



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 14th September 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Herald Sun \(page 1\)](#)** reports that documents released under Freedom of Information laws have revealed that between 2020 and 2023 Victoria's Alfred Hospital has been overrun by mice and rats, with Shadow Health Minister Georgie Crozier saying, "it's not good enough for the Andrews government to simply blame others for their neglect of Victoria's health system."
- **[The Australian \(page 2\)](#)** reports that veterans' suicide Royal Commissioner Nick Kaldas said his inquiry found that "there has been far too much talk and not enough action" by the Defence and Veterans' Affairs departments in response to the "national crisis" of veterans' suicides.
- **[The Australian \(page 3\)](#)** reports that US biotech company Moderna is working on a "superjab" to protect people from both COVID and the flu, with the shot anticipated to be available to Australians by early 2026.
- **[The Daily Telegraph \(page 7\)](#)** reports that next week's NSW budget will allocate \$572 million to permanently fund 1112 nursing and midwife positions that were created during the COVID pandemic.
- **[The Herald Sun \(page 7\)](#)** reports that a research team led by the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS) has successfully treated inflammation associated with fatty

liver disease that often develops into a common liver cancer called hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC).

- **The Northern Territory News (page 3)** reports that NT Health confirmed a code yellow had been issued for the Royal Darwin and Palmerston hospitals on Tuesday due to a peak in hospital demand and high occupancy rates.

MINISTER BUTLER

Tougher laws for smokers

Northern Territory News, General News, 14/09/2023, Ellen Ransley, Page 9

Tougher laws to crack down on cigarettes and vaping, including graphic warnings on individual cigarettes have been unveiled. Health Minister Mark Butler said new tobacco control legislation was the "critical" next step in the fight against tobacco and nicotine addiction in Australia.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Sky News Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! Lifestyle Australia \(Online\)](#).

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New laws planned to cut smoking rate

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 14/09/2023, Page 6

Graphic warning labels on cigarette packages will be updated and appealing names on vapes will be phased out as part of new measures to stop Australians from smoking. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the reforms would see better health outcomes for thousands of people.

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

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Community pharmacies look for possible lifeline

Coonamble Times, General News, 13/09/2023, Page 5

Community pharmacies facing the possibility of closing their doors may soon be given a lifeline. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the government is committed to working with the Guild.

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More funding for men's sheds in Somerset

Kilcoy Sentinel, General News, 14/09/2023, Page 3

Two Men's Sheds in the Somerset Region will share in almost \$670,000 in Federal Government funding to continue supporting the health and wellbeing of their community. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said that Men's Sheds were helping men and boys find mateship and social support to help them stay mentally and physically healthy.

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Vapes as personal imports may close

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 13/09/2023, Page 1

The Australian Government has moved closer to amending federal legislation to prohibit the "importation, manufacture and supply" of vapes that are not therapeutic, with pharmacists responsible for refilling the devices for those who need them for medical reasons, The Australian has reported. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler was quoted on ABC Radio Perth as saying, "I'm not naive enough to think that there's not going to be vapes that get through".

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New smoking laws for Australia target 'cunning' tactics of big tobacco

9News, Other, 13/09/2023, Richard Wood

New laws aimed at curbing smoking and addiction to tobacco products in Australia will be introduced into federal parliament today. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the overhaul builds on the reforms introduced 12 years ago and targets tobacco manufacturers.

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ICYMI: social media profits before health, killer lead exposure, global health security – and the power of patients' voices

Croakey, Other, 13/09/2023, Melissa Sweet

The column this week investigates the digital platforms as powerful commercial determinants of health, and reports on a new modelling study suggesting that lead exposure is a massive global health threat. [...] See Minister Mark Butler's statement on reforms: updating and improving graphic warnings on packaging, including extending warnings to individual cigarettes...

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Strict new vaping rules for Australia: Fruity flavour fans face a devastating blow - here's what you need to know

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 13/09/2023, Kevin Ains

The government has launched secret talks on introducing a strict near-complete ban on vaping in Australia but has hidden the new proposals from the public. [...] The consultation process comes as health minister Mark Butler revealed details of the government's latest crackdown on vaping on Wednesday, which has less severe restrictions than those being proposed by the TGA.

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100,000 construction workers to take part in suicide prevention

Electrical Connection, Other, 13/09/2023, Sam Williams

Building workers across Australia will be taking time out this week to check in with each other's mental health and fly the flag for suicide prevention with MATES "Fly the Flag" events around Australia. [...] Image Caption: MATES in Construction Australia CEO Chris Lockwood meeting with John Adley, CEPU SA Secretary, Hon Mark Butler MP, Australian Minister for Health and Aged Care, Alan Surridge, MATES in Construction SA CEO, and Marilyn Sheffield MATES in Construction SA Field Officer.

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Less visits and less costs

Local Ipswich News, Other, 14/09/2023

Chemists might be crying poor, but those who rely on regular medicines are cheering. [...] Minister for Health Mark Butler said cheaper medicines were not just good for the hip pocket, they were also good for the health of Australians.

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Evening News Bulletin 13 September 2023

SBS, Other, 13/09/2023

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler says the new reforms will include modernising health warnings on cigarette packages, expanding advertising prohibitions to e-cigarettes and vapes, and standardising product design features.

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Labor ramps up fight against smoking amid dismay over climate health

SBS, Other, 13/09/2023, Catriona Stirrat

The government has announced a suite of major tobacco industry reforms as they fight the serious health impacts of smoking. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler says it's time for more aggressive laws to stop people from smoking.

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SBS News in Easy English 13 September 2023

SBS, Other, 13/09/2023

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler has announced changes which include modernising health warnings on cigarette packages, expanding advertising prohibitions to e-cigarettes and vapes, and standardising product design features.

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Middy News Bulletin 13 September 2023

SBS, Other, 13/09/2023

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler has announced the suite of reforms, which include modernising health warnings on cigarette packages, expanding advertising prohibitions to e-cigarettes and vapes, and standardising product design features.

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Health Minister Mark Butler 'confident' new bill helps smokers to quit as government takes fight to Big Tobacco companies

Sky News Australia, Other, 13/09/2023, David Wu

Every cigarette will have a warning label on it to encourage smokers to quit under new laws being proposed by the government. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler is "confident" the proposed changes will be effective, after assessing what other nations in the world had done to tackle smoking rates.

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Number of vapes seized in NSW increases by 500% in three years as state clamps down on 'alarming trend'

The Guardian, Other, 14/09/2023, Tamsin Rose

The number of vapes seized in New South Wales has increased by 500% over the past three years as the state government attempts to clamp down on a scourge the health minister says needs to be dealt with before it is too late. [...] Legislative changes being introduced by the federal health minister, Mark Butler, will aim to block vapes from entering Australia in the first place, but he said states and territories were "committed to doing their bit on-the-ground" by monitoring stores and other vendors for illegal products.

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Surgeon title now protected by legislation

The Medical Republic, Other, 13/09/2023

Only qualified doctors with significant surgical training can now use the title, or risk three years' prison and a \$60k fine. [...] "By working together, the Federal Health Minister, The Hon Mark Butler MP and all the Health Ministers of Australia have demonstrated they are taking the health of women and men undergoing cosmetic surgery seriously and have delivered this great result for patient safety."

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Deplorably misleading

The Monthly, Other, 13/09/2023, Rachel Withers

The racist attacks on Marcia Langton only further prove her point It was just last week that an emotional Marcia Langton called on the media to "lift their game", noting the immense toll the "pile ons" were taking on Indigenous Australians. [...] New laws to bring vapes under tobacco laws Health Minister Mark Butler will introduce a bill cracking down further on vapes and cigarettes, increasing warnings on packets and outlawing certain additives.

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Proposed changes to hit vapes and nicotine addiction

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 13/09/2023, Kat Wong

Smokers and people who vape will be confronted by the health consequences of their habit, under the federal government's proposed changes. Health Minister Mark Butler will introduce a raft of reforms aimed at combating tobacco and nicotine use, with a particular focus on vapes.

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

ABC News, News Breakfast, 13/09/2023, Michael Rowland and Emma Rebellato

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Butler says he's introducing the first suite of major reforms in more than 12 years into the Parliament. He states Australia is lagging international best practise leaders like Canada and New Zealand. He reveals Australia is not currently on track to meet the targets for smoking reduction over the course of this decade. He says they're determined to take on all of those new marketing tactics and stamp them out.

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Channel 10, The Project, 13/09/2023, Waleed Aly, Sam Taunton, Sarah Harris and Wendy Harmer

Graphic warnings on cigarette packets will also be updated and additives like menthol banned vapes will also be subject to advertising restrictions. The tobacco industry has adapted to the reforms that were introduced by Nicola Roxon. They've innovated, they've been clever and cunning at making their deadly product more appealing. While Health Minister Mark Butler was spruiking the Government's anti-smoking policies when he tried to describe the cigarettes, it was very difficult to know which side of the fence he was on.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 13/09/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

The Federal Government has ramped up its campaign to curb smoking and vaping. New legislation includes warnings on individual cigarettes and bans on words like cool and smooth. Health Minister Mark Butler says they're advised that Australia is not currently on track to meet the targets that are set out in the National Tobacco Strategy.

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Channel 7, Sunrise, 13/09/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview with Health Minister Mark Butler about proposed new laws today to fight tobacco and nicotine addiction. Butler says they're targeting cunning marketing by big tobacco. He states they're taken a very evidence-based approach to this and he's confident that the reforms will have a real impact.

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Sydney\)](#).

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Channel 9, National Nine News, 13/09/2023, Peter Hitchener

Tough new laws aimed at stubbing out smoking and vaping have been unveiled by the Albanese Government. Among the proposed changes, an individual health warning on every single cigarette. These actions can reduce tobacco use and save lives, with 26 countries adopting plain packaging for cigarettes. Health Minister Mark Butler says it's a policy that has saved lives and will continue to save lives.

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Channel 9, Today, 13/09/2023, Karl Stefanovic, Sarah Abo, Alex Cullen and Brooke Boney

Interview with Health Minister Mark Butler. Mark, good morning to you. On Queensland bombshell data this morning exposing major hospitals hitting breaking point multiple times, Butler says health systems are under such pressure after three years of Covid and exhausted workforce. He states they're working with all state governments, not just Queensland, to put in place these urgent care centres.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#).

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SBS, World News Australia (Late), 13/09/2023, Breanna Holden

The Federal Health Minister has introduced new tough laws targeting the tobacco and vaping industry. While the Government has already moved to ban recreational vaping, it will also legislate to restrict advertising.

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SBS, World News Australia, 13/09/2023, Janice Petersen

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has introduced tough new laws targeting the tobacco and vaping industry. While the government has already moved to ban recreational vaping, it will also legislate to restrict advertising in 2012. The new bill will also include warnings on individual cigarettes and bans on additives.

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Triple M Townsville, 17:00 News, 13/09/2023

Health Minister Mark Butler wants to make smoking even less appealing with a raft of changes to curb Australians addiction to tobacco and nicotine. Health warnings on cigarettes and standard packaging sizes are some of the changes. Mark Butler telling the ABC they're some of the biggest changes in ten years and we're confident that this will get us back on track for our national tobacco strategy to keep driving down those rates of smoking even further.

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3AW, 08:30 News, 13/09/2023

Individual cigarettes will be marked with health warnings under new tobacco reforms. The proposed legislation would also outlaw additives such as menthol and cover vape under existing advertising rules. The Health Minister, Mark Butler, says it's about trying to bring down the stubbornly high national smoking rate, relaunching the fight against big tobacco after 12 years.

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4BC, 12:00 News, 13/09/2023

The Federal Government is introducing new laws that would reduce the use of tobacco and vape. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler states it's about keep up with the tobacco industry's tactics. Public Health Professor Emily Banks states the warnings will be a clear reminder of smoking risks.

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5AA, 17:00 News, 13/09/2023

A suite of changes will be aimed at halving the nation's smoking rate to 5% by 2030. Vapes would be covered under existing advertising rules and individual cigarettes would need to display health warnings. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says it's about keeping up with the tobacco industry's marketing tactics. They've been clever and cunning at making their deadly product more appealing.

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ABC News, Drive, 13/09/2023, Compere

Interview with Matt Berriman, Chair, Mental Health Australia. Berriman says the Federal Government needs to lift its game on provision and resourcing of mental health services. Berriman met with federal MPs from both sides of politics to call for that issue to be made a national priority, saying 1 in 5 Australians are impacted by a mental health condition each year. He says the Prime Minister needs to take a bigger role in this debate. Berriman says they had quality time with the Health Minister Mark Butler and Emma McBryde, the Assistant Minister for Mental Health and the shadow ministers as well.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, 14:00 News, 13/09/2023

The Federal Government will introduce new laws cracking down on smoking. The bill would see warnings on individual cigarettes, ban flavours like menthol, and include vapes in advertising restrictions. Health Minister Mark Butler says the fight against smoking has stalled in recent years.

Radio National, Breakfast, 13/09/2023, Patricia Karvelas and Hamish Macdonald

The Federal Government says it's playing catch up on vaping regulations as it looks to broaden restrictions on other nicotine products. It's introducing a bill to increase warnings on packets in a bid to cut the national smoking rate to 5% by 2030. Health Minister Mark Butler told RN Breakfast the Government is not on track to meet that target and needs to keep up with an evolving industry.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 13/09/2023, Patricia Karvelas and Hamish Macdonald

Interview with Mark Butler, Minister for Health and Aged Care on changing vaping regulations. Butler says the Federal Government will introduce first suite of major reforms in more than 12 years since Australia led the world with the plain packaging reforms that dozens of countries have since followed.

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MINISTER WELLS

Hot conditions prompt water safety warning

Star Weekly, Other, 13/09/2023

With predictions of a long, hot summer, research from the Royal Life Saving Society Australia in partnership with Surf Life Saving Australia has prompted urgent calls to keep water safety top of mind when planning a day in, on or near the water, including in Melton and Moorabool. The National Drowning Report 2023 released by Sport Minister Anika Wells found there were 281 drowning deaths over the past 12 months, which is 17 per cent lower than last year, and returns the annual drowning toll closer to pre-pandemic levels.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

McBride addresses Parliament on suicide prevention

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 14/09/2023, Page 8

Member for Dobell Emma McBride, who is Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and for Regional and Regional Health, gave an impassioned address in Federal Parliament in the lead-up to World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10. "For many people it may be just another day, but for the families and friends of the 3,000 Australians, who die by suicide each year it will be a day of reflection and remembering," McBride said.

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ABC News, Drive, 13/09/2023, Compere

Interview with Matt Berriman, Chair, Mental Health Australia. Berriman says the Federal Government needs to lift its game on provision and resourcing of mental health services. Berriman met with federal MPs from both sides of politics to call for that issue to be made a national priority, saying 1 in 5 Australians are impacted by a mental health condition each year. He says the Prime Minister needs to take a bigger role in this debate. Berriman says they had quality time with the Health Minister Mark Butler and Emma McBryde, the Assistant Minister for Mental Health and the shadow ministers as well.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

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DEPARTMENT

Selectability takes over management

North Queensland Register, General News, 14/09/2023, Finn Coleman, Page 8

The management of three lower Gulf aged care facilities has been taken on by regional Queensland not-for-profit charity, Selectability. An experienced provider of health services, Selectability, has been endorsed by the Department of Health and Aged Care to take on the responsibility of the Ngooderi House, Kukatja Place and Kuba Natha Hostel aged care facilities.

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Medical sector calls for urgent action on climate change and investment in healthcare sustainability

Australian Medical Association, Other, 13/09/2023

The Australian Medical Association and Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA) are calling on federal, state and territory governments and the wider healthcare sector to take urgent action against climate change. [...] Professor Paul Kelly, Australia's Chief Medical Officer, presented at the webinar and highlighted the essential role of government, including establishing the National Health Sustainability and Climate Unit, and the recent consultation to develop the National Health and Climate Strategy.

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Free education modules online now

Community Care Review, Other, 13/09/2023

A new series of e-learning modules have been developed for aged care workers. Funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care and designed by the University of Tasmania's Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre, the Equip Aged Care Learning Packages are aimed at anyone involved in the aged care sector including nurses, personal care workers, allied health professionals, volunteers, and families.

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Strict new vaping rules for Australia: Fruity flavour fans face a devastating blow - here's what you need to know

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 13/09/2023, Kevin Airs

The government has launched secret talks on introducing a strict near-complete ban on vaping in Australia but has hidden the new proposals from the public. [...] The consultation process comes as health minister Mark Butler revealed details of the government's latest crackdown on vaping on Wednesday, which has less severe restrictions than those being proposed by the TGA.

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Australian Press Council adjudication

The Australian, Other, 13/09/2023

The Press Council considered a complaint from Senator Gerard Rennick concerning an article published by The Australian online on 11 August 2022, headed "Anti-vax Liberal senator Gerard Rennick refused briefings from Greg Hunt". [...] It said "Senator Rennick was offered several one-on-one sessions with Mr Hunt, as well as Health Department Deputy Secretary and Therapeutic Goods Administration boss Adjunct Professor John Skerritt, since the start of the pandemic.

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CORONAVIRUS

CIA 'paid team' to reject Covid theory

The Australian, General News, 14/09/2023, Adam Creighton, Page 2

The CIA gave six of its own intelligence officers "significant monetary incentives" to jettison the possibility SARS-Cov2, the virus that causes Covid-19, leaked from a lab in Wuhan China, according to explosive allegations from a "seemingly credible" CIA whistleblower. Congressional committees tasked with investigating the origin of Covid-19 on Tuesday (Wednesday AEST) released a letter they had sent to CIA director William Burns demanding information related to a seven-person committee the intelligence agency had formed to investigate the origin of the virus.

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

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Moderna rolls out Covid, flu 'superjab'

The Australian, General News, 14/09/2023, Jared Lynch, Page 3

Australians will be able to roll up their sleeves for a "superjab" to protect them from both Covid and the flu by early 2026 if Moderna has its way. The US biotech company has slated its anticipated launch date for the product, which will combine vaccines for the flu and Covid-19 into a single shot for the first time.

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

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Former Lion's \$200,000 battle over Covid

The Australian, Sport, 14/09/2023, Michael Warner, Page 24

Retired Brisbane Lions midfielder Cam Ellis-Yolmen has launched a \$200,000 legal fight over his forced exit from the game for refusing to be vaccinated against Covid-19. Ellis-Yolmen was sidelined in January last year when his bid for a vaccine exemption on medical and cultural grounds was rejected by the AFL.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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CIA 'bribes' to analysts on Covid origins

Daily Telegraph, General News, 14/09/2023, Justin Vallejo, Page 5

The United States' top spy agency was accused of bribing its own analysts to cover up findings the Covid-19 pandemic likely started from a lab leak in Wuhan, China. The bombshell whistleblower testimony to Congress alleged the Central Intelligence Agency offered analysts a "significant monetary incentive to change their position" of SARS-CoV-2 likely leaking from the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

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

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Walking towards greater understanding

Daily Liberal, General News, 14/09/2023, Sarah Falson, Page 2

Lorraine Holland wants Dubbo to be dementia-friendly for her children and though she says the city has come "a long way", there is still work to be done. Ms Holland's husband, Alex Holland, or "Big Al" as he was known, died two years ago of early onset Alzheimer's disease at age 66, after being diagnosed when he was 55.

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Aged care tech honoured for cutting-edge design

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 13/09/2023, Natasha Egan

A new line of Australian-designed furniture, an app for village residents and a smart home platform are among the aged care sector's innovators to pick up an award this month for design excellence. More than 1,000 people gathered in Melbourne last Friday evening for the 2023 Good Design Awards Ceremony, where winners selected from more than 900 diverse projects were recognised and celebrated.

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Providers gearing up for care minutes deadline

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 13/09/2023, Christopher Kelly

With October approaching, aged care providers have adopted a number of initiatives to ensure they meet the incoming care minutes target. From 1 October aged care homes will be required to provide an average of 200 minutes of care per resident per day including 40 minutes of care from a registered nurse.

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2023 aged care rankings: NSW's top and lowest rated homes revealed

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 13/09/2023, David Barwell

New figures have revealed more than 30 aged care homes in NSW are falling below acceptable standards as the federal government pushes ahead with major reforms to improve the health of the sector. The Department of Health has rated all 830 aged care homes in NSW as part of latest star ratings released last month.

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Educating aged care workers on dementia care with VR immersion

HelloCare, Other, 13/09/2023, Bianca Iovino

New technology inspired by Virtual Reality (VR) and gaming is being offered to aged care workers in ACT to better educate them on caring for older people with dementia. As part of a partnership with peak body Dementia Australia and the Goodwin House aged care facility in Canberra, care staff have been given access to the specialist VR training tool called the Educational Dementia Immersive Experience (EDIE) which is based on 20 different people's lived experience with dementia.

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The underappreciated aged care workforce bidding for pay rise inclusion

HelloCare, Other, 13/09/2023, Bianca Iovino

Hard-working aged care support workers are part of the team that helps residents live better lives, yet they are not receiving equal treatment by the Fair Work Commission to receive the 15% pay rise other care staff have received. Upset aged care support workers in catering, cleaning, laundry and maintenance have argued they have been unfairly left behind in the wage case, and their work is crucial to the successful operation of aged care facilities across the country.

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Two early adopters of Aged Care Industry Labour Agreements say they

have yet to bring in one worker from overseas

The Weekly Source, Other, 13/09/2023, Caroline Egan

Two aged care providers that were early recipients of Aged Care Industry Labour Agreements have revealed to The SOURCE that the Agreements have been effective in attracting and retaining staff from within Australia, but neither have used the Agreements to bring in staff from overseas yet.

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11 Aged Care Industry Labour Agreements signed – out of 800-plus providers

The Weekly Source, Other, 13/09/2023, Caroline Egan

The Department of Home Affairs has told The SOURCE 11 Aged Care Labour Agreements are now in place with residential aged care providers, and another one is close to completion. The 10 Agreements cover 2,000 temporary visa places and 4,000 permanent places over five years.

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Treating hypertension into old age lowers dementia risk

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 13/09/2023, Kathryn Magann

Over-60s who receive treatment for high blood pressure are substantially less likely to develop dementia than those who go untreated, according to a study. Researchers at the University of NSW have found treating hypertension over the age of 60 reduces the risk of dementia occurring by more than 25 per cent, with ongoing treatment the key to keeping the odds down as people age.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 13/09/2023, Mark Ferguson

For millions of Australians, maintaining low blood pressure is a serious challenge. But now we know that effort can pay off twofold. Fresh research from University of NSW shows keeping your blood pressure down can decrease the risk of dementia later in life. The study found that people aged over 60 who received treatment for hypertension have a 26% lower risk of dementia.

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Melbourne\)](#).

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Channel 9, National Nine News, 13/09/2023, Andrew Lofthouse and Melissa Downes

Managing your blood pressure can help reduce your risk of dementia, according to Australian and international researchers. A number of studies involving more than 34,000 people found that untreated high blood pressure was associated with a greater risk of dementia compared with those who have their condition under control.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Child-abuse victims often die earlier

Herald Sun, General News, 14/09/2023, Page 18

More than one in four Australians have experienced child sexual abuse., and those victims have a higher chance of premature death, according to the Swinburne University of Technology. Researchers found that the all-cause mortality rate into middle age was 8.25 times higher for people sexually abused as children than for the general population.

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Hazard burn sparks health alert as air quality drops

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 14/09/2023, Nadine Morton, Page 3

People with health conditions are urged to take precautions amid reduced air quality in the Illawarra due to widespread smoke. The Illawarra's air quality was rated as 'fair' yesterday thanks to a huge, 2700 hectare hazard reduction burn taking place in Holsworthy Military Barracks.

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

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Telethon unveils awesome foursome

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 14/09/2023, Claire Sadler, Page 6

They are the pint-sized heroes who battle bravely in the face of adversity and they want you to dig deep to help more sick kids like them. As the demands on the State's Little Telethon Stars have grown to keep up with the generosity of WA at this vital time of year, so has the lineup, with four stars leading the charge in 2023.

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Lifesaving app helps off-duty paramedic save boy being crushed by BBQ

NEWS.com.au, Other, 13/09/2023, Madeleine Achenza

An off-duty paramedic has saved a boy's life with the help of a lifesaving app after a barbecue fell on top him at an Adelaide home. Two-year-old Grayson Garrad was blue in the face when his mother found him being crushed under the weight of the barbecue smoker in their Yorke Peninsula backyard.

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

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Rethink Addiction: Fund Prevention forum hears stories of lived experience at Shellharbour

ABC Online, Other, 13/09/2023, Kelly Fuller

In front of more than 100 people, Jessica Warrener shared her experience of addiction for the first time at the Rethink Addiction forum in the Illawarra region of New South Wales. The forum heard from a panel of people with lived experience of addiction

[Read More](#)

Fracking health impacts presentation cancelled at Royal Darwin Hospital due to 'possible bias'

ABC Online, Other, 13/09/2023, Thomas Morgan

A scheduled presentation to health professionals at the Northern Territory's largest hospitals about the health impacts of fracking has been abruptly cancelled over concerns about "bias", sparking backlash from staff. An email from organisers says the event was cancelled "due to a concern/

[Read More](#)

Aussie woman's powerful message after mum dies on caravan trip

NEWS.com.au, Other, 13/09/2023, Chantelle Francis

Australian woman Tracey Bunworth was caravanning with her husband when her holiday took a devastating turn. The couple from Geelong in Victoria loved to travel and had centred a 10 week trip around the Birdsville Big Red Bash in the Simpson Desert.

[Read More](#)

Open letter sent

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 13/09/2023

Health professionals gathered outside NSW Parliament yesterday, to deliver an open letter signed by the Australian Medical Association NSW Branch, two medical colleges, the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association and 19 other health organisations calling for gas in homes and public buildings to be replaced with renewable electricity to protect health.

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The Federal Government has introduced new legislation to crack down on vaping and smoking if passed. Graphic warnings on cigarette packages would be updated and warnings would also appear on individual cigarettes. Additives such as menthol often used to encourage non or young smokers could be banned as well as names, looks and packaging that make smoking more attractive. Vapes would also be included in advertising restrictions.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Boost in search for liver therapy

Herald Sun, General News, 14/09/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 7

A potential treatment for one of the deadliest types of liver cancer has been discovered by Victorian medical researchers. A team led by the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS) has successfully treated inflammation associated with fatty liver disease progressing to a primary liver cancer in a mouse model.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#)

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Heart of the matter

Herald Sun, General News, 14/09/2023, Page 10

A nationwide survey has revealed alarming gaps in atrial fibrillation awareness among Australian adults. Atrial fibrillation, a condition in which the top chambers of your heart beat fast and erratically, can lead to life-threatening health complications such as stroke, heart failure and dementia when left untreated.

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I must live for my bub

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 14/09/2023, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 7

An Adelaide mother desperately needs a bone-marrow transplant in the next three months to survive and be there for her newborn daughter. Alejandra Morales was pregnant with her first child when doctors discovered her lymph nodes were inflamed.

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

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

'The really feared symptom': world-first Australian study examines cancer survivors' ongoing pain

The Guardian, Other, 14/09/2023, Natasha May

John Stubbs doesn't recall ever being asked about pain when he was diagnosed with leukaemia 23 years ago. [...] Prof Tanya Buchanan, the chief executive of Cancer Council Australia, said the study achieved a "world first" in providing broad evidence on pain to guide survivors, policymakers and health professionals.

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PRIMARY CARE

Canberra GPs blame payroll tax for fee hike

Some general practices have started to hike appointment fees, claiming the newly applied payroll tax has forced the price rise. Appointment fees at some clinics have increased by \$2 and \$5, both Chief Minister Andrew Barr and Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith have said.

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

Rats on the wards

Herald Sun, General News, 14/09/2023, Shannon Deery, Page 1

Victoria's major trauma hospital The Alfred is being overrun by mice and rats, with faeces found on beds and rodents seen running in patients' rooms, staff areas and operating theatres. Internal logs reveal that the run-down hospital has been plagued by rodents, with staff reporting it is crawling with mice and rats.

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Hospitals face surge in demand

Northern Territory News, General News, 14/09/2023, Zizi Averill, Page 3

A shortage of beds is again causing disruptions for staff at Top End hospitals, with another code yellow declared for the Royal Darwin and Palmerston facilities. NT Health confirmed a code yellow had been issued for the two hospitals on Tuesday due to a peak in hospital demand and high occupancy rates.

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

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

Base hospital staff, visitors forced to park at City Oval

Ballarat Courier, General News, 14/09/2023, Page 3

Ballarat Base Hospital staff and visitors will be forced to park at City Oval and use a shuttle bus service to reach the hospital as works begin to expand the hospital's multi-deck car park. The existing Mair Street car park will be closed for about 10 months from October 2 to allow for works to add an extra 400 car spaces, almost doubling its capacity.

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Next step to improve maternity services

Burnie Advocate, General News, 14/09/2023, Matt Maloney, Page 2

North West Private Hospital employees who transfer to the public North West Regional Hospital to work its new inpatient maternity service will retain their current entitlements should the Legislative Council support the proposal. The state's lower house on Tuesday voted in favour of a bill to facilitate the transfer of workers, which is part of a move to consolidate maternity services within the public sector on the NorthWest Coast.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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

It's our time: country Australia stares down challenges

Canberra Times, Other, 14/09/2023, Stephanie Gardiner

The Royal Flying Doctor Service is known for taking to the skies to help isolated Australians in their hour of need. Nearly a century after the rural aerial medical service was established, the charity is looking at what's happening on the ground.

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

[Read More](#)

Less invasive medical procedure reduces hospital visits for premature babies, study reveals

ABC Online, Other, 13/09/2023, Jano Gibson

Eva de Jong is a bright and bubbly girl who'll soon celebrate her fourth birthday. But when she was born, her future was far from assured. "It was quite scary," her mother Sarah recalls of her daughter's premature birth in late 2019.

Eva wanted the morning after-pill after a sexual assault. Confronting pharmacy questions left her 'frustrated'

The Guardian, Other, 14/09/2023, Natasha May

The morning after she was sexually assaulted in April 2021, Eva* went to a Chemist Warehouse to pick up emergency contraception and antidepressants. "I was not coping very well at time," she says.

[Read More](#)

'Cumbersome, costly, frustrating': What it's like facing a \$450,000 payroll tax bill

Australian Doctor, Other, 13/09/2023, Sarah Simpkins

The bill remains on the balance sheet despite the NSW Government's tax audit pause, says Mathew Simpson. Dr Tonya Coren and her husband Mathew Simpson were issued a \$450,000 retrospective payroll tax bill last month and a three-week deadline to pay in full.

[Read More](#)

Indefinite referrals undermine GP care — we need a national e-referral system to fix it

Australian Doctor, Other, 13/09/2023, Martin Robb

In my 45 years in general practice, I have seen the evolution and now devolution of Medicare. I also see a specialty at risk of unravelling. [...] Maybe the RACGP and ACRRM will consider developing policy and advice in this important area of general practice.

[Read More](#)

Aussie surgeons are delaying operations to watch Rugby World Cup, suggests Macquarie Bank

Australian Doctor, Other, 13/09/2023, Carmel Sparke

Analysts have found an uncanny' link between the cup and a dip in private health insurance claims. Financial analysts say they have proof that when the Rugby World Cup is on, surgeons tend to down tools.

[Read More](#)

Qld Health: History of issues ranging from 'fake prince' to payroll debacles

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 13/09/2023

Queensland Health may be responsible for looking after the public but it has done a poor job looking after itself, if these cases are anything to go by. While not all self-inflicted, the government-run body has a troubled history, ranging from worrying issues to truly bizarre public incidents.

[Read More](#)

Scope the answer for future generations

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 13/09/2023

The Pharmacy Guild says the recent Intergenerational Report (IGR) shows that pharmacists working to their full scope of practice is a big part of the solution to meet the growing demand on the health network and save the economy billions of dollars each year. The report is released every three to five years and forecasts key areas of government over the next 40 years including primary healthcare.

[Read More](#)

60-day dispensing campaign paused over early 8CPA

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 13/09/2023

The Pharmacy Guild has suspended its campaign over 60-day dispensing after it secured an agreement from the Albanese Government to immediately enter negotiations for an 8th Community

Pharmacy Agreement. Both parties have committed to secure a new agreement that will commence on 1 March 2024.

[Read More](#)

‘Real opportunity’ to fix 60-DD

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 13/09/2023

Pharmacy Guild National President, Professor Trent Twomey has told Guild members that negotiations to bring forward an 8 th Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA) are a real opportunity to resolve the problems created by 60-day dispensing. Speaking at the opening plenary session of the Pharmacy Connect Conference in Sydney earlier this month, Professor Twomey says pharmacists needed an agreement to start as "soon as practicable."

[Read More](#)

Payroll tax should be fair and equitable for all

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 13/09/2023

The Pharmacy Guild's Victorian Branch President, Anthony Tassone has said while no-one likes paying taxes, payroll tax is a well-established cost of running a business or health practice including pharmacies, and for other primary healthcare and allied health professionals. His comments are in response to doctors launching a campaign against the Victorian Government by posting anti payroll tax messages on their medical bills.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 13/09/2023, Andrew Lofthouse and Melissa Downes

New health data reveals Queensland Hospitals are spending thousands of hours at capacity every month. The Opposition is accusing the Health Minister of hiding the full numbers. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman says the newly opened Caboolture Satellite Hospital is easing the pain since the Caboolture Satellite Hospital opened at the beginning of August.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Defence is all talk, no action on vets: Kaldas

The Australian, General News, 14/09/2023, Ben Packham, Page 2

Veterans' suicide royal commissioner Nick Kaldas has accused Defence of failing to do enough to prevent suicides by former servicemen and women, and attempting to "stymie" his inquiry into the "national crisis". In a speech to the National Press Club on Wednesday, Mr Kaldas said Defence needed to acknowledge its own role in failing to address the problem, and "urgently embrace the changes needed" to halt the preventable deaths.

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App scroll hampers eating disorder recovery

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 14/09/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 16

Seventeen-year-old Katya Jaski is in recovery for anorexia after struggling with the condition for more than three years. But every time she opens her TikTok app, she finds the battle much harder.

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

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

Defence blasted on veteran suicides

Age, General News, 14/09/2023, Matthew Knott, Page 8

The chair of the royal commission into veteran suicides has blasted the Defence establishment for failing to move urgently to prevent former service members from suiciding, saying it appeared to be

going through the motions rather than taking meaningful action. In a fiery speech to the National Press Club yesterday, commissioner Nick Kaldas said veterans were still being driven to suicide two years after the royal commission was launched because of deeprooted flaws in the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#). Similar coverage reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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

Long wait for mental health art sessions

Ballarat Courier, General News, 14/09/2023, Michelle Smith, Page 5

Art sessions at Ballarat Community Health are helping people improve their mental health, reduce anxiety and isolation, but they have become so popular that many people wanting to take part cannot get a place. A months-long waiting list now exists for the art sessions which run four days a week as part of a suite of psycho-social services in adult mental health offered through the organisation.

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

Ex-cop in charge of new emergency support hub

Daily Advertiser, General News, 14/09/2023, Andrew Mangelsdorf, Page 3

Wagga welcomed a brand new emergency service hub to the city this week which is set to boost mental health support for first responders in the region. Ex-cop and co-founder of mental-health charity Emerge & See, Alana Singleton, launched the Riverina hub with a cup of coffee at the Pro Patria Centre on Tuesday morning.

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New data reveals barriers faced by those needing help

Daily Liberal, General News, 14/09/2023, Ciara Bastow, Page 5

On World Suicide Prevention Day, Beyond Blue released alarming statistics shedding light on the barriers people face when seeking support for mental health conditions. The findings reveal a concerning pattern that calls for immediate attention and action.

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Tough conversation could save a life

Daily Liberal, General News, 14/09/2023, Ciara Bastow, Page 5

R u ok? is calling on Dubbo residents to let the people they care about know; 'I'm here to hear', every day of the year.

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

Tackling challenges feet first

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 14/09/2023, Madeleine Clark, Page 1

The Rotary Club of Boulder is set to hold Kalgoorlie-Boulder's inaugural Lift the Lid Walk on October 1 to get locals walking and talking about mental health. Intended for those looking to enjoy a leisurely walk in Karlkurla Bushland Park, the event is likely to attract families and anyone who has been affected by mental health or cares about raising awareness of it in the community.

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

'Ask to listen': Let's make every day RUOK? Day

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 14/09/2023, Madeleine McNeil, Page 3

A Warrnambool mental health first aid facilitator has spoken of the importance of checking in with loved ones regularly if you notice they're not themselves and to "ask to listen". Jacqui Gore spoke to The Standard ahead of national RUOK? Day on Thursday, September 14.

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'Not good enough': Peak body slams Labor inaction on mental health

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 13/09/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos

Mental Health Australia chair Matt Berriman says the prime minister is missing in action on mental health and has yet to show his commitment to the issue almost nine months after the government halved the number of Medicare-funded psychology sessions. Berriman will on Wednesday tell an audience of federal MPs that Labor's inaction is leaving millions of people struggling to get the support they need, as research shows the cost of living is affecting the mental health of more than one in two Australians.

[Read More](#)

Nurses, midwives and living loss: Navigating the grief of loss and change

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 11/09/2023

All of us will experience grief and loss at some point in our life. Grief is a highly individual experience, and it comes with no rule book.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

COVID nurses are here to stay

Daily Telegraph, General News, 14/09/2023, James O'Doherty, Page 7

More than 1,000 nursing positions created during the COVID pandemic will be made permanent under a half a billion dollar injection into the NSW Health budget. The Daily Telegraph can reveal next week's budget will set aside \$572 million to permanently fund 1112 nurse and midwife positions across the state.

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

Staff feel heat as GPs quit

Hobart Mercury, General News, 14/09/2023, Alex Treacy, Page 16

The performance of two regional Tasmanian doctors' surgeries has come under the microscope after the departure of two GPs, with significant community unrest leading to the abuse of staff. Leigh Heron, the practice manager of Ochre Health's Scottsdale and Bridport clinics, published an online Q&A on September 1 addressing changes at the clinics, which are heavily reliant on locum doctors even more so in the wake of the departures.

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'Significant' number of midwives confirmed to have left former Calvary hospital since takeover as Senate bill to force an inquiry fails

ABC Online, Other, 13/09/2023, Patrick Bell

There are growing concerns about the midwifery workforce at one of Canberra's two public hospitals, of which the ACT government recently took over management. Eleven midwives have left the former Calvary Public Hospital since it was acquired by the ACT government, 10 of whom took redundancies as part of the transition process

[Read More](#)

RACGP wants Medicare rebates for GPs teaching students and registrars

Australian Doctor, Other, 13/09/2023, Sarah Simpkins

Teaching means financial losses under the current system, says college president Dr Nicole Higgins. Medicare rebates for GPs to teach medical students and registrars will bolster training and ultimately boost the GP workforce, says the RACGP.

[Read More](#)

Pay rates continue to rise: report

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 13/09/2023, Michael Post

Workforce shortages and employee pharmacists seeking part-time roles are driving wage increases, a report reveals Data from the 2023 Raven's Recruitment Pharmacy Salary and Market Report shows pharmacists' wages are on the rise across the country. The report found that pharmacists who were willing to take on roles in rural and regional parts of

[Read More](#)

It takes courage to seek help: Director of Australia's new nurse and midwife health service

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 13/09/2023, Natalie Dragon

"There's a myth that nurses and midwives somehow have to be some extraordinary kind of human being who don't go through the range of experiences that we all do as human beings." "That myth has not assisted the nursing and midwifery professions to recognise their own need for care and to take the time out to manage that," says Heather Pickard, Director of the new National Nurse and Midwife Health Service which is set to launch early 2024.

[Read More](#)

Indigenous scholarship winners announced

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 13/09/2023

Three students from across the country have been named as the inaugural winners of the Symbion and Pharmacy Guild Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Student Scholarship Initiative. The three recipients of the scholarship are: Keely Clemments, first year pharmacy student at James Cook University.

[Read More](#)

Symbion and Guild ATSI Pharmacy Student Scholarship Recipients Announced

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 13/09/2023

Three students from across the country have been named as the inaugural winners of the Symbion and Pharmacy Guild Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Student Scholarship Initiative. The initiative flows from the Guild's and Symbion's reconciliation initiatives being implemented through their own respective Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPs), endorsed by Reconciliation Australia.

[Read More](#)

\$8,000 cash boost for these Aussie students

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 13/09/2023, Tamika Seeto

NSW healthcare students will receive cash boosts of up to \$8,000 next year, under a new budget measure aimed at boosting workers. From January 1, 2024, new healthcare students will receive scholarships of \$4,000 per year, while existing healthcare students will receive one-off payments of \$8,000.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 13/09/2023, Manny Tsigas

ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith has downplayed concerns about Canberra's hospital maternity services, insisting work is underway to address emergency level staffing shortages. It's the latest in a string of problems plaguing the Territory's health system.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Breakfast, 13/09/2023, Adam Shirley

Interview with ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith on staff shortages at North Canberra Hospital. Stephen-Smith says shortage of midwives is an ongoing issue in the ACT and across the country. She adds 11 midwives took redundancies during the transition from Calvary Hospital to North Canberra Hospital in July. She states the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has actually had a whole culture review in relation to a whole review in relation to the culture of obstetrics, and that included a recognition that they need to do more to work with the College of Midwives to improve culture across maternity.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

SA health using synthetic data to protect patient privacy

The Australian, Technology, 14/09/2023, Joseph Lam, Page 17

The use of artificial data has made its way into the medical industry. Australian doctors are now pushing patient files through synthetic data generators to create untraceable files that can be used in research and studies.

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

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

\$6k for birthing bungle

Courier Mail, General News, 14/09/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 5

Kaitlin Bruce desperately wants another child but she says a horror experience with a caesarean section which ultimately led to a hysterectomy has robbed her of that chance. Ms Bruce, now 35, gave birth to her third baby in September 2020 at Caboolture Hospital via emergency C-section.

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

Nurse caught on CCTV tampering with her vaccines

Daily Advertiser, General News, 14/09/2023, Jack Gramenz, Page 3

A nurse suspended for tampering with COVID-19 vaccines told a pharmacist she was only checking they had the correct dose. [...] The MLHD began investigating her conduct in early November, and nine days later its chief executive Jill Ludford submitted a complaint with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency.

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

'Completely violated': Unnecessary intervention in birthing process leaves long-lasting pain

Crikey, Other, 13/09/2023, Cat McGinn

Some women have described examinations by unsympathetic staff as 'like rape' and a study found one in 10 experienced 'obstetric violence'. There's a perception in our culture that birth is inherently traumatic we tend to view it as an emergency rather than a normal physiological process.

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

Emotional plea of a widow after AFL concussion horror that's so close to home

The Australian, Edition Changes - All-round Metro, 14/09/2023, Wendy Carlisle and Jessica Halloran, Page 1

Anita Frawley, the widow of St Kilda great Danny Frawley, has revealed her family's trauma since her future son-in-law and Melbourne defender Angus Brayshaw was knocked out during a sickening clash at the MCG that has reignited the debate over concussion in sport calling for the AFL to ensure protecting athletes' brains was "sacrosanct". It's four years ago this week that her husband Danny Frawley took his own life.

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

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AFL to study head clash after finals

Age, Sport, 14/09/2023, Andrew Wu, Page 36

The controversial clash between Brayden Maynard and Angus Brayshaw will be closely examined by the AFL and could be the catalyst for further rule changes to protect players from concussion. The league has accepted the AFL Tribunal's decision to clear Maynard for his clash with Brayshaw, saying it respected the panel's reasoning behind the findings, but in its second statement of the day the AFL said it had been seeking a different outcome from the hearing.

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Youngsters game to try out for 2032

Courier Mail, General News, 14/09/2023, Stephanie Bennett, Page 11

The next generation of athletes is being put on the path to glory ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. But some may not have as long to wait, with eight stars already discovered through the You for 2032 program flagged as potentially representing Australia at the 2028 Los Angeles Games.

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Best in class

Hobart Mercury, General News, 14/09/2023, James Bresnehan, Page 1

Tasmania Football Club chair Grant O'Brien has reinforced the crucial importance of a new stadium at Macquarie Point to the future of the state's AFL venture. "For the first-class team that we're looking to put on the ground, we need first-class infrastructure," he said in Launceston as the club's inaugural board was revealed.

Similar coverage reported by: [ABC Online](#)

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Board made of right stuff

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 14/09/2023, Page 18

The development of the Tasmania Football Club passed another important milestone on Wednesday when the inaugural board of directors was officially unveiled. The inclusion of a Tasmanian team in the

AFL was, for so long, a distant dream for generations of football supporters, but now it continues to gather momentum towards a 2028 playing debut.

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Lifblood of sport clubs set for \$200,000 boost

Northern Territory News, General News, 14/09/2023, Nathaniel Chambers, Page 3

The NT government has dedicated hundreds of thousands of dollars in funding to help sporting clubs and organisations invest in their backbone of volunteers. Volunteers from sport and active recreation organisations now have access to resources, tools and funding under the new NT Sport Volunteer Action Plan.

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

Now that is a fair WACA

West Australian, Sport, 14/09/2023, Glen Quartermain, Page 52

The WA Cricket Association board has approved the construction of a \$154.7 million redevelopment of its home ground. But the board remains at a stalemate over the release of an external inquiry into governance, a development that will anger some members less than a week out from its annual general meeting.

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Fight for funds to build new Rochester pool

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 14/09/2023, David Chapman, Page 5

Rochester swimming pool was destroyed in the 2022 floods and funds from the abandoned Commonwealth Games should be used to build a new facility. That's the view of Campaspe Shire mayor Rob Amos who said such a facility would be "a beacon of hope for the future" for victims still traumatised by the flood.

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Alcohol factor across inland drownings

Daily Liberal, General News, 14/09/2023, Sarah Falson, Page 2

Inland waterways like the Macquarie River are high risk for drowning deaths in Australia, and alcohol and isolation are contributing to the statistics. This is according to the National Drowning Report 2023 which shows there were 281 drowning deaths in Australian waterways over the past year and inland waterways accounted for 27 per cent of them.

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Radical plan to expand 2027 Rugby World Cup forces officials to delay call on which city will host final

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 13/09/2023, Julian Linden

The eagerly-anticipated decision on which Australian city will be chosen to host the final of the 2027 Rugby World Cup has been put on hold until next year because of a dramatic late twist that could see the world's third biggest sport event expand even further. Sydney, Melbourne and Perth have all put their hands in the ring to host the final, which is expected to bring in millions of tourism dollars.

[Read More](#)

Women's World Cup fuelled uptick in Australian household spending last month, CommBank data shows

The Guardian, Other, 13/09/2023, Peter Hannam

Spending on the Fifa Women's World Cup and a jump in education, insurance and petrol outlays nudged national spending higher last month, according to CommBank data capturing the spending of about 7m households. The household spending insights index picked up 0.7% to 137 in August. Compared with a year earlier, the index was up 2.3%, improving from the 1.9% annual rise in July. CommBank's household spending insights index picked up 0.7% to 137 this August. Photograph: Commonwealth Bank

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Fast and furious step up to tackle MND

Daily Telegraph, General News, 14/09/2023, Emma Cam, Page 7

This firefighter is used to rushing up stairs responding to emergencies but this week he will be running up a different kind of staircase. Wentworth Falls firefighter Gavin Clifton is taking on the infamously gruelling Furber Steps in the Blue Mountains to raise money for motor neurone disease (MND) research.

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Healthcare surges as business landscape adapts to ageing population Hari Hara Priya Kannan

The Australian, Other, 13/09/2023, Hari Hara and Priya Kannan

If anyone has recognised the significance of open data in advancing transparency, fostering innovation and driving economic development, it is Australia. It is a data-rich nation.

[Read More](#)

Uni takes closer look at antidepressant withdrawal

In Daily, Other, 13/09/2023, David Simmons

People who have experienced withdrawal symptoms or side-effects while trying to wean off antidepressant medications are being invited to take part in University of Adelaide research on the issue. The university's Critical and Ethical Mental Health (CEMH) research group is asking Australians who have stopped taking antidepressants, or who are trying to stop, to complete a brief online survey about their experiences.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 13/09/2023, Natalie Forrest

Researchers at RMIT have made a breakthrough for treating drug resistant bacterial infections like Jenny's. It's essentially a two-dimensional material that can burn the outside of bacterial and fungal cells.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Prenatal program helps Indigenous mums and bubs thrive

Canberra Times, Other, 14/09/2023, Eelemarni Close-Brown

When Natalie Page went into labour suddenly with her first baby she was quite frightened. Ms Page's mother drove her to the nearest hospital to give birth to her oldest daughter Emariah.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#) and widely syndicated across regional publications

[Read More](#)

SWALSC encourages Noongar community to reach out on World Suicide Prevention Day

National Indigenous Times, Other, 13/09/2023

With this year's theme of World Suicide Prevention Day being "Creating hope through action," South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council chairperson Megan Krakouer is leading a push to raise

awareness in Indigenous communities. Ms Krakouer has worked for a decade in suicide postvention and prevention.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

WRAD Health supports pill testing at events

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 14/09/2023, Monique Patterson, Page 9

Drug testing at events is something WRAD Health supports. Operations manager Mark Powell said WRAD Health has always been supportive of efforts to reduce the harms of substances on individuals and community.

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Hundreds screened for TB after outbreak in central Australia

Australian Doctor, Other, 13/09/2023, Rachel Fieldhouse

Hundreds of people have been screened for TB with free vaccinations offered to at-risk groups in SA as health authorities scramble to contain an outbreak in the state's far north. Updated genome sequencing analyses confirmed that 13 TB infections were linked to the outbreak on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Why the 'budget' Ozempic trend is more dangerous than you think

Northern Territory News, Other, 13/09/2023, Mia Erickson

Off-label usage of injectable semaglutide medications like Ozempic and Wegovy have exponentially grown in popularity. [...] In a statement released by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) earlier this month, they confirmed "Currently we are asking health professionals to continue limiting Ozempic prescriptions to the TGA-registered indication of the management of type 2 diabetes as there may not be adequate supply to support off-label use for other conditions such as the management of obesity."

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Popular nasal decongestant doesn't actually relieve congestion, US medical advisors say

9News, Other, 13/09/2023

Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has said it will "take action as required" after a leading decongestant used by millions around the world in cold and flu medicines was found to be no better than a dummy pill. The findings were made by US government experts who reviewed the latest research on the long-questioned drug ingredient.

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Vigilance program

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 13/09/2023

The TGA is commencing a new Medical Devices Vigilance Program to support medical device sponsors in complying with regulation...

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Coalition seeks to reverse drug law

The Australian, General News, 14/09/2023, Sarah Ison, Page 1

Canberra is set to become a "boom market" for drug dealers and crime gangs, according to Peter Dutton, as the federal Coalition proposes using commonwealth powers to override the ACT government's decision to decriminalise the possession of ice, heroin, cocaine and other illicit substances. The ACT government's drug reforms, due to come into effect on October 28, would make Canberra the first city in Australia to decriminalise the possession of small quantities of illicit substances in a bid to divert people away from the justice system and towards treatment services.

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Dutton targets 'drug capital'

Canberra Times, General News, 14/09/2023, Karen Barlow and Lucy Bladen, Page 1

In a move certain to inflame the debate over territory rights, the federal Coalition is seeking to overturn the ACT Labor-Greens government's controversial drug decriminalisation laws. A "totally shocked and dismayed" Opposition Leader Peter Dutton backs the attack on the laws which were introduced as a harm reduction measure just months after the last territory election.

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

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FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

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AICIS

Battle over mystery road

Newcastle Herald, General News, 14/09/2023, Madeline Link, Page 1

A stoush has developed over the ownership of a Port Stephens road, with the council saying it is unable to confirm the road's status and a research company director alleging he was asked to pay a fee to use it. The dispute over access to the Stockton Bight Track has brought a pilot project using plants to remove PFAS from the soil at Williamtown to a grinding halt.

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Hunter's PFAS problem refuses to dilute

Newcastle Herald, General News, 14/09/2023, Page 32

It would be bureaucratic in the extreme to believe the PFAS plight of Williamtown residents ended when Hunter-based class action members received \$86 million as part of the \$212.5 million federal government settlement made in March 2020. That money was not nothing.

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Salt Ash Public School test results reveal elevated PFAS levels

Newcastle Herald, Other, 13/09/2023, Matthew Kelly

Salt Ash community members have called for the closure of the local school after recent testing revealed the continued presence of elevated PFAS levels in the playground. A Department of Education letter sent to parents has advised recent testing had shown "slightly elevated" levels of PFAS in the north east area of the school and near the covered playground and sandpit.

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Lawyers snap up millions from toxic foam settlement

West Australian, Other, 13/09/2023, Miklos Bolza

Landowners seeking compensation over toxic firefighting foam contaminating their properties will have to forfeit over \$50 million from a multimillion-dollar class action settlement. The Federal Court approved the \$132.7 million settlement in August, meaning funds will start flowing to around 3900 registered landowners living near seven separate defence force bases across the country.

Also reported by: [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#)

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