



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 18th August 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian \(page 1\)](#)** reports that a mental health rebate scheme which pays at least \$61 less per session to treat former Australian Defence Force members is forcing Veterans onto months-long wait lists. "If we want to have people working with veterans over the longer term, we need to provide some sustainable living for those of us who work with veterans," Psychologist Valerie van Loggerenberg, who specialises in providing services for veterans, said.
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 1\)](#)** reports that the Anglican Church has presented a report to its aged care homes advising them to discourage residents from using voluntary assisted dying when NSW laws take effect. "The report challenges Anglicare Sydney to respectfully, in compliance with the law, seek to dissuade residents from accessing VAD by 'deed and word'," Anglican Community Services said.
- **[The Age \(page 1\)](#)** reports that a two-state payroll tax ruling threatens to "kill off bulk-billing" and lead to patients paying up to \$20 more for GP visits, doctors have warned. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has raised concerns that the "record \$6.1 billion investment in strengthening Medicare could be impacted by new payroll tax obligations being imposed by state governments on general practice at the same time".

- **The Herald Sun (page 1)** reports that Football Australia is expected to make a bid for the 2034 men's soccer world cup, following Australia's success hosting "the best ever" FIFA Women's World Cup. A spokesman for federal Sports Minister Anika Wells said the government was "extremely pleased" with the Women's World Cup and gave "serious consideration to all bids for major sporting events".
- **The Adelaide Advertiser (page 1)** reports that complaints of "appalling Third World" conditions have been triggered by a cramped "tin shed" which is being used as a triage centre and waiting room at the Royal Adelaide Hospital's emergency department. "This transportable is Third World – there was a man lying on the floor. People vomiting, people looking terribly unwell, all crammed into a tiny space," one patient who needed emergency attention on Monday said of the structure.
- **The Hobart Mercury (page 1)** reports that Nexus Hospitals CEO Andrew Petering has written to residents in New Town explaining that plans to construct a \$60 million private hospital have been abandoned after costs more than doubled since the project received approval in 2021. "[...] it is with much regret that I advise we have had to cancel our plans to build the Tasman Private Hospital for the foreseeable future," the letter said.
- **The Australian (page 6)** reports that the Aged and Community Care Providers Association (ACCPA) has emailed members warning that Labor's proposed pharmacy changes could affect the care of residents and the bottom line of struggling facilities. Health Minister Mark Butler labelled the cost concerns a "big scare campaign" from the Pharmacy Guild that was "frankly false".
- **The Courier Mail (page 9)** reports that the family of a deceased Doomadgee Indigenous elder has received an apology from Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman, after the man was buried in an empty coffin when his body was mistakenly left at the morgue. "This mistake is completely unacceptable, and I apologise for the hurt and distress this has caused the family," Ms Fentiman said, adding she was "committed to continuing to work with the community and the North West Hospital and Health Service to achieve better health outcomes for First Nations people."

MINISTER BUTLER

Chemist reforms 'may hit aged-care bottom lines'

The Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Jess Malcolm, Page 6

The nation's peak aged-care body has privately emailed members warning that Labor's proposed pharmacy changes could affect the care of residents and the bottom line of struggling facilities. [...] The costing was blasted by Health Minister Mark Butler, who labelled it a "big scare campaign" from the Pharmacy Guild that was "frankly false".

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

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GPs set to raise prices as bulk-billing 'killed off'

Age, General News, 18/08/2023, Henrietta Cook and Laura Banks, Page 1

Patients are expected to pay up to \$20 more to see a GP following a two-state payroll tax ruling that doctors warn will "kill off bulkbilling". [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler raised concerns the "record \$6.1 billion investment in strengthening Medicare could be impacted by new payroll tax obligations being imposed by state governments on general practice at the same time".

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

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Mother disappointed at response

Daily Liberal, General News, 18/08/2023, Orlander Ruming, Page 6

"Devastated and disappointed." That's Rochelle Olsen's response after a lacklustre reply from the federal government to a petition calling for bereavement suites in every Australian hospital. [...] In his

official reply to the petition, federal health minister Mark Butler said it was the role of state and territory ministers to determine if there should be a dedicated bereavement suite in each public hospital.

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Mayo MP demands better access to endometriosis services-

Southern Argus, General News, 17/08/2023, Page 7

A local MP is fighting for better access to endometriosis services for South Australian women after just one funded clinic was allocated at Kadina more than 150 kilometres from the Adelaide CBD leaving 99 per cent of women in the state unable to access desperately needed clinical support. [...] Member for Mayo, Rebekha Sharkie has previously raised the issue with Federal Health Minister, Mark Butler and written to Assistant Health Minister, Ged Kearney.

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Nats slam 60-day prescription plan

Swan Hill Guardian, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 18

Looming prescription medicine changes will result in poorer health outcomes for regional Australians, Nationals leader David Littleproud claims. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the estimated \$1.2 billion in savings from the measure across the next four years would be reinvested in community pharmacies.

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60-day prescription change

Wangaratta Chronicle, General News, 18/08/2023, Steve Kelly, Page 14

People accessing prescription medications are expected to be \$180 better off each year depending on the quantity of medicines they receive. [...] "I wrote to Health Minister Mark Butler to outline their concerns and made sure they were understood."

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CommBank report's "disturbing results"

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 17/08/2023, Page 1

The new CommBank Pharmacy Insights Report 2023 shows an overwhelming number of pharmacists will be charging for what were previously free services, cutting staff & trading hours, and believe the value of their pharmacy will fall over the next three years, all due to the introduction of the 60-day dispensing (60DD) policy. [...] Twomey referred to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler's comments in Parliament in Jun when he said, "we want a viable community pharmacy sector".

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Confidence low among pharmacists after medicine change

Canberra Times, Other, 17/08/2023, Paul Osborne

Most pharmacists expect the value of their business to drop, in a loss of confidence blamed on a government policy change. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has said the government put in place a support package and other measures to ensure the transition goes smoothly.

Also reported by: [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), and widely syndicated across regional publications

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Heart attack survivor Adrian Frick walks Kokoda Track, leads fight to save Bundaberg Cardiac Cath Lab

ABC Online, Other, 17/08/2023, Nikki Sorbello and Adrian Frick

Despite living in regional Australia, it took just two hours and 40 minutes from the onset of his heart attack symptoms for dentist Adrian Frick, 52, to receive the medical procedure that saved his life. [...] He has taken his plea to the federal government in the hope of convincing federal Health Minister Mark Butler to intervene and provide Bundaberg with District Workforce Shortage (DWS) status for cardiology.

The free pharmacy services that will soon cost Australians

7news.com.au, Other, 17/08/2023, Hayley Taylor

Pharmacies are expected to put a price tag on currently free services to mitigate losses from new dispensing rules. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the estimated \$1.2 billion in savings from the dispensing measure across the next four years would be reinvested in community pharmacies, but it appears many pharmacists aren't relying on his promise.

[Read More](#)

Most pharmacies will charge for free services, report claims

9News, Other, 17/08/2023, Adam Vidler

The federal government introduced 60-day dispensation for prescriptions in the budget earlier this year. [...] "Every year, nearly a million Australians are forced to delay or go without a medicine that their doctor has told them is necessary for their health," Health Minister Mark Butler said ahead of the budget "This cheaper medicines policy is safe, good for Australians' hip pockets and most importantly good for their health."

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Immediate action needed to clear surgery backlog

Australian Medical Association, Other, 17/08/2023

The AMA has joined with a number of medical colleges to call for immediate action to tackle ever-growing surgery waiting lists. The AMA; Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS); Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) and Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) have written to federal Health Minister, Mark Butler, calling for action to get public hospitals out of logjam.

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“No clear plan” to tackle black market vaping

Convenience & Impulse Retailing, Other, 17/08/2023, Thomas Oakley-Newell

The Australian Association of Convenience Stores (AACS) has stated that the government must work with the retail industry to tackle the vape black market. In May this year, Health Minister Mark Butler announced the government's plans to ban recreational vaping and restrict sales of nicotine vaping products to pharmacies only, but little progress has been seen since.

[Read More](#)

Medical groups call for action to address growing hospital waiting lists

HealthDispatch, Other, 17/08/2023

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) has joined medical colleges to call on the federal, state and territory governments to immediately tackle growing surgery waiting lists. The AMA, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO), and Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG), have written to federal health minister Mark Butler.

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Bleak outlook for pharmacies – Comm Bank

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 17/08/2023

A new report by the Commonwealth Bank and the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) has revealed a bleak outlook from pharmacists because of the Albanese Government's introduction of 60-day dispensing. [...] "The Prime Minister and the Health Minister can no longer ignore the concerns of 6,000 community pharmacies and the many unintended consequences of 60-day dispensing."

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'Don't want to, but we're forced': Chemists to begin charging patients for previously funded services amid PBS retaliation

Patients across Australia will soon have to bear expenses for a range of services previously provided free of cost, as community pharmacies face the threat of reduced income with the federal government's prescription overhaul due to kick in. [...] The Coalition, who have been strongly opposed to the legislation, sought to move a disallowance motion in the Senate in July to block a vote on the bill, but later delayed it to allow Health Minister Mark Butler time to "resolve legitimate concerns" raised by the pharmacy lobby.

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Pharmacists protest as business outlook plunges

The Medical Republic, Other, 17/08/2023

A small white-coated contingent took to Sydney streets to raise awareness about the perils of 60-day dispensing. [...] Last week, it predicted that the anticipated fall in revenue would force community pharmacies into charging aged care patients an extra \$800 each year for their medicines to be Webster-packed and delivered, even though Health Minister Mark Butler has committed to reinvesting all savings from the initiative back into the sector.

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Another chronic migraine drug PBS listed

The Medical Republic, Other, 17/08/2023

Eptinezumab is the first intravenous CGRP inhibitor to be listed on the PBS. [...] "The listing of Vyepti will provide immense relief to the thousands of Australians living with chronic migraine," said Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler.

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ABC North and West SA, Regional Mornings, 17/08/2023, Tom Mann

Mann plays audio of Opposition spokesperson for Health and Aged Care Senator Anne Ruston, telling reporter Henry Milich that the 60-day dispensing policy has the potential to put thousands of pharmacists' jobs at risk. He states Federal Health Minister Mark Butler was contacted for comment and provided a response that says 60-day prescriptions mean Australians get twice the medication for the cost of a single prescription. He further states this will halve the cost of medicines for more than 6 million Australians, including pensioners who are living with an ongoing health condition. Everyone with a Medicare card taking one of these medicines will save up to \$180 a year per medicine and this will be good for the hip pocket and good for their health.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 17/08/2023, David Bevan

Interview with Dr John Williams, President, Australian Medical Association SA. Williams says elective surgery waiting lists have surged almost 60% over the past 12 months. He states they've been working with Health Minister Mark Butler, and lobbying for increased funding to our state hospitals from federal and also removal of a cap.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, Breakfast, 17/08/2023, Stacey Lee and Nikolai Beilharz

Interview with Nick Panayiaris, Vice President, Pharmacy Guild SA on 60-day dispensing policy change. Panayiaris says some of their members will start charging customers for services they previously provided for free due to the policy. Lee says Health Minister Mark Butler is saying 60-day pharmacy dispensing is needed. Panayiaris clarifies they weren't against cheaper medicines but the reckless implementation of the policy.

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Bold New Goal

Herald Sun, General News, 18/08/2023, Peter Rolfe, Page 1

Australia is set to bid for the 2034 men's soccer world cup after hosting "the best ever" FIFA Women's World Cup. [...] A spokesman for federal Sports Minister Anika Wells said the government was "extremely pleased" with the Women's World Cup and gave "serious consideration to all bids for major sporting events".

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

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Show them the money

Sydney Morning Herald, Sport, 18/08/2023, Andrew Webster, Page 52

Sam Kerr's impassioned post-match plea for better funding for football must not be allowed to fall on deaf ears. [...] The sight of teary PM Anthony Albanese and blubbing sports minister Anika Wells on the sidelines directly after the quarter-final win over France in Brisbane was as cringey as it gets.

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Matildas funding: No promises from federal Labor

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 17/08/2023, James Massola

The Albanese government says it will "always look for more ways" to ensure funding for women's sport is fit for purpose, but has stopped short of promising more money after the Matildas' extraordinary World Cup run ended. [...] Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Sport Minister Anika Wells both attended several Matildas games and Albanese heaped praise on the team after Wednesday's loss for its "incredible skill, ferocity and flair, and a camaraderie that defines what it means to play team sport".

Also reported by: [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

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Albanese Government Achieves 98% Compliance with 24/7 Nursing Mandate in Aged Care Homes

Aged Care Online, Other, 17/08/2023

A month following the initiation of this reform, Anika Wells, the Minister for Aged Care, announced that 98 percent of the homes had complied by having a registered nurse available on-site. According to Ms. Wells, "24/7 registered nursing goes beyond a mere assessment of success or failure."

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Dementia village offers complex care and community connection

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 17/08/2023, Christopher Kelly

South Australia's first specialised dementia care village opened Tuesday. [...] Meanwhile, Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells promoted the opening of the Daw Park site on social media, saying: "Older people deserve to live in aged care homes that ensure dignity, comfort and independence."

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Aged care enters new era of excellence, RNs 98% presence on site

Healthcare Channel, Other, 17/08/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

In a significant triumph for the aged care sector, the Albanese Government has fulfilled its pledge to reintegrate RNs into nursing homes. [...] Aged Care Minister hails remarkable progress Aged Care Minister Anika Wells lauds the achievement of the 24/7 nursing requirement, reflecting on the dedicated care extended to older Australians."

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After the World Cup, the beautiful game has a big issue to fix

In Daily, Other, 17/08/2023, David Washington

With every politician in the country jumping on the Matildas bandwagon, Ali Clarke makes a case for them to address a glaring issue holding back the world game in Australia. [...] "I heard Sports Minister

Anika Wells recently saying that the game itself still has challenges to overcome.

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Residential care operators lost \$2.2B in 2021-22 – but the real losses are in new aged care beds

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/08/2023, Lauren Broomham

The Federal Government released its latest Financial Report on the Australian Aged Care Sector 2021-22 this week and naturally, it makes for grim reading. [...] As Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said: "We can't sandbag against this tide."

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Where is the “big public consultation” on aged care reforms?

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/08/2023, Caroline Egan

Last month, the Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said there will be a “big public consultation process” around the funding reforms being considered by the Aged Care Taskforce, including a levy and increased consumer contributions.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Rights group calls on government to consult more on appointments

OUTinPerth, Other, 18/08/2023

Just.Equal Australia has called for transparency and accountability in the appointment of Federal Government LGBTIQ+ advisory committees. It follows the unveiling of the new LGBTIQ+ Health Action Plan Expert Advisory Group by the Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ged Kearney.

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Mayo MP demands better access to endometriosis services-

Southern Argus, General News, 17/08/2023, Page 7

A local MP is fighting for better access to endometriosis services for South Australian women after just one funded clinic was allocated at Kadina more than 150 kilometres from the Adelaide CBD leaving 99 per cent of women in the state unable to access desperately needed clinical support. [...] Member for Mayo, Rebekha Sharkie has previously raised the issue with Federal Health Minister, Mark Butler and written to Assistant Health Minister, Ged Kearney.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 17/08/2023, Mark Ferguson

Australians will soon be able to pick up a 60-day supply of their medication at the chemist up from 30 days. It's good news for many customers, but most pharmacies are outraged. A new report showing it will force many to start charging for previously free services. Meanwhile, Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney says there will be more vaccinations that they will be able to give their customers and they will be able to do more treatment for people with drug addictions.

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DEPARTMENT

Chemist reforms 'may hit aged-care bottom lines'

The Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Jess Malcolm, Page 6

The nation's peak aged-care body has privately emailed members warning that Labor's proposed pharmacy changes could affect the care of residents and the bottom line of struggling facilities. [...] The costing was blasted by Health Minister Mark Butler, who labelled it a "big scare campaign" from the Pharmacy Guild that was "frankly false".

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

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Cancer patient faces financial hurdle to access best treatment

Western Weekender Penrith, General News, 18/08/2023, Makayla Muscat, Page 21

A young man fighting a rare and aggressive bone cancer has been refused government assistance to receive life-saving treatment overseas. [...] She said they received a letter from the Department of Health and Aged Care last month, saying that Ross was not eligible because the proposed overseas treatment or an effective alternative treatment must not be available in Australia in-time to benefit the applicant.

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Emotional help for our kids after a major disaster

Northern Rivers Times, General News, 17/08/2023, Samantha Elley, Page 6

Since the 2019/20 bushfires one charity has been working in local Northern Rivers schools to help primary and pre-school children to manage their post-disaster emotions. [...] With \$4.5 million of funding from the Department of Health and Aged Care, Jaqueline Emery, CEO of RFW said the work of their Community Recovery Program is starting to show results but there is a long way to go.

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Sector finances at 'lowest point', says report

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 17/08/2023, Christopher Kelly

A government report shows the aged care sector's profits were in the doldrums during 2021-22. Released this week by the Department of Health and Aged Care, the latest Financial Report on the Australian Aged Care Sector FRAACS shows residential aged care operated at a loss of \$2.264 billion or \$32.97 per resident per day.

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Aged care enters new era of excellence, RNs 98% presence on site

Healthcare Channel, Other, 17/08/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

In a significant triumph for the aged care sector, the Albanese Government has fulfilled its pledge to reintegrate RNs into nursing homes. [...] Aged Care Minister hails remarkable progress Aged Care Minister Anika Wells lauds the achievement of the 24/7 nursing requirement, reflecting on the dedicated care extended to older Australians."

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CVD risk: new guideline and calculator

Medicine Today, Other, 17/08/2023

A new Australian guideline and calculator for assessing and managing CVD risk has been launched. Supported by Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care funding and an initiative of

the Australian Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance, the guideline and calculator development was led by the National Heart Foundation in collaboration with Diabetes Australia, Kidney Health Australia and the National Stroke Foundation.

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The new Support at Home program planned to start 1 July 2025

My Aged Care, Other, 17/08/2023

The Australian Government is committed to delivering reforms to in-home aged care that support older people to live safely and independently at home. [...] For more information, visit the reforming in-home aged care page on the Department of Health and Aged Care website.

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In Practice: Children with suspected serious bacterial infection

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 17/08/2023, Matt Woodley

GPs have been issued a reminder about swift antibiotic treatment in paediatric cases of serious bacterial infection. The number of children with serious bacterial infections has increased in the past year. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care recommend ceasing entering prescriptions into MediSecure by 15 September to allow patients enough time to get their medications dispensed.

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Deadline looms for sign-up to centralised prescribing

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 17/08/2023, Jolyon Attwooll

The Department of Health and Aged Care is urging practices that have not registered for the national Prescription Delivery Service to do so. More than 150 million e-prescriptions have been issued since May 2020.

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Cabinet approves MoU on Cooperation in sports between India and Australia

srilankasource.com, Other, 17/08/2023

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Sports between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Department of Health and Aged Care of the Government of Australia.

Widely syndicated across international publications

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DoHAC sticks to status quo on meningococcal B vaccine

The Medical Republic, Other, 17/08/2023

The department has no plans to change the vaccine's NIP schedule listing, even as cases nationwide surpass last year's record. The Department of Health and Aged Care has all but ruled out extending access to the meningococcal B vaccine through the National Immunisation Program schedule, despite cases rising by close to 50% in the past year.

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The residential aged care sector lost \$2.3 billion last year

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/08/2023, Caroline Egan

The residential aged care sector lost an average of \$32.97 per resident per day in 2021-22, according to the latest Financial Report on the Australian Aged Care Sector 2021-22. The sector as a whole lost \$2.26 billion in total. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care said that it expects this trend to continue in 2022-23 as AN-ACC funding will help to cover the expenses and as care minute targets become mandatory from 1 October 2023.

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Regulator and DoH warn providers about charging aged care residents

for medication management

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/08/2023, Caroline Egan

Pharmacists who regularly pack medication for aged care residents into webster packs free of charge are concerned that the introduction of 60-day dispensing will mean they can no longer afford to offer that complimentary service. Now, the Aged Care Quality Commissioner, Janet Anderson, and the Deputy Secretary of Ageing and Aged Care Group at the Department of Health and Aged Care, Michael Lye, have written jointly to residential care providers saying they have been "made aware of instances where pharmacy charges for medication packaging and delivery are being passed on to permanent aged care residents" and to "remind" them of their legally required medication management responsibilities.

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CORONAVIRUS

Just another lawsuit for Clive Palmer

Australian Financial Review, General News, 18/08/2023, Joe Aston and Myriam Robin, Page 40

Only when the Federal Court agreed on Monday to discontinue a class action brought against Telstra over its COVID-19 vaccine mandate for employees was the identity of the litigation funder revealed.

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Palmer named as funder of lawsuit against COVID vax

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 18/08/2023, Kishor Napier-Raman and David Estcourt, Page 2

For a billionaire best known for his eccentric, attention-seeking behaviour, Clive Palmer sometimes tries very hard to avoid the spotlight. The mining magnate took great pains to conceal his bankrolling of an aborted class action lawsuit against Telstra over the telco's vaccination mandates, with Palmer's identity as the litigation funder only revealed in the Federal Court this week.

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

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Fresh Covid strain fears

Courier Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 3

There are fears of a fresh Covid resurgence after cases of a new variant were recorded in several countries. Dubbed the "Pi" variant, scientists are worried that the strain could spread rapidly, particularly during the colder months, and are calling for masks and restrictions to return.

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COVID-19 in Ballarat: Call to keep protection up against Eris variant

Ballarat Courier, Other, 17/08/2023, Melanie Whelan

With winter on its way, rising case numbers indicate Australia could be on the cusp of a fifth COVID-19 wave. Waning immunity to COVID-19 is "apparent amongst many communities", the region's public health body warns ahead predictions of a spring revival in the virus.

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Long COVID key finding

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 17/08/2023

The identification of a metabolic pathway could lead to answers and new treatments for those experiencing brain fog because of long COVID. Researchers from UNSW Sydney and St Vincent's Hospital have identified a key pathway, involved in inflammation, which appears to be activated in people with long COVID who have symptoms of 'brain fog'.

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NDIS in provider exodus on costs

Daily Telegraph, General News, 18/08/2023, Julie Cross, Page 30

NDIS providers are pulling out of the government's disability scheme claiming it is financially untenable, with warnings the situation is being made worse due to workers leaving the sector for aged care and better pay. It comes as another major provider, BlueCare based in Queensland, this month sent letters to clients saying it would stop providing community services for NDIS clients from the end of December.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#)

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Footy helps Jim remember

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 20

Hospital staff transformed an Alzheimer's patient's room into a footy paradise, filled with memorabilia from his favourite footy team. Jim Swanson, 73, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and vascular dementia two years ago.

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'Heart of how we connect': Storytelling connects residents and future health workforce

Aged Care Insite, Other, 17/08/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Aged care facility Bolton Clarke has partnered with Australian universities to launch a new program that inspired the future aged care workforce through an innovative storytelling program. Storytelling in Health and Aged Care, Research and Education known as SHARE used various storytelling projects, such as intergenerational digital storytelling, to connect students and residents and foster intergenerational relationships.

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South Australia's first dementia care village opens

Aged Care Insite, Other, 17/08/2023, Arshmah Jamal

A new dementia care village has opened in South Australia complete with a shop designed by Coles, a hairdresser, and a cafe. Partnering up with the federal and state government, HammondCare opened the dementia care village in Daw Park, Adelaide, in hopes of focusing on relationship-based care. In line with the recommendations of the Aged Care Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, the village was designed around small, home-like cottages to maximise autonomy and minimise disability.

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IRT hiring staff from the Philippines to solve aged care staff crisis

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 17/08/2023, Connor Pearce

To address the ongoing staff shortage in aged care, Illawarra provider IRT has recruited nearly 100 staff from the Philippines to fill the worker gap. After completing their training, the first two groups are now working on site in Woonona and Nowra, and more are expected to come before Christmas.

[Read More](#)

Where are the new beds? Just 231 aged care builds in 2021-22

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/08/2023

Only 26 aged care building approvals in 2021-22 were valued at over \$20 million confirming that few residential care operators are embarking on large-scale projects. The Financial Report on the Australian Aged Care Sector 2021-22 has revealed that the total number of new aged care builds in Australia has dropped for the fifth year in a row to just 231, from a peak of 351 in 2017-18.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Remote living won't bridge gap in life expectancy

The Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Claire Lehmann, Page 11

For almost all of human history, life expectancy hovered around just 30 years. Of course, many people lived into old age. [...] The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has found that Indigenous people in remote areas are 4.3 times more likely to be hospitalised for preventable conditions than the Indigenous living in major cities.

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

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Advertiser code targets influencers, vapes aimed at kids

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 18/08/2023, Millie Muroi, Page 15

The peak body for Australian advertisers has beefed up a key industry code in an attempt to stop the promotion of hazardous products such as vapes and caffeinated drinks in ads targeted at children. The Australian Association of National Advertisers (AANA) chief executive Josh Faulks yesterday revealed the latest version of the Children's Advertising Code, which included tightened restrictions on mass communication with a demographic he said was vulnerable.

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

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

Bannockburn school suspends vape pupils

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 18/08/2023, Mark Murray, Page 5

A student who recently collapsed at Bannockburn P-12 College has been suspended, along with others, after another alleged vaping incident at the campus. It is understood at least three year 8 teenagers at the school received five-day suspensions this week after allegedly being found vaping in a toilet.

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Ease back into exercise routine after being sick

Daily Telegraph, General News, 18/08/2023, Hannah Vanderheide, Page 33

On the mend and ready to move after Covid or flu? The level of exercise you do post-illness should be gradual. We all know rest is the best medicine when we're smacked with a bug as mighty as influenza or Covid-19.

Also reported by: [Sunshine Coast Daily \(Maroochydore\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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WHO holds first traditional medicine summit

NEWS.com.au, Other, 17/08/2023

The World Health Organization holds its first summit on traditional medicine on Thursday, with warnings that treatments rooted in natural products can be effective alternative healthcare only if scientifically proven. Traditional medicines are a "first port of call for millions of people worldwide", the UN health agency said, with the talks in India bringing together policymakers and academics aiming to "mobilise political commitment and evidence-based action" towards them.

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

[Read More](#)

Teen allegedly caught vaping at Bannockburn P-12 College just weeks after collapsing at school

Northern Territory News, Other, 17/08/2023, Mark Murray

A student who recently collapsed at a school near Geelong has been suspended, along with others, after another alleged vaping incident at the campus. The Geelong Advertiser understands at least three year 8 teenagers at the Bannockburn P-12 College received five day suspensions this week after they were allegedly found vaping in a toilet.

[Read More](#)

Young people who vape risk developing serious respiratory problems, study shows

9News, Other, 17/08/2023

Young vapers are at risk of developing bronchitis and shortness of breath, a new research study has found. US researchers in Southern California tracked the respiratory health of more than 2000 young people for the peer-reviewed study, which was published in the medical journal Thorax.

[Read More](#)

Naloxone for WA Police

Medical Forum, Other, 17/08/2023

WA police officers have added a new lifesaving tool to their kit, in the form of the rapid opioid overdose treatment, naloxone. The move comes after a year-long trial, from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, which saw 365 WA Officers become the first police in the southern hemisphere to carry naloxone and during that time, the nasal spray was successfully used to treat 20 drug-affected people in the Perth and Bunbury regions.

[Read More](#)

WA's big bust

Medical Forum, Other, 17/08/2023

More than 300,000 vapes with a street value of \$10 million have been uncovered hidden in a warehouse, in the single biggest seizure of the illegal products in WA to date. In what has also been confirmed as one of the largest seizures of vapes in Australia, WA Health compliance unearthed the massive haul from a property in the Perth metropolitan area earlier this month after a tip-off.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 17/08/2023, Susannah Carr and Rick Ardon

The city of Fremantle could soon ban smoking and vaping in parts of its CBD. The council will consider banning it in Walyalup Koort, formerly known as Kings Square and the High Street Mall. It follows in the footsteps of the city of Perth and Vincent, which have recently restricted smoking in public places. Around 80% of pharmacies say they'll be forced to start charging for services that are usually free.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 17/08/2023, Leon Delaney

Interview with Simon Blacker, President, Pharmacy Guild ACT on 60-day dispensing. Delaney says report has shown that four out of five pharmacies intend to charge a fee for various services that are currently free of charge. Blacker says pharmacies are preparing for the impact of the scheme and they're looking at the way they operate and try to find a sustainable footing so that they can continue to service their local community.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Fighting for life

Herald Sun, General News, 18/08/2023, Samantha Landy, Page 23

On the brink of welcoming his second child into the world, Paul Hughes learned his breast cancer was incurable. The then-43-year-old was given "a 50 per cent chance of being alive in 18 months". He had

to break this news to his partner, Shauna, the day before she started maternity leave.

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Cancer risk: Doctors' scathing attack on Royal Prince Albert Hospital

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 17/08/2023, Natalie O'Brien

Cancer patients at Australia's top ranked hospital have been left waiting weeks without crucial radiological scans revealing whether their cancer has spread, according to concerned doctors. Significant delays in reporting cancer risks found in scans are also occurring at the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse dedicated cancer treatment centre, and the problems have been known since last year according to doctors who spoke out at a Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) Medical Staff Council meeting last week.

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

[Read More](#)

This diet could cut your chances of breast cancer in half

The Courier Mail, Other, 17/08/2023, Carolyn Tate

Is there anything this diet can't do? By adding more fish, vegetables and olive oil to your diet, you could dramatically lower your chances of being diagnosed with breast cancer, a new study has found.

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

[Read More](#)

AFLW Geelong Cat Annabel Johnson named new ambassador for Breast Cancer Network Australia

The Courier Mail, Other, 17/08/2023, Michaela Meade

AFLW Geelong Cat Annabel Johnson has been announced as the new ambassador for Breast Cancer Network Australia a cause close to her heart. Johnson said she had lost two family members to the disease her grandmother and aunt.

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

[Read More](#)

Blood test may spot women at risk of breast cancer as scientists discover another four genes linked to disease

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 18/08/2023, Victoria Allen

A blood test could better identify women at risk of breast cancer after scientists discovered at least four new genes linked to the disease. There are already well-known important genes linked to breast cancer, like BRCA1.

[Read More](#)

Loneliness linked with increased CVD risk in patients with diabetes

Medicine Today, Other, 17/08/2023, Melanie Hinze

Loneliness is a potent risk factor for cardiovascular disease (CVD) in patients with diabetes, new research reveals. Published in the European Heart Journal, the study included 18,509 participants from the UK Biobank database diagnosed with diabetes but without CVD at baseline.

[Read More](#)

High burden of comorbidity and clinical outcomes in people with hearing loss

Medicine Today, Other, 17/08/2023, Melanie Hinze

Hearing loss is common and associated with high comorbidity and substantial increases in potentially preventable adverse outcomes, new research published in eClinicalMedicine suggests. The retrospective population based cohort study included more than 4.7 million adults living in Alberta, Canada, between April 2004 and March 2019.

[Read More](#)

Early detection means better outcomes

Shepparton News Online, Other, 17/08/2023, Adrienne Hartnett

Five months after recovering from prostate cancer surgery, Corowa's Derek Schoen is urging men over 50 to prioritise their annual prostate screening or get checked if they notice in subtle symptoms. Corowa farmer Derek Schoen has opened up about his recent prostate cancer journey, shedding light on the critical importance of early detection, challenging the tendency of rural men to put their health on the backburner.

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PRIMARY CARE

NDIS 'the next cab on state funds rank'

The Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Sarah Elks, Page 5

The next national cabinet will challenge the states to take more responsibility for disability care, National Disability Insurance Scheme Minister Bill Shorten has revealed. Mr Shorten said state-run hospitals handballed too many procedures to the NDIS, and had wrongly stopped performing some procedures by insisting the national scheme was responsible.

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

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

Anglicans discourage euthanasia

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 18/08/2023, Jordan Baker, Page 1

The Anglican Church has advised its aged care homes in a report to discourage residents from using voluntary assisted dying when NSW's laws take effect, and has warned the practice could become so morally corrupting for churchrun facilities that it may have to exit the industry. "The report challenges Anglicare Sydney to respectfully, in compliance with the law, seek to dissuade residents from accessing VAD by 'deed and word'," it said.

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

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Third world RAH

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 18/08/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 1

A cramped "tin shed" serving as the triage centre and waiting room for the \$2.4bn Royal Adelaide Hospital's emergency department is triggering complaints about "appalling Third World" conditions from patients. The temporary shed in the car park barely has room for new arrivals to queue to be seen, with the desk close to the sliding automatic opening doors.

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

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

RAH riddle: Why so few chairs in new hospital ED?

Adelaide Advertiser, Editorials, 18/08/2023, Page 30

Kath Lovell does not mince words when describing her experience as a patient at the \$2.4bn Royal Adelaide Hospital's temporary ED waiting room. As detailed in our story today, she describes it as appalling and likens it to a third world hospital's conditions.

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

Out of sight, out of mind: health issues inside ACT's jail

Canberra Times, General News, 18/08/2023, Peter Brewer, Page 8

Long-running health treatment issues within one of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable communities in the ACT - Canberra's minimum-to-maximum jail - are the focus of a five year "health and wellbeing" strategy. An independent report last year identified significant problems within Justice

Health, with an "out of sight, out of mind" attitude toward the health needs of more than 400 people behind bars at the Alexander Maconochie Centre.

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

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Chemists rally over scripts

Daily Telegraph, General News, 18/08/2023, Elizabeth Pike, Page 31

Hundreds of pharmacists have rallied outside state parliament as industry fears mount over changes that will allow doctors to write prescriptions for two months' worth of medicines for the price of just one month. From September 1,300 common medicines will be available at a 'two-for-one' price for people with ongoing medical conditions including diabetes and depression.

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Spinal tap to boost care

Courier Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Madura McCormack , Page 3

Queensland's rundown spinal injuries unit will receive an "immediate" \$20m funding injection but won't be relocated, the state government has revealed, months after explosive allegations by whistleblowers of neglect and sub par treatment. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman confirmed the state's sole 40-bed Spinal Cord Injury Service, located at Princess Alexandra Hospital, would get \$20m to make immediate improvements to the existing unit.

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

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Hospital plan axed

Hobart Mercury, General News, 18/08/2023, Blair Richards, Page 1

The plan to build a \$60m private hospital at New Town has been abandoned after costs more than doubled since the project was approved by council in 2021. Nexus Hospitals CEO Andrew Petering has written to local residents explaining why no progress has been made at the New Town Rd site since the former WIN TV studios building was demolished earlier this year.

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Just what the class ordered

West Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Jake Dietsch, Page 28

A GP with experience in adolescent health will be based out of a regional high school as part of a groundbreaking WAFirst trial that could lead to doctors being embedded in public schools across the State. The advertisement for a GP service one day a week at Manjimup Senior High School in WA's South West says the trial "will focus on providing adolescent health care to students".

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

QEll still best maternity site

West Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Libby Mettam, Page 73

It was supposed to provide the "irrefutable evidence" for a truly audacious captain's call that saw the WA Labor Government throw out years of consultation, research and planning, without any input from those most impacted or the experts. [...] Assertions by the Government that the specialist paediatric surgical teams could simply jump in a car and perform time-critical surgery at Fiona Stanley Hospital were also dismissed as naive by the AMA.

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

Kids at risk: 'no way' families can afford teeth-saving check-ups

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 18/08/2023, Tom O'Callaghan, Page 3

Bendigo dentists are trying to save children's teeth far too late because inflation has left government help out of reach for too many families, a La Trobe University expert says. Dr Virginia Dickson-Swift wants a revamp of who is eligible for dental care funding through the federal government's family tax A benefit to cover households where two adults are earning more than \$80,000 a year.

Mayors share common views, and a yearning for answers

Border Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Beau Greenway, Page 8

Mayors of three councils in the Albury Wodonga Health catchment say it's only fair they see detailed plans for the Albury hospital redevelopment to be assured it is a suitable option ahead of a new greenfields Border site. Alpine, Indigo and Federation councils mayors have commented after being invited to attend a health forum by Wodonga Council on Wednesday, as it continues to push for a new single-site hospital on the Border.

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Pharmacists expect hit to business

Daily Liberal, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 6

Most pharmacists expect the value of their business to drop, in a loss of confidence blamed on a government policy change. The 10th annual CommBank Pharmacy Insights report released on Thursday showed 72 per cent of community pharmacists surveyed in May expected the value of their business to decrease, compared with just 10 per cent six months earlier.

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Understaffing worries mums

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 8

Many women say they did not have access to their preferred antenatal care - the sought-after Midwifery Group Practice program where the same team of midwives provides continuity of care through pregnancy and birth - and others described issues with how they were treated in the maternity ward. One woman described "appalling under-resourcing", where "there were no less than 28 mothers and babies - at least 56 individuals - being attended by only four qualified midwives alongside a handful of support staff recruited from your antenatal team".

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Maternity policy will better support personnel

Army News, General News, 17/08/2023, Lina May, Page 21

Defence implemented a new maternity policy last month to better support personnel through pregnancy and postpartum recovery. Joint Health Command's Director of Defence- Health Policy Capt Mark Page said the changes to the Defence Health Manual and MIL.PF.RSMAN represented a modernised approach to supporting ADF members through pregnancy, childbirth and into the first few years of their newborn baby's life.

Also reported by: [Navy News \(Sydney\)](#), [Air Force News \(Sydney\)](#).

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

Boost for spinal unit after concerns about patient care

Canberra Times, Other, 17/08/2023, John Crouch

Queensland's only dedicated spinal unit will stay put and receive a funding boost following concerns about patient care and a lack of resources. The Palaszczuk government is promising \$20 million towards "immediate" improvements to the unit at Brisbane's Princess Alexandra Hospital, including more bathrooms, toilets and therapy spaces, and changes to food service.

[Read More](#)

WA abortion laws sail through Legislative Assembly unopposed

West Australian, Other, 17/08/2023, Josh Zimmerman

Abortion reforms have sailed through Parliament's Legislative Assembly without a single vote against the proposed revamp, despite senior Minister Bill Johnston raising concerns with the law changes. [...] That amendment supported by the Australian Medical Association (WA) was backed by the six Opposition MPs but defeated 44-6.

[Read More](#)

Perth Children's Hospital specialist and equipment shortage forcing families of sick kids to travel interstate

ABC Online, Other, 17/08/2023, Cason Ho

A shortage of specialist health staff and equipment at Perth Children's Hospital is forcing some families to travel interstate for treatment, sparking calls from the opposition. Catalina Kovacevich, 5, was born with a rare genetic condition which causes tumours to grow in her brain, and other parts of her body.

[Read More](#)

Let all GPs prescribe hep B antivirals without extra training: RACGP

Australian Doctor, Other, 17/08/2023, Sarah Simpkins

About 1% of GPs are able to prescribe hepatitis B antivirals, according to ASHM. Mandatory training requirements for GPs who prescribe hepatitis B antivirals are unnecessary and a barrier to treatment, says the RACGP.

[Read More](#)

Medicines administration course launched

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 17/08/2023

Pharmacists are encouraged to start their full scope of practice journey with new medicines administration course. The Australasian College of Pharmacy has launched the national Medicines Administration Course for all Australian pharmacists.

[Read More](#)

Cheaper medicines don't have to cost pharmacy

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 17/08/2023

Efforts to cut medicines costs should not come at the expense of community pharmacies, a new pharmacy owner says. Moves to implement 60-day dispensing under the government's current model will hurt patients, pharmacy staff and owners, former Pharmaceutical Society of Australia NSW branch president, Chelsea Felkai warns.

Similar coverage reported by: [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Retail Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Pharmacies and chemists to begin charging Australians for free medical services including blood pressure checks and medication deliveries

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 17/08/2023, Antoinette Milienos

Pharmacies and chemists will charge Aussies for free medical services amid fears Labor's new prescription dispensing policy will send revenue plunging. The previously free services include blood pressure checks, delivering medication to a home, wound dressing and baby weighing.

[Read More](#)

Personal data in exchange for bulk billing?

Medical Forum, Other, 17/08/2023

A chain of medical clinics in NSW, Queensland and Victoria have been singled out by Australia's leading consumer group, CHOICE, for refusing to bulk-bill patients who did not sign up to their app-based rewards program. Patients of the Our Medical clinics a chain of 33 medical, dental and radiology clinics operated by Cornerstone Health were "outraged" at being forced to choose between signing up to the practice's app or paying the full \$90 fee, especially given that the company's online privacy declaration allows for data sharing with third parties.

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PD breaking news – Suzanne Greenwood resigns from the Guild

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 17/08/2023

Executive Director of the Pharmacy Guild, Suzanne Greenwood, steps down and will finish up on 24

Nov. The Pharmacy Guild of Australia National President, Trent Twomey has today announced that Suzanne Greenwood has given notice that she is resigning as Executive Director of the Guild after more than four years in the role.

[Read More](#)

Call for 'urgent intervention' after practice receives \$800k tax bill

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/08/2023, Michelle Wisbey

The RACGP has warned Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews of widespread clinic shutdowns unless his state changes its approach to payroll tax. A coalition of medical groups is urging Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews to save the state's practices from catastrophic closure'.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Sunrise, 17/08/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Chemists will start charging customers for services they previously provided for free due to a fall in revenue. A new report reveals four out of the five community pharmacies intend to charge for blood pressure checks medication, home delivered, wound dressing and also baby weighing. Chemists argue this is aimed at offsetting the impact of the federal government's 60-day dispensing policy, 90% of them expecting profits to decrease by a third.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

NDIS demand pushes vets down mental health queue

The Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Ben Packham, Page 1

Veterans are being forced onto months-long waiting lists to get mental health support under a rebate system that pays at least \$61 less per session to treat former Australian Defence Force members than NDIS clients. As the nation marks 50 years since Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War ended, RSL national president Greg Melick said many veterans were struggling to get psychological help due to the funding disparity.

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

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

Mental health cases explode

Courier Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Sue Dunlevy, Page 5

Mental health is now the top reason health fund members aged under 59 are going to hospital - overtaking procedures such as gastroscopies and colonoscopies. And their illnesses are now so severe treatments are high cost with one patient who had recurrent depressive disorder requiring \$526,818 worth of treatment in 2022.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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Mental health service at risk over funding fears

Courier Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 6

An innovative mental health service supporting Queenslanders in the bush is at capacity and its founder fears that without vital funding people in need will miss out. Cardiologist and founder of White Cloud Foundation, Professor Adam Scott, said since starting the free tele-mental health service about 18 months ago more than 650 people from all over the state including Rockhampton, Cairns, Townsville and Cape York had been helped.

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

Mental health help

A "compassionate" mental health program that focuses on tackling the issues driving people's distress will be piloted in Victoria. Planning is underway with Darebin and Shepparton chosen to trial the joint federal-state program, modelled on a successful Scottish policy.

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

Up there for healthy outlook

Border Watch, General News, 18/08/2023, Aidan Curtis, Page 6

Mental health advocates are doing the rounds on the Limestone Coast to encourage people to better look after their mental health. Ben Pettingill and Mike Rolls have toured the South East over the last week and a half to deliver talks through the Ski For Life Mates on a Mission program.

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

Unhealthy waiting lists

Daily Mercury, General News, 18/08/2023, Samantha Scott and Jill Poulsen, Page 13

Mental health patients are waiting a year or more to see a psychologist in regional Queensland, with GPs the only option in some areas. Only two in 10 psychologists are in regional Australia, where 28 per cent of the population lives.

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

Players open up on mental health and footy anxiety

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 18/08/2023, Ben Cameron, Page 37

Former Carlton and Gold Coast Suns player Daniel Gorringe once used a couch in a desperate attempt to break his foot he was so mentally distressed before a game. That was one startling revelation to come out of a Tackle Your Feelings workshop with Corio Football Club players this week.

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

Women-only trauma clinic a life-saver

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 18/08/2023, Kate McIlwain, Page 18

A year ago, Felicity*, 40, says she was at rock bottom. She experienced childhood neglect, sexual abuse, rape and domestic violence over many years, and had been diagnosed with complex post-traumatic stress disorder.

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

Dad's mental impact

Medical Forum, Other, 17/08/2023

A Curtin University-led meta-analysis has confirmed there is a significant link between a father's depression and an increased risk of mental health issues in their children. The review, which examined 16 international studies featuring more than seven million fathers, including Australians and their children, undertaken between 2002 and 2021, found that children faced a 42% higher risk of developing depression if their father was impacted long-term by the condition.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

FMC unit improves but more needed

Flinders Medical Centre's obstetrics and gynaecology department has made improvements but has still only been granted provisional training accreditation by its governing college. It underwent an accreditation visit by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in September last year and, in an embarrassing blow for the southern area's flagship service, only received provisional training accreditation for six months.

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

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Hospital training issues 'wrong': AMA

Canberra Times, General News, 18/08/2023, Lanie Tindale, Page 3

A top doctor believes specialty colleges are looking into more Canberra Hospital training programs, as another unit loses its accreditation. The hospital offers training programs across different departments, allowing doctors to become specialists.

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

Hopes nurses will build community

Daily Liberal, General News, 18/08/2023, Sarah Falson, Page 3

Nursing placements for international students could encourage qualified nurses to stay in Dubbo, according to an upper house member. Stephen Lawrence MLC said there was a "dire shortage" of nurses in Dubbo as well as across regional Australia and having students live and train in Dubbo could encourage them to remain in the city when they graduate.

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

Pandemic drives uptick in Australia's health workforce

Canberra Times, Other, 17/08/2023, Tara Cosoleto

The COVID-19 pandemic has swelled Australia's health workforce, with more than 140,000 people registering as new practitioners in the past four years. There are now 877,119 people registered across the various health professions, Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency data shows, up 18 per cent on June 2019 numbers.

[Read More](#)

Training program under review in Canberra Hospital child-at-risk unit, plastic surgery team loses accreditation

Canberra Times, Other, 17/08/2023, Lucy Bladen

The child-at-risk health unit at Canberra Hospital will undergo a review of its training accreditation following concerns about senior specialist shortfalls. The review will take place outside of the normal cycle after the accreditation body, the Royal College of Physicians, received these concerns.

[Read More](#)

Kalgoorlie-Boulder doctor offers insight into reasons GPs might not be moving to the city

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 17/08/2023

A long-serving general practitioner in Kalgoorlie-Boulder says a lack of camaraderie and restrictions on GPs' breadth of practice is turning doctors off the Goldfields city. Dr Mal Hodsdon told the Kalgoorlie Miner the opportunities available to GPs in the regional centre were not the same as they used to be after Kalgoorlie Health Campus limited local doctors' admitting rights to the hospital about eight years ago.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 17/08/2023, Lish Fejer

The Australian Medical Association says training and retaining junior doctors is a bigger problem in the ACT compared to the rest of the country, as Canberra Hospital grapples with its latest accreditation

issues. The Government insists no junior doctors have been disadvantaged since training accreditation for them in the plastic surgery team at Canberra Hospital was revoked.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Personal data in exchange for bulk billing?

Medical Forum, Other, 17/08/2023

A chain of medical clinics in NSW, Queensland and Victoria have been singled out by Australia's leading consumer group, CHOICE, for refusing to bulk-bill patients who did not sign up to their app-based rewards program. Patients of the Our Medical clinics a chain of 33 medical, dental and radiology clinics operated by Cornerstone Health were "outraged" at being forced to choose between signing up to the practice's app or paying the full \$90 fee, especially given that the company's online privacy declaration allows for data sharing with third parties.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

'Touchy' chiro banned

Herald Sun, General News, 18/08/2023, Jon Kaila, Page 13

A regional chiropractor has been banned from treating patients after complaints he was inappropriately touching female clients. Michael McCann, from Warrnambool, has been suspended from working while the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency investigates sexual assault claims.

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

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Mum who won case urges women to seek advice from lawyers

Daily Advertiser, General News, 18/08/2023, Dan Holmes, Page 7

A mother left psychologically scarred after having her placenta pulled out without pain relief at a Riverina hospital has urged other women who have endured birth trauma to seek legal advice. The woman, who sued the Murrumbidgee Local Health District and reached an out-of-court settlement, said she developed a severe psychological injury after her son was delivered naturally at Griffith Base Hospital in 2017.

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

St Kilda GP and dying with dignity advocate fined \$12K and found guilty of professional misconduct

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 17/08/2023, Mandy Squires

A Melbourne GP who helped his terminally ill and suffering patient to die through the state's Voluntary Assisted Dying laws has been found guilty of professional misconduct and fined \$12,000 because of a form-filling oversight. While there was no doubt the patient of St Kilda doctor Nicholas Carr wanted to end their life, "there was an error made in the completion of the patient's declaration of seeking access

to VAD (Voluntary Assisted Dying)", the Medical Board of Australia at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal ruled this month.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#). Similar coverage reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Bacterial outbreak inside Sydney fertility unit contaminates three women's embryos

ABC Online, Other, 17/08/2023, Amy Greenbank

Three women undergoing IVF treatment at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital's fertility unit in Sydney have had their embryos destroyed after they became contaminated by bacteria. Affected patients were alerted this week after the RPA's fertility laboratory suddenly shut down to undergo a deep clean.

Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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GP reprimanded after practising without indemnity cover for 20 years

Australian Doctor, Other, 17/08/2023, Heather Saxena

A GP who practised without indemnity insurance for two decades has been reprimanded, after a tribunal rejected his claim that his wife had misinformed him about premium payments. However, the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal said a suspension was unnecessary because the 68-year-old was unlikely to practice without insurance again.

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Ex-paramedic found to have slapped aged care resident with dementia

HelloCare, Other, 17/08/2023, Bianca Iovino

A paramedic who slapped and abused an aged care resident with dementia will not get his job back with the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) after his employment was terminated. Former skilled paramedic, Jonathan Charles Loveridge, took the ambulance service to the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) with claims he was unfairly dismissed from his job in November 2020.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

'We can host men's World Cup too'

Australian Financial Review, General News, 18/08/2023, Samantha Hutchinson, Page 3

The Matildas' stellar World Cup run has lifted Australia's chances of hosting the men's equivalent and should embolden policymakers to be more ambitious about the competitions they chase, NSW's new stadiums boss David Gallop said.

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Focus turns to funding after Matildas defeat

Australian Financial Review, General News, 18/08/2023, Zoe Samios, Page 3

Matildas captain Sam Kerr has urged Australia to invest more money in grassroots football as the team's heartbreaking loss to England at the FIFA Women's World Cup shattered a twodecade-long television ratings record.

Sport spoiled

Age, General News, 18/08/2023, Thomas Mitchell and Karl Quinn, Page 1

The dream of winning the World Cup came to an end, but Australia's love affair with the Matildas reached new heights on Wednesday night as the semi-final clash with England drew a record average audience of 7.13 million viewers nationally on Seven and its streaming service 7plus. That number does not include those who watched on Optus Sport or in the many public venues around the country that hosted mass viewing events.

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Matildas a force for inclusivity

Canberra Times, General News, 18/08/2023, Bageshri Savyasachi, Page 8

The Matildas may have lost the chance to win the FIFA Women's World Cup trophy but they have won Australians' hearts. Roxie Swart, a striker for ANU Women's Football Club in the National Premier League, had painters working on their house and overheard them talking about "the game" on Wednesday.

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PM told to back fandom with cash

Daily Telegraph, General News, 18/08/2023, Courtney Gould, Page 11

Anthony Albanese's online tribute to the Matildas' "incredible" World Cup run has been met with loud calls from players and fans for a major injection of funding into the women's game. The Prime Minister was one of 75,784 fans who packed out Accor Stadium at Homebush on Wednesday night to watch the Tillies go down 3-1 to England in the semi-final.

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World Cup bid kicks off

Herald Sun, Editorials, 18/08/2023, Page 30

After the huge success of the FIFA Women's World Cup, Australia is now set to formalise a bid for the men's blockbuster event. The Matildas' inspiring campaign, that continues with a battle for third spot against Sweden come Saturday, has set the tone for a tilt at hosting FIFA's 2034 men's competition, regarded as one of the biggest sporting events on the planet.

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Tillies kick off soccer fervour

Courier Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Peter Rolfe, Page 12

The Matildas' marvellous FIFA Women's World Cup performance is expected to spark a surge in grassroots soccer participation Down Under. Australia's best result men or women at a soccer World Cup has inspired a nation and scored record attendance, broadcast and merchandise sales.

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Architects see a lasting legacy in temporary pool

Courier Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Hayden Johnson, Page 19

A striking Brisbane Arena bordered by greenery and a legacy swimming venue should be considered as permanent reminder of a successful 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games, leading architects say. HKS director Andrew Colling, whose group is part of a consortium of architects calling for the Palaszczuk government to think big when building Olympic Games infrastructure, called for a rethink on the future of the temporary Brisbane Arena swimming venue.

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Cough up the cash and we can win the cup

West Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Jackson Barrett and Ben Smith, Page 4

The Matildas are everyone's new favourite team, but there are fears all their great work on and off the

pitch during the World Cup could be wasted unless there is a huge cash injection. The players used the aftermath of their semi-final defeat to English to launch an impassioned plea for more funding for the women's game so the momentum they have built up is not lost.

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Swimming Australia to hold special general meeting as World Aquatics threatens expulsion due to governance issues

ABC Online, Other, 17/08/2023, David Mark

Swimming Australia (SA) has called a special general meeting to avoid being kicked out of the sport's global governing body World Aquatics. The meeting will vote on a change to SA's constitution.

Similar coverage reported by: [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

The Matildas have been pushing to close the football pay gap. It would make a difference for A-League players like Sarah

ABC Online, Other, 17/08/2023, Emily Jane Smith and Jason Om

Sarah Langman is a goalkeeper for the Central Coast Mariners and has been playing for the A-League for nine seasons. But the disparity in pay and the part-time nature of the women's league in Australia means she can't focus on football full time.

[Read More](#)

'Alienated by the men's game': how the culture of women's sport has driven record Matildas viewership

Crikey, Other, 17/08/2023, Kasey Symons and Paul Bowell

The popularity of the Matildas illustrates how the fan culture of women's sport creates a safer and more inclusive environment. Wednesday night saw the end of the Matildas' nation-gripping FIFA Women's World Cup pursuit, losing 3-1 to England in the semi-final in Sydney.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Pregnancy pill study

Herald Sun, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 23

Taking piroxicam an anti-inflammatory commonly used for arthritis pain at the same time as the levonorgestrel "morning-after" pill appears to make the contraceptive more effective, according to a gold standard clinical trial. A Hong Kong study of 860 women requesting emergency contraception found 95 per cent of pregnancies were prevented following the combined treatment compared with 63 per cent of pregnancies when levonorgestrel was taken with a placebo.

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

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Diet? Take it as Med

West Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Victoria Allen, Page 60

Living a Mediterranean lifestyle with good food, friends and enough rest may cut your odds of premature death by 29 per cent. It has long been known that a Mediterranean diet is healthy because of its anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties, but a study suggests people can live longer by also copying other habits of people in countries such as Italy and Spain.

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High blood pressure linked to cognitive decline

Daily Liberal, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 3

A correlation between genetic high blood pressure and early cognitive decline has been found by Australian researchers. The research, published by University NSW scientists on Thursday, indicates "subtle but real" changes in cognition from younger patients experiencing high blood pressure compared to previous findings of patients later in life.

Similar coverage reported by: [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Obesity breakthrough

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 14

Scientists have identified a molecule that plays a key role in how cells detect when they are being pushed or pulled, which could lead to the development of future drugs for the treatment of obesity, osteoporosis and inflammatory diseases. Researchers at Sydney's Victor Chang Cardiac Institute have finally shed light on how a small molecule regulates the sensors that are central to many processes in the body including how nerve cells embedded in the skin sense when we are being touched.

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WA stem cell breakthrough

Medical Forum, Other, 17/08/2023

West Australian researchers from the Harry Perkins Institute have made groundbreaking progress in reprogramming human stem cells. The team, led by UWA and the institute's Professor Ryan Lister, alongside Professor Jose Polo from Monash University and the University of Adelaide, developed a new method to mimic embryonic stem cells (ES) using the non-reproductive adult cells of the body, a breakthrough with significant implications for biomedical and therapeutic uses.

[Read More](#)

Modest reduction in kidney function linked to adverse outcomes

Medicine Today, Other, 17/08/2023, Rebecca Jenkins

Even a modest loss of kidney function is associated with an increased risk of adverse health outcomes, particularly in younger adults, a large population-based cohort study finds. Chronic kidney disease is currently characterised by a reduced estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) of less than 60mL/min/1.73m for at least 90 days, regardless of age, the Canadian researchers wrote in The BMJ.

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Wide range of antihypertensives reduce headache frequency in migraine

Medicine Today, Other, 17/08/2023, Rebecca Jenkins

A wider range of blood pressure-lowering medication than currently recommended can reduce headache frequency in migraine, Australian research finds. The study authors, led by researchers at the George Institute for Global Health in Sydney, said only a few specific blood pressure-lowering medications were currently recommended for migraine prevention, with uncertainty around the role of other agents.

[Read More](#)

Study supports cardiovascular safety of testosterone replacement therapy

Medicine Today, Other, 17/08/2023, Melanie Hinze

Testosterone replacement therapy does not appear to be associated with increased risk of major adverse cardiac events in overweight men with, or at high risk for, cardiovascular disease, finds a large clinical trial with a treatment duration of about two years. Published in The New England Journal of Medicine, the industry-funded Testosterone Replacement Therapy for Assessment of Long-term Vascular Events and Efficacy Response in Hypogonadal Men (TRAVERSE) trial, was a multicentre,

randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 5246 men aged 45 to 80 years (mean age 63 years).

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 17/08/2023, Kate Freebairn

Cutting edge genomic testing is revolutionising the diagnosis of epilepsy in babies. Melbourne researchers say they're now able to identify the cause of seizures within weeks instead of years, meaning life changing treatment can be provided before brain damage occurs.

[Play Now](#)

5AA, Breakfast, 17/08/2023, Will Goodings and David Penberthy

New research shows a genetic risk for high blood pressure can contribute to poorer cognitive function. The University of New South Wales study has found patients can be affected decades earlier than previously thought, leading to concerns of early onset dementia. Dr Matt Lennon(*) says dementia and cognitive decline is a significant burden on our health system.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, PM, 17/08/2023, Sarah Dingle

The Australian Stroke Alliance chair, neurologist Professor Stephen Davis, who heads the Royal Melbourne Hospital Brain Centre, says it's a national crisis that people in rural and particularly remote Australia can't access modern treatments which have really transformed outcomes for people with stroke. He notes the alliance is developing lightweight brain scanners it hopes will be ready for remote air ambulances by 2026.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Fury over empty coffin burial

Courier Mail, General News, 18/08/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 9

Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has apologised to the family of a deceased Doomadgee Indigenous elder who buried an empty coffin when his body was mistakenly left at the morgue. The shocking mix-up in the far north Queensland community was only uncovered after the man's body was found by staff at Doomadgee Hospital.

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

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CATSINaM releases position on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 17/08/2023

The Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM) has released its position statement on the upcoming Voice to Parliament referendum, declaring its support for the proposed law to alter the Constitution, yet, also calling for more action. "CATSINaM believes that a constitutionally enshrined Voice could be a fundamental provision towards recognising the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples," the statement reads.

[Read More](#)

Aboriginal 18-year-old with disability thrown to ground during NSW police arrest while having seizure

The Guardian, Other, 18/08/2023, Tamsin Rose and Catie McLeod

New South Wales police have launched an investigation after a young Aboriginal man with disability

was violently arrested while having a seizure and thrown to the ground while handcuffed in Taree. The 18-year-old was arrested on Tuesday after police received reports a man had allegedly tried to break into two homes. Police said the man then fled. A man was arrested on Gwenneth Avenue.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, PM, 17/08/2023, Sarah Dingle

A Monash University study has found indigenous people are suffering strokes 16 years younger and they're waiting too long for treatment. So, researchers are developing lightweight, low cost scanners that can be carried in air ambulances to try and reduce the number of deaths and the disabilities caused by treatment delays.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Radioactive matter found in suburban apartment

The Australian, General News, 18/08/2023, Remy Varga and Ellen Whinnett, Page 6

Residents of an apartment block in Sydney's inner south were evacuated after border police found sealed containers of lowlevel radioactive material during a raid, triggering a multi-agency response that shut down a suburban street. Emergency services personnel including Fire and Rescue and NSW Police on Thursday directed residents away from the block of units on Kelsey St, Arncliffe, near Sydney Airport.

Similar coverage reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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Silica disease epidemic alert

Hobart Mercury, General News, 18/08/2023, Amber Wilson, Page 17

Tasmania has been warned it has a "sleeping giant" problem in the form of a yet-to-emerge silicosis disease epidemic. Jonathan Walsh, an asbestos and silica disease principal lawyer for Maurice Blackburn, said the Tasmanian government should not sit and watch the crisis play out - but needed to take action now.

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

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Pig kidney works normally in brain-dead man, 57, for over a month

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 17/08/2023, Stacy Liberatore

A pig kidney transplanted into a brain-dead man has continued to function for more than one month - bringing the world one step closer to animal-human transplants. The feat was achieved by surgeons at NYU Langone Health, who conducted the procedure on July 14 and said during Wednesday's announcement that they will continue observations through mid-September.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Today, 17/08/2023, Karl Stefanovic, Sarah Abo, Alex Cullen and Brooke Boney

Interview with Dr Maria Boulton, President, Australian Medical Association Qld. Surging flu cases are pushing Queensland hospitals to the brink with staff at Gladstone Hospital now forced to send patients into the maternity ward to cope with the lack of beds. Boulton says they received a report in the last couple of minutes saying that wasn't the case. She states only about 30% of Queenslanders have had a flu vaccine.

Radio National, Breakfast, 17/08/2023, Patricia Karvelas and Hamish Macdonald

Interview with Zach Smith, National Secretary, CFMEU. Smith says the union is campaigning to ban the importation and manufacture of engineered stone. He adds 1 in 4 workers that use this product are getting struck down with silicosis and they want to see a clear commitment out of the ALP conference through their platform that the Labor Party will ban Engineered Stone.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Novel nuclear to save lives

Daily Mercury, General News, 18/08/2023, Zoe Devenport, Page 11

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

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Turmeric pills risk liver damage

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 18/08/2023, Duncan Evans, Page 17

Australia's medicines watchdog has put out a chilling warning to patients and consumers that two common ingredients in medicines and herbal supplements turmeric and curcumin could lead to liver injury and even death. The Therapeutic Goods Administration says turmeric and curcumin can cause injury in rare cases, releasing its verdict on Tuesday after receiving 18 reports of injuries up to June this year, including one instance of a fatality.

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

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Quarter of submissions from vape users to Australian inquiry parrot text from tobacco industry campaign

The Guardian, Other, 18/08/2023, Melissa Davey

More than one-quarter of submissions from individual e-cigarette users made to the Australian government's vaping reforms consultation featured text from an "astroturfing" campaign led by the tobacco and vaping industry, "bypassing conflict-of-interest" declaration requirements, a study has found. [...] The study led by the University of Melbourne and published in the journal Health Promotion International analysed more than 2,385 public submissions made in response to the Therapeutic Goods Administration's vaping reforms proposal.

[Read More](#)

Warning over turmeric and curcumin supplements after patient dies

Australian Doctor, Other, 17/08/2023, Carmel Sparke

The TGA has issued a safety warning over supplements containing turmeric and curcumin, after receiving 18 reports of liver problems linked to the complementary medicines, including one fatality. Overseas agencies have also reported similar cases of liver injury associated with the supplements, the watchdog said in an alert on Tuesday.

[Read More](#)

What Scope and Standards of Practice should Cannabis Nurses follow?

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 17/08/2023, Robert Fedele

The Australian Cannabis Nurses Association (ACNA) have unveiled new Cannabis Nursing Scope and

Standards of Practice to support the growing role medicinal cannabis nurses are playing in providing safe and effective treatment products for patients. Launched at the 2023 United in Compassion Australian Medicinal Cannabis Symposium's Nurses' Conference, held last Friday in Brisbane, the document outlines the core values of a cannabis nurse, as well six standards of practice for the speciality.

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Tirzepatide confers meaningful weight loss in adults with type 2 diabetes

Medicine Today, Other, 17/08/2023, Rebecca Jenkins

Weekly injections of the type 2 diabetes medication tirzepatide provide a clinically meaningful reduction in bodyweight in adults with obesity and type 2 diabetes, research finds. Tirzepatide, a subcutaneous glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist, is currently approved in Australia for treating type 2 diabetes and is in development for chronic weight management.

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Turmeric supplement warning after fatality: TGA

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 17/08/2023, Michelle Wisbey

The health watchdog is calling on GPs to be aware of supplements containing the common spice after 18 consumers reported liver injuries. The TGA found more than 600 listed medicines currently contain curcuma species or curcumin, many of which are widely available.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

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FOOD STANDARDS

Souvlaki joint a 'petri dish'

Herald Sun, General News, 18/08/2023, Lucy Callander, Page 19

A Frankston take away joint has been described as a "petri dish masquerading as a souvlaki shop" after being slapped with 42 breaches of the Food Act. Souvlaki GR Frankston and its sole director Despina Karagiozis fronted Frankston Magistrates Court on Thursday following two failed food safety inspections by Frankston Council.

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Essential oils to the rescue

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 18/08/2023, Page 16

A Deakin University PhD researcher is developing a prototype for a sustainable antimicrobial food packaging that could help extend product life and reduce food wastage and illness. Agnes Mukurumbira, from the Deakin CASS Food Research Centre, is investigating use of plant-based antimicrobials to help kill the bacteria and fungi that grow on foods and are responsible for more than 1.3 billion tonnes in food waste and 600 million cases of foodborne illnesses annually.

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Canberra's East Row IGA fined \$16,500 for breaching food safety act, including tampering with expiry dates

ABC Online, Other, 17/08/2023, Jade Toomey and David Sciasci

The director of a Canberra IGA supermarket has been fined \$16,500 for label tampering and serious breaches of food health and safety laws. Investigations into East Row IGA located near the bus interchange in Civic began in 2021 after complaints it had been intentionally selling food beyond its expiry date.

[Read More](#)

Revealed: WHO aspartame safety panel linked to alleged Coca-Cola front group

The Guardian, Other, 17/08/2023, Tom Perkins

In May, the World Health Organization issued an alarming report that declared widely used non-sugar sweeteners like aspartame are likely ineffective for weight loss, and long term consumption may increase the risk of diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and mortality in adults. A few months later, WHO declared aspartame, a key ingredient in Diet Coke, to be a "possible carcinogen", then quickly issued a third report that seemed to contradict its previous findings people could continue consuming the product at levels determined to be safe decades ago, before new science cited by WHO raised health concerns.

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