



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 5th July 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports health, education, jobs and housing will be the Indigenous Voice to Parliament's four policy priorities, Indigenous Affairs Minister Linda Burney will say in an address to the National Press Club on Wednesday. "Unlike government, [the Voice] won't be distracted by the three-year election cycles," Ms Burney will say. "It will plan for the next generation, not the next term. It will be focused on making a better future for the next generation." *Also reported by:* [Australian Financial Review](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [The Age](#), [Canberra Times](#), [Canberra Times](#), [Daily Telegraph](#) (Editorial by Minister Butler), [Daily Telegraph](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [West Australian](#), [Daily Mail](#)
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports a post-mortem diagnosis has found AFLW player Heather Anderson was the first professional female athlete in the world to be diagnosed with the degenerative brain disease chronic traumatic encephalopathy. Australian Sports Brain Bank executive director Michael Buckland said Ms Anderson's diagnosis was likely "the tip of the iceberg" given the booming participation of women athletes in contact sports. *Also reported by:* [The Australian](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [Daily Telegraph](#), [Courier Mail](#), [ABC News](#), [The Guardian](#)

- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 1) reports News South Wales health workers have voted to escalate strike action unless the state government improves pay rise offers for public servants. The Health Services Union said members had voted to give the government until Friday to improve their offer.
- The [Courier Mail](#) (page 1) reports COVID vaccine mandates for Queensland health care workers will be reviewed state Health Minister Shannon Fentiman says. More than 1,000 nurses and midwives are understood to have been impacted by the pandemic era mandates, including what the Nurses' Professional Association of Queensland described as "highly qualified nurses, some with 20 years' experience".
- The [Daily Telegraph](#) (page 2) reports New South Wales will be the second state to execute a statewide roll out of a rural general practitioner model designed to address widespread doctor shortages in regional areas. Health Minister Mark Butler said "This innovative program will make training and working in rural general practice a more attractive option for young doctors." *Also reported by: [The Australian](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner](#), [The Land](#), [Daily Mail](#).*
- The [Hobart Mercury](#) (page 3) reports Tasmania's nurses has warned of industrial action if the state government doesn't present a new pay offer by the end of the week. Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian branch secretary Emily Shepherd said members were angry and disappointed the state government had delayed a formal offer of a pay rise.
- [The Australian](#) (page 4) reports Victoria's public hospitals were \$300 million in deficit and the state government was discussing how to deal with their insolvency before the COVID pandemic, minutes obtained from a meeting of the Health and Human Services board have revealed. AMA Victorian president Jill Tomlinson said "Even prior to Covid, the health system was under stress, and the pressures now on healthcare workers in terms of burnout, workforce shortages and patient demand are greater than ever."
- [The Australian](#) (page 15) reports A record 14.5 million people now have private health insurance cover spurred on by increased policy take up by older Australians, believing them to represent good value for money. Health Minister Mark Butler allowed health insurance companies to increase policy premiums from April 1, but some delayed the rise citing a commitment not to profit from the COVID pandemic. *Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Hobart Mercury](#).*

MINISTER BUTLER

Health insurers winning over record number of customers

The Australian, Business News, 05/07/2023, Giuseppe Tauriello, Page 15

Older Australians are driving a renewed take-up of private health insurance in the aftermath of Covid-19, brushing aside cost-of-living pressures to avoid hospital waiting times and bottlenecks in the public system. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler allowed health funds - which made a combined profit of \$2.2bn in the 12 months to March - to increase their premiums from April 1, but many have delayed implementing the rise as part of their commitment not to profit from the pandemic.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Rethink needed on vape blanket ban

Age, Editorials, 05/07/2023, Page 18

Almost two years after the Morrison government moved to curb widespread access to nicotine-based vaping products, it is clear the prescription-only "solution" has failed. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler vowed he would crack down on vaping, and in May the government unveiled plans to ban single-use, disposable nicotine-based vapes; staunch the import of non-prescription-based vaping products; and impose standards regulating flavours and content.

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

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Boost in conditions to attract bush GPs

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/07/2023, Madeleine Bower, Page 2

NSW will be the second state to fully roll out a statewide rural general practitioner model designed to combat widespread doctor shortages in regional areas. The Albanese government has signed off on a Single Employer Model program which will see regional GPs employed by the state in the same way hospital trainees are, thereby allowing them to accrue leave and other entitlements. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said a trial in the Murrumbidgee region had a positive impact on the area.

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Voice will be heard to help bring better health outcomes

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/07/2023, Mark Butler, Page 13

Later this year, Australians will have the chance to change our Constitution and recognise the place of First Nations people in this country. Australians will get a chance to embrace that recognition through a Voice to parliament and I can't think of a more important area where we should listen to that voice than health. [...] Mark Butler is the Minister for Health and Aged Care

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Move to get more doctors into regions

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 05/07/2023, Page 9

Universities will be offered more student places in a bid to boost the number of doctors in regional areas. The Federal Government will spend \$114 million over the next four years to up the number of Commonwealth-supported university places for rural-trained medical students. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the funding would increase the supply of rurally trained doctors entering the medical workforce.

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ODT concerns raised with Minister

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 04/07/2023, Page 2

Pharmacy Guild National President Trent Twomey has expressed concerns over the government's Opioid Dependence Treatment (ODT) policy in a letter to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. In the letter, Twomey explains the Guild's concern at the speed of the policy's implementation and that, "ongoing patient access is threatened by impending market failure of the program".

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'Disturbing': Shocking video of Adelaide teenager pressuring 4yo girl to vape

Adelaide Now, Other, 04/07/2023

The clip comes as experts say the number one behavioural issue in Australia's primary schools is vaping. Little 4 year old pressured to vape Police are investigating a horrifying video of a four-year-old being forced to inhale a vape. [...] According to Health Minister Mark Butler, vaping is the biggest behavioural issue in primary schools across Australia.

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

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More than \$100m in government funding to train rural doctors

The Land Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Libby-Jane Charleston

Universities can now apply for additional commonwealth supported places (CSPs) for rural-trained medical students, as well as capital funding for new regional training facilities. The federal government will provide \$114.2 million over four years to deliver a permanent increase of 80 new medical CSPs a year from 2024. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the government recognises the challenge of recruiting and retaining doctors in rural and remote communities.

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Supply of Critical Pain Medicines in Doubt

Tasmanian Times, Other, 04/07/2023

Critical pain relief medicines at risk for people with cancer and terminal illness Key health organisations are stepping up their advocacy efforts with supplies of a critical pain relief medication forecast to run out. [...] A number of health organisations have already written to Health Minister, Mark Butler, highlighting the issue.

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Voting yes in voice to parliament referendum an 'act of patriotism', Linda Burney says

The Guardian, Other, 05/07/2023, Josh Butler

Voting yes in the voice to parliament referendum is an "act of patriotism", with the advisory body to be asked to focus on "new perspectives to old challenges" in health, education, jobs and housing, the Indigenous Australians minister says. [...] The government is expected to emphasise the impact of the voice on developing policies in those core areas in coming weeks, with the education minister, Jason Clare, and the health minister, Mark Butler, to play more prominent roles.

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Vaping push back: Why a blanket ban on devices may not fix crisis

3AW, Other, 04/07/2023

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has made a push for a blanket ban on vaping devices without a prescription, but there has been push back on this idea. CEO at Qld Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies, Dr Rebecca Lang, believes a blanket ban on vaping "certainly won't stop people from accessing vapes".

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Call to delay 60-day dispensing

Australian Rural & Regional News, Other, 04/07/2023

Yorke Peninsula pharmacists and the pharmacy industry peak group are concerned about the impact of 60-day dispensing on their future. This comes as medical leaders have thrown their support behind the initiative. [...] The initiative was announced in April by Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, who said patients could save up to \$180 a year if their medication was eligible.

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Government caves to pharmacy pressure: Boosts payments amidst uproar

Health Industry Hub, Other, 04/07/2023

[...] Subscriber only content.

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Health Minister joins patient groups, academics and industry to tackle alarming surge in diabetes-related kidney disease

Health Industry Hub, Other, 04/07/2023

[...] Subscriber only content.

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RACGP backs financial boost for pharmacies

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023

Effective 1 July, community pharmacies will receive a significant financial boost from the Government, as announced by The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care. The financial boost includes: All community pharmacies will be paid more for dispensing PBS medicines, giving the average metropolitan pharmacy more than \$41,000 extra per year.

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RACGP welcomes increased pharmacy funding

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 04/07/2023

The 2023/24 financial year has ushered in new measures targeted at supporting community pharmacies. Funding rises could see the most remote pharmacies receive more than \$90,000 per year in extra assistance, the Federal Government has said. [...] According to a press release published on Monday by Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler, the combined impact will mean the most remote pharmacies may be eligible to receive more than \$90,000 per year in assistance'.

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 04/07/2023, Sandra Sully

Incidents of hospitalisations due to vape prompted the Federal Government to change its approach, announcing a world first blanket ban on the devices. But emails obtained by The Age have revealed some members of the National Drug Advisory Group wrote to Health Minister Mark Butler days after expressing their concern it would only make the problem worse. The nicotine on the unregulated market is now more available and potent than that in the regulated one and is being sold to people who should not have access. The Association of Convenience Stores says the Minister ignored advice.

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2CC, Canberra Live, 04/07/2023, Leon Delaney

Interview with Nicole Lee, Adjunct Professor, National Drug Research Institute. Delaney says in May, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, announced that he would be banning the sale of non-prescription vapes. Lee says vast majority of people who vape, including teenagers who are vaping, are either current or ex-smokers. She notes estimates have shown about that vaping is 95% less dangerous than smoking. She states the Cancer Council did some research a couple of years ago and found that around 90% of people who use vapes buy them on the black market. Lee says the blanket ban made it worse.

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2SM, 15:00 News, 04/07/2023

Australia's blanket ban on nonprescription vaping is a world first. However, experts are warning the harsh crackdown will make the problem worse, with nicotine on the unregulated market more available and potent than that on the regulated market Health Minister Mark Butler maintains committed to stamping out vapes at the border.

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2MCE, 13:00 National Radio News, 04/07/2023

The number of university places for rural trained medical students will be increased under a new federal government investment. It comes as regional and rural electorates grapple with a doctor shortage in towns. \$114 million will be spent over the next four years to boost the number of doctors in regional areas. Health Minister Mark Butler says getting students to study at regional universities will mean they are more likely to put down roots and contribute to that community.

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KIIS 1065, Kyle and Jackie O Show, 04/07/2023, Kyle Sandilands and Jackie 'O' Henderson

A blanket ban on vaping would make the issue worse. That's according to experts who are urging the Health Minister not to come down harder on vapers. Mark Butler announced in May that he would double down on our prescription only model and rid the country of them and Australia ranks in the top five in the world when it comes to having a great work life balance.

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WS FM, 07:00 News, 04/07/2023

A blanket ban on vaping would make the issue worse. That's according to experts. [...] Mark Butler announced in May he would double down on prescription only models and rid the country of them.

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ABC Western Queensland, Breakfast, 04/07/2023, Emily Dobson

Australia's world first blanket ban on vaping without a prescription will make the problem worse, according to experts from the Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and other drugs who debated how to warn the Health Minister about their misgivings in emails published under Freedom of Information.

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2GB, Breakfast, 04/07/2023, Mark Levy

Australia's blanket ban on vaping has been called out. Earlier this year the Health Minister announced the crackdown. It included several changes, including banning the importation of single use flavoured vapes and reducing the amount of nicotine in them.

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MINISTER WELLS

'Stay in your crease': Anthony Albanese offers Rishi Sunak advice following controversial Ashes dismissal

The Guardian, Other, 04/07/2023, Paul Karp

The Australian prime minister, Anthony Albanese, has offered some advice to his UK counterpart after Rishi Sunak weighed into the controversy over Jonny Bairstow's dismissal at Lord's on Sunday. [...] Anthony Albanese (@AlboMP) July 3, 2023 The federal sport minister, Anika Wells, later posted: "And just remember Australia bowled England out despite our spinner the [greatest of all time] Nathan Lyon being injured.

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Celebrating First Nations elders

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/07/2023

This year's NAIDOC Week pays tribute to older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and celebrates the role they have played and continue to play in Indigenous communities. To mark the week organised annually by the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee Aged Care Minister Anika Wells spoke to Kungarakana and Iwaidja Elder Professor Tom Calma on Twitter about the importance of culturally safe aged care.

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1 July 'massive milestone' for sector, says minister

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/07/2023, Christopher Kelly

The 1st of July was D-day for the aged care sector as a number of major changes came into play, including a wage increase for workers and 24/7 onsite nursing in residential care. Taking to Twitter for a video address, Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said the 1 July signified "a massive milestone" for the industry.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

More than \$100m in government funding to train rural doctors

The Land Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Libby-Jane Charleston

Universities can now apply for additional commonwealth supported places (CSPs) for rural-trained medical students, as well as capital funding for new regional training facilities. The federal government will provide \$114.2 million over four years to deliver a permanent increase of 80 new medical CSPs a

year from 2024. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the government recognises the challenge of recruiting and retaining doctors in rural and remote communities.

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What the future of youth mental health care might look like, as brain study hits milestone

Science Media Exchange (Scimex), Other, 04/07/2023

What the future of youth mental health care might look like, as brain study hits milestone As the world-first Longitudinal Adolescent Brain Study at the University of the Sunshine Coast's Thompson Institute hits a five-year milestone, research suggests the future of preventative mental health could lie in giving 12-year-olds brain scans. [...] Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride said research like LABS is important to furthering our understanding of youth mental health.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

City news

Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay Star Weekly, General News, 05/07/2023, Page 2

Community Grants are a way we, as a Council, can support and ,positive impact within our community. Our program, which offers \$255,000 in grant funding to support community projects and activities, opens for applications on 11 July and is an incredible opportunity for individuals with project ,, [...] Mayor Cr Sarah Carter and CEO, Celia Haddock visited Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Hon Ged Kearney MP during the ALGA National General Assembly in Canberra 2.

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ABC News, Afternoon Briefing, 04/07/2023, Greg Jennett and Matthew Doran

Panel discussion with Ged Kearney, Assistant Minister for Health and Anne Ruston, Shadow Minister for Health. Kearney says the Government welcomes the inquiry on changes to reproductive health. She says they need to focus on and reproductive and maternal health care. Ruston says they'd love to see a pain management clinic in Adelaide.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

UBS survey reveals improved perceptions of private health insurance

Geelong Advertiser, Other, 05/07/2023, Giuseppe Tauriello

Older Australians are driving a record take-up of private health insurance, brushing aside cost of living pressures to avoid bottlenecks in the public system. Older Australians are driving a renewed take-up of private health insurance in the aftermath of Covid-19, brushing aside cost of living pressures to avoid hospital waiting times and bottlenecks in the public system.

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Aussies facing huge medicine shortages

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/07/2023, Amanda Sheppeard, Page 4

More than 50 antibiotic medications remain on the shortage list in Australia, with some expected to stay there until the end of the year. According to the Therapeutic Goods Administration's (TGA) medicines shortage database, as at July 2 there were 409 medicines in shortage, including the antibiotics.

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DEPARTMENT

No answers as deadline passes for urgent care clinics

Burnie Advocate, General News, 05/07/2023, Jess Flint, Page 6

Questions about the status of urgent care clinics remain unanswered despite the government's commitment to a mid-year deadline to have the clinics operational. The urgent care clinics were promised by the federal government as an election commitment. [...] Labor senator Anne Urquhart said the federal Department of Health and Aged Care continued to work closely with the Tasmanian government to support the implementation of Medicare urgent care clinics in Tasmania as soon as possible.

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

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Tug of war over surgery time

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Cathy O'Leary, Page 12

A lack of theatre time to do complex surgery is frustrating some Western Australian plastic surgeons, who claim pricing agreements have de-incentivised longer operations. A stoush is developing between surgeons, private hospitals and health insurers over lengthy cosmetic surgery which is increasingly struggling to get theatre time. [...] She said a national uniform pricing regulation system for hospitals led by the Commonwealth Health Department could help, as current funding models were not transparent and varied widely.

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Brendan Murphy gets last word on how helpful the media was during rush to deliver COVID vaccines

The Mandarin, Other, 04/07/2023, Melissa Coade

Professor Brendan Murphy steered Australia through a once-in-a-century public health emergency, the likes of which were last known in 1921 when the government decided to set up a federal health department. But the outgoing health secretary has a bone to pick with the media who, in his view, punched down on a technically successful vaccine rollout.

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A masterclass in aged care design: Cultivating empathy in architecture

Architecture & Design, Other, 04/07/2023

The world's population is ageing at an unprecedented rate. Over the next few decades, the number of people aged 65 and over is set to double, and by 2100, one in five people will be over 65. [...] The course will be led by two prominent experts in design, Nick Seemann and Liz Fuggle, who are practising architects and the key authors of the Draft National Aged Care Principles and Guidelines for the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

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Rushed changes are breaking pharmacy

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023, Josh Estey

Pharmacists are running out of time and energy to fix problems with the new national methadone Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) system. Clerical drama surrounding changes to opioid management programs, combined with a lack of support from the Department of Health and Aged Care will see pharmacies opting against delivering services, Andrew Topp, Capital Chemist Group's

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60-day dispensing guide goes 'live'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023, David Rowley

The Department of Health and Aged Care has launched a so-called "communication kit" targeting

pharmacists ahead of the introduction of 60-day -dispensing on 1 September 2023. The 10-page kit is intended to provide information from the department about changes to the

[Read More](#)

Bill to legalise personal pot introduced in NSW, Vic, WA

Green Left Weekly, Other, 04/07/2023, Suzanne James

After winning a seat in the New South Wales election, Legalise Cannabis Party (LCP) has upper house MPs in NSW, Victoria and Western Australia. [...] In response, Australia's federal Health Department Director General, Dr John Howard Lidgett Cumpston, advised the Prime Minister's office that opium was the only drug of concern, and there was no need to outlaw cannabis.

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APNA program creates pathway for nursing students into aged care

Healthcare Channel, Other, 04/07/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

In response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, the Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA) has embarked on a new initiative to bolster the residential aged care sector with skilled nursing professionals. [...] Disturbingly, the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care had previously predicted a potential shortage of 85,000 nurses by 2025, which could soar to a staggering 123,000 by 2030.

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PD breaking news – 60 DD pharmacy kit just launched

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 04/07/2023

A just launched Pharmacy kit PBS medicines with increased dispensing quantities by the Dept of Health and Aged Care is now available for all community pharmacists. This 10-page kit provides information, FAQs and case studies to pharmacists about changes to the PBS medicines with increased dispensing quantities (60-day dispensing).

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60DD Pharmacy Kit released

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care has released a 60-day dispensing (60DD) pharmacy kit: Pharmacy Kit PBS Medicines with Increased Dispensing Quantities . The kit provides information to pharmacies about changes related to 60DD, including: the background to the changes; information on reinvesting funds into pharmacies; managing medicine supply shortages.

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CORONAVIRUS

No relevant coverage

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Deadly daughter

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 05/07/2023, Emily Olle, Sean Fewster and Riley Walter, Page 1

The daughter of an elderly couple who police believe were fatally poisoned a year apart has been charged with murder over her parents' deaths. Raelene Polymiadis, 62, was arrested on Tuesday morning in relation to the alleged drug toxicity murders of Brenda and Lynton Anderson. Police allege both died from drug overdoses after being deliberately administered medication.

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Facing a 'retirement cliff'

West Australian, Business News, 05/07/2023, Adrian Lowe, Page 24

An impending wave of baby boomer retirements means Australia is fast facing the prospect of running out of workers unless migration is drastically increased, experts say. Long-declining birth rates are nowhere near enough to replenish the economy with workers as a forecast "retirement cliff" looms large. The Federal Government forecasts that within 10 years, almost one in five Australians will be aged 65 and above. Within two years, that number will surpass those aged under 14 for the first time.

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The true face of unionism

West Australian, General News, 05/07/2023, Bill Shorten, Page 52

Thugs, beer-bellied men, burly bearded blokes with tattoos and Tony Soprano types. That's what some hardline Liberals want you to believe unionists are. [...] Older Australians will now be safer with nurses in aged care facilities 24/7, and they'll have better support with aged care workers receiving a 15 per cent increase to their pay - an integral recommendation of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

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Care workers facing job stress

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/07/2023, Madeleine Bower, Page 6

Unmanageable demands on healthcare workers and poor work relationships are one of the leading causes of burnout, with 37 per cent of workers reporting they did not have enough time to do their work, according to new data. Researchers from the University of Sydney and Curtin University surveyed 1300 health care workers across the aged care and disability care sectors over 18 months.

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Mr Innovator

Australian Ageing Agenda, General News, 01/06/2023, Christopher Kelly, Page 22

Both operators cited workforce constraints as contributing factors behind their decisions, particularly the upcoming mandated care numbers and the requirement for facilities to have a registered nurse onsite 24/7 from 1 July.

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Upping aged care dairy could save health system \$66m

Canberra Times, Other, 04/07/2023, Cassandra Morgan

Australia's health system could save an estimated \$66 million a year if aged care residents upped their dairy and protein intake. Aged care homes would only have to increase the dairy on their menus by an estimated 66 cents per day, per resident to make the change, a Monash University economic analysis has found.

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

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Daughter charged with murdering mother and father

NEWS.com.au, Other, 04/07/2023, Tammy Hughes

The daughter of an elderly couple who died one year apart has been charged with their murder. Toxicology reports revealed Brenda and Lynton Anderson, who were both 94 when they died, had suspicious amounts of prescription medication in their systems.

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A working opportunity for pensioners

6PR, Other, 04/07/2023

Pensioners can now earn almost \$17,000 between now and December without their pensions being impacted. This will allow pensioners to continue work and only pay an income tax.

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Grant winners target urgent and critical need, staff burnout

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/07/2023

Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia has announced the remaining six projects to receive a grant in the program's fourth round four of which target the priority area of urgent and critical need. Four recipients in this round also target the area of staff burnout including three winning projects already named at ARIIA's conference in May

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CAPS Workshop: Spiritual reminiscence for people living with dementia

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/07/2023

The Centre for Ageing and Pastoral Studies (CAPS) will present a two-day workshop on Spiritual Reminiscence for Older People'. This course will enable participants to facilitate spiritual reminiscence for older people who are with or without cognitive decline.

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Inner West aged care facility St Basils sells to developer for \$17m plus

realcommercial.com.au, Other, 04/07/2023, Fiona Killman

The future of an inner west retirement home has been revealed after selling for over \$17m with proceeds going to charity. The property, at 252 Johnston St Annandale, sold at auction for \$17.255 million with plans to convert it into much needed affordable housing.

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Power of attorney should be federal responsibility: Age Discrimination Commissioner Kay Patterson AO

The Senior, Other, 04/07/2023, Anthony Caggiano

Age Discrimination Commissioner Kay Patterson AO has pleaded for others to join her in lobbying for powers of attorney to become a federal issue, and an online register be set up. It comes as \$3.5 trillion worth of assets are expected to be inherited by younger generations from the silent generation and baby boomers, and complaints of elder abuse rise.

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An operator wake-up call on resident abuse

The Weekly Source, Other, 04/07/2023

The results of the recent survey of management abuse in retirement villages was challenging, especially around Patronising. The Retirement Village Residents Association NSW's Report Ageing Without Fear' reveals that 40% of village residents have suffered some form of abuse across a sample of 1,259 within 140 retirement villages.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Sharri, 04/07/2023, Sharri Markson

Interview with Piers Akerman, The Daily Telegraph. Markson says the peak body for recruitment and staffing has today warned the Albanese Government that it's the air reforms will force hospitals, schools and aged care providers to pay their hired workers even higher wages than their permanent employees.

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2GB, 10:00 News, 04/07/2023

Nearly 40% of employees are reporting unmanageable demands and issues with work relationships. Researchers from Sydney University found working in the aged and disability care sectors is emotionally draining, with 22% of staff experiencing severe burnout and are struggling with their mental health. Younger support workers have the highest rates of poor mental health, which could spell trouble for the future of the sector. The report also found poor mental health outcomes are a result of substandard workplace design and a lack of emotional support.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Fukushima contaminated water release

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 05/07/2023, Sakura Murakami, Page 1

Japan is set to receive a report from a UN nuclear watchdog to approve its plan to release treated radioactive water from the tsunami-wrecked Fukushima plant into the ocean despite fierce resistance from Beijing and some local opposition. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Rafael Grossi began a four-day visit to Japan yesterday, where he will meet Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and deliver the results of the agency's two year safety review.

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Why these donors are bloody heroes

Northern Territory News, General News, 05/07/2023, Bethany Griffiths, Page 5

Emergency service workers in the NT save lives every day. But this week they have swapped lights and sirens for needles and stress balls to help out in a different way. As part of the Emergency Services Blood Drive, members of NT Fire and Emergency Services, St John Ambulance, Royal Flying Doctor Service and the Australian Federal Police will compete to see who can donate the most blood and plasma over the next three months.

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

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

School of hard knocks

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Suzanne Harrison, Page 24

How can GPs play a better role in the management of concussion and information regarding CTE? When Barry Beecroft first started playing professional football for South Melbourne in the early 1970s, he and his teammates were regularly concussed on the oval and simply kept on playing.

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

Congenital CMV in WA: a significant health issue without adequate care

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Dr Allison Reid, Page 52

Congenital cytomegalovirus (cmv) is one of the most common congenital infections, affecting approximately 0.5% of births equating to over 200 infants annually in WA. While postnatal CMV typically causes mild, cold-like symptoms, congenital CMV (cCMV) represents one of the most significant threats to the developing foetus. Although cCMV causes no symptoms in most infected babies, its high frequency results in being one of the most significant congenital viruses.

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

Moment teen allegedly forces four-year-old to smoke vape caught on camera

The Australian, Other, 04/07/2023, Madeleine Achenza

Police have taken action after a shocking video has emerged of a teenager forcing a little girl to smoke a vape. A video shared to social media shows a four-year-old girl being handed an e-cigarette before a teenage boy allegedly tells her to "suck".

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

[Read More](#)

Australia's first public egg and sperm bank has opened in Victoria this week

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Penelope Clifton

An Australian-first free public egg and sperm bank has opened in Victoria, meaning more people struggling with fertility can fulfil their dreams of becoming parents. People struggling with fertility are

one step closer to becoming parents without the added stress, thanks to the Victoria Government and the Royal Women's Hospital opening Australia's very first free public egg and sperm bank

[Read More](#)

Vape ban is contributing to 'thriving black market'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/07/2023

A prominent anti-tobacco campaigner has laid bare the reality of Australia's widespread crackdown on vaping. A prominent anti-tobacco campaigner has laid bare the reality of Australia's crackdown on vaping.

[Read More](#)

Police charge teenager after video emerges of four-year-old girl sucking on vape

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/07/2023, Todd Lewis

A teen has been charged after a shocking video emerged of a young girl sucking a vape inside a northern suburbs home. Monday, July 3, 2023: What's making news today A shocking video has emerged of a four-year-old girl smoking a vape handed to her by a teenager.

[Read More](#)

Hollywood to Hobart: Diabetes drug increasingly prescribed for weight loss

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Leon Compton

Ozempic is a drug used to treat diabetes but also leads to weight loss. It increases the feeling of being full after a meal, but is it safe to use long term?

[Read More](#)

Saunas good for your heart

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023

If you're a fan of sitting in a small hot room wearing nothing but a towel and perspiring profusely while in the company of half a dozen equally sweaty individuals Good news! An article from one of the internet's leading medical news sites has suggested that sitting in a sauna for 20 to 30 minutes, several times a week, "can produce some of the same cardiovascular benefits as aerobic exercise".

[Read More](#)

Improving diagnosis and care in younger onset dementia

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023

Today, we know that breastfeeding is great for babies and has benefits for mums too, which is why understanding the barriers to it is so important. Shortly, a look at an understudied phenomenon that many mums face called the breastfeeding aversion response.

[Read More](#)

Recognising and overcoming breastfeeding aversion

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023

Literally every mammal species does it. It feels like it should be the most natural thing in the world. But if you've ever breastfed a child, you know that just because it's natural, doesn't mean it comes easily. Certain breastfeeding struggles are still under-researched though, including a common phenomenon called the breastfeeding aversion response.

[Read More](#)

'Not working': Doctor questions vape ban

2GB, Other, 04/07/2023

Dr Colin Mendelsohn has challenged the existing vape ban, as he discusses the repercussions of a ban. He argued that vaping helps smokers transition away from cigarettes, and a ban is simply contributing to a "thriving black market".

Channel 9, National Nine Early News, 04/07/2023, Alex Cullen

Community members in Adelaide are outraged after an alarming video emerged online, appearing to show a four year old girl being forced to vape. Data from SA Health reveals there have been eight reports of children under five being exposed to e-cigarettes in the first three months of this year.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Mornings, 04/07/2023, Tom Elliott

Interview with Rebecca Lang, Member, Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and other Drugs about the popularity of vaping in the black market. Lang says better regulation is needed.

[Play Now](#)[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Deadly danger within Ozempic

Herald Sun, General News, 05/07/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 3

People on common diabetes and weight loss drugs including Ozempic are being warned of increased risks if they have surgery and even catastrophic complications. Anaesthetists say fasting before surgery may not be enough to ensure an empty stomach in those patients taking these drugs, which were initially developed to treat type 2 diabetes.

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

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State's record month for breast screening

Newcastle Herald, General News, 05/07/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 7

More than 5400 women were screened for breast cancer in the Hunter New England health district in May, as mammograms rebounded from a record low during the pandemic. They were among a record 37,000 women who had mammograms at BreastScreen NSW clinics during that month.

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

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Alarming rise in cancer in young Aussies

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/07/2023, Page 18

There has been an alarming rise in five different types of cancers in Millennials over the past three decades, new studies show. The increase in bowel, kidney, uterus, gallbladder and pancreas cancers diagnosed in 30-39 year olds between 1991 and 2021 has been published in a new analysis snapshot by The Daffodil Centre. [...] Professor Graham Giles, a distinguished research fellow at the Cancer Council of Victoria, told the publication that Australia had a burgeoning epidemic of obesity with dire consequences.

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Bowel screening down

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 11

The promotional campaign to get bowel screening rates up has started as a response to the participation rate dropping to 40.9% of the eligible population down from 43.8%. The latest participation rate (2020-21) is the same as it was in 2015-16 despite almost \$20 million invested by the Australian Government in raising awareness of the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP) since 2019.

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Bridgetown cancer survivor and mum Michelle Wright raises over \$31,000 for men's health

West Australian, Other, 04/07/2023, Daniel Hocking

Bridgetown mum and breast cancer survivor Michelle Wright has raised over \$31,000 for men's health awareness. The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia and Men's Health and Wellbeing WA were the beneficiaries of a masquerade ball organised by Ms Wright in Perth.

[Read More](#)

Kat Goodall was 33 and studying to be a surgeon when she received her shock cancer diagnosis

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Janelle Miles

A young mum has qualified as a surgeon despite a shock bowel cancer diagnosis part way through her training. Kat Goodall is one of a growing number of young people worldwide being diagnosed with the cancer this century. [...] Bowel Cancer Australia figures suggest that during the past three decades, bowel cancer incidence rates in 15 to 24-year-olds have jumped 266 per cent.

[Read More](#)

I have terminal cancer. But planning my death helps me to live better

SBS, Other, 04/07/2023, Dan Colgan

Dan Colgan probably doesn't have long to live. But instead of going out with a bang, he's finding hope and peace in the small things, and taking time to plan his death.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine Afternoon News, 04/07/2023, Mark Burrows

A record number of women across the state are getting checked for breast cancer. Some 37,000 women attended local breast cancer screening centres in May, smashing the state's monthly figure record after record lows seen during the pandemic. The government now wants to boost the numbers in multicultural communities as it announced new funding for the service.

[Play Now](#)

2Day FM, 07:00 News, 04/07/2023

More than half \$1 million will go towards boosting breast cancer screening rates among multicultural communities across the state. The government awarding the cash to programs in areas such as Liverpool and Newcastle. Close to 40,000 women had a mammogram at a breast screening clinic in May.

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PRIMARY CARE

FOI release shows state's public hospital funding crisis predates the pandemic

The Australian, General News, 05/07/2023, Rachel Baxendale, Page 4

Victoria's public hospitals were almost \$300m in deficit and special departmental briefings were taking place to discuss how to deal with their insolvency at the point at which the Covid-19 pandemic first emerged in 2020. The minutes of a January 2020 Health and Human Services board meeting, obtained under Freedom of Information, show Victoria's health system was in crisis well before the first coronavirus case was diagnosed on January 25. [...] AMA Victorian president Jill Tomlinson said Covid had "significantly exacerbated pressures in a system that was already in crisis."

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

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More health sites to help drop hospital stay demand

Canberra Times, General News, 05/07/2023, Jasper Lindell, Page 3

An expanded network of community health centres with services targeted to the needs of different population centres will help reduce the need for hospital admissions, the Health Minister believes. Rachel Stephen-Smith said more community based care services would give doctors more confidence to discharge patients from the emergency department if they could be certain of a follow-up appointment.

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

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

Assisted dying 'distress'

Herald Sun, General News, 05/07/2023, Sarah Booth, Page 13

Terminally-ill Victorians who died via voluntary assisted dying faced barriers when initially trying to access the program, causing considerable stress in their final months. That is the finding of a landmark study, published in the Medical Journal of Australia, that found some hospitals, palliative care units and aged-care homes that objected to offering VAD themselves were also preventing patients from accessing outside help.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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Minister 'is keeping ramping data secret'

Courier Mail, General News, 05/07/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 2

Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has been accused by the LNP of keeping monthly hospital ramping data secret, despite her ongoing assurances of being more transparent than predecessor Yvette D'Ath. Parliamentary questions on notice detail the Opposition's multiple requests for the specific ramping data to be revealed by the Health Minister with former minister D'Ath publishing the information on request on at least three previous occasions.

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

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Minister backtracks on open government

Courier Mail, Editorials, 05/07/2023, Page 46

Whatever game Health Minister Shannon Fentiman is playing when it comes to not releasing to parliament monthly hospital ramping data, she must stop it. The public goodwill towards Ms Fentiman since she took the job from the demoted Yvette D'Ath will evaporate as quickly as it appeared if there are any hints that her claims of fresh transparency and openness turn out to be bogus.

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Health woes cure for Midlands town

Hobart Mercury, General News, 05/07/2023, Alex Treacy, Page 12

The state government has struck an agreement with a healthcare provider to establish a permanent presence in a Midlands town that has faced months of uncertainty following the exit of its last permanent GP clinic. Premier and Health Minister Jeremy Rockliff said in a statement that the Campbell Town community would continue to have access to a GP following the agreement with Ochre Health.

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Top new \$25m CDU facility healthy step for Territory

Northern Territory News, General News, 05/07/2023, Sierra Haigh, Page 18

A \$25.8m training facility could be key to alleviating pressure on the NT's healthcare workforce and ensuring the Territory has access to specialised healthcare to match its unique challenges. Charles Darwin University vice-chancellor Scott Bowman said the new Centre for Better Health Futures would focus on training future healthcare workers in skills that are "really specific to the Northern Territory".

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

Healthcare's 'profound challenge'

Central Western Daily, General News, 05/07/2023, Nick Guthrie, Page 5

Premier Chris Minns admits there are still "major issues" facing many regional communities when it comes to healthcare and accessing medical services. The premier was at Dubbo on Friday and while he said funding from the last budget has helped major regional centres, more needs to be done to help smaller communities. "It's very difficult and I want to be honest with communities right across NSW. This is one of the most profound challenges the state faces," he said.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#).

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Facility finally running

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 05/07/2023, Natasha Emeck, Page 9

"Sorry, it took so long." Those were hushed words Housing Minister Meaghan Scanlon spoke as she shook hands with Yumba-Meta's founder Dr Ernest Hoolihan during her visit to Karingal on Tuesday. The Minister was in town to announce the \$5.7m remote patient accommodation facility located in Rasmussen will receive \$6.9m to finally get up and running. It comes after the Townsville Bulletin embarked on a campaign to get the state-of-the-art facility up and running following shocking revelations it had been sitting empty since 2021.

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

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Helping refugees access WA's health care

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Kathy Skantzios, Page 28

GPs play a critical role in ensuring refugees have access to patient-centred and culturally receptive health care. For the thousands of refugees and humanitarian entrants who enter Australia each year, there are many health issues they may be experiencing, ranging from physical to psychological and emotional. [...] A safe space According to the RACGP, culturally sensitive and accessible health care that's conscious of refugee and migrant challenges is critical for their wellbeing and safety.

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Audit to identify long-term plan for ACT community health facility upgrades

Canberra Times, Other, 04/07/2023, Jasper Lindell

Ageing community health facilities will be the subject of a review to inform a long-term program of upgrades, a new infrastructure plan for Canberra's health system reveals. Four new health centres will also be built in the ACT over the next decade, with the plan revealing the preferred locations to be in Conder, Griffith, Ginninderry and Casey.

[Read More](#)

Catholic Church cross over hospital cross removal

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Anthony Anderson

It's the latest development in a stoush over Calvary Hospital being handed over to government control. The ACT government is on the defensive, denying they had anything to do with the removal of large blue crosses from the facade of a formerly Catholic Canberra hospital.

[Read More](#)

HBF finalises Queensland health fund purchase

West Australian, Other, 04/07/2023, Sean Smith

HBF has finally completed its purchase of Townsville-based Queensland Country Health Fund, cementing the Sunshine State as the WA's health insurer's second biggest market. The deal, announced in November 2022, adds 100 employees and about 70,000 members to HBF, increasing the number of HBF's policies held outside its WA stronghold from 17 per cent to 22 per cent.

[Read More](#)

New endoscopy recording system in place at MHPH

Barrier Truth, Other, 04/07/2023, Jason Irvine

A new recording system for endoscopies at Mildura Health Private Hospital (MHPH) looks set to benefit both patients and medical staff who will now be able to immediately receive doctors' notes and images taken during the procedure. The Endobase system the installation has helped the hospital achieve the Colonoscopy Clinical Care Standard for accreditation works by gathering and linking data from an endoscopy, storing it in a centralised database, readily accessible to send to other medical staff and patients.

[Read More](#)

Yumba-Meta get \$7m funding boost to finally get empty remote patient facility up and running

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 04/07/2023, Natasha Emeck

A \$5.7m facility sitting empty for years in Townsville will finally open its doors to remote patients in a matter of months with the state government pledging almost \$7m to get it up and running. A \$5.7m facility sitting empty for years in Townsville will finally open its doors to remote patients in a matter of months, with the state government pledging almost \$7m to get it up and running.

[Read More](#)

Doctors praise government's rural pharmacy boost

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023, David Rowley

The general practitioner's peak body has heaped praise on the Federal Government's decision to increase the indexed dispensing fee to 7% and particularly on its decision to double the location allowance for rural and remote pharmacies.

[Read More](#)

Should terminally ill young people be able to choose voluntary assisted dying? The ACT is considering it

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 05/07/2023

One controversial difference is the proposal to allow people under 18 to access voluntary assisted dying if they have a terminal illness. The ACT proposes not setting a minimum age requirement for access to voluntary assisted dying.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 04/07/2023, Adrienne Francis

The ACT Government will build four new community health centres in suburban areas of the city to help ease the pressure on general practitioners. The College of General Practitioners argues community health and walk in centres need to be better integrated with GPs.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 04/07/2023, Leon Delaney

Interview with Walter Abhayaratna, President, AMA ACT about the ACT Government's new health infrastructure plan. Abhayaratna provides updates on new ownership at the hospital formerly known as Calvary, which he a success from the perspective that they don't seem to have lost many staff from the old Calvary Hospital transitioning to the new hospital. He adds the community health centres is at early on in the discussion in terms of which providers of health care will be in those centres

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ABC Radio Canberra, 17:00 News, 04/07/2023

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners says new community health centres in Canberra should be better integrated with general practises. The ACT Government today announced it will soon begin design work for new centres in South Tuggeranong, West Belconnen, North Gungahlin and the inner south.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Public mental health ward for teenagers opens

Canberra Times, General News, 05/07/2023, Lanie Tindale, Page 3

Canberra's children's hospital is grappling with more young people presenting due to suicide attempts and self-harm. The alarming trend comes as the Centenary Women and Children's Hospital opens the territory's first public mental health in-patient beds for teenagers.

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Marathon pilates class

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 05/07/2023, Page 12

A major pilates franchise is partnering with suicide prevention charity Lifeline to host a 24-hour long exercise session this month. Dubbed the World's Longest Pilates Class for Mental Health, the July 22 event will be held at KX Pilates studios across Australia, including at St Marys in Adelaide.

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We simply can't take any more punishment

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 05/07/2023, Keith Woods, Page 6

It's a troubling question, but becoming more urgent by the day: Just how much more do ordinary people have left to give? Already, renters and many mortgage holders are finding themselves pushed to a point of effective poverty, despite making reasonable wages in full-time work.

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Ex-Eagle flies high after leaving nest

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 05/07/2023, Kellie Balaam, Page 1

Esperance-born-and-raised ex-West Coast Eagle Brayden Ainsworth has never been happier in his role as a mental health coach and will soon head overseas on a mission to inspire students in Africa. The 24-year-old was delisted from the AFL club in 2021 and two years into a new career, he is well on his way to educating the next generation on hope and resilience.

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Cost-of-living stress raises suicide fears

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/07/2023, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 16

Queenslanders' lives are at high risk as the cost of living crisis pushes them into extreme levels of suicidal behaviour, Suicide Prevention Australia reports. With higher home loan repayments and the rental market a battlefield, the state has the highest level of cost of living distress in Australia's east cost with 43 per cent of people lost in debt and worried about how to pay their bills.

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The show can't go on

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 05/07/2023, Kathy McCabe, Page 26

Crippling battles with burn out and the expectations of fame have seen a new generation of pop stars walk away from the stage and long tours to save their mental health psychologists, AA meetings and juice machines and fresh vegetables and fruit instead of fridges full of alcohol and tables groaning with fried food are the new normal on backstage riders, as pop stars combat mental health challenges on tour.

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

The kids ask 'What did I do wrong?'

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 05/07/2023, Anton Rose, Page 27

For 10 years army veteran Ben Farinazzo went undiagnosed for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

(PTSD) but in that decade even those close to him new something was wrong. "The moment I got home my wife noticed things had changed she could tell something was different," he said.

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

Financial stress can lead to social isolation and risk of suicide

Canberra Times, Other, 04/07/2023, Millie Costigan

Is Australia heading towards a recession? There were more than 26,000 searches for help and support in January 2023 across Australia, the highest on record, according to Lifeline. It comes as Wayside Chapel in Kings Cross is stepping in to provide clothes, meals and housing to local communities desperate for help.

[Read More](#)

'When life gets overwhelming, exercise helps me.' What the science says about exercise as a form of therapy.

Mamamia, Other, 04/07/2023, Jaymie Hooper

Whenever Jessica Ayliffe, 33, feels like her anxiety is getting the better of her, she schedules in a workout. It's not always easy (then again, what is when juggling work commitments and two kids under five?

[Read More](#)

2CC, 18:00 News, 04/07/2023

A new adult mental health centre is set to be established in Canberra following the Federal Government's announcement for \$3 million in funding for the site. The head to health facility will provide free access to immediate support for people presenting in crisis among other services.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Industrial action threat

Hobart Mercury, General News, 05/07/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 3

The nurses' union has delivered an ultimatum to the state government, warning of industrial action if a new pay offer isn't presented to the workforce by the end of next week. It comes as doctors in the state's public hospitals are close to finalising a new employment agreement after calling for the government to provide more competitive salaries and conditions so the island could attract and retain junior medicos.

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

Skills going to waste

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 8

A national survey of primary health care (PHC) nurses has shown that their skills are not being used to their full potential often or most of the time. The 2022 survey was conducted by the Australian Primary Health Care Nurse Association (APNA) to the nearly 100,000 nurses.

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ABC Radio Hobart, 11:00 News, 04/07/2023

The Tasmanian Nurses Union says some workers are receiving up to 80 text messages and phone calls a month outside of work hours, asking them to fill in shifts. The State Government has been negotiating with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation on a new pay deal since December but has yet to make a formal offer. As part of its log of claims, the union wants the Government to consider, including a disconnect clause in the new agreement, which would prohibit workers being contacted outside of shift hours.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 04/07/2023, Leon Compton

Interview with Emily Shepherd, Tasmanian Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation about the new pay deal with Tas Government. Shepherd says the union wants the Government to consider, including a disconnect clause in the new agreement, which would prohibit workers being contacted outside of shift hours. She states it's a simple measure that won't cost the Government until we get an offer in writing.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Rural medical places increased

The Australian, Higher Education, 05/07/2023, Tim Dodd, Page 21

The federal government will boost medical training in rural areas by training more doctors on regional university campuses and improving the training facilities. In an announcement on Tuesday the government said it would fund a permanent increase of 80 medical students being trained in regional centres.

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

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

Health workers threaten to strike

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 05/07/2023, Michael McGowan, Page 1

Health workers across NSW are threatening to strike unless the state government agrees to increase its pay offer to public servants, in a significant escalation of the feud between Labor Premier Chris Minns and firebrand Health Services Union boss Gerard Hayes. A day after Treasurer Daniel Mookhey was heckled over wages at an HSU conference, delegates from the union have set up a showdown with the government by voting to endorse "escalating industrial action" across the state unless they receive a better pay offer by Friday.

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Health mandates reviewed

Courier Mail, General News, 05/07/2023, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 1

Covid vaccine mandates for Queensland healthcare workers are under review with more than 1000 "stood-down" nurses keen to get back in the wards. Report P8 Covid vaccine mandates for Queensland health care workers are under review as more than 1000 "stood-down" nurses and midwives are keen to get back in the wards to help ease the workforce crisis. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has revealed to The Courier-Mail that the review is being led by the Health Department and will determine ongoing or future vaccine requirements for Queensland Health staff.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#).

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

Suspended health workers are needed

Courier Mail, Editorials, 05/07/2023, Page 46

While getting your booster shot remains of critical importance, the news that Covid vaccine mandates for our healthcare workers are under review will be warmly welcomed by most Queenslanders. The story in The Courier-Mail today by health writer Jackie Sinnerton reveals more than 1000 Queensland nurses and midwives are keen to get back to work after being sidelined because they did not meet vaccination requirements.

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

ACT mulls Emergency Services Agency review recommendations as unions call for its release

The head of the directorate responsible for the Emergency Services Agency has told staff he is carefully considering the recommendations of a management review before releasing them. The unions which represent firefighters and paramedics employed by the agency on Tuesday called for the review to be made public.

[Read More](#)

South Australian health workers walk off the job demanding better pay

Adelaide Now, Other, 04/07/2023

Hundreds of South Australian allied health workers have walked off the job calling for better pay and conditions. The Health Services Union claims a lack of fair pay has caused workers to abandon the public system.

[Read More](#)

Expansion of nurse home visit program not stretching Far West

Barrier Truth, Other, 04/07/2023, Melanie Gates

The NSW government has announced an expansion of nurse home visits across the state under the Sustaining NSW Families program, but families from Broken Hill and surrounding communities will have to wait to be included. At the moment, Far West Local Health District (FWLHD) believe families in this region are already well supported by available services.

[Read More](#)

'It's crap, but it works': Why doctors still use the fax machine (when they have to)

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/07/2023, Paul Smith

Young people look at you dazed and confused when you mention sending a fax. Like the Betamax cassette, Russell Morris' The Real Thing and big hair, it rarely trends on TikTok. And from the end of the month, it will no longer trend with My Aged Care, with the Federal Government declaring that faxes will be banned. But love or hate it, the fax is still as much a part of contemporary medical technology as PET scans and surgical robots, it seems.

[Read More](#)

Doctors' revolt over hospital working conditions triggers government inquiry

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/07/2023, Heather Saxena

Doctors at Concord Hospital pass a no-confidence' motion in the CEO. Anger over alleged bullying, thousands of unread scans and inadequate budget allocations have boiled over at a major hospital, where doctors have passed a no-confidence' motion in its CEO.

[Read More](#)

API distribution centre strike action intensifies

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023, David Rowley

Intermittent stoppages now continuous over pay demands An initial four day strike by 190 workers at Australian Pharmaceutical Industries' Dandenong distribution centre over pay increase and equal pay demands has resumed and seems likely to continue for the foreseeable future, possibly affecting pharmaceutical distribution.

[Read More](#)

Escape to the country and earn big money: Why millions of Aussies are now considering ditching the cities and moving to a regional area

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Olivia Day

City workers are being lured to regional areas - where \$1.7billion in untapped wages are on offer - after nearly half of those surveyed said they would move for a pay rise. More than 91,000 jobs are being advertised across Australia's rural and regional areas with a need for doctors, nurses, engineers,

mechanics, tradies and journalists. Regional Australia Institute (RAI) is urging city dwellers to take advantage of those opportunities to move for a better pay packet and lifestyle.

[Read More](#)

Taking the 'pulse' of pay

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 04/07/2023

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia is asking for expressions of interest from members of the pharmacy workforce for the 2023/24 financial year Remuneration Survey. The above snippet is the first part of an article sent to subscribers in Pharmacy Daily's issue from 04 Jul 23

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 04/07/2023, Juanita Phillips

One of the state's largest unions, has threatened to go to war with the new Labor Government over a pay deal for public health workers. Health Minister Ryan Park has called the Health Services Union impatient, while public hospitals are bracing for industrial action to escalate within days. The Government is offering a 4% pay raise for all public sector workers. The HSU is pushing for 6% and better salary packaging benefits. The Minister has told Health department chiefs to make sure hospitals are prepared for industrial action next week to minimise any impact on patients.

[Play Now](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 04/07/2023, Michael Rowland and Lisa Millar

Australia's biggest ever regional recruitment drive launches today with more than 91,000 jobs on offer or about \$1.7 billion in untapped wages. Now, it comes as new figures suggest that nearly half of all city workers could be persuaded to move to the regions for a better paying job.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

PBS drug listings

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 04/07/2023

Eligibility criteria for the COVID-19 oral antiviral treatment nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid) will be further expanded on the PBS to include individuals aged 50-59 years with one known risk factor. The above snippet is the first part of an article sent to subscribers in Pharmacy Daily's issue from 04 Jul 23

[Read More](#)

Opioid dependency treatment on PBS

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023

From 1 July, Australians with opioid dependency will have access to the medicine they need on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), with the Government paying pharmacies to provide these medications. This means patients won't have to pay up to \$200 a month in out-of-pocket costs and will simply pay the usual PBS co-payment up to \$30 for everyone with a Medicare card or \$7.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Darwin , Morning Show, 04/07/2023, Adam Steer

Interview with Professor Eugenia Pedagogos, kidney specialist, Epworth Internal Medicine Clinical Institute about Kerendia otherwise known as Finerenone being added to PBS. Pedagogos says the add on therapy will make 26,000 patients will be eligible for the medication.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Patient suing QEH for \$500k

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 05/07/2023, Mitch Mott, Page 7

A patient at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is suing for half a million dollars after her appendicitis was allegedly misdiagnosed as gastro leading to her needing emergency surgery the next day to treat a "gangrenous" appendix. Court documents lodged in the District Court show the woman is claiming damages for extensive scarring and the exacerbation of pre-existing mental and physical health problems.

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

Ignoring baby strapped to air tank indictment

Adelaide Advertiser, Editorials, 05/07/2023, Page 16

It is not news that the health system is under pressure, has been for a long time, ramping has not been fixed and patients occasionally get lost in the system. For example at lunchtime yesterday it was "situation normal" at Flinders Medical Centre an average threehour wait to be seen at the crowded emergency department, clogged with 29 people who had been treated but were waiting for a suitable ward bed.

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

Convicted nurse cops ban

Newcastle Herald, General News, 05/07/2023, Gabriel Fowler, Page 9

A disability support worker who was convicted of two counts of assault over her treatment of a patient, but failed to report her crimes to health authorities, has been cancelled for two years. Lisa Margaret Robson was working for Life Without Barriers at an NDIS-funded group home in Green Point on the Central Coast as a registered nurse, looking after a woman with profound vulnerabilities. [...] But she failed to advise the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency of those convictions as required by law.

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

Central Queensland woman seeks change after late husband waited months for cancer treatment

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Katrina Beavan

When Greer Burgess's husband Ray was diagnosed with advanced colon cancer, she assumed treatment would follow swiftly. But it was months before it was even discussed, and it took 100 days after a formal hospital diagnosis for the 66-year-old to receive treatment. [...] The Queensland Department of Health said Mr Burgess was "not turned away for any reason relating to cost".

[Read More](#)

Perth family desperate for answers after death of one-year-old daughter Kailee

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Keane Bourke

A young Perth family is desperate for answers after their one-year-old daughter died days after they say she was sent home by a GP. The young girl was rushed to Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) last week, where she passed away, but the hospital said it was not treating her death as a "clinical incident".

[Read More](#)

'We are vindicated': Deep-sleep GP wins apology after six-year defamation battle

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/07/2023, Heather Saxena

In an apology, publisher HarperCollins admitted that Dr John Gill was defamed in journalist Steve Cannane's book about Scientology. "This chapter in medical history is now closed. [John] Herron and I have always denied wrongdoing and were unfairly maligned for many decades. We are now vindicated." Dr John Gill, a GP involved in the controversial Chelmsford deep-sleep therapy program more than 40 years ago, was speaking on Monday about the end of his six-year multimillion dollar defamation battle with an ABC journalist.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacist jailed over PBS fraud

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/07/2023

A refugee who achieved her dream of becoming a pharmacist will serve six months behind bars after pleading guilty to defrauding the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) of \$4.1m Over the course of a four-year period from 2015 to March 2019, the pharmacist submitted a total of 5833 "dishonest claims" for PBS medications which were not

[Read More](#)

6PR, Afternoons, 04/07/2023, Jo McManus

Interview with Dr Tim Edwards, President, Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons about new regulatory regulations due to come in to protect people having so-called cosmetic surgery. McManus says the Medical Board of Australia has told surgeons and medical colleges that it won't be happening yet and offered no new date for these rules to come into effect. Edwards states federal and state jurisdictions that are in charge of these regulations.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Referral reform now!

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 4

RACGP is calling on changes to referral protocols saying they waste too much of GPs' precious time. Too many GP hours are wasted on non-standardised templates, unnecessary naming of specific specialists in referrals, and outdated data-sharing, it says in its submission to the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA) Addendum 2020-2025 Mid-term Review.

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

New cosmetic procedure regulations welcomed in Tasmania

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023

New rules around hygiene, GP referrals and language in advertising aim to protect consumers. Jessica Halliday from Eden Cosmetics says Tasmania has had some of the strictest rules in place already.

[Read More](#)

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SPORT

Cricketers seek more security

The Australian, Edition Changes - All-round Metro, 05/07/2023, Peter Lalor, Page 1

The Australian cricket side has requested extra security for families after abusive fans left one staff member's 11-year-old son in tears and forced one player's mother to leave the Lord's Ashes Test on the fifth day. Families were in town en masse for the clash at London's most revered cricket ground and

the presence of so many prams had been the subject of jokes at the Australia House function before the Test.

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AFLW brain disease first

The Australian, General News, 05/07/2023, Simeon Thomas-Wilson, Page 1

A post-mortem diagnosis of AFLW player Heather Anderson, whose death rocked the sport last November, has revealed she was the first female professional athlete in the world to have the degenerative brain disease chronic traumatic encephalopathy. The doctor who found CTE in the former Adelaide Crows player's brain said this was just "the tip of the iceberg" for female athletes.

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

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

First woman diagnosed with CTE

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 05/07/2023, Carla Jaeger, Page 3

Aflw premiership player Heather Anderson has become the world's first female athlete to be diagnosed posthumously with CTE, a degenerative brain disease caused by repeated head injuries. The landmark diagnosis came after Anderson's family donated her brain to researchers to better understand the circumstances of the 28-year-old's death.

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

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

'Always winning': PM goes into bat for team over Lord's stumping

Age, General News, 05/07/2023, Rob Harris, Page 6

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese says he is proud of the way his nation's cricket teams have begun their Ashes series after his British counterpart Rishi Sunak backed the England cricket captain's complaint about the Australian team's on-field behaviour. In comments that move the famous Test rivalry towards a fullblown diplomatic incident for the first time since the 1930s Bodyline series, a spokesman for Sunak said he supported the views of Ben Stokes over the scandal.

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

Stadium upgrade to 'ruin' athletics

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 05/07/2023, Shashi Baltutis, Page 12

Planned upgrades to a Mile End athletics facility will send the sport "backwards" in the state, the president of a sports organisation said. Members of Athletics SA are rallying against government works at their stadium, including four new beach volleyball courts, which they say will limit the capacity for events.

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

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

Housing facing Games pressure

Courier Mail, General News, 05/07/2023, Matthew Killoran, Page 4

The Brisbane 2032 Olympics will make the housing affordability crisis worse without significantly better planning, according to Q Shelter. While the state is already in crisis, the major event growing interest in the city, as well as the surge workforces needed to deliver major infrastructure projects, will add to inflationary pressures and drive up housing costs in the lead-up to the Games, the housing advocacy group says.

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

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

Don't blow it Brisbane

Courier Mail, General News, 05/07/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 11

Brisbane's 2032 Games must be used as a catalyst to create a healthier society and instil a love of sport in the younger generation, with Australian Olympic Committee boss Matt Carroll urging "let's not

miss our chance". With the state government currently finalising the Brisbane 2032 Games legacy plan, Mr Carroll said it was crucial to remember the vital role sport played in the Games, while revealing what Sydney could have done better - and the lessons Brisbane should learn.

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

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

Umpire strikes back

Northern Territory News, General News, 05/07/2023, Nathaniel Chambers, Page 1

A NT umpire has expressed his regret after making a "racist" online comment, but a Darwin cricket captain believes he "betrayed the community's trust". Himanshu Bhatia posted "another classic example of crime around Indigenous population. Never ending saga. Enough is enough. Stop feeding them" on the NT News Facebook page. The comment was later removed, but NT Cricket banned him from all Cricket 365 matches after finding the post as "racist and offensive".

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

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

Event transport concerns

Ballarat Courier, General News, 05/07/2023, Nieve Walton, Page 5

Ballarat community leaders are continuing to call on the state government to invest in transport infrastructure for the Commonwealth Games and beyond. An events platform near Eureka Stadium, commonly known as Mars Stadium, has long been a project community advocates have been championing for.

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

Conference to reimagine water safety

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 05/07/2023, Melanie Whiting, Page 12

Australia's peak water safety organisation has floated a push for more "diversity" in swimming education programs to reduce alarming drowning statistics. The need for more initiatives targeting adult men, people with disabilities and culturally diverse communities will be a key focus of Austswim's twoday international conference.

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

With apologies to Meatloaf . 32 out of 775 ain't too bad

Shepparton News, General News, 05/07/2023, Linda Nieuwenhuizen, Page 8

We are 1000 days out from hosting the first ever regionally-based Commonwealth Games and less than three weeks from the start of the women's World Cup hosted by Australia and New Zealand. This time last year the Federal Government released a report confirming the very slow return of kids and adults to organised sport and notably team sports.

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

State blindsided by demand for Suncorp spend

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/07/2023, Matthew Killoran, Page 7

The NRL is demanding Suncorp Stadium not be overlooked for funding ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, warning it will have passed its useful life by then. In a sign rugby league has woken up to the fact the AFL and cricket will be the main beneficiaries of the \$7bn infrastructure spend, it has made a surprise bid for the state government and Olympics Organising Committee to get behind upgrading the stadium.

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

Former AFLW player Heather Anderson the first female athlete in Australia to be diagnosed with CTE

The Australian, Other, 04/07/2023, Thomas Wilson

Former Adelaide Crows AFLW premiership player Heather Anderson has been diagnosed with degenerative brain disease CTE in what has been described as a "wake-up call for women's sports".

On Tuesday, the Australian Sports Brain Bank announced that Anderson was the first female athlete in Australia to be diagnosed with chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

[Read More](#)

Australian Sports Brain Bank diagnoses late Crows AFLW star Heather Anderson with degenerative brain disease CTE

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Agnes Gichuhi

Former Crows AFLW player Heather Anderson has become the first female professional athlete diagnosed with brain disease CTE seven months after she took her own life. Adelaide Crows premiership player Heather Anderson has become the first professional female athlete to be diagnosed with the degenerative brain disease CTE, seven months after she took her own life.

[Read More](#)

Why everything we know about female strength training could be wrong

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Penelope Clifton

Women and men are not built the same Researchers have found the guidelines have been largely based on the male body, meaning the findings might differ for women. A new UNSW Sydney study has lifted the lid on the misogyny within the sport health research field and it means you've been exercising all wrong

[Read More](#)

What is CTE? Here's what we know about chronic traumatic encephalopathy

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Dannielle Maguire

The first known professional female athlete has posthumously been diagnosed with CTE. Heather Anderson, who played for the Adelaide Crows, retired in 2017 after suffering on-field injuries including at least one confirmed diagnosed concussion.

[Read More](#)

Spotlight on AFLW following landmark diagnosis

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Bridget Fitzgerald

The World Today Late AFLW player Heather Anderson has become the first professional female athlete to be diagnosed with the degenerative brain disease CTE. It is a significant finding in the wake of the death by suicide of the former Adelaide premiership player late last year, which has put a spotlight on the risks faced by women playing contact sport.

[Read More](#)

Australian footballer Heather Anderson first case of CTE in a female athlete diagnosed by researchers

The Guardian, Other, 04/07/2023, Melissa Davey

Australian researchers have for the first time diagnosed a female athlete with chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a progressive degenerative brain disease caused by repeated head injuries, in a finding which will have major implications for women's sport. The Australian rules footballer and Adelaide premiership player Heather Anderson died in November 2022 at the age of 28, with her unexpected death the subject of an ongoing coronial investigation.

[Read More](#)

Adelaide premiership player named world's first case of CTE in female athlete

In Daily, Other, 04/07/2023, David Eccles

Heather Anderson, who played in the Crows' 2017 AFLW Grand Final win and died last year aged 28, has been named the world's first case of CTE a devastating form of dementia diagnosed in a female athlete. Researchers say the findings and the impact of sporting concussion and head trauma has major implications for women's sport in Australia.

[Read More](#)

Australian researchers confirm world's first case of dementia linked to repetitive brain trauma in a female athlete

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 04/07/2023

Researchers at the Australian Sports Brain Bank have today reported the world's first diagnosis of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) in a female athlete. With the consent of her family, the diagnosis was made on the brain of Heather Anderson, a 28-year-old AFLW athlete who died last November. Heather's family donated her brain to the Australian Sports Brain Bank hoping to better understand why she died.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

A close look at glaucoma

Courier Mail, General News, 05/07/2023, Page 11

International research led by QIMR Berghofer has found hundreds of new genes linked to a person's risk of developing glaucoma, including key genetic targets that could, for the first time, pave the way for treatments that prevent the retinal damage that causes blindness. The research significantly advances our understanding of the genetics of glaucoma, building on a previous 2021 study to identify another 185 previously unknown genes linked to glaucoma risk, bringing the total number to 312 genes.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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

Funding boosts for medical innovation

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 05/07/2023, Madeleine Clark, Page 4

A project which will investigate alternative virtual ways to assess and diagnose patients in rural and remote WA via the WA Country Health Service Command Centre received funding this week as part of a \$10.5 million fund. WA's Future Health Research and Innovation funding was announced as medical researchers and innovators gathered at a Geraldton Universities Centre open day.

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

'Smart inhaler' to be tested

Newcastle Herald, General News, 05/07/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 7

A \$400,000 University of Newcastle study will examine the effectiveness and affordability of "smart inhalers" for children aged five to nine with asthma. The devices, also known as "digital inhalers", connect to a smartphone with Bluetooth.

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Melanoma vax grows hope

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 4

An mRNA vaccine trial run by leading melanoma expert ECU Professor and Director of the Medical Oncology Clinical Trials unit at FSH Adnan Khattak is showing promising findings. Professor Khattak presented at the 2023 American Society of Clinical Oncology congress in early June, which attracted more than 45,000 attendees.

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Clinician research

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 8

Two Perth Children's Hospital clinicians - oncologist Dr Neha Jain and Dr Fran Gehrmann, a clinical fellow in endocrinology have been selected to undertake a new PhD pathway program supported by Child and Adolescent Health Service, University of WA, PCH Foundation and Telethon Kids Institute.

Dr Jain will be researching an RNA-based treatment for children with solid tumours, which will aim to target the tumour microenvironment to stop the cancer cells from returning after surgery.

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Re-think on disease control as burden shifts to teens

Canberra Times, Other, 05/07/2023, Tara Cosoleto

A third of children dying from infectious diseases are aged over five but global infection control efforts are not targeting older children and teens. The Murdoch Children's Research Institute found work to improve the mortality and morbidity of young children had been successful, with the infectious disease burden dropping by 10 per cent between 1990 and 2019.

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

[Read More](#)

Genetic discovery could help prevent blindness from glaucoma

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Bridget Fitzgerald

Am Australian researchers have identified hundreds of new genes that could help improve early diagnosis and treatment of the damaging eye condition, glaucoma. Around 300,000 Australians live with glaucoma, which can cause irreversible blindness.

[Read More](#)

New hope for glaucoma treatments

9News, Other, 04/07/2023

There's hope new treatments for glaucoma, which causes irreversible vision loss, could be around the corner thanks to groundbreaking findings from Queensland researchers.

[Read More](#)

Opioids no better than placebo for low back and neck pain: real-world trial

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/07/2023, Rachel Carter

There was no significant difference in pain outcomes between those treated with opioids and placebo, found researchers. Opioids should no longer be prescribed to patients with acute low back and neck pain, according to Australian researchers who found they were no more effective than placebo.

[Read More](#)

Apply for \$10,000 to research aged care innovations overseas

Community Care Review, Other, 04/07/2023, Natasha Egan

The Innovation in Aged Care International Fellowship which aims to up-skill leaders in the aged care system is seeking two more fellows to research the latest innovations abroad. The international applied research fellowships worth \$10,000 each are an initiative of Hugh D.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 04/07/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

Queensland researchers have fresh hope they can prevent people going blind from the degenerative eye disease glaucoma. Researchers from QIMR Berghofer Institute identified 300 genes linked to glaucoma.

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Channel 9 Darwin, National Nine News, 04/07/2023, Paul Murphy

Australian researchers have made a breakthrough in understanding glaucoma. Uncovering genes linked to the eye disease. It's hoped the research could help predict likely sufferers and lead to new treatments.

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Voice will prioritise key policies: Burney

Australian Financial Review, General News, 05/07/2023, Tom McLroy, Page 5

The Voice to parliament would be called on to help overhaul failing efforts to improve Indigenous health, education, housing and employment as the key policy priorities for the proposed advisory body, revealed for the first time by the Albanese government...

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

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

Labor's voice box of priorities

The Australian, General News, 05/07/2023, Rosie Lewis, Page 1

Health, education, jobs AND HOUSING TOP FOCUS FOR NEW BODY, SAYS BURNEY Linda Burney has revealed health, education, jobs and housing as the four policy priorities on which she will ask the Indigenous voice to provide advice, as she is forced to define its remit and silence criticism from the No camp.

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

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

Minister reveals key policy goals for Voice

Age, General News, 05/07/2023, Lisa Visentin, Page 1

Indigenous Australians Minister Linda Burney says she will give the Voice to parliament the task of coming up with fresh ideas in health, education, jobs and housing from day one, in her strongest comments to date aimed at defining its purpose and agenda. Burney will use a speech to the National Press Club today to outline her vision for the body as being "active and engaged" on key policy challenges facing Indigenous communities if the public backs it in the upcoming referendum, pitching the Voice's relationship with government as collaborative rather than combative.

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

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

Voice to have a 'full in-tray', four priorities from day one

Canberra Times, General News, 05/07/2023, Karen Barlow, Page 4

Linda Burney has revealed a successfully enshrined Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the constitution will have a "full in-tray" from day one and she will ask the proposed advisory body to consider four priority areas: health, education, jobs and housing. The Minister for Indigenous Australians will seek, in an address to the National Press Club in Canberra on Wednesday, to fill in some of the gaps in knowledge on the Voice and balance off concerns about "proactive" representations it is expected to make to Parliament and executive government.

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

Raising Voice's central mission

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/07/2023, Angira Bharadwaj, Page 3

Minister to outline priorities The Voice will be asked to focus on the health, education, employment and housing of Indigenous Australians to lift devastatingly poor life outcomes, the government says, in its clearest remarks yet on the referendum.

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

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The Voice 'priorities'

West Australian, General News, 05/07/2023, Dan Jervis-Bardy, Page 1

Revealed Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney will reveal health, housing, education and jobs as the key areas in which she will ask the Indigenous Voice to furnish advice as she describes a Yes vote as an "act of patriotism".

Sacked before death

Cairns Post, General News, 05/07/2023, Bronwyn Farr, Page 3

Doomadgee's longest serving doctor, who had conflict with Gidgee Healing over lack of record sharing, was sacked by Queensland Health several weeks before the death of an 18-year-old from heart failure, an inquest has heard. Dr Craig Hamilton, who had worked as a doctor in the north-west community of 1400 people for nine years, had clashed with fledgling Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation Gidgee Healing, believing it not was not mature enough or equipped with skills, workforce and systems to take on the immediate primary care of the local community.

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

Children's mural fosters ongoing connection to country

Launceston Examiner, General News, 05/07/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 13

A new mural painted by Indigenous artists and locals was unveiled at Beaconsfield District Health Service on Tuesday as part of this week's NAIDOC celebrations. Beaconsfield District Health Service Director of Nursing Niki Hotmer said the mural was instigated after she spoke to the local Indigenous community about how to make the hospital more welcoming to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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Community support of Babbingur Mia

Medical Forum, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 10

Proud Yamatji Naaguja woman Jenna Greaves - the much-loved Clinical Coordinator & Child-Health Nurse at Aboriginal health service South Coastal Babingurr Mia in Rockingham - as won the 2023 NAIDOC Nursing and Midwifery Award. Jenna, who is committed to supporting self-empowerment of young Indigenous women and their families at a time that can be particularly challenging, was first motivated to pursue her nursing career as a young patient of the clinic 16 years ago.

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

Voice will help complete unfinished business: Burney

Canberra Times, Other, 05/07/2023, Rudi Maxwell

Linda Burney wants Australians to remember that behind the stark statistics about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health there are real people. The Minister for Indigenous Australians addresses the National Press Club in Canberra on Wednesday, when she will speak about the upcoming referendum on a First Nations voice.

[Read More](#)

Hospital denies mistreatment after Indigenous girl dies

Canberra Times, Other, 04/07/2023, Aaron Bunch

A Perth hospital has denied neglecting a one-year-old Indigenous girl who died in its care, amid claims staff were racist and lied to the child's family. The girl, whose family asked for her to be referred to as Kailee, was admitted to Perth Children's Hospital for treatment early last week.

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

[Read More](#)

Community appeals for clinic improvements after child's death

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, Jane Bardon

A grieving indigenous family have asked the Prime Minister and Northern Territory Government to find out whether there were failures by their local Aboriginal health service to respond to requests for treatment before the death of a three-year-old boy

[Read More](#)

Arrente Elder William Tilmouth wins 2023 NAIDOC Award

ABC Online, Other, 04/07/2023, James Findlay

Darwin Breakfast William Tilmouth is an Arrernte man, born in Mparntwe Alice Springs. As a member of the Stolen Generations, William was taken to Croker Island Mission.

[Read More](#)

Thousands turn up to support Yes campaign for Voice to Parliament

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 04/07/2023, Natalie Dragon

Everyday Australians flocked to community events across Australia in support of the Yes campaign for Indigenous constitutional recognition through a Voice to Parliament last Sunday. Over 20,000 Australians showed their support for the Yes movement with events in Melbourne and Brisbane attracting an estimated 3,000 supporters, and the event at Sydney's Prince Alfred Park almost 5,000 attendees.

[Read More](#)

Linda Burney says Indigenous Voice to Parliament to have full in-tray; four main priorities from day one

Canberra Times, Other, 04/07/2023, Karen Barlow

Linda Burney has revealed a successfully enshrined Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the constitution will have a "full in-tray" from day one and she will ask the proposed advisory body to consider four main priority areas: health, education, jobs and housing.

[Read More](#)

Indigenous Affairs minister unveils the four areas the Voice will focus upon – and gives examples of how it will work in dramatic shift: 'It will plan for the next generation'

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 04/07/2023, Brittany Chain

Linda Burney has finally shared details of the proposed Voice to Parliament, nailing down the four areas the advisory body will focus upon. The Indigenous Affairs Minister will ask the Voice body - should the referendum on the proposal succeed later this year - to consider the 'main priority areas' of health, education, jobs and housing.

[Read More](#)

NAIDOC winner Aunty Naomi Mayers says she 'never expected an award'

SBS, Other, 04/07/2023, Madison Howarth

The Yorta Yorta and Wiradjuri woman was honoured with the National Lifetime Achievement Award at this year's ceremony. Aunty Dr Naomi Mayers is a true pioneer in every sense of the word.

[Read More](#)

ACT NAIDOC Person of the Year Ngambri-Ngunnawal Papunya Connors

National Indigenous Times, Other, 05/07/2023

Each year the highly anticipated ACT NAIDOC Ball highlights a week of celebrations in the territory, with a primary drawcard if the event, the presentation of the 2023 NAIDOC ACT Person of the Year. It came as no surprise to many, when this year's prestigious award was presented to a well-known community member Papunya (Panya) Connors, for her outstanding work within the local Indigenous community.

[Read More](#)

Westerman Jilya Institute building a legion of Indigenous psychologists to tackle suicide

National Indigenous Times, Other, 04/07/2023

Nyamal Woman and psychologist Dr Tracy Westerman AM has built network of forty-one Indigenous psychology students throughout Australia working with her to tackle systemic racism head on. The work comes at a critical time.

[Read More](#)

Coroner findings spark call for Indigenous health fix

National Indigenous Times, Other, 04/07/2023

Days after a coroner's damning findings, the Queensland opposition has demanded the state government explain how it will fix health care in Indigenous communities. Liberal Opposition leader David Crisafulli said the government had failed to deliver basic health care to some communities.

[Read More](#)

Health peak body urges Federal government to lower pension age for Indigenous people

National Indigenous Times, Other, 03/07/2023, Giovanni Torre

The Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) has honoured NAIDOC Week's theme - For Our Elders - by calling on the Federal Government to take "decisive action" and lower the age to access the pension for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

[Read More](#)

6PR, 15:00 News, 04/07/2023

The parents of a one-year-old girl who died shortly after being admitted to Perth Children's Hospital are accusing a GP of racial discrimination. The Indigenous family are demanding answers from was Director-General of Health over what happened to their little Kaylee. The infant was taken to a northern suburb with vomiting and diarrhoea, but her parents say the doctor was dismissive of her severe symptoms and only recommended a lactose free diet. The Department of Health is investigating and a report is being prepared by the coroner

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, 14:00 News, 04/07/2023

Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman will head to the Torres Strait next week amid concerns about the region's health system. Last month, community leaders wrote to the State Government pleading for action on what they say is a rise in avoidable deaths.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Biosecurity 'lacks a strategy' for pests

Courier Mail, General News, 05/07/2023, Madura McCormack , Page 7

The state government body meant to lead Queensland's war against the deadly fire ant and other destructive pests doesn't have good enough leadership, a clear strategy, or an "objective rationale" for how it spends its money, the Auditor-General has found. Biosecurity Queensland also didn't have a "complete picture" of the number or spread of the invasive species it was attempting to manage across the state, and, in the case of feral cats, didn't have a strategy.

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Auditor tells Qld to get its biosecurity act together

Canberra Times, Other, 04/07/2023, fraser barton

Queensland's monitoring and management of invasive species could be better co-ordinated while prioritising the impact on environment and agriculture, an auditor-general's report has found. Prevention and recovery from pests and diseases is led by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries through Biosecurity Queensland, but its tasks lack clear definition and prioritisation.

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NIP vax addition

The Vaxelis paediatric hexavalent vaccine is now available on the National Immunisation Program (NIP). The above snippet is the first part of an article sent to subscribers in Pharmacy Daily's issue from 04 Jul 23 To see the full story, see the embedde

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

UK pot oil maker plans ASX listing

Sydney Morning Herald, Business News, 05/07/2023, Ipo Emma Koehn, Page 22

A British cannabis products maker known for selling its CBD oils on eBay, Amazon and in UK chemist Boots wants to make its products more accessible to Australians and plans to list on the ASX. Dragonfly Biosciences is hoping to hit the local sharemarket at the start of August and has launched an initial public offer to raise up to \$5 million through the sale of shares at 20 each. [...] The company also sells its oils into Australia through the Therapeutic Goods Administration's (TGA) "special access scheme", which allows certain doctors to prescribe products such as CBD oils that have not been approved for inclusion in the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

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

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TGA says Australia is experiencing a shortage in over 400 medicines

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/07/2023

Records from the Therapeutic Goods Administration say Australia is experiencing a shortage in more than 400 medicines including at least 50 antibiotics. Manufacturing issues and unexpected high demand impacting popular antibiotics like amoxicillin and the diabetes drug Ozempic, which is also used for weight loss.

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Australian psychiatrists can now prescribe psychedelics for depression and PTSD. Here is everything we know

9News, Other, 04/07/2023, Lucy Slade

Australian psychiatrists are now able to prescribe MDMA and psilocybin (the active ingredient in magic mushrooms) to patients with post-traumatic stress disorder and depression in a world-first. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) authorised doctors to prescribe doses of the psychedelics for depression and post-traumatic stress disorder on July 1.

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Telehealth provider defies TGA semaglutide request

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 04/07/2023

Eucalyptus is reportedly offering patients access to the type 2 diabetes-indicated drug for weight loss purposes, despite ongoing supply issues. Semaglutide has experienced supply issues since May 2022. (Image: AAP) Telehealth providers owned by Australian online healthcare company Eucalyptus have begun prescribing semaglutide (sold as Ozempic) for weight loss, seemingly in contravention of a Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) request to avoid off-label use of the popular drug.

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Channel 10, The Project, 04/07/2023, Sam Taunton, Waleed Aly, Georgie Tunny and Kate Langbroek

There is a serious medication shortage in Australia with over 400 drugs in short supply. 59 of the medicines in shortage are currently or about to be at critical level. With the TGA warning some of the drugs won't be restocked until at least the end of the year. Among the drugs impacted are several types of liquid antibiotics, primarily used to treat ear infections and tonsillitis for children.

Channel 10, 10 News First, 04/07/2023, Jennifer Keyte

There are 410 medicines and antibiotics in short supply across the country as manufacturing delays and increased demand plagues the pharmaceutical industry. A total of 59 medications are at a critical supply level, with the TGA confirming most are not likely to be restocked until the end of the year.

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Channel 7, Seven Morning News, 04/07/2023, Ann Sanders

Millions of Australians could face lengthy delays to receive lifesaving treatment, with more than 400 medicines currently in short supply. This includes around 50 antibiotic brands, with many to remain in shortage until the end of the year. The Therapeutic Goods Administration says manufacturing issues and a spike in demand are to blame.

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Channel 9, National Nine News, 04/07/2023, Andrew Lofthouse and Melissa Downes

Australians suffering from depression and post-traumatic stress disorder may now be able to access psychedelics to treat the conditions. From this week, psychiatrists can apply to the Therapeutic Goods Administration for approval to prescribe MDMA and psilocybin found in magic mushrooms after the drugs were rescheduled to be used for medical purposes.

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Channel 9, Today, 04/07/2023, Karl Stefanovic, Sarah Abo, Alex Cullen and Brooke Boney

Interview with Dr Tony Bartone, GP and Former AMA President about major delays in access to vital medication with more than 400 medicines right now on the shortage list. Bartone says the supply chain issues that are the underlying cause of this problem became quite large during the pandemic. He states the TGA is very diligent in trying to alert medical professionals in advance about upcoming shortages or indeed prolonged shortages. He adds people on medication should be speaking with their doctors, have a conversation with their GP or pharmacist.

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2GB, 20:00 News, 04/07/2023

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has extended a projected shortage of weight loss drug ozempic until the end of December.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Cannabis firm has another shot at ASX

The Australian, Business News, 05/07/2023, Cameron England, Page 13

European cannabidiol (CBD) oil outfit Dragonfly Biosciences is having another crack at listing on the Australian Securities Exchange albeit with more muted ambitions after settling a lawsuit with colourful ex-director Mark Grenside, whose CV includes working on The Muppets and helping launch the career of singer Neneh Cherry. The company was looking to raise \$10m ahead of an ASX listing in late 2021, but pulled the float early last year due to valuation issues and a cooling in market sentiment.

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Don't let eating insects bug you

Canberra Times, General News, 05/07/2023, Lisa Rockman, Page 34

Skye Blackburn's lifelong fascination with creepy-crawlies took a surprising turn when she founded Edible Bug Shop in 2007. The entomologist, food scientist and mother of three develops and markets edible insect products including cricket protein corn chips, lemon myrtle cricket protein fusilli, almond cricket protein granola, and choc chip and wattleseed cookie mix.

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\$30,000 fine

West Australian, Edition Changes, 05/07/2023, Page 3

An Indian restaurant in Perth's eastern suburbs has copped a \$30,000 fine over food safety breaches. Curry Kreations at the Boardwalk Boulevard shopping centre in Southern River was prosecuted in the Armadale Magistrates Court last month by the City of Gosnells.

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Information overload

West Australian, General News, 05/07/2023, Kate Emery, Page 13

When it comes to nutrition advice, moderation is always key our Diet Coke is not going to kill you. Probably. But it might. It could. The important thing is that, if it does, you can't say we didn't warn you.

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Fibre is a natural weight manager – rather than cut carbs, eat them like this instead

The New Daily, Other, 04/07/2023, Christopher Damman

Fibre might just be the key to healthy weight management and nature packages it in perfectly balanced ratios with carbs when you eat them as whole foods. Think unprocessed fruits, vegetables, whole grains, beans, nuts and seeds.

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