



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 1st September 2023

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Hobart Mercury \(page 6\)](#)** reports that the Hobart Medicare urgent-care clinic has opened to help ease emergency department patient loads. Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said the centre, and additional care clinics due to start operating shortly, were part of the government's commitment to strengthening Medicare.
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 6\)](#)** reports that NSW Premier Chris Minns has stressed a need to retain healthcare workers as the state is losing 6500 nurses and midwives a year. The government agreed yesterday to guarantee a minimum number of staff on every shift, and will enshrine the provisions in the next collective award agreement.
- **[The Courier Mail \(page 6\)](#)** reports that a Queensland parliamentary inquiry into vaping has made 14 recommendations, including subsidising anti-addiction medication and a co-led state and federal taskforce.
- **[The Adelaide Advertiser \(page 4\)](#)** reports that as part of the development and implementation of an ongoing security model, 24/7 security guards will start at Wallaroo Hospital from today. SA Health Minister Chris Picton said "Nothing is more important than the safety of our hardworking doctors, nurses and other healthcare staff".

- [The Hobart Mercury \(page 6\)](#) reports that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Tasmanian Premier Jeremy Rockliff have made fresh pledges for cooperation on health policy and funding.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Bulk billing on its last legs

Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2023, Sue Dunlevy, Page 19

Patients are paying as much as \$50 to see a GP as bulk billing is in free fall. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler blamed the fall on the former government.

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

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### Bulk-billed clinic to divert thousands from clogging up RHH ED

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/09/2023, Blair Richards, Page 6

A sorely needed bulk-billing medical clinic for urgent but non-emergency cases has begun operating in Hobart. [...] Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said the commonwealth had worked with the Tasmanian government to ensure the urgent care clinics aligned with local health services and the needs of communities.

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### Local fighters victorious as Cardwell GP given lifeline

Wet Tropic Times, General News, 31/08/2023, Page 2

Bob Katter, Federal Member for Kennedy, has applauded the announcement by the Queensland Government today that they will step in to rescue the Cardwell medical clinic. [...] "Finally, we thank the Federal Minister for Health, Hon Mark Butler, for forcing the Queensland Government's hand here."

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### Half price scripts in jeopardy when parliament returns

Adelaide Now, Other, 31/08/2023, Sue Dunlevy

Patients will have to go back to their doctor and pay for a new script if the Opposition succeeds in blocking new half price scripts that come into effect on September 1. Health Minister Mark Butler has claimed the government's new 60-day dispensing reforms are supported by almost every single patient and doctor group in the country.

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

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### Big tobacco & social media called out undermining vaping control

Australian Medical Association, Other, 31/08/2023

British American Tobacco (BAT) and Meta have been dishonourably distinguished with a Dirty Ashtray award and the inaugural Exploding Vape award for undermining Australia's tobacco and vaping control strategies. [...] Over one hundred representatives from the public health coalition fighting to reduce smoking and vaping in Australia attended the breakfast and were joined by Health and Aged Care minister, Mark Butler, and his state counterpart Amber Jade Sanderson.

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### AMA President and Health Minister throw healthy support behind the Voice

Australian Medical Association, Other, 31/08/2023

Professor Robson joined Mark Butler and other leaders in Perth this week to outline the beneficial health outcomes of an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. AMA President Professor Steve Robson was in Perth earlier this week and joined Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler and leaders including

former Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt to talk about the positive health benefits for Indigenous Australians arising from the Voice.

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## Government launches ten-year roadmap to tackle eating disorders

HealthDispatch, Other, 31/08/2023

The Albanese government has launched a ten-year national strategy to help guide policies, programs and services to better support people living with eating disorders. [...] "The Albanese Government congratulates the National Eating Disorders Collaboration for developing such a comprehensive roadmap to guide all governments on practical ways to implement a nationally consistent, evidence-based system of care for the prevention and treatment of eating disorders," said health minister Mark Butler.

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## Old, sick or dead? You still need to come and see the chemist

Independent Australia, Other, 31/08/2023, Michelle Pini

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia is taking its fight against 60-day prescriptions all the way to Parliament, because cheaper medicines for you, mean slightly less obscene profits for wealthy pharmacists. [...] As Minister for Health Mark Butler said: '...Every dollar that the Commonwealth will save from this measure will be reinvested back into new spending on community pharmacy programs.'

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## Urgent care pulls polities to Clarkson

Medical Forum, Other, 31/08/2023

Clarkson Medicare Urgent Care Clinic has opened its doors, with much fanfare and in the presence of the Federal Minister for Health, Mr Mark Butler. Located in Ebb Way, Clarkson, the clinic will bulk bill, be open seven days a week and accept walk in patients from the wider Joondalup area.

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## Shifts on the way for local pharmacies

Star Community, Other, 31/08/2023, Matthew Sims

Once fully implemented, the 60-day prescribing policy would provide doctors with the option to prescribe a two-month supply of more than 320 medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) to Australians with stable, ongoing conditions. [...] On Wednesday 26 April, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced the intention to allow millions of Australians to buy two months' worth of medicine for the price of a single prescription.

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## Eating disorder strategy to provide 'hope'

The Medical Republic, Other, 31/08/2023

The National Eating Disorder Collaboration has published its strategy to guide the next 10 years of eating disorder prevention and treatment, after a decade spent accumulating evidence and consulting extensively. [...] The "terrific" and "very digestible" as clunkily described by Health Minister Mark Butler yesterday strategy aims to reduce prevalence, increase quality of life, and help coordinate evidence-based care in all states/territories through 10 key principles.

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## MINISTER WELLS

### Opinion: Aged Care Taskforce: Great Expectations

Armada Examiner, General News, 31/08/2023, Page 23

Two years after the completion of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, there are

great expectations the quality of aged care will be improved. [...] To address this issue, Minister for Aged care, Anika Wells announced an Aged Care Taskforce in mid-June.

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## Bureaucratic solutions neglect important fact about aged care

Lithgow Mercury, General News, 01/09/2023, Dan Minchin, Page 7

It's hard not to cry when you watch the ABC's Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds. [...] It's impossible to make a circle out of a square, and the Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells understands this challenge.

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## Federal Government unveils new program for food and nutrition

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/08/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Australian chef Maggie Beer and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese have teamed up to introduce a new innovative program focused on food and nutrition within the aged care sector. [...] The pair were joined by Aged Care Minister Anika Wells and Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth at Eldercare's South Australian facility.

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## Maggie Beer launches new program to train aged care cooks and chefs to deliver better food

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 31/08/2023, Robert Fedele

"Food is nutrition not just for the body, but also for the soul. It's what fires our appetite for life," beams Australian chef Maggie Beer. [...] Launched this week by the celebrity chef, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Aged Care Minister Anika Wells at a nursing home in South Australia, the \$5 million education and training program, to be run by the Maggie Beer Foundation, will aim to give every chef and cook working in residential aged care the opportunity to develop their culinary skills and improve food, nutrition and the dining experience for older people.

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## What does aged care look like for younger generations retiring deep in debt?

Crikey, Other, 31/08/2023, Celina Day

Labor appears to be softening up Australians for a big rise in the cost of caring for our elderly and vulnerable. [...] According to Labor's Aged Care Minister Anika Wells, aged care is now on the frontline.

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## Cooking up improvements in aged care dining experience

Healthcare Channel, Other, 31/08/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

In a strategic move to revolutionise aged care dining experiences and bolster residents' well-being, the Albanese Government is rolling out a free training program aimed at empowering aged care cooks and chefs. [...] Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells, affirmed the significance of nourishing food for older Australians' well-being.

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## Celebrity chef Maggie Beer joins forces with Federal Government to improve food standards in aged care

Starts at 60, Other, 31/08/2023, Matthew Hart

The Albanese Government is making sure that older Australians in aged care enjoy delicious and nutritious meals, all thanks to a free training program designed for cooks and chefs working in aged care facilities. [...] Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells said teaming up with Beer was part of the government's "approach to help providers and workers upskill and be better educated so they can prepare and serve more delicious and nutritious food to the older people in their care."

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## ABC Sunshine Coast, Mornings, 31/08/2023, Sarah Howells

Interview with Federal Minister for Aged Care and Sport Anika Wells, discussing how vital the votes of Queenslanders are for the upcoming Voice referendum. She also explains how the Voice would address Indigenous issues focusing on sports and aged care.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### Talks focus on health crisis

Ipswich News Today, Other, 31/08/2023

A roundtable discussion in Fernvale last Thursday has highlighted serious local health issues including the lack of an allied workforce strategy for regional Queensland, vehicles idle at Lowood with no drivers, and 80 year olds driving themselves from the Brisbane Valley to find health services 80km away in Brisbane. [...] Blair MP Shayne Neumann and Federal Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health Emma McBride met more than 20 participants from the local community, Somerset Regional Council, the Darling Downs and West Moreton Primary Health Network, West Moreton Health, and the University of Southern Queensland.

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### Councils host youth mental health forum

Star Weekly, Other, 31/08/2023

Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong councils said they were delighted to welcome ministers, local MPs and young people from the community to a forum about the urgent need for more mental health services for young people in the west. On Tuesday, August 29, both councils hosted Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride, Gellibrand MP Tim Watts and Fraser MP Daniel Mulino to The Substation in Newport.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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## DEPARTMENT

### GP bulk bill gaps hurt hip pocket

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/09/2023, Sue Dunlevy, Page 18

Patients are paying up to \$50 out of their own pocket to see a GP as bulk billing is in free fall. [...] Our analysis has identified the regions with the lowest bulk billing rates using Department of Health data based on Primary Health Networks.

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

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## Teen smoking increases

Bellarine Times, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 38

The rate of smoking among Australian teenagers has increased for the first time in 25 years, according to new research by Cancer Council Victoria. [...] Cancer Council Victoria's Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer prepared the study for the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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## Federal Government unveils new program for food and nutrition

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/08/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Australian chef Maggie Beer and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese have teamed up to introduce a new innovative program focused on food and nutrition within the aged care sector. [...] The pair were joined by Aged Care Minister Anika Wells and Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth at Eldercare's South Australian facility.

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## Happy to wear NIP overspend: Shakespeare

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 31/08/2023

Spending more than the \$114.1 million allocated to pharmacy-delivered National Immunisation Program (NIP) vaccines over the next four years would be a win for the Commonwealth. Speaking during a webinar about the implementation of 60-day dispensing Penny Shakespeare, deputy secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care's Health Resourcing Group, said the move to enable pharmacists...

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## AMA holding climate change webinar with DEA

Australian Medical Association, Other, 31/08/2023

A joint webinar held by the AMA and Doctors for the Environment Australia will highlight the work underway across the health sector to act on climate change. [...] Chief Medical Officer Professor Paul Kelly will address the webinar and highlight the work of the federal health department's National Health Sustainability and Climate Unit.

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## Cooking up improvements in aged care dining experience

Healthcare Channel, Other, 31/08/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

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## Up to 3,000 lives saved in first year of Take-Home Naloxone program

myaustraliannews.com.au, Other, 31/08/2023

This International Overdose Awareness Day, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) recognises the important role pharmacists play in supporting patients taking prescription opioids, noting that in its first year alone, the Take Home Naloxone (THN) program has saved 3000 lives. [...] Data from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, provided by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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## New plan for \$50 million in MRFF funding

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 30/08/2023

The Federal Department of Health and Aged Care has released a new Primary Health Research Plan that will shape \$50 million in funding from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). Designed by an independent expert advisory panel chaired by Professor Jane Gunn, the plan acknowledged that there were increasing difficulties in accessing primary healthcare for many Australians.

## Review finalised

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 30/08/2023

The final version of the Review of the Efficient Funding of Chemotherapy (EFC) Funding Arrangements has been received by The Department of Health and Aged Care. Included in the final report is an examination of the impact and continued sustainability of the current EFC Program and associated practices across the cancer medicines supply chain.

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## Naloxone program saves 3K lives

Retail Pharmacy Assistants, Other, 01/09/2023, Margaret Mielczarek

International Overdose Awareness Day (31 August) is a timely reminder of the important role of healthcare professionals such as pharmacists and programs such as the Take-Home Naloxone (THN) program in supporting patients taking prescription opioids and saving countless lives. [...] According to data from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 from the Department of Health and Aged Care, since the THN program began on 1 July 2022, an estimated 3000 doses have been used by Australians experiencing or witnessing an opioid overdose or adverse reaction, equating to 8 uses per day.

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## Sixty-day dispensing: What GPs need to know

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 31/08/2023, Michelle Wisbey

After a long and hard-fought push, the landmark changes will finally be in place from September. Here's what to expect when the reform goes live. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care (DoH) has also created an information booklet for prescribers. The changes will double the maximum amount of medication pharmacists can dispense for stable conditions on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

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## In Practice: Future Leaders

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 31/08/2023, Matt Woodley

Applications for the college's leadership program, which attracts more than 40 CPD hours, will open soon. The RACGP Future Leaders program is designed to give GPs the confidence to lead change in their community.

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## Celebrity chef Maggie Beer joins forces with Federal Government to improve food standards in aged care

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The Albanese Government is making sure that older Australians in aged care enjoy delicious and nutritious meals, all thanks to a free training program designed for cooks and chefs working in aged care facilities. [...] Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells said teaming up with Beer was part of the government's "approach to help providers and workers upskill and be better educated so they can prepare and serve more delicious and nutritious food to the older people in their care."

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## Take-home naloxone saves 3000 lives in first year

The Medical Republic, Other, 31/08/2023

Free, over-the-counter doses of naloxone are used to reverse an opioid overdose up to eight times per day in Australia, but harm reduction experts say this is just a drop in the pond. [...] Over 12 months, the Department of Health and Aged Care estimated that the program has resulted in roughly 3000 avoided overdose deaths.

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## COVID vaccinations in aged care fall to a new low as nine residents die

Less than 1,000 residential aged care residents in the nation were vaccinated against COVID-19 in the past seven days as the virus killed a further nine residents, as the total death figure closes in on 6,000 aged care resident deaths. Updated figures from the Department of Health and Aged Care show there are residential aged care homes with as little as 40-49% of residents with a COVID booster dose.

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### 3WM, Country Today, 31/08/2023, Libby Price

A group of 80 experts in rural maternity care have agreed to plans to improve care for women and babies in the bush. These include receiving funding for the rural maternity care workforce plan and increasing the rates of birthing on country for First Nations mothers. National Rural Health Commissioner Adjunct Professor Ruth Stewart says rural care isn't one size fits all.

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## CORONAVIRUS

### Sacked before vax backtrack

Courier Mail, General News, 01/09/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 22

Queensland Health is set to scrap its Covid-19 vaccination mandates within two weeks, allowing thousands of nurses and other staff back to work. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman will on Friday announce the decision to start consultation on axing rules that force staff to be vaccinated against Covid, two years after they were brought in.

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

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### One more reason to return to normal

Courier Mail, Editorials, 01/09/2023, Page 30

They were necessary at the time, but Queensland Health's decision to (probably) scrap its Covid vaccination mandates for staff is now a victory for commonsense. It is also a significant step on our shared path back to normal life from the pandemic years a moment in time that is significant.

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### Apparently this common medication may reduce the risk of long Covid

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 31/08/2023, Sophie Williams

While Covid, lockdowns and the pandemic in general may seem like a lifetime ago (alongside the fact that back in May, the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared that Covid-19 was no longer a recognised "global health emergency") many people still live with the realities and after effects of the virus. Yes, we're talking about Long Covid . (Not to mention anxiety about the new Covid strains spreading across the UK - EG.5 and a subvariant called Eris.)

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### Channel 9, National Nine News, 31/08/2023, Andrew Lofthouse and Melissa Downes

Unvaccinated health workers are set to be allowed back to work in Queensland hospitals. This is a major shift in Queensland Government policy after health workers were told at the height of the pandemic they had to take the COVID vaccine or be stood down. The Queensland Nurses Union says there are at least 3000 nurses currently banned from coming into work, but it won't be as simple as them being allowed straight back to retake their old positions. Queensland Health may still choose to pursue disciplinary action against those staff.

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Putting people first and serving community for 50 years

Border Mail, General News, 01/09/2023, Beau Greenway, Page 3

A border community support agency is celebrating 50 years of service to its growing network. Intereach started in Deniliquin in 1973 and has been a major success story, with the not for-profit group now servicing 38 local government areas, including Albury, across NSW and Victoria.

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### 'We're listening'

Burnie Advocate, General News, 01/09/2023, Simon McGuire, Page 1

The new acting chair of Southern Cross Care, Judith Fishlock, says a primary focus of the organisation is to listen to the residents, their loved ones and staff at its aged care facilities across the state. The organisation's Yaraandoo nursing home at Somerset has been plagued by reports of understaffing and inadequate levels of care, with many residents and their families speaking out about the conditions at the facilities.

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### Poor lifestyle choices linked to admission into aged care

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/08/2023, Arshmah Jamal

New research found poor lifestyle choices in a person's early 60s were linked to admission into aged care. In a study involving over 125,000 Australians, the University of Sydney (USYD) revealed that physical inactivity, smoking, poor diet, and sleep disorders between the ages of 60 and 64 correlated to entering aged care.

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### IGR should be taken with optimism

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/08/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Last week's Intergenerational Report (IGR) release projected Australia's population to age over the next 40 years and it's not a problem. Chief of The Centre for Optimism Victor Perton said it was essential to recognise the future of ageing as an opportunity to "tap into a vast human reservoir of wisdom, experience, and optimism".

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### Ageing is not a problem we have to fix

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/08/2023, Briony Dow

There is a misconception that as we age, we stop contributing to both our communities and the economy at large, writes Professor Briony Dow. The release of the federal government's 2023 intergenerational report reiterated what we already knew Australians are living longer.

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### Free innovator training targets workforce retention

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/08/2023, Natasha Egan

Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia has launched an innovator training program that focuses on one of the aged care sector's biggest challenges how to retain workers. Like all ARIIA programs, Round 8 of the Themed Innovator Training Program is free.

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### Spotlight on aged care leadership, smart technology

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/08/2023, Natasha Egan

The next edition of Australian Ageing Agenda magazine is putting the spotlight on assistive technology,

leadership development and directions in clinical care. Leadership is critical to the ongoing transformation of the aged care sector.

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## **Call for new model of care to support ageing population**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/08/2023, Christopher Kelly

In the wake of the findings of the intergenerational report, a coalition of peak nursing organisations is calling for Australia to adopt innovative models of care to support a healthier ageing population. Released last week, the Intergenerational Report 2023 predicts in 40 years' time Australians will remain healthier to an older age.

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## **Intergenerational report 2023**

Medical Forum, Other, 31/08/2023

Over the next 40 years as the population ages, real total health spending on those aged over 65 years is expected to increase around six-fold, while spending on those aged over 85 years is expected to increase around nine-fold, according to the Intergenerational Report 2023, released last week.

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## **Researchers develop improved dementia screening tool**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 31/08/2023, Alisha Dorrigan

The new test can more accurately predict a person's 14-year risk of developing the disease when compared with other widely used tools. A new screening tool offers improved accuracy in predicting dementia risk.

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## **Don't pit one generation against the other, says COTA chief**

The Senior, Other, 31/08/2023, Eileen Wood

Treating older Australians like a problem to be solved instead of people with valuable experience and expertise robs every generation, according to a leading seniors' advocate. Council on the Ageing (COTA) Australia chief executive Patricia Sparrow said it is critical government and businesses don't fall into the trap of framing challenges, including employment challenges, as intergenerational disputes but rather an opportunity to address ageism in Australia and look at systems changes that benefit all generations.

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## **Uniting NSW.ACT in Australian first: 3D printed food in residential aged care homes**

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Ian Horswill

"The idea of food being produced by a printer is virtually out of this world to many people and seeing it in action has produced a lot of interest and curiosity," said Uniting Hotel Services Specialist Brendon Gakowski. "From the feedback, the introduction of this technology across the aged care sector could be a game-changer when it comes to improving quality of life and nutrition.

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## **Sink or swim: residential care operators will face a rocky road over next 12 months**

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Lauren Broomham

With the weeks counting down to the introduction of mandated direct care minutes on 1 October, residential care operators are facing a tough choice. The last 12 months have brought a number of positive changes for the sector including the new Australian National Aged Care Classification (AN-ACC) funding model and the Fair Work Commission's 15% wage rise for direct care workers.

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## **DCM Group's masterclass calls on aged care providers to disrupt or**

## face disruption

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Caroline Egan

Last Tuesday, dcm Group held its MASTERCLASS 2023 LEADERS SUMMIT at Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour, with Strategy & Marketing the focus. Australian Dr Peter Wilton flew in from Berkeley, California, where he is Marketing Professor at the University of California , to share his insights into innovation and disruption.

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## IRT aims for 112 overseas staff this year as 46 arrive from the Philippines

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Caroline Egan

Not For Profit retirement living, home care and aged care operator IRT recently had 46 workers arrive from the Philippines under the Government's new Aged Care Industry Labour Agreement program. All are now working in IRT's Aged Care homes in the Illawarra, Shoalhaven and Eurobodalla regions, about 200km south of Sydney.

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## Estia Health to expand recently bought SA aged care home

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Caroline Egan

The publicly listed aged care provider, which is the subject of a takeover offer by US private equity firm Bain Capital, plans to expand its aged care facility in Myrtle Bank, 5km south of the Adelaide CBD. Previously owned by Premier Health Care and known as The Carlyle on Cross , the home is next door to the University of Adelaide and was refurbished in 2020.

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## Only in Saturday: \$50 billion in capital required for new aged care beds

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Lauren Broomham

The Federal Government's 2023 Intergenerational Report has identified that the number of Australians aged between 65 and 84 will grow from four million today to five million in 2033 an increase of one million people in just 10 years. The number of people aged over 85 will grow from 600,000 today to 900,000 by 2033 and 1.

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## Feros Care attack NSW Govt and Local Council over EOI sale plan

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Caroline Egan

The eight residents remaining at the Not For Profit aged care provider have been offered "numerous suitable alternative accommodation options" including moving to the nearby Bangalow home. "Feros Care has continued to provide support to the remaining residents over six months now since the announcement of the closure," the provider said.

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## Aged care regulator highlights prudential management 'red flags' that may trigger further investigation

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/08/2023, Caroline Egan

When the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (ACQSC) is working with a provider in relation to quality and safety issues, they will often investigate the home's financial situation to ensure they have the capacity to take the necessary remedial action. This was one of the insights revealed at the ACQSC's webinar on Financial and Prudential Regulation on 15 August.

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## We need a new way to pay for aged care. But it can't shut out those on low incomes

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 31/08/2023

We cannot sleepwalk into this increased spending. It needs to be planned so access is protected and all older people, regardless of income, are able to get the aged care they need.

## POPULATION HEALTH

### Eligibility to expand for court rehab program

Canberra Times, General News, 01/09/2023, Jasper Lindell, Page 18

More offenders in the ACT will be able to avoid time behind bars by completing drug and alcohol treatment orders under a planned expansion of the program's eligibility. Eligibility for the ACT Supreme Court's drug and alcohol sentencing list will be widened, which suspends jail sentences in favour of treatment orders for offenders with serious drug and alcohol problems.

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

### Does exercise help you to lose weight?

Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2023, Hannah Vanderheide, Page 37

It's been a long-held belief that hitting the gym will help shift a few kilos, but experts say the reality is more complicated. Here's why: You're absolutely killing it with a new fitness program, getting faster and stronger, noticing greater mental clarity, and a reduction in overall stress.

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

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### Calls for subsidised vape medicines as scourge targets youth

Courier Mail, General News, 01/09/2023, Madura McCormack, Page 6

Medicines to help Queenslanders get off vapes should be subsidised and the state should join forces with the commonwealth to end the e-cigarette black market or risk creating a "generation of nicotine-addicted adults", a major inquiry has found. A parliamentary inquiry tasked with investigating the vaping scourge in Queensland found there was "no doubt" it was having a "very concerning health impact on young people" in the state.

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

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### UN toxin chief to brief state

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/09/2023, Tia Ewen, Page 26

An international expert on human exposure to toxins in the environment will brief the state government following a symposium in Hobart on Wednesday. The UN special rapporteur on toxins and human health Dr Marcos Orellana heard the concerns of 24 experts including scientists, medical experts, lawyers and politicians about heavy metals, pesticides and toxic compound BMAA during the symposium on at Parliament House.

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

### Bendigo losing more than 14 people a year to overdose

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 01/09/2023, Jenny Denton, Page 9

Matt Malouf remembers the fatal overdose last year of a 23-year-old man who had just finished a drug program with him. "It was out of the blue, he was doing quite well," the Salvation Army drug worker says.

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

### Silent crisis cannot stand as status quo

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 52

Crisis is a word that seems to appear all too often in the modern vocabulary, overused and yet apt for too many of the major world events in recent years - the Ukraine war, COVID-19, housing shortfalls, rental availability or the cost of living.

## Remembering overdose deaths

Shepparton News, General News, 01/09/2023, Murray Silby, Page 23

A vertical garden has been opened at Primary Care Connect's offices in Shepparton to commemorate lives lost to drug overdose. The community event was held on Tuesday as part of International Overdose Awareness Day.

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

## Elanora State School stops automatic suspensions for vaping in favour of education with positive results

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2023, Nicholas Mcelroy

They're bright, taste sweet and can devastate the lungs of young people. Governments, schools and parents are grappling with the rapid uptake of vaping across Australia.

[Read More](#)

## 'McMedicine': Woolies flame-grilled over its naturopath consults

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/08/2023, Heather Saxena

The supermarket giant denies its healthcare service is a hook for supplement sales. Woolworths' new venture into healthcare, including free naturopath consultations, has been branded "McMedicine", with the supermarket giant accused of trying to hook people into buying its supplements.

[Read More](#)

## Pharmacists key in saving lives with naloxone

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 31/08/2023, Megan Haggan

More than 3,000 lives have been saved since the Take Home Naloxone program began but a shortage is making it harder to help people For International Overdose Awareness Day 2023 (31 August) the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia highlighted the role pharmacists play in supporting patients taking prescription opioids.

[Read More](#)

## AMA holding climate change webinar with DEA

Australian Medical Association, Other, 31/08/2023

A joint webinar held by the AMA and Doctors for the Environment Australia will highlight the work underway across the health sector to act on climate change. [...] Chief Medical Officer Professor Paul Kelly will address the webinar and highlight the work of the federal health department's National Health Sustainability and Climate Unit.

[Read More](#)

## People warned to stop vaping to avoid botched botox as cosmetic doctor notices an increase in vaping patients

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 30/08/2023, Claire Sadler

Botox patients have been warned to lay off the vapes to avoid botched beauty treatments. Dr Vivek Eranki, founder of one of Australia's biggest cosmetic surgery chains, issued the caution after noting an increase in the number of clients who use e-cigarettes up to 50 per cent of all patients in some clinics.

[Read More](#)

## Seasonal allergies need proactive care

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 31/08/2023

Research released yesterday revealed that over half of Aussies who experience seasonal allergies are concerned about the impact that their symptoms have on their overall wellbeing. Seasonal allergies could be contributing to social isolation with 41% of those surveyed saying they have lied to get out of social plans.

[Read More](#)

## THN saves lives

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 31/08/2023

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has praised pharmacists for the role they play in supporting patients taking prescription opioids. In its first year, the PSA said the Take Home Naloxone (THN) program has managed to save thousands of lives.

[Read More](#)

## Targeted cardiovascular screening program effective

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 01/09/2023

A Heart Foundation pilot program that recalls at-risk Australians via a text message from their GP clinic is seen as a potential lifesaver. The Heart Health Check (HHC) Recall pilot study was rolled out in more than 200 GP clinics across the country, where about 42,000 at-risk Australian patients received an invitation from their GP to come in for a HHC via SMS, which led to a 14-fold increase in HHCs compared to control practices.

[Read More](#)

## New blood test predicts preeclampsia risk

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 31/08/2023, Michelle Wisbey

The test looks for changes to the chemical tagging of DNA in the mother's blood, determining patients at highest risk down the track. In Australia, around 5% of women are diagnosed with preeclampsia, and 1% will experience severe complications.

[Read More](#)

## I'm a pharmacist and here are five reasons you should ditch fake sweeteners

The Courier Mail, Other, 31/08/2023, Dr. Sam Meghalli

They seem like the ideal solution for providing sweetness without the guilt. Plot twist - they could be causing more harm than good.

[Read More](#)

## You snooze, you muse: how to nap like a genius

The Guardian, Other, 01/09/2023, Doosie Morris

Toxic productivity culture that is, the nagging sense that we should all be "life-hacking" our way to health, wealth and happiness comes with a host of well documented ill-effects. While many of us are justifiably knackered, we are also haunted by an almost pathological fear of idleness.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 7, Seven News, 31/08/2023, Mark Ferguson

Vape manufacturers have developed even smarter ways to hook kids and fool adults with products now disguised as colourful stationery. Barker College in Sydney is taking a new approach tackling the problem with education, not punishment. New research has also found the average Australian teenager is just 14yo when they take their first puff.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 31/08/2023, David Bevan

Interview with Alex Fisher, naturopath, Dr Elizabeth Deveny, Consumers Health Forum, and Dr Sian Goodson, RACGP, discussing the operations, services and conflicts about Woolworths Group's HealthyLife.

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## Cancer cases in decline

Courier Mail, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 14

Cancer deaths have reached a 25-year low in Queensland, with a 41 per cent decline in melanoma in the past decade but Far North Queensland still records deaths at a higher average than the rest of the state. Data from the Queensland Cancer Register reveals the findings are attributed to a significant progress in cancer treatments, immunotherapy, the efforts of committed healthcare providers, investments in prevention initiatives, and enhanced diagnostics using genomic sequencing.

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

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## Dear world, please help

West Australian, General News, 01/09/2023, Claire Sadler, Page 57

When Tommy Bacon first came home from day care feeling unwell, his parents David and Kylie (pictured left with their son) thought he'd just caught a generic virus from a sick child. But the family's worst fears were realised when they went on a holiday to the UK and found out their two-year-old boy had JMML leukaemia - a rare form of cancer only one in 1.2 million children get.

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

## Pressure relieved

Ballarat Courier, General News, 01/09/2023, Michelle Smith, Page 1

Women needing radiation therapy to treat gynaecological cancers no longer have to travel daily to Melbourne, or relocate there, for weeks of treatment after an expansion of services in Ballarat. Ballarat radiation oncologist Dr Thanuja Thachil has treated 50 women with gynaecological cancers at the Ballarat Regional Integrated Cancer Centre, saving them 1500 stressful trips and thousands of hours of travel to Melbourne for treatment.

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

## Cancer drug has punch

Cairns Post, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 6

Melbourne researchers have designed a single drug that delivers a lethal "one-two" punch to several types of blood cancer in preclinical studies and could lead to improved treatments. The collaboration between medicinal chemists, and laboratory and clinician scientists at Monash University and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre developed a single drug that works like two cancer drugs combined.

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

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## Game-changing cancer technology is unveiled

Daily Advertiser, General News, 01/09/2023, Andrew Mangelsdorf, Page 2

A Wagga mum battling breast cancer has praised a local imaging centre as it began a groundbreaking new treatment in the city this week. On Wednesday, Imaging Associates introduced a Wagga first, injecting patients with Magseed markers, the latest in breast surgery technology designed to guide surgeons to the cancerous growth.

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

## Cancer Council fundraiser is a big blooming success

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 01/09/2023, Rachel Clark, Page 5

Fitzroy Plaza was awash with bright yellow blooms for Daffodil Day on Thursday. It's one of the Cancer Council's biggest fundraisers for the year and Tamworth locals well and truly jumped on board.

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## Early-onset bowel cancer on the rise as 26yo Victorian man gets surprising diagnosis

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2023, Niamh Sutton

Jaymz Lester-Stevens had never been happier, having just moved from his hometown of Maryborough

in regional Victoria to Yulara near Uluru and working as a pool technician. [...] According to Bowel Cancer Australia, there has been a 266 per cent worldwide increase for cases of bowel cancer in young people since the 1980s.

[Read More](#)

## New drug could prevent hearing loss among child cancer patients

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 31/08/2023

A new drug could help to prevent hearing loss among children with cancer, according to a new study. Experts said that a high number of patients who have a certain treatment for childhood cancers suffer permanent hearing loss.

[Read More](#)

## Grovedale nurse Rebecca Frost battles cancer

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 01/09/2023, Tamara McDonald

A 31-year-old nurse and volunteer firefighter is undergoing gruelling treatment due to a cancer battle that started more than a decade ago. Grovedale's Rebecca Frost was first diagnosed with melanoma in 2013, and had it removed and underwent radiation.

[Read More](#)

## Blood cancer drug could replace lifelong HIV medication

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 31/08/2023, Neve Brissenden

An existing cancer drug could be the key to curing HIV for the almost 40 million people living with the disease. Venetoclax has been helping people with blood cancer since 2015 and a new trial has found it effective at targeting hibernating infected HIV cells.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 7, Seven News, 31/08/2023, Mark Ferguson

Sydney scientists are using artificial intelligence to better understand multiple sclerosis, a complex condition with no current cure. It's hoped the research will pave the way for better treatments.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 9, National Nine News, 31/08/2023, Peter Overton

It's been known for some time eating processed meats like salami, bacon and sausages are linked to an increased risk of cancer. Now experts are warning other foods, such as peanut butter, flavoured yoghurts and white bread could also be putting people's health at risk.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### 'Political stunt': Lee's GP payroll bill blocked

Canberra Times, General News, 01/09/2023, Lucy Bladen, Page 12

A bill to exempt general medical practices from payroll tax in the ACT has been blocked from debate in the territory's parliament. ACT Opposition Leader Elizabeth Lee introduced a bill earlier this week to exempt practices from the tax but this has been ruled out of order.

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

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

### Time to save on scripts

Courier Mail, General News, 01/09/2023, Madura McCormack , Page 3

More than 1.2 million Queenslanders will be able to take advantage of a federal government program that allows patients to buy two months of medicines for the price of one, which comes into effect on



Friday. As of September 1, doctors will be able to exercise their clinical judgment and write a prescription for a 60-day supply of about 100 common medicines, with another 100 to follow in March and September next year.

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## Jail is about losing rights, and that includes euthanasia

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/09/2023, Caleb Bond, Page 23

Euthanasia, we are told, is about dying with dignity. We afford people the opportunity to quietly slip away before the pain and terror of terminal illness destroys them.

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

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

## Unity on Tassie's health pledges

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/09/2023, David Killick, Page 6

A war of words between the state and federal government over health funding has been turned down a notch, with fresh pledges of co-operation between Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Premier Jeremy Rockliff. Tasmania's new Health Minister Guy Barnett and Mr Rockliff as his predecessor in that role have taken jabs at the federal government recently.

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## Express care for Ryder

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/09/2023, Blair Richards, Page 6

New Norfolk mum Sarah Polzin has high praise for the care her young son received at Hobart's new urgent-care clinic. The fracture received by Ryder, 9, is exactly the type of urgent case the Bathurst St clinic is designed to treat.

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

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## Continuity of care key to improving maternity services

Daily Advertiser, General News, 01/09/2023, Dan Holmes, Page 4

The Regional Maternity Services Forum has reached a consensus on the way forward for maternity care in the bush, and it's something experts have been calling for for years. Continuity and multidisciplinary care have been held up as the gold standard for maternity care internationally, and are key to preventing birth trauma.

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## Worrying LGH data sparks call for review

Launceston Examiner, General News, 01/09/2023, Benjamin Seeder, Page 3

Labor has demanded the government establish an independent review of the Launceston General Hospital, after new data showed the facility has the worst bed block and among the worst emergency waiting times in the country. However, Health Minister Guy Barnett has shot back at the opposition, saying they are shaming the hospital's hardworking staff.

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## GP trauma training to help DV victims

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 01/09/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 8

GPs in Tamworth will be given more support to recognise and help people experiencing family, domestic and sexual violence. A federal pilot program in the Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network, which has high rates of these types of violence, will be expanded next year with a \$3 million grant.

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## New sex health hub a state first

The State Government's new sexual and reproductive hub in Mildura will be established at Sunraysia Community Health Service. Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas will today officially announce the location of the hub, one of nine promised state-wide during the 2022 election campaign.

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

## Hospital upgrades funded

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 01/09/2023, Michael Nolan, Page 3

Hospitals in Jandowae, Laidley and Boonah are in line to be upgraded after the Queensland government announced they would be included in a \$1bn infrastructure program. The investment at Laidley Hospital will improve the existing health facilities so it can cater to the significant growth and development expected in the area in coming years.

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## Is this the reason the VAD Review Board had to throw Dr Nick Carr under the bus?

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/08/2023, Paul Smith

The review board remained tight-lipped when approached for comment. The Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board in Victoria is saying nothing.

[Read More](#)

## Revealed: The major change coming to telehealth appointments from tomorrow that you need to know about

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 31/08/2023, Sarah Fitzmaurice

Telehealth appointments are an important part of Australia's healthcare system with millions accessing the service every year. But there is one major change coming to telehealth appointments that patients need to know about.

[Read More](#)

## 8 truths you didn't realise about egg freezing.

Mamamia, Other, 31/08/2023, Tara Meakins

When you're in your 30s, the word 'fertility' hangs over you. After years of dodging pregnancy, stocking up on contraception and some emergency runs to the local pharmacy, suddenly your ability to become pregnant is all you can think about.

[Read More](#)

## Vic gov counters Tilley's critique

Shepparton News Online, Other, 31/08/2023, Adrienne Hartnett

Indigo Shire's code one ambulance response times have seen a marginal improvement this year. The Victorian Government has responded to Member for Benambra Bill Tilley's call for more localised rostering in the face of another disappointing rating on Code 1 ambulance response times in Indigo Shire.

[Read More](#)

## Public poll finds West Aussies hold doubts over Cook Government health sector performance

West Australian, Other, 31/08/2023, Caitlyn Rintoul

Polling has found almost 55 per cent of West Aussies don't feel the Cook Government is effectively working to solve issues in the State's health system. The Painted Dog survey of 623 Perth residents was conducted across August 23-28 for WA nurses' union as they establish support to form a political party to contest the 2025 State election.

[Read More](#)

## Liberal MP Donna Faragher opposes removing mandatory counselling

## for women seeking abortion

West Australian, Other, 31/08/2023, Jake Dietsch

A Liberal MP has indicated she will oppose removing mandatory counselling for women seeking abortion in a bill to reform the State's laws, while another has indicated support for a pro-Life Labor MP's amendments. The abortion reforms which have passed the lower house without dissent but are now being debated in the legislative council will remove mandatory counselling before seeking an abortion, raise the gestational limit from 20 to 23 weeks and remove the requirement for girls under 16 to attain parental consent.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 9, National Nine News, 31/08/2023, Peter Hitchener

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese is in Tasmania to start the Yes campaign for the Voice after announcing the referendum date yesterday. Part of his agenda as well is to open a new urgent care clinic in Hobart tonight.

[Play Now](#)

## 2CC, Breakfast, 31/08/2023, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Dr Charlotte Hespe, faculty chair for NSW/ACT, RACGP on the GP payroll tax. This comes after the ruling by the NSW Supreme Court that determined that doctors who work as contractors should be regarded as employees for the purposes of payroll tax. But doctors have argued that it's going to increase the cost of a consult between \$15 and \$20. They also discuss ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr's take on the issue, stating that GPs will be exempt from the tax but have to bulk bill nearly two-thirds of their patients.

*Interview continues on: [2CC \(Canberra\)](#).*

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 31/08/2023, Leon Compton

Interview with Dr Ross Lamplugh, Ochre Health, who says the second urgent care clinic for Hobart will be open in the next 6 or 8 weeks. He says they're doing some renovations to their existing medical centre in Liverpool St and once they're done setting up a separate area, they'll be opening the urgent care clinic in the area as well.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Dual crises demand our urgent attention

Canberra Times, General News, 01/09/2023, Melanie Poole, Page 58

Concerns about climate change have apparently been crowded out by the cost of living. The ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS) reported last month that people are struggling to transition to renewable energy sources.

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

### Founding father a RAD dad

Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2023, Grace Baldwin, Page 12

A dad-of-two who founded an organisation for men to discuss the challenges of parenting has been named Victorian Father of the Year. Gabriel Carazo, from Macedon Ranges, emerged as a beacon of hope in a local community struggling with alarming statistics about isolated men and poor mental health.

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### Commissioner calls for people to come forward

Army News, General News, 31/08/2023, Cpl Luke Bellman, Page 2

For two years, chair of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, Nick Kaldas, has listened to trauma-filled testimonies, voices of loss and struggle, and he expects to hear more in the next couple of months. As the Royal Commission hearings draw to a close, he said every story could make a difference, but felt more people needed to reach out before the submission end date on October 13.

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

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## What does it mean to be body neutral?

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2023, Kellie Scott

While many celebrate the body positivity movement, it has its critics. Some say it creates pressure to feel good about our bodies all the time.

[Read More](#)

## WA's youth suicide hotspots

Medical Forum, Other, 31/08/2023

Communities with poor access to mental health services are eight times more likely to be youth suicide hotspots, according to new research by the Telethon Kids Institute. In a paper published this week in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry, researchers used national coronial data to map the suicides of 1959 young people aged 10-24 who died between 2016-2020.

[Read More](#)

## Mental health insiders issue warning over Victoria's 'vague' new chemical restraint laws

The Guardian, Other, 31/08/2023, Adeshola Ore

Psychiatrists in Victoria have warned of uncertainty around the state's "vague" new chemical restraint guidelines as mental health services prepare for new laws to take effect. The new Mental Health and Wellbeing Act was a key recommendation of a landmark royal commission and was designed to protect human rights in mental health settings across the state.

[Read More](#)

## Expert panel knocks back recommendation to shift Mental Health Commission responsibility to WA Health

West Australian, Other, 31/08/2023, Claire Sadler

A recommendation to explore whether the delivery of mental health services should be brought under the WA health department's umbrella has been knocked back with measures to fix how the system is run instead promised. A working group was launched to discuss whether the responsibilities of the Mental Health Commission should be shifted to WA Health following an independent review into how the State's hospitals run in March.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Aussie's operations on the frontlines

The Australian, General News, 01/09/2023, David Penberthy, Page 5

The ailing soldier was retrieved from the frontline and rushed to a military hospital west inside Ukraine

for emergency surgery. He lost both legs, amputated down to stumps high above where his knees had been, and his shattered right arm was amputated at the shoulder. He was unconscious on a ventilator and would only learn his fate when he came to.

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

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## Premier promises more nurses as 6500 leave yearly

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/09/2023, Angus Thomson, Page 6

An exodus of 6500 nurses and midwives a year stands to jeopardise the NSW government's attempts to boost the number of staff on hospital wards, even as it promises 1200 new jobs across the state. Nurses and midwives in NSW will be guaranteed a minimum number of staff on every shift after the state government agreed yesterday to enshrine the provisions in the next collective award agreement, which expires on June 30 next year.

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

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## Hannah puts her heart into the Saints too

Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 11

Nursing and football may not seem like obvious teammates, but for AFLW player Hannah Stuart the two complement each other well. A cardiac catheter lab nurse at The Alfred by day, Stuart plays for St Kilda's AFLW team at night.

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

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## Guards start at hospital

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 4

Around-the-clock security guards start at Wallaroo Hospital from today, and will start at Port Pirie "in coming weeks". The Wallaroo security guards will be contracted for a six-month trial while an ongoing security model is developed to be implemented in the long term.

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## Small changes could yield big results

Border Watch, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 10

A few small changes could be what the regional medical workforce needs to address nursing shortages, according to a University of South Australia (UniSA) study. The study, which looked at challenges early career nurses face in regional areas, suggested measures including better workplace support and more social gatherings could help retain regional nurses.

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

## Ratio agreement means more nurses in wards

Central Western Daily, General News, 01/09/2023, Duncan Murray, Page 9

More nurses will be placed in NSW hospital wards under a new agreement affirming the government's pre-election commitment to "safe staffing levels". Under the agreement, ratios of at least one nurse to three patients would be introduced for emergency departments and maternity wards, followed by similar requirements across much of the public hospital system.

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## Inspiring GV nurses with scholarships

Shepparton News, General News, 01/09/2023, Lauren Formica, Page 9

Goulburn Valley Health welcomed Peter and Chris Copulos to the newly redeveloped emergency department to unveil the Peter Copulos and Family Scholarships board this week. Ten GV Health nurses have received a postgraduate nursing and midwifery scholarship, sponsored by the Peter and Maria Copulos Foundation, since 2021.

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## Students sink teeth into surgery

Army News, General News, 31/08/2023, Richard Wilkins, Page 13

For the first time, students at the ADF Dental School did their maxillofacial training at Melbourne University, giving them hands-on experience in facial surgery. The inaugural collaboration was brought about by recent changes to the dental officer initial course, aimed at enhancing mastery and operational effect through increased access to specialist instructors and practical hands-on training.

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## SA regional nurse study finds frequent, cheap initiatives can help drive workforce retention

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2023, Sam Bradbrook

A survey of regional nurses in Australia has found small interventions from peers are vital to keeping them in the job. The University of South Australia spoke to regional nurses in their first three years of work.

[Read More](#)

## Study: What would help retention of early career nurses in regional and rural areas?

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 31/08/2023, Robert Fedele

What would help improve the job satisfaction and retention of early career nurses working across regional and rural Australia? It's a question often contemplated by Heidi Rose, a clinical nurse based at Mount Gambier, and University of South Australia academics Dr Gemma Skaczkowski and Associate Professor Kate Gunn.

[Read More](#)

## RACGP leaders visit Kalgoorlie-Boulder to discuss region's general practitioner shortage

West Australian, Other, 31/08/2023, Carwyn Monck

A lack of affordable accommodation and access to childcare services is discouraging general practitioners from relocating to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, according to leaders from Australia's largest professional general practice organisation. Three representatives from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners visited the Goldfields city this week to discuss the challenges of attracting and retaining GPs in the region with various stakeholders.

[Read More](#)

## NSW hospital wards to get more nurses after union deal

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 31/08/2023, Duncan Murray

More nurses will be placed in NSW hospital wards under a deal affirming the government's pre-election commitment to "safe staffing levels". Under the agreement, ratios of at least one nurse to three patients would be introduced for emergency departments and maternity wards, followed by similar requirements across much of the public hospital system.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 31/08/2023, Sandra Sully

There has finally been a breakthrough between the Minns Government and the state's nurses, with the Premier agreeing to safe staffing levels in hospitals. Under the new deal, there will be at least one nurse for every three patients. The changes will first be rolled out in emergency departments and maternity wards. Chris Minns has promised to roll out the ratios within this term of government, having also pledged to hire an additional 1200 nurses.

Also reported by: [Radio National \(Canberra\)](#).

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Cosmetic procedures by dental practitioners are not without risk

Bite Magazine, Other, 30/08/2023

AHPRA and National Boards are urging practitioners and patients to exercise caution when considering dental procedures undertaken for cosmetic purposes. While cosmetic dentistry can positively impact many people's lives, the Dental Board of Australia (DBA) warns that procedures such as tooth veneers can be major lifelong undertakings that are not risk free.

[Read More](#)

### Maureen Anne Smith inquest: Nursing audit at Glen Innes Hospital recommended

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 31/08/2023, Lydia Roberts

A coroner has recommended nursing records at Glen Innes Hospital be audited every six months, following the death of a 75-year-old grandmother from septicaemia. Deputy State Coroner Harriet Grahame also recommended an orthopaedic specialist who had worked at Armidale Hospital be referred to medical authorities over his conduct in respect to the grandmother's death.

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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## SPORT

### New tournament wants clean break

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/09/2023, Latika Bourke, Page 28

Aron D'Souza wants to disrupt the world of sport by hosting a lucrative competition where athletes are allowed to take performance-enhancing drugs, an idea experts say raises dangerous health and ethical issues. D'Souza, a 38-year-old venture capitalist from Melbourne who now lives in London, is behind the "Enhanced Games", saying he has 500 "sleeper athletes" ready to compete and who are "breaking world records in their basement and sending us videos of it".

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

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### More work but where's the pay?

Daily Telegraph, Sport, 01/09/2023, Todd Balym, Page 84

In the never-ending debate about pay parity for women in sport, these are the figures that illustrate the gender gap in cricket, despite it being one sport that could argue it is leading the way in this field. While Cricket Australia has rightly trumpeted the fact this year's WBBL salary cap has doubled on previous seasons, a quick glance at the salaries being offered for international players in Sunday's draft for men's and women's T20 tournaments make for an interesting debate.

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

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## There's room for everyone

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 01/09/2023, Jennifer Cromarty, Page 31

The energy was palpable. Television, mobile devices, outdoor screens everywhere in Australia were tuned in to watch our national women's soccer team play in the World Cup.

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## Sponsors lift athletes high

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 01/09/2023, Glynis Nunn, Page 63

Recently there was an "oration" held in Brisbane about sport and the power of sport to build and connect the community. Professor Sarah Kelly OAM said: "Sport is not just sport.

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## Jeff spiralled 'down a dark hole'. It inspired urgent calls for change

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 31/08/2023, Nick Wright

A leading Queensland doctor has called on schools to implement a simple measure to prevent a spate of serious knee injuries, warning that once a teenager suffers such a setback their dreams of reaching the pinnacles of sport quickly evaporate. It is a painful experience - physically and emotionally - that many prematurely retired athletes know only too well.

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## Survey finds half of elite Aussie athletes earning below the poverty line

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 31/08/2023

A survey of elite athletes from the Australian Sports Foundation has found that nearly half of our nation's best sportspeople are earning less than \$23,000 a year to pursue their sport. The survey polled 2304 athletes, 604 of which were at elite or international level across 60 sports, delivered the surprising results.

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# HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

## Big boost for Flinders' fight

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/09/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 21

Almost \$1m from the Big Freeze at the 'G fundraiser for motor neurone disease (MND) research will go to a Flinders University project. Associate Professor MaryLouise Rogers' project is following clues indicating an ancient virus is implicated in the disease - if so, treatment could include a drug used on HIV patients.

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## Hope for MND breakthrough

Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2023, Peter Rolfe and Sue Dunlevy, Page 11

A cheap dietary supplement that helps the body turn fat into energy will be tested in Australia as a potential treatment for Motor Neurone Disease. The fatal condition suffered by thousands, including



AFL great Neale Daniher, is a rapidly progressive neurodegenerative disorder which destroys nerve cells that control the muscles that enable people to move, speak, breathe and swallow.

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

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## Fighting the beast

Herald Sun, Editorials, 01/09/2023, Page 66

Another significant step is now being taken towards a treatment and, hopefully, a potential cure for motor neurone disease. And as the journey towards greater hope continues, the inspirational efforts of Neale Daniher are again pushing things forward.

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## Researchers fight to stop deadly disease

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/09/2023, Tia Ewen, Page 5

Tasmanian scientists are on the verge of uncovering the essential elements needed to save the lives of thousands of Australians diagnosed with deadly motor neurone disease after receiving major funding. University of Tasmania researchers Associate Professor Catherine Blizzard and Professor Tracey Dickson have received more than \$700,000 as part of a record funding amount of \$20.2m being awarded to scientists to research MND across the country.

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## Vital funds to find MND cure

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 01/09/2023, Page 28

This is where the rubber hits the road in chasing down a cure for motor neurone disease. A \$20.2m funding allocation will support 23 projects with the goal of helping the more than 2000 Australians living with MND who face a life expectancy of 27 months.

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## Mushroom drug find

Northern Territory News, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 21

A single dose of psilocybin, the psychedelic drug in magic mushrooms, is associated with a reduction in symptoms of depression weeks after taking it, according to an international study. The US team recruited 104 people with a major depressive disorder diagnosis and randomised them to receive either a dose of psilocybin or a placebo, with psychological support.

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## Blood test for Parkinson's is promising in early study

Canberra Times, Other, 31/08/2023, Nancy Lapid

An experimental blood test that detected Parkinson's disease in a preliminary study could become the first specific tool for diagnosing the devastating neurodegenerative condition. The test, which looks for cell damage associated with the disease, is years away from being commercially available.

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## Epilepsy breakthrough sparks hope for more treatments

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 01/09/2023

New clues have been uncovered about why some people develop epilepsy, sparking hopes more treatments could be developed. Scientists have confirmed 26 components of DNA are involved in the development of the brain condition and 29 genes probably contribute to it.

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## Sleepy FIFOs

Medical Forum, Other, 31/08/2023

Previous research has found FIFO shift workers are particularly sleep-deprived and at risk of developing sleep disorders, and a new study by ECU will look at where remote workers in the

resources industry are sleeping to see how it impacts their quality of sleep. Researchers are calling for FIFO workers to take part in an online survey, and/

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## AI could revolutionise MS treatment

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 30/08/2023

The use of cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology could lead to improved treatment for people living with multiple sclerosis (MS), according to new research funded by MS Australia. A research team at the University of Sydney, led by Dr Heidi Beadnall, will explore how the latest advances in AI and imaging tech can improve diagnostic tools for MS.

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## Scientists like Narjis and Suraj are using comedy to share their knowledge

SBS, Other, 31/08/2023, Rehan Alavi

A program of talks will see some of the country's top science researchers bring a comedic touch to the stage to illuminate heavy topics like cancer and dementia. Future Science Talks: Comedy Edition' will feature in the 2023 Sydney Fringe Festival, following shows at Sydney Comedy Festival and Science Week.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Suicide of Indigenous man Mr Blanket in WA prison was due to lack of safe cells, coroner finds

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2023

A 30-year-old First Nations man was able to take his own life in a WA prison because of a "chronic shortage" of safe cells, a coroner has found. Mr Blanket, whose first name is not used at the request of his family, died in his cell at Acacia Prison, an hour east of Perth, in June 2019.

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### Tamworth Aboriginal Medical Service unveils new bus to enhance regional healthcare

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 31/08/2023, Rachel Clark

Aboriginal residents residing in small villages throughout the North West will have an easier time accessing transport to travel between medical appointments, thanks to the new Yaama bus unveiled by Tamworth Aboriginal Medical Services (TAMS) on August 31.

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### ABC News, ABC National News, 31/08/2023, Casey Briggs

The proposal for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice has been born out of years of grassroots advocacy that led to the Uluru Statement from the Heart. The Voice would recognise Indigenous Australians as the First Peoples of Australia in the Constitution and would create a body to give advice to the Government and Parliament on policies and laws that affect First Nations people. Campaigners for the Yes case argue the current system leads to short-term policymaking and has done little to close the gap in Indigenous life expectancy, health, wealth and education.

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### Radio National, Breakfast, 31/08/2023, Patricia Karvelas

Interview with leading Yes campaigner and Cape York leader Noel Pearson, discussing what the six-week campaign in the lead-up to the 14 October Voice referendum would look like. [...] Pearson says

they want to close the gap through the Voice to Parliament, they want children to have a good future and education, and fix the health problems for Aboriginal children.

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## OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### Mother's plea after 19yo suddenly dies from Meningococcal B strain

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/08/2023, Carla Mascarenhas

The mum of a teenage girl who died suddenly from meningococcal disease is calling on medical authorities to make a vaccine free. The mother of a Victorian teenager who tragically died from meningococcal disease is imploring health authorities to make a vaccine free for all children.

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

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### Nuclear weapons, AUKUS and health

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 31/08/2023, Amanda J Ruler

Nuclear weapons have been used twice in warfare, targeting the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. More than 210,000 civilians died by the end of that year.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### 'Illegal and unsafe': TGA warns against self-infecting worms trend

9News, Other, 31/08/2023, Emily McPherson

Deliberately infecting yourself with intestinal worms bought online doesn't sound like something anyone would ever want to do. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has now issued a warning to Australians conducting the do-it-yourself treatment with worms, telling 9news.com.au in a statement it could make them even more unwell.

[Read More](#)

### TGA secures alternatives for kids on liquid morphine

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/08/2023, Rachel Fieldhouse

Oral solutions and drops will become available from 1 December to replace Ordine. The TGA has secured three alternative oral liquid morphine products to compensate for the dwindling supply of Ordine, which is expected to run dry by early 2024.

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### Oliver Bailey, 37, Woodridge, charged over alleged \$23 million tobacco shop empire fraud

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 31/08/2023, Elliott Turner

A man accused of masterminding an alleged tobacco shop black market empire has faced court, charged with fraud totalling \$23 million, possessing four fake IDs and \$800k in cash at 10 properties. [...] They said he was wanted by several Government organisations including the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

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## Product info inserts go

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 31/08/2023

Printed product information inserts (PIs) will no longer be required in the packaging of injectable medicines that are administered by health professionals from 01 Sep. The news was delivered by the Therapeutic Goods Administration yesterday in a release that also stated "Approved PIs for all these products will still need to be available on our website".

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## TGA issues fines

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 30/08/2023

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has recently handed out fines to both Nius Development and EmpireLabz Australia. Nius Development were issued two infringement notices totalling \$26,640 for the alleged unlawful import of unapproved cosmetic injectable products.

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## OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

### Naturopath facing jail

Daily Telegraph, Edition Changes, 01/09/2023, Page 7

A naturopath is facing a prison term for producing a commercial quantity of cannabis oil she claims she was providing to Parkinson's and cancer sufferers. Emma Kate Stachiw, 43, worked at the Coffs Harbour Medical Specialists Centre as a naturopath until December 2020 treating people suffering chronic, severe health conditions including Parkinson's and cancer.

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### Shane Rattenbury says Labor should have mentioned drug decriminalisation at 2020 election

Canberra Times, Other, 31/08/2023, Lucy Bladen

ACT Greens Leader Shane Rattenbury said he was surprised when a bill to decriminalise drugs was put forward and it should have been mentioned by Labor during the election. Mr Rattenbury said if Labor intended to bring this forward they should have had the courage to take it to the election.

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### I Cook Foods closure defended

Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2023, Liam Beatty, Page 5

Lawyers acting for Victoria's Department of Health have defended a decision to shut a catering firm over an allegedly contaminated sandwich. I Cook Foods Pty Ltd founder Ian Cook is suing the department for \$50m, claiming his business was destroyed by the forced closure in February 2019.

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

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