



# TODAY'S NEWS

Monday, 4th September 2023

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)  
| [Assistant Minister Kearney](#) | [Assistant Minister McCarthy](#) | [Department](#)  
| [Coronavirus](#) | [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Population Health](#)  
| [Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions](#) | [Primary Care](#)  
| [Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)  
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)  
| [Medicare Benefits and Digital Health](#) | [Benefits Integrity](#)  
| [Health Systems Strategies](#) | [Sport](#) | [Health Economics and Research](#) |  
[First Nations Health](#) | [Office of Health Protection and Emergency Management](#)  
| [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) | [Office for Drug Control](#) | [Food Standards](#)  
| [AICIS](#)

## LINKS

[Click here to view full print articles in this report](#)

[Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers](#)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports the NDIS has incentivised providers to keep children with autism dependent on therapeutic support, a discussion paper submitted to the Scheme's independent review by the Actuaries Institute says.
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports a lack of hospital beds has seen Melbourne ambulance crews spend more than half a million hours over the last five years waiting for their patients to be admitted, new internal data from Ambulance Victoria has revealed.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 3) reports prostate cancer fatalities have dropped since 2006, new data from the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia has found, but instances of the disease have increased more than 25 per cent over the period, while only a third of cases are detected early.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 7) reports up to 100,000 Australians could be diagnosed with fatal silicosis over the next five years unless Australia bans all silica material from entering the country, the Lung Foundation has warned.
- The **[Sydney Morning Herald](#)** (page 15) reports the Garvan Institute of Medical Research has launched a new registry to collect medical records for people under 50 with heart conditions in New South Wales in a bid to improve support services and identify better treatments.

- [The Australian](#) (page 18) reports health insurers are advocating for the end of bans on insurance funding out-of-hospital treatments following reports some doctors are admitting patients to hospitals for minor procedures to help them avoid out-of-pocket costs or to game the system for increased practice revenue.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### COVID booster reminder for elderly

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/09/2023, Tess Ikonomou, Page 11

Elderly people are being urged to get a booster COVID-19 vaccination if six months has passed since their last jab. The federal government has accepted advice from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation that those aged 75 years and older should receive an additional COVID vaccine dose. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said it was never too late to get an extra vaccine dose.

Also reported by: [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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

### Millions receive boost

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/09/2023, Ellen Ransley, Page 10

Billions of dollars worth of "targeted" and "responsible" cost of living measures will this month begin flowing through for millions of Australians feeling the pinch at the checkout or when paying their bills. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said cheaper medicines were "good for the hip pocket". "Every single Australian will benefit from the freeing up of millions of much-needed GP visits, so our doctors have more time to diagnose and treat conditions, instead of simply issuing routine, repeat scripts," he said.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Sky News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

### Profits so big, it'll make you sick

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 04/09/2023, Sue Dunlevy, Page 18

Half-price medicines for six million Australians are under threat because outdated rules have turned the pharmacy sector into a near-monopoly run by millionaires and billionaires. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said: "The Pharmacy Guild's own figures show that the average gross profit of a pharmacy is 34 per cent, higher than any other sector of the private medical services industry".

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

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

### Pharmacists shelve medicines campaign as talks begin

CQ Today, Other, 03/09/2023

A peak pharmacy body has shelved its campaign against 60-day medicine dispensing and agreed to talks to iron out an agreement that will not jeopardise the viability of local pharmacies. [...] People with a heart condition, Crohn's disease, high cholesterol, osteoporosis, high blood pressure and many other conditions would get important cost of living relief, Health Minister Mark Butler said in a statement to mark the change.

[Read More](#)

### I suppose this is big news – but it may just be another damp squid!

Australian Health Information Technology, Other, 03/09/2023, Cate Swannell

This appeared last week: 30 August 2023 Lift-off: governments sign digital health deal Government Interoperability By Cate Swannell Reform of Australia's healthcare system is on the way. See what's in the fine print. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler was the first to sign, on 31 May, and WA's Minister for Health Amber-Jade Sanderson was the last, on 26 July.

[Read More](#)

## MINISTER WELLS

### **Pollies score bevy of free Tillies tickets**

Canberra Times, General News, 04/09/2023, Miriam Webber and Justine Landis-Hanley, Page 12

While some of us struggled to get tickets to the explosive Women's World Cup last month, more than a dozen federal politicians got in for free, according to the federal register of interests. Minister for Sport Anika Wells, unsurprisingly, scored tickets to the greatest number of matches, including 17 exclusive FIFA Suite tickets, courtesy of the scandal-plagued football federation.

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

### **Paralympic team fears**

Courier Mail, General News, 04/09/2023, Hayden Johnson, Page 5

Paralympics Australia has warned it is on track to send its smallest team of athletes in 20 years to the Paris Games and fears are mounting that a lack of investment could result in a talent shortfall at the 2032 Brisbane Olympics. Paralympics Australia CEO Catherine Clarke said premier national events and increased funding were critical to developing athletes for the Los Angeles and Brisbane Paralympic Games. [...] Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells subsequently revealed that \$466,500 of funding would be invested in Paralympic Australia's Talent Identification and Pathway Entry program.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

### **New endometriosis clinics open in GP practices at Glenelg North, Rouse Hill**

ABC Online, Other, 03/09/2023

Adelaide's first endometriosis and pelvic pain clinic has opened today, as part of an expanded national program. [...] The Assistant Minister for Health, Ged Kearney, said the clinics were vital for reducing the wait to receive a diagnosis for endometriosis, a disease in which tissue similar to the lining of the uterus grows outside the uterus, or other pelvic pain conditions.

[Read More](#)

### **ABC Radio Adelaide, 22:00 News (Weekend), 03/09/2023**

Another two clinics are being established in an extension of the Federal Government's National Action Plan for Endometriosis. The sites at Glenelg North in Adelaide and at Rouse Hill in western Sydney have been launched by the Assistant Health Minister, GED Kearney. They extend the endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics to 22 sites nationally. GED Kearney says women with the disease Carnarvon wait years before being diagnosed.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## DEPARTMENT

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## CORONAVIRUS

### Neurological impact of COVID-19 needs more research

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023

Australia needs to commit to more research examining the neurological symptoms that can result from COVID-19. Clinicians and researchers still have more to learn about the neurological symptoms that can result from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), according to a Narrative Review published today in the Medical Journal of Australia.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Solution to housing crisis is no grey area

Courier Mail, General News, 04/09/2023, Daniel Gannon, Page 21

There's an affordable housing option available to a growing cohort of Australians in an otherwise unaffordable housing market and it's hiding in plain sight. Retirement communities are a housing solution whose time has come, given the great Australian dream of home ownership is becoming a nightmare for many.

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

### Preparing for a new age

Daily Liberal, General News, 04/09/2023, Sarah Falson, Page 1

Dubbo service providers are preparing to meet the needs of elderly residents as new modelling shows Australia's population will age at a faster rate over the next 40 years, posing challenges for our health system. The latest Intergenerational Report, released by Treasurer Jim Chalmers in August, paints a blunt picture of an older population that relies on a comparatively smaller workforce to support them while they move into retirement and aged care.

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

### Elderly risking health to stay with pets, due to most aged care facilities banning animals, advocates say

ABC Online, Other, 03/09/2023, Eliza Kloser

There are concerns older people are risking their health to stay with pets, as most aged care homes do not allow them. Efforts have begun to educate and encourage more providers to change their policies because of the health benefits. Rolf Gericke would rather die than be forced to part with his cats if he needs to move into an aged care facility.

[Read More](#)

### Why the old-age dependency ratio matters

Your Life Choices, Other, 04/09/2023, Andrew Gigacz

The Australian Treasury last month released the 2023 Intergenerational Report, just two years after the last one in 2021, which projects the outlook for the Australian economy over the next 40 years. The

## POPULATION HEALTH

### **Does exercise help you to lose weight?**

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 04/09/2023, Hannah Vanderheide, Page 25

It's been a long-held belief that hitting the gym will help shift a few kilos, but experts say the reality is more complicated. It's not just about hitting the gym; it's about hitting it with a new fitness program, getting faster and stronger, noticing greater mental clarity, and a reduction in overall stress. But when you step on the scale, suddenly all those benefits parachute out of your mind leaving you feeling like a failure.

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

### **Spotlight documentary on trans 'regret' stirs heated debate**

The Australian, Other, 03/09/2023, Nathan Schmidt

Debate over a TV documentary advertised as being the "most controversial" of the year has raged online amid accusations its portrayal of trans rights issues is "misinformation". The 7 News Spotlight special De-Transitioning aired on Sunday night following days of heated debate over claims on the program children were being told to "change" genders.

[Read More](#)

### **Victorians lose their teeth as dental chairs sit empty**

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/09/2023, Melissa Cunningham

Many Victorians are waiting up to three years for dental treatment and increasingly losing teeth while more than 100 funded dental chairs sit empty due to a workforce crisis. The number of public dentists has plummeted by almost 20 per cent in five years and the state's public dental system is facing major staff shortages said Associate Professor Matthew Hopcraft, who is chief executive of the Australian Dental Association's Victorian branch.

[Read More](#)

### **SA illegal vaping hotspots revealed as authorities prepare action against dozens of dodgy businesses**

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/09/2023, Andrew Hough and Brad Crouch

An official crackdown has identified Adelaide's hotspot for illegal sales of highly addictive nicotine vapes, as authorities target dozens of dodgy retailers in a new round of legal enforcement. A new study is shedding more light on the health risks vaping can pose for teens.

[Read More](#)

### **Nature prescriptions — just what the doctor ordered**

ABC Online, Other, 03/09/2023

Nature is good for our wellbeing. But how much green space does a community need, before you can see a wellbeing boost? And how do we encourage people to spend more time outdoors?

[Read More](#)

### **Vaping may lower men's sperm counts and shrink their testicles, study suggests**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 03/09/2023, Cassidy Morrison

Vaping may lower sperm counts, sap libido, and shrink the testicles, scientists warn. In research on male rats, experts from Turkey tested what effect exposure to smoke from e-cigarettes and normal cigarettes had on the rodents' sexual health. They measured how much sperm the animals could make, what their testicles looked like under a microscope and markers of stress in the blood and genitals.

## Improving Australian children's access to dental care "vital to diminish burden of disease"

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023

There are opportunities to do more to improve the dental health of Australian children, a move that will deliver immediate and long term benefits, as well as diminish the burden of disease. [...] However, the latest Australian Institute of Health and Welfare update monitoring Australia's progress towards implementing this plan is mixed, with multiple key performance indicators showing either no change or unfavourable trends.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Deaths from prostate cancer on rise

The Australian, General News, 04/09/2023, James Dowling, Page 3

Prostate cancer deaths have jumped more than 25 per cent since 2006 and only a third of cases are being detected in the earliest stage of the disease, new data reveals. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men in Australia, with the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia reporting 70 new cases and 10 deaths every day.

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

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

### Register aims to arrest cardiac woe

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 04/09/2023, Angus Thomson, Page 15

Scientists hope to solve the mystery behind sudden cardiac arrests in young people by establishing a genetic database of everyone under the age of 50 with rare heart conditions and their families. The Garvan Institute of Medical Research has launched a new registry that will collect the medical records and blood samples of every person in NSW who has suffered a sudden cardiac arrest between the ages of one and 50.

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

### At 20, Sara's heart stopped. But why?

Age, General News, 04/09/2023, Angus Thomson, Page 15

Scientists hope to solve the mystery behind sudden cardiac arrests in young people by establishing a genetic database of everyone under the age of 50 with rare heart conditions and their families. The Garvan Institute of Medical Research has launched a new registry that will collect the medical records and blood samples of every person in NSW who has suffered a sudden cardiac arrest between the ages of one and 50.

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

### Children upset at move to end camps

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/09/2023, Rob Inglis, Page 7

Tasmanian kids living with diabetes have been left frustrated and upset by a decision to cancel a series of diabetes youth camps, demanding to know why the events have been scrapped. The overnight camps, run by Diabetes Australia, have been cancelled in favour of one-day youth programs.

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

### Little fighter beating the odds

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/09/2023, Bethany Griffiths, Page 7

It is hard to imagine being able to find a silver lining to spending almost half your life in hospital. But for 7-year-old Darwin girl Avi McElwee, it's easy. Mum Bethan said her family were in and out of hospital a lot, after Avi was diagnosed with type 1 spinal muscular atrophy as a baby. The initial prognosis was

not good and baby Avi was placed into palliative care, but she soon got on to a very experimental clinical trial.

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

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

## 'It's hell on earth': Kylie's skin check plea

Daily Advertiser, General News, 04/09/2023, Taylor Dodge, Page 7

A Wagga woman is on a mission to prevent anyone else from having to go through the pain and suffering she has had since being diagnosed with melanoma. Kylie Manson has been encouraging residents to make the most of free skin checks which will be offered in Wagga this week thanks to the Australian Skin Cancer Foundation's Skin Check Truck.

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

## Cervical cancer rate a concern

Launceston Examiner, General News, 04/09/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 1

Tasmania has some of the highest rates of cervical cancer in the country according to a new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Approximately 9.5 people are diagnosed with cervical cancer per 100,000 in the state, well above the national average of 7.2.

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

## Melbourne woman issues sobering warning after ignoring stomach pain and shooting pain in her side

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/09/2023, Staff writers

Chloe Spitlanic is no stranger to stomach pains, being lactose and fructose intolerant. But when the Melbourne woman was just 22, having recently begun her Master's degree, the stomach pains began to hint toward something more sinister. [...] According to the Cancer Council, the average age of diagnosis for ovarian cancer is 66.

[Read More](#)

## Tackling the burden of endometriosis: patients must be put first

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023

We must listen to the needs of women with endometriosis, tailoring research and associated funding to be able to answer the key questions they have identified as their top priority, write Associate Professor Mike Armour and Dr Cecilia Ng. Endometriosis is a common yet under-recognised chronic disease with one in nine (more than 830 000) Australian women and those assigned female at birth diagnosed with endometriosis by the age of 44 years ( here ).

[Read More](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First (Weekend), 03/09/2023, Chris Bath

There has been zero improvement in the timely treatment of stroke, which is one of Australia's biggest killers. It's been revealed more than two thirds of stroke survivors still aren't receiving crucial treatment that could save them from death or disability within the recommended one hour time frame. Medical expert Professor Timothy Kleinig notes Australia does poorly in administering treatments quickly.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## PRIMARY CARE

### Insurers feeling sick as doctors bypass a health insurance ban

The Australian, Business News, 04/09/2023, Jared Lynch, Page 18

Doctors are admitting some patients to hospitals for procedures they can perform in their rooms, bypassing a 50-year old ban on private health insurance to spare patients out-of-pocket costs totalling hundreds of dollars, according to the peak health fund lobby group. Under Whitlam-era laws, private

health insurers cannot fund out-of-hospital medical treatment, including GP and specialist visits, as well as diagnostics such as blood tests and ultrasounds.

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

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

## Delays in overcrowded hospitals add up to years

Age, General News, 04/09/2023, Aisha Dow and Henrietta Cook, Page 1

Paramedics have spent a cumulative 120 years waiting for sick or injured patients to be admitted to overcrowded hospitals in the past five years, according to new data exposing the severity of the state's ambulance ramping crisis. Internal Ambulance Victoria records, obtained by The Age through freedom of information laws, show ambulance and patient transport crews spent more than 523,000 hours waiting at emergency departments since 2018, delaying their return to the road to help other Victorians.

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

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

## Panel to shape assisted dying laws

Canberra Times, General News, 04/09/2023, Page 5

Northern Territory citizens will have their say on voluntary assisted dying with newly proposed laws. It comes after the NT and ACT had their right to vote on such laws reinstated after a 27-year-old bill was repealed in 2022. NT Chief Minister Natasha Fyles said a panel had been formed to begin developing a voluntary assisted dying framework for the territory.

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

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

## General practice is sick. But this tax could be the death knell

Canberra Times, General News, 04/09/2023, Kerrie Aust, Page 17

Only a crisis would cause busy GPs representing more than half of Canberra's patients to assemble at an emergency meeting on a winter's night, but that's what they did on Tuesday. The ACT government's decision to impose additional payroll tax on GPs has left many worrying how they will keep their doors open, and they arrived looking angry and exhausted. [...] Dr Kerrie Aust is a Wanniasa GP and president-elect of the Australian Medical Association ACT.

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

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

## Labor seeks LGH probe

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/09/2023, Alex Treacy, Page 12

The state Opposition has called for an independent review specifically into the performance of Launceston General Hospital's emergency department. Health spokeswoman Anita Dow said the "LGH has the worst bed block in the country, with one in 10 waiting more than 30 hours for care".

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

## Skills kept in NW to save lives

Burnie Advocate, General News, 04/09/2023, Helen Kempton, Page 4

Kurt Edmunds is the face of an exciting change in the provision of cardiac services in the North-West - a post graduate student who can complete training in a very specialised field without having to leave his home town. Mr Edmunds is training at the Charles Clinic under a \$100,000 a year scholarship provided by Burnie businessman Dale Elphinstone who is passionate about this region having the medical services it needs.

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

## Stroke patients need treatment within an hour. Two-thirds don't get it in time

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/09/2023, Mary Ward



Less than a third of stroke patients are receiving crucial treatment within the clinically recommended time, putting them at risk of brain death. Only 32 per cent of patients requiring "clot-busting" treatment, known as thrombolysis, receive a needle within an hour of walking through the door of the hospital, data from Australia's clinical stroke registry shows.

[Read More](#)

## **'A travesty': Call for equal treatment of all children born alive after abortion failure**

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/09/2023

University of Adelaide's Professor of Law Doctor Joanna Howe says there are over 88,000 children whose lives are ended through abortion every year in Australia with close to 50 per cent being completely healthy.

[Read More](#)

## **Voluntary assisted dying in Australia: emerging questions**

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023, Roger Hunt

Until six years ago, there were no voluntary assisted dying laws in Australia, despite strong public support and fifty attempts in parliaments around the country. The change commenced in Victoria in 2017, after a parliamentary inquiry, a Ministerial Advisory Panel that consulted widely to craft recommendations for legislation, marathon parliamentary debates, and a conscience vote.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

# MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

## **NDIS 'skews' rates of autism**

The Australian, General News, 04/09/2023, Stephen Lunn, Page 1

The National Disability Insurance Scheme has "medicalised" autism and created winners and losers among children with the condition and developmental delay, giving providers incentives to ensure children remain dependent on therapeutic support, and threatening the \$35bn-a-year scheme's financial sustainability, the Actuaries Institute warns. Children with autism would have better long-term outcomes in school and community-based programs outside the NDIS than receiving individual supports under the scheme, the institute says, but state and local governments have largely abandoned the field.

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

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

## **Technology has immense potential for extending mental health service capacity across Tasmania**

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/09/2023, Milena Heinsch, Page 16

We must come up with new models of care to support the vulnerable, writes Milena Heinsch his week is Social Sciences Week, and I will have the privilege of speaking directly with members of Tthe Tasmanian parliament about mental health in our communities and the potential for digital technologies to shape a more inclusive future for Tasmanians.

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

## **'He was facing a darkness he couldn't escape'**

West Australian, Edition Changes, 04/09/2023, Phil Hickey, Page 8

The heartbroken family of a WA police officer who took his own life say they hope a coronial inquest into his death later this month will highlight the pressures and stress the first responders face both on duty and off duty. He was just 27 years old. Const. Fyfe who was a traffic officer at the time of his death was a nephew of Michelle Fyfe (pictured below), who rose to the rank of assistant commissioner with WA Police before she left the force in 2018 after a distinguished 34-year career.

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

## How to let people know that you're here to hear

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 04/09/2023, Page 12

Suicide Prevention Australia's June 2023 Community Tracker revealed two in five Australians know someone who has died by or attempted suicide in the past 12 months, a 13 per cent increase from 2021. Held on the second Thursday of September, R U OKDay?

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

## New centre for veterans

Cairns Post, General News, 04/09/2023, Kate Stephenson, Page 6

Veterans and their families are gaining better access to critical support services in Cairns to help transition them back into everyday life. Cairns veteran Leticia Hosking, who left the navy in 2022 after 14 years of service, found adapting to civilian life particularly difficult, especially navigating it without strong links to other ex-service members.

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

## Let's chalk about it to help health

Cairns Post, General News, 04/09/2023, Kristina Puljak, Page 7

A mental health 'safe space' has been created on a popular footpath using colourful chalk. Residents joined the project on the Stratford Cycle Path on Saturday to draw their version of positive self talk in an initiative called Lets Chalk about Mental Health.

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

## New psychology clinic up and running

Wangaratta Chronicle, General News, 04/09/2023, Page 2

A psychology clinic at Wangaratta's Gateway Health campus was launched last month to provide affordable mental health services to the community while drawing on the skills of provisional psychologists. Serviced by qualified provisional psychologists from Victorian universities and supervised by licensed and experienced psychologists, the clinic will operate through a referral system and patients can even self-refer.

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

## Deakin University paternal mental health research, support group aim to help new dads in distress

ABC Online, Other, 03/09/2023, Faith Tabalujan

Albury man Josh Docking didn't know what sleep deprivation was until he became a dad. "The constant lack of sleep was the hardest part, initially," he said. But being a father often takes more than just a physical toll. One in 10 Australian fathers experience perinatal depression. And those in rural and regional areas are even more vulnerable, due to a lack of professional and informal support services.

[Read More](#)

## The CWA puts the focus on difficulties diagnosing ADHD in the bush

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 03/09/2023, Emma Downey

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (adhd) is one of the most common neurodevelopmental disorders of childhood. But what happens if it's missed? Amy Goodman knows firsthand. A provisional psychologist who works for Challenge Community Services in Tamworth, Ms Goodman was diagnosed with ADHD two years ago at 37.

[Read More](#)

## Funding to help remove suicide's stigma

Shepparton News Online, Other, 03/09/2023, Andy Wilson

The Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group's annual awareness walk will be held on Sunday, September 10. Photo: Ken Foletta The Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group will continue its campaign of strengthening the community in its understanding of suicide prevention with a suicide awareness walk.

## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### Stepping up care for tiny patients

Ballarat Courier, General News, 04/09/2023, Melanie Whelan, Page 5

Nurse Belinda Howlett knew from the moment she had a taste of working in Ballarat's special care nursery this was where she wanted to be. The graduate rotation offered Ms Howlett an insight into a space not many families would be familiar with unless they had experience with their own little loved one.

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

### Concern for mums and bubs

Cairns Post, General News, 04/09/2023, Bethany Westwood, Page 4

Hinchinbrook MP Nick Dametto says mums and bubs need to be put first after major changes in the Ingham Hospital maternity unit. Mothers due to give birth in Ingham will be transferred to Townsville in times of bypass because of doctor shortages, staff leave and recruitment issues.

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

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

### Consent and control key to reducing childbirth harm

Canberra Times, Other, 04/09/2023

The role that loss of control plays in traumatising tens of thousands of Australian women each year during childbirth will be probed at an inquiry. Doctors, midwives and mothers' advocates will address a NSW parliamentary committee on Monday highlighting womens' experiences of birth trauma.

[Read More](#)

### Suburbtrends: Rising house prices force essential workers out of Melbourne's inner city

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/09/2023, Samantha Healy and Emily Holgate

Essential workers like nurses and firefighters are being priced out of buying a house in more than 320 suburbs across Victoria, with Suburbtrends data analysis now labelled "grim". House-hunting nurses, cops and firefighters are swarming houses in Melbourne's west after being priced out of the inner city burbs.

[Read More](#)

### Rural maternity services urged to be National Cabinet issue

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 03/09/2023

Australians have had a significant increase in harm prescription opioids with three deaths occurring on average every day. When a rural town's maternity unit shuts down, it has a domino effect and other healthcare services quickly follow. Almost 100 maternity experts met in Canberra, calling for the federal government to step in and end the steady decline of services for regional mothers.

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

[Read More](#)

### Regional maternity care could benefit from new remote monitoring tech

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 03/09/2023, Dan Holmes

Expecting or planning for a bundle of joy in 2023? These are the most widely used and popular names to look out for in trends for your upcoming bub. Submissions to the NSW Birth Trauma Inquiry have revealed women in regional, rural and remote areas face additional challenges during pregnancy and childbirth. But emerging medical technology could help reduce these challenges, by creating a digital link between pregnant women and their healthcare providers.

## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Future doctors take flight

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/09/2023, Zizi Averill, Page 1

Seventy aspiring doctors have been exposed to the chaotic realities of medicine in the Territory. A car-crash victim, a patient spurting blood and a faulty breathing tube while flying through the air that is what James Hooper would describe as a "bad day". Yet this is exactly what CareFlight doctors said young doctors needed to prepare for if they wanted to join the Northern Territory's air ambulance network.

Similar coverage reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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

### Banksia Medical Centre, Belmont doctor win RACGP awards

Geelong Advertiser, Other, 03/09/2023, Tamara Mcdonald

Geelong medicos are being recognised in the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners state awards. Banksia Medical Centre, which has sites in Newcomb and Torquay, has been named Victoria's general practice of the year. Owner and GP Bernard Shiu said the award was a "huge honour" and thanked the college and the clinics' patients.

[Read More](#)

### Victorian GPs prepare to name and shame Daniel Andrews over payroll tax changes

NEWS.com.au, Other, 03/09/2023

Victorian GP clinics are preparing to name and shame Premier Daniel Andrews over payroll tax changes. Last month it was revealed many independent GPs would be affected by payroll tax for the first time however, the state government is denying there are any changes to Victoria's tax system.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### Pharmacies steel for fallout as dispensing changes begin

Daily Liberal, General News, 04/09/2023, Mark Coulton, Page 6

Labor's new 60-day dispensing laws take effect from this month, meaning that for some medicines customers will be able to receive twice as much at one time than they could previously access. Changes to dispensing laws will drastically impact the viability of pharmacies such as White's Pharmacy, which is the only pharmacy in the town of Lightning Ridge in northern NSW.

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

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

### How the drug "subsidy" scheme makes medicine more expensive

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/09/2023, Sue Dunlevy

Australia's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) is meant to reduce the cost of medicine by providing a government subsidy. However, we can reveal thanks to the secretly negotiated deal between chemists and the government it is actually making some low cost drugs more expensive. Lets take the commonly used blood pressure treatment and heart failure drug candesartan.

[Read More](#)

### Prescription medicine reforms benefit millions of Australians

As of September 1, Australians with chronic health conditions can access 60 days' worth of medicine, which one expert says will give people independence and aid them through the cost-of-living crisis. The 60-day dispensing reform has been touted as a huge win for consumers, and it means people requiring some medications will be able to access two months' worth in a single visit to the pharmacy.

[Read More](#)

## **Guild hires silk over 'broken' 7CPA**

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/09/2023

Pharmacy owners are set to receive advice about the possibility of taking legal action against the Commonwealth for breaking the 7CPA.

[Read More](#)

## **Benefits of 60-day scripts limited by lack of repeats**

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 03/09/2023

Minimum number of repeats needed to deliver on 60-day dispensing promises. Patients who are deemed to be suitably stable on their medication to receive a 60-day prescription should be given a minimum number of repeats, a leading pharmacist says.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### **Rise of telehealth expanding career paths**

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 04/09/2023, Page 8

The rise of telehealth in Australia is redefining how healthcare is delivered and driving job creation in services and technology. [...] Since 2011, the government has gradually increased the range of Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) telehealth services available, beginning with video consultations by psychiatrists, other consultant physicians and non-GP specialists.

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

[Back to Top](#)

---

## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### **Public hospital specialists who 'double dip' are escaping justice, says corruption watchdog**

Australian Doctor, Other, 03/09/2023, Sarah Simpkins

A corruption watchdog says "double dipping" salaried specialists are claiming unearned overtime and recall allowances, with hospital bosses powerless to stop them. The allegations, aired last week by the South Australian Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), relate to consultants working under agreements with SA Health.

[Read More](#)

### **Charlie Teo and supporters will walk across the Harbour Bridge to raise funds for cancer research**

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/09/2023, Cydonee Mardon

While controversy continues to follow Charlie Teo, his patients remain resolute, with scores flocking to his home on Saturday to support the neurosurgeon and his quest to cure brain cancer. Lauren Spero said she was committed to supporting Dr Teo and other "out-of-the-box" surgeons and researchers who "aren't afraid to take risks and to help find a cure so that there can be more patients like me, who are able to live long and full lives".

[Read More](#)

## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## SPORT

### The people who made the World Cup 'beyond great'

The Australian, General News, 04/09/2023, Kate Racovolis, Page 25

On a cold, clear-sky winter morning in June, 4000 football fans gathered on the Sydney Harbour Bridge to celebrate the upcoming FIFA Women's World Cup. That moment, which marked 25 days until the tournament would commence, was pivotal in galvanising audience engagement with the event, according to general manager of sports marketing and experience agency, GMR, part of the TBWA Sydney Group, that was engaged by FIFA to develop and lead the campaign.

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

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

### Shot at another big Cup

Herald Sun, General News, 04/09/2023, Peter Rolfe, Page 3

Australia is set to bid for the FIBA Men's Basketball World Cup in the wake of last month's record-breaking women's football World Cup. Inspired by the Matildas' nation-uniting efforts and the hugely successful tournament in Australia and New Zealand, moves are afoot to attract the world's best men's basketballers Down Under.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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

### Grassroots cut short

Courier Mail, General News, 04/09/2023, Hayden Johnson, Page 1

The Palaszczuk government has "savagely and secretly" slashed more than \$1m in funding from dozens of Queensland grassroots sporting organisations, nine years out from the 2032 Games. In some instances sporting organisations, including the Queensland Little Athletics Association Inc, had funding completely axed.

Similar coverage reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#).

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

### We're game for change

Courier Mail, Edition Changes - Metro, 04/09/2023, Stephanie Bennett and Clare Armstrong, Page 3

Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic 2032 Organising Committee says Yes to Voice The Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee will officially support the Indigenous Voice to Parliament, but president Andrew Liveris has conceded there will be differing views on the upcoming referendum.

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

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

### Claims Games never going ahead 'conspiracy theory': MP

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 04/09/2023, Monique Patterson, Page 3

Claims the state government never planned to host the Commonwealth Games have been branded a "conspiracy theory" by a southwest politician. Member for Western Victoria Jacinta Ermacora said the decision to cancel the event was the right one for Victoria.

## The scheme to house Games staff in 10,000 caravans – and how it fell apart

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/09/2023, Kieran Rooney

When a looming Commonwealth Games accommodation shortage emerged, the local caravan industry was thrilled to be part of the solution until they were asked to supply thousands of mobile homes for free. In the months leading up to the cancellation of the 2026 event, the industry was in discussions with the Victorian government to supply 10,000 caravans to house Games volunteers and workers.

[Read More](#)

## 'I couldn't control my mouse': The injuries taking out elite gamers

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/09/2023, Mary Ward

Three years ago, Gian Leon was living his sporting dream. Using the gaming player name Styled, he moved from Perth to Sydney to play League of Legends with a professional team. But while his skills saw him climb the ranks from the esports team's training academy to a paid contract, Leon was increasingly feeling weakness and pain in his wrist and hand.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### Australia needs to rebalance its research funding

The Australian, Other, 03/09/2023, Calum Drummond

The way that government research funding is currently proportioned does not match the relative needs of Australia, its people and especially its industry, and should be realigned to better support the Australian economy. Research funding in Australia is dominated by health and medical research funding, meaning any rankings of "research intensity" generally based on analysis of either total research income or volume of research outputs are biased towards universities with longstanding medical faculties and close affiliations with medical research institutes and hospitals, mainly the Group of Eight universities.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

---

## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Funding to boost NT domestic violence support services

Canberra Times, Other, 04/09/2023, Maeve Bannister

Women and children experiencing domestic violence in central Australia will have more avenues for support following a funding boost to emergency accommodation and wrap-around services. An additional \$5.6 million has been committed as part of the federal government's nearly \$49 million community safety initiative to increase the number of emergency beds available in the region.

[Read More](#)

### The Voice to Parliament "creates an opportunity to codesign a healthy future"

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023

Four people working in the NT's Top End share perspectives on the potential impact of the Voice to Parliament on health outcomes for First Nations peoples. As we edge closer to voting on a First Nations Voice to Parliament, many are asking, what practical difference will the Voice make to our everyday lives?

[Read More](#)

## OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### **Calls grow for silica ban**

The Australian, General News, 04/09/2023, James Dowling, Page 7

The nation's leading lung cancer body wants a ban on all silica materials entering the country after a sharp rise in deaths linked to the building of kitchen stone tables. The Lung Foundation is following the CFMEU and other major unions in calling for a total ban on the importation of silica materials by the end of next year.

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

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

### **Herbicide fight goes to court**

Courier Mail, General News, 04/09/2023, Mark Buttler, Page 9

A high-stakes court battle will begin on Monday over the safety of the popular herbicide Roundup. The Supreme Court has been asked to rule on whether glyphosate, a component of Roundup, is carcinogenic, as is being alleged by major compensation law firm Maurice Blackburn.

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

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

### **Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales: a profound threat to Australian public health**

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023, Erin Flynn, Lito Papanicolas, Nicholas Anagnostou, Morgyn Warner and Geraint Rogers

The spread of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales (CPE) is a major threat to health care systems worldwide. 1 In regions where CPE has become endemic, its impact on health outcomes has been catastrophic. The timely implementation of coordinated national responses is key to minimising these risks in Australia.

[Read More](#)

### **"Time running out": looming threat of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in Australia**

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023

Time is running out for Australia to establish a coordinated national response to the rise of antibiotic-resistant bacteria infections. A national response is required to minimise the growing risk of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales (CPE) to Australia's health care system, according to a Perspective published in the Medical Journal of Australia today.

[Read More](#)

### **Sexual health doctors urge vigilance on mpox**

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 04/09/2023

Sexual health clinicians are urging GPs to keep an eye out for breakthrough mpox infection, even in vaccinated patients. A Lessons from practice article published today in the Medical Journal of Australia (MJA) highlights the cases of two men who presented with mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) symptoms in May 2023.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)



## OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

### Nothing good about new drug laws: chemists

The Australian, General News, 04/09/2023, Sarah Ison, Page 9

Pharmacies are bracing for a surge in demand for opioid treatments following the ACT's decriminalisation of drugs next month, with the peak body warning "nothing good" will come from decriminalising small quantities of substances such as heroin and ice. The changes to the Territory's drug laws have also sparked criticism from local doctors, who have pointed out that while the personal possession of 1.5g of amphetamine will be decriminalised, a GP in Canberra is still unable to prescribe amphetamine medications to patients with ADHD.

Similar coverage reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

### Demonising drug users won't solve a thing

Canberra Times, General News, 04/09/2023, Bill Bush, Page 17

On October 23, Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform will hold its 28th remembrance ceremony in honour, as we say, of those who have died from our efforts to save them from drugs. This annual ceremony at the memorial stone in the beauty of Weston Park began in 1996, a year after the group's formation.

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

### Jail drug big business

Courier Mail, General News, 04/09/2023, Thomas Chamberlin, Page 16

Several hundred of the state's drug-addicted prisoners are waiting to get on to an opioid substitute program as authorities continue to nab people smuggling in tabs of the same drug selling for hundreds of dollars in jail. Suboxone and Subutex consisting of the drug Buprenorphine used for opioid dependence, are both being brought into the state's jails through visitors and even in legal mail, with a single tab worth up to hundreds of dollars.

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

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

### CanTEST working to attract high-risk drug users to test heroin and ice

ABC Online, Other, 03/09/2023

Nearly 1,000 people have had their drugs tested at Australia's first fixed-site drug-testing service since it opened in Canberra a year ago.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## AICIS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by ISENTIA

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

