



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Monday, 14th August 2023

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [**Adelaide Advertiser**](#) (page 1) reports South Australia's Riverland hospital is being investigated by the coroner after sending home a six year old boy who days later died of the flu. Two other families have made complaints in the wake of the boy's death, saying loved ones received "dismissive" treatment that led to complicated illnesses worsening.
- The [**Hobart Mercury**](#) (page 1) reports the quality of life in regional Tasmania is being seriously impacted by a lack of healthcare services and a shortage of healthcare workers, the state's GPs say. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners Tasmania chair Dr Tim Jackson said "The long-term solution is to increase the number of young doctors that want to do GP specialist training, and the short-term solution is to make it easier for overseas-trained doctors to come and practise in Australia".
- The [**Sydney Morning Herald**](#) (page 6) reports the Matilda's Saturday night penalty shootout win over France has become Australia's most-viewed TV sporting event since Cathy Freeman's gold medal win at the Sydney Olympics, attracting almost five million viewers. Ratings agency OzTam doesn't consider viewing figures from clubs, pubs and sporting venues, meaning the audience is likely to be significantly larger. *Also reported by:* [Australian Financial Review](#), [Age](#), [Herald Sun](#), [ABC Online](#), [The Guardian](#)

- **The Australian** (page 8) reports regional and rural Australians will face poorer healthcare outcomes and lives could be put at risk by impending changes to Australia's medication dispensing rules, Nationals leader David Littleproud says. Health Minister Mark Butler (in the Canberra Times) said \$1.2 billion saved by the introduction of the new measures would be reinvested in community pharmacies over the next four years. *Also reported by: Canberra Times*
- The **Australian Financial Review** (page 10) reports the survival rates of cardiac arrests outside of hospitals could double to 24 per cent, an increase of 2,400 survivors annually, if a national registry of publicly available defibrillators is introduced. Defibrillator advocacy charity Heart of the Nation's founder Greg Page said "We need the federal government to invest in national health campaigns and a national register of defibrillators, with appropriate software, so everyone knows where to find one in an emergency."
- The **Courier Mail** (page 12) reports patients in regional Queensland are waiting up to a year to see psychologists with GPs the only option available in some areas. Only two in ten psychologists practice in regional areas while no incentives are on offer to attract them to shift from cities. Australian Psychological Society President Dr Catriona Davis-McCabe said "Our governments need to get psychologists into schools to give kids access to psychological care and support where they are, and to save parents concern, time, and money."
- The **Australian Financial Review** (page 14) reports Australia's Economic Accelerator has been accused of overlooking exceptional projects because its bureaucracy was overwhelmed with applications for its inaugural round of funding. Scientists and researchers from major Australian universities claim their applications were rejected using near-identical wording.
- **The Australian** (online) reports healthcare workers are being priced out of Australia's rental market, new data from Anglicare has found. Only 2.4 per cent of current rental listings were affordable for an ambulance worker, while less than 1.5 per cent were affordable for a nurse, and less than 1.1 per cent for an aged care worker. *Also reported by: Canberra Times, The Guardian*

MINISTER BUTLER

Meds change to hit regions

Canberra Times, General News, 14/08/2023, Page 4

Looming prescription medicine changes will result in poorer health outcomes for regional Australians, Nationals leader David Littleproud warns. Measures coming in from September 1 will allow patients to access 60 days' worth of medicine from a single prescription, replacing the current 30-day limit. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the estimated \$1.2 billion in savings from the measure across the next four years would be reinvested in community pharmacies.

Also reported by: Border Mail (Albury-Wodonga), Kalgoorlie Miner (Kalgoorlie), Sunraysia Daily (Mildura), Canberra Times (Online), Perth Now (Online), Daily Mail Australia (Online), HealthTimes (Online), Yahoo! News Australia (Online).

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Prescription changes will benefit regions: RDAA

Riverine Herald, General News, 14/08/2023, Page 2

Patients from regional areas will stand to benefit from prescription medicine changes, doctors say, despite warnings rural pharmacies will be at risk under the proposal. Changes from September 1 will allow patients to get 60 days worth of medication dispensed for a single prescription, rather than 30. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the estimated \$1.2 billion saved in the next four years through the cheaper medicines policy would be reinvested back to community pharmacies.

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Why Australia's assistant mental health minister decided to run for parliament

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/08/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos

Assistant Mental Health Minister Emma McBride feels her portfolio is deeply personal. The former hospital pharmacist spent nine years working in acute mental health inpatient units before she was elected to parliament. [...] She is charged with helping Health Minister Mark Butler co-ordinate the policy landscape not only within the federal government itself, but alongside states and territories as well.

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

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A major vaping crackdown was promised. Three months on, there's no start date in sight

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/08/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos

There is no start date for Australia's major crackdown on vaping three months after Health Minister Mark Butler said he would ban all disposable products and make it easier for doctors to prescribe vapes. Health ministers will receive their first advice on the issue on Wednesday from a national working group that includes senior officials from all health departments who have convened twice to work through the reforms.

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

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Momentum to curb the 'menace' of vaping must be maintained

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/08/2023

The federal government earlier this year announced an ambitious program to stamp out recreational vaping and the black market trade of the unregulated products that nurture it, amid concerns about electronic cigarettes leading to nicotine addiction, particularly among teenagers. The key planks of Health Minister Mark Butler's strategy are banning all disposable vapes and making it easier for doctors to prescribe vapes. In May, Butler said he recognised there was still a therapeutic use for vapes "to help long-term smokers quit cigarettes or to assist in nicotine addiction caused by vapes themselves".

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

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Coalition set to block Labor's 60-day pharmacy plan

NEWS.com.au, Other, 13/08/2023

The Liberal Coalition is set to block Labor's 60-day medicine dispensing plan after a "lack of adequate consultation" between Health Minister Mark Butler and pharmacies, says Opposition Business Manager Paul Fletcher. "This will have a significant impact on the financial viability of pharmacies the hit to pharmacies in dollar terms is significant," he told Sky News Australia.

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Stopping 60-day dispensing still an option, says Coalition

Australian Doctor, Other, 13/08/2023

The health minister says he is waiting on legal advice on what would happen if the regulations are disallowed after 1 September. The Coalition will launch a fresh bid to overturn Labor's 60-day dispensing policy after it starts next month, Nationals Senate leader Bridget McKenzie says. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said he was yet to receive final legal advice on what would happen to patients if the regulations were struck down after going into effect on 1 September.

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ABC, Insiders, 13/08/2023, David Speers

Interview with David Littleproud, Nationals Leader. Littleproud says the Pharmacy Guild has been trying to engage with the government to get a common sense solution around a phased in about shared risk, shared responsibility around double dispensing policy. He states the guild and pharmacists are looking for policy levers to help them. He thinks Health Minister Mark Butler has grabbed that baton, but they need to continue to accelerate that because that then opens up the business model for pharmacists to be able to continue to have other income streams.

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Interview with Paul Fletcher, Leader of the Opposition Business on dispensing challenges for pharmacies. Fletcher says the concern that they have is the lack of adequate consultation between the Health Minister Mark Butler and pharmacies. He warns the double dispensing will have a significant impact on the financial viability of pharmacies as the hit to pharmacies in dollar terms is significant.

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hit104.7 Canberra, 08:00 News (Weekend), 13/08/2023

There's still no firm start date for Australia's crackdown on nicotine vapes. Three months after the Health Minister Mark Butler, said they will be banned. Health ministers across the country will be briefed this coming week, but details about the timeframe, scope and funding are still being worked out.

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MINISTER WELLS

A boost for all if girls are inspired

Australian Financial Review, General News, 14/08/2023, Mark Ludlow, Page 4

Rival winter sporting codes want to tap into the unprecedented surge in support for the Matildas, as they head into the closing stages of the soccer World Cup, to get more girls to play sport, especially in their teenage years, as we...

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Politicians swept up and away by Matildas mania

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 14/08/2023, Kishor Napier-Raman and David Estcourt, Page 2

The Matildas' agonisingly tense penalty shootout victory over France on Saturday night provided a moment of national sporting euphoria not seen since Cathy Freeman dazzled at the Sydney Olympics. The exhilarating, white-knuckle two-hours-plus epic in Brisbane was Australia's most watched sporting event since Freeman's run more than two decades ago. Sports Minister Anika Wells summed up the mood best: she was captured bawling her eyes out as she joined Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk on the Lang Park turf to greet Australia's new defence minister Mackenzie Arnold.

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

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Aged care food quality hotline

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 13/08/2023, Joshua Riseley

Elder abuse can take many forms, and a new resource is seeking to protect older Australians from food that's not up to standard. [...] Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells said that it's an area that deserved to be addressed. "What older Australians consume and their dining experience has a significant impact on their overall wellbeing," she said.

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The Matildas' win had an entire country holding its breath – now comes the real test for Australians

The Guardian, Other, 13/08/2023, Caitlin Cassidy

For one night, Australia held its collective breath. Live sites across the nation were full to bursting. [...] The prime minister, Anthony Albanese, took to the pitch in his Matildas scarf, grinning like a Cheshire cat, with the minister for sport, Anika Wells, visibly crying beside him.

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Task force flags doubts over aged care levy

The prospect of the Albanese government introducing an aged care levy appears less likely than two months ago. The idea gained traction back in June when federal aged care minister Anika Wells was interviewed on ABC's Insiders program.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Why Australia's assistant mental health minister decided to run for parliament

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/08/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos

Assistant Mental Health Minister Emma McBride feels her portfolio is deeply personal. The former hospital pharmacist spent nine years working in acute mental health inpatient units before she was elected to parliament. [...] She is charged with helping Health Minister Mark Butler co-ordinate the policy landscape not only within the federal government itself, but alongside states and territories as well.

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

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Pelvic injuries are a common outcome of childbirth. Why are women left unprepared for the risk?

ABC Online, Other, 13/08/2023, Mary Lloyd and Rhiannon Hobbins

Every year, more than 300,000 Australians take part in a physical activity than can result in thousands of them sustaining long-term, life-altering physical injuries. The damage is largely kept quiet, and few warnings are offered to those who risk harm. [...] Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney, who set up and now chairs the body, says it was needed because women told her their concerns were not being taken seriously.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

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DEPARTMENT

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CORONAVIRUS

Australia's early Covid adviser, epidemiologist Mary-Louise McLaws dies, aged 70

Mary-Louise McLaws , the epidemiologist heralded as having guided Australians through the Covid-19 pandemic, has died aged 70 due to a long-term sickness. The UNSW professor died in her sleep on Saturday night at Wolper Hospital in Woollahra, her family confirmed.

Similar coverage reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#)

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

WA housing crisis slams essential workforce

West Australian, General News, 14/08/2023, Dan Jervis-Bardy, Page 14

Essential workers are being priced out of the rental market according to alarming new figures that offer further proof of the housing crisis in WA and across Australia. [...] The dire situation isn't much better for social workers, aged care workers, cleaners and retail workers, with just nine properties considered to be affordable on their wages.

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Restoring travel card top of agenda

Daily Liberal, General News, 14/08/2023, Allison Hore, Page 2

Local pensioners are calling on the government to reinstate a \$250 seniors travel card. They say plans by the government to axe the popular Regional Seniors Travel Card, in an effort to make budget savings, will make it harder for many pensioners to get to crucial medical appointments.

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Older residents under housing threat

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 14/08/2023, Natalie Croxon, Page 5

The number of Australians experiencing housing insecurity in their later years is on the rise, with more than 227,000 over-55s on low incomes paying unaffordable rent, new research shows. The Housing for the Aged Action Group (HAAG) this week visited Parliament House to demand governments take action on better housing outcomes for people like Kanahooka resident Pauline West.

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Older Australians want their human rights as they are ignored by NDIS and become 'invisible'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 13/08/2023, Julie Cross

These Australians feel forgotten as they get older and are labelled as Boomers' or elderly'. They face age discrimination in the NDIS and everyday life. Now, they want change. Have your say. They are the Australians who helped build much of our country's infrastructure, but in their twilight years they've been forgotten, rendered powerless and left to struggle without even the most basic of human rights.

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Peter Cahill's death could have been avoided, family claim

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 13/08/2023, Julie Cross

The family of Peter Cahill say they are "scarred" by the manner in which he died and believe he would still be alive today if he had got the right medical help. His daughter Lee-Anne said if a child had died in similar circumstances, there would be a public outcry, but because her father was an 82-year-old man, she believes his life was deemed less important.

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Freemasons Home Lindisfarne: Masonic Care Tasmania 'deliberately' omitted key information during coronial inquest

A Tasmanian aged care provider "deliberately" gave partial information to a coroner investigating the death of a patient amid an environment of "substandard" care. A Tasmanian aged care provider, which has since been subsumed into another company, "deliberately" gave partial information to a coroner investigating the death of a patient amid substandard care.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Booze crews never lose. This must change

Canberra Times, General News, 14/08/2023, Helen Mitchell, Page 18

There's a new entrant into the alcohol beverage market, and it has sparked what I consider to be justified outrage. Solo - with its iconic tag that encourage us to "slam it down fast" - has been joined by Hard Solo, a ready-to-drink mix of crushed lemon and vodka.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#).

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CWA talks adult ADHD, palliative care and more

Border Mail, General News, 14/08/2023, Layton Holley, Page 2

Homelessness, palliative care, adult ADHD and the challenging state of maternity wards were subjects of discussion when the Country Women's Association of NSW president visited the Albury branch. CWA state president Joy Beames, NSW secretary Pam Wright and treasurer Sharyn Buck addressed a crowd of 42 women in Albury on Saturday.

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News to bring locals a smile

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 14/08/2023, Will Keech, Page 1

The Geelong region has some of the shortest public dental wait times in Victoria, according to new data. The Australian Dental Association Victoria Branch figures for the 2022-23 financial year revealed that Barwon Health offered the equal best dental wait times in the state, with patients only waiting 2.8 months on average.

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Worry over drunk law change

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 14/08/2023, Tamara Mcdonald, Page 1

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

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Largest bust of vapes, nangs in Australia found in Perth's north-east

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/08/2023, Michael Genovese

Illegal vapes and nangs with an estimated street value of \$10 million have been seized from a warehouse in Perth's north-east in a bust believed to be the biggest of its kind in Australia. The single haul is similar to the total number of vapes seized by NSW health officials in the last 12 months.

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Woden Healthy Eating Clinic owner and nutritionist Kate Freeman to go 'weight neutral'

Canberra Times, Other, 13/08/2023, Lanie Tindale

Owner of Canberra's biggest dietetics practice, the Healthy Eating Clinic in Woden, Ms Freeman is part of a growing movement. Her practice is now "weight neutral". "Any dietary intervention that we give [patients] isn't given with the goal or the intention of losing weight," Ms Freeman said.

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What's in vapes? Toxins, heavy metals, maybe radioactive polonium

ABC Online, Other, 13/08/2023, Alexander Larcombe

If you asked me what's in e-cigarettes, disposable vapes or e-liquids, my short answer would be "we don't fully know". The huge and increasing range of products and flavours on the market, changes to ingredients when they are heated or interact with each other, and inadequate labelling make this a complicated question to answer.

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Australians who avoid the dentist are putting their health at risk

The New Daily, Other, 13/08/2023, Sezen Bakan

Dental care can be vital to a your overall health, but many Australians are putting it on the back burner. Recent Compare the Market research shows more than half of Australians haven't visited a dentist in the past year. Cost is a major factor; inflation has hit many Australian wallets hard over the past couple of years, and a trip to the dentist isn't cheap.

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Maria struggled for years to get perimenopause treatment. She says GPs need better education

SBS, Other, 13/08/2023, Amy Hall

At the age of 43, Maria Harran was told that she was "too young" to go through perimenopause. She's among a group of women calling for all GPs to have comprehensive menopause training. When Maria Harran suddenly started experiencing brain fog and poor mental health at the age of 43, she didn't know what was happening to her.

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Popular weight-loss drugs like Wegovy may raise risk of complications under anesthesia

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 13/08/2023

Patients who take blockbuster drugs like Wegovy or Ozempic for weight loss may face life-threatening complications if they need surgery or other procedures that require empty stomachs for anesthesia. This summer's guidance to halt the medication for up to a week may not go far enough, either.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

How to double cardiac arrest survival rate

Australian Financial Review, General News, 14/08/2023, Jill Margo, Page 10

Smart national planning could double the survival rate from cardiac arrest in Australia, and enable an extra 2400 people to return home to their families every year, according to an analysis in the Medical Journal of Australia. Each year at least 20,000 A...

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

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\$35m payday for Neuren Pharmaceuticals as blockbuster drug takes off

The Australian, Business News, 14/08/2023, Eli Greenblat, Page 14

Neuren Pharmaceuticals, the \$1.5bn ASX-listed biotech company that for a few loyal investors has proved a ride of a lifetime, is about to receive something incredibly rare in the Australian biotech sector

- a cheque in the mail for drug sales. Well, not an actual cheque of course, but its first royalties payment based on \$US23m (\$35.19m) of quarterly sales earned by its blockbuster drug Daybue for the treatment of Rett syndrome, a rare genetic disorder and developmental affliction that can appear in very young children and that has a life expectancy of around 40 years.

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'Thank God' for disease

Hobart Mercury, General News, 14/08/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 9

Twenty-six years ago, veteran politician Guy Barnett received a shock diagnosis that would change his life forever. It was January 15, 1997, when Mr Barnett, then 34 and working as a lawyer and consultant in Hobart, learnt he had type 1 diabetes. "Type 1 can affect anybody at any time, from age zero up to about 35. Sometimes later," he said. [...] Formerly a Liberal senator for nine years, Mr Barnett has previously served as the president of Diabetes Tasmania and as an ambassador for Diabetes Australia.

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Tackling cancer cells up close

Ballarat Courier, General News, 14/08/2023, Melanie Whelan, Page 4

Technology amazed and the liquid nitrogen demonstration never failed to impress. Amid all the fun, three Ballarat Grammar year 10 students had the rare chance to work with and see cancer cells up close. Rachel Gerada, Hannah Paton and Ava Murphy are already keen to study sciences for the VCE, but the chance to spend a week in Fiona Elsey Cancer Research Institute's laboratory has opened their minds to more career paths.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#).

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Signs and symptoms of blood cancer: How Aussie was 'fobbed off' before Hodgkin Lymphoma diagnosis

7news.com.au, Other, 13/08/2023, Jacqueline Mey

You are the only one who knows your body and if it feels icky. If your GP isn't listening, find someone who will.' For 18 months, Briony Benjamin was told her chronic fatigue, itching skin, persistent cough and night sweats were "hormonal". Despite going to three different doctors, her symptoms were dismissed.

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Tackling treatment hesitancy in people with hepatitis C

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 14/08/2023

Better integration of hepatitis C testing with opioid treatment programs and improved efforts to reduce stigma could reduce barriers for people hesitant to seek treatment. Health systems need to improve the integration of hepatitis C testing into opioid treatment programs if Australia is to eradicate hepatitis C by 2030, according to a research letter published in the Medical Journal of Australia today.

Also reported by: [Medical Journal of Australia \(Online\)](#).

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Telestroke bridges gap between urban and regional health care

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 14/08/2023

By bridging the gap between urban and rural health care, telestroke helps give every patient with stroke the best chance of a full recovery. Stroke is common and frequently devastating, affecting thousands of Australians each year ([here](#)). Telehealth services are revolutionising access to stroke diagnosis and treatment in rural communities, leveling the playing field for patients who may not have previously had access to expert care ([here](#)).

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Rare cancers result in unique challenges

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 14/08/2023

Australians living in regional and more disadvantaged areas are more likely to have adverse outcomes

after a rare cancer diagnosis, but good work is under way to reduce the isolation of regional patients living with these rare conditions. Ironically, rare cancers are not rare. [...] This research is part of a collaboration between Cancer Council Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), yielding the Australian Cancer Atlas.

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2GB, Healthy Living, 13/08/2023, Dr Ross Walker and Ned Green

Interview with Professor Jason Kovacic, Executive Director, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute. Kovacic discusses metabolic syndrome, which refers to a clustering of risk factors for heart disease and stroke that include abdominal obesity. He notes 20 to 30% of Australian adults likely have metabolic syndrome and as we get older the numbers go up and more than 50% of adults over about the age of 60 likely have metabolic syndrome.

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PRIMARY CARE

Fulfilling the vast potential of nation's diverse regions

The Australian, Editorials, 14/08/2023, Page 10

While 86 per cent of Australians live in major cities, the Bush Summit in Perth on Monday, hosted by The Australian and Hancock Prospecting, is about issues crucial to the wellbeing of the entire nation. [...] As Mrs Rinehart wrote in The Australian last week, that includes overcoming a "lack of hospitals, lack of dentists and vets, (and) continual reduction in medical services such as maternity and birthing". The need for access to 24-hour airstrips capable of servicing the Royal Flying Doctor Service planes is another priority.

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

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Health care crisis hits rural areas

Hobart Mercury, General News, 14/08/2023, Tia Ewen, Page 1

A Tasmanian gp says the struggle to access adequate medical care in the state's rural communities is having adverse health outcomes. Elizabeth Lord, (above) who works as a GP in Oatlands once a month, says accessing a female doctor is very difficult for many. "The access to services is definitely less in regional areas, and for some health problems that can mean worse outcomes," Dr Lord said.

Similar coverage reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#)

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New tech helping to improve dental care

Daily Advertiser, General News, 14/08/2023, Taylor Dodge, Page 5

Innovative new technology is being used to improve and streamline care for dental patients across the Riverina. The technology allows staff at Wagga Base Hospital to ensure the water they use for dental procedures like flushing out cavities is free of biohazards, like bad bacteria, which could make a patient sick.

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Shorter waits for patients

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 14/08/2023, Ben Silvester, Page 1

Patient wait times at the Warrnambool Base Hospital emergency department have dropped for the second straight quarter as crucial improvements begin to pay off. New data from the Victorian Agency for Health Information showed wait times were down across the board at the Warrnambool ED in the three months to June 2023.

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From polio to COVID-19, the 100-year-old school for kids in hospital

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/08/2023, Mary Ward

In 1923, the Sydney's Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children's patients were mostly suffering from infectious diseases such as polio and diphtheria. While Santa would make an annual visit, their physical treatment was the focus, with all other areas of their lives put on hold once admitted.

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John Street uses Tasmania's new VAD laws for a “calm death”

The Mercury, Other, 13/08/2023, Sue Bailey

"I sat with him while he took the substance and he was relieved and calm as he relaxed into sleep": 16 Tasmanians have so far ended their lives via Voluntary Assisted Dying. We meet one of them. Always fit and healthy, John Street never thought he'd need help to die. Even after being diagnosed with stage 4 colorectal cancer in September 2021, the 71-year-old retiree was strong and well and still cycling and gardening.

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Ballarat Base Hospital's surgery robot is quietly transforming patient and surgeon experiences

ABC Online, Other, 13/08/2023, Rochelle Kirkham

Being diagnosed with stage three bowel cancer was a shock for 37-year-old Ballarat mum and foster carer Lisa Butcher. Almost 100 procedures have been completed using Ballarat's surgery robot Eight Ballarat surgeons are trained to complete robotic assisted surgery

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A firsthand look at the difficulties of continuity of care in Emergency

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 14/08/2023

The difference between working in general practice and working in emergency shows just how difficult it is for clinicians to provide continuity of care in a hospital environment, writes Dr Jillann Farmer. Those of you who take an interest in the brief biography at the end of my articles will have noticed that I moved from community general practice to emergency medicine a few months ago. [...] The statements or opinions expressed in this article reflect the views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official policy of the AMA, the MJA or InSight+ unless so stated.

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Increase in privately funded spinal surgeries prompts questions

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 14/08/2023

An increase in the number of privately funded elective spinal surgeries in Australia has prompted questions about the clinical need for these procedures. More evidence is needed into how effective back surgery is in helping improve back pain, according to a study published in the Medical Journal of Australia today.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Evening News (Weekend), 13/08/2023, Mariam Saab

Attracting doctors to regional Australia is a constant battle, but it's hoped that a futuristic surgical robot installed at Ballarat Base Hospital might entice Australia's best surgeons to the city. It's one of just four such robots in Victorian public hospitals and is already proving popular with both surgeons and their patients. Surgeons can see in three dimensions when they put their head inside the robot's console and they use both their hands and feet to control the robot's four arms.

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Rural patients waiting more than a year to see a psychologist

Courier Mail, General News, 14/08/2023, Samantha Scott and Jill Poulsen, Page 12

Mental health patients are waiting a year or more to see a psychologist in regional Queensland, with GPs the only option in some areas. Only two in 10 psychologists are in regional Australia, where 28 per cent of the population lives. The dire shortage comes as the federal government is only meeting 35 per cent of its psychology workforce the largest shortfall of any mental health workforce and unlike GPs, there are no incentives for them to relocate to regional areas.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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

\$10m boost to ease mental health stigma

Courier Mail, General News, 14/08/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 13

The state government is throwing \$10m into the promotion of mental health literacy to help reduce the stigma and discrimination around mental-ill health. Mental Health Minister Shannon Fentiman said the initiative would seek to change people's awareness, knowledge, attitudes and behaviour in the different places where stigma existed and make a real difference to people experiencing discrimination.

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

Boost for mental health

Herald Sun, General News, 14/08/2023, Caspar McLeod, Page 19

Eight new mental health beds are now operational at The Royal Melbourne Hospital as part of an \$801 million state government program. Mental Health Minister Gabrielle Williams said the government was "committed to some 260 additional beds across the state". Part of the program will see 22 new beds for mental health patients eventually included as part of The Royal Melbourne acute patient unit expansion, including the eight announced on Sunday.

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

Why kids worry

Northern Territory News, General News, 14/08/2023, Julie Cross, Page 23

Hannah Marek is only 18 but she has the weight of the world on her shoulders. Like many from Generation Z those born in the mid to late 1990s to the early 2010s she suffers from anxiety, much of it related to fears over her future. She estimates by the time she finishes university where she plans to study journalism and law she could have more than \$100,000 of debt.

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Students share worries with federal MP

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 14/08/2023, Marlene Even, Page 11

Mental health, housing affordability and support for domestic violence survivors are the key issues Illawarra high school students want the government to act on. A group of students sat cross-legged with Member for Whitlam Stephen Jones to discuss their greatest concerns at the annual youth leaders roundtable on Friday.

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Real-time suicide data under 'serious consideration': Mental Health Minister

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 14/08/2023, Page 5

Real-time data could be collected on the number of Queenslanders who have suicided or attempted suicide and made available to help authorities respond to immediate need for support in specific communities, The Courier-Mail can reveal. The policy position from Suicide Prevention Australia (SPA) that states and territories enable real-time notifications for suicide deaths and attempts to help services respond to distressed communities is under serious consideration by the Queensland government.

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

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Regions hit hard over beds

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 14/08/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 14

Just eight mental health beds have been added across the state in the year since the Palaszczuk government started slugging businesses with a mental health levy, with regional Queenslanders bearing the brunt of the shortage. Queenslanders in remote and regional areas are more likely to die by suicide than those in cities but they are the least likely to find a hospital bed, as doctors sound the alarm that the state remains 500 mental health beds short.

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Plan to subsidise student mental health, tackle 'school refusal' in sweeping Senate recommendations

The Australian, Other, 13/08/2023, Ellen Ransley

Student mental health care visits could be subsidised across Australia as part of a major plan to tackle school attendance issues across the country. The proposal is one of several made by a senate inquiry into the national trend of school refusal something a peer support group says is "doubling" in size each year.

[Read More](#)

Beyond Blue faces restructure, job losses as donations plummet

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/08/2023, Melissa Cunningham

One of Australia's most prominent mental health charities, Beyond Blue, is facing a restructure and job losses as donations plummet by almost \$18 million in two years. The not-for-profit organisation is feeling the pinch of a trend being reflected nationally, which has seen general donations, including philanthropic contributions, tumble during the pandemic.

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Men get the message — it's okay not to be okay

Shepparton News Online, Other, 13/08/2023

Brad McEwan doesn't claim to have all the answers for the wave of mental health conditions that are confronting the modern-day man and he is quite okay with that. In fact, the former Channel 10 sports journalist and television presenter had "not being okay" at the heart of his message last week during a Kyabram District Health Service men's health evening at Kyabram last week.

[Read More](#)

4BC, Weekend Breakfast, 13/08/2023, Bill McDonald

McDonald says the Sunday Mail reveals only eight mental health beds have been added to Queensland hospitals in the year since the Palaszczuk government introduced the mental health levy. He adds this comes despite regional Queenslanders being more at risk of suicide than those in the cities. Doctors are now crying out as the state is still short of a critical 500 mental health beds. There are now calls for the Government to reveal a plan on how the \$1.6 billion mental health levy is actually going to be spent believing that there's a lack of transparency.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

The Australian Nurses Federation have already got my vote in their bid for parliament

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 14/08/2023, Andrew Miller

Having an overwhelming majority in the State Parliament 53 out of 59 seats in the lower house and 21 out of 36 in the upper house was always likely to be both dangerous and temporary for Labor. Without the irritable but respected Sherriff McGowan around to calm the townsfolk, the 2025 polls will probably evict many first-termers.

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Tassie ambos in line of fire

Hobart Mercury, General News, 14/08/2023, Amber Wilson, Page 1

Two Tasmanian paramedics are about to pack their body armour and head to war-torn Ukraine to provide humanitarian aid for civilians. Dave Brown and Mattie Pickering have volunteered to spend a month with the organisation Frontline Medics, which will potentially put them in the firing line. "This is about the people. It's the people who are affected that we want to help," Mr Brown (above) said.

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New paramedics on the way for Ballarat as pressure rises

Ballarat Courier, General News, 14/08/2023, Gabrielle Hodson, Page 4

Another 64 new paramedics are starting work with Ambulance Victoria - including recruits sent to Ballarat, Ararat, Horsham, Daylesford and Bendigo. Six new staff will be shared this month between the Ballarat, Daylesford and Horsham stations. Sites at Eaglehawk, Kyneton, Gisborne, Echuca and Irymple will also get one new paramedic each. However, the vast majority - 44 (68 per cent) - are being sent to just one region: metropolitan Melbourne.

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Surgeon volunteers time to change lives

Launceston Examiner, General News, 14/08/2023, Duncan Bailey, Page 7

Since 2014, Launceston reconstructive and plastic surgeon Michael Thomson has given his time to perform life changing surgeries in Tonga and Fiji. Through Interplast, a non-profit who sends volunteer medical professionals to aid countries in need, Dr Thomson has performed nearly 100 surgeries.

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Incentive schemes do work, says Premier

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 14/08/2023, Rachel Gray, Page 3

NSW Premier Chris Minns has used his address at the Bush Summit to announce a \$10,000 health worker incentive scheme that could see additional staff in regional areas such as Tamworth hospital. The \$10,000 is in addition to the current \$10,000 already available under the \$883 million Rural Health Workforce Incentives Scheme, for health workers who move to a regional, remote or rural area for work.

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Emergency services on show at expo

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 14/08/2023, Jack Evans, Page 7

While being saved from a devastating car crash, Mildura Masonic Centre's Bryan Ehlert learnt first-hand the importance of emergency services, inspiring him to create Mildura's first emergency services expo. To be held at Sunraysia Masonic Centre on Saturday, the expo will feature 13 organisations including the CFA, Red Cross, police, Mildura Council, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Mildura Base Public Hospital and more.

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Essential workers, including health staff, unable to afford basics like rent, data shows

The Australian, Other, 14/08/2023, Isabel McMillan

An urgent plea to boost affordable housing has been made by one organisation after recent data revealed most of Australia's essential workers aren't able to afford the rising price of rent. New data from Anglicare Australia revealed that in a pool of 45,895 rental listings across the country, only 2.4 per

cent of them were affordable for an ambulance worker. Nurses are in an even worse position, with only 666 rentals across the entire nation within their budget.

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

[Read More](#)

Junior doctors will now be paid for overtime following wage theft case

ABC Online, Other, 13/08/2023, Lexie Jeuniewicz

Lawyers say Dr Gaby Bolton's win paves the legal path for up to 25,000 junior doctors in Victoria to claim \$250 million in unpaid wages and could change the profession forever.

[Read More](#)

The rural NSW town coughing up \$180,000 to fix an ailing health system

7news.com.au, Other, 13/08/2023, Hayley Taylor

One rural NSW town is suffering such a shortage of trained medical staff, its council is offering \$180,000 in incentives to attract more doctors. GPs willing to make the move will need to sign up for a three-year stint, and work at least three days per week, to be eligible. The GP Support Program will offer up to \$30,000 per doctor on top of their salaries in a bid to attract them to Inverell, as the town suffers amid a skilled health staff shortage.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Dispense rule 'puts rural lives at risk'

The Australian, General News, 14/08/2023, Joe Kelly, Page 8

Nationals leader David Littleproud says the lives of regional Australians will be put at risk from Labor's 60-day dispensing rules to halve the cost of medicines because pharmacies in the region will close. Speaking on the ABC Insiders program, Mr Littleproud said pharmacies were the "last line of primary care for rural and remote Australians" and "if they leave, then we have nothing".

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

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Pharmacies are not telling the full story

Daily Advertiser, General News, 14/08/2023, Craig Thomson, Page 9

Anthony Albanese and the Labor government argue that allowing patients to receive a 60-day supply of their prescribed medications will benefit individuals and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the healthcare system. It is hard to argue with that logic. [...] According to the health.gov.au website, the agreement allows positive adjustment of fees to pharmacies if the number of PBS and RPBS medicines dispensed in any one period differs significantly from what was estimated.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Norlane woman to lose leg after years of pain

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 14/08/2023, Mark Murray, Page 3

A Geelong woman has told of the "living nightmare" she endured following a devastating car accident that will result in the amputation of her leg. [...] The surgery is covered by Medicare and her prosthetic will be paid for by the NDIS, but the associated medical costs and time off work was "a very daunting thought", Ms Williams said.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Mums' fury at hospital treatment

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 14/08/2023, Andrew Hough and George Yankovich, Page 1

The mothers of two sick children have made claims of poor medical care at an embattled Riverland hospital that also sent a six year-old boy with flu home before he died on Friday. Two families have come forward and criticised "dismissive" medical treatment at the Berri hospital.

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

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

Football Australia chases record TV deal after Matildas success

Australian Financial Review, Marketing & Media, 14/08/2023, Zoe Samios, Page 31

Football Australia will bid to leverage the success of the Matildas and their historic television ratings to secure a new multimillion-dollar broadcast deal for the national soccer teams. The governing body's chief executive James Johnson is expecting a r...

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

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Facility to help next gen kick on

The Australian, General News, 14/08/2023, Bianca Farmakis, Page 5

Ellie Carpenter kicked off a career on the country pitches of Cowra, Sam Kerr scored goals against boys' teams in suburban Mosman Park and as the nation revels in the Matilda's historic World Cup win against France, the next chapter of female football is being written in a multimillion-dollar training complex aptly dubbed the "home" of the star team. The "Home of the Matildas", nestled in Melbourne's La Trobe University Sports Park, was funded as part of a \$42.29m investment by the Victorian government and an additional \$15m federal spend, marking the largest government contribution in any football-specific project.

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

Foxtel hit with 'frenzy' of regulation

The Australian, Media, 14/08/2023, John Stensholt, Page 19

Foxtel chief executive Patrick Delany has hit out at the "frenzy" of regulation he says is swamping the pay-TV company, saying potential moves to give free-to-air television prominence on new TV sets are a case of "commercial protection and consumer deception". [...] Foxtel is also still pushing for changes to the government's longstanding anti-siphoning laws that require sports to be first offered to FTA TV.

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

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Rinehart pledges millions for gold

The Australian, Sport, 14/08/2023, Julian Linden, Page 24

Australia's Games hopefuls have been given a massive boost to go for gold in Paris next year with the country's richest person, Gina Rinehart, pledging a \$3 million incentive. At a time when the federal government has been reluctant to help Australia's best athletes, Rinehart has again dipped into her own pocket to give the country's unsung sporting heroes a better chance of success.

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

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Matildas score massive TV audiences

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 14/08/2023, Calum Jaspan, Page 6

The Matildas have delivered another record-breaking night on and off the field: Saturday night's penalty shootout win over France is one the most-viewed TV sporting events in almost two decades. The broadcast on Seven was viewed by a national "Total TV" audience of 4.904 million Australians, according to VOZ figures, ratings agency OzTAM's new measurement system. This figure includes a metro audience of 3.044 million, 1.262 million in the regions and 598,000 streaming.

Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Australia\)](#), [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).

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A-League security lashed by police

Age, General News, 14/08/2023, Chris Vedelago, Page 1

The A-League appears to have failed to heed lessons from last year's pitch invasion at the Melbourne derby, with private security at the AAMI Park stadium described by police earlier this year as ineffective, substandard and focused more on the game than the crowd. Documents obtained under freedom-of-information laws show police have been regularly forced to intervene at the venue when private security guards have been unable to control the safety threat.

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Open the oval

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 14/08/2023, Michael Mcguire and Shashi Baltutis, Page 1

The wild popularity of the Matildas has sparked calls for the state government to open Adelaide Oval on Wednesday night for thousands of fans to cheer on the Aussies in their World Cup semi-final against England. Soccer legends, women's sport advocates and The Advertiser are backing a push to unlock the gates and show the clash on the big screen. It is understood the government has already started negotiations to find a venue in addition to the FIFA fan site at Festival Plaza including the Oval, Memorial Drive and Hindmarsh Stadium.

Similar coverage reported by: [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Coast go for Games trademarks

Courier Mail, General News, 14/08/2023, Kathleen Skene, Page 4

Gold Coast City Council has applied for six trademarks for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games five more than the Brisbane Organising Committee. As debate rages over the merits of hosting another Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast is already making its mark on 2032, applying for rights on the words "Festival 2032", "Gold Coast 2032" and "GC2032".

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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Ground swell

Hobart Mercury, General News, 14/08/2023, Rebecca Williams, Page 1

Tasmanian soccer officials are bracing for an explosion in junior numbers inspired by Australia's scintillating showing in the Women's World Cup after the Matildas broke all TV viewing records in L Saturday's win over France.

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

Australia just won the Netball World Cup. Why isn't there room for multiple women's world cups in our sports media?

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 14/08/2023, Kasey Symons and Bess Schnioffsky, Page 8

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

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Boxes Australia must tick to consider hosting men's WC

Canberra Times, Other, 14/08/2023, George Clarke

Football Australia chief executive James Johnson says Australia would have to "footballise" oval stadiums or significantly upgrade existing rectangular grounds to have any hope of hosting a men's World Cup. Buoyed by the Matildas reaching the semi-finals of the best-attended Women's World Cup yet, Johnson's FA is ambitiously eyeing off bringing a trio of blue ribbon events to the country.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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National Party hoses down calls for public holiday if Matildas win the FIFA Women's World Cup

7news.com.au, Other, 13/08/2023, Dominique Tassell

National Cabinet is set to discuss the possibility at its meeting on August 16. Australia's politicians are split on whether to give the green-and-gold light to a public holiday in celebration of a potential Matildas win at the FIFA Women's World Cup. The Matildas made Australian sporting history on Saturday night by defeating France in the World Cup quarter-finals.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Bold ideas rejected as scheme hit by demand

Australian Financial Review, Education, 14/08/2023, Julie Hare, Page 14

A new \$1.6 billion research program intended to build national capacity in advanced manufacturing for medical sciences, renewables and low emissions technologies has been accused of overlooking brilliant ideas simply because the bureaucracy was overwhelme...

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

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The changing landscape of clinical trials in Australia

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 14/08/2023, Anna Lene Seidler, Melina Willson, Mason Aberoumand, Jonathan Williams, Kylie Hunter, Angie Barba, R John Simes and Angela Webster

Examining the clinical trials landscape in Australia is important for governance and to expand knowledge about trial activity to health professionals, the public and funders. There is a strong history of Australian trials addressing important health care questions by covering a range of diseases, patient groups, prevention and treatment modalities. Trial results can drive change by informing best practice in health care and future research.

[Read More](#)

2GB, Healthy Living, 13/08/2023, Ross Walker and Ned Green

Interview with Professor Rajiv Khanna, Queensland Institute of Medical Research Institute about potential Alzheimer's vaccine. Khanna says they have an industry partnership with a company in the

US with an aim to run a phase one clinical trial in Australia and in the US and then get the initial safety testing done in humans.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Cyber abuse on the rise as voice debate heats up

The Australian, Media, 14/08/2023, Sophie Elsworth, Page 20

Online cyber abuse directed at Indigenous Australians has increased in the first half of this year and is likely to increase ahead of the referendum vote, the nation's eSafety commissioner has warned. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has yet to announce a date for the voice to parliament referendum, but eSafety commissioner Julie Inman Grant said the abuse online towards Indigenous Australians was on the rise.

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

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NT coroner to resume extensive domestic violence inquiry, examining murder and manslaughters of Aboriginal women

ABC Online, Other, 13/08/2023, Melissa Mackay

The Northern Territory coroner has already unravelled evidence of a system in dire need of reform, but her long-running inquiry into the NT's domestic violence response is far from over, resuming in Darwin on Monday. Elisabeth Armitage will on Monday open the coronial inquest into the death of a woman, known for cultural reasons as Miss Yunupingu, who was stabbed in the heart by her partner in 2018.

[Read More](#)

It's 'astonishing' that the government has not upheld expectations to close the gap

NEWS.com.au, Other, 13/08/2023

City of Sydney Councillor Linda Scott says it is "astonishing" that both sides of politics have not done as well as Australians expect when it comes to closing the gap. "When it comes to ensuring that Aboriginal Australians are not dying at significantly younger ages," Ms Scott said.

[Read More](#)

Aboriginal-led responses the 'best way' for self-determination

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 14/08/2023

This week, InSight+ spoke to prominent Australian, Professor Fiona Stanley, about her views on how to improve the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Australians. Professor Fiona Stanley AC is an epidemiologist and one of Australia's most prominent health advocates.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

No relevant coverage

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

CSL challenger Aegros strikes deal for \$615m plasma plant in Singapore

The Australian, Business News, 14/08/2023, Jared Lynch, Page 15

Aegros has partnered with Cambodia's Royal Group to build a \$US400m (\$615m) plasma fractionation plant in Singapore as it pushes out a planned ASX-listing by another year. [...] "And our goals are: complete the clinical trial for the hyperimmune, get the facility renovated at 5 Eden Park (Macquarie Park in Sydney), which is well under way, and finally get TGA registration of our products so we can get some sales.

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

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Reform offers a healthy way to tackle addiction

Hobart Mercury, General News, 14/08/2023, Greg Barns, Page 16

Politicians are doing Tasmanians a disservice by refusing to address the failure of this state's drugs policy hat a pity that politicians put politics and ignorance before smart policy that Wwould save lives and reduce harm in the community. But there you have it with the Tasmanian Rockliff government and state Labor refusing to back the Greens' drug law reform, which would reduce consumption and ensure those with addiction get support.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Is white bread that bad for you?

Northern Territory News, General News, 14/08/2023, Susie Burrell, Page 22

For any of us who remember growing up with fresh, soft white bread sandwiches it may seem slightly ridiculous to suggest that white bread is not healthy? How could a food as simple as bread be bad for you? So, if you would rather eat no bread at all rather than swap to anything brown or grainy, here are some of the reasons why you probably won't see white bread in the supermarket trolley of most nutritionists.

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Forbidden fruit is a recipe for disaster

Border Mail, General News, 14/08/2023, Jodie O'Sullivan, Page 7

It's as simple - and dangerous - as calling chocolate "a treat". The sweet "surrender" of a "wicked" dessert, a sneaky ... well, let's face it, anything you label "sneaky" is a little sinister. Casual turns of phrase in our homes, schools and wider world that transform food into forbidden fruit; language unwittingly laced with darker, and potentially destructive, connotations.

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Enough to make you sick

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 14/08/2023, Melanie Whiting, Page 4

Gold Coast food businesses racked up more than 80 fines for food safety breaches totalling more than \$60,000 last financial year. Gold Coast City Council data revealed of the 84 fines handed out in 2022-23, 15 of these were issued to food businesses in Southport, 13 in Robina and six in Mermaid Waters. But a now-closed Worongary fish-and-chips restaurant copped the heftiest fine of \$25,000 after the council took it to Southport Magistrates Court earlier this year over breaches to the Food Act.

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Aussie frustrated at constant conversation at restaurant

NEWS.com.au, Other, 13/08/2023, Claudia Poposki

After being diagnosed with coeliac disease, this woman was nervous when travelling abroad. Instead, she found out Australia was the issue. Many of us enjoy milk and ice cream when we're young but as we age, some of us notice dairy products behind to cause stomach issues. Lactose Intolerance is actually fairly common among older adults. FOX Medical Team's Beth Galvin found out why.

[Read More](#)

Aussie mum's handwritten note sparks food safety debate

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 13/08/2023, Abbey Smith

A food scientist has settled an age-old debate. A piece of advice that an Aussie woman received from her mum in the form of a handwritten note has sparked a debate over food protocols, specifically whether it's safe to eat green potatoes. "Throw out these green potatoes. When exposed to light, potatoes produce (solanine) a toxin harmful to eat as it is a neurotoxin. Store potatoes in the dark," the note, which was written on a napkin and placed on a basket of vegetables, reads.

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