



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 12th August 2023

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Saturday Age \(page 1\)](#)** reports that the Victorian government is expected to post a \$100 million loss on the Australian Grand Prix when it tables its annual report, despite a record attendance of 440,000. Contributing to the cost was a bidding war with Sydney to secure the location of the event in the wake of pandemic cancellations.
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 22\)](#)** reports that health groups have cautiously welcomed the proposed expansion of conversion therapy bans by the NSW Government. LGBTQ+ groups say the changes would help particularly vulnerable members who often were subjected to conversion therapy practices while seeking counselling support.
- **[The Herald Sun \(page 6\)](#)** reports that the Federal Court has ruled in favour of a junior doctor for not being paid overtime at Peninsula Health, as the lead claimant in a class action representing 1600 workers. Unions have called on the Victorian Government to acknowledge and enforce wage theft regulations for healthcare providers in the state.
- **[The Adelaide Advertiser \(page 39\)](#)** reports that appointment wait times at rural GP clinics in South Australia are now commonly four to six weeks, which is impacting patient care and

emergency departments. The Rural Doctors Association of SA said that workforce shortages were becoming more acute, which was resulting in the closure of many services.

- **The West Australian (page 31)** reports that staffing shortages at the St John of God Bunbury Hospital have raised concerns about its possible closure, which would lead to mothers needing to travel more than 100km for care. Australian Medical Association WA president Michael Page said the shortages were part of broader healthcare worker training bottlenecks in Western Australia.
- **The Courier Mail (Online)** reports that Tweed MP Geoff Provest has called on the NSW Government to fund incentive programs for essential frontline workers including nurses, police and paramedics amid fears there will not be enough staff to man the redevelopment of the Tweed Valley Hospital. The calls come following the announcement of a \$20,000 regional healthcare subsidy from the NSW Government on Friday.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Detective Dad

Daily Telegraph, General News, 12/08/2023, Linda Silmalis, Page 9

A Sydney father posed as his daughter online in a desperate bid to catch a fellow student who was dealing vapes at school. The undercover operation is one incident included in a new dossier on vaping incidents in NSW public schools. [...] Federally, Health Minister Mark Butler has declared his own war on vapes, declaring it to be "the number one behavioural issue in high schools" in a speech he delivered in May.

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### No quick fix for shortage

Maranoa Today, General News, 11/08/2023, Daniel Burdon, Page 5

An injection of \$17 million to get more junior doctors into rural and regional towns will not "turn the tide in the next year or two" on the state's doctor shortage, the head of the Rural Doctors Association of Queensland says. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler and his state counterpart Shannon Fentiman announced the funding on 23 July, saying it would create some 340 positions for young doctors to rotate through various roles in Queensland's hospitals, health services and general practices in line with their interests.

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### Butler furious!

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 11/08/2023, Page 1

The Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has shown anger against the peak pharmacist lobby group's "scare campaigns", saying yesterday, "it's a new low for me". "I was furious because the pharmacy lobby and the Coalition know full well that aged care facilities are funded by taxpayers to manage the medicine needs of their residents, and that includes packaging it into Webster packs.

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

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### 8CPA surety sought before 04 Sep

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 11/08/2023, Page 1

The 60dd dispensing policy should go ahead on 01 Sep despite moves in the Senate to disrupt the vote for the legislation. [...] The Federal Health Minister Mark Butler seems to be doubling down on the 60DD policy when speaking to the media, "I made that commitment and I'm going to deliver on that commitment.

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

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## Recent decisions bring industry watchdog under scrutiny

Australian Brews News, Other, 11/08/2023, Matt Kirkegaard

A series of recent decisions by the alcohol industry's advertising regulator under its voluntary code has reignited criticisms of the industry's ability to regulate itself. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler told SBS that he had sought advice about the product but had not yet seen it.

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## The week in review

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 12/08/2023, Megan Haggan

[...] The week began as health minister Mark Butler announced that negotiations would be brought forward for the 8CPA, beginning "now" in a move that was welcomed by the

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## New pharmacy applications surge

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/08/2023

Applications for new pharmacies have increased dramatically since the government announced plans to introduce double dispensing, Mark Butler the Minister for Health and Aged Care says.

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## Butler notches up major win on 60-days

MedNews, Other, 11/08/2023, Megan Brodie

Health Minister Mark Butler celebrates his win. 11 August 2023 It was a game of political tic-tac-toe in Federal Parliament on Thursday This is subscriber-only content.

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## Cystic fibrosis ward honours doctor who fought brave battle

Parra News, Other, 11/08/2023, Ellie Busby

Australia's first purpose-built Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Specialist Service ward has opened at Westmead Hospital, honouring a young doctor who passed away after his own struggle with CF. [...] Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler said the ward will make a big difference to patients and their families.

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## Labor's 60-day prescription plan set to go ahead after Coalition challenge delayed

SBS, Other, 11/08/2023, Jessica Bahr

The government says the changes will halve medication costs for eligible Australians, but the pharmacy sector has been lobbying against the shift. The Coalition has delayed its planned disallowance motion on the government's 60-day dispensing policy. [...] "We are absolutely confident that our local pharmacists want to sit down with Mark Butler and find the right solution."

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## Peter Dutton argues medicine bill relief under new PBS 60-day dispensing should be funded from government

Sky News Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Heloise Vyas

Opposition Leader Peter Dutton has voiced his disagreement with the federal government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme ahead of its rollout in September, saying medicine bill relief should be provisioned at the expense of taxpayers. [...] Shadow Health Minister Anne Ruston said the decision to back down was made to allow Health Minister Mark Butler "the opportunity to get back to the table to resolve these legitimate concerns" raised by pharmacy lobbyists.

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## COVID check up: when did we become socially immune?

The Latch, Other, 11/08/2023, Jack Revell

It's been a little over two years since NSW, followed by Victoria, plunged into a bleak lockdown. [...] NSW also scrapped ad-hoc PCR testing entirely in April after Health Minister Mark Butler wound down

testing in December last year .

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## Regions to benefit from prescription changes: Doctors

The New Daily, Other, 11/08/2023, Andrew Brown

Patients from regional areas will stand to benefit from prescription medicine changes, doctors say, despite warnings rural pharmacies will be at risk under the proposal. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler on Thursday said the estimated \$1.2 billion saved in the next four years through the cheaper medicines policy would be reinvested back to community pharmacies.

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## MINISTER WELLS

### Positive nursing figures reinforce Government's vision for health care

CathNews, Other, 11/08/2023

Catholic Health Australia has applauded the results of the first month of reporting on the federal government's 24/7 aged care registered nursing requirements. [...] I applaud the ambition of the Aged Care Minister Anika Wells in driving this reform often in the face of great scepticism."

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### Radical idea to save 2026 Commonwealth Games

hottomato.com.au, Other, 11/08/2023

Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate is continuing his push for the city to take over hosting duties after Victoria's sensational decision to pull the pin. [...] The Mayor has written to Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells but is yet to receive a response.

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### Great expectations about aged care reforms

Star Weekly, Other, 11/08/2023

Two years after the completion of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, there are great expectations the quality of aged care will be improved. [...] To address this issue, Minister for Aged care Anika Wells announced an Aged Care Taskforce in mid-June.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### Peter Dutton says Aussies should foot bill for cheaper medicines, not pharmacies

Adelaide Now, Other, 11/08/2023, Courtney Gould

Assistant Rural and Regional Health Minister Emma McBride says every dollar saved through the government's new changes to dispensing will go towards supporting community pharmacies. Peter Dutton says a move to make medicines cheaper should be funded by the taxpayers and not pharmacies.

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

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### Minister determined to see pharmacy 'thrive'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/08/2023

Some pharmacies will take a hit to their bottom line because of 60-day dispensing, but the government

is committed to seeing the profession thrive, a Minister says. Pharmacist-turned-politician, Emma McBride, the Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, wants the community pharmacy sector to take on an expanded role in the delivery of healthcare going

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

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## DEPARTMENT

### Staff shortage and employee-centred rostering

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 18

Staff shortage is one of the greatest challenges in our health systems. [...] The strong collaboration between the Department of Health, three health services and the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Victorian Branch, provides a strong platform for a broader implementation of flexible rostering guidelines to match the current needs of both nurses, midwives, and health services.

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### System failed Indigenous teen with tragic results

Canberra Times, Other, 11/08/2023, Rudi Maxwell

Suicide prevention experts believe failure to take cultural care seriously in prisons is costing lives. [...] A spokesperson for the federal health department said Indigenous people should receive adequate and culturally safe health care if they are in prison, but responsibility for providing it lies with the states and territories.

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

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### Lost class list, found connections: Townsville's Pimlico High '82 reunion hunt goes global

The Courier Mail, Other, 11/08/2023, Blair Jackson

Controversial businessmen, revolutionary scientists and world champions all came from Pimlico High in the 1980s. [...] Ms Walker herself works for the federal Department of Health and Aged Care.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#).

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### The latest COVID-19 news and case numbers from each Australian state and territory

ABC Online, Other, 11/08/2023, Erin Cooper-Douglas

The states and territories are now reporting their COVID-19 statistics weekly or fortnightly, instead of the daily updates that were provided in the early days of the pandemic. [...] The Federal Department of Health, however, shows the Top End has recorded five average daily cases in the week to August 8, with one case in hospital and zero in intensive care.

## Shingles sending thousands to hospital but only a select few eligible for vaccine

9News, Other, 11/08/2023, Lucy Slade

Up to one-third of Australians are prone to developing shingles , a condition that can flare up for those who've had chickenpox, but only a select age group is eligible for the free vaccine. [...] A federal health department spokesperson said the catch-up program was extended due to the pandemic.

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## Dept of Health, Aged Care gearing up for new IT services

ARN, Other, 11/08/2023, Sasha Karen

The Department of Health and Aged Care is considering the implementation of new ICT services in the future and is looking for information on industry trends to inform its plan. In a request for information (RFI), the Department's Information Technology Division (ITD) and the Digital Transformation and Delivery Division (DTDD) have been scoping out how to expand the range of its ICT services, per its ICT Strategy 2023-2026.

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## Shakespeare adds Robodebt review to list of duties

Health Services Daily, Other, 11/08/2023, Cate Swannell

The steely-eyed DoHAC deputy secretary of the health financing group has been appointed as a Robodebt cop. And that's just the biggest of this week's moves.

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## Hunt on for new PBAC chief

Pharma In Focus, Other, 11/08/2023

A changing of the guard looms for Australia's Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Committees with the start of a recruitment push to fill upcoming, top-level vacancies. The Department of Health and Aged Care is seeking expressions of interest for the role of PBAC Chair, currently held by Professor Andrew Wilson.

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## Systemic healthcare failure catalyst to Indigenous teenager's death

SBS, Other, 11/08/2023

A coroner has concluded that the overall quality of Stanley Inman Jr's supervision, treatment and care was of a lower standard than it should have been. [...] A spokesperson for the federal health department said Indigenous people should receive adequate and culturally safe health care if they are in prison, but responsibility for providing it lies with the states and territories.

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## MyMedicare enrolment is a payroll tax minefield

The Medical Republic, Other, 11/08/2023

A poorly explained process could expose you accidentally to ATO issues or your entire practice to payroll and income tax liability. [...] When asked why the enrolment procedures and educational material do not specifically address the potential issue of payroll tax for certain practices according to business structure, a Department of Health and Aged Care spokesperson told TMR the following: "General practices are private businesses with diverse operating structures and employment models, and it is the responsibility and choice of the owner, or the individual in the case of a contractual arrangement as to how they operate and to seek the appropriate expert advice reflective of their unique business arrangements."

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## COVID vaccines and your DNA: What the science tells us (and what it doesn't)

Officials have maintained that mRNA COVID vaccines do not alter our DNA, but a new case filed in the Federal Court of Australia raises difficult questions about how reliable this assurance is. [...] On this assurance, more 22 million Australians had received at least one dose of Covid vaccination as at 27 July 2023, according to figures released by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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## CORONAVIRUS

### New weapon in the fight to beat Covid

Daily Telegraph, General News, 12/08/2023, Page 33

Lab data in cells has shown that siRNA has the potential to treat Covid-19 infection better than existing antivirals, according to new research from UNSW's Kirby and RNA Institutes. Dr Chantelle Ahlenstiel and her team from the Kirby Institute have been using cell lines to test how effectively siRNA therapeutics can stop SARS-CoV-2 from replicating.

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### Last day for employers to destroy staff Covid vaccination information

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Rebecca Borg

In another sign Victorians are living in a post-pandemic world, Friday marks the final day employers are allowed to keep staff Covid vaccination files on record. From Saturday, all files containing information on whether employees are vaccinated against the virus or are exempt due to health issues must be destroyed, after employers were given 30-days notice to rip up the documents.

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

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### Nose picking awareness link to Covid amongst health workers

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/08/2023

A new study has examined behavioural and physical factors which may contribute to the increased risk of Covid-19 amongst health workers Why not to pick your nose: Association between nose picking and SARS-CoV-2 incidence, a cohort study in hospital health care workers has just been published in PLOS One.

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### Global Covid cases up 80% as new subvariant rises

NEWS.com.au, Other, 11/08/2023

The number of new Covid-19 cases reported worldwide rose by 80 percent in the last month, the World Health Organization said on Friday, days after designating a new "variant of interest". The WHO declared in May that Covid is no longer a global health emergency, but has warned that the virus will continue to circulate and mutate, causing occasional spikes in infections, hospitalisations and deaths.

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

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### 'It was soul-destroying': Shining light on the emotional toll of retirement

The Saturday Age, General News, 12/08/2023, Nell Geraets, Page 22

For some, retirement seems optional. Country music superstar Dolly Parton, 77, recently said she had

no plans to retire, hoping she would instead just "drop dead in the middle of a song onstage someday".

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## 'Substandard' care at aged home before fall death

Canberra Times, Other, 11/08/2023, Ethan James

An aged care home provided substandard care to an 82-year-old resident who died after falling out of bed, with the facility's then-operator co-operating poorly during an investigation, a coroner has found. Peter Joseph Guy died in hospital on April 23, 2022 while being treated for injuries suffered in an unwitnessed fall 22 days earlier at Freemasons Home in Hobart.

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## Stephen Shirley: Southern Cross Care Tasmania's chair resigns after decade in charge

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Blair Richards

The chair of embattled aged care provider Southern Cross Care Tasmania (SCC), has resigned, citing the need for "generational change". Stephen Shirley has been on the board for the last ten years, of which the last five years have been as chair of what is the state's largest aged care provider.

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

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## Aged care in the Illawarra Shoalhaven is in crisis (Illawarra Mercury)

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 11/08/2023, Ryan Park

Our region is facing a critical shortage of aged care beds and our public hospitals are serving as makeshift aged care facilities. We currently have around 94 elderly patients in hospital beds across the Illawarra Shoalhaven, waiting for a placement in an aged care facility.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### We've been on a diet for 15 years and we're still obese

Daily Telegraph, General News, 12/08/2023, Cydonee Mardon, Page 13

Australian women are spending nearly 15 years of their life on a diet. Startling new research reveals that, despite the massive time investment, on- third of dieting women still feel like they have failed in their quest for fat loss.

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

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### More than 900 calls about mushroom poisonings in South Australia over the past decade

Adelaide Now, Other, 11/08/2023, Brad Crouch

Hundreds of people have been treated in South Australian hospitals in the past decade for mushroom poisonings, it can be revealed with half of them children aged under 5. Experts including doctors are warning a growing number of mushroom foragers to ensure they have proper training and can identify the various species of wild mushrooms before eating them to avoid being poisoned.

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### Dental Health Week's focus this year on the link between oral health and disease

Canberra Times, Other, 11/08/2023, Kerem Doruk

Dental Health Week is the Australian Dental Association's major annual oral health campaign on the importance of taking steps to care for your teeth and gums to help you keep your teeth and smile for



life. Something most patients are not aware of is how closely oral and general health is connected.

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## ABC Radio Perth, Mornings, 11/08/2023, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Associate Professor Alexander Larcombe, Waylon Respiratory Research Centre at the Telethon Kids Institute. Larcombe discusses their research into the chemicals in vapes. He notes they know a few things that are ubiquitous in vapes including flavouring chemicals, as well as propylene glycol and glycerine. He adds a lot of the e-liquids also have nicotine in there, which is obviously the bit that causes the causes people to get addicted to them.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Heart disease hitting western NSW

Central Western Daily, General News, 12/08/2023, Allison Hore, Page 3

If you live in Wellington you are more than twice as likely to die from cardiovascular disease than the general population of Australia, an alarming new report reveals. According to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) report, Wellington was second in NSW after the Bourke, Brewarrina, Walgett and Lightning Ridge area when it comes to likelihood to die from heart, stroke and vascular disease.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#).

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### Researchers engineer bacteria that could detect bowel cancer without take home stool test

ABC Online, Other, 11/08/2023, Joshua Boscaini and Susan Woods

South Australian researchers have engineered bacteria that could be used to detect bowel cancer faster and replace existing at home stool tests. The engineered bacteria called *Acinetobacter baylyi* has the ability to search through an environment, like the colon, and detect cancer DNA, according to the early research published in Science.

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### Kowanyama has higher rates of diabetes than average and patients are travelling hours for dialysis

ABC Online, Other, 11/08/2023, Janelle Miles

A dad and his young family had to pack up and move hundreds of kilometres from the only home they have ever known, in order to save his life. Dale Josiah, who has four children aged between 12 months and seven years, moved to Cairns in October last year about 600 kilometres south-east of his remote home in Kowanyama, on the far west coast of Cape York.

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### More female firefighters leads to call for greater cancer coverage

Ballarat Courier, Other, 11/08/2023, Gabrielle Hodson

A push for more female firefighters has led to another push: to cover personnel for eight extra types of cancer - many of them mainly affecting women. Cervical, ovarian and uterine cancers - as well as five others - would all be covered in presumptive legislation and allow victims to get compensation, provided a new Greens bill gets through Victorian Parliament.

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### Scientists genetically engineer bacteria to detect cancer cells

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Mariella Moon

An international team of scientists has developed a new technology that can help detect (or even treat) cancer in hard-to-reach places, such as the colon. The team has published a paper in Science for the

technique dubbed CATCH, or cellular assay for targeted, CRISPR-discriminated horizontal gene transfer.

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## Genetically engineered bacteria can detect cancer cells in a world-first experiment

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 11/08/2023

As medical technology advances, many diseases could be detected, prevented and cured with cells, rather than pills. This branch of medicine is called cellular or cell therapy .

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## ABC News, News Breakfast, 11/08/2023, Madeleine Morris and Lisa Millar

Interview with Associate Professor Susan Woods, SA Health and Medical Research Institute. Researchers in South Australia have made a world first discovery that could lead to earlier diagnosis of bowel cancer. Woods says they have managed to develop the first engineered bacteria that can actually detect cancer in the gut.

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## Channel 7, Seven News, 11/08/2023, Susannah Carr and Rick Ardon

Australian scientists have developed a type of bacteria which, when ingested, can sweep the body for cancer cells and can help change the way people test for bowel cancer. Researchers from Adelaide, Uni and the US are developing a screening tool that's not only more effective but could help younger adults too.

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## Channel 7, Sunrise, 11/08/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview with Natalie Raffoul, Healthcare Programme Manager, Heart Foundation. Landmark clinical trial has found the weight loss drug Wegovy can also have significant heart health benefits. Novo Nordisk, the pharmaceutical company behind the drug, says there was a 20% reduction in heart attack, stroke and heart related death in people who had a weekly injection compared to those taking a placebo. Raffoul says the study looked in particular at people with established heart disease and with obesity and overweight.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Get used to sight of public drunks

Herald Sun, General News, 12/08/2023, Steve Prince, Page 21

On Melbourne Cup Day this year, if you are staggeringly drunk in public Victoria police will not be able to touch you. Cup Day is of course the first Tuesday in November this year November 7.

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

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### Dutton: don't hit chemists

Herald Sun, General News, 12/08/2023, Courtney Gould, Page 29

Peter Dutton says a move to make medicines cheaper should be funded by taxpayers and not pharmacies. The Liberal leader is in fierce opposition to the reform that would allow doctors to issue prescriptions for 60-day supplies, up from 30 days, due to concerns at the impact on local pharmacies.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

[The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).  
Similar coverage reported by: [Retail Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## Hidden ramping crippling regions

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 12/08/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 39

Hidden "patient ramping" is soaring at South Australian rural GP clinics as practices struggle to cope with workloads. Wait times for an appointment of four to six weeks are now common and causing a cascading effect of problems, Rural Doctors Association of SA (RDASA) president Dr Peter Rischbieth said.

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## How will the new script play out?

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 12/08/2023, Wade Stephens, Page 2

Sunraysia's pharmacy operators are appealing for community support to meet any challenges that arise from new 60-day medicine dispensing arrangements. Pharmacists in Merbein, Wentworth and Ouyen say 80 to 85 per cent of their regular revenue comes from dispensing.

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## Invigorating general practice through continuous learning and improvement

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2023, Jeffrey Braithwaite, Page 26

Researchers show how a learning health system approach brings innovation GPs are under increasing pressure. The need for innovation is urgent.

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## Doctors' fee hike will push patients towards pharmacies

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/08/2023, David Rowley

50 years ago there was talk of pharmacist charging fees for services and being allowed more professional discretion. Australia had recently pulled out of the Vietnam War, the still relatively new Whitlam Government would not launch the original Medibank (later Medicare) for another two years and the August 1973 AJP reported that pharmacists were pondering...

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## Questions raised over public intoxication decriminalisation

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Tamara McDonald

Public intoxication will be decriminalised from November in Victoria, but questions have been raised about how the reform will work in Geelong. Police Association of Victoria secretary, Wayne Gatt, said members across the state had expressed concern in regards to exactly what their role would be when reforms come in.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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## Save Little Haven: GP describes Little Haven's need

Gympie Times, Other, 11/08/2023, Christine Schindler

As we continue our campaign to Save Little Haven, a respected local doctor has outlined the vital importance of sustainable, community-based palliative care in regional Queensland. A Queensland general practitioner has thrown her support behind the gold standard of home-care services Gympie's Little Haven provides, saying the organisation is the "glue" that fill the gaps in palliative care for the region.

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

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## Mixed feelings: Our clinic's move away from bulk billing

When a move to private practice was the only option to keep the doors open, it prompted Dr Alisha Dorrigan to contemplate the current state of primary care. Despite being almost inevitable, the changeover to private billing has been met with mixed feelings.

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## No changes to nurse prescribing: RACGP

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 11/08/2023, Michelle Wisbey

Registered nurses should not be granted prescribing powers at risk to patient safety, according to a new college submission. The RACGP raised significant concerns the proposal could lead to fragmented care, lack of training, rising costs, and risks to patient safety.

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## UniSA stroke bootcamp helps recovery: study

The Senior, Other, 11/08/2023

An innovative take on the stereotypical idea of a 'bootcamp' is helping people recovering from strokes regain their independence. The 'stroke bootcamp' by UniSA goes includes exercises that helps people in their recovery and goes for five weeks.

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## Channel 7, Sunrise, 11/08/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Panel discussion with Education Minister Jason Clare and Deputy Opposition Leader Sussan Ley. Millions of Australians will soon have access to cheaper medicines after a Coalition threat to block the Federal Government's 60-day Pharmacy Script policy failed. The Opposition refused to put its own disallowance motion to the Senate, despite only announcing the plan a day prior. Ley says PM Anthony Albanese says it is a good idea, but local pharmacists say it will not work. Clare says it is pretty telling that in the three or four months since they made the announcement, there's been double the number of applications by pharmacists to open pharmacies right across the country than there were last year.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Experts support conversion therapy ban but urge caution

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 12/08/2023, Caitlin Fitzsimmons, Page 22

A prominent mental health expert has warned that doctors might be scared to work with genderdiverse and transgender people if a NSW ban on conversion practices is too heavy-handed. Professor Ian Hickie, a codirector at the University of Sydney's Brain and Mind Centre, said he supported extending a ban on conversion practices to protect trans and gender-diverse people, but warned there could be "unintended consequences".

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### Alleged killer treated over mental health

Courier Mail, General News, 12/08/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 17

Alleged domestic violence murderer Matthew James Cox was treated as an inpatient for mental health issues at Rockhampton Hospital about a year ago, Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has revealed. Ms Fentiman's comments came as heartbreaking images emerged on Friday of Mr Cox's fairytale wedding to wife Tayla, after the 30-year-old woman and the couple's baby Murphy Margaret were found dead at their Rockhampton home.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), Similar coverage reported by: [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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## His pain was unbearable

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 12/08/2023, Todd Lewis, Page 7

The parents of a Norwood premiership player who took his life last week say his mental health started deteriorating after a football head-knock in his teenage years. The family of Nick Lowden, 23, will donate his brain to concussion research and today speak out in an effort to decrease the stigma around mental health.

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

## Why kids worry over everything

Herald Sun, General News, 12/08/2023, Julie Cross, Page 30

Today's parents have invested more in their kids than ever before. As a result, young people have never had so many opportunities or been more connected thanks to social media.

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

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## Loneliness levels higher in rural areas

Central Western Daily, General News, 12/08/2023, Libby-Jane Charleston, Page 4

A landmark report into loneliness has revealed 35 per cent of people in rural areas are lonely - compared to the national average of 32 per cent. That's just one of the significant findings in the first 'state of the nation report into social connection' which puts those claiming to be lonely at a higher risk of lower workplace productivity, poor physical and mental health, and chronic disease.

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

## 'Someone will take their life': Magistrate sounds alarm over police bail decisions

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 11/08/2023, Jesinta Burton

A Perth magistrate has issued a stark warning to WA Police over what he dubbed a growing reluctance to grant bail for minor offences, declaring one day an alleged offender would take their life. As the lion's share of the 60 alleged offenders on Saturday's court list left lock-up and made their way to the dock, Magistrate Brian Glustein grilled prosecutors about why many of them were there in the first place.

[Read More](#)

## Women's and Children's Hospital schooling program helping young patients with mental health needs

ABC Online, Other, 11/08/2023, Anisha Pillarisetty

An Adelaide hospital is supporting students admitted to its mental health ward to keep on top of their education under a new program that has attracted global interest. Annie Price's daughter is one of more than 600 young patients to take part in the specialised mental health program at the Women's and Children's Hospital.

[Read More](#)

## Cash boost for hospital

Border Watch, Other, 11/08/2023, Charlotte Varcoe

A mental health unit and community drug and alcohol rehabilitation beds was the highlight of Minister for Health and Wellbeing Chris Picton's visit to Mount Gambier and District Hospital yesterday. Mr Picton visited the Limestone Coast this week where he toured a range of health facilities from Keith, Naracoorte and Bordertown all the way down to Mount Gambier, Millicent and Kingston.

[Read More](#)

## Tackling suicide and the mental health crisis in Greater Shepparton

Shepparton News Online, Other, 11/08/2023, Jay Bryce

Steve Neffy' Ness is tackling the mental health crisis the only way he knows how. By listening. Mr Ness lost a family member to suicide, and experienced the lack of available services first hand.

[Read More](#)

## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Doctors' pay victory

Herald Sun, General News, 12/08/2023, Laura Placella, Page 6

A "brave young doctor" has won a landmark wage-theft case against Peninsula Health that could result in thousands of junior doctors from hospitals across the state being awarded up to \$250m. The Federal Court on Friday ruled Dr Gaby Bolton was not paid for overtime she worked during four rotations as a junior doctor. Her lawyers say the case is the first of its kind in Australia.

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

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

### Digital course subsidised for nurses

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 12/08/2023, Page 17

Nurses and midwives will gain skills to deal with the technology changes sweeping through healthcare such as virtual reality headsets to train surgeons, artificial intelligence to manage chronic illness and virtual healthcare in a course commencing later this month at Flinders University. SA Health and Flinders University are offering 10 subsidised places for a Graduate Certificate in Digital Health Management for nurses and midwives to learn the skills needed to become leaders in digital health.

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

### It's bye bye baby as staff chaos grows

The West Australian (Saturday edition), Edition Changes, 12/08/2023, Claire Sadler, Page 31

The future of the only private maternity hospital in the South West is in doubt, which could leave expectant mothers having to travel to Perth to give birth under private care. St John of God Bunbury Hospital has confirmed it is sending women who go into labour overnight to the public Bunbury Hospital due to staff shortages.

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

### Maternity services crisis

Weekend Post, General News, 12/08/2023, Peter Carruthers, Page 5

A remote birthing suite unused for almost a year has come under scrutiny amid a revelation that Cape York maternity services will remain closed indefinitely due to staff shortages. In October 2022 Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service announced completed construction of the Weipa birthing suite.

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### Towards a thriving healthcare workforce

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 12

The full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on healthcare worker wellbeing will not be realised for some time as the negative impacts are sustained. We should, however, act now to invest in ways to repair and protect wellbeing of healthcare workers by making work safe and sustainable.

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

### High functioning teams

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 22

Perspective on a formal strategy to create an empowered and mentally healthy workforce in

contemporary Australia Workforce engagement as an ongoing priority. Workforce engagement has been a major focus of health systems since an engaged workforce is productive, empowered, produces discretionary energy and is mentally well.

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

## **New GPs and allied health professionals relocate to North Queensland to help ease workforce shortages**

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2023, Robin Whyte, Page 32

"Workforce is a national conversation, but across our NQPHN catchment area we are working on a variety of local solutions to attract health care professionals." Robin Whyte, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Queensland Primary Health Network Twelve health professionals - including three general practitioners (GPs) and nine allied health professionals - now call North Queensland home after receiving a relocation grant funded by Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN).

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## **If you can't beat 'em: WA nurses step up pay fight with political push**

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 11/08/2023, Hamish Hastie

With their pay fight stalled, the WA's nurses and midwifery union is considering taking the issue to the next election by starting its own political party and targeting upper house seats. Australian Nursing Federation WA secretary Janet Reah said the idea was in its infancy, but was born out of frustration with the state government's refusal to budge on its pay offer: either 3 per cent or \$60 a week, whichever is larger, plus a \$3000 cost of living payment.

[Read More](#)

## **Exodus: Plea for reset on emergency services workers pay as fears Tweed Valley Hospital could open without staff to run it**

The Courier Mail, Other, 11/08/2023, Gianni Francis

Fears there won't be enough staff left to man the new \$750 million Tweed Valley Hospital redevelopment as rival states continues to poach frontline emergency services workers have made their way to Macquarie St. Police officers, nurses and paramedics are among the skilled public sector workers being steadily lured over the border by better pay in Queensland , leaving an already under serviced regional area in the lurch.

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

[Read More](#)

## **WorkSafe probe 'satisfied' hospitals have prevention processes in place after triple shift concerns at FSH**

West Australian, Other, 11/08/2023, Caitlyn Rintoul

The State's watchdog is "satisfied" hospital triple shift mitigation measures are in place after two probes into dangerous cases undertaken by nurses at busy emergency departments in May. Worksafe had launched an investigation at Albany Health Campus over an exhausting 29.5-hour duty by an agency nurse within just 40 hours.

[Read More](#)

## **Minns doubles bush incentive to \$20,000 for health workers**

7news.com.au, Other, 11/08/2023, Hayley Taylor

The NSW government will double a cash incentive offered to health care workers, after an initial offer failed to fill critical gaps in rural healthcare. NSW Premier Chris Minns said he is "confident" that boosting the incentive from \$10,000 to \$20,000 will strengthen vital services in the state's regions.

[Read More](#)

## **Medical board's 16% fee hike 'a tax on doctors': AMA**

Australian Doctor, Other, 11/08/2023, Sarah Simpkins

The AMA has protested a steep hike in registration fees as "effectively a tax on the profession", calling for more government funding to account for AHPRA's expanding role. Fees for doctors are now almost

\$1000, rising 16% since last year, in part to cover the extra costs of a cosmetic surgery crackdown.

[Read More](#)

## No change to locum program eligibility

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/08/2023

Calls for the RLAP eligibility rules to be amended to allow non-health professionals to access the scheme have been turned down by the government. Western Australian pharmacist, Nathalka Sakalo, submitted a petition calling for changes to the criteria for...

[Read More](#)

## Ballarat, Daylesford and Horsham share 6 new ambulance staff

Ballarat Courier, Other, 11/08/2023, Gabrielle Hodson

Another 64 new paramedics are starting work with Ambulance Victoria - including recruits sent to Ballarat, Ararat, Horsham, Daylesford and Bendigo. Six new staff will be shared this month between the Ballarat, Daylesford and Horsham stations.

[Read More](#)

## Is it time for a new approach to Australia's GP shortage?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 11/08/2023, Sarah Bresnehan

The General Practice Students Network is calling on policymakers to invest in the quality of medical school general practice placements and to support more peer-to-peer initiatives.

[Read More](#)

## Nurses take deal: Still not enough, but it's a start says Deni

Shepparton News Online, Other, 11/08/2023, Zoe McMaugh

Rolling strikes from nurses and midwives are over ... at least for now. The NSW Nurses and Midwives Association has this week accepted a wage offer from the NSW Government.

[Read More](#)

## Wagga nurses divided as narrow majority back new wage deal

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 11/08/2023, Andrew Mangelsdorf

After months of strike action, Wagga nurses and midwives have narrowly voted in favour of a pay deal with the state government, locking in a 4.5 per cent pay rise for the next 12 months. While 58 per cent of NSW nurses voted in favour of the deal this week, it received noticeably less support in Wagga with just 54 per cent backing the offer.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### ABC News, News Breakfast, 11/08/2023, Madeleine Morris and Lisa Millar

Millions of Australians will have more access to their medication, after a last-ditch bid by the Federal Opposition to delay the move failed. General patients receiving medications on the PBS will be able to get 60 days worth of their medication for the same price as filling one standard script.

[Play Now](#)

### Sky News Live, AM Agenda, 11/08/2023, Laura Jayes

Interview with David Heffernan, President, Pharmacy Guild. Sixty-day dispensing will become a reality in chemists after the Senate passed Labor's policy yesterday. Heffernan says the economic modelling they commissioned has revealed there will be at least 600 pharmacies closed across Australia, mostly in the rural and remote areas. He says for 33 years, there's been a community pharmacy agreement



and that is the agreement with the Commonwealth of how much money over a five year period the Commonwealth will invest into community pharmacy to deliver the services of administering the PBS.

[Play Now](#)

## 2CC, Breakfast, 11/08/2023, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Anne Ruston, Shadow Minister for Health and Aged Care. Cenatiempo notes from 1 September, patients who are on a regular medication will be able to get 60 day prescriptions rather than 30 days. Ruston says the Opposition are not against the policy. She says the problem is the way the Federal Government is implementing the policy.

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Banned chiropractor facing charges is a no-show at court

Border Mail, General News, 12/08/2023, Page 18

An arrest warrant has been issued for a banned Bright chiropractor accused of offences by health authorities, including providing or offering services to more than 300 people while suspended. Anthony Ronald Herman had been due to face the Myrtleford Magistrates Court yesterday after being charged with six offences. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency alleges Herman continued to work.

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

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### Doctor's \$300,000 bid for lost earnings from watchdog who moved in after wife's death

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 11/08/2023, David Estcourt

A doctor who cut his wife's throat with a kitchen knife after she overdosed on cocaine and then waited more than three hours to call for help wanted \$300,000 in lost earnings from the medical regulator because they failed to process his application to resume practice. [...] Spencer surrendered his licence to practice five days after the death of his wife from cocaine toxicity in January 2015, but by May of that year his legal representatives wrote to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) seeking reinstatement.

[Read More](#)

### Ipswich Hospital given urgent recommendations after woman's horror miscarriage

Adelaide Now, Other, 11/08/2023, Alexandra Feiam

Queensland miscarriage processes are under review after claims of ill-treatment of a patient. Nikkole Southwell says she's been left 'traumatised' after having a miscarriage at Ipswich Hospital.

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

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### Doctor struck off for three years for 'bad faith' complaints to AHPRA

Australian Doctor, Other, 11/08/2023, Heather Saxena

A doctor has been struck off for three years over bad faith complaints that forced a locum doctor out of

work as AHPRA investigated. The Queensland doctor was found guilty of professional misconduct in April over the false complaints, which included allegations the locum doctor had caused the suicide death of a woman with trigeminal neuralgia by inappropriately ceasing her treatment.

[Read More](#)

## **Sleep doctor Peter Spencer who cut his wife Mayumi's throat open with a kitchen knife in failed bid to save her life seeks \$300,000 in compensation**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Freddy Pawle

A doctor who cut his wife's throat open with a knife while she experienced cocaine toxicity is seeking compensation and his medical licence to be reinstated. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) claim they can not return the licence as legal proceedings are still ongoing into his wife's death.

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## **HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES**

No relevant coverage

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## **SPORT**

### **Runaway success fuels hopes of securing a \$500m dream**

Weekend Australian, General News, 12/08/2023, Jessica Halloran and John Stensholt, Page 4

It is the \$500m dream the Matildas could make come true, as soccer takes on the richest football codes and the 2032 Olympics in the sport funding wars. Soccer officials, buoyed by the stunning success of the Women's World Cup and the Australian team's charge into the quarterfinals, have been pushing the Albanese government hard to provide \$500m in funding for a "community facilities fund".

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### **Australia on lookout for partners in 2034 cup**

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 12/08/2023, Vince Rugari, Page 6

When fans of Indonesian side Arema stormed the pitch last year after a loss to rivals Persebaya Surabaya and triggered the worst stadium disaster in almost 60 years, killing 135 people, the reverberations were felt around the world. In Australia, it put a dent in longheld ambitions of hosting the biggest sporting event on the planet: the men's World Cup.

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

### **City2Surf to stop traffic**

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 12/08/2023, Page 10

Entries for this year's City2Surf are expected to reach pre-COVID numbers as more than 78,000 have already signed up for the running event. Tomorrow's event has topped last year's entries of about 60,000.

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### **The moment has arrived. Be sure to enjoy it**

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 12/08/2023, Page 30

When Matildas coach Tony Gustavsson was asked a year ago whether the Australian team, after seven failed attempts, could be victorious at this year's FIFA Women's World Cup, his answer was typically enigmatic. Rather than highlighting the team's athletic prowess, the Swedish coach wanted to

dwelling on the players' state of mind: "When you believe, it means you can achieve something that is more than expected of a team ...

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## Sydney's plot to snatch grand prix

The Saturday Age, General News, 12/08/2023, Chip Le Grand, Page 1

A high-octane bidding war over the keys to the Australian Grand Prix, and a personal intervention by Premier Daniel Andrews to keep the race, resulted in Victoria paying an inflated price for an event that is this year expected to post its first \$100 million loss. The sagging bottom line for this year's Albert Park race, to be revealed when the Andrews government tables the Australian Grand Prix Corporation's annual report, comes despite a world record crowd of 440,000 people surging through the turnstiles to witness a spectacular weekend of Formula 1 racing.

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

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

## Where to when World Cup dust settles?

Canberra Times, Editorials, 12/08/2023, Page 46

The Matildas knew they were marketable. They knew they could pull big crowds and smash record ratings, even if they had to look "deep down inside".

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#).

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

## Don't waste the Matildas' run

Daily Telegraph, Editorials, 12/08/2023, Page 80

The popularity of the Matildas and the success of the FIFA Women's World Cup has surprised even the most optimistic inside the football hierarchy in Australia. When Australia and New Zealand lodged their bid for the event, the bid documents included forecasts of big crowds, big TV audiences and big sponsorship dollars, just as every successful proposal does.

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

## We just can't take our eyes off these Aussies

Herald Sun, General News, 12/08/2023, Kathy McCabe, Page 2

The Matildas are set to eclipse their record for the mostwatched female sports event in Australia with their World Cup quarter-final against France. Their crucial win over Denmark on Monday obliterated ratings records, with the match peaking at 2.28 million viewers.

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

## Footy's breast defence

Herald Sun, General News, 12/08/2023, Carly Douglas, Page 6

Female athletes have opened up about the most taboo topic in sport breast injuries as Western Bulldogs "royalty" Brad and Donna Johnson sound the alarm about brutal breast knocks. Almost 60 per cent of female athletes have experienced a breast injury, according to the latest research by University of Wollongong.

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## Matildas go ka-ching!

Courier Mail, General News, 12/08/2023, Jeremy Pierce, Page 13

They're our golden girls - on and off the field. New data from financial platform Airwallex has shown the incredible spending spree triggered by the FIFA women's World Cup and the magical Matildas.

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

## Sponsorship still off target

The West Australian (Saturday edition), Business News, 12/08/2023, Page 146

The fifa Women's World Cup faces a huge shortfall in sponsorship compared with the men's

tournament just eight months ago, new analysis reveals, as brands continue to miss a key opportunity to reach an engaged audience. Despite having more sponsors than ever before, it seems these partnerships aren't yet paying off.

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## **Dan Andrews makes big Matildas decision for FIFA Women's World Cup quarter-final against France**

7news.com.au, Other, 11/08/2023, Harrison Reid

The Premier has pulled an unprecedented lever as support for Australia hits fever pitch. The live site at Melbourne's Federation Square has been a hit for Australian football during this FIFA Women's World Cup and last year's men's equivalent.

[Read More](#)

## **Australia just won the netball world cup. Why isn't there room for multiple women's world cups in our sports media?**

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 11/08/2023

With the Matildas progressing to the quarter finals of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, Australia's sports media is focussed on this global mega event and the potential it has to change the women's game. Broadcast numbers are setting records , stadiums are packed, Matildas jerseys are flying off the shelves and the media is paying attention.

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## **HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH**

### **Superhero pain therapy**

Daily Telegraph, General News, 12/08/2023, Page 31

Using virtual reality, researchers at the University of South Australia are examining how superhero-like avatars can help people manage chronic and persistent pain. The new "superhero therapy" engages patients in VR where they "swap" their body with that of a superhero to convince the brain and nervous system that the body is invincible, healed and no longer in pain.

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

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### **Yoga helps asthmatics**

Daily Telegraph, General News, 12/08/2023, Page 40

Yoga and breathing control practices, in combination with aerobic training, could help asthmatic people seeking to improve their lung function, according to research. Researchers looked at 28 randomised trials of 2155 people with asthma and examined the effects of breathing training, aerobic training, relaxation, yoga and breathing combined with aerobic training on lung function.

*Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).*

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## **Deeble Fellowship to examine voluntary patient registration reforms and equitable access to care**

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 9

The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) has awarded the 2023 Deeble Institute Fellowship to Associate Professor Reema Harrison, Lead Healthcare Engagement and Workplace Behaviour, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University. Named in honour of Professor John Deeble AO (1931-2018), health economist, co-architect of Medicare, founding director of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, and namesake of the Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research (AHHA); the Fellowship has been awarded to an outstanding mid-career researcher whose

research commitment reflects Professor Deeble's legacy of universal healthcare through affordable, quality healthcare for all.

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## Researchers claim most people who say they're allergic to penicillin actually aren't

9News, Other, 11/08/2023, Daniel Jeffrey

Many Australians claim they have an allergy to penicillin when they're admitted to hospital, but researchers say that's often not the case. Making matters worse, studies also outline that not being able to use the common antibiotics to treat patients tends to lead to worse outcomes.

[Read More](#)

## Public health scientist Dr Aparna Lal has been announced as the 2023 ACT Emerging Scientist of the Year

Canberra Times, Other, 11/08/2023, Sara Garrity

Interdisciplinary public health scientist Dr Aparna Lal has been announced as the recipient of the 2023 ACT Emerging Scientist of the Year Award for her work analysing resilience to environmental crises. An associate professor at the Australian National University, Dr Lal's research looks at how ecological change affects population health unequally, and how strengthening environmental surveillance can enhance community health.

[Read More](#)

## Autism in children data reveals surprise

SBS, Other, 11/08/2023

A new study has found children of ethnic minority backgrounds are more likely to be diagnosed with autism. Researchers say the findings highlight the need for greater understanding of the condition, as well as more targeted care to bridge the gaps for minority communities.

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# FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

## Hawks author in court

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 12/08/2023, Liam Beatty, Page 27

The author of an explosive report into allegations of racism at the Hawthorn Football Club has faced court for the first time after Victoria's fraud squad announced he would be charged with more than 70 criminal charges. Former Richmond player Phil Egan, 60, appeared before the Melbourne Magistrates' Court on Friday for a filing hearing over allegations he stole from an Indigenous organisation between 2010 and 2015.

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

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## Egan: I'll clear my name

Herald Sun, General News, 12/08/2023, Ashley Argoon and Michael Warner, Page 4

Hawthorn racism report scribe Phil Egan "secretly gained" almost \$800,000 through fake invoices from an Indigenous community health centre while its chief executive, court documents claim. The former Richmond player, who authored the explosive 2022 report into allegations of racism at the Hawks, has been accused of swindling \$779,246 through 52 invoices paid by the Murray Valley Aboriginal CoOperation.

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

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

## **Author of Hawthorn racism report accused of siphoning almost \$800,000 from Indigenous organisation**

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 11/08/2023, David Estcourt and Cameron Houston

The author of an explosive report into the alleged mistreatment of First Nations footballers at Hawthorn has faced court on charges that allege he made dozens of "concealed payments" to himself totalling almost \$800,000 on top of his salary as head of an Indigenous organisation. Melbourne Magistrates' Court heard on Friday that police accuse Phil Egan, 60, of receiving an additional \$779,246.72 on top of his contracted earnings between December 2010 and January 2015 while he was chief executive of the Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative (MVAC).

[Read More](#)

## **Returning rural goal for nursing student**

Daily Liberal, General News, 12/08/2023, Alexandra Bernard, Page 2

Charles Sturt University nursing student Lilly Meldrum wants to help change the health statistics for indigenous and rural communities. Growing up in Nyngan, Miss Meldrum, 19, saw first hand the lack of healthcare in rural areas and this had inspired her to aim for nursing in the bush.

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## **System failed Indigenous teen with tragic results**

Hawkesbury Gazette, Other, 11/08/2023, Rudi Maxwell

In the days leading up to the death of Aboriginal teenager Stanley Inman Jr at Acacia Prison in Western Australia, he was crying out for help. His mental health was deteriorating.

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## **OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

### **Kimba's 'kick in the guts' over nuclear waste knockback**

In Daily, Other, 11/08/2023, Belinda Willis

Kimba's mayor says the federal government's decision to dump the region's national nuclear waste repository is a "kick in the guts" for a country town that has invested eight years of effort into the plan. Dean Johnson says the Eyre Peninsula community of 1300 people first heard about Resources Minister Madeleine King's Thursday morning announcement to veto the project from the media.

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## **THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION**

### **Illegal tobacco seized in raids, syndicate smashed**

Canberra Times, Other, 11/08/2023, Fraser Barton

Authorities have shattered a sophisticated illegal tobacco syndicate and seized millions of cigarettes and vapes in raids across Queensland and NSW. [...] The border force-led operation included the Australian Federal Police, Queensland Police, Queensland Health, the Therapeutic Goods Administration, Victoria Police and NSW Police.

[Read More](#)

### **Children's medication shortage leaves parents scrambling amid 'yo-yo' flu reports**

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Nicole Madigan

A shortage of children's medication has left parents struggling to treat symptoms of colds and flus as

cases continue to rise, with experts warning it is unlikely to improve in the short term. [...] There are 452 medicines in short supply, with 47 listed as critical, according to the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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

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## Recall sparks shortage

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/08/2023, Megan Haggan

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has said in a statement that the shortage has been triggered by a global recall. It is expected to last until 30 September 2023.

[Read More](#)

## Nuclear agent Illuccix comes to Mackay Qscan to fight prostate cancer

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/08/2023, Zoe Devenport

A game-changing new technology described as "magic" is lighting up cancerous cells in men's prostates to give them a greater chance at beating the disease. [...] Illuccix is the first PSMA-PET/CT diagnosing tracer agent registered with the Therapeutic Goods Administration to diagnose prostate cancer.

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

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## OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### Popular meat dish was telling porkies

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 12/08/2023, Page 35

A marinated pork product sold at supermarkets in all six states has been urgently recalled because of an "undeclared allergen". The NSW Food Authority on Friday announced the recall of Hanabi Marinated Pork Bulgogi 290g from Coles and Woolworths stores.

Similar coverage reported by: [9News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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