



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 7th July 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports a suspended psychiatrist has filed a complaint against Queensland Children's Hospital, claiming she was forced to comply with gender-affirming policies. Dr Jillian Spencer, who has expressed past dissatisfaction with gender-affirming care, in a complaint to the Queensland Human Rights Commissioner said she believed the state's policies "seemed inconsistent with best medical practice of taking an evidence-led holistic approach to child and adolescent psychiatry."
- The **[Sydney Morning Herald](#)** (page 1) reports peak psychiatrist and psychologist groups are calling to widen NDIS eligibility for thousands of Australians diagnosed with ADHD. A spokesperson for NDIS Minister Bill Shorten said, "People with ADHD can become NDIS participants if they meet the criteria of being permanently and significantly disabled and provide evidence showing they meet the requirements set out in the NDIS Act." *Also reported by:* [The Age](#)
- **[The Age](#)** (page 3) reports the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) has received double the number of sexual misconduct complaints about health professionals in the 2022-23 year compared to 2018-19. The agency has reportedly hired additional staff to assist with investigation times for complaints. *Also reported by* [Herald Sun](#)

- The [Canberra Times](#) (page 3) reports a new world-leading health research and treatment facility will be constructed by Australian National University on a former car park site bought for \$16.75 million from the ACT government. ANU vice-chancellor Brian Schmidt said "We will use this site to bring together research, teaching, policy, treatment and public engagement to understand and meet Australia's future health needs, which is a key part of our mission as the national university."
- The [Canberra Times](#) (page 4) reports retiring health secretary Professor Brendan Murphy has warned that influenza was likely the "highest risk area" for future pandemics in Australia. Professor Murphy said that the COVID pandemic better prepared the Health Department and the country for another outbreak, including domestic vaccine production and a stronger emphasis on medical stockpiles.
- The [Daily Telegraph](#) (page 4) reports NSW healthcare workers are preparing to continue industrial action on Monday if negotiations between state Health Minister Ryan Park and the Health Services Union are unable to reach an agreement. The HSU previously gave a Friday deadline to respond to their demands for improved pay and conditions, including a 6 per cent pay rise.
- The [Daily Telegraph](#) (page 11) reports children under 16 years are being urged to get a flu vaccine this winter as New South Wales combats a severe outbreak of influenza B. NSW chief health officer Kerry Chant said the virus would likely have a "greater impact on school-aged children", and warned the concern amongst doctors was "palpable". *Also reported by:* [Central Western Daily](#), [Border Mail](#), [Daily Advertiser](#), [Daily Liberal](#), [Illawarra Mercury](#), [Newcastle Herald](#), [Northern Daily Leader](#), [Western Advocate](#), [ABC News](#), [ABC News](#), [The Guardian](#), [9news](#)
- [ABC News](#) reports future mental health problems may identifiable through scans of the developing brains of adolescents, a new study by the University of the Sunshine Coast has found. Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride said important work was being conducted to further the scientific understanding of youth mental health. "It's positive to see the work being done through the Longitudinal Adolescent Brain Study to better understand how we can predict mental ill-health at the early stages," Ms McBride said.
- [The Guardian](#) reports some Australian pharmacies have inked a deal to supply Phillip Morris VEEV vaping products at below cost prices in a move health experts said was designed to disrupt Australia's vape prescription access model. A spokesperson for the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia said it "urges pharmacists to be skeptical of any commercial offer from big tobacco".

MINISTER BUTLER

Expanded student spots

Ararat Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2023, Alex Dalziel, Page 8

Universities are welcoming the federal government expansion of places for regionally-trained medical students, under a new program which looks to address the state's lack of county doctors. An additional 80 Commonwealth supported places for regional medical students has been promised by 2024 under a \$114.2 million investment from the federal government, Health minister Mark Butler has announced.

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Govt medicine subsidy for diabetes sufferers

Clifton Courier, General News, 05/07/2023, Page 6

Last week's Clifton Courier reported on withdrawal of funding for the Diabetes Educator service to the Clifton district, but fortunately, news this week for diabetes sufferers is more positive as a new subsidy has been announced. The Federal Government has announced 26,000 Australians living with type 2 diabetes and kidney disease (one of the most common complications of diabetes) will soon be able to access a first-of-its-kind medicine to slow the worsening of their kidney damage. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said subsidising Kerendia will be life changing for Australians living with diabetic kidney disease.

Voice for health

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 06/07/2023, Page 3

Later this year, Australians will have the chance to change our Constitution and recognise the place of First Nations people in this country, stated the Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. "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," he explained.

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Heart care at risk if incentives not reinstated

Bundaberg Today, Other, 06/07/2023

A call for the Albanese Government to investigate the data used to determine the District Workforce Shortage (DWS) status for cardiologists in the Wide Bay-Burnett region has been renewed following a recent meeting in Canberra and ongoing recruitment struggles. In October last year interventional cardiologist Dr Hermann Wittmer joined Federal Member for Hinkler Keith Pitt to plead with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler to reinstate the DWS status for the region amidst concerns about future proofing the region's heart care.

[Read More](#)

Government unable to confirm opening details for urgent care clinic

NewsMail, Other, 06/07/2023, Nicole Strathdee

Despite Bundaberg's healthcare system being "under serious pressure" it remains unclear when the highly-anticipated bulk-billed Urgent Care Clinic will open. It remains unclear when Bundaberg's urgent care clinic will open as politicians fear residents have been "sold a lie" over the rollout of the bulk-billed health care initiatives. [...] However Minister for Health Mark Butler said no firm timeline was ever given, only that the clinics would be open following the start of the 2023-24 financial year.

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

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Philip Morris making deals with Australian pharmacies to supply below-cost vaping products

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

Tobacco company Philip Morris International has made a deal with some Australian pharmacies to supply its VEEV vaping products below cost, despite the company's opposition to the government's new prescription vaping model. [...] In May, the federal health minister, Mark Butler, announced that the government will ban the importation of nonprescription vaping products including those that do not contain nicotine.

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What's happening with the Australian CDC?

Cosmos Magazine, Other, 06/07/2023, Jacinta Bowler

The Albanese government pledged to establish an Australian Centre for Disease Control (amazingly, shortened to ACDC) at the last election, to establish something that will be able to coordinate and prepare for future pandemics and other health emergencies. At the last budget, the Interim' ACDC was given \$91 million in funding over two years, but groups like the Public Health Association of Australia has said that this was not enough. [...] After the budget announcement, Health Minister Mark Butler suggested that this was not just a federal effort.

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Health Minister and MTAA champion Indigenous health equity, amplifying the Voice during NAIDOC Week

Health Industry Hub, Other, 06/07/2023

MedTech & Diagnostics News: The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care and Medical Technology Association of [...] More

Disposable vapes ban welcomed

Inside Waste Weekly, Other, 06/07/2023, Lisa Korycki

The highest number of vapes recorded during clean ups by Sea Shepherd Marine Debris teams was 27 at Surfers Paradise on the Gold Coast. (Photo credit: Karolina Strittmatter) As more Australians started vaping over the past few years, there was little consideration to the impact that this new habit was having on our planet. [...] On May 2nd, 2023, the Federal Health Minister, Mark Butler, addressed the National Press Club about upcoming changes to tobacco related policies.

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Lie of the land

The Monthly, Other, 06/07/2023, Daniel James

How Trumpian can the "No" campaign get? In an attempt to build on the momentum from last weekend's public rallies in support of the "Yes" vote in the upcoming referendum, Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney yesterday addressed the National Press Club. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has ruled out returning to a policy Labor took to the 2019 election, in which it would have forced public hospitals to perform abortions.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Today, 06/07/2023, Karl Stefanovic, Sarah Abo, Alex Cullen and Brooke Boney

The Government is facing calls to make abortions more accessible for women in Australia. Health groups ramping up arguments for universal access to abortions in public hospitals as well as through GPSs. The Health Minister, Mark Butler, has ruled out the change, refusing to revisit the Labor Party's 2019 election promise.

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NBN Coffs Harbour, NBN News, 06/07/2023, Natasha Beyersdorf and Gavin Morris

Mid-Coast pharmacists are saying they're struggling to manage their methadone programs less than a week after the Federal Government's shake up. Pharmacist Shaun Tarrant says there'll be people that aren't able to get their medicines due to the rushed changes. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler told NBN News the changes will provide much needed cost of living relief and that four out of five Australians receiving treatment for opioid dependency are on income support.

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ABC Sunshine Coast, Breakfast, 06/07/2023, Alex Easton

Now we did contact Federal Health Minister Mark Butler yesterday to invite him onto the programme. A spokesperson told us he was not available. However, he has provided a statement that says, quote, After nine long years of cuts and neglect by the former government, the Albanese government is making Medicare stronger for all Australians. Our historic investments in Medicare will triple the bulk billing incentive. The largest increase to the incentive in the 40 year history of Medicare.

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2GB, Drive, 06/07/2023, James Willis

Interview with David Heffernan, President - New South Wales branch, Pharmacy Guild about pharmacies raising the alarm about the impact of 60-day dispensing. Willis says if implemented, 157 pharmacies in New South Wales could close and there could be up to 4000 job losses with chemists having to scale back on hours. Heffernan says they were shocked that the Federal Government offered to just to pay in half of the expenses in the middle of their negotiation. He states Health Minister Mark Butler hasn't had anything meaningful since the announcement in terms of job losses and closures.

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MINISTER WELLS

How do we pay for aged care fix?

The Senior - VIC, General News, 01/07/2023, Eileen Wood, Page 3

How much of their children's future inheritance would older Australians be willing to sacrifice to give themselves better aged care? That's the question being asked as momentum grows from government and providers for a more means-tested funding system which would see Australians, particularly the wealthy, contribute more. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells has warned of both an ageing population and an ageing workforce.

Also reported by: [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#).

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Sky News Regional, Breakfast, 06/07/2023, Ortenzia Borre

Interview with Anne Webster, Shadow Assistant Minister for Regional Health. Webster says the 24/7 nurses in aged care facilities is impossible as the sector is a thousand of workers short. She states while the Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells, talks about exemptions, her understanding is that it's for beds of less than 30 beds in a facility. She questions how long the exemptions would last.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Brain scans could be key to early detection of mental health issues in young people, researchers say

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Amy Sheehan

A world-first study has found warning signs of mental health problems could be identified by scanning the developing brains of adolescents. Key points: Since 2018, 160 young people have joined the Longitudinal Adolescent Brain Study (LABS) by the University of the Sunshine Coast. [...] Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride said the research was important for furthering scientific understanding of youth mental health.

[Read More](#)

Seven Orange, Seven Local News, 06/07/2023, Madelaine Collignon and Nick Hose

Women's health is getting a much needed boost in Orange. Federal funding will allow a medical centre to offer specialised support to those fighting an invisible battle.

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ABC Central West NSW, Breakfast, 06/07/2023, Alex James

Interview with Emma McBride, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Regional Health Minister about new endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics across the country. McBride says they want Australian women can get timely access to diagnosis so they can have early intervention, treatment and care to reduce the impact of endometriosis or other pelvic disorders on themselves. She says the \$16.4 million funding over four years across the 20 centres, will mean an average of \$700,000 for a particular centre.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

'We did pretty well': Murphy reflects on the pandemic

Canberra Times, General News, 07/07/2023, Natalie Vikhrov, Page 4

One of the key figures in Australia's response to the once in a 100 year pandemic has flagged influenza as an ongoing "highest risk area" for a future pandemic, amid prevailing anxiety over the bird flu. Professor Brendan Murphy's retirement comes two months after the World Health Organisation declared COVID was no longer a global health emergency.

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

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What happens now the Hunter New England local health district will trial Single Employer Model?

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 06/07/2023, Eva Baxter

A new healthcare model has been described as a "game changer" for the region, but a political blame game on why it took so long to get approved is brewing behind it. The health model aims to attract more doctors and will be trialled in the Hunter New England local health district, it was announced on Wednesday, July 5. [...] Following the October 2022 budget announcement to establish 10 trials, all states were asked to indicate their interest in participating, a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care said.

Also reported by: [Glen Innes Examiner \(Online\)](#), [The Armidale Express \(Online\)](#).

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Public health leadership when anti-vaxxers are not in the mood for evidence, spurred by suspicion and fear

The Mandarin, Other, 06/07/2023, Melissa Coade

According to outgoing health secretary Professor Brendan Murphy , processes intended to uphold the important principles of democracy left the door open for conspiracy theorists to take things to the Nth degree it cost taxpayer money and valuable time that public servants could have spent responding to the COVID crisis. Clunky as the system may be, this is the price of living in an open society.

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06 Jul New funding found for the future of paediatric palliative care

CHILD Mags, Other, 06/07/2023

Paediatric palliative care plays a crucial role in the healthcare sector, and its significance has been acknowledged through new funding from the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care. Palliative Care Australia (PCA) has received \$1.25 million for its Shaping the Future of Paediatric Palliative Care project, recognizing the need for specialized focus on infants, children, young people, and their families.

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Role of consultancy firms in health policy under growing scrutiny

Croakey, Other, 06/07/2023, Melissa Sweet

The role of consultancy firms in health policy especially the Big Four, of KPMG, PwC, EY, and Deloitte

is coming under increasing scrutiny. Key federal politicians have added their voices to concerns about the appointment of KPMG to run a consultation for the National Health and Climate Strategy. [...] "The Department of Health and Aged Care may be comfortable with the assurances they've received from KPMG but there is no shortage of evidence that shows the Big Four consultants can't be taken at their word when it comes declaring conflicts of interest.

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Let GPs approve glucose monitors: RACGP

The Medical Republic, Other, 06/07/2023

A review of diabetes management products could open the door for GPs to authorise subsidised continuous glucose monitoring devices. The RACGP wants GPs who manage type 1 diabetes patients to be trusted with more responsibility, but without the requirement for additional training. [...] Last year, to no avail, it wrote to the deputy secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care requesting the conditions be reconsidered.

[Read More](#)

Government to claw back \$2.6B in unspent home care funds. New system July 24

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/07/2023

A Department of Health and Aged Care webinar on the new Support at Home Program now pushed back to 1 July 2025 has signalled how the Government plans to claw back the estimated \$2.6 billion in unspent funds. During the two-hour webinar which was attended by about 4,000 viewers it was revealed that under Support at Home, if recipients don't use their budget within the quarter, it will reset for the next quarter to avoid the problem of unspent funds accumulating.

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CORONAVIRUS

Caution urged as cases of new COVID-19 variant reported in Southeast Asia

Canberra Times, General News, 07/07/2023, Kerem Doruk, Page 11

A new COVID-19 strain has been found to be 50 per cent more infectious than previous variants amid calls for greater vigilance this winter. Deakin University epidemiology chair Professor Catherine Bennett said the FU.1 strain was not a joke. It has been detected in southeast Asia and India. "The names get very convoluted and that's why we tend to see these alternative names used, so it just distinguishes this one," Professor Bennett said.

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Investigations 'consistent' with policy

Launceston Examiner, General News, 07/07/2023, Joe Colbrook, Page 3

The Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management has countered claims of unfair treatment made by the United Firefighters Union over COVID-19 vaccine mandates. Code of conduct investigations were started against six firefighters in 2022 after they failed to receive COVID-19 vaccines by a deadline set by the department, and these were formally ended as of June 2023.

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Protect your family from COVID this winter

Shepparton News Online, Other, 06/07/2023

COVID-19 hospital admissions have shown a steady decrease this week, with the level of COVID waste water detections also continuing a downwards trend, indicating a further reduction in the number of infections in Victoria. Transmissions continue to be driven by multiple Omicron recombinant XBB sublineages, accounting for 76 per cent of circulating variants from waste water surveillance.

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New survey reveals gaps in community perceptions of COVID-19 risks

HealthDispatch, Other, 06/07/2023

Moderna says a survey of 1,000 Australians has revealed knowledge gaps in perceptions of the risks of severe illness and death with some common medical conditions. According to the survey, half (50 per cent) of respondents expressed concern about contracting COVID-19 during the upcoming winter season, with nearly the same number (49 per cent) fearing the possibility of severe illness.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Drag queens make aged care home debut

Ballarat Courier, General News, 07/07/2023, Kirra Grimes, Page 7

Staff and family members couldn't resist getting in on the fun when a Ballarat aged care home hosted its first drag show this week. 'Piano Bar stars Daisy Chains and Gabriella Labucci put on a fabulous performance for more than 50 residents at Delacombe's Bupa Aged Care on Tuesday, transforming an activities area with song, dance, and plenty of sparkle.

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Advice on what to consider before making the move

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 74

It's one of life's major decisions and comes with a minefield of questions. Fortunately, people such as volunteer aged care services advocate Ruth Hosking are more than happy to provide helpful information. After advising many on their journey into residential and aged care facilities, here are just some of the things Ms Hosking says you need to think about along the way.

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Rally for aged care centre

Newcastle Herald, General News, 07/07/2023, Lucinda Garbutt-Young, Page 10

When Colin Brodie's son was in his early 20s, he suffered a massive brain injury that left him severely disabled with high-care needs. Ben, now 39, has lived at Wallsend Aged Care Centre for the past 14 years with round-the-clock care.

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Aged care industry discuss problems

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 07/07/2023, Wade Stephens, Page 5

More than 100 providers, peak body representatives and politicians have gathered at Mildura Sporting Precinct to delve into recent legislation changes impacting the aged care sector. By 2024, all residential aged care homes will be required to provide around-the-clock registered nurse care. [...] It is the result of the Aged Care Royal Commission, which made 148 recommendations in 2021.

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

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Aged care home shut down

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 07/07/2023, Tom Gillespie, Page 6

The decision to shut one of the Lockyer Valley's only aged care facilities has been slammed by community leaders. Churches of Christ revealed on Monday it would close its Amaroo residential aged care facility in Gatton from September 1. The longstanding retirement village offered respite, palliative and pastoral care to residents.

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Taskforce and reforms welcome

Welcoming the Aged Care Reform Roadmap, Older Persons Advocacy Network chief executive Craig Gear said, older people need to know what changes are coming, when they are coming, and how those changes will affect them. "This roadmap provides the necessary coordinates and by identifying a clear timeline, Minister Wells has enabled the sector to better prepare, plan for, and deliver, the ambitious reforms that will roll out over the coming years," Mr Gear said.

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Roadmap shows the way ahead

The Senior - VIC, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 3

The federal government has developed an online aged care reform roadmap which shows key activities already in place and those planned to July 2025. Reforms include: Elder Care Support Program to recruit and train a skilled workforce to support First Nations elders Funding the 15 per cent award wages increase for many aged care workers An Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner to consult with First Nations peoples, providers and communities The establishment of the Office of the Inspector General of Aged Care Registered nurse required on site and on duty in aged care homes 24/7 Expansion of the Community Visitor Scheme which will be renamed the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme Food Complaints Hotline live from August Enrolled nurse minutes published along with star ratings Rights-based Aged Care Act bill A new program for in home aged care.

Also reported by: [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#).

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More now qualify for age pension

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2023, Eileen Wood, Page 4

A number of retirees will see more money in their bank accounts from July 1 when age pension asset and income thresholds change. The changes will not affect those already on a full pension (the next pension rate rise is due September 20).

Also reported by: [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - VIC \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#).

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Spotlight on recognising carers

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 4

Carers Australia has welcomed the announcement of a federal government inquiry into the recognition of unpaid carers. "Carers are an integral part of Australia's health, mental health, aged care, disability support and social services systems," said chief executive Alison Brook.

Also reported by: [The Senior - WA \(Perth\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#).

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

Men move to caring roles

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2023, Eileen Wood, Page 5

Last July, 82-year-old Glenn Getty saw an advertisement on Facebook and a whole new career opened up for him. He had retired to Australia from the US, after careers as a military medic, primary care nurse, hospital manager, ethics review coordinator and educator in business administration, nursing and counselling.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#), [The Senior - QLD \(Brisbane\)](#), [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#).

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Busselton aged-care resident returns home after eight months

West Australian, Other, 07/07/2023, Rachel Green

A former Busselton aged-care resident has beaten the odds and moved back home with her family. Joan Powell moved to Baptistcare William Carey Court Residential Care in Busselton last year, after suffering a series of health crises that meant she could no longer be cared for at home.

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Despite decades of experience, older job seekers struggle to get a foot in the door

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Fiona Blackwood

A national skills report found older people tended to be unemployed for twice as long as younger job seekers. What's next: Tasmania's Council on the Ageing wants employers to rethink their views on employing people aged over 55, with one in six admitting they are 'ageist' Jacqueline Bradley describes feeling "demoralised, humiliated and really quite embarrassed" about her failure to secure work after months of trying.

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Nearly 3 in 4 Australians support pets in aged care

Aged Care Insite, Other, 06/07/2023, Elise Hartevelt

The majority of Australians support older people's rights to own pets while living in residential care homes, according to the results of a major online survey. A 2-minute questionnaire was conducted by Companion Animal Network Australia (CANA) and received over 1,100 responses.

[Read More](#)

Peak bodies update visitor code to reduce isolation in residential care

Aged Care Insite, Other, 06/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

New revisions changing visitor rules in Australia's aged care homes have been released by industry peak bodies. Hailed as being 'the right balance', COTA's revised code has been updated to protect against the risk of infections and ensure older Australians are not left socially isolated even during lockdowns.

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Australia's elder abuse 'champion' to retire after seven years

Aged Care Insite, Other, 06/07/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Australia's Age Discrimination Commissioner Dr Kay Patterson AO will retire after a seven-year term in the position. Since stepping into the role in 2016, Dr Patterson has championed stronger laws against elder abuse including her ongoing advocacy to harmonise power of attorney rules at a federal level.

[Read More](#)

Kay Patterson vacates commissioner role

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/07/2023

After almost seven years, Dr Kay Patterson is standing down from the role of Age Discrimination Commissioner. During her tenure, Dr Patterson a former cabinet minister, senator and academic increased community awareness about elder abuse and the supports available.

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Survey shows support for pet-friendly aged care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/07/2023

Despite the well-recorded wellbeing benefits for residents with pets in aged care homes, very few facilities allow it according to a survey. The poll conducted by national animal welfare charity Companion Animal Network Australia shows 86 per cent of older adults experience improved mental and physical health with pets in aged care settings.

[Read More](#)

Careteq announces new product and partner

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/07/2023

Careteq the parent company of assistive technology solution provider Sofihub has launched the fall detection radar system TEQ-FallsAlert in Australia. Rather than a wearable, the system uses radar technology to detect falls and then alert friends or family members via an SMS so they can respond.

[Read More](#)

Updated sector code maintains visitor rights

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/07/2023

Released on Monday, the revised visitor code for residential aged care reiterates that residents are always permitted to have at least one essential visitor regardless of a Covid outbreak. Craig Gear CEO of the Older Person's Advocacy Network told Australian Ageing Agenda there were still facilities ignorant of this.

[Read More](#)

Survey reveals underutilisation of aged care nurses' skills despite workforce shortages

Healthcare Channel, Other, 06/07/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

According to a recent national survey conducted by the Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA), more than one third (34%) of nurses working in residential or community aged care settings in Australia are not fully utilising their skills. The survey, which received a record-breaking response from approximately 4,000 nurses, highlights the challenges faced by the primary health care (PHC) nursing workforce.

[Read More](#)

'We are the experts' says dementia advocate Kevyn Morris

HelloCare, Other, 06/07/2023, Alex Jacobs

When asked if moving into an aged care home is something that he will ever consider, Kevyn says there are several such loopholes in the system that deter him from ever wanting to step foot inside an aged care facility. "I can answer it this way," he says, "The only way I'll go in [to an aged care home] is when I don't know.

[Read More](#)

Are there moves to raise the pension age to 70? Advocates fear there are

The Senior, Other, 06/07/2023, Eileen Wood

Seniors advocates have added their voices to the outcry from older Australians protesting the increase of the age of eligibility for the pension which went from 66.5 years to 67 years on July 1. But the increases may not be finished - with calls from academics to continue raising the age over time to 70 years to help combat the increasing worker shortage as the population ages and birthrates fall.

[Read More](#)

An operator wake-up call on resident abuse

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/07/2023

There was genuine surprise across the sector this week as the news broke that Australian Unity had decided to stay in the business of aged care. In February this year, the mutual fund announced it would undertake a review of its aged care operations considering the financial and regulatory challenges facing the sector.

[Read More](#)

Regional Victorian home achieves full accreditation as it announces 12 July closing date: no local nurses

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/07/2023

May Noonan aged care home in Terang, 212km southwest of Melbourne, has received full accreditation from the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (ACQSC), only weeks before the home is due to close.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Sharri, 06/07/2023, Sharri Markson

Interview with Anne Ruston, Shadow Aged Care Minister about 24/7 registered nurses requirement for every aged care provider. Ruston says the biggest issue that we're facing is obviously workforce shortages, which prevents aged care centres to meet the requirement. She notes the issue won't be

resolved unless the Labor Government can come up with a workforce strategy for the whole of the aged care workforce.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Gender affirmation stoush goes to rights commission

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2023, Natasha Robinson, Page 1

A doctor's right to object on medical grounds to the unquestioning affirmation of children as the opposite gender faces a human rights test in Queensland, with a suspended psychiatrist filing a complaint against the state's children's hospital over transgender health policies. Jillian Spencer alleges she was prevented from adopting a neutral therapeutic approach and instead forced to comply with gender-affirming policies that risked causing harm to young people, during the course of her employment as a senior staff specialist in the consultation liaison psychiatry team at the Queensland Children's Hospital.

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

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Merit of BMI losing weight on health risk

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 7

People classified as overweight though not obese are not at a higher risk of death, according to a new study that underscores the limitations of the body mass index, long a standard medical metric. The findings, published on Wednesday in the journal PLOS ONE, come as populations in both rich and poor countries are becoming heavier.

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Why Gen Z is leading the charge away from booze culture

Canberra Times, General News, 07/07/2023, Caitlin Paroczai, Page 66

I won't be consuming even a sip of alcohol this Dry July, but that's hardly anything new for me. In fact, I haven't had more than a couple of drinks since I was 19 - the age when I decided that my admittedly very fleeting relationship with booze didn't have a future.

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Thinking how you drink

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/07/2023, Katy Hall, Page 63

Month-long sobriety stints such as Dry July are rising in popularity, while fewer younger Australians are drinking than ever. But is there a middle ground? When I recently saw promotions for Dry July come up in my social media feed, I found myself thinking back to the start of the year and a commitment I had made to myself that I had mostly managed to stick to for more than six months.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).

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Broken Hill Lead Program report lands

Barrier Truth, General News, 05/07/2023, Jason Irvine, Page 4

The latest lead report from the Far West Local Health District (FWLHD) has revealed 39 per cent (306) of local children between the ages of one and five years had blood lead levels (BLLs) above the notification level of 75 micrograms per decilitre last year. Despite this, the Broken Hill Lead Program's 2022 report findings show population blood lead levels have plateaued in each age group or developmental stage with no significant change since 2012.

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Addiction rate leads to talks

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 2

A health service will host a series of vaping webinars to help parents and carers guiding young people to quit. The Bendigo Community Health Service talks would delve into vaping's impact on young people, and how youths can be encouraged to stop. Senior health promotion officer Siobhan Sullivan said there had been a significant increase in the habit in Bendigo by young people. The first "tough talk" session is slated for July 24.

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Youth urged to speak up on health

Daily Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 2

The Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network is asking young people aged between 12 and 24 to complete an anonymous survey this July. MPHN's Health Needs Assessment survey will help provide a valuable snapshot of young people's health needs in the Murrumbidgee.

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App a day for health

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 07/07/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 16

One in four Queensland kids are overweight and parents are struggling to chat to their children about the importance of being active, new state government research reveals. With health authorities failing to make any dent in the rate of obese children across the state in more than a decade, the government has turned to smartphones to help solve the problem. Health and Wellbeing Queensland on Thursday launched a free play-based app called Podsquad, to make learning new healthy habits fun for children and families by using games.

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

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Rural stroke service a winner

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 42

More than 3000 stroke patients in rural NSW have received life-changing treatment thanks to the \$21.7 million Telestroke service. The service, which was launched by the state government in March 2019, connects patients and local doctors to a network of specialists via video consultation.

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Victorian scooter and vaping laws: State rules and regulations on roads

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Laura Armitage

With ever-shifting technology and constantly changing social trends here are some of the Victorian rules you could be breaking. Is it legal to ride an e-scooter on the footpath, or after a few beers? Are you allowed to vape next to a playground? Ever-shifting technology and social trends are constantly chased by Victorian legislators.

[Read More](#)

Popular alcoholic drink can help men with common sex problem

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/07/2023

Scientists have made an astonishing link between a popular alcoholic drink and sexual performance that can benefit men and women. Men struggling in the sack should crack open a bottle of red wine, a new study has found. Researchers reviewed studies from the past 30 years and concluded that a moderate amount of the popular alcoholic drink could increase sexual desire and performance in men.

[Read More](#)

Cadia Valley Operations admits to dust pollution at NSW gold mine amid health concerns

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Joanna Woodburn and Hugh Hogan

The head of Australia's largest gold mine admits the operation has been emitting too much dust in breach of clean air rules. The New South Wales Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is

investigating Cadia Valley Operations (CVO) near Orange after it found what it described as an "unacceptably high" level of dust pollution.

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After the storm

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023

Lightning strikes in an instant. Those who survive being struck can be left with lifelong consequences, including cognitive disability, relationship breakdowns and a dark shadow over their mental health. [...] Data gathered by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows 210 people were taken to hospital with injuries caused by lightning from 2012 to 2022.

[Read More](#)

It's a genuine, life-transforming medical cure, but why are 100,000 GP patients reluctant to take it?

Australian Doctor, Other, 06/07/2023, Nada Andric

"i feel so much better thanks, Doc. But I can't tell anyone I had treatment. No way." I was saddened to learn that my patient I had seen in our clinic for some time would not be sharing their good news with anyone. They had walked in six months ago, had undergone a blood test and had been given a prescription. Now they were cured.

[Read More](#)

Single radio star Sami Lukis, 53, says Australia's plunging fertility rate will 'give the planet a breather' - despite rising economic concerns Poll Poll

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Carina Stathis

A radio star has shared her take on the rising concerns over Australia's 'baby drought' after the latest census recorded low fertility rates among women. Author and media personality Sami Lukis believes it's a good idea to 'give the planet a breather' when it comes to population rates. Appearing on The Morning Show, the 53-year-old from Sydney believes a drop in baby numbers will be better for the planet and environment.

[Read More](#)

WA screening for SCID

Medical Forum, Other, 06/07/2023

Severe combined immunodeficiency disorder (SCID) has become the first immunological disorder to be screened for through WA's Newborn Bloodspot Screening Program (NBS). Advances in technology have made it possible to include screening for SCID as part of WA's newborn heel prick test, paving the way for early detection and treatment for this genetic condition and bringing WA in line with the US.

[Read More](#)

SA's tough ban

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 06/07/2023

From 10 Jul, South Australian retailers must be able to prove that vaping products being sold are nicotine-free based on new state laws now in place, shared an Australian standard vaping products manufacturer From the Fields Pharmaceutical. The above snippet is the first part of an article sent to subscribers in Pharmacy Daily's issue from 06 Jul 23

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Delta's time again

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/07/2023, Jonathon Moran, Page 9

Delta Goodrem is making up for lost time. The celebrated Aussie singer is finally touring her debut album some 20 years after it topped the charts and put her name up in lights internationally. In 2003, she was simply too sick to perform. On July 8 that year, Goodrem was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma cancer. That same week, the then 18-year-old topped the charts with her debut album, *Innocent Eyes*.

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

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Baby Yara fights rare medical condition

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 07/07/2023, Jonathan Hawes, Page 2

Health Yarrowyck family raise awareness for life-threatening GRIN1 disorder IN THE small town of Yarrowyck, 30 kilometres west of Armidale, 18-month old Yara Croft is fighting for her life as she suffers serious complications from an extremely rare genetic disorder.

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Don't give up on intimacy yet, fellas

The Senior - WA, General News, 01/07/2023, Hazel Bradley, Page 11

Men dealing with the impact of prostate cancer need not think their sex life is over forever. The exercise and support program PROST! Exercise 4 Prostate Cancer has linked up with a Perth sexologist and nurse practitioner who can assist men and couples. PROST! provides assistance with continence and erectile function recovery before and after prostate surgery.

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Silent killer reviewed

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2023, Therese Murray, Page 42

A leading scientist at the Heart Research Institute is concerned about the sharp increase in the prevalence of peripheral arterial disease in women. It is caused by the buildup of fatty plaque in the artery, leading to a narrowing or blockage of blood vessels in the limbs.

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#)

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We're all in this cancer trial Together

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 42

Australia and New Zealand's largest oncology research group, Breast Cancer Trials, has launched Together, a new trial for metastatic breast cancer patients which is recruiting participants. Metastatic breast cancer is a devastating diagnosis where the cancer cells have spread from the original cancer site to other parts of the body.

Also reported by: [The Senior - TAS \(Hobart\)](#), [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#)

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'Do you want to live?': Why GC motor sporting giant is calling on men to get tested

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Amaani Siddeek

It kills ten Australian men every day. But a simple test could help save thousands of lives. Full details Every day, around ten Australian men die of prostate cancer. But a simple blood test could help save hundreds of lives. After having his prostate removed six years ago, Gold Coast motor sporting legend Rob Herrod thought he would live the rest of his life cancer free.

[Read More](#)

Overweight young people may be at extra risk of developing 18 kinds of cancer, warn experts

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Victoria Allen

Being overweight as a young adult could raise the risk of developing 18 types of cancer , experts say. Prostate and bladder cancers, which are not normally linked to obesity, could in fact be fuelled by

carrying too much weight. The researchers studied more than 2.6million people aged 40 to 90, over an average of nine years.

[Read More](#)

‘Family survival’: The organisation seeking to assist cancer-impacted families

2GB, Other, 06/07/2023, Ray Hadley

Redkite ceo, Monique Keighery has delved into the cost of living crisis impacting families affected by cancer. This comes as 50% of families with a child diagnosed with cancer quit working to care for their child, while over 40% must live near the hospital for treatment.

[Read More](#)

MIX 104.9, 360, 06/07/2023, Katie Woolf

More people in regional parts of the NT suffer from severe asthma than those living in metro areas. The latest research revealed by the National Asthma Council of Australia shows remote parts of the NT, including Katherine and Tennant Creek, have been identified as asthma hotspots, recording the highest number of people with difficult to treat asthma. Professor Peter Wark says the NT's hotspots reflect remoteness and the availability of appropriate health care.

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PRIMARY CARE

New Canberra private hospital officially opens in Deakin

Canberra Times, General News, 07/07/2023, Lanie Tindale, Page 8

A new Canberra private hospital officially opened on Thursday, although it has been operating since March. Deakin Private Hospital has 52 beds for mental health patients, including 12 for young adults aged 16 and over. The young adult service is yet to open.

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

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Any VAD laws must mesh with NSW

Canberra Times, Editorials, 07/07/2023, Page 64

A perverse consequence of the ban on territories being able to legislate on voluntary assisted dying, only repealed in 2022, was that terminally ill people wishing to die at a time and a place of their own choosing would take matters into their own hands.

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Heart surgery breakthrough

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

In an Australian-first, three Victorians have successfully undergone new lifesaving vascular surgery at Cabrini Hospital, sparking hope the "cuttingedge" device could be offered more widely. Vascular and endovascular surgeon Dr Charles Milne said he was "very confident" other hospitals would follow the lead of Cabrini the first and only Australian facility to have performed the "Candy Plug" technique.

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Health wait times dive

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 20

Wait times to see some public hospital specialists have plummeted in some cases by years as a concerted effort to improve services pays dividends. Latest data from SA Health shows 56 speciality outpatient services at metropolitan hospitals reduced overall maximum waiting times by up to 33 months, compared with the previous quarter.

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

Clinics to be open at end of month

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

Tasmania's four urgent care clinics bulk-billing GPs who will operate with extended hours to take pressure off wallets and emergency departments will be unveiled by the end of July. The announcement by Premier and Health Minister Jeremy Rockliff comes in the wake of confusion as to exactly when the clinics, two in greater Hobart and one each in Launceston and Devonport, were due to be delivered.

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New endoscopy recording system in place at MHPH

Barrier Truth, General News, 05/07/2023, Jason Irvine, Page 4

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.

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Hospital's top tech on show

Daily Mercury, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 9

The innovative use of voice to text software technology at Mackay Base Hospital will be in the international spotlight at a Sydney conference next week. Chief digital director medical services, Dr Pieter Nel, has been selected from more than 950 submissions to present at MedInfo23, a world congress on medical and health informatics.

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New medical places in regional areas will help solve doctor shortage

The Australian, Other, 06/07/2023, Melanie Bish

This week's announcement by the federal government of an increase in the Commonwealth supported places for rural-trained medical students, together with capital funding for regional training facilities, is a signal that the rural doctor shortage remains a significant challenge.

[Read More](#)

Surgeries cancelled after ceiling collapses into hospital lounge in Melbourne's north-east

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 06/07/2023, Alex Crowe

Surgeries have been cancelled at a private hospital in Melbourne's north-east after a wooden pallet containing plasterboard sheets crashed through the ceiling and into the building's lounge area. No patients or health care workers were injured when a crane dropped the pallet onto Warringal Private Hospital, damaging pipes and causing flooding in parts of the building.

[Read More](#)

Voluntary assisted dying would have helped Ros Williams. Now her family are advocating for change

Canberra Times, Other, 06/07/2023, Lucy Bladen

What's the difference between Australia's states and territories? Ros Williams was a fierce advocate for coronial reform in the ACT. She saw firsthand the need for reforms following the death of her son, Ben, who died in a road accident in Canberra in 2010. The coroner ruled his death a suicide. Ms Williams' determination and advocacy resulted in the establishment of a dedicated coroner for the territory and family liaison officer to help those going through the coronial process.

[Read More](#)

Government not addressing aged care shortages with any 'urgency'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/07/2023

Shadow Aged Care Minister Anne Ruston says she is frustrated with the Labor government's lack of "urgency" to address shortages in the aged care sector. "The biggest issue that we're facing is obviously workforce shortages," Ms Ruston told Sky News host Sharri Markson.

[Read More](#)

Ros Bates calls for Gympie Hospital ambo ramping stats

Gympie Times, Other, 06/07/2023, Christine Schindler

Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has been accused by the LNP of secrecy' over the state's ambulance ramping crisis. The state opposition has called on Health Minister Shannon Fentiman to reveal monthly ambulance ramping data for the Gympie Hospital, saying despite requests, none had been given since December 2022. [...] Queensland's target is set for 90 per cent of patients to be transferred from ambulances within 30 minutes and has not been met by the state for the last seven years, stated the Australian Medical Association Ambulance Ramping Report Card in 2022.

[Read More](#)

Worker dies: Police, paramedics to called John Hunter Hospital project site, man hit by steel reinforcement

Newcastle Herald, Other, 06/07/2023, Jessica Brown and Sage Swinton

A 20-year-old man has died after a steel "reinforcement fell and struck" him at a work site at John Hunter Hospital on Wednesday. Emergency services were called to the Jacaranda Drive site at New Lambton Heights just after 9am to reports an injured worker was trapped beneath heavy steel.

[Read More](#)

CPB Contractors awarded tender for \$1.2bn Bundaberg Hospital

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 06/07/2023, Nicole Strathdee

The development of a new Bundaberg Hospital has reached a major milestone while the state health minister concedes more needs to be done to improve the region's health system. Nicole Strathdee Journalist follow 0 comments The Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk joined the Health Minister Shannon Fentiman and Member for Bundaberg Tom Smith in Bundaberg to announce the tender for the new Bundaberg Hospital.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 06/07/2023, James Glenday

The Australian National University will build a new health precinct near Canberra's city centre to focus on translating disease research into world leading treatments for the public. The Territory Government has sold the university a site opposite the Shine Science Dome on the edge of the city.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Plea for ADHD to be part of NDIS

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/07/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 1

Thousands more people should be able to join the National Disability Insurance Scheme with a diagnosis of ADHD, according to a fresh push from peak psychiatrist and psychologist groups to boost support for those with the common neurodevelopmental disorder. The professions face resistance from the government, which is trying to tie the \$35 billion scheme down to an 8 per cent annual growth target as NDIS numbers balloon and thousands more children join the scheme with autism and developmental delay than was ever expected because they struggle to find support in mainstream systems.

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

Hotel detention of refugees 'lacked humanity', rules judge

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/07/2023, Bianca Hall, Page 8

Australia's use of hotels as makeshift detention centres for refugees and asylum seekers was lawful but failed the tests of basic humanity, a Federal Court judge said in a landmark ruling yesterday. [...] "It's not OK for someone who is suffering from asthma, from PTSD, to be locked in a room - but it's legal that a minister can ... put sick people inside a hotel and use it as a prison? There are a lot of things [happening] that are not OK," he said.

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

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Suicide crisis to follow cost of living woes

Daily Mercury, General News, 07/07/2023, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 12

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

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Detention of refugee in Melbourne hotel lacked 'ordinary human decency' but lawful

The Australian, Other, 06/07/2023, Elena Couper

An emotional Grace Tame embraced her refugee friend after it was ruled his detention in a Melbourne hotel for more than 14 months was lawful, despite lacking "ordinary human decency". In a landmark Federal Court ruling, Mostafa Moz' Azimitabar, a Kurdish-Iranian refugee, sought damages from the federal government for what he alleged to be unlawful detention.

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

[Read More](#)

Libby Mettam: WA mental health system is failing desperate, vulnerable kids

West Australian, Other, 07/07/2023, Libby Mettam

Last week I was heartbroken to read the story of the Perth family who could not understand why their 13-year-old daughter, Dellilah Downey, had reached such a level of despair that she decided her only answer was to take her life. The grieving dad, lost for explanation, said: "I had no idea she was sad".

[Read More](#)

Court rules detainment of refugee Mostafa Azimitabar in hotel rooms was legal but lacked 'care and humanity'

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Sacha Payne

In short: a court has ruled that detaining a Kurdish-Iranian refugee in hotel rooms for more than a year without access to sunshine and fresh air was legal What's next? Refugee advocates have called on the government to pass legislation that criminalises the use of so-called Alternative Places of Detention

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Channel 10, 10 News First: Midday, 06/07/2023, Narelda Jacobs

Interview with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, Adolescent and Child Psychologist. Carr-Gregg says there's a difficulty in getting in to see a psychologist, and we don't have enough of them. He adds there has been an upsurge in present nations so the Federal Government needs to look at making provisional psychologists more available.

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Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith says the Government is continuing to address gaps in mental health services in the Territory. The Centenary Hospital for Women and Children's Adolescent Unit opened yesterday, which includes six mental health beds, which comes as a first for Canberra. Stephen-Smith says there are other projects in the pipeline to help address current and future demand.

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2CC, 08:30 News, 06/07/2023

A steady expansion of mental health services in the ACT is beginning to culminate following industry and community consultation projects, including the adolescent unit at the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children and a residential eating disorder centre have been welcomed by Capital Region. Community Services executive manager Heidi Prowse says the Government's response is helping fix shortfalls in services for young people.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Expansion of nurse home visit program not stretching Far West

Barrier Truth, General News, 05/07/2023, Melanie Gates, Page 7

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.

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More need access to MS nurse care

The Senior - NSW, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 6

A new campaign aims to raise funding for Multiple Sclerosis (MS) nurses and awareness of the vital work they do. The Life-Changing Care campaign by MS Australia features intimate interviews with MS nurses and their patients, showcasing the range of health benefits they provide.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Crucial meeting as health strikes loom

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/07/2023, James O'Doherty, Page 4

Healthcare workers could ramp up strike action from Monday unless the government meets demands for better pay and conditions by today. Health Minister Ryan Park is due to meet with Health Services Union boss Gerard Hayes today to present a wage offer to the outspoken union leader.

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Burnt-out junior medicos on brink

West Australian, General News, 07/07/2023, Josh Zimmerman, Page 3

One in three junior doctors is close to leaving the profession, with burnout labelled a "sleeping giant" after the release of a scorecard detailing the huge strain placed on young physicians working in hospitals across the State. Worryingly, the worst result came at the Child and Adolescent Health Service which includes Perth Children's Hospital where 52 per cent of doctors in training reported they were close to flaming out.

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

Premier addresses challenge of getting staff to the bush

Daily Liberal, General News, 07/07/2023, Denis Howard, Page 4

After more than 100 days of Labor being in power where there was little to no movement for regional and rural health, there is optimism among members of the Minns government that progress will be made. This comes from the NSW Government's proposal to expand the single employer model for doctors, which has been approved by its federal counterpart.

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Drug testing for ambos recommended

Launceston Examiner, General News, 07/07/2023, Benjamin Seeder, Page 6

Ambulance Tasmania (at) staff knew of a paramedic's mental health issues and plan to commit suicide before he took a fatal cocktail of drugs in 2016, a coroner has found. Intensive care paramedic Damian Michael Crump died by suicide at Sorell in December, 2016, by consuming drugs stolen from AT headquarters in Hobart in the hours before his death.

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

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Crescent Capital shortlists bidders for 24-7

The Australian, Other, 06/07/2023, Bridget Carter

Advisors working on the sale process for home doctor service 24-7 are understood to have short-listed about three or four parties keen to buy the business. The service 24-7 is owned by private equity firm Crescent Capital and has been on the market this year through Rothschild & Co.

[Read More](#)

Deakin University's Warrnambool campus to apply for more medical degree places

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 06/07/2023, Monique Patterson

A funding boost for medical students trained in rural areas has been welcomed by Deakin University's Warrnambool campus. Professor Gary Rogers, who is the Dean of Deakin University's School of Medicine, said he welcomed the announcement of additional Commonwealth supported places (CSPs) for rural trained medical students.

[Read More](#)

Coroner delivers scathing report on Ambulance Tasmania paramedic's drug death

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Laura Beavis

In short: a coroner has delivered a damning report on the culture and management at Ambulance Tasmania, after a paramedic took his own life with drugs he had stolen from the Ambulance Tasmania store. Coroner Olivia McTaggart has recommended the introduction of mandatory drug and psychological testing for paramedics

[Read More](#)

Doctors who took strike action for six weeks win 'milestone' pay rise

Australian Doctor, Other, 06/07/2023, Heather Saxena

Salaried doctors will receive more pay and better leave entitlements. Doctors who voted for work-to-rule industrial action have accepted a 3.5% pay rise after a new offer from the Tasmanian Government.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News , 06/07/2023, Guy Stayner

The welfare and stresses of Tasmanian paramedics is in the spotlight in the wake of a coroner's investigation into a suicide. There's a push for mandatory drug and alcohol testing as well as regular psychological assessments of staff. Paramedics say any changes need to support them rather than punish them at all times day and night. Ambulance Tasmania is well aware of these issues having received a scathing cultural report into the organisation last year. But the coroner found it was yet to implement all the changes it recommended.

ABC News, Mornings, 06/07/2023, Karina Carvalho

The Australian Medical Association says the expansion of a programme that aims to combat widespread doctor shortages in the bush is just the first step. New South Wales will become the second state to fully roll out a statewide rural general practitioner model, which would allow doctors to train in state run hospitals as well as privately run clinics. The Federal Government has granted an exemption for the state unlocking funding for 80 rural generalist trainees from next year.

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HO FM, 09:00 News, 06/07/2023

The AMA says a newly brokered pay deal will better position Tasmania to retain junior medicos across its main hospitals. 98% of members have voted in favour of the state government's latest offer. Tasmania has been bleeding young doctors to greener pastures interstate but AMA negotiator Dr Michael Lumsden-Steel says now the state can set about rebuilding its workforce and the spirit of Tasmania.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, 10:00 News, 06/07/2023

The peak doctors group in the state says the expansion of a scheme to attract more GPs to regional areas is a good start. The Federal Government has signed off on a single employer model which will see regional GPs employed by the state the same way that hospital trainees are. AMA spokesman Dr Michael Bonning says more changes are needed to entice health professionals to regional communities.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Policy to force closure of community pharmacies

Northern Territory News, General News, 07/07/2023, Trent Twomey, Page 45

When something is too good to be true, it usually is. That's the case with the federal government's 60-day medicine dispensing policy, which requires pharmacists to dispense double the quantity of medicine for a patient, starting on September 1.

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

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PBS arrangements for cefaclor SSSI

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 06/07/2023, Page 1

The Department of Health and Aged Care has made amendments to the National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits) (Pharmacist Substitution of Medicines without Prescription during Shortages) Determination 2021. This is following the issuance of the Therapeutic Goods Serious Scarcity and Substitutable Medicine (Cefaclor) Instrument (SSSI) 2023, which will allow pharmacists to supply different forms of oral cefaclor at equivalent doses for the duration of the shortage, provided specified conditions are met. Further information about the substitution is available on the PBS Medicine Shortages page.

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

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Can't get a vasectomy? Come on, men, it's time to fight for your health rights!

Australian Doctor, Other, 06/07/2023, Heather McNamee

You know, i may be a rampant feminist who's fought for women's health rights for most of her career, but I actually like (some!) men. [...] Yes, several years ago, under the Federal health minister Nicola Roxon, a whole list of HRT choices were removed from the PBS , leaving only the basics for low-income women.

[Read More](#)

Dollar boost for pharmacies

Medical Forum, Other, 06/07/2023

On the 75th anniversary of the Chifley Labor Government's introduction of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), Australia's pharmacy sector has received a major financial boost in response to concerns about the 60-day prescribing initiative. Community pharmacies will be paid more for dispensing medicines, pharmacies outside the big cities will have their location allowance doubled, patients needing opioid dependency treatment will save hundreds of dollars, and pharmacy medicine stocks will be assured.

[Read More](#)

Largest yet AIDH

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 06/07/2023

The largest ever Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook ninth edition (AIDH) was released yesterday by the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA), with the front line resource featuring more than 500 medicines, including 60 new entries, and paediatric information extended to cover 240 monographs, including intramuscular and subcutaneous routes for over 100 medicines.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

'We're fighting for equity': speaking out

Launceston Examiner, General News, 07/07/2023, Molly Appleton, Page 2

The Medicare rebate for a vasectomy is more than double compared to an IUD. The gender bias in the contraceptive procedures "beggars belief", Family Planning Tasmania chief executive Lalla Mackenzie says. "We consider ourselves the contraception experts in Tasmania. Family planning is what we were invented for," Ms Mackenzie said.

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

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Reports surge against health professionals

Age, Edition Changes - 2nd Edition, 07/07/2023, Henrietta Cook, Page 3

The national health watchdog has been inundated with sexual misconduct complaints about doctors, nurses and other health professionals, with patients reporting 1766 boundary violations in the past two financial years. The 841 complaints recorded in 2022-23 is double the number from the pre-pandemic 2018-19 year, and has prompted the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) to beef up its investigations team to cope with the additional workload.

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

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Dodgiest doctors

Herald Sun, General News, 07/07/2023, Sarah Booth, Page 1

Complaints against healthcare workers for sexual harassment, unwanted touching, patient

relationships and other "boundary violations" have skyrocketed in recent years, with Victoria topping the list. New figures reveal the industry watchdog received 841 boundary violation complaints against 728 registered health practitioners - including 323 Victorians - in the 12 months to June 2023. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has attributed the dramatic jump to their improved efforts to uncover and act on sexual misconduct.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Migrants' high HIV risk

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 11

International migrants in Australia and beyond are at increased risk of HIV infection due to reduced access to a highly effective prevention measure, a world-first global review led by Monash University has found. The study identified barriers that migrant populations in Australia and around the world face to access pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), a drug that is up to 99 per cent effective in preventing HIV.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#)

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ABC, ABC News, 06/07/2023, Eleni Roussos

Sydney is on track to celebrate a remarkable milestone: becoming the first place in the world to effectively eliminate the transmission of HIV. It's an achievement won through decades of research, campaigns, treatments, and the hard work of the most vulnerable communities: sex workers, drug users and, of course, the gay community.

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SPORT

AFL nude photo leak 'appalling, disgusting'

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2023, Damon Johnston and Alice Coster, Page 7

The leaking of nude and graphic photos of current and former AFL players has been branded "appalling and disgusting" as police wait for victims to lodge a complaint before launching a criminal investigation into the privacy breach. Police confirmed that until one or more of the 45 current and former footballers whose alleged images have been included in the file posted and shared widely on social media complained, detectives would not open a probe.

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

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AFL nudes cache sets up legal minefield

Age, General News, 07/07/2023, Carla Jaeger, Page 1

Those who leaked and circulated explicit photos and videos of 45 past and present AFL players may never face criminal prosecution, as the victims so far say they are unlikely to make an official complaint. The material, which was easily downloadable and required no password to access, contained subfolders with the names of each of the former and current AFL players.

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

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

'Nasty': Lyon condemns leaking of players' private images

Canberra Times, Sport, 07/07/2023, Rodger Vaughan, Page 77

The online leaking of private images featuring AFL players has been labelled "nasty, appalling and

disgusting" as authorities continue investigations. The AFL integrity unit has alerted police after the private and personal images of current and former players were posted online. "It's a weird world we live in, isn't it?" St Kilda coach Ross Lyon said on Thursday.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Sunraysia Daily \(Mildura\)](#).

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

Expose AFL fiend

Herald Sun, General News, 07/07/2023, Mark Buttler and Brooke Grebert-Craig, Page 1

Police need one of 45 players caught up in vile privacy breach to come forward and bring lowlife to justice Police need one of the 45 players caught up in the nude photo scandal to lay a formal complaint so it can begin a hunt to bring to justice the fiend behind the shocking picture file. The Herald Sun on Wednesday revealed the AFL had launched its own investigation into the explicit dossier after being notified by several clubs this week.

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

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SA footy star to bare all to cops

Adelaide Advertiser, Edition Changes, 07/07/2023, Alice Coster and Riley Walter, Page 1

A former South Australian footballer embroiled in the AFL nude photo scandal involving dozens of players says he will pursue criminal charges over the leak after having his name "dragged through the mud". The man, who has now retired and asked not to be named, told The Advertiser he would speak with police on Friday.

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Brisbane rolls out welcome mat

Courier Mail, General News, 07/07/2023, Jeremy Pierce, Page 3

A new initiative seeks virtual brand ambassadors to give Brisbane visitors a warm welcome ahead of the 2032 Olympics. The Brisbane Welcomes You program will strengthen Brisbane's tourism sector by encouraging guests to stay longer, spend more and come back in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

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Premier dismissive over Gabba petition

Courier Mail, General News, 07/07/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 6

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk has appeared to dismiss a petition opposing the Gabba redevelopment and the bulldozing of nearby homes, saying the Brisbane 2032 Games are a "once in a lifetime opportunity". A parliamentary petition currently circulating calls for the Olympic and Paralympic Games development in the Woolloongabba area to be scrapped, including the transformation of Raymond Park into a warm-up track.

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

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Nude pics fiend must be found

Herald Sun, Editorials, 07/07/2023, Page 30

The atrocious release of naked images of a multitude of current and past AFL players needs to be fully investigated. If and when a perpetrator is identified as having collated and released the images onto the web and it's almost certain a matter of when not if the culprit is caught the full extent of the law must be applied.

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AFL photo leak grubby, gross and criminal

West Australian, Editorials, 07/07/2023, Page 2

The circulation online of intimate images purportedly of dozens of AFL players from various clubs is to be condemned. The photographs and videos were uploaded into a Google Drive file with a link to the

There will be no Christmas Day game in the shortened 40-game BBL season

The Australian, Other, 06/07/2023, Russell Gould

A Christmas Day Big Bash game remains "on the table" in the future despite again being left off the fixture as the tournament prepares for its 13th season. While the NBL has made a success of being the first Australian sport to launch games on December 25, BBL officials weren't convinced it was a necessary addition to a shortened fixture that has been reduced from 56 home-and-away games to 40 for the coming season.

[Read More](#)

English players could be targeted by Big Bash clubs for upcoming season

The Australian, Other, 06/07/2023, Russell Gould

The Melbourne Stars could make a renewed push to lure Ashes villain Jonny Bairstow back to the Big Bash as officials confirmed efforts to sign England players could ramp up in the wake of the fiery Test series. Bairstow, the central figure in the fallout from his controversial stumping in the second Test at Lord's, was set to join the Stars in 2020 before an international recall but is one of several English players who could be in the sights of teams for the upcoming season.

[Read More](#)

Spike in Google searches for AFL nudes, despite pleas from league

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 06/07/2023, Carla Jaeger and Marta Pascual Juanola

Google searches for the collection of explicit images and videos linked to AFL players have spiked, despite pleas from the league and AFL Players Association for the public to respect the privacy of the alleged victims. The dossier of explicit content , which was organised into folders of past and present AFL players, had been scrubbed as of Thursday morning.

[Read More](#)

AFL nude photo scandal prompts 'deepfake' fears: What are deepfakes and how to protect yourself?

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Emily Olle

Senior AFL figures say AI technology or image doctoring could be behind a massive nude photo leak but what are deepfakes, and how dangerous are they? Senior AFL figures say a number of photos leaked in what has been dubbed a "major privacy breach" are likely not legitimate, prompting questions over whether "deep fake" technology or image doctoring could have been involved in their creation.

[Read More](#)

'Grubby': AFL player caught in nude photo scandal speaks out

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/07/2023

A footy player embroiled in the AFL's nude photo leak scandal has spoken out as more details of the situation emerge. Fans have been warned about sharing any images related to the AFL's nude photo leak scandal that has rocked the sport.

[Read More](#)

South West Football League suspends Collie Eagles player over umpire abuse

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Jacqueline Lynch

A West Australian country football player who physically retaliated and swore at an umpire during a game has been banned from playing for more than three years, with his behaviour dubbed "well and truly unacceptable". It is understood 20-year-old Collie Eagles player Billy Bebbington approached the umpire and swore after he was warned for rough conduct during a South West football league match on the weekend.

Qatar shines spotlight on Australia's human rights record ahead of World Cup

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023

What will Australia's human rights legacy be when the final whistle blows at the FIFA Women's World Cup?

[Read More](#)

AFL Players Association says many of the leaked explicit images of players are fake

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023

The AFL Players Association says some of the explicitly images of past and present players illegally distributed online appear to be fake, and have not yet been verified. CEO of the Players Association Paul Marsh spoke to ABC Radio Melbourne to air concern over how the images came to be shared in what is a "confronting" leak of personal data.

[Read More](#)

Gabba renovation pushes ahead, despite thousands fighting to block the \$2.7 billion upgrade

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Brittney Kleyn

The prospect of living, quite literally, in the middle of an Olympic city is frightening neighbours of the centrepiece venue the Gabba particularly those surrounding Brisbane's nearby Raymond Park. The green space will be transformed into the athletics warm-up track for the 2032 Olympic Games, due to world competition standards requiring such facilities to be located directly adjacent or very close to the athletics venue.

[Read More](#)

Sydney Cricket Ground and Qudos Bank Arena among major stadiums to use facial recognition

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Paige Cockburn

Heading to the AFL at the Sydney Cricket Ground next week? Or maybe you're seeing Lizzo at Sydney's Qudos Bank Arena soon? Or the FIFA Women's World Cup at Allianz Stadium later this month? If so, you can expect to be captured by facial recognition technology that's in use at each of these venues.

[Read More](#)

Police fear footy stars in shocking AFL nude pics leak could have been targeted by criminals using young women to lure them into a 'Sextortion' sting - as new details emerge about cops' investigation

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Wayne Flower

Fears have emerged that the mass leak of nude images allegedly featuring more than 45 current and former AFL stars was likely to have been published by organised criminals in a 'sextortion' attempt. A Google drive file claiming to contain images of stars past and present was shared online showing screenshots, photos and videos claiming to feature AFL players including Brownlow Medal winners.

[Read More](#)

AFL player caught out in nude photo scandal speaks out as cops launch an urgent investigation: 'It's just not fair'

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Olivia Day and Ollie Lewis

Current and former AFL players involved in a mass leak of personal and private images were likely educated about the risks of sharing intimate photos online. One of the players caught up in the scandal said he was 'really disappointed'. 'It's a gross breach of privacy. It's just not fair,' he told the Herald Sun Channel 7 commentator and former Essendon player Jobe Watson said he and his teammates were told they could 'lose control' of their private images.

AFL, police investigate mass leaking of 'personal' player photos

In Daily, Other, 06/07/2023, David Eccles

A mass leaking of private and personal images featuring current and former AFL players is being investigated by the league and police. Several clubs contacted the AFL to let them know personal intimate data of past and present players had been distributed and shared online.

[Read More](#)

Nations of Origin set to promote reconciliation, cultural identity through sport

National Indigenous Times, Other, 06/07/2023

The celebration and promotion of reconciliation, cultural identity and education through sport is set to take place at PCYC (Police Citizen Youth Clubs) NSW's annual Nations of Origin tournament, which is behind held in Western Sydney next week. The four day sporting event will see more than 1,100 Indigenous youths from across NSW represent 25 Indigenous nations in rugby league, football fives, gymnastics, basketball and netball tournaments.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

ANU buys block to build 'world-leading' health precinct

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

A new health building housing facilities for research and treatment will be built on the site of a car park the Australian National University has bought from the ACT government. The university on Thursday announced it had paid \$16.75 million for the 8600-square-metre site on Marcus Clarke Street, where a light rail works depot is currently set up.

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

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University of Canberra PhD student Thilini Sudeshika's research into general practice pharmacists

Canberra Times, Other, 06/07/2023, Lanie Tindale

A Canberra PhD student's research into employing pharmacists in general practitioner clinics could be another step towards comprehensive health hubs. Nine pharmacists worked in GP clinics for University of Canberra student Thilini Sudeshika's research.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Yes camp must explain how voice will close the gap

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2023, Anthony Dillon, Page 11

The need to close the gap in health and wellbeing between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians was the centrepiece of Indigenous Australians Minister Linda Burney's speech at the National Press Club, in which she spoke about the proposed Indigenous voice to parliament. But the proposed voice has its own gap: namely, the one between what proponents of the voice claim it will achieve and what it can realistically be expected to achieve.

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

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The voice is changing

Hobart Mercury, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 22

Linda Burney has left open the possibility of legislating the four priority areas the government wants the voice to focus on, as Peter Dutton accuses the Indigenous Australians Minister of "pretending" the advisory body's scope is restricted to health, education, housing and jobs. Constitutional law experts said the voice would be able to make representations on other areas affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people if it wished, as guaranteed by the constitution.

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

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Chance to build better future for Australians

Northern Territory News, General News, 07/07/2023, Linda Burney, Page 45

Health, education, jobs and housing - these are the priority areas I will ask the Voice to Parliament to consider and provide advice on from its first day of operation. I want a Voice to Parliament that makes a practical difference to the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

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

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NT Coroner warns 'radical re-evaluation' needed to address domestic violence rates

Northern Territory News, Other, 06/07/2023, Zizi Averill

Extra police resources, domestic violence training, and Aboriginal placements to be proposed after damning investigation into woman's death. Read what the coronial inquest heard. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this article contains the names and image of Indigenous people who have passed, used with the permission of their families. The Territory is in need of a "radical re-evaluation" to address the rising tide of family violence, the coroner has warned.

[Read More](#)

Linda Burney fills the Voice's in-tray, as the government battles to stop slide in Yes vote

ABC Online, Other, 07/07/2023, Michelle Grattan

In a change of government tactics, Linda Burney this week deployed a sheet anchor to tie the Voice to practical outcomes. At the same time, Opposition Leader Peter Dutton is weaponising the cost of living to flail it.

[Read More](#)

"It is time for Australia to recognise Indigenous Australians" - Burney on Voice

National Indigenous Times, Other, 06/07/2023

Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney received a standing ovation at the National Press Club on Wednesday after her call: "it is time for Australia to recognise Indigenous Australians." Ms Burney said that for far too long, governments have been making policies for Indigenous Australians, not with Indigenous Australians.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Dutton backs small, modular nuclear reactors to complement renewables

Australia's growing energy demands could be met cost-effectively by building small nuclear reactors on the site of ageing coal-fired power plants and using transmission systems already in place, Peter Dutton says. The opposition leader will accuse federal...

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

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Dutton: turn coal plants to nuclear

The Australian, General News, 07/07/2023, Simon Benson, Page 1

Peter Dutton has proposed converting old coal-fired power sites into locations for small-scale nuclear plants as part of the Coalition's future energy plan as the Opposition Leader launches his most strident attack yet on the "renewable zealotry" of the Albanese government. In a speech to the Institute of Public Affairs on Friday morning, the Liberal leader will double down on the party's plans to pursue nuclear power as an alternative to fossil fuels, claiming the "renewables only" agenda was "fanciful" and putting the nation at risk.

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Flu jabs urged for kids at risk

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/07/2023, Jessica Wang, Page 11

Children under 16 years old have been urged to get their flu jab, as NSW battles an increase in severe infections of influenza B, with extreme cases requiring the use of heart-lung bypass machines. In the week to July 2, health data revealed a 37 per cent jump in people going to the emergency room with Influenza-like illnesses, with children under 16 accounting for 54 per cent of presentations.

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

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Parents urged on flu shots

Central Western Daily, General News, 07/07/2023, Duncan Murray, Page 6

Parents are being urged to vaccinate their children against influenza amid a spike in emergency department presentations by previously healthy school-aged kids. NSW Chief Health Officer Kerry Chant warned flu cases were increasing, placing young people at heightened risk, while the circulation of COVID-19 had waned.

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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Kids cop brunt in flu's rise

Newcastle Herald, General News, 07/07/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 3

Sixteen children have been admitted to intensive care since May with "life-threatening complications" from influenza at three NSW hospitals, including John Hunter. NSW Health Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant said these complications include "serious heart, brain, and muscle-related complications".

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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

'Life threatening': Sharp rise in kids' hospital admissions as flu cases rise

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 06/07/2023, Kate McIlwain

The state's chief health officer has issued an influenza warning for parents of school-aged children and teenagers, as admissions to emergency departments rise. NSW Health Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant said the latest NSW data showed a 37 per cent increase in ED presentations from people with with influenza-like illnesses and a 30 per cent increase in admissions to hospital in the week to July 2, compared to the previous week.

[Read More](#)

NSW Chief Paediatrician's advice on kids this flu season

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Richard Glover

Sydney Drive Parents have been urged to vaccinate kids following a spike in NSW influenza cases. According to NSW Health, half of the hospital admissions presenting with flu-like symptoms are aged 16 and under.

[Read More](#)

Respiratory syncytial virus cases close to 10 times higher in some states, as testing rates increase

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Sara Garcia and Imogen Hayne

Cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) have skyrocketed across the country, with some states reporting close to 10 times the number of cases compared to the same time last year. While the figures may seem alarming, experts suggest mandatory reporting and higher levels of testing are likely contributing to the high numbers along with COVID-19 complacency.

[Read More](#)

Parents urged to get children vaccinated after spike in NSW influenza cases

ABC Online, Other, 06/07/2023, Jean Kennedy

Health authorities are urging parents to vaccinate their children against influenza, after a spike in hospital admissions and about a dozen people recently transferred to intensive care with the virus. NSW Health said half of those turning up at New South Wales hospital emergency departments with influenza-like symptoms are children, aged 16 and under.

[Read More](#)

Peter Dutton ramps up nuclear power push and claims Labor down 'renewable rabbit hole'

The Guardian, Other, 07/07/2023, Daniel Hurst

The opposition leader, Peter Dutton, has ramped up calls for nuclear power in Australia, casting the move as a way to avoid dependence on wind and solar technology from China and a natural next step from the Aukus pact. Dutton will make the comments on Friday at an event organised by the Institute of Public Affairs, a Liberal-aligned thinktank that has publicly opposed curbs on coal-fired power and has lobbied against the net zero by 2050 policy.

[Read More](#)

'Rollercoaster of a sickness': how a horror flu season is catching Australian families off guard

The Guardian, Other, 07/07/2023, Jordyn Beazley

Feverish and lethargic, Emily Smith's two-year-old daughter could barely open her eyes on the plane ride home from a family holiday in January. In fear, she took Billie to hospital right after their plane landed in Sydney, at the beginning of what has become a horror flu season. "It wasn't until we got her to the hospital and they told me it was the flu," Smith said. "It definitely opened my eyes to how sick it can make them."

[Read More](#)

Flu cases spike: Australian parents urged to vaccinate children after steep rise in hospital admissions

The Guardian, Other, 06/07/2023, Melissa Davey

Amid a steep national rise in children being admitted to hospital with influenza, the New South Wales chief health officer, Dr Kerry Chant, has urged parents to vaccinate their children. Children aged six months to under five years can receive a free flu vaccination as they are considered a high-risk group. Other high-risk groups eligible for free vaccination include pregnant women, those aged 65 and above, Aboriginal people from six months of age, and those with serious health conditions.

[Read More](#)

Parents urged to vaccinate children as emergency departments see

spike in flu cases

9News, Other, 06/07/2023, Sarah Swain

Doctors are calling for parents to get their children vaccinated against flu after a spike in the number of youngsters being taken to hospital with flu-like illnesses. In last week alone there was a 37 per cent increase in NSW emergency department presentations with influenza-like illness in the state, the health department said today.

[Read More](#)

How to protect children from illness during school holidays as flu cases soar

SBS, Other, 06/07/2023, Sahil Makkar

Associate Professor Dr. Habib Bhurawala shares a few tips with parents on how to keep children safe from illness during these school holidays. He said it's still not too late to get vaccinated against the flu as new infections continue to soar in New South Wales and Victoria.

[Read More](#)

Have you got a cold you just can't shake? Surge in cases of virus across Australia

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Ben Talintyre

Cases of a potentially lethal winter virus are up almost tenfold on this time last year, as it spreads across the country at an alarming rate. RSV - respiratory syncytial virus - is a major cause of lung infections in children and can lead to pneumonia or bronchiolitis, which is especially dangerous in infants. Many states are reporting the numbers are close to ten times that of last year, yet that may be down to how the virus now requires mandatory reporting.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC News Tonight, 06/07/2023, Yvonne Yong

Interview with Professor Adrian Esterman, epidemiologist, University of South Australia about the rise of cases of RSV. Esterman says testing for RSV is quite similar for COVID and flu and there are joint tests that can actually detect all three.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 06/07/2023, Peter Overton

NSW Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant is warning of rising flu infections. The number of flu patients presenting to emergency is up 37% on the week before and the number admitted to hospital is up 30%. Chant is urging parents to get their children vaccinated ahead of the return to school.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, RN Drive, 06/07/2023, Andy Park

Interview with Professor Adrian Esterman, epidemiologist, University of South Australia about the rise of cases of RSV. Esterman states there has been a vaccine actually recently approved in the US for older people. He says the rise in cases couldn't be attributed to post COVID-19 vaccine complacency and official reporting of RSV cases has just started.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Senator almost quit job

Hobart Mercury, General News, 07/07/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 16

Cannabis 'saved' pollie Tasmanian Greens senator Peter Whish-Wilson says he was considering quitting politics until he started using medicinal cannabis to treat his chronic health issues, compelling

him to go public with his story to raise awareness of the benefits associated with the products. [...] Tasmanians can obtain a prescription for medicinal cannabis products through a GP but approval must be obtained from the Therapeutic Goods Administration under the Special Access Scheme or Authorised Prescriber Scheme.

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If you have pain & inflammation

The Senior - QLD, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 11

This family-owned Australian company founded in 2014 is based on the need to develop a solution for chronic inflammation at cellular level, a main contributor to many health conditions. [...] "Each of Arborvitae's supplements are listed with the Therapeutic Goods Administration and are manufactured in Australia under Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)."

Also reported by: [The Senior - SA \(Adelaide\)](#).

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

Gwyneth Paltrow is a fan — but we must be rigorous before prescribing psychedelics

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 06/07/2023, Alexandra Jones Thu

A new study published by Cambridge University Press has found that therapy assisted by the psychedelic psilocybin is a more cost effective way of treating depression than any currently available intervention. This comes hot on the heels of news that Australia has become the first westernised country to legalise the prescription of MDMA and psilocybin for PTSD and treatment-resistant depression respectively. [...] He tweeted: "I have no understanding why the TGA would consider it safe to allow psychedelics on prescription when trials are not complete and no regulatory authority around the world has licensed them.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Hooked on (soap) powder

Herald Sun, Edition Changes - 3rd Edition, 07/07/2023, John Masanauskas, Page 3

Huge demand for soap powder donated to a charity has triggered concerns homeless people may be using it for drug use. Salvation Army welfare workers have noticed the powder "flying off the shelves" to regular visitors to the Project 614 cafe in Bourke St, which also distributes free food. Project director Major Brendan Nottle said that people were specifically requesting boxes of the washing powder, with some coming in a few times a day.

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

Keep an eye out for bad tablets

The Senior - QLD, General News, 01/07/2023, Page 34

Queenslanders are being warned against taking illegally sourced drugs following the seizure of counterfeit medications containing life-threatening substances. Tablets found during various investigations this year have tested positive to protonitazene, a strong opioid that can be fatal even in small doses.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Coles pulls poppy seeds from shelves

Cairns Post, General News, 07/07/2023, Aisling Brennan, Page 15

An urgent recall on a common brand of poppy seeds sold at major Aussie supermarkets has been expanded across four states over fears of "severe poisoning" if ingested. Food Standards Australia and New Zealand had issued the recall on the 250g, 500g and 5kg packs of Royal Fields poppy seeds (pictured) sold at Coles and independent supermarkets in Victoria on July 1.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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

Murnong making difference

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 07/07/2023, Page 22

The murnong, also known as the yam daisy thanks to its yellow daisy-like flower, was a staple food across south-eastern Australia before colonisation. Its leaves can be used in salads and the tubers can be eaten raw or cooked.

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No 'critical' concern preventing EU glyphosate use: agency

The Australian, Other, 06/07/2023

Afp 9:55pm July 6, 2023 The European Food Safety Authority said on Thursday it had not found "any critical areas of concern" preventing the controversial and widely used herbicide glyphosate being reauthorised for use in the EU. Environmental groups lashed out at the announcement, saying there was scientific evidence that glyphosate may cause cancer, poison aquatic life and can be fatal to key pollinators like bees.

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Poppy seed recall widens over 'severe poisoning' risk

9News, Other, 06/07/2023, Joe Attanasio

A recall on a common brand of poppy seeds sold at major Aussie supermarkets has been widened across multiple states over fears of "severe poisoning" if ingested. Food Standards Australia and New Zealand had previously issued the recall on the 250g, 500g and 5kg packs sold at Coles and independent supermarkets in Victoria.

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Should you kick your Diet Coke habit? As a public health expert, I'm not too worried

The Guardian, Other, 06/07/2023, Gideon Meyerowitz-Katz

We've been worried about artificial sweeteners and human health for decades. I remember when I was growing up a lot of parents would tell their kids to be careful about artificially sweetened things because they could cause all sorts of nasty conditions. In my teens a friend's mother was convinced that her daughter's Diet Coke habit was going to give her no end of issues later in life.

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Sour taste for aspartame?

Medical Forum, Other, 06/07/2023

The WHO is set to classify the popular artificial sweetener Aspartame as a possible carcinogen this month, in defiance of the food industry. Aspartame, found in a multitude of foods, will be listed in July as "possibly carcinogenic to humans" by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the WHO's cancer research body.

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NSW firefighters call for better protections from exposure to carcinogens at work

After calling time on a firefighting career spanning nearly 40 years, Bob McGowan was looking forward to retiring on the New South Wales south coast. But just six months later a routine heart scan uncovered a life-changing illness.

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