic Committee stalls at making a decision whether Russian and Belarusian athletes can compete at Paris 2024, even as individual, neutral athletes.

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

Commonwealth Games fiasco will cost us Olympic gold

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 26/07/2023, Liz Ellis, Page 19

The effects of the decision to cancel the 2026 Commonwealth Games will ripple through Australian sport for years to come. Much has been written about who knew what and when, especially in relation to the financial impacts of hosting the Games.

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

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

Fans, not the city, are providing the colour

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/07/2023, Madeleine Bower, Page 5

Colombian fans lit up the women's World Cup yesterday, but there are still no plans from the NSW government for any fireworks or light shows over Sydney Harbour to promote the event, or the city. Opposition Leader Mark Speakman said Premier Chris Minns had "dropped the ball" on promoting Sydney during the World Cup.

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

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GC Games still alive

Courier Mail, General News, 26/07/2023, Greg Stolz, Page 1

Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate insists the Glitter Strip can still save the 2026 Commonwealth Games, despite the Palaszczuk government pouring cold water on the idea. Mr Tate yesterday said he had not

given up on his salvage mission for the Commonwealth Games which he believes could be staged on the Gold Coast for about \$1bn.

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

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FIFA president Gianni Infantino a 'happy man' following better-than expected start to Women's World Cup

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Marco Monteverde

The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup has already exceeded expectations less than a week into the month-long tournament. FIFA president Gianni Infantino was a "happy man" as he saluted the "great success" of the 2023 Women's World Cup, which has already set record attendances despite the tournament being less than a week old.

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

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Matilda's surprising response after commentator's personal remark

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023

Katrina Gorry has been caught in the middle of a World Cup furore surrounding her personal life and her response has been all class. Matilda's star Katrina Gorry holds no grudges against television commentator David Basheer for saying she had "retained her competitive instincts despite becoming a mother".

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

[Read More](#)

World Aquatics to hold transgender swimming event in 2023

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Julian Linden

An open' category competition would go ahead in 2023, enabling swimmers to compete regardless of their sex, their legal gender or their gender identity. A world-first test event that will include transgender swimmers will take place later this year, it was confirmed on Tuesday.

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

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World No.1 Diamonds ready to reclaim gold at Netball World Cup

Adelaide Now, Other, 25/07/2023

The Diamonds have touched down in Cape Town for the upcoming Netball World Cup. So, how do their chances look coming up against the world's best and what can Australia expect?

[Read More](#)

Victoria's small towns, businesses, worried about future after Commonwealth Games cancellation

ABC Online, Other, 25/07/2023, Laura Mayers & Tyrone Dalton

Tourism bodies say Victoria's smallest towns are the biggest losers after the cancellation of the 2026 Commonwealth Games in regional Victoria. Last week the state government withdrew from hosting the major sporting event specifying concerns about a \$6 billion price tag.

[Read More](#)

NRLW interest boosted by Women's World Cup momentum, rugby league boss says

The Guardian, Other, 25/07/2023, Jack Snape

The NRL chief executive, Andrew Abdo, says the FIFA Women's World Cup has boosted interest in women's sport across all codes after more than 30,000 attended the first round of the expanded NRLW

over the weekend. But he expressed disappointment about the ongoing action by the players' union to avoid game-day media obligations, which has resulted in fewer journalists covering press conferences.

[Read More](#)

There's no place for Matilda the mascot's games in the global sports rights boom

Crikey, Other, 25/07/2023, Christopher Warren

Australia's elite sports still draw the eyeballs, but it's not as simple to keep them as it was before the internet era. Canning the Commonwealth Games just as the FIFA Women's World Cup exploded into mass media awareness suggests a generational shift in Australia's cultural landscape.

[Read More](#)

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Allergies in tots can lead to asthma

Herald Sun, General News, 26/07/2023, Sarah Booth, Page 3

Babies with food allergies are almost four times more likely to develop asthma as children even if they outgrow their allergy, a world-first local study has found. The research - published in The Lancet Child and Adolescent Health - involved more than 5200 Melbourne babies.

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

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AI to monitor hearts

Herald Sun, General News, 26/07/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 1

Artificial Intelligence may soon be used to detect impending heart failure by listening to how people speak on their smartphone. Researchers from the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute and The Alfred hospital have developed AI software they hope can accurately analyse a patient's breathlessness and disease severity through a quick weekly phone call.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin \(Sydney\)](#), [Australian Doctor \(Online\)](#).

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Heatwave heart attack risk

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 26/07/2023, Page 12

Heatwaves can double the risk of a fatal heart attack, a Chinese study has suggested. Scientists looked at 202,000 heart attack deaths in China between 2015 and 2020, alongside information on daily temperatures and air pollution.

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

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

Back to basics raises hope of cancer breakthrough

Australian Financial Review, Other, 25/07/2023

Australian researchers have discovered new biomarkers which they claim can increase the accuracy of determining the aggressiveness of prostate cancer in about 40 per cent of cases.

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

[Read More](#)

The role of dietetics in gut health

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 49

The past 20 years have seen rapid scientific advances in our knowledge of the gut, including an ever-

increasing awareness of the bugs that live there, known as our 'microbiome'. Despite this, scientists are still trying to understand what 'gut health' really means, and it appears to be much more complicated than we first thought.

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

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Protecting neonatal babies from harmful gut bacteria

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 54

Researchers from the Quadram Institute and University of East Anglia (UEA) have identified what makes some strains of gut bacteria life-threatening in preterm babies. It is hoped the findings will help identify and track dangerous strains and protect vulnerable neonatal babies.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

First look at new primary health care centre, which will serve 600+ people in Pormpuraaw

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/07/2023, Sandhya Ram

Design plans and construction dates have been unveiled for a brand new primary health care facility, 650km from Cairns, on the Cape York Peninsula. Design plans and construction dates have been unveiled for a brand new primary health care facility in a remote town on the west coast of the Cape York Peninsula.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Little Rocket and Donate Life partner to increase organ donation awareness in Indigenous communities

National Indigenous Times, Other, 25/07/2023

Little Rocket has joined forces with Donate Life to increase awareness about organ donations within the Indigenous community, aiming to strengthen the community's wellbeing. Little Rocket is an Indigenous owned and operated full-service marketing and creative agency providing end-to-end strategic and innovative solutions.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Antibiotic global crisis

Hobart Mercury, General News, 26/07/2023, Page 14

Australian researchers have warned that a global crisis of antibiotic resistance is inevitable despite promising developments in new antibiotics. Drug-resistant infections continue to grow, with a 2022 report showing 1.27 million deaths globally in 2019 were directly attributed to resistant bacteria and a further 4.9 million deaths were associated.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Retail Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [AHHA \(Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association\) \(Online\)](#).

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Awareness, testing and treatment take the spotlight

Shepparton News, General News, 26/07/2023, Caleb Francis, Page 5

Greater Shepparton's Monash Park, Mooroopna water tower (pictured) and Riverlinks Eastbank will shine bright with a vibrant green hue for World Hepatitis Day. These landmarks, among others across Victoria and Australia, will don the colour of health on July 28 to remind people of an urgent mission: the fight against hepatitis.

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Infectious disease institute a step closer

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 56

The Australian Institute for Infectious Disease (AIID) is a step closer with the project unveiling the building design and location for the project. The new \$650 million project aims to bring the nation's scientific and medical research minds together to provide a rapid, coordinated response to current and future pandemics.

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Sydney's former HIV epicentre close to ending transmission

The Courier Mail, Other, 25/07/2023

The inner-city area of Sydney, once the epicentre of Australia's HIV epidemic, is very close to becoming the first place in the world to reach the UN's target for ending transmission of the virus, researchers said on Monday. UNAIDS has set a goal of ending AIDS as a global health threat by 2030, which includes reducing the number of new HIV cases by 90 percent compared to 2010.

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

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Fraser Coast residents offered free flu shots as virus spreads

Cairns Post, Other, 25/07/2023, Adam Miller

Influenza vaccines are set to become free across Queensland for a limited time in an effort to combat surging flu cases across the state with one Wide Bay doctor saying transmission rates were high. Wide Bay residents are being offered the chance for free flu vaccinations as Queensland battles through an especially bad year for the virus.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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SA Covid-19, Murray disaster emergency laws in landmark review

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 25/07/2023, Andrew Hough

South Australia's response to "invisible" threats such as cyber terrorism, catastrophic natural disasters, climate change and biosecurity dangers will be investigated in a landmark inquiry. The state government late on Monday launched a major review of emergency laws that will scrutinise if official rules are "fit-for-purpose" amid "evolving challenges".

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Radio National, Breakfast, 25/07/2023, Patricia Karvelas

Interview with Professor Sharon Lewin. President, International AIDS Society about HIV transmission almost been eliminated in inner Sydney, which was once the epicentre for cases in Australia. Lewin says overall numbers of new HIV infections have reduced by half over the last ten years in Australia. She states while transmission among gay men were significantly reduced, the proportion of people being diagnosed among heterosexual is unchanged.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 25/07/2023, Patricia Karvelas

Queensland Health authorities say almost 80 people in the state have died from the flu this year. Queensland Health says since the State Government made the flu vaccine free of charge to all Queenslanders last Monday, 34,300 vaccine doses have been provided.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

AI tool aims to improve safe use of IV heparin

Australian Hospital and Healthcare Bulletin, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 29

An AI tool to improve the safe use of intravenous heparin is being developed by researchers at Princess Alexandra Hospital. [...] " Once this retrofitted model has been developed, the next steps will involve further validation studies using live data to test its accuracy, then convert it into a prototype application (app) to apply to the EMR, and, if all goes well, work towards obtaining approval from the Therapeutic Goods Administration given this is a software-as-a-medical-device application.

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Perth teenager addicted to 'nangs' leaves hospital after three-month ordeal

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 25/07/2023, Michael Genovese

A Perth teenager addicted to nangs is finally going home after three months in hospital during which she had to relearn to walk. [...] Nangs have now been upgraded to a schedule 6 poison by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Party pills alarm

West Australian, General News, 26/07/2023, Shannon Hampton, Page 14

A new generation of party drugs is leaving young people with alarming side effects and in need of urgent medical treatment in WA emergency departments. A landmark drug surveillance program established in WA has found black market benzodiazepine known as "street Xanax" or "fake Xanax" was the third most common drug in cases involving severe or unusual drug toxicity.

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Calls for Tasmanian drug policy overhaul as report reveals devastating impact on injecting users

ABC Online, Other, 25/07/2023, Adam Holmes

Dave* had a traumatic childhood in Tasmania. His mother died, and he spent much of his youth homeless.

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6PR, Mornings, 25/07/2023, Gary Adshead

Interview with Nicolette Ellis, President, Chronic Pain Australia. Ellis says 3.6 million Australians or one in five Australians are living with chronic pain right now. Adshead states 42% of the people that Chronic Pain Australia surveyed were given antidepressants or alternative medications with sedative side effects instead of opioid. Ellis notes there's been changes to opioid regulations. She adds prescribers are trying to reduce prescribing of opioids with the pendulum swung to becoming opioid phobic of those medications.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Tax saves tooth decay

Herald Sun, General News, 26/07/2023, Page 3

A national tax on sugary drinks could prevent more than 500,000 tooth cavities and increase health equity over 10 years, a Monash University-led study found. The collaboration with Deakin University and the University of Melbourne found that over 10 years, a 20 per cent sugar-sweetened beverage tax had overall cost savings of \$63.5m from a societal perspective.

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

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

Push for pregnancy alcohol warnings in online stores

The Australian, Other, 25/07/2023, Joanna Panagopoulos

Alcohol retailers like BWS and Liquorland are not required to show new mandatory pregnancy warnings on alcoholic products in their online stores, despite an increasing number of sales coming from digital storefronts. [...] To enforce this, Food Standards Australia and New Zealand and the Food Ministers Forum of state and territory ministers would need to amend the Food Standards Code again to include online stores.

[Read More](#)

ABC, 7:30, 25/07/2023, Sarah Ferguson

Report on lab grown meat. Public consultation opens next month where Food Standards Australia New Zealand will invite members of the public to have their say on whether lab grown meat should get the tick of approval for sale.

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