



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 26th 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 Hobart Mercury \(page 1\)](#)** reports that Royal Hobart Hospital staff have said they were operating under Code Yellow protocols without the emergency being declared to the public. Tasmanian Health Minister Guy Marnett said the hospital had been at level four of its escalation plan, and that it was an operational matter for the hospital.
- **[The Canberra Times \(page 5\)](#)** reports that the ACT government will introduce a new payroll tax exemption for medical practices that bulk bill more than 65 per cent of their patients. The change comes following concern about a ruling that would have seen many practices have to pay the tax on independent GP contractors.
- **[The Herald Sun \(page 8\)](#)** reports that the Medical Board of Australia has ordered Melbourne-based Dr Nguyet (Madeleine) Thai to be supervised after red flags were raised about the opioid drugs she was prescribing to patients. The MBA also instructed Dr Thai to have one-on-one tuition and her clinical records audited after interventions from an alarmed pharmacist and the Department of Health.
- **[The Adelaide Advertiser \(page 3\)](#)** reports that SA Health has responded after it was found a doctor that had been suspended from an administration role at Mackay Base Hospital is now

working in a senior position in the regional SA health network. "Doctor Philip Reasbeck is contracted in the temporary role of Acting Director of Medical Services at Flinders Upper North Local Health Network. There are no restrictions in place in relation to Doctor Reasbeck practising anywhere in Australia," a spokesperson for SA Health said.

- **ABC Online** reports that Queensland Health has confirmed it is set to scrap its blanket locked ward policy on all public acute mental health care units from July 1, 2024. The Queensland chair of the Royal Australia and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, Brett Emmerson, said the new policy would reduce tension on the wards and make life easier for staff, adding that "Anything that will help reduce the level of agitation in those wards, such as having the ability to open the doors, is a good thing."

MINISTER BUTLER

Hogan demands changes to regional healthcare provision

Coffs Coast News of the Area, General News, 25/08/2023, Page 5

Page MP Kevin Hogan has called on the Albanese Government to immediately reverse its 2022 decision to allow overseas-trained doctors and Commonwealth Scholarship Students to work in major cities, rather than spend time in rural and regional communities. [...] News Of The Area contacted Minister for Health Mark Butler for comment.

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

Nine deaths too many

The Longreach Leader, General News, 25/08/2023, Matthew Pearce, Page 1

Nine people have been killed on roads in the Capricornia Region this year and for emergency services that's still nine too many. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler on Thursday said the estimated \$1.2 billion saved in the next four years through the cheaper medicines policy would be reinvested back to community pharmacies.

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

'He's meant to start school next year': Mother issues urgent plea to save four-year-old son

ABC Online, Other, 25/08/2023, Oliver Gordon

Before her four-year-old son Kruz was diagnosed with leukaemia, Lauren Seumanutafa had never really thought about bone marrow donation. [...] In a statement provided to the ABC, a spokesperson for Federal Health Minister Mark Butler acknowledged the country's bone marrow donation system was too small, and had not kept up with international standards.

[Read More](#)

Unleashing the potential of our health workforce: Review response

AHHA (Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association), Other, 25/08/2023

The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) welcomed yesterday's announcement by the Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Mark Butler MP, of the Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce Review. The Review is one of the recommendations of the Strengthening Medicare Taskforce and will focus on how to assist health practitioners in working to the full scope of their skills and training.

[Read More](#)

Lifeline for Cardwell Family Practice

Connect FNQ, Other, 25/08/2023

The Queensland Government has stepped in to save long running Cardwell Family Practice from closing for good. [...] "Finally, we thank the Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler, for forcing the Queensland Government's hand here."

[Read More](#)

Silent killer on the rise, 1.8 million Australians are unaware they have kidney disease

National Indigenous Times, Other, 25/08/2023

Kidney disease is on the rise in Australia, with Kidney Health Australia reporting that two million people have kidney disease and 1.8 million are unaware they have the disease. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said on Wednesday that an Indigenous Voice would help the fight against endemic disease.

[Read More](#)

Allied health is being let off the leash

The Medical Republic, Other, 25/08/2023

The Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce Review' will look into how nurses, pharmacists and physios can work to the top of their scope of training. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler announced yesterday both the title of the review and that it would be led by health workforce researcher and senior public servant Professor Mark Cormack.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, Breakfast, 25/08/2023, Thomas Oriti

Finding a suitable donor for a bone marrow transplant can be incredibly hard. In a bid to increase the amount of suitable donors, the Australian Bone Marrow Registry has been rolling out an innovative cheek swab check programme, but it says it's unable to access the funds it needs to keep that going long term. The organisation's chief executive Lisa Smith has made a passionate plea ahead of a Victorian Government hearing into the matter.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS

Innovative aged care facility opens in Middle Swan

Echo, General News, 25/08/2023, Page 11

Middle Swan Residential Care was officially opened on Friday, August 11 with an on-site celebration and opening ceremony by Hasluck MHR Tania Lawrence, representing Aged Care Minister Anika Wells. Ms Lawrence highlighted the importance of quality aged care services for the area and the role of such facilities in nurturing the elderly.

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

Major boost for women's sport as broadcast changes loom

Golden Plains Times, General News, 25/08/2023, Tess Ikonomidou, Page 23

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has said the Women's World Cup has "changed sport in Australia forever" as he detailed a two-hundred-million-dollar boost for women's sport and an overhaul of broadcast rules. [...] Sports Minister Anika Wells said providing safer facilities was vital.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Times \(Ballarat\)](#)

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

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

River FM, Marnie & Campo Breakfast Show, 25/08/2023, Marnie and Campo

Health services and workforce issues were top of the agenda in Somerset yesterday when the

Assistant Minister paid a visit to the region. A round table was held with local health, disability and aged care service providers. Rural and Regional Health Assistant Minister Emma McBride says it is about understanding the local issues and the challenges that people face in accessing health care in this part of Queensland.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Even on the playing field, we still diminish women

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/08/2023, Gemma Tognini, Page 24

Why should female athletes have to compete against newly transitioned biological males? [...] Their common sense and courage put many politicians and policymakers to shame. New Zealand Prime Minister Chris Hipkins along with senior public servants in our own Department of Health struggle to articulate what a woman is.

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

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

Transgender Australians waiting years for gender-affirming surgery, as Medicare bid looms

ABC Online, Other, 25/08/2023, Ashleigh Barraclough

For trans woman Abbie Clark, feelings of gender dysphoria have been coming and going since she was a kid. [...] Now, for the first time, an application has been made to the commonwealth health department to list gender-affirming procedures on Medicare by the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons.

[Read More](#)

Bulk-billing rate drops to 72% for standard in-person GP consults

Australian Doctor, Other, 25/08/2023, Antony Scholefield and Rachel Carter

The bulk-billing rate for the standard face-to-face GP consult has fallen from 80% to 72% in a year, show data from the Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Read More](#)

Innovative 'staying at home' program launched

Australian Rural & Regional News, Other, 25/08/2023, Tash Adams

Resthaven has launched a new government-funded program which aims to support older South Australians living with dementia to stay at home for as long as possible. [...] It is free for carers and the person they care for, as the program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Read More](#)

CORONAVIRUS

Congress to investigate alleged Covid cover-up

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/08/2023, Sharri Markson, Page 7

The US congress is set to probe revelations that officials at the highest levels of the intelligence community censored the input of scientists who concluded that Covid-19 was genetically engineered in a laboratory. A homeland security committee senator has also called for the allegations to be "investigated immediately".

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

Hector's last gasp medical 'miracle'

Herald Sun, General News, 26/08/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 10

Hector Saenz remembers Tuesday, December 13 well. Then nothing for two months. By the time he won his hard-fought battle against Covid-19, Mr Saenz would have spent six months in hospital, almost died twice, required 4000 hours of critical care from 1500 health professionals, and received a double lung transplant at The Alfred.

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

One of Australia's last remaining coronavirus rules could finally be scrapped: 'We've got to learn to live with Covid-19'

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Jesse Hyland

Mask mandates are set to be scrapped in NSW hospitals as soon as next week as the government considers ending one of the last Covid rules remaining in the state. Those visiting 'high-risk settings' such as hospitals and aged-care facilities in the state must wear face masks to stop the spread of disease.

[Read More](#)

Mother wants mandatory masks in hospitals after baby gets COVID

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 25/08/2023, Natalie Croxon

A Woonona mother is calling for health authorities to make masks mandatory in hospitals, especially around sick children, as her 10-week-old baby battles a COVID-19 infection. But NSW Health has confirmed it will lower the COVID alert level at the end of August, which will relax mask requirements in public hospitals.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

The secret to a long life? Kiss your troubles away

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/08/2023, Jamie Walker, Page 5

Fit and full of fun in their 90s, Laurie and Bette Cooper are living the long lives that beckon for more Australians than ever. But this counts for very little unless you can also live well in old age, the conundrum for the nation as life expectancy increases alongside a growing population.

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

Bold guesses about our future

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/08/2023, Stephen Lunn, Page 18

What will the nation look like in 2063? The IGR takes a punt Here's an idea. Go get yourself a cuppa, then settle in while we explore the Intergenerational Report. But not the kibble-dry economic detail of the 2023 report unveiled by Jim Chalmers this week.

Better test for dementia

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/08/2023, Page 29

A new UK test designed to predict people's risk of dementia outperforms an Australian test and could help better predict who will get dementia in the next 14 years. The test, known as The UK Biobank Dementia Risk Score, was developed using data from more than 200,000 people and looks at 11 predictive factors: age, education, history of diabetes, history of current depression, history of stroke, parental dementia, economic disadvantage, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, living alone and being male.

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

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

Training goes 'old school'

Courier Mail, General News, 26/08/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 27

There are some jobs artificial intelligence will never be able to replace, and caring for our elderly is one them. That's why more than 50 Queensland high school students have taken on schoolbased apprenticeships with Wesley Mission Queensland to help future-proof their employment and fill the crippling workforce shortage facing the aged-care industry.

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

'Transformational' plans for aged care

Northern Territory News, General News, 26/08/2023, Annabel Bowles, Page 13

A Darwin aged care facility has revealed plans to build a new 26bed facility, purpose built for residents with dementia. The \$18m project, to be built at Pearl Supported Care in Fannie Bay, will result in the Top End facility being able to care for almost a third more residents.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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

Respect elders

Northern Territory News, Editorials, 26/08/2023, Page 58

As our ageing population continues to grow, investment needs to be made now [...] In a submission to 2018's Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, the NT Council of Social Services said the NT was receiving the lowest level of funding per person in aged care settings.

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

New models of nursing care would provide solutions to ageing population, peaks argue

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 25/08/2023

Australia's population is forecast to pass 40 million by 2063, with the number of people aged over 65 set to double, while the number of Australians over 85 will triple, the government's 2023 Intergenerational Report, released yesterday, has revealed. By 2062-63, the life expectancy of Australians is predicted to rise to 87 years for men, and 89.5 years for women, the report states.

[Read More](#)

Central Goldfields council to retire aged care services

Australian Seniors News, Other, 25/08/2023

Central Goldfields Shire Council has announced it will transition away from delivering in-home aged care services from 1 March, 2024. Council says the decision is in response to the planned introduction of the Commonwealth Government new model of care, Support at Home (SAH) program, on 1 July 2025.

[Read More](#)

Pearl aged care in Fannie Bay, Darwin, to build new dementia-friendly

facility

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Annabel Bowles

A Top End aged care home has unveiled plans to build a 26-bed facility that will be purpose-built for residents with dementia. Here's how it is poised to help.

[Read More](#)

Cost of living: 68% of older people go without some essential healthcare

HelloCare, Other, 25/08/2023, Bianca Iovino

New research suggests that 68% of older Australians have gone without some essential healthcare or hesitated about it because of the cost in recent years. A new report from the National Seniors Research Team showed mental health care, dental treatment and dental checkups were the most likely to be forgone, with 20%-26% of survey respondents unable to afford them on one or more occasions.

[Read More](#)

WorkSafe looks into safety at aged care facilities

HelloCare, Other, 25/08/2023, Bianca Iovino

WorkSafe has begun implementing its proactive inspection program to look at safety issues in Western Australian aged care and residential care facilities. The inspection program will look at a number of randomly selected facilities across metropolitan and regional areas of the State from now until June 30, 2024.

[Read More](#)

'Healthy' elderly clogging hospital beds set to ramp up

In Daily, Other, 25/08/2023, Belinda Willis

More than 100 'healthy' elderly patients on average a day are taking up Adelaide metropolitan hospital beds, with new data showing the logjam is likely to worsen as the number of those aged over 65 doubles in coming decades. Health Minister Chris Picton said there has been a significant increase in the number of elderly public hospital patients well enough to be discharged but waiting for residential aged care places in the past year, compared to an average 88 a day in August last year.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

PS: I will never leave you

AFR Weekend, General News, 26/08/2023, Kim Tingley, Page 32

They're in everything from non stick cookware to yoga pants and in the bodies of almost every human alive. And they may be doing us great harm...

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

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

Govt's doing a number on us

Northern Territory News, General News, 26/08/2023, Matt Cunningham, Page 22

The Territory government's determination to treat its constituents as mugs reached a new high last week. We've become accustomed to our elected representatives telling us the Cavenagh St shade structure is a thriving success.

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

\$132m PFAS payout gets green light

Newcastle Herald, General News, 26/08/2023, Page 11

Thousands of landowners affected by toxic firefighting foam at air force bases across Australia will share more than \$130 million in compensation from the federal government. About 30,000 landowners

living at seven sites claimed they were affected by toxic PFAS chemicals found in the foam.

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

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

Bizarre reason Aussies are becoming allergic to red meat

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Jasmine Kazlauskas

Doctors have revealed the bizarre reason more and more Australians are suddenly becoming allergic to red meat. An explosion in ticks is the reason more and more Australians are becoming allergic to red meat.

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

[Read More](#)

Posthumous sperm retrieval raises some troubling questions, but who should answer them?

ABC Online, Other, 25/08/2023, Anna Kelsey

When a grieving father in Israel requested the retrieval of his dead son's sperm, it was in the hope of creating a grandchild. Baruch Ben Yigal's son Amit was killed in military action three years ago at the age of 21.

[Read More](#)

Organism that causes vision loss detected across NSW coast

Canberra Times, Other, 25/08/2023, Millie Costigan

An organism that can severely damage eyesight has been detected in water at coastal lagoons across NSW. A new study detected the microorganism Acanthamoeba at coastal sites, which can cause an extremely rare but potentially sight-threatening eye infection

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 25/08/2023, Mel Bush

Interview with Jo Flanagan, CEO, Women's Health Tasmania. Women often pay more for goods and services, especially health care. A 2022 Grattan Institute report found that women spend more out of pocket than men, and younger women spend more than men their age. Flanagan says it seems to be because women use the health system more. She adds she has seen a lot of research that establishes that women are particularly using preventative and diagnostic health services more.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Biotech to kick off trial for cancer game-changer

Weekend Australian, Business News, 26/08/2023, Cameron England, Page 29

Carina Biotech is about to kick off the first clinical trial of its CAR-T colon cancer treatment, following sign-off by the US Food and Drug Administration, and with backing from heavy-hitting investors such as the Forrest family's Tenmile health and technology fund. Chief executive Deborah Rathjen said the Adelaide-based life sciences company was currently screening patients at Royal Adelaide Hospital and at St Vincent's in Sydney, with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne also to start enrolling patients this month.

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

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

Safe from the horror of wire

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/08/2023, Jessica McSweeney, Page 26

Violinist Emma Jezek's breast cancer diagnosis came with scores of uncomfortable and violating medical procedures but one she wasn't prepared for was the "hook wire". The fit and healthy 51-year-old was brutally thrown from her life in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra into the unknown of cancer treatment after a GP check-up found a lump in her breast last year.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#)

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

Inspiring words from specialist

Launceston Examiner, General News, 26/08/2023, Declan Durrant, Page 2

The narrative of breast cancer diagnosis is changing according to Tasmanian-born surgeon Chantel Thornton, but regional women diagnosed with the disease are still disadvantaged. A breast cancer specialist who grew up in Launceston, Dr Thornton spoke at the Clifford Craig Foundation's annual Women's Health Brunch on Friday to inspire and inform the women of her hometown.

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

Report reveals remote South Australians struggle with heart problems

In Daily, Other, 25/08/2023, Jim Plouffe

A Royal Flying Doctor Service report has found the rate of premature deaths from heart, stroke and vascular disease in remote South Australia is almost four times the national average. The Public Health Information Development Unit of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) analysed premature deaths from heart, stroke and vascular disease for people aged 0-74 years in rural and remote communities throughout Australia between 2016-2020.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 25/08/2023, Michael Thompson

Endometrial cancer is becoming more prevalent amongst Australian women and the age of those being diagnosed is getting younger. Researchers have made a major breakthrough that could help how it's screened for and treated in the future.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Breakfast, 25/08/2023, Ross Stevenson and Russel Howcroft

Interview with Anne Savage, CEO, Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia. New international research provides evidence of the effectiveness of MRIs in detecting prostate cancer. Savage says it is information out of the UK published this week in the BMJ Oncology. She notes they need to gather more evidence of this.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Secret code

Hobart Mercury, General News, 26/08/2023, David Killick, Page 1

The nurses' union says the Health Department's failure to formally declare a "Code Yellow" at the Royal Hobart Hospital is misleading the public about the severity of the current week-long crisis. The hospital has been struggling with a surge in demand and a staff shortage, in which the emergency department has been full to overflowing and some elective surgeries cancelled because of a lack of beds.

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

UFS bucks trend on regional recruiting

Ballarat Courier, General News, 26/08/2023, Michelle Smith, Page 8

The challenge of recruiting GPs in regional areas has not deterred UFS from expanding as it looks ahead to opening a new medical clinic in Lucas. The healthcare group this week confirmed it would

open a clinic, in conjunction with developer Integra, on Merz Street in Lucas in 2025.

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

This council turned a petrol station into a medical centre

Daily Liberal, General News, 26/08/2023, Samantha Townsend, Page 10

Six years ago when the last remaining doctor was about to hang up their stethoscope at Nyngan, the town saw a lifeline from a place you'd least expect. Bogan Shire Mayor Glen Neill and his fellow councillors took it into their own hands to establish the Bogan Shire Medical Centre, which is council run and funded.

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

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

Testing patience

Launceston Examiner, General News, 26/08/2023, Matt Maloney, Page 1

Almost two-thirds of patients who presented to the Launceston General Hospital's emergency department last month were not seen on time, according to recent data from the Health Department. The monthly health system data released on Thursday showed that 37 per cent of emergency presentations at the LGH were seen within the recommended time frame, compared to 54 per cent in July 2022.

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

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

Home grown

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 26/08/2023, Bernard Humphreys, Page 1

Rebeka Keep has "known since I was a little kid that I wanted to be a mum", but she couldn't know then that her dream to build a family would become so complicated. After welcoming two daughters in her early 20s, the now-32-year-old Mildura woman "still had that yearn, that little bit of an ache" for another baby, but found she was facing fertility problems, so her doctor recommended trying IVF.

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

Health blame game a cheap shot: Webster

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 26/08/2023, Page 5

The Victorian Government is trying to deflect attention from its own policy failures by blaming the former federal Coalition government for the Mallee's health crisis, Opposition MP Anne Webster says. After Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas said on Thursday that Dr Webster's Coalition colleagues had left the GP primary care system "broken" and that this was the cause of extraordinary pressure on public hospitals, the Nationals MP lashed out at state Labor, accusing Ms Thomas of political point-scoring.

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

Rising insurance costs and medical litigation reason for decline of private birthing services

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Peter Carruthers

Fear of being sued, new name and shame laws and an unwillingness to crisis manage births when things go wrong is part of the reason why Cairns Hospital will struggle to attract extra obstetricians needed to cope with surging deliveries when private maternity services close later this year.

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

[Read More](#)

'Up in the air': Expectant mother to change birth plans after private hospital maternity closure

The Courier Mail, Other, 25/08/2023, Catherine Duffy

An expectant mother who has had her birthing plans suddenly change, just weeks before the arrival of her second child, has voiced her concerns over the closure of the Ramsay Health Care maternity ward.

Peeramon mother-of-one, Tina O'Reilly had been preparing to give birth to her second child, due in November, at Cairns Private Hospital until she was told by staff that the maternity ward was due to close on November 1.

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

[Read More](#)

Australia-first therapy program, Autism Horses, shows results in Port Hedland

West Australian, Other, 25/08/2023, Xander Sapsworth-Collis

A groundbreaking therapy program for people who are neurodiverse the only one of its kind in Australia is being delivered in Port Hedland, and has shown some remarkable results. Autism Horses provides therapy programs for people who are neurodiverse or have other socially challenged diagnoses.

[Read More](#)

Busselton Hospice calls for volunteers after facing a 19 per cent drop in numbers

West Australian, Other, 25/08/2023, Rachel Green

Busselton Hospice Care Inc is encouraging the community to consider volunteering, as many staff members are currently working overtime to cope with a 19 per cent drop in volunteer numbers. Founded in 1989, the Hospice is 100 per cent funded by community donations and fundraising to develop ongoing funding streams that will support the sustainability of palliative care volunteer models in the future.

[Read More](#)

GPs are the solution to the ADHD crisis

Australian Doctor, Other, 25/08/2023, Kyle Hoath

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder is the most common neurodevelopmental disorder in Australia. According to the Australian ADHD Professionals Association (AADPA), an estimated 6-8% of Australian children and 3-5% of Australian adults live with ADHD. [...] Dr Kyle Hoath is a psychiatrist and AMA (WA) psychiatry representative.

[Read More](#)

Support to help 'cement' pharmacy's future

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 25/08/2023, Megan Haggan

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia and the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association have reaffirmed their longstanding partnership The partnership is aimed at enhancing support for pharmacy students at 18 universities across Australia. The renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ensures that students are supported throughout their studies and professional development, the two groups say.

[Read More](#)

12 months of Biloela maternity bypass arrives, no end in sight

Cairns Post, Other, 25/08/2023, Dacia Stewart

A Biloela mum has shared the extreme emotional and financial toll of having a baby in the bush as women like her continue to suffer 12 months after the local maternity ward went on bypass. On August 25, 2022, Biloela's maternity ward was placed on bypass. [...] Australian Medical Association Queensland (AMAQ) president Dr Maria Boulton said they knew how hard it was to reopen a unit once it had closed.

[Read More](#)

New GP for Hedland, but persistent vacancies leave town on edge of healthcare crisis

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 25/08/2023

Rural Health West data shows there are still five GP vacancies in Port Hedland as it faces an uphill healthcare battle despite the announcement a new doctor is headed to town. The new GP will begin

work at the Indigenous-owned healthcare provider Marlu Health which opened a practice in South Hedland.

[Read More](#)

Grow the scope

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 25/08/2023

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia said yesterday's Intergenerational Report demonstrated the urgent need for community pharmacies to work to their full scope of practice, to help Australia meet the growing demand on the health network and save billions of taxpayer dollars each year.

[Read More](#)

Guild's response to Intergenerational Report

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 25/08/2023

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia says the Intergenerational Report (IGR) released on 24 August demonstrates the need for community pharmacies to work to their full scope of practice, to help Australia meet the growing demand on the health network and save billions of taxpayer dollars each year.

[Read More](#)

New asthma charts 'very useful to have at one's fingertips'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 25/08/2023, Morgan Liotta

Updated medication charts will help curb complacency, overuse of available treatments, and keep management up to date, experts say. [...] 'That is Dr Kerry Hancock, Chair of RACGP Specific Interests Respiratory Medicine, who told newsGP it is important GPs keep up to date with guidelines and the latest medications, particularly given the recent explosions' in available medications for treating the condition.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 25/08/2023, Andrew Lofthouse and Melissa Downes

Cairns Public Hospital has been granted a \$5m investment to guarantee birthing services for patients across Far North Queensland. It comes following announcement that Ramsay Health Care's private hospital is closing its maternity ward. The Queensland Government funding will provide more beds in the maternity unit.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Farmer shines a light on rural mental health

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/08/2023, Charlie Peel, Page 7

Leila McDougall is a farmer, fashion designer, teacher, charity organiser and mental health advocate and soon she will be able to add filmmaker, screenwriter and actor to her resume. After growing up on the land and witnessing the devastating impact mental health problems can have on rural communities, Ms McDougall started a charity to encourage people in rural areas to speak up about their challenges.

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

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

Perth charity Zero2Hero delivers mental health workshops to Hedland kids

West Australian, Other, 25/08/2023, Xander Sapsworth-Collis

More than 400 Port Hedland primary school students attended mental health workshops to help with problems that may arise with living in regional towns. The two-day program was delivered by the

charity zero2Hero through six workshops to students at Baler Primary School and Port Hedland Primary School on August 28 and 29.

[Read More](#)

I started Wear it Purple day so the rainbow youth no longer felt alone More from ABC Everyday

ABC Online, Other, 25/08/2023, Katherine Hudson

On the last Friday in August 2010, I was so nervous climbing the steps at Croydon Station in Sydney, it felt like I was having an invisible appendectomy at the turnstiles. I had spent the school holidays creating a movement called Purple Armband Day, later shortened to Wear it Purple day, and today was the day.

[Read More](#)

Queensland Health scraps locked ward policy on all public acute mental health units

ABC Online, Other, 25/08/2023

Queensland Health is scrapping its blanket locked ward policy on all public acute mental health care units. The locked ward policy, which came in under Campbell Newman in 2013, requires all entry and exit doors on adult public acute mental health inpatient units in public hospitals to be locked, regardless of whether patients are there voluntarily.

[Read More](#)

'Is psychiatry now a sub-specialised field?': GP asks why his referrals are being rejected

Australian Doctor, Other, 25/08/2023, Carmel Sparke

Dr Andrew Leech has been told psychiatrists can't see his patients because they're too young, too old, or even a suicide risk. A GP has spoken out about his increasing frustration at having his psychiatrist referral letters rejected because his patients are too old, too young, or at risk of suicide.

[Read More](#)

Sanya found writing 'therapeutic' after her schizophrenia diagnosis. She hopes to spark change

SBS, Other, 25/08/2023, Tareq Nurul Hasan and Carl Dixon

With her novel Hospital, Sanya Rushdi presents a fictionalised account of her mental health struggles after several episodes of psychosis. The Melbourne-based author hopes her writing can challenge some misconceptions around schizophrenia.

[Read More](#)

Strip searches and suicide attempts: the reality for children in Queensland watch houses

The Guardian, Other, 26/08/2023, Ben Smee

Douglas* was six in 2011 when his stepfather and two siblings died in a car crash. Court documents show his mother fell into a heavy depression, drank alcohol excessively, and often left him uncared for and unsupervised. He would arrive at school late with no food, or be found by police wandering the streets.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Payroll tax exemption for bulk billing

Canberra Times, General News, 26/08/2023, Lucy Bladen, Page 5

Medical practices that bulk bill 65 per cent of all patients will be exempt from payroll tax in the ACT for the next two years. The territory government will introduce the measure in an attempt to curb the fallout from new rules requiring general medical practices to pay payroll tax.

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

Warren Blackwood midwives recognised nationally for outstanding care, innovation and contribution to women

West Australian, Other, 25/08/2023, Melissa Pedelty

A midwifery team servicing the Warren Blackwood region since September 2020 has been recognised on a national level for their exceptional care to country women. WA Country Health Service's Warren Blackwood Midwifery Group Practice was recently selected as a finalist for the 2023 Australian College of Midwives Maternity Service of the Year Award for their outstanding care, innovation and contribution to women and babies.

[Read More](#)

It's been 30 years since my IMG 'initiation', but the bitterness lingers

Australian Doctor, Other, 25/08/2023, Heather McNamee

I remain somewhat bitter about the process I endured to migrate to Australia. This is despite it being nearly 30 years ago, and my ongoing gratitude for being allowed to live in this most amazing, peaceful country, having escaped my conflict-torn place of birth (Northern Ireland).

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 25/08/2023, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Kylie Ward, CEO, Australian College of Nursing. The Australian College of Nursing is saying enabling nurses to work to the full scope of their skills and training would dramatically improve patient access to high quality primary health care where and when they need it. Ward says there is so much that nurses are not doing. She adds nurses are highly skilled and trained in the primary sector but they cannot even get access to getting direct payment like every other clinician has access.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Surge in MBS spending predicted: Report

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 25/08/2023, Jolyon Attwooll

According to the Intergenerational Report released this week, real Government expenditure per capita is likely to go up by 25%. Medicare spending per person is expected to go up significantly in the next few years.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Doctor's error on opioids revealed

Herald Sun, General News, 26/08/2023, Andrew Koubaridis, Page 8

A Melbourne doctor is being monitored after red flags were raised about the drugs she was prescribing to patients, including opioids and morphine, a tribunal heard. The Medical Board of Australia ordered Dr Nguyet (Madeleine) Thai to be supervised when prescribing certain drugs; have one-on-one tuition; and her clinical records audited after interventions from an alarmed pharmacist and the Department of Health.

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

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

Drug habit nurse prescribed two-year ban

Herald Sun, General News, 26/08/2023, Kimberley Seedy, Page 27

A registered nurse who forged prescriptions to feed her drug addiction has been banned from nursing for two years. The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia took action against Kristy Kindl who stole prescription pads and, over a five-month period in 2018, forged and presented about 50 prescriptions for opioid oxycodone at various pharmacies.

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

Dental revamp adds bite to rules

Courier Mail, General News, 26/08/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 13

The nation's health watchdog is launching a crackdown on the booming cosmetic dental industry following an increase in patient complaints about procedures such as expensive veneers, sales tactics and misleading claims on social media. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency is the national body which registers dentists and makes sure they practice safely.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#)

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

Scandal hospital doc lands plum role

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 26/08/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 3

A doctor who was suspended from an administrative role in a Queensland hospital amid a scandal, which resulted in the sacking of the entire board, now holds a senior position in SA's regional health network. Professor Philip Reasbeck quit as executive director of medical services at Mackay Base Hospital in May 2022, five months after he was suspended as a review was ordered into the hospital's obstetrics and gynaecology department that found babies had died "from inadequate care" and multiple women were injured.

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

TUH surgeon suspended

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 26/08/2023, Cameron Bates, Page 1

A senior surgeon from Townsville University Hospital has been suspended in mysterious circumstances amid claims of mismanagement that could potentially put patients at risk. The surgeon is under investigation over a matter the health service says did not occur at any of their facilities.

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

Wagga Base, Riverina hospitals maternity horror stories flow as NSW birth trauma inquiry hearing set for Wagga

Canberra Times, Other, 25/08/2023, Daisy Huntly

A baby being handed to the wrong mother and a woman who was cut before the epidural took hold in an emergency caesarean at Wagga Base Hospital are among the haunting tales emerging ahead of a parliamentary inquiry visiting the city next month. Women traumatised by their birth experiences at

Wagga Base have started to lodged their stories with the state's birth trauma inquiry, which was sparked by a wholesale complaint against the Riverina's largest hospital.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

SPORT

Breath of fresh air to invigorate sport

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/08/2023, John Carroll, Page 24

The Matildas phenomenon and that is surely what it is, a phenomenon marks a revolution in Australian consciousness. Sport is writ large in the national imagination, and sport overwhelmingly has been a male preserve, dominated by men.

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

A sporting chance

The Saturday Paper, General News, 26/08/2023, John Hewson, Page 16

The phenomenon of the Matildas clearly caught our political leaders off guard, leading to a series of attempts to clamber on, if not capitalise on, the bandwagon. Their ascendance in the competition launched an auction between the national leaders, with a flurry of offers of financial support for women's sport.

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

Sports parents don't deserve bad rap

The Saturday Age, General News, 26/08/2023, Shona Hendley, Page 41

"Bad call, umpire!" "You didn't do it like I showed you." "Coach, why is Timmy on the bench?" "Get back out there and try harder!" You've probably seen them (or heard them) and you've definitely talked about them: sports parents.

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

Why we didn't take the AFL to court

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 26/08/2023, Matt Turner, Page 1

Adelaide chairman John Olsen has explained why the club did not pursue legal action over the goal umpiring blunder that ended the Crows' finals aspirations. He sat down with Matt Turner after a week of controversy and turmoil Matt Turner: Have you had much sleep this week or just had Ben Keays's shot replaying in your head?

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

Sporting shortfall

Hobart Mercury, General News, 26/08/2023, Alex Treacy, Page 21

A new report authored by five councils in the state's North says there is a current under supply of 12 basketball and eight netball courts, with additional courts also needed to cater for future growth in the sports. The inaugural Northern Tasmania Sports Facility Plan a joint document by Launceston, George Town, West Tamar, Northern Midlands and Meander Valley councils identified the court shortfall as the most pressing issue.

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

AFL needs to be out and proud

Gone are the days in our society when saying nothing and doing nothing is acceptable, least of all from the country's biggest sporting code. ABC's Four Corners program screened on Monday night examined the deafening silence, and appalling truth that there has never been an openly gay player in the AFL, past or present the only professional sporting code in this country to be in that position.

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

Field of nightmares: Bracing for a soccer surge post Matildas

Border Mail, General News, 26/08/2023, Ted Howes, Page 4

With the spectacular success of the Matildas tipped to spark a massive surge of interest in soccer, clubs on both sides of the Murray are expecting thousands of youth to pour into the sport. Questions have been raised, however, about whether facilities in Albury are up to scratch to cope with the growth.

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

Everything's not shipshape for sport yet

Border Mail, General News, 26/08/2023, Page 21

Over the past few weeks, we've written extensively about the Matildas and how they've united a country. Here on the Border, we weren't immune to the World Cup fever, having been swept up in the excitement as Sam Kerr and Mary Fowler inspired the next generation of female soccer players.

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

Injury clinic to stay for finals

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 26/08/2023, Sarah Buchecker, Page 2

Sunraysia footballers and netballers injured during finals will still have access to a dedicated medical clinic. After the SFNL informed clubs that the clinic would not be funded for finals, Mildura Base Public Hospital and Ryan Legal partnered to continue the service over the next three weeks.

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

How the Matildas' Women's World Cup heroics won Australian football's biggest fight

ABC Online, Other, 25/08/2023, Samantha Lewis

The road to Australian football's past is easily missed if you don't know where to look. About 90 minutes south of Sydney, just past Bombo Beach near the coastal town of Kiama, a single green sign points off the Princes Highway and up into the hills towards Jamberoo.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Stents use under the pump

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 26/08/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 21

Breakthrough Adelaide research revealing the importance of "microcirculation" in the heart has raised questions about the use of stents in some heart attack patients. Eminent University of Adelaide and Basil Hetzel Institute cardiologist Professor John Horowitz's latest work, published in the International Journal of Molecular Sciences, analyses the impact of microcirculation disorders to angina, heart failure, normal ageing, diabetes and even long Covid.

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

Can these engineers disrupt a billion dollar medical market?

The Australian, Other, 26/08/2023, Joseph Lam

Can the best inventions come from those with little connection to a field? That's the question Peter Vranes has pondered, after the chemical engineer co-founded a start-up that has built a device with the potential to revolutionise hospital testing.

Monash dietitian begin 'long-overdue' research on Crohn's disease

Canberra Times, Other, 25/08/2023, Anna Houlahan

Crohn's disease is an invisible illness that cripples 100,000 Aussies with a host of symptoms including severe abdominal pain. Effective treatments are limited but research has begun on a new diet-based approach.

[Read More](#)

Why eating junk food actually makes you sadder, not happier

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Penelope Clifton

The link between ultra-processed foods and depression is greater than we first predicted, Melbourne researchers have found. Teenagers who consume ultra-processed foods are more likely to be diagnosed with mental disorders later in life, a study out of Melbourne claims

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

[Read More](#)

Ozempic and Wegovy can reverse heart disease symptoms: Slimming jabs offer hopes of cure as study suggests they are three-times more effective than existing treatments

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Kate Pickles

Weight loss jabs can reverse symptoms of heart disease in a major breakthrough offering hope to half a million Britons. A landmark global trial found semaglutide - known under brand names Ozempic and Wegovy – was three times more effective than any existing treatments for heart failure.

[Read More](#)

Putting on weight in middle age can increase your chances of dying early by almost a third, research finds

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Kate Pickles

Gaining a few extra pounds in your 40s and 50s can increase your chances of dying early by almost a third compared to those who stay slim in middle age, research shows. People with marginally elevated blood pressure, cholesterol or blood sugars who are carrying a little excess weight are up to 30 per cent more likely to die younger.

[Read More](#)

Weight-loss drug can reverse heart failure symptoms, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 25/08/2023, Andrew Gregory

Weight-loss jabs can reverse the symptoms of heart failure, according to a global trial that experts say could revolutionise treatment. Heart failure is one of the world's fastest growing health threats. About 65 million people have the condition, with cases soaring in recent years. However, few treatment options are available.

[Read More](#)

Overweight adults with high blood pressure a third more likely to die early, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 25/08/2023, Andrew Gregory

Millions of middle-aged adults who are overweight with even slightly raised blood pressure, cholesterol or glucose levels are about a third more likely to die early, research suggests. They also face a 35% higher risk of heart attacks or strokes and will experience them two years earlier than their peers.

[Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

Victorian Aboriginal Health Service celebrates 50 years making a difference and saving lives

SBS, Other, 25/08/2023, Bertrand Tungandame

The Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) was set up in 1973 by Aunty Alma Thorpe, Uncle Bruce McGuinness and other Aboriginal community advocates as a place where Aboriginal people could access medical and social care in a time when racism and other barriers prevented Aboriginal people accessing care.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Flu mum heartbreak

Courier Mail, General News, 26/08/2023, Madeline Grace, Page 24

A Brisbane mother has died from complications from influenza A and pneumonia after five weeks in hospital where she first lost her unborn baby, then three limbs. Laura Maree Clanchy, 35, died from complications from influenza A and pneumonia on July 17, after her unborn son Finn died on June 23.

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

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

Biotech firm at fever pitch

Courier Mail, Business News, 26/08/2023, Glen Norris, Page 63

Brisbane-based biotech firm Vaxxas has now added typhoid to the list of global illnesses it's seeking to stamp out with its needle-free vaccine patch. Vaxxas has received a \$5.4m grant from global charitable foundation Wellcome to conduct clinical studies on a typhoid vaccine on its vaccine patch.

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

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

World Health Organisation: Strep A spike prompts call for national guidelines on how to minimise infections

West Australian, Other, 25/08/2023, Nathan Schmidt and Claire Sadler

A surge in Strep A has renewed calls for a national public health response on how to manage the potentially deadly bacteria. The contagious bacteria which has no vaccine yet can not only cause strep throat but also flesh eating necrosis, toxic shock, skin infections, acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, with 20 per cent of invasive cases causing death.

[Read More](#)

Concerns about outbreak of syphilis in Wheatbelt brings sex education program to Narrogin

West Australian, Other, 25/08/2023, Daniel Rooney

The Youth Affairs Council of WA's Youth Educating Peers program will be in Narrogin on September 20 providing training for youth health workers and community members on how to engage with young people about sexual health. "We try to hit a different regional area of WA each year and we haven't been to the Wheatbelt in a long time," YEP co-ordinator Lorna Geraghty said.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Is there any truth to all the hype about medicinal cannabis?

Border Mail, General News, 26/08/2023, Garry Linnell, Page 10

I swallowed a dose of cannabis oil a little over half an hour ago. So please, stick around. [...] According to the Therapeutic Goods Administration, the vast majority of medicinal cannabis prescriptions are used for chronic pain ailments, followed by anxiety, sleep disorders and the treatment of cancer pain.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#).

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

Bonjela to be pulled from supermarket shelves as major TGA announcement revealed

7news.com.au, Other, 25/08/2023, Hayley Taylor

Bonjela Teething Gel and Bonjela Mouth Ulcer Gel used to relieve the pain, discomfort and irritability associated with teething and mouth ulcers will disappear from supermarket shelves from next month. They'll only be available at pharmacies, as the TGA reclassified the products from a Schedule 1 medicine to a Schedule 2 medicine, over concerns about toxicity levels following misuse.

[Read More](#)

Supermarkets to stop selling Bonjela from October 1

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 26/08/2023

Supermarkets will stop selling Bonjela Teething Gel and Bonjela Mouth Ulcer Gel from next month. The TGA has reclassified the products from a Schedule 1 medicine to a Schedule 2 medicine over concerns about toxicity levels following misuse.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Bonjela teething and mouth ulcer gels to be pulled from supermarket shelves under new Therapeutic Goods Administration rules

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Kylie Stevens

A popular teething gel for babies will soon be removed from supermarket shelves following concerns about misuse and toxicity levels. Bonjela Teething Gel and Mouth Ulcer Gel will only be available in pharmacies from October 1 after the products were reclassified by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

[Read More](#)

How does pain relief work?

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 25/08/2023

Whether it's a headache, muscular pain or an aching back, any kind of over-the-counter pain relief tablet will do the trick, right? Ibuprofen? [...] Plus, with the decision by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) to change consumer access to paracetamol from February 1, 2025 [1], it's a good idea to boost your knowledge about how to use over-the-counter (OTC) pain medications correctly.

Also reported by: [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Weird TikTok 'health' trends are more likely to make you sick

The New Daily, Other, 25/08/2023, John Elder

The hottest health trend at the moment at least for health writers is debunking the wild, crazy and often dangerous claims made on TikTok. [...] When a trend impacts the real world In January last year, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) restricted how social media influencers can post about products administered by the regulator, including supplements, protein powders, vitamins, sunscreens, skincare for acne, medicines and medical devices.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

ACT 'ducks stigma by quiet drug reform'

Weekend Australian, General News, 26/08/2023, Rhiannon Down, Page 2

ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith says the Labor-Greens government decided to keep its push to decriminalise drugs quiet to avoid stigmatising drug-users through a "contentious debate". Ms Stephen-Smith said the Barr government chose not to widely publicise its plans to implement the most radical drug reform in the country to spare drug users from the "harmful impact", following revelations in The Australian she had boasted to Labor supporters about how it had "quietly" decriminalised drugs through a private member's bill.

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

ACT activism on drugs by stealth

Weekend Australian, Editorials, 26/08/2023, Page 14

After setting a bad precedent by snatching the Calvary Hospital from the Catholic Church, and canvassing the idea of giving teenagers as young as 14 access to euthanasia, the ACT's Labor-Greens government has boasted to other left-wing activists about how quietly and quickly it decriminalised illicit drugs such as cocaine, MDMA and ice. As we reported this week, ACT Health Minister Rachel StephenSmith told activists at Labor's national conference: "We took it to the election quietly.

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

[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

'Unsafe' bakery fined

Daily Telegraph, General News, 26/08/2023, Page 25

Chicken meat stored at the incorrect temperatures, food scraps on floors and a lack of soap for handwashing were among the scenes that have confronted food inspectors at a popular bakery on Sydney's north shore. Vina Bakehouse located in Chatswood Westfield has been issued three separate fines totalling \$2640 following an inspection by Willoughby Council.

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

Common food additive found in ice cream, sauces and microwave meals may raise risk of health problems in children if eaten during pregnancy, study warns

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/08/2023, Emily Joshu

Eating an additive commonly found in ultra-processed foods during pregnancy may raise the risk of health problems in children, scientists say. A Spanish study on mice found two common emulsifiers used to bind food chemicals resulted in their offspring developing physical and mental health issues, such as anxiety.

[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](#)

