



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 2nd August 2023

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports that the nation's largest non-government provider of health and aged-care services has warned of an increase in healthcare costs for patients and providers as it called on Health Minister Mark Butler to reconsider his decision to reverse an earlier mandate forcing private health insurers to pay for essential medical devices. Catholic Healthcare Australia health director Caitlin O'Dea said the hospital sector was marching off a "huge funding cliff, adding that "This unexpected U-turn has come as a complete shock to the hospital sector.
- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) reports that researchers from the Children's Cancer Institute have developed a powerful new tool for screening which drugs will help in the treatment of children with high-risk cancers. "It can help improve outcomes for pediatric cancer patients," said Emmy Dolman, the senior researcher on the study published in the journal Cancer Research, adding that "incorporating drug screening into precision medicine programs is an important step" towards identifying the right treatment for every child with cancer. *Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser](#)*
- **[Hobart Mercury](#)** (page 1) reports that MP Andrew Wilkie has called for an investigation into Southern Cross Care Tasmania, claiming low staffing levels have left residents at high risk of

falls to shower, toilet and dress themselves. Southern Cross Care Tasmania has responded to the criticisms stating that "We welcome scrutiny of the operations of our residential care facilities."

- **The Canberra Times** (page 5) reports that ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith has played down concerns that Canberra's women's and children's hospital might lose its training accreditation after the draft of a review by the Royal Australian New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists found it had failed to meet five of six standards needed. The minister conceded that not enough had been done to address culture problems in obstetrics and gynaecology at Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, saying "We know we have a job of work to do, we're certainly not shying away from that. *Also reported by: Canberra Times*
- **The Hobart Mercury** (page 5) reports that a Tasmanian coroner has labelled the care of a Launceston woman who died while her ambulance was ramped as "substandard", and said he was pessimistic about the problem diminishing in the near future considering the pressure on emergency departments around the country. Coroner Robert Webster said he couldn't definitively say whether 71-year-old Anne Helen Pedler, who died from lung blood clots and deep vein thrombosis while ramped for 8 hours, would have survived with more timely treatment he noted a number of issues with the response to her health issues that were below standard. *Also reported by: ABC Online*
- **The Australian** (page 7) reports Melbourne's Catholic Archbishop Peter Comensoli has alleged Canberra's Calvary hospital was acquired by the ACT government because its opposed offering abortion and voluntary assisted dying services. "There is an underlying implication that religious organisations and those with conscientious objections to performing certain procedures should not participate in public healthcare," Archbishop Comensoli said.
- **Northern Territory News** (page 8) reports that a Northern Territory mum is calling for better mental health services in remote and regional areas after her son was diagnosed with ADHD. Ms Haigh is working with the Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia to bring the need for better mental health services in the region before Health Minister Mark Butler and "other relevant ministers".
- **The Herald Sun** (page 15) reports that changes to the recruitment process for overseas doctors will reduce waiting times by up to three months as governments and medical bodies seek to combat the growing shortage of doctors that has seen more than 64 medicals centres around the country forced to close. As a report into problem commissioned by the National Cabinet nears release, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners will reduce the amount of paperwork required, with RACGP president Dr Nicole Higgins saying "The doctor is submitting the same pieces of paper to different bodies, so streamlining it so we've got one portal would shave off a huge amount of time". *Also reported by: Courier Mail, Adelaide Advertiser, Northern Territory News*
- **The Australian** (page 24) reports that Australian middle-distance runner Peter Bol has being exonerated by Sport Integrity Australia for drug cheating. The investigation into a irregular drug test result came to a close after a London-based Kings Counsel reviewed the evidence and concluded there was no drug cheating involved. *Also reported by: Sydney Morning Herald, Age, Age*

MINISTER BUTLER

ALP in secret about-face on medical funding

The Australian, General News, 02/08/2023, Jess Malcolm, Page 1

Health Minister Mark Butler has secretly backtracked on his commitment to force private health insurers to pay for essential medical devices used in surgeries, which sparked warnings that hospitals would be forced to cut services and increase fees. The nation's peak doctor lobby also raised concerns that Labor's reforms to the prostheses list had delivered "significant savings" to private health insurers while leaving patients adversely impacted.

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We've been left here to suffer

Mum calls for mental health help Danyelle Haigh is fighting for better and more available mental health services in the Northern Territory after her son's diagnosis of ADHD. [...] With the help of ICPA Alice Springs branch member Katy Hayes, Ms Haigh introduced a motion for the organisation to advocate for Ms Haigh and parents in similar positions before federal Health Minister Mark Butler and "other relevant ministers".

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

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Sky News Live, The Front Page, 01/08/2023, Sophie Elsworth

Health Minister Mark Butler has secretly backtracked on his commitment to force private health insurers to pay for essential medical devices used in surgeries which sparked warnings that hospitals would be forced to cut services and increase fees.

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ABC Illawarra, Drive, 01/08/2023, Lindsay McDougall

Interview with Lisa Smith, CEO, Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry. Federal Health Minister, Mark Butler, spoke about cheek swab technology, saying it needs to be funded properly, red tape needs to be cut. Smith says the allocation of up to half million towards the programme is not sustainable or it's not enough.

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MINISTER WELLS

Hellish Bol pursuit finally over

The Australian, Sport, 02/08/2023, Scott Gullan, Page 24

When Peter Bol found out his seven months of hell was over and that he was no longer being investigated for drug cheating, he started to shake. [...] When the scandal broke, federal sports minister Anika Wells was on the front foot, saying all of Bol's samples would be retested.

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Bol has finally been cleared, but he deserves answers

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 02/08/2023, Andrew Webster, Page 3

Australian middle-distance runner Peter Bol was winding down for the day in the tiny independent principality of Andorra in the Pyrenees mountains between France and Spain, when he received the most important phone call of his life. Having completed a gruelling day of training, he was told by his lawyer, Paul Greene, that Sports Integrity Australia (SIA) was abandoning its investigation into whether Bol had used the banned substance EPO. [...] Two days after the Herald story was published, federal sports minister Anika Wells appeared on Today, claiming the matter wasn't over and that all Bol's samples would be retested.

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

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Testing error leaves a litany of questions

Age, Sport, 02/08/2023, Michael Gleeson, Page 30

Peter Bol is a runner, not a footballer, but he has been kicked around like a ball. Bol has been cleared of doping. [...] SIA is answerable to federal Sports Minister Anika Wells.

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

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Athletics Australia demands answers over Bol

Athletics Australia has demanded answers of Australian and world anti-doping agencies over the treatment of Olympian Peter Bol, who was "left in no man's land" for months, accused of doping before officially being cleared by Sport Integrity Australia yesterday. [...] Australia's federal sports minister, Anika Wells, who has executive oversight of SIA was contacted several times for comment.

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Peter Bol's seven months of hell is over, but the witch hunt that targeted him has left its mark

Herald Sun, Other, 01/08/2023, Scott Gullan

Peter Bol is a national hero, and an overzealous' government authority tried to taint his image. [...] When the scandal broke federal sports minister Anika Wells was on the front foot saying all of Bol's samples would be retested.

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

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 01/08/2023, Natalie Forrest

Australian Olympic runner Peter Bol has been cleared of doping allegations. The agency responsible is now reviewing its testing processes for EPO, the performance enhancing drug at the centre of the saga. In a statement, Sport Integrity Australia confirmed the World Anti-Doping Agency will now undertake a review of current EPO testing processes, stressing athletes in Australia should have confidence in the anti-doping system. Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells says they will comply.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 01/08/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

Peter Bol has been cleared from doping following investigations. Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells says whoever leaked Olympian Peter Bol's initial positive drug test needs to answer.

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Channel 7, Sunrise, 01/08/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview with Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells. Wells says the investigations on Peter Bol have been dropped.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, 09:00 News, 01/08/2023

Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells says there are questions to answer on how Olympian Peter Bol's initial positive drug test was made public. The runner was provisionally suspended in January after he returned a positive A-sample for a synthetic performance enhancing drug.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Tougher rules for working with engineered stone

The Rural, Other, 01/08/2023, Tim Dornin

Tougher rules around the use of engineered stone will be imposed in South Australia amid an ongoing national inquiry into a potential ban on the products. [...] Assistant health minister minister Ged Kearney said silicosis was an incurable illness that could have a devastating impact on workers and their families.

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

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2SER FM, The Wire, 01/08/2023, Unspecified

Emotions ran high at times during the long awaited launch of the Palliative Care National Action Plan in Melbourne this morning. Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney saw the plan over the finish line at the very Special Kids Hospice in the city's south east. But she noted the Federal Government funded the plan's four year development through a change of party control.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

ABC Radio Darwin , Morning Show, 01/08/2023, Adam Steer

Interview with Luke Gosling, MP. Steer says the Federal Assistance Education Minister says there is a strong demand for doctor places across the country. Gosling says he along with Senator Malarndirri McCarthy have been advocating strongly to both the Health Minister and the Education Minister about CGU and the fact that they established a medical school under the great leadership of Diane Stevens.

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ABC Broken Hill, Breakfast, 01/08/2023, Andrew Schmidt

The Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians and Indigenous Health says a recent visit to the Far West indicates a strong need for improved dialysis accessibility for the local communities. Senator Malarndirri McCarthy was in Broken Hill over the weekend and also visited Wilcannia and Menindee, which have been waiting for an update on a 2021 federal election promise for two dialysis buses. Senator McCarthy says she wants to ensure patients with renal failure have the quality of care they deserve.

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DEPARTMENT

ABC South East SA, 07:30 News, 01/08/2023

The head of Boandik Aged Care in Mount Gambier, is calling for more funding for aged care beds in the city. Under new regulations registered nurses must be available 24 divided by seven in all aged care homes and from October the number of minutes they need to see residents each day will also increase. The Federal Health Department says it's already reviewing how locations are classified and grants are available.

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CORONAVIRUS

Warren Tredrea wrongful dismissal lawsuit: Professor claims requiring Covid vaccination in order to work like “forcing them to undergo a medical procedure”

The doctor backing Warren Tredrea's \$5.7m lawsuit says he's not a Covid vaccine mandate critic despite his public reference to Nazi war crimes and claims the jab is a forced medical procedure. [...] He said he had now been vaccinated with a dose "approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration in Australia".

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Quadrant weighs sale of aged care business

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 02/08/2023, Aaron Weinman, Page 15

Quadrant Private Equity is revisiting the sale of its aged care business myHomecare, and brought back Gresham Partners to usher through a deal.

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Southern cross hairs

Hobart Mercury, General News, 02/08/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 1

Independent Clark MP Andrew Wilkie has used parliamentary privilege to make a series of explosive claims about Southern Cross Care Tasmania, calling for the aged care watchdog to urgently launch an investigation into the provider and its leadership. Speaking in the federal parliament on Monday night, Mr Wilkie said Southern Cross Care Tasmania (SCC), which is the largest not-for-profit aged care provider in the state and runs nine residential facilities across the island, "continues to fail in its obligations and older Tasmanians continue to suffer".

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

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Sliding scale model would ensure fairer aged-care system

West Australian, General News, 02/08/2023, Russell Bricknell, Page 52

Aged-care employees are the heart and soul of our aged care system, providing compassionate and quality care to our elderly population. For most, it is more than just a job.

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Second round of aged care tech innovation initiative underway

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 01/08/2023

Applications are open for the second round of an incubator program that aims to support early-stage product or technology ideas to be developed for the aged care sector. The initiative is a collaboration between Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia and Flinders University's Medical Device Partnering Program.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 01/08/2023, Lucy Breaden

Interview with Tamara Speed(*), Lifeline Tasmania. Speed discusses their research about older Tasmanians and how they were feeling and what they were noticing about their connections with family and friends. She also talks about their Chats program to deliver counselling and social work support for our older community members.

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Fat chance: Advertising bans won't cure obesity

The Australian, Business News, 02/08/2023, Josh Faulks, Page 20

Australia has an obesity problem, and we need to do something about it. One in four children are overweight or obese in this country.

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6PR, Perth Live, 01/08/2023, Oliver Peterson

Interview with Kerryn Butler-Henderson, RMIT. Butler-Henderson discusses the need for Australians to work on health literacy and digital health.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Stricken with MND, he worked relentlessly to cure it

The Australian, Higher Education, 02/08/2023, Tim Dodd, Page 21

The University of Wollongong will establish a chair to honour molecular biologist Justin Yerbury, who was a world leader in motor neurone disease research. Professor Yerbury died of MND last Friday after living with the disease since 2016, during which time he continued to lead a team of researchers looking for an MND cure.

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New tool for cancer

Herald Sun, General News, 02/08/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 1

A powerful new tool for screening which drugs will be the fastest, most effective and least invasive therapy for an individual patient will improve the treatment of children with high-risk cancers. It was used in a study led by the Children's Cancer Institute that involved 125 Australian children with high-risk cancers, including difficult-to-treat brain tumours.

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

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Greens move to protect fireys

Herald Sun, General News, 02/08/2023, Alex White, Page 9

The number of cancers covered by the Victorian firefighters' presumptive cancer scheme would be dramatically increased under a new Bill being put to the state parliament. New legislation to be introduced to the parliament by the Greens on Wednesday, backed by the powerful United Firefighters' Union, will add another nine cancers to the list of those covered under the scheme, taking the total number to 20.

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Best way to clear the air

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 01/08/2023, Page 7

Portable air purifiers fitted with high-efficiency particulate air filters can substantially improve indoor air quality during bushfire events, according to new research. CSIRO researchers found that HEPA filters have potential, when used appropriately, to substantially improve indoor air quality by 30-74 per cent during smoke episodes caused by prescribed burns.

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We're in a back pain epidemic – and most treatments don't work

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 01/08/2023, Liam Mannix

Like many people who get chronic, crippling back pain, it came into Maree Rivero's life by total surprise. One day she was healthy, fit and full of life.

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Kidney Health Australia bus helps dialysis patients enjoy holidays

Northern Territory News, Other, 02/08/2023, Tamara McDonald

Dialysis can restrict patients from travel, but a special bus is helping them enjoy well-deserved holidays. A bus offering dialysis is helping people suffering kidney failure enjoy travel.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#).

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Too young: why are Australians under 50 increasingly being diagnosed with cancer?

The Guardian, Other, 02/08/2023, Donna Lu

Anthony Ellison was not particularly concerned when he went to see his GP for persistent diarrhoea. [...] Tracey Croke Bansemer-Brown, who now works for Bowel Cancer Australia, was initially told she had haemorrhoids from the recent birth of her son.

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Expert says overdiagnosis means Australian cancer screening tests must be 'handled very carefully'

The Guardian, Other, 01/08/2023, Natasha May

The UK surgeon whose work led to the introduction of bowel cancer screening tests has warned the practice has potential to be a "dangerous tool". [...] Australia's peak independent cancer authority, the Cancer Council, is among the organisations to recognise overtreatment and overdiagnosis is occurring due to expanding disease definitions and lower diagnostic thresholds.

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What pain can Cancer cause?

2GB, Other, 01/08/2023

Cancer pain is something that affects each person differently. Some people do suffer significant pain and others, they might not experience any pain at all.

Also reported by: [4BC \(Online\)](#).

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Golfers almost 2.5 times more likely to get skin cancer, survey finds

9News, Other, 01/08/2023, Sarah Swain

New research has found that cancer is becoming par for the course for golfers around Australia. A survey of 400 players conducted by the University of South Australia discovered one in four has some form of skin cancer.

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Mobile lung cancer screening vehicle hits the road in Australia

Cairns Post, Other, 01/08/2023

A new screening vehicle is rolling out to help combat Australia's deadliest cancer, Lung cancer. The mobile facility hitting the road from today for World Lung Cancer Day.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [4BC \(Online\)](#).

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Heart health screening a success

Shepparton News Online, Other, 01/08/2023

Coronary heart disease remains the dominant cause of death among Australians, but one not-for-profit is here to help. Private health insurer Latrobe Health Services partnered with Wesfarmers Health,

Priceline Pharmacy, SiSU Health and Novartis to bring free 15-minute heart health checks to Shepparton Marketplace last month.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 01/08/2023, Peter Mitchell

Asthma rates in teenagers in Melbourne's western suburbs are 50% higher than the rest of the state. Local residents say dust and chemicals from big construction projects are making air pollution unbearable. The Andrews Government says it's already addressing the air pollution problem in Melbourne's inner west, with a multi-million dollar package aimed at transitioning older trucks to newer models which produce fewer emissions.

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Channel 9, National Nine News, 01/08/2023, Georgie Gardner

Australian researchers are drawing a link between golf and skin cancer. The University of South Australia found 1 in 4 golfers is diagnosed with the disease. Their risk is 2.4 times greater than the rest of the population. Another stark reminder to wear sunscreen when outdoors.

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2GB, Drive, 01/08/2023, Chris O'Keefe

Golfers are being reminded to protect themselves against the sun, with new research showing they're four times more likely to develop skin cancer than non-golfers

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PRIMARY CARE

'Hospital ethos spurred takeover'

The Australian, General News, 02/08/2023, Rhiannon Down, Page 7

Melbourne Archbishop Peter Comensoli has accused the Labor-Greens ACT government of forcibly acquiring Calvary Hospital because its Catholic ethos was "inconvenient", saying the takeover sets a "worrying precedent for civil society groups". Archbishop Comensoli criticised the "poor and unprecedented process" the Barr government used to take over the Catholic facility in north Canberra, questioning whether it was "motivated by disapproval of Calvary Hospital's Catholic ethos and mission".

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

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Neighbours angry as Cabrini bypasses council in growth bid

Age, General News, 02/08/2023, Najma Sambul, Page 11

City reporter Malvern residents and the local council are furious at a private hospital's decision to bypass the City of Stonnington and let the state government decide on its plans for a multimillion-dollar expansion in a residential street. A \$220 million upgrade of the 75-year-old Cabrini private hospital in Melbourne's inner south-east will include a new multi-level building on the corner of Coonil Crescent and Wattletree Road, with 88 single-bed ensuite rooms, consulting suites and a cancer research facility.

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

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Review confirmed 'existing challenges': Stephen-Smith

Canberra Times, General News, 02/08/2023, Lucy Bladen, Page 5

The ACT's Health Minister has conceded not enough has been done to turn around culture in obstetrics and gynaecology at Canberra's women's and children's hospital but has said she does not think its training accreditation is at risk. This is despite a damning draft review finding the department at

the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children failed to meet five of six standards needed for training accreditation.

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

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Coroner laments ramping plight

Hobart Mercury, General News, 02/08/2023, Amber Wilson, Page 5

A coroner says he is "pessimistic" about Tasmania's ambulance ramping crisis after a Launceston woman died after been ramped for almost eight hours. In his findings published on Tuesday, Coroner Robert Webster said 71-year-old Anne Helen Pedler died from lung blood clots and deep vein thrombosis while ramped and waiting for a CT scan at Launceston General Hospital (LGH).

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#).

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Health centre could become community disability hub

Ballarat Courier, General News, 02/08/2023, Michelle Smith, Page 7

A former allied health and medical clinic in Sebastopol could become a new community centre for people living with a disability. Gellibrand Support Services has lodged a planning application with the City of Ballarat to use 131 Albert Street as a place of assembly (community centre) to bring together clients for personalised support.

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Royal Flying Doctors apologise for dentist booking issues

Burnie Advocate, General News, 02/08/2023, Simon Mcguire, Page 6

The Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS) has apologised to King Islanders who could not book dentist appointments due to contact details being changed. In July, King Island resident Jill Munro spoke about the financial, physical and mental toll a lacklustre dental service has had on her and the community.

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Coast hospital lockdown ordeal

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 02/08/2023, Greg Stolz & Jeremy Pierce, Page 6

An almost 24-hour lockdown at a major Queensland public hospital ended after a "Code Black" alert was lifted following threats against staff, but heightened security remained. Gold Coast University Hospital was plunged into lockdown on Monday afternoon after threats were made against staff and the Southport facility.

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Ward closure is common

Shepparton News, General News, 02/08/2023, Murray Silby, Page 7

The operator of Shepparton Private Hospital says no patients or procedures have been impacted by the recent closure of a ward. Ramsay Health Care, which operates the hospital, said a ward was temporarily closed due to "reduced occupancy", without impacting on services.

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GP payroll tax will hurt patients, says AMAQ

Adelaide Now, Other, 01/08/2023, Madura McCormack

Applying payroll to GP clinics will hurt patients, including those in nursing homes, Queensland's peak medical body has warned. A new payroll tax could force Queenslanders to pay up to 15 per cent more at the doctor.

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

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Paediatric surgery could be done at Fiona Stanley when new maternity hospital is completed

ABC Online, Other, 01/08/2023, ABC News

The Western Australian government announced in April it would build the new hospital at the Fiona Stanley Hospital precinct in Murdoch, scrapping its original plan to put the facility at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre in Nedlands. [...] Premier Cook said he was aware of concerns raised by the Australian Medical Association about separating the maternity hospital from specialist service.

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Lack of specialists in juvenile arthritis a barrier for children in need of diagnosis and treatment

ABC Online, Other, 01/08/2023, Rosie King

From the outside, Rohan Penny-Bell seems like a regular six-year-old. He loves colouring in, drawing and playing with his friends.

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Family claim Sydney's St Vincent's hospital is refusing to give their young daughter a life-saving lung transplant because she won't get Covid jabs

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 01/08/2023, David Southwell

The family of a young cancer sufferer claim she is being denied a vital lung transplant due to her decision not to receive four Covid vaccines. The parents of Dazelle Peters, allege that Sydney 's St Vincent's Hospital is denying their 16-year-old daughter a double lung transplant because she won't take the vaccines.

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ABC News, ABC Evening News, 01/08/2023, Gemma Veness

Report on lack of specialists in juvenile arthritis affecting Australian children. Juvenile Arthritis Foundation says its unacceptable. ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith says there are few specialists, even beyond Canberra. She plans to fly a specialist from Sydney to Canberra on a regular basis and then be supported by a nurse and allied health professional.

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ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 01/08/2023, Lish Fejer

Canberra Health Services says it is taking steps to address issues that are threatening the training accreditation of Canberra Hospital's obstetrics and gynaecology department. The draft review by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists uncovered chronic understaffing, high levels of staff burnout and a lack of support for trainees.

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2CC, Canberra Live, 01/08/2023, Leon Delaney

Interview with Dr Walter Abhayaratna, ACT President, AMA about a report on Centenary Hospital for Women and Children's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology that found the hospital has failed to meet five out of six overview standards, including workplace culture, teaching and learning. Abhayaratna says it does reflect the strain on services where staff have left the Centenary Hospital And this includes staff, including technical allied health staff, sonographers, who do the ultrasounds that are relevant for the service, obstetrics and gynaecology, but also the medical staff who are providing service particularly to those high risk maternity patients who need their expertise.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 01/08/2023, Leon Compton

Tasmania's Opposition is calling on the new Health Minister, Guy Barnett, to urgently seek Commonwealth funding to redevelop the Launceston General Hospital. The Liberals have promised to invest about \$120 million in redevelopment of the LGA, which would have a co-located private hospital

and cost about \$580 million all up over ten years. The Health Minister says he will be engaging with the Federal Government as a matter of priority about how it can support the redevelopment.

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ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 01/08/2023, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Roger Cook, WA Premier. Cook says the decision to put the new maternity hospital at Fiona Stanley Hospital due to range of constraints around the QE2 site. He notes they need to continue to grow the scope and the acuity of services provided at Fiona Stanley Hospital. He states he's aware of AMA's concern about the distance between the PCH and the maternity hospital.

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2CC, Canberra Live, 01/08/2023, Leon Delaney

The Centenary Hospital for Women and Children's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology has been found to suffer from chronic understaffing and high levels of burnout. In a report by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the college has granted the hospital a six month provisional training accreditation. However, if improvements are not achieved, the accreditation is at risk of being withdrawn.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Half the population will experience a mental health disorder by 75, Queensland-led study reveals

ABC Online, Other, 01/08/2023, Scout Wallen

Half the population will experience a mental health disorder by the time they reach 75, a global study led by Queensland researchers has revealed. The joint study between the University of Queensland (UQ) and Harvard Medical School tracked 150,000 adults across 29 countries, over two decades.

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SA call for cut psych sessions to be restored

In Daily, Other, 01/08/2023, David Simmons

SA psychologists say a federal government decision to have cut rebated sessions from 20 to 10 is forcing poor mental health outcomes at a time when services are already failing to meet demand. The Albanese Government reduced Medicare-rebated psychology sessions from 20 to 10 this year, pulling back on policy implemented by the former Liberal Government during the COVID-19 pandemic period.

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2CC, Breakfast, 01/08/2023, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Maree McCabe, CEO, Dementia Australia. McCabe discusses chronic traumatic encephalopathy diagnosis. She notes as imaging gets better, the diagnostics as well. On Senate inquiry due for release on Wednesday, she states what is needed right now is national consistency in how we deal with concussions and also evidence based practise.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Outback Australians rely on them but Royal Flying Doctor Service nurses say pay makes it hard to stay

The Guardian, Other, 02/08/2023, Andrew Messenger

Mark O'Brien was the mayor of Charleville and running for state parliament when, in 2012, he had a heart attack. Like thousands of other outback Queenslanders, O'Brien relied on the Royal Flying Doctor Service for medical care.

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Nurses are the solution to overwhelmed emergency departments

Nursing Review, Other, 01/08/2023, Arshmah Jamal

With the recent rise of media reports about overwhelmed emergency departments across Australia, calls to the Federal Government have been made to utilise and increase nurses. Hospitals nationwide are struggling to cope with overcrowded emergency departments resulting in prolonged wait times and sometimes patients being "ramped for hours".

Also reported by: [Your Life Choices \(Online\)](#).

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Sick risk in medico crisis

Herald Sun, General News, 02/08/2023, Sue Dunlevy, Page 15

The recruitment of foreign doctors who want to work in Australia is set to be fast-tracked as more than 64 medical practices around the country have closed because they can't find staff. Major workforce shortages mean more than 52 per cent of doctors working in rural Australia are trained overseas, but we are now losing the international recruitment battle to Canada and New Zealand.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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Last-minute deal avoids strike

Launceston Examiner, General News, 02/08/2023, Benjamin Seeder, Page 1

The government has averted a damaging strike by the state's 200 orderlies and hospital attendants after a pay deal was reached with members of the Health and Community Services Union on Tuesday morning. HACSU industrial manager Robbie Moore said the government offered to bump orderlies up one pay classification just an hour before the industrial action was due to start.

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

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Channel 7, Seven News, 01/08/2023, Mark Ferguson

Paramedics are ramping up their industrial action and are now directly impacting NRL matches and horse racing. As of today, they're refusing to attend key sporting events across New South Wales. Instead, they will only respond to Triple Zero calls requiring an ambulance to be dispatched, meaning missed minutes of critical care. The sports ban comes as HSU delegates reject an offered 4% pay rise, instead demanding professional recognition for the training and skills to be a paramedic.

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ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 01/08/2023, David Bevan

Interview with Dr Sian Goodson, Chair, Royal Australian College of GP. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners will simplify its processes for international medical graduates so that we can have more GPs in communities that need them sooner. Goodson says they need to streamline bureaucratic process to make it easier and more desirable for the GPs to come and join them.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Hospital pharmacy deal struck

The Australian, Business News, 02/08/2023, Glen Norris & Giuseppe Tauriello, Page 16

Brisbane rich-listers Cathie Reid and Stuart Giles are taking on the pharmacy empire they founded more than 30 years ago in a new venture with "category killer" Chemist Warehouse. The Brisbane couple will launch a national network of hospital-based pharmacies with Chemist Warehouse to compete with the multibillion-dollar Icon Group, the healthcare operation founded by the couple but now owned by Swedish private equity firm EQT.

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

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Libs and AMA clash over new medicine dispensing rules

Burnie Advocate, General News, 02/08/2023, Benjamin Seeder, Page 5

Some of Tasmania's most prominent federal Liberal parliamentarians are calling for the Albanese government to take another look at a policy that could halve the cost of medicines for some patients but which pharmacists are claiming could damage their businesses. The Australian Medical Association disputes those claims.

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Illawarra chemists prescribe antibiotics

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 02/08/2023, Kate McIlwain, Page 7

Illawarra women who need relief from painful urinary tract infections can now visit dozens of chemists across the region to get antibiotics instead of going to the GP under the expansion of the state's pharmacy prescribing trial. NSW Health says the expansion will benefit thousands with almost 1000 chemists now participating in the initiative.

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'Dramatic rebuild' of PPS

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 01/08/2023

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's Professional Practice Standards (PPS) have undergone a "dramatic rebuild, making them more flexible to meet the diverse and contemporary needs of pharmacists practising in different specialty areas and scopes", (PD Breaking News Fri).

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

ASL elearning helps keep track of scripts

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 01/08/2023

The elearning module on the Australian Digital Health Agency's portal called Electronic Prescriptions and Active Script List (MySL) in community pharmacy has been updated to highlight the benefits for patients and pharmacies of using an Active Script List (ASL).

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Patient to pay

A patient who sued a Wagga surgeon for negligence has been ordered to pay his legal costs after seven years of proceedings. The NSW Supreme Court has found in favour of bariatric surgeon Richard Harrison, who was sued by a former patient who suffered complications post-weight loss surgery in 2013.

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Aliaa Sherif: Fake cosmetic surgeon back in court for allegedly breaching orders

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 01/08/2023, Hugo Timms

A Melbourne woman previously convicted for performing cosmetic surgery on people without any qualifications has returned to court after allegedly breaching orders preventing her from practising. Aliaa Sherif is facing 21 charges brought by the Victorian Health Complaints Commissioner for failing to comply with an interim prohibition order.

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

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Chiropractor's registration canned over misconduct

West Australian, Other, 01/08/2023, Cassandra Morgan

A Melbourne chiropractor who treated patients while he was unregistered and uninsured has been banned from practising for more than two years. The chiropractor, who worked at clinics at Ringwood and Ferntree Gully in the city's east, repeatedly lied to health authorities after he was first refused registration in 2014.

Also reported by: [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#).

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

'Watershed moment'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 02/08/2023, Simeon Thomaswilson, Page 11

Port Adelaide's handling of Aliir Aliir and Lachie Jones' collision of heads is a "watershed moment" for the game when it comes to concussion guidelines and protocols, player advocate Peter Jess says. While veteran sports medico Peter Larkins says the fallout sends a clear message to all club doctors, "if in doubt do the concussion test, especially when the vision is clear".

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#).

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League push to tackle racists

Courier Mail, Edition Changes - Metro, 02/08/2023, Jason Gibbs, Page 6

Queensland Rugby League has vowed to crack down hard on racist and violent behaviour after being rocked by a number of incidents in recent weeks. Last week, video emerged of an ugly on-field brawl involving players' fathers at a Townsville under-9 club match.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#).

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Games plan for housing crisis

Courier Mail, General News, 02/08/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 13

The state government will explore constructing the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic athletes' village earlier than planned, in a bid to provide emergency short and medium-term accommodation to ease the spiralling housing crisis. Calling the proposed push an example of "pre-legacy", Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said during Tuesday's budget estimates she would convene a meeting of the housing committee to explore the option.

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

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Town to light up for Matildas

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 02/08/2023, Jessica Wang, Page 16

NSW Premier Chris Minns will follow through on his promise to light up the Sydney Opera House ahead of the Matildas' next game in the FIFA Women's World Cup. Mr Minns promised a "red carpet" celebration for the Australian women's football team after they pulverised Canada in a brutal 4-0 win.

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

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Peter Bol has been exonerated with Sport Integrity Australia revealing his drug test was a false positive

The Australian, Other, 01/08/2023, Scott Gullan

Peter Bol has been exonerated with Sport Integrity Australia revealing he'd received a false positive. The investigation into Australia's middle-distance champion is now over with Bol told WADA would review the EPO testing process which threatened to ruin his career.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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Not content with \$2.7b Gabba upgrade, cricket calls for a new stadium

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 01/08/2023, Cameron Atfield

By any measure, \$2.7 billion is an awful lot of money to be spent on a cricket stadium. But for the sport's governing body in Queensland, it seems that's just not enough.

[Read More](#)

Commonwealth Games inquiry bid sparks argy-bargy over government scrutiny

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 01/08/2023, Broede Carmody

The Victorian Greens are making a bid to reduce Labor's control of parliamentary committees amid robust negotiations over whether an inquiry should be held into the scrapping of the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Georgie Crozier, the leader of the opposition in the upper house, on Tuesday moved a motion to establish a new parliamentary committee to probe the Games debacle.

[Read More](#)

Football is the 'world's game'. Why aren't all Women's World Cup matches on free-to-air TV?

SBS, Other, 01/08/2023, Amy Hall

All the 2022 FIFA Men's World Cup matches were broadcast on free-to-air TV, but that's not the case for this year's women's competition. Here's why.

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ABC News, ABC Evening News, 01/08/2023, Gemma Veness

Perth-based Olympian Peter Bol has been cleared of EPO doping by Sport Integrity Australia.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Mornings, 01/08/2023, Sarah MacDonald

Interview with Dr Rowena Mobbs, Sydney neurologist. Mobbs discusses Wally Lewis' diagnosis of CTE and subconcussions over the years that lead to this kind of dementia. She notes research showed the longer you play, the bigger your risk.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Clinical trial into use of hookworms for diabetes prevention produces encouraging results

ABC Online, Other, 01/08/2023, Christopher Testa

Most people infected with live hookworms as part of a scientific trial chose to keep them inside their gut once the study had finished because they found they delivered health benefits, a researcher says. The two-year clinical trial found infecting people at risk of developing type 2 diabetes with the microscopic hookworm larvae was safe and could help fight off metabolic disease.

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Transgender community susceptible to Alzheimer's

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 01/08/2023, Christopher Kelly

Transgender and non-binary older adults may be at greater risk of developing Alzheimer's disease, research suggests. The Australian research conducted by UNSW Sydney and the first global study to investigate disparities in dementia risk according to sex and gender identity compared the prevalence of modifiable risk factors in transgender or gender-diverse participants compared to cisgender adults.

[Read More](#)

New Study Says Exercise May Improve Your Pain Tolerance: Here's Why

Prevention, Other, 01/08/2023, Korin Miller

Whether you shrink from basic jabs at the dentist or experience chronic pain, this pain research could change your life. New research found that people who exercised regularly were better able to handle a pain test.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Indigenous health to be targeted

Cairns Post, General News, 02/08/2023, Page 1

A "landmark" health study that will aim to reduce the alarming child mortality rates in Indigenous communities will soon start in Cairns. Indigenous children in remote areas such as Cape York are twice as likely to die before the age of four as non-Indigenous children, according to data collected by the federal government.

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

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Australian Indigenous Doctors Association and Australian Medical Association strike groundbreaking inaugural partnership

National Indigenous Times, Other, 01/08/2023

On Tuesday 1 August an influential partnership was formed between the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA) and the Australian Medical Association (AMA). The two organisations signed a memorandum of understanding, designed to fortify their existing relationship and strengthen a united approach toward improving circumstances for Indigenous Australia.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Health system 'unprepared' for next climate disaster

Canberra Times, Other, 02/08/2023, Marion Rae

Climate change is causing an increase in extreme weather events and Australia is on the frontline, doctors warn. A group representing more than 100,000 doctors on Wednesday issued a joint statement calling for Australia to better prepare for the next climate disaster

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#).

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South Australia introduces new regulations on engineered stone

The Courier Mail, Other, 01/08/2023, Duncan Evans

South Australia is moving to address an escalating health emergency threatening to kill off thousands of Australian workers with debilitating cancers, but the unions say much more needs to be done. South Australia will soon ban the uncontrolled cutting of engineered stone products in a move to get ahead of Australia's escalating silicosis crisis.

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

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Channel 7, Seven News, 01/08/2023, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

The SA Government's unveiled tougher laws to protect workers from inhaling the potentially deadly dust Silica .A nationwide rise in silicosis cases means individuals and businesses caught not wearing respiratory equipment when cutting engineered stone will be fined. The new rules will take effect next month.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 01/08/2023, Brenton Ragless and Kate Collins

Engineered stone could be outlawed in South Australia if the Federal Government doesn't approve doesn't adopt. The SA Government is announcing new regulations banning workers from processing the stone without special control measures. The new rules come into effect from September.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

No relevant coverage

OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Give drug ganglords what they fear most: Centrelink

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 02/08/2023, Cate Faehrmann, Page 16

Another day, another brazen shooting in Cocaine City. Sounds like the start of a juicy crime novel.

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

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

NSW drivers using medicinal cannabis would be shielded from DUI charges under MP's proposed reforms

The Guardian, Other, 02/08/2023, Catie Mcleod

New South Wales drivers who use medicinal cannabis and return a positive result at a roadside drug test would be spared prosecution under new laws being put forward by the upper house MP Jeremy Buckingham. It is illegal in NSW to drive with any amount of THC, a psychoactive component of cannabis, in your body even if you have a prescription.

Also reported by: [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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FOOD STANDARDS

GP spearheads indefinite energy drink ban for kids

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 01/08/2023

A regional WA GP is at the centre of a campaign to ban the sale of energy drinks to young people, with her hometown leading the way. Western Australia GP Sarah Youngson is spearheading a campaign to ban the sale of energy drinks to young people.

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

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