



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 19th August 2023

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)
| [Assistant Minister Kearney](#) | [Assistant Minister McCarthy](#) | [Department](#)
| [Coronavirus](#) | [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Population Health](#)
| [Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions](#) | [Primary Care](#)
| [Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)
| [Medicare Benefits and Digital Health](#) | [Benefits Integrity](#)
| [Health Systems Strategies](#) | [Sport](#) | [Health Economics and Research](#) |
[First Nations Health](#) | [Office of Health Protection and Emergency Management](#)
| [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) | [Office for Drug Control](#) | [Food Standards](#)
| [AICIS](#)

LINKS

[Click here to view full print articles in this report](#)

[Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Saturday Paper \(page 1\)](#)** reports that serious incidents regarding abuse, sexual assault, neglect and even death are not being reported by staff, who are being ordered by the aged-care regulator to close second-tier notifications without a proper assessment or any assessment at all. "Providers have obligations to contact the police when there has been a sexual assault and we have had cases coming through where there is a serious sexual assault and they haven't done that," an assessor said, "So it's not picked up, and that's our job to regulate that, to make sure the provider has called the police and we miss it because the notification has been closed without a proper review."
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 1\)](#)** reports that doctors at the Sydney Children's Hospital have expressed concern at a NSW government decision to only perform cardiac bypass procedures at Westmead, saying it will deprive their hospital of the ability to offer life-saving procedures and will put patients at risk. In a statement, medical staff council chair Dr Puneet Singh said NSW Health Minister Ryan Park listened to their concerns, adding that "We are awaiting the outcome."
- **[The Herald Sun \(page 1\)](#)** reports that documents filed in the Supreme Court of Victoria have alleged that a scientist from Monash IVF Group set fire to crucial documents to avoid criminal

consequences related to her conduct during research underpinning a breakthrough IVF test. “Many women were told by their doctors that they were unable to produce a normal embryo due to the incorrect results produced by niPGT-A,” Margalit Injury Lawyers managing principal Michel Margalit said, “This advice was devastating at the time, and has left lasting emotional scars.”

- **The Daily Telegraph (page 11)** reports that the federal government will provide a \$200 million upgrade to women's sporting facilities and ensure more events like the Matildas are on free TV, in a new program in response the “extraordinary” rise in female participation in community sport. “The Matildas have given us a moment of national inspiration, this is about seizing that opportunity for the next generation, investing in community sporting facilities for women and girls around Australia,” Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said, “Sport is a great unifier and a great teacher – it brings communities together, it teaches us about teamwork and resilience and the joy of shared success.”
- **The Canberra Times (page 8)** reports that new findings by the Australian Public Service Commission has revealed the Department of Health and Aged Care must take more ownership of "whole-of-system reform." The review pointed to a failure of "previous ministers" to lean on the department for advice, however, it stressed that it should also "maintain system reform policy capabilities regardless of the needs of the minister of the day."
- **The Courier Mail (page 8)** reports that Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk has announced \$92 million in funding towards the refurbishment and expansion of Rockhampton Hospital's 23-bed mental health unit. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman said the “brand new start-of-the-art facility” will mean that more beds and essential support services will be available for local residents, adding that the government was aware "regional areas are particularly vulnerable to mental health crises," with construction for the expanded facility set to begin in mid-2024 and be completed by 2026.
- **The Adelaide Advertiser (page 4)** reports that new data has revealed that the state's emergency departments are being overwhelmed with people seeking treatment for minor ailments. The data, provided by SA Health, indicates that many of these ED presentations could be treated at a GP clinic, a pharmacy or at home.

MINISTER BUTLER

The Week

The Saturday Paper, General News, 19/08/2023, Page 2

[...] Mark Butler - The health minister pays tribute to the epidemiologist Mary-Louise McLaws, who died of brain cancer this week.

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

The furphies around new prescriptions law

Canberra Times, General News, 19/08/2023, Anne Cahill Lambert, Page 45

The hullabaloo over the introduction of 60-days' supply of eligible prescriptions has reached fever pitch as the Coalition and some cross-benchers tried to disallow the motion to implement the policy on September 1. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the savings generated because of this consumer-focused initiative (likely more than \$1 billion) will be re-invested in the pharmacy sector.

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

EDs treated as GP clinics

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/08/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 4

The state's hospital emergency departments are jam-packed with people seeking treatment for minor ailments, new data reveals. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the move is part of strengthening Medicare and reforming the health care system to ensure affordable, accessible health care.

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

60-day dispensing: first tranche announced

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 9

Double dispensing has now been registered as a policy, and the first tranche of medicines affected by the policy announced. [...] The Department of Health and Ageing says that "every single dollar saved by the government from lower dispensing fees will go back into pharmacy services".

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

Don't give up on interns

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 12

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) national vice-president, Caroline Diamantis, is pleading with pharmacy owners to continue to hire interns, despite the financial challenges of double dispensing. [...] Diamantis said that the community pharmacy sector may get a confidence boost in the coming weeks, with Mark Butler, the Minister for Health and Aged Care, addressing the PSA's national conference in Sydney at the end of July (after this issue goes to press).

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

Federal government urged to make telehealth services for abortions permanent

ABC Online, Other, 18/08/2023, Shalailah Medhora

The federal government is under pressure to make telehealth services for abortion and reproductive health permanently available via Medicare. [...] Wide-ranging review of telehealth services In January, Health Minister Mark Butler tasked the Medicare Benefits Schedule Review Advisory Committee with a wideranging review of telehealth services.

[Read More](#)

Surgery waitlist tops 500,000 as doctors plea for urgent action

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/08/2023, Carmel Sparke

A critical situation' is unfolding with lists backlogged in the wake of pandemic measures, a group of key medical colleges say. [...] In their letter to Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler, the doctors said that wait lists blew out during the pandemic, when hospitals delayed elective surgeries to ensure they could cope with COVID-19 patients.

[Read More](#)

LSJ explains: The Voice referendum

Law Society Journal, Other, 18/08/2023

The inclusion of a Voice for First Nations people in the Constitution, to be decided by national referendum in the coming months, has been debated intensely. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler explained this funding is needed to address concerns the referendum could follow the path of the 2017 marriage survey, which saw an increase in vilification of and mental health issues among LGBTQ+ Australians.

[Read More](#)

Migraine and sarcoma medications added to PBS

Pharmacy ITK, Other, 16/08/2023

Subsidised treatment options for people with metastatic hormone-sensitive prostate cancer have also been expanded. [...] Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said the PBS additions will provide immense relief for sufferers.

[Read More](#)

Viewpoints on vaping: The problematic pathway to smoking cessation

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 18/08/2023

In the August issue of Retail Pharmacy magazine, we take a deeper dive into vaping, considering the topic from the perspective of healthcare and industry professionals, and addressing the role of

pharmacists within this complex space. [...] Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler announced in May that following public consultation led by the Therapeutic Goods Administration in December 2022, the government planned stronger regulation and enforcement of all e-cigarettes, including controls on their importation, contents, and packaging.

[Read More](#)

RACGP to take part in bilateral 8CPA discussions

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/08/2023, Jolyon Attwooll

President Dr Nicole Higgins has welcomed the chance for general practice to have a voice in the early stages of the process. Negotiations for the next community pharmacy agreement are set to begin ahead of schedule. [...] While the 7th Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA) is set to run until 30 June 2025, Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said last week that preparations for the 8CPA will commence early, as long as the 60-day dispensing policy passed through Senate.

[Read More](#)

Why there is only one out on payroll tax

The Medical Republic, Other, 18/08/2023

Practice owners running service entity structures have no option but to fix their setup. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler is quoted in Nine newspapers yesterday saying that payroll tax is an important issue but not one he can do anything about.

[Read More](#)

A step back in time is biggest payroll tax fear

The Medical Republic, Other, 18/08/2023

State revenue offices have said plenty about how you will incur payroll tax, but they've been less forthcoming on how to stay exempt. [...] Nine newspapers reported today that Health Minister Mark Butler had raised concerns that this year's Budget investment in general practice could be undermined by the fallout from payroll tax.

[Read More](#)

Change to 60-day prescriptions has a side effect

Wangaratta Chronicle, Other, 18/08/2023, Steve Kelly

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."

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS

The Tillys' next goal? Score some funding

Weekend Australian, General News, 19/08/2023, Jessica Halloran and John Stensholt, Page 5

At the final whistle of Saturday's Matildas match against Sweden in Brisbane for third place at the World Cup, vital financial funding runs out for the team that has captured the attention, and the hearts, of the nation. [...] Despite Mr Albanese being a constant presence at Matildas games including high-fiving Kerr after one victory alongside Sports Minister Anika Wells, his government has been reluctant to step up on soccer funding.

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

Money talks in chase for talent

Weekend Australian, Sport, 19/08/2023, Jessica Halloran and John Stensholt, Page 41

"We need funding in our grassroots. We need funding everywhere. [...] But despite Prime Minister Anthony Albanese being a visible supporter at Matildas games - including high-fiving Kerr after one

victory - alongside sports minister Anika Wells, the federal government has been reluctant to step up on the funding front.

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

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

Exclusive: Aged-care watchdog closes cases without probe

The Saturday Paper, General News, 19/08/2023, Rick Morton, Page 1

The aged-care regulator is dismissing thousands of serious incident reports regarding abuse, sexual assault, neglect and even deaths by ordering staff to close second-tier notifications without a proper assessment or, in some cases, any human assessment at all. [...] A capability review of the organisation conducted as a result of that recommendation was released by Aged Care Minister Anika Wells last month.

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

Matildas inspire boost for women's sport

Canberra Times, General News, 19/08/2023, Karen Barlow and Chris Dutton, Page 12

More women's sport could be kept on free-to-air TV, and some women and girls' community sporting facilities will get an upgrade under a new funding package. [...] Minister for Sport Anika Wells said it would help the next generation of female athletes enjoy safer sporting facilities.

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

Turning a moment into a legacy

Canberra Times, General News, 19/08/2023, Melanie Dinjaski, Page 25

The Matildas got everyone's attention. Now to make sure there's no turning back for women's sport. [...] Sport Minister Anika Wells declared Australia "a football nation" time, and even the Defence Minister Richard Marles jokingly resigned to hand his position to Matildas goalkeeper Mackenzie Arnold.

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

Women score a \$200m upgrade

Daily Telegraph, General News, 19/08/2023, Clare Armstrong, Page 11

Sporting facilities for women and girls will get a \$200 million upgrade as the federal Government moves to ensure more events like the Matildas are on free TV. Anthony Albanese will today announce a new Play Our Way program to fund the improvement of sporting facilities and equipment specifically for women in response to the "extraordinary" rise in female participation in community sport. [...] Sport Minister Anika Wells said the Play Our Way program will help the next generation of female of athletes enjoy safer sporting facilities.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Weekend Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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

\$200m girls' sports fund unveiled after Matildas' success

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/08/2023, Paul Sakkal

A \$200 million fund to give girls the same chance at a professional sporting career as boys will be unveiled in the wake of the Matildas' groundbreaking Women's World Cup performance. [...] Albanese and Sport Minister Anika Wells went onto the pitch at recent Matildas matches and the prime minister attended their semi-final loss to England, after which Kerr issued a plea for an immediate funding boost for her sport.

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

[Read More](#)

Major boost for women's sport as broadcast changes loom

Canberra Times, Other, 19/08/2023, Tess Ikonomou

Women's sport will get a \$200 million boost and broadcast rules will be overhauled following the Matildas' high-profile World Cup tilt. [...] Sports Minister Anika Wells said providing safer facilities was vital.

[Read More](#)

Seizing the Matildas moment, prime minister promises \$200 million for women's sport

ABC Online, Other, 18/08/2023, Jake Evans

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has promised one of the largest investments in women's sport following the history-making performance of the Matildas at the FIFA Women's World Cup in Australia. [...] Sport Minister Anika Wells said the \$200 million commitment would ensure women had their own facilities and gear, rather than having to borrow from men's teams.

[Read More](#)

Politicians urged to match Matildas fever pitch with funding for grassroots women's sport

ABC Online, Other, 18/08/2023, Erin Handley and Oliver Gordon

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has told the Australian public to "watch this space" when it comes to more funding for women's sport in the wake of the Matildas' World Cup successes. [...] Danny Townsend, chief executive of the APL, said the response from Sports Minister Anika Wells had been "very positive", but no money had been committed yet.

[Read More](#)

Matildas inspire \$200m government commitment to equipment, changing rooms

NEWS.com.au, Other, 18/08/2023, Ellen Ransley and Courtney Gould

The Matildas need continued support and funding from the government and fans to maintain the sport's meteoric popularity rise into the next World Cup. [...] Sports Minister Anika Wells said the \$200m would be spent on helping the "next generation" of female athletes enjoy safer sporting facilities.

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

[Read More](#)

Albanese government to pledge \$200m for women's sport after Matildas inspire Australia

The Guardian, Other, 19/08/2023, Tory Shepherd

The Albanese government will promise \$200m to improve women's sporting facilities and equipment after the Matildas' historic Women's World Cup run sparked an unprecedented outpouring of support for women's football. [...] The Sports Minister, Anika Wells, said the Matildas had "changed sport forever" and that the Play Our Way program would "help the next generation of female athletes enjoy safer sporting facilities".

[Read More](#)

Matildas funding push deflected

The Saturday Paper, Other, 18/08/2023, Max Opray

[...] Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Sport Minister Anika Wells were both highly visible attendees of several Matildas games, and Albanese had spruiked the prospect of a public holiday had they won the tournament.

[Read More](#)

Major boost for women's sport as broadcast changes loom

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 19/08/2023, Tess Ikonomidou

Women's sport will get a \$200 million boost and broadcast rules will be overhauled following the Matildas' high-profile World Cup tilt. [...] Sports Minister Anika Wells said providing safer facilities was

vital.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Medical abortion dispensing approved

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 17

All pharmacists will be allowed to dispense medical abortion preparation MS-2 Step and it can be prescribed by any healthcare practitioner including nurse practitioners from 1 August 2023, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has announced. [...] Sim is co-chair of the Access, Care and Outcomes Subcommittee of the National Women's Health Advisory Council, chaired by Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney, who also praised the easing of restrictions.

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

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Health dept must set 'direction of travel'

Canberra Times, General News, 19/08/2023, Miriam Webber, Page 8

The Department of Health and Aged Care must take more ownership of "wholeof-system reform", with lagging capability in this area linked to "previous ministers" not leaning on the agency for advice, a new report has found. The findings come from an independent capability review of the department, released on Friday morning.

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

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

Rural resources imperilled by double dispensing

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 9

Patients in rural areas will bear the brunt of the unintended consequences of the federal government's decision to increase maximum dispense quantities, the Pharmacy Guild has warned. [...] "This should be a wake-up call to the federal government. It highlights that no consultation was undertaken and that the policy was rushed by the Department of Health with no modeling or understanding of the impact on community pharmacies and Tasmania patients."

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

60-day dispensing: first tranche announced

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 9

Double dispensing has now been registered as a policy, and the first tranche of medicines affected by

the policy announced. [...] The Department of Health and Ageing says that "every single dollar saved by the government from lower dispensing fees will go back into pharmacy services".

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

New opioid guidelines ease fears

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 14

Revamped guidelines for the new national methadone Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) system remain flawed, but will better support patients, a pharmacist believes. Pharmacists will be able to provide patients undergoing opioid dependence treatment (ODT) with an extra repeat prescription in certain circumstances, under revised guidelines released by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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

Aged care, MMR standards approved

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 16

The accreditation standards for the credentialling of onsite aged care pharmacists and those conducting medication management reviews (MMR) have now been approved. The Australian Pharmacy Council has said in a statement that the Department of Health and Aged Care has now approved the standards.

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

Australians travelling to Bali, Thailand and popular holiday spots warned to protect against measles

7news.com.au, Other, 18/08/2023, Ailish Delaney

The threat is highly infectious - but staying safe involves one simple step. [...] The health department said two Australians recently acquired measles while in Bali, where there has been a significant increase in confirmed cases throughout 2022 and 2023, according to the World Health Organisation.

[Read More](#)

RACGP to have say in 8CPA

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/08/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care is set to hold bilateral talks with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) in relation to the Eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA). RACGP president Dr Nicole Higgins has confirmed that the organisation has accepted

[Read More](#)

Diabetes tender will proceed after delay in response to stakeholder concerns

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 18/08/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care has delayed the much-anticipated diabetes tender but says it will proceed before the end of 2023.

[Read More](#)

Why are so many aged care residents not fully vaccinated against COVID?

Croakey, Other, 18/08/2023, Marie McInerney

Australia is set to pass another grim milestone of 6,000 COVID-19 deaths in residential aged care facilities. [...] However, the Department of Health and Aged Care's data indicate that just under two-thirds of eligible residents in aged care facilities have received a vaccination this year.

[Read More](#)

Federal Government confirms cruise vaccination review

Cruise Passenger, Other, 18/08/2023, Tallis Boerne Marcus

It has been confirmed that the Communicable Diseases Network of Australia will be reviewing the Eastern Seaboard Protocols ahead of the coming cruise season. [...] Wraight's advice of a review, now

confirmed by Cruise Passenger with the Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care, is highly significant, given government bodies have so far remained silent on any changes to the rules.

[Read More](#)

Digital Health Cooperative Research Centre urges development of national AI healthcare strategy

Digital Nation Australia, Other, 18/08/2023

The Digital Health Cooperative Research Centre (DHCRC) reinforced its support of the development of a national AI in healthcare strategy. [...] Responsibility for the strategy should rest with the department of health and aged care, digital health and the Therapeutic Goods Administration and include public and private healthcare stakeholders to ensure a common, unified approach to the ethical and safe use of AI in healthcare.

[Read More](#)

30 years of advocacy for rural health

Get Regional, Other, 18/08/2023

Celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, the National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) was officially incorporated on August 11, 1993. [...] The continued support of the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care was also acknowledged.

[Read More](#)

LSJ explains: The Voice referendum

Law Society Journal, Other, 18/08/2023

The inclusion of a Voice for First Nations people in the Constitution, to be decided by national referendum in the coming months, has been debated intensely. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler explained this funding is needed to address concerns the referendum could follow the path of the 2017 marriage survey, which saw an increase in vilification of and mental health issues among LGBTQ+ Australians.

[Read More](#)

Alliance celebrates 30 years as the voice of rural health

News For Business, Other, 18/08/2023

This year, the National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) celebrates its 30th anniversary, having become an incorporated association on 11 August 1993. [...] We also recognise and appreciate the ongoing support of the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Read More](#)

MBS remains the bedrock but MyMedicare may shake things up

Pulse+IT, Other, 18/08/2023, Kate McDonald

Details are finally beginning to trickle out about the Department of Health and Aged Care's MyMedicare scheme, previously known in various permutations as MyGP, voluntary patient enrolment and voluntary patient registration, and more is on the way with a series of webinars being rushed out next week.

[Read More](#)

RACGP to take part in bilateral 8CPA discussions

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/08/2023, Jolyon Attwooll

President Dr Nicole Higgins has welcomed the chance for general practice to have a voice in the early stages of the process. Negotiations for the next community pharmacy agreement are set to begin ahead of schedule. [...] While the 7th Community Pharmacy Agreement (7CPA) is set to run until 30 June 2025, Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said last week that preparations for the 8CPA will commence early, as long as the 60-day dispensing policy passed through Senate.

[Read More](#)

Eight critical challenges facing Department of Health and Aged Care

The Mandarin, Other, 18/08/2023, Anna MacDonald

The Department of Health and Aged Care capability review has cautioned the healthcare system will face "enormous strains" over the next four years. The departmental review, the first since 2014, identified eight critical challenges and nine priority areas for capability improvement.

[Read More](#)

Exclusive: Robert associate left while owed \$20 million

The Saturday Paper, General News, 19/08/2023, Karen Middleton, Page 1

The Gold Coast businessman who ducked parliamentary questions on his ties to ex-minister Stuart Robert by moving overseas still controls a string of companies and has left behind more than \$20 million in loans he made to a tax-exempt disability housing charity that was previously one of them. [...] It has also received 14 disability-related grants through the federal Health Department as part of a former New South Wales government-funded scheme that was rolled into the Commonwealth disability support program.

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

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

Over 70% of aged care homes eligible for 24/7 RN exemption now approved

The Weekly Source, Other, 18/08/2023, Lauren Broomham

Seven weeks after the Federal Government's requirements for 24/7 Registered Nurses came into effect, the Department of Health and Aged Care has finally signed off on the first exemptions for aged care providers. 39 exemptions have been approved as of 15 August, a Department spokesperson told The Weekly SOURCE.

[Read More](#)

Medtech Startup NeedleCalm Wins Prestigious Nursing Innovation Award

Women Love Tech, Other, 18/08/2023, Alice Duthie

on August 18, 2023 Lauren Barber, Sydney clinical specialist nurse and founder of NeedleCalm, has been awarded Australia's most prestigious innovation award for nurses, The Health Minister's Award for Nursing Trailblazers. [...] Receiving this recognition by the Department of Health and Aged Care will go a long way to not only improving awareness about the issue, but also in assisting nurses and other clinicians improve patient experience."

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CORONAVIRUS

Blind faith in anything, even science, is unscientific

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Malcolm Knox, Page 34

The Matildas aside, no group unites Australians like scientists. Polls consistently rate scientists alongside medical doctors as our most trusted professionals.

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

Boost up to protect against new variant

Ballarat Courier, General News, 19/08/2023, Melanie Whelan, Page 2

Waning immunity to COVID-19 is "apparent amongst many communities", the region's public health body warns ahead a potential spring revival in the virus. The Courier understands COVID-19's new variant Eris has become a watch-thisspace prospect for Ballarat with no major concerns about its spread in the community - yet.

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

Immune health: the impact of Covid

Covid seems to have had long-term impacts on the immune system of many sufferers. Evidence is gradually emerging on how and why this may be happening.

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

Victoria paid EY more than \$30m for Covid pandemic health projects

The Guardian, Other, 19/08/2023, Henry Belot

The Victorian government paid the consultancy firm EY more than \$30m to help manage and deliver key public health projects during the pandemic, including contact tracing and the rollout of tests and vaccines. Government contracts show the health department paid EY \$17.4m for its work on the test-and-trace program, known as Operation Drasi, with EY staff seconded into the department.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Runaway car narrowly avoids aged residents' rooms

Ballarat Courier, General News, 19/08/2023, Gabrielle Hodson, Page 2

Aged care residents in Wendouree have cheated disaster by centimetres, after a runaway car slammed through the centre's fence. Ballarat police are trying to determine the cause of Friday's early accident, which happened about 7.40am.

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

The people hit hardest by the rent rises

Daily Liberal, General News, 19/08/2023, Allison Hore, Page 5

Only 2 per cent of rentals in the region are affordable for aged care workers and early childhood educators, an alarming new report has revealed. Anglicare's Essential Workers Report reveals employees in fields like education, healthcare and emergency services are being increasingly priced out of the rental market in central western NSW.

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

Gender pay gap hits low

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 19/08/2023, Eleanor Campbell, Page 19

"I am pleased to be part of a government that is driving action to close the gender pay gap by increasing the minimum wage for aged care workers, banning pay secrecy clauses and passing our Currently, Western Australia has the widest gender pay gap at 21.4 per cent. This is followed by the Northern Territory at 15.6 per cent, Queensland at 13.4 per cent and Victoria at 12.9 per cent.

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

Leadership drives person-centredness in residential aged care

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 18/08/2023, Natalie Dragon

Person-centredness, driven by leadership, expressed through meaningful multifaceted relationships, and lived authentically throughout the residential aged care facility (RACF), has real potential to contribute to positive change. [...] The findings from the research were congruent with the outcomes of the recent Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety: the older person is put first, with an emphasis on compassion, connection, respect for their individuality and a priority on a relationship-focused approach inclusive of everyone in the RACF community.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

Smoke gets in your lungs

Central Western Daily, General News, 19/08/2023, Nick King, Page 4

Spring may be just around the corner, but that doesn't mean we won't continue to have cold nights and freezing frosty mornings like last Thursday. Cold mornings mean we turn on the heater. Some heaters burn wood, which, if not properly operated can cause health problems.

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

'There's so much birth control misinformation on TikTok, and it's affecting our women'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/08/2023, Eleanor Campbell

"There has been a lot of misinformation around pain and IUD insertion. We need to counteract this through evidence-based messaging that is appealing to younger generations."

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

[Read More](#)

Breast implants don't need to rupture to cause illness

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/08/2023, Rebecca Douglas

It's important to know the signs Breast implant illness has come to the fore in recent years, with the debilitating symptoms leading to an increased number of women having explant surgery. Each year, around 20,000 Australian women have breast implant surgery for reconstruction due to cancer or for enhancement purposes.

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

[Read More](#)

From step counts to BMI: 10 pieces of health 'advice' you can straight-up ignore.

Mamamia, Other, 18/08/2023, Tara Meakins

As someone who couldn't possibly go out without her Garmin watch attached to her wrist (because did you even leave the house if your smartwatch wasn't around to track it?), new research that backs the idea that we, in fact, do not need to take 10,000 steps a day has left me feeling things.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Doctors told of delays

Daily Telegraph, Edition Changes, 19/08/2023, Page 33

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 Medical Staff Council meeting this week.

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

The diagnosis that changed our lives

Herald Sun, General News, 19/08/2023, hamish mclachlan, Page 24

The Western Bulldogs' Oskar Baker and North Melbourne's Hugh Greenwood both lost their mums to breast cancer. Kangaroos president Sonja Hood is living with it. We sat down on Thursday night at the MCG to talk about their respective breast cancer journeys. We talked, and cried. A lot.

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

Critical delays on cancer test

Herald Sun, General News, 19/08/2023, Natalie O'Brien, Page 35

Cancer patients at Australia's top ranked hospital have been left waiting for weeks without crucial radiological scans that would reveal whether their cancer has spread. 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 at a Royal Prince Alfred Medical Staff Council meeting last week.

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

Plea for help in family tragedy

Courier Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Rose Innes, Page 11

A Brisbane family has come forward after Lachlan Magnussen, 8, was diagnosed with cancer after the sudden death of his father. The Morayfield family launched a Go Fund Me campaign aimed at raising \$10,000 after Lachlan was diagnosed with Medulloblastoma brain cancer - in late March this year with surgery which started in April.

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

Boost for cancer patient programs

Border Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Layton Holley, Page 7

Cancer patients are set to benefit from an enhanced array of programs as the Albury Wodonga Wellness Centre secures a boost in funding. An increase in funding of almost \$40,000 for the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Wellness Centre in 2023-24 will allow the expansion of vital therapy services provided for cancer patients.

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

West Wollongong parents driving bid for cancer cure

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 19/08/2023, Natalie Croxon, Page 15

A west Wollongong couple continue to drive support for research into the incurable brain cancer that claimed their little girl's life, meeting with Health Minister Ryan Park to discuss what he can do to help.

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

Osteoarthritis: management and emerging therapies

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Yee Mellor, Page 52

Management of osteoarthritis continues to evolve. Emerging therapies contribute to the growing body of evidence that informs treatment and management.

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

Exposure to cardiotoxic cancer drugs 'substantial and growing', Aussie study shows

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/08/2023, Rachel Carter

Overall prevalence of exposure had more than quadrupled over 16 years, with females 'disproportionately affected'. The number of patients exposed to potentially cardiotoxic cancer medicines quadrupled over the past two decades and is projected to continue rising, Australian researchers report.

[Read More](#)

How sweet it isn't: Sugary drinks increase the risk of liver cancer

The New Daily, Other, 18/08/2023, John Elder

Are sugar-sweetened drinks the new smoking? The gloomy piling up of bad-news research suggests so.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Evenings, 18/08/2023, Kelly Higgins-Devine

Interview with Joshua Pate, UTS. Pate discusses dealing with living with chronic pain. He says his books are designed for children with chronic pain, although all children are liking the books he wrote. He notes there is a prevention aspect to educating children.

PRIMARY CARE

Children's surgery fear

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Angus Thomson, Page 1

Concerned doctors at the Sydney Children's Hospital at Randwick say a decision to perform only cardiac bypass procedures at Westmead will put patients at risk. Health Minister Ryan Park decided to allow only lowcomplexity surgeries at the hospital, leaving the medical staff council "extremely saddened".

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

Women dealing with policy of 'discrimination'

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Wendy Tuohy, Page 38

Going through life with breasts that required a G-sized bra cup presented many painful realities for Lili Pingiaro. Like many women living with breasts so large they cause functional difficulties, Pingiaro had a constant ache in her neck and back, and battled with self-esteem.

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

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

'3rd world tin shed' defended

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/08/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 6

Patients crammed into a "tin shed" temporary waiting room at the Royal Adelaide Hospital ED are helping the government plan to "fix ramping" officials say. However, they will not add any room for people using the service now.

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

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

In a state of poor health

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 19/08/2023, Page 32

The Mercury's Bush Summit this week covered a range of issues Tasmanians in regional areas are crying out for assistance with, but one crisis affecting the entire state demands the most urgent attention as it can quite literally mean life or death. Attendees at the Summit heard several examples of medical shortcomings across all levels of health care, from lack of GPs, to ambulance wait times, to ramping at hospitals.

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

Mysterious hospital site backflip not what doctor ordered

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 19/08/2023, Paul Murray, Page 42

Years of planning to build a new women's and babies' hospital at QE2 in Nedlands were overturned in one day. Why so fast?

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

Call for rural health overhaul

Border Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Jamieson Murphy, Page 79

The nation's premiers and health ministers have backed calls to make regional health a key priority at an upcoming National Cabinet. Dozens of rural organisations are pushing for the strategy, which would place all regional health policies under one umbrella.

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

What is birth trauma and how can it be avoided?

Daily Advertiser, General News, 19/08/2023, Dan Holmes, Page 5

A NSW parliamentary inquiry into birth trauma, sparked by dozens of horror stories of treatment at Wagga Base Hospital, has raised questions about why so many women feel traumatised by having a baby. Studies into the birthing experience in Australia have shown more than 30 per cent of women go through birth trauma.

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

Almost a year, pharmacy expansion report not delivered

Launceston Examiner, General News, 19/08/2023, Isabel Bird, Page 7

The Premier says a report looking at how pharmacies can reduce GP waiting times and pressure in hospital emergency departments has not yet been received by the government. Labor MP Anita Dow in parliament on Thursday called for an update on the independent review by KMPG, asking whether the government had received the resulting report.

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

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

Council seeks local funding assurances

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 19/08/2023, Rachel Gray, Page 3

Gunnedah Mayor Jamie Chaffey says the state government needs to ensure the September 19 budget includes the additional funds needed to deliver on the Gunnedah hospital upgrade. Cr Chaffey is seeking a meeting with the NSW premier Chris Minns and Treasurer Daniel Mookhey to ensure the necessary funding for local projects and upgrades get the green light, despite budget challenges.

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

Widening gaps in public dental treatment

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 19/08/2023, Jack Evans, Page 7

Wait times for public dental treatment in Mildura are double the state average of 16.9 months, a figure that is also on the rise. Recent data from the Australian Dental Association of Victoria shows the average wait time for Mildura residents is 32.6 months, while in Swan Hill and surrounds it is 20 months.

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

New Mackay Hospital and Health Service board revealed in wake of maternity scandal

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/08/2023, Madura McCormack

A new board has been appointed to Mackay Hospital and Health Service (HSS) nearly a year after the previous leadership were dismissed in the wake of an inquiry into maternity care at the hospital. Six people have been appointed to the board, which will be led by Helen Darcy OAM.

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

[Read More](#)

Guild draws battlelines

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 8

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia is seeking to pressure the government to roll back its double dispensing policy through a targeted advertising campaign. In a post across social media platforms in mid-July, Professor Trent Twomey, the Guild's national president, highlighted the organisation's Save Your Local Pharmacy campaign, with photos of the ads in print and on a digital advertising board.

Similar coverage reported by: [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(National\)](#), [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(National\)](#), [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(National\)](#).

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

Pharmacists want mandatory accreditation for scope expansion

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 10

More than 80% of community pharmacists believe mandatory training or formal accreditation should be

part of moves to expand pharmacists' scope of practice, the 2022 University of Technology Sydney (UTS) Pharmacy Barometer reveals. Emeritus Professor SI "Charlie" Benrimoj described moves towards the expanded scope of practice as one of the most exciting developments in the profession over recent years.

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

New SA collaborative prescribing program welcomed

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 14

Pharmacists at a South Australian hospital will be authorised to prescribe some medications including Schedule 4 medicines.

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

Empowering choice through contraception advice

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Leanne Philpott, Page 62

Contraceptive counselling benefits both public and individual patient health. So, should pharmacists offer more in the way of contraceptive advice and care?

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

Pharmacy prescribing trial protocol for NSW revealed at last

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/08/2023, Sarah Simpkins

The researchers will track 30 outcomes, including rates of UTI-related hospitalisations. The trial and treatment protocols for pharmacy prescribing in NSW are now public, two-and-a-half weeks after 1000 pharmacies started offering UTI diagnosis and treatment.

[Read More](#)

'We would hope that Tasmania could lead'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/08/2023, Megan Haggan

Tasmania's opposition has called on the state government to release a report on scope of practice for pharmacists as one stakeholder highlights the need for better health access Shadow minister for health, mental health and wellbeing Anita Dow has demanded that Tasmanian premier and until very recently, health minister Jeremy Rockliff commit

[Read More](#)

Health system needs change for deprescribing

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/08/2023

Australia's healthcare system needs to be reformed to better support deprescribing, expert says Efforts to improve quality use of medicines in Australia are being limited by the current health system, Dr Emily Reeve, the chair of the Australian Deprescribing Network believes.

[Read More](#)

Suzanne is stepping down

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/08/2023

Suzanne Greenwood has resigned as Executive Director of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia after more than four years in the role, and will be finishing up on 24 Nov, the Guild announced (PD Breaking News yesterday). Greenwood joined the Guild in 2019, leading the organisation through a period of reform, driving the development and implementation of a new strategic plan and restructuring of the National Secretariat as the Guild approaches its Centenary in 2027.

Similar coverage reported by: [Retail Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Exclusive Interview: Angela Boyatzis, Chair AMCAL National Council

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 18/08/2023

The award-winning pharmacist and pharmacy owner with an extensive background across the industry

and now representing more than 300 Amcal pharmacy members on the group's national body, addresses 60-day dispensing, the evolution of the pharmacist role, and her priorities in supporting the membership to navigate "this turbulent time".

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

'We failed you,' PM tells Vietnam veterans

Weekend Australian, General News, 19/08/2023, Ben Packham, Page 2

Those who serve in Australia's armed forces should never again be treated in the way Vietnam veterans were when they returned home, Anthony Albanese has declared. On the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, the Prime Minister said Australians who served in the conflict deserved "much better than you received".

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

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

Outlawing a dark art of deterrence

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Caitlin Fitzsimmons, Page 30

Jeremy Smith remembers being taken to a child psychiatrist on Sydney's north shore when he was 16 and dealing with depression and difficult events in his life. When the ostensibly reputable doctor offered therapy to suppress his attraction to boys, Smith was taken aback and declined.

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

Science still in search of the secret to happiness

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Sarah Berry, Page 30

How to be happy is a phrase typed into Google more frequently than "How to get rich". Some people believe the second question answers the first, though the path to riches is rarely as sexy as it seems. Beyond the point it relieves financial stress and provides autonomy, wealth is an unreliable route to happiness.

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

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

\$92m for mental health beds

Courier Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Emma McBryde, Page 8

Nine extra beds will be added to Rockhampton Hospital's 23bed mental health facility as part of a \$92m refurbishment and expansion announced by Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk at the Bush Summit. It is an \$80m boost to the government's earlier \$12m commitment to overhaul the unit and comes the week after a former patient of the unit was charged with the murders of his wife and baby.

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

Ex-cop blasts stigma

Courier Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Samantha Scott, Page 30

A former colleague of a Queensland police officer who died by suicide in July says mental health stigma remains "rife" among first responders, with at least 5000 reaching out for help in the past 12 months alone. James Maskey, a former police officer living with PTSD, was "rocked" by the news Loganholme senior constable Kym Slade, 48, had died by suicide on July 20.

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

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

Drinking milk raises \$87,000 for farmer mental health support

Shepparton News Online, Other, 18/08/2023

Milk drinkers across the country have helped Norco raise \$87,913 for Black Dog Institute and the thousands of people in regional areas who need mental health support. With nearly one-third of Australian farming communities admitting a decline in their mental health and close to half having had thoughts of self-harm or suicide, the money will go to help fund research, resources, and digital tools, which are particularly essential in regional areas where access to traditional mental health support is limited.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Youth consider health sector roles

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 19/08/2023, David Chapman, Page 3

Central Victorian teenagers eyeing off a career in the health industry have been given some hands on experience to help ease their path into their chosen field. The second annual Allied Health 'Come and Try' Day was held at Bendigo Tech School on Thursday, August 17 and drew around 120 secondary school students.

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

New pods can work to attract health workers

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 19/08/2023, Kevin Anderson MP, Page 13

The opening of health worker accommodation pods at Tamworth hospital is a welcome finalisation of an initiative we put in place some time ago to attract more health workers to our region. The Tamworth hospital pods are in addition to pods we opened last year in Gunnedah, Walcha and Quirindi, and I know health professionals have been working in those hospitals, free of the burden of finding accommodation in a tight housing market.

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

Specialist training hub bid

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 19/08/2023, Wade Stephens, Page 7

Doctors and politicians have called for Monash Rural Health Mildura to be added to a list of accredited locations for student doctors who want to specialise. Dr Hieu Pham, the deputy director of the training hub, said the site was an accredited location for student doctors who wished to pursue general practice or psychiatry, but those who wished to specialise in another field of medicine would likely train elsewhere.

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

'More to do' on AMA gender equality, says vice-president

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/08/2023, Rachel Carter

The AMA recently partnered with Monash University's Advancing Women in Healthcare Leadership research project to improve career progression for women. The AMA has existed for 60 years yet has had just two female presidents: Dr Rosanna Capolingua and Professor Kerry Phelps.

[Read More](#)

While nursing and tourism could yield immediate benefits on the job front, energy is a fast rising sector for future

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/08/2023, Sandhya Ram

A snapshot of the region's employment trends has revealed health, energy and aviation are the boom industries for the Far North job market. While health care and social assistance is the city's largest employing industry and most in demand area of work according to reports by Jobs and Skills Australia, engineers might find their calling in the region too.

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

[Read More](#)

St Marys doctor quits after 16 years saying he was pressured to sign contract

Adelaide Now, Other, 18/08/2023, Sue Bailey

An East Coast doctor who worked seven days a week for 10 years has quit, saying he was pressured into re-signing his contract leaving St Mary's without a GP and the future of the hospital in doubt. It comes as a lack of GP services in rural areas was highlighted at the recent Bush Summit.

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

[Read More](#)

We know how to lure medical graduates to general practice, but no-one is listening

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/08/2023, Sarah Bresnehan

It is pleasing to see an increase in the number of students interested in rural medicine in the latest Medical Schools Outcome Database National Data Report. It shows that the efforts of medical schools and interest groups to expose medical students to rural practice is paying off in some ways.

[Read More](#)

'Always more that can be done' to manage skills shortage

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/08/2023, Megan Haggan

The ranks of pharmacists have swelled by nearly 5,000 over the last five years but the shortage persists, as a review looks at whether overseas practitioners could help. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has released data showing an 18% increase across all registered health professionals between June 2019, before the pandemic, and June

[Read More](#)

Course to upskill

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/08/2023

The Australasian College of Pharmacy (College) has just launched its new national Medicines Administration Course. With the role of pharmacists continuing to grow significantly across the primary healthcare network, this new course complements pharmacists' journey to upskill and train towards an extended scope of practice.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Breakfast, 18/08/2023, Adam Shirley

Interview with Professor Drew Richardson, Senior Staff Specialist, Canberra Hospital. Shirley recalls speaking to AMA ACT President Walter Abhayaratna about the culture of training and its impact on areas such as childcare and essential care. Richardson says there was no doubt that Canberra Hospital and ACT Health are feeling the impact of workforce shortages.

Continuing interview on: [ABC Radio Canberra \(Canberra\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

'Flawed': Payroll tax ruling could kill off bulk-billing says Dr Nick Coatsworth

NEWS.com.au, Other, 18/08/2023, Carla Mascarenhas

The government is taking a "range of measures" to curb the rising cost of living while also seeing wage increases making a difference, says Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. One of Australia's leading medical practitioners has lashed a ruling that would see independent GPs working in medical centres in NSW and Victoria subject to payroll tax.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

IVF up in smoke

Herald Sun, General News, 19/08/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 1

A scientist from fertility giant Monash IVF Group allegedly set fire to crucial documents amid fears she could face criminal consequences arising from her conduct during research underpinning a breakthrough IVF test. The cover-up allegations were made in documents filed in the Supreme Court of Victoria late on Friday as part of a growing class action over the destruction of embryos.

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

Thieving nurse banned

Courier Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Vanda Carson, Page 15

An experienced Queensland nurse, who previously stole an elderly patient's debit card to fund a shopping spree, has been immediately suspended by the health watchdog. On August 8, the state's health ombudsman announced that it was immediately suspending Michele Lorna Pauline Peroumal aka Michele Lorna Pauline Moore's registration.

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

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

'Hospital bungle killed my husband'

The West Australian (Saturday edition), Edition Changes, 19/08/2023, Claire Sadler, Page 39

A devastated widow is suing Joondalup Health Campus for medical negligence after her husband died following an allegedly botched procedure. Kath Timmins had to make the heartbreaking decision to turn off her soulmate Robert's life support after he suffered an air embolism which occurs when an air bubble enters a vein or artery when a catheter was removed from his throat in September 2020.

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

Ex-nurse sick after eating a mushrooms denied ambulance, hospital care

Cairns Post, Other, 18/08/2023, James Taylor

Staff at Bundaberg Hospital allegedly told an ex-nurse she wasn't dehydrated because she was crying after presenting to the ED in fear she was dying from food poisoning after eating mushrooms. When ex-nurse Judy McLardy became extremely ill after eating a dinner of salmon and mushrooms, she thought the worst given the recent headlines about the deadly beef Wellington lunch in Leongatha.

[Read More](#)

Mixed growth on

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/08/2023

New Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) data has revealed that almost 30% more health practitioners are applying to work in Australia's health systems than in the months before the COVID-19 pandemic struck, growing the national health workforce by almost a fifth since mid-2019.

[Read More](#)

5AA, Breakfast, 18/08/2023, Will Goodings and David Penberthy

The national regulator for health practitioners is considering changes to the process for overseas workers to register here in Australia. It is a part of a plan to boost the health workforce to fill critical vacancies. Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency Chief Executive Martin Fletcher says they're looking to smooth the path for qualified professionals wanting to work in Australia.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

SPORT

Women's sport gets \$200m, thanks to Matildas

AFR Weekend, General News, 19/08/2023, Tom McIlroy, Page 3

Women's sport will get a \$200 million funding injection from the federal government, as Prime Minister Anthony Albanese moves to capitalise on the Matildas fever stemming from the World Cup.

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

Albanese stumps up for female sport

Weekend Australian, General News, 19/08/2023, Sarah Ison, Page 6

Anthony Albanese is to unveil one of the biggest investments made in women's sport, through a \$200m grants program, and will look to make more female sporting events free on television. The Prime Minister will on Saturday announce the "play our way" program, which will improve facilities and provide equipment specifically for women and girls.

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

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

World Cup strikes huge goals for queer community and shows men way forward

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Frances Vinall, Page 6

There are several superlatives one could use to describe this year's women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand. It's been really well attended and really exciting to watch.

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

Goal achieved

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Andrew Webster, Page 25

Here, in Steven Lowy's opulent corner office in Martin Place in Sydney's CBD, with breathtaking views to the north, east and south, there's no tangible sign of his time as Football Federation Australia chairman. No framed pictures with superstar players. No replica trophies of past successes.

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

Melbourne deserves bigger World Cup bite

The Saturday Age, Editorials, 19/08/2023, Page 38

Six years ago, the federal government offered up a paltry \$1 million towards a bid for the 2023 Women's World Cup. After blowing \$46 million in taxpayer dollars chasing the dream of luring the men's tournament to our shores a bid that humiliatingly yielded just one vote from FIFA's council then prime minister Malcolm Turnbull was circumspect.

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

Kicking goals

Canberra Times, General News, 19/08/2023, Bageshri Savvasachi, Page 1

The success of the Matildas at the FIFA Women's World Cup has got many Canberrans pulling on the boots for the first time. It's also moved the Albanese government to announce a \$200 million package of funding and reforms for women's sport.

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

'G could host Cup final

Herald Sun, General News, 19/08/2023, Page 5

The Andrews government has sparked hope that Victoria could hold a men's FIFA World Cup final if Australia secures the 2034 event, saying finals could be held at the MCG. The Herald Sun on Friday revealed Australia is set to bid for the 2034 men's world cup after hosting an impressive FIFA Women's World Cup.

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

PM scores big for girls sport

Adelaide Advertiser, Edition Changes, 19/08/2023, Page 31

Sporting facilities for women and girls will get a \$200m upgrade as the federal government moves to ensure more memorable moments such as the Matildas' World Cup performance are on free-to-air TV. Anthony Albanese today will announce a new Play Our Way program to fund the improvement

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

We'll do it again, now for the men

Northern Territory News, General News, 19/08/2023, Peter Rolfe, Page 22

Australia is set to bid for the 2034 men's football World Cup after hosting "the best ever" FIFA Women's World Cup. Football Australia is expected to formally throw its hat in the ring for one of the biggest sporting tournaments on earth, after a record-breaking women's version of the event.

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

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

Keep limelight on our Matildas

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 19/08/2023, Lanna Hill, Page 143

The time for women's sports, it appears, is finally here. Matildas fever hit our nation with a fervour never seen before.

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

Call for juniors to think with their head

Ballarat Courier, General News, 19/08/2023, Melanie Whelan, Page 14

Enthusiastic young Ballarat footballers keen to emulate their Matildas heroes are being urged to keep it basic and look after their heads. One of the first concussion spotters for a FIFA Women's World Cup said headers rarely caused head injuries when done technically correct - and this was a skill that must be taught.

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

Change is happening in sport

Border Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Page 34

The dominant performances of Australia's Matildas during the FIFA World Cup over recent weeks are an inspiration to current and emerging athletes. Each game has been watched by global audiences of millions while the match between the Matildas and Canada saw in-stadium crowds reach record-breaking capacity at 75,784 people.

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

2018 Games just pure gold

Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 19/08/2023, Andrew Potts, Page 72

It's getting little love from state political leaders but the push is on again for the Gold Coast to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Mayor Tom Tate and the city's business community enthusiastically latched onto the idea in July after the Victorian government dumped the event over a "costing blow out".

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

What can netball learn from the success of this FIFA Women's World Cup?

ABC Online, Other, 18/08/2023, Brittany Carter

Almost a fortnight ago, the Diamonds lifted the Netball World Cup for a 12th time, pinching back the title at the tournament held in Cape Town, South Africa. No other team has come close to winning the trophy that many times.

[Read More](#)

Australia and Saudi Arabia in the box seat to host the 2026 Women's Asian Cup

ABC Online, Other, 18/08/2023

Football Australia is hoping the exploits of the Matildas at the Women's World Cup can put the nation in the box seat to beat emerging superpower Saudi Arabia for hosting rights to the 2026 Women's Asian Cup. After the Matildas were dumped out at the semi-final stage of their home tournament by England on Wednesday, FA's attention will now turn to bringing further competitions to Australian shores.

[Read More](#)

FIFA head Infantino says Women's World Cup breaks even but plays down calls for equal prize money

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 18/08/2023

FIFA president Gianni Infantino said Friday that the Women's World Cup has "broken even" after generating more than \$570 million in revenue but dismissed suggestions for equal prize money with the men's World Cup. The current World Cup prize pools sit at \$110 million for women and \$440 million for men.

[Read More](#)

Prince of Wales slammed for not coming to Australia for FIFA Women's World Cup final

NEWS.com.au, Other, 18/08/2023, Daniela Elser

Your Royal Highnesses, I'm disappointed. So very bloody disappointed. This weekend, the English Lionesses football team will take to the pitch in Sydney as they face off against Spain in the World Cup Final.

[Read More](#)

The Guardian view on the Women's World Cup: the best so far

The Guardian, Other, 19/08/2023

Four years ago, the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup, won by the US, was hailed as a pinnacle moment for women's football. The accolade was deserved.

Australian police rejected FIFA requests for Gianni Infantino to be escorted during World Cup travel

The Guardian, Other, 18/08/2023, Christopher Knaus

Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria police turned down request for escort for Fifa president, which is normally reserved for foreign heads of state. FIFA asked Australian police in multiple jurisdictions to provide escorts for president Gianni Infantino during his travel for the Women's World Cup, but was turned down.

[Read More](#)

A-League Women seeks to capitalise on World Cup fever and avoid momentum loss

The Guardian, Other, 18/08/2023, Jack Snape

The A-League Women will launch its 2023-24 season with a standalone round in October in a bid to capitalise on unprecedented interest in the World Cup, as warnings are given that there will never be a better opportunity for football in Australia. Traditionally the shorter ALW season starts during the A-League Men campaign, but this year the men will kick off one week later.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Today, 18/08/2023, Karl Stefanovic, Sarah Abo, Alex Cullen and Brooke Boney

Panel discussion with Richard Marles, Deputy Prime Minister and Peter Dutton, Opposition Leader. Funding for women's sport has been the focus this morning. This year's Women's World Cup is set to be the first to earn \$1b. If the Matildas come third, the 26 players will share around \$4m, or \$174,000 each. In comparison last year in Qatar, the Socceroos only reached the round of 16 but shared almost \$20m or more than \$300,000 each. Marles says the figures don't sit well with him, and what they have seen with the Women's World Cup is the most watched television moment in Australian TV history.

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

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Reaping benefits in healthcare

Canberra Times, General News, 19/08/2023, Sally Pryor, Page 15

It's a quiet weekday morning in a side street in the health precinct of Deakin, and Glenn Keys is in celebration mode. It's muted, of course; celebrating a seemingly constant stream of health emergencies and human strife is hardly the done thing.

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

IVF up in smoke

Herald Sun, General News, 19/08/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 1

A scientist from fertility giant Monash IVF Group allegedly set fire to crucial documents amid fears she could face criminal consequences arising from her conduct during research underpinning a breakthrough IVF test. The cover-up allegations were made in documents filed in the Supreme Court of Victoria late on Friday as part of a growing class action over the destruction of embryos.

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

Heart in the mouth stuff

Herald Sun, General News, 19/08/2023, Page 22

International researchers have found a link between white blood cells in the saliva of healthy young adults and the early risk of heart disease. Knowing that periodontitis a health problem involving infected gums is linked to heart disease, the Canadian team recruited 28 nonsmokers aged 18-30 and asked

them to rinse their mouths with saline, which was collected for analysis, and then took blood pressure and other heart measurements.

Also reported by: [The West Australian \(Saturday edition\) \(Perth\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#). Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

Study casts doubt on benefits of blue light blockers

Canberra Times, Other, 18/08/2023, John Crouch

Blue blockers seem to do little to protect against eye strain while people stare at digital screens, at least in the short term, scientists warn. A University of Melbourne review has cast doubt on the promoted benefits of the light-filtering lenses, saying clinical evidence does not support claims they improve sleep quality or protect the retina.

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

[Read More](#)

Channel 9 Darwin, National Nine News, 18/08/2023, Paul Murphy

International researchers say they've found a link between white blood cells in the saliva of young adults, and people at early risk of heart problems. It is hoped the findings could form a basis for a simple mouth rinse test during a check-up at the doctor or dentist.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Fund pharmacists in ACCHOs: advisory body

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 18

Funding to embed non-dispensing pharmacists in Aboriginal health services is set to be delivered following support from the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC). The independent advisory body backed moves to fund pharmacists in ACCHOs based on a joint submission from the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and James Cook University (JCU) calling for funding for the Integrating Pharmacists within Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services to improve Chronic Disease Management (IPAC) project.

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

Indigenous Australians suffering strokes 16 years younger than non-Indigenous people, new study finds

ABC Online, Other, 18/08/2023, Jane Bardon

Indigenous Australians are suffering strokes 16 years younger than the rest of the population, with regional and remote patients waiting up to 18 hours for treatment, a new study has found. A study has found the average age of stroke for Indigenous people is 54, compared to 70 for non-Indigenous people

[Read More](#)

Officer involved in arrest of disabled Indigenous man in Taree placed on restricted duties

The Guardian, Other, 18/08/2023, Tamsin Rose

The New South Wales police officer who performed a leg sweep on a handcuffed and disabled 18-year-old Aboriginal man after he had a seizure in Taree this week has been placed on restricted duties while his conduct is probed by the force. The NSW police minister, Yasmin Catley, described a video of

Tuesday's arrest as "difficult to watch" amid calls for a parliamentary inquiry into the police's use of force after other high-profile incidents, including the Tasing of Clare Nowland.

Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

ABF official owns isotopes flat

Weekend Australian, General News, 19/08/2023, Ellen Whinnett and Remy Varga, Page 1

The Sydney flat from which radioactive material was seized in a raid by the Australian Border Force on Thursday is owned by an ABF official. The man who owns the Arncliffe home where 52 vials of lowlevel radioactive isotopes were seized is not a person of interest in the case.

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

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

Ignoring the boss 'a worker's right'

Weekend Australian, General News, 19/08/2023, Ewin Hannan, Page 7

Workplace Labor has backed the right of workers to ignore phone calls and emails from their bosses after hours, and swap public holidays for culturally significant leave, while also pledging to work with the states to ban the manufacture, use and import of harmful engineered stone products.

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

Warning on Bali measles danger

Courier Mail, General News, 19/08/2023, Jessica Wang, Page 33

A health chief has urged Aussies planning on overseas travel to ensure they're up to date with vaccinations after NSW recently recorded two new cases of measles from travellers returning from Bali. Earlier this month, residents on NSW's Mid North Coast were put on high alert after an infected person attended a series of events, including two junior AFL games in Coffs Harbour and Woolgoolga.

Also reported by: [The West Australian \(Saturday edition\) \(Perth\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#). Similar coverage reported by: [The New Daily \(Online\)](#).

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

Boost for nation-leading clinic helping hundreds with deadly silicosis

Newcastle Herald, General News, 19/08/2023, Tara Cosoleto, Page 20

A nation-leading clinic that's diagnosed and treated more than 600 workers with deadly silicosis has been extended for another three years. The dedicated occupational respiratory clinic at The Alfred in Melbourne was launched in July 2021 to provide affected workers with a health outcome and treatment plan.

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

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

[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Can ecstasy cure agony?

AFR Weekend, General News, 19/08/2023, Jenny Valentish, Page 32

An Australian team hopes to become the first researchers to measure the outcome of using MDMA to

help couples in conflict...

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

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

Lion's mane, turkey tail: new-wave wellness rakes it in

Weekend Australian, Business News, 19/08/2023, Jared Lynch, Page 27

Radek Sali chuckles down the phone when asked who let him loose at Taronga or Werribee zoos. [...] "But in fact, the reality is that everything that has a vitamin label has gone through the TGA (Therapeutic Goods Administration) approval process, so you can't say anything about the effectiveness of the products without being backed by scientific evidence," Gance told The Australian Global Food Forum earlier this year.

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

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

Steering an uncharted course for pharmacy

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 32

Lisa Nguyen stepped into uncharted territory when she founded Australia's first cannabis-specialised dispensary. [...] My journey with cannabis started in 2018, right after the TGA down-scheduled cannabis from a Schedule 9 narcotic to a Schedule 8 prescription medicine.

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

As obesity drug Wegovy takes world by storm, ASX stocks like Holista Colltech step up

The Australian, Other, 18/08/2023, Eddy Sunarto

The astounding global success of weight loss drug Wegovy has thrown a huge focus on the wellness industry, including an Aussie firm employing NASA know-how. [...] In addition, Holista is also currently working with a company in Australia to get the necessary TGA approvals.

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

[Read More](#)

How Clive Palmer was unveiled as the secret funder behind Telstra vaccine class action

Crikey, Other, 18/08/2023, Julia Bergin

Clive Palmer funded a class action against Telstra vaccine mandates. His lawyers argued to keep it quiet but the Judge ruled no. [...] He distributed material at odds with formal advice from the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), went to court to battle out border closures, took the Western Australian and federal government to task, and campaigned for the 2022 federal election with a promise to do away with vaccine mandates.

[Read More](#)

Home abortion follow-up test safe: Study

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

Rural women could benefit most from the launch of an at-home test that can replace face-to-face follow-up consults with healthcare professionals. [...] LSUPT has been accessible in other countries for more than a decade but was only approved by the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) in November 2019.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

FOOD STANDARDS

A suspected mushroom-poisoning case has put a spotlight on food safety. Here are some handy tips

ABC Online, Other, 18/08/2023, Michele Weekes

The suspected mushroom-poisoning deaths in Victoria of three people following a lunch has put a focus on the potential consequences of eating the wrong thing. Here's what food safety experts want you to know about food poisoning.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

