



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 6th 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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports that documents published on Friday report that DHW Ludus consultants had only seven days to conduct a detailed analysis of facilities for three sports for the original business case for Victoria to host the Commonwealth Games. *Also reported by: [The Mandarin](#)*
- **[The Courier Mail](#)** (page 1) reports that the the International Olympic Committee will meet on Friday to decide if T20 cricket will be added to the Olympic games, with the Gabba likely to host the final during the Brisbane 2032 Olympics. *Also reported by: [The Courier Mail](#)*
- **[The Age](#)** (page 2) reports that Australasian College of Paramedicine chair, Ryan Lovett, has said ambulance ramping is the most disheartening part of being a paramedic in Melbourne, adding that "Their education is focused on urgent and emergency care,' and not to care for patients for six to 12 hours at a time. *Also reported by: [3AW](#)*
- **[Herald Sun](#)** (page 6) reports that a class-action lawsuit against pharmaceutical company Allergan has been launched by thousands of women fitted with their cancer-causing breast implants. *Also reported by: [Courier Mail](#)*

- **The Herald Sun** (page 18) reports that Australia now lags significantly behind other countries in providing access to CAR T cell therapy, as cancer patients and medical professionals converge in Canberra this week to fight the gross inequity in access to the lifesaving treatment. Health Minister Mark Butler has stated the government is "working methodically" to make access to CAR T therapy a reality. *Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph](#), [Courier Mail](#)*
- **The Guardian** reports that Greens senator Larissa Waters is calling for funding of public hospitals to be tied to their willingness to provide abortion services, with the vast majority of abortions provided through the private sector due to public hospitals ability to conscientiously object. Assistant Minister for Health Ged Kearney has responded to questions over abortion accessibility by stating that "All Australians deserve equitable access to the healthcare that they need."

MINISTER BUTLER

Cancer survival lottery

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 06/09/2023, Sue Dunlevy, Page 18

An unfair government lottery is denying dying cancer patients treatments they are entitled to while funding others who don't qualify. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said "bringing any new health technology into Australia doesn't happen overnight but our Government is aware of the challenge and working methodically to make it a reality".

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

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

Pressure off hospital

Cessnock Advertiser, General News, 06/09/2023, Page 1

All Ways Healthcare, supported by ForHealth, has been selected as the provider for Cessnock Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (Medicare UCC) following an expression of interest process, the federal government has announced. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the facility would "make a big difference" to patients and offer "convenient, high-quality care".

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Funding boost for donor breast milk trial

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/09/2023, Page 12

In conjunction with World Breastfeeding Week last month, researchers from the University of Adelaide and South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute received more than \$2.2 million to study the benefits of donor milk for pre-term babies. [...] Having a baby born before its due date can often be a difficult experience for families, particularly when it comes to complications with breastfeeding," Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said.

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Dose of concern

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/09/2023, Tamra Strentz, Page 26

Concerns over costs prevent many Australians from accessing care, while their satisfaction with the healthcare system continues to fall.[...] The 60-day prescribing plan5 introduced by federal Health Minister Mark Butler as part of the Labor government's promise to make medications more affordable was approved after the AHI survey was fielded, so consumer perspective wasn't captured on this topic.

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Melbourne kid's shop caught allegedly selling tobacco products amongst toys

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Alexandra Feiam

A store in the Melbourne suburb has been spotted selling tobacco products amongst the children's toys and shoes. [...] In March, Health Minister Mark Butler said 50 children under the age of four in Victoria

had ingested nicotine from vapes in the last year.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#)

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Nicky was having a heart attack. She spent hours waiting on an ambulance trolley

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/09/2023, Henrietta Cook & Aisha Dow

It's a scenario where every minute counts. But suspected stroke and heart attack victims are spending more than an hour on ambulance trolleys waiting for time-critical diagnosis and treatment because Victorian emergency departments are too overcrowded to admit them. [...] On Monday, Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas called on the federal government to "step up and play its role" in addressing the drivers of the problem, while federal Health Minister Mark Butler said his government was already embarking on a series of reforms "after nine long years of cuts and neglect by the former government".

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

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Coalition senators hit pause on cheaper medicines veto

West Australian, Other, 04/09/2023, Dominic Giannini

Australians will continue to receive cheaper medicines, but a push to scrap the policy could be brought back to parliament if pharmacists' concerns are ignored. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler had already pledged to bring forward the next pharmacy agreement, but hadn't put a date on negotiations.

Also reported by: [Muswellbrook Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Narooma News \(Online\)](#), [Namoi Valley Independent \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Kalgoorlie\)](#).

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Facility accused of exorcisms and gay conversion practices applied for funding a month after Morrison announced it

The Guardian, Other, 06/09/2023, Tory Shepherd

The Esther Foundation a rehabilitation facility accused of performing exorcisms and gay conversions applied for "promised funding" a month after the funding had been announced. [...] The health minister, Mark Butler, said the Esther Foundation grant was "always a captain's pick from Scott Morrison".

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Coalition refuses to condemn jeering pharmacy protesters despite Speaker's rebuke

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/09/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos

The Coalition has declined to condemn a rowdy protest by pharmacists in the parliament despite a pointed rebuke from the speaker that the protesters' jeers and swearing during question time was "very serious and concerning" and a reflection of the MPs who may have invited them. [...] The guild also distanced itself from the protest on Monday as Health Minister Mark Butler warned the expedited negotiations relied on the lobby group fulfilling its promise to stand down a public campaign.

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

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Mum vows to keep pushing for fenfluramine PBS listing for Dravet syndrome, a severe form of epilepsy

ABC Online, Other, 05/09/2023, Emma D'Agostino, Tamara Clark & Georgia Lenton-Will

Families calling for greater access to a medication that helps manage a severe form of epilepsy have been left "desperate" and disappointed after being told it has not been recommended for addition to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler responded to the petition and said the government could not list a new medicine on the PBS unless recommended by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).

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Guild and gov't's peace deal already at risk after question time protest

Australian Doctor, Other, 05/09/2023, Heather Saxena

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has officially pressed pause on its campaign against 60-day dispensing. [...] The guild stopped campaigning against the government's 60-day dispensing policy last week after Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler fast-tracked negotiations for the next Community Pharmacy Agreement by a year.

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Great Southern pharmacies face uncertain future in light of new PBS policy

West Australian, Other, 05/09/2023, Harry Grigson & Daniel Rooney

Great Southern pharmacy owners Paul Buck and Shayan Hooshmand say they will be among the hardest hit after the new 60-day prescription policy came into effect on Friday. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said that 60-day prescriptions, first recommended by medicine experts in 2018, will ease the cost-of-living pressures faced by community members with chronic and ongoing health conditions.

Also reported by: [Countryman \(Online\)](#), [Great Southern Herald \(Online\)](#)

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Community and Pharmacy Support pharmacists protest 60-day dispensing

Grenfell Record, Other, 04/09/2023, Justine Landis-Hanley

Pharmacists from across the country have gathered outside Parliament House calling for Health Minister Mark Butler's resignation, angered over Labor's 60-day dispensing policy.

Also reported by: [South Coast Register \(Online\)](#), [The Hepburn Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Manning River Times \(Online\)](#), [Katherine Times \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#)

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COVID booster guidance updated for older Aussies

Healthcare Channel, Other, 05/09/2023, Ritchelle Drilon

In a recent development, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has issued new recommendations calling for additional COVID-19 vaccine booster for specific high-risk groups in 2023. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said, "For other people who were advised to get a 2023 booster but haven't had one, it's not too late to come forward and get one."

[Read More](#)

Anger the tone as pharmacist workers rally outside and inside Parliament House

HealthDispatch, Other, 05/09/2023

Over 2,000 pharmacy workers gathered in Canberra yesterday to call for a pause in the Albanese Government's increase in dispensed quantities. [...] The anger expressed outside Parliament House was carried into the building during Question Time, with rally participants interjecting several times, including as health minister Mark Butler responded to a question on 60-day dispensing.

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Ramping spotlight after paramedics waste years waiting

Maitland Mercury, Other, 04/09/2023

The federal government must step up and do more to stop paramedics wasting years waiting for patients to be seen in hospitals, according to Victoria's health minister. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the May budget included many measures designed to make it easier to see a GP and take pressure off emergency departments, including funding urgent care clinics, increasing the bulk billing incentive and boosting the amount doctors receive for Medicare services.

Also reported by: [Wimmera Mail Times \(Online\)](#), [The Area News \(Online\)](#), [The Stawell Times-News \(Online\)](#), [Young Witness \(Online\)](#), [Parkes Champion-Post \(Online\)](#)

Cost of living measures take effect this month

Nursing Review, Other, 05/09/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Billion of dollars worth of 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 not just good for the health of Australians but were "good for the hip pocket".

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Talks disrupted by angry pharmacists

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/09/2023

A furious protest in Parliament House by 200 pharmacists disrupted question time yesterday and sparked a warning from the Federal Health Minister that "they had broken a pledge to negotiate the funding deal in good faith", reported The Sydney Morning Herald. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler told Parliament he had agreed with the Pharmacy Guild last week to bring forward talks on the next funding agreement to Mar 2024 after the industry had called for \$3.3 billion in extra funding to help with the impact of the prescription changes and other cost pressures.

Also reported by: [Pharmacy Daily \(None\)](#).

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Site identified for delayed urgent care clinic: Anthony Albanese

The Advocate (Burnie), Other, 05/09/2023, Libby Bingham

Coastal patients will likely have to wait months until the end of the year for access to a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (UCC) that was due to open mid-year. [...] A spokesperson for federal Health Minister Mark Butler shed more light on September 4 stating the North-West UCC would open by the end of December.

[Read More](#)

Labor delivering on cheaper medicines for 'almost four million Australian patients'

The Courier Mail, Other, 04/09/2023

Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler says Labor is delivering on a measure that will provide cheaper medicines for "almost four million Australian patients." "Those with ongoing health conditions like heart disease, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, osteoporosis and so many others besides," Mr Butler said during Question Time on Monday.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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Pharmacist protest prompts security review

The Medical Republic, Other, 05/09/2023

Caps reportedly defied the all-powerful Guild by staging a Canberra protest as negotiations on the next Community Pharmacy Agreement begin. [...] Members of the LNP repeatedly pointed to and acknowledged the crowd, who could be heard calling out and jeering while Health Minister Mark Butler responded to a question on 60-day dispensing and cheaper medicines.

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Pharmacy Guild of Australia considering suing federal government over half-price scripts

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 04/09/2023, Sue Dunlevy

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has revealed its next move over half-price scripts as it steps up its campaign against the deal. [...] The Pharmacy Guild has been waging a multimillion-dollar campaign against changes claiming it will slash chemist's income Health Minister Mark Butler has pledged to return all the \$1.2 billion the government saves to chemists through a range of pharmacy programs.

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

Channel 9, Today Extra, 05/09/2023, David Campbell and Belinda Russell

Interview with Emil Demayne, pharmacist. Thousands of pharmacists have gathered outside Parliament House against the government's 60-day prescription policy. Demayne says they had over 3000 pharmacists flying in from around the country to represent their patients and they've been extremely concerned about their patients and their care. Demayne says they left on their own accord after continually hearing Mark Butler lie about the policy and lie to the Australian people.

Interview continued on: [Channel 9 \(Sydney\)](#).

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ABC Gippsland, 07:30 News, 05/09/2023

Brooke Wrigley, a mother based in West Gippsland, says an expensive medication for a rare form of epilepsy drastically reduces her daughter's seizures. Yesterday, the Federal Government announced it cannot subsidise the drug known as Fenfluramine, despite a petition with more than 12,000 signatures calling for such action. Minister for Health Mark Butler says a medication can only be added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme following an advisory body's recommendation, which the body has not received.

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ABC Illawarra, 12:00 News, 05/09/2023

A locally based chemist has defended the actions of pharmacists who heckled and jeered the Federal Government in Question Time over the Albanese Government's 60-day prescription policy. Warringah MP Zali Steggall criticised the protesters and accused the Coalition of supporting the disorderly behaviour from the gallery. Warramong pharmacist Pepe Russo(*) was in the gallery and says independent pharmacy owners are frustrated with the Government's ignoring their concerns.

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2SM, 09:00 News, 05/09/2023

Negotiations over a new pharmacy agreement could be hanging in the balance after a disruptive protest in Parliament. Question Time was interrupted by a large contingent of pharmacists who protested against the 60-day dispensing. Health Minister Mark Butler told Parliament he agreed with the Pharmacy Guild to bring forward talks on the next funding agreement. However, he warned that commitment was contingent upon the guild on standing down its campaign, which a reasonable person might question that if it was being delivered upon. However, the guild distanced themselves from the protesters and said they were not involved.

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[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

A heads-up: Councils to host youth mental health forum

Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay Star Weekly, General News, 06/09/2023, Page 6

Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong councils hosted ministers, local MPs and young people from the community at a forum discussing the urgent need for more mental health services for young people in the west. On Tuesday, August 29, both councils hosted Assistant Minister for Mental Health and

Suicide Prevention Emma McBride, Gellibrand MP Tim Watts and Fraser MP Daniel Mulino to The Substation in Newport.

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Primary Health Network selected to pilot new model of trauma-informed care

Hunter Headline, Other, 06/09/2023

The Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network (HNECC PHN) is one of six Primary Health Networks that have been selected to pilot a new model of trauma-informed care to support victim-survivors of family, domestic and sexual violence commencing in 2024. [...] Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Rural and Regional Health, The Hon Emma McBride MP, said that one in three women has experienced physical violence since the age of 15, and one in five has experienced sexual violence, domestic and sexual violence is a major health and welfare concern for the government.

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ABC North and West SA, Regional Late Afternoons, 05/09/2023, Emma Pedler

Interview with Emma McBride, Assistant Federal Minister for Health and Suicide Prevention. Pedler says the Stay A Float program was announced for fishing centres in SA and throughout the country. She says it involves \$1.5m in funding over two years to look after commercial fishers' mental health. McBride says they're excited to let people know that the Stay A Float program is receiving \$1.5m over two years, stating they saw a very successful pilot program in Newcastle.

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Minister announces expansion of Australia's first endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics

HealthDispatch, Other, 05/09/2023

Assistant health minister Ged Kearney has announced that patients in Adelaide and Western Sydney can now access expert, multidisciplinary care with the opening of two new Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain Clinics. The Australia-first clinics are available for more women seeking specialised care, increasing the number of clinics from 20 to 22.

[Read More](#)

Labor's refusal to tie public hospital funding to full reproductive care condemned as 'outrageous'

The Guardian, Other, 06/09/2023, Melissa Davey & Donna Lu

Despite harrowing stories from women about having to "shop around" for abortion care even when their pregnancies are unviable, the federal government will not make providing abortion services a condition tied to millions of dollars in funding it allocates to major public hospitals. [...] When Guardian Australia asked the prime minister's office whether Labor would revert to its 2019 policy, it was referred to the assistant minister for health and aged care, Ged Kearney, who did not respond to questions about whether she supported calls to make federal funding conditional on providing full reproductive care.

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

DEPARTMENT

Local doctor's guilty plea to forging opioid medications

Murray Pioneer, General News, 06/09/2023, Alexandra Bull, Page 8

A riverland doctor has pleaded guilty to forging more than 40 prescriptions for opioid medications for personal use. [...] A spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care said "under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, doctors must meet the minimum standards of health, performance and conduct as set by the Medical Board of Australia".

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New \$130m bill set to cause 'bedlam' in the aged care system

3AW, Other, 05/09/2023

Aged care facilities are about to be hit with a new bill which will cost \$130 million nationally. [...] Some aged care homes are passing the cost on to residents, but Neil Mitchell has seen a letter sent to aged care providers by the Department of Health and Aged Care stating that this isn't permitted.

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Slight financial lift for sector, says report

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/09/2023, Christopher Kelly

The financial performance of residential aged care providers continues to improve, according to the latest government report. Published by the Department of Health and Aged Care, the Quarterly Financial Snapshot for January to March 2023 shows a net loss before tax of \$13.48 per resident per day a \$6.76 improvement on the previous quarter .

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

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Department consults union on 8CPA

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/09/2023

Vector of businesspeople reaching an agreement after successful negotiations Employee pharmacists to have say in Eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA) discussions, union reveals. Union group, Professional Pharmacists Australia (PPA), will join organisations including the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), in talks with the Department of Health and Aged Care about the 8CPA.

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'Unleash The Potential': Thousands more mental health nurses needed to meet rising demand

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 05/09/2023, Robert Fedele

There is almost 25,000 mental health nurses working across the country, according to the Department of Health and Aged Care's latest health workforce data. Despite growth in numbers, Adrian Armitage, CEO of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses (ACMHN), says it's not nearly enough to combat the "silent pandemic" of rising mental health issues emerging across the country.

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CHF Special Interest Group Review Briefing

Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF), Other, 05/09/2023

Consumer webinar on the PASC (Long Covid-19) Research Plan Consumers Health Forum will be co-hosting a webinar for consumers on the MRFF Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC) Research Plan (link is external). In this webinar, CHF CEO, Elizabeth Deveny who is on the Expert Advisory Committee for the Research Plan and Dr Masha Somi, CEO for the Health and Medical Research Office at the Department of Health and Aged Care will lead the discussion.

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Threats and bribe fears confront tobacco 'inspectors'

Harden Express, Other, 05/09/2023, Paul Osborne

Bureaucrats whose job is to measure goods have spoken of their fear of being harmed and offers of bribes as they check on illicit cigarette traders. [...] Responsible for measuring \$750 billion a year in traded goods, the institute has an agreement with the federal health department to undertake tobacco plain packaging information visits.

Also reported by: [Mandurah Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Namoi Valley Independent \(Online\)](#), [South Coast Register \(Online\)](#), [Singleton Argus \(Online\)](#), [The Hepburn Advocate \(Online\)](#), [The Rural \(Online\)](#), [Bega District News \(Online\)](#).

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New report exposes critical gaps in clinical research and funding

Health Industry Hub, Other, 05/09/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care has unveiled the long-awaited report detailing the evaluation of the Medical Research.

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New subsidised courses to help mental health nursing crisis

Nursing Review, Other, 05/09/2023, Arshmah Jamal

Almost half of all Australians have experienced a mental health disorder in their life. However, a dramatic shortage of mental health nurses puts a heavy burden on individuals and nurses. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care revealed that since 2016, there has been a 60 per cent increase in nurses who have taken an extended leave of absence.

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Facility accused of exorcisms and gay conversion practices applied for funding a month after Morrison announced it

The Guardian, Other, 06/09/2023, Tory Shepherd

The Esther Foundation a rehabilitation facility accused of performing exorcisms and gay conversions applied for "promised funding" a month after the funding had been announced. [...] The health minister, Mark Butler, said the Esther Foundation grant was "always a captain's pick from Scott Morrison".

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[Back to Top](#)

CORONAVIRUS

Reflecting on the Garran Surge Centre

Canberra Times, General News, 06/09/2023, Lanie Tindale, Page 6

On Tuesday, work began to slowly dismantle the Garran Surge Centre. It was the hospital Canberra never needed and millions of dollars later, we wonder - was this building a knight on a white horse or just a white elephant?

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

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[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Melbourne's plan to find a home in the city for its 'essential' workers

Age, General News, 06/09/2023, Royce Millar & Josh Gordon, Page 3

Almost half of the workers essential to Melbourne's city economy, such as cleaners, baristas, delivery

drivers and childcare and aged care workers, live more than 20 kilometres from the CBD due to soaring housing costs and lagging wages. The finding from new City of Melbourne research is being used to help the council officially define the "key workers" in need of housing support, as it also steps up pressure on the state government for action on housing affordability.

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\$1.7m boost for Aussie-first 'green' dementia trial in region

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 06/09/2023, Alex Gretgrix, Page 6

Loddon Mallee residents with dementia will be the first in the nation to test whether being among nature can improve their lives. Funding of \$1.7m from the federal government has been received for the threeyear GreenCare Respite project which will run programs for patients in gardens and eco-friendly settings.

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

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Elder abuse 'a lot nastier' amid rise in reported cases

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 05/09/2023, Rachael Ward

A jump in reports of elder abuse has prompted authorities to ask more victims to come forward. Victoria Police received more than 5700 reports in the year to March, an increase of more than 40 per cent over the past five years.

Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [HelloCare \(Online\)](#), [HelloCare \(Online\)](#).

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Holistic nurses make big impact to aged care homes

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/09/2023, Lee Carissa

Cranbrook Care added the new role of holistic nurse to residential care teams earlier this year, and the impact has been significant, writes Lee Carissa. There's plenty of discussion about the need for nursing staff in the Australian aged care sector right now, and it's entirely valid.

[Read More](#)

Eye tracking reads gaze

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/09/2023

More than 50% of Australians living in residential aged care facilities have a dementia diagnosis, with aged care services around the world preparing for the number of older people aged 65 years and above to double in the next 30 years. For the first time, experts at the Caring Futures Institute at South Australia's Flinders University are using eye-tracking technology to ensure that the voices of all older people are heard to drive effective and positive change.

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[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

Region's overdose crisis

Central Western Daily, General News, 06/09/2023, Tanya Marschke, Page 1

The Central West has recorded 115 drug-induced deaths in a four-year period. The Penington Institute released the data in its Annual Overdose Report 2023 while raising alarm over a national "overdose crisis".

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

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Mediterranean diet boosts gut health, Dairy Australia, SAHMRI research shows

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Brad Crouch

The popular dishes bring a range of major health benefits, researchers in Adelaide have discovered. A Mediterranean diet with added dairy turbocharges "good" gut bugs while reducing "bad" bugs linked to heart disease, landmark South Australian research shows.

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

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Army news: Townsville soldiers using 'steroid alternative' SARMS warned by health experts

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Jami Roberts

A growing number of Townsville soldiers are taking experimental performance enhancing drugs to improve their performance but are going down with heatstroke and chest pains, prompting an urgent warning from health experts. Navigating his way through the tough Townsville terrain, Riley* started feeling the impact from the sun more than he usually does.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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Is it okay to kiss your pet? The risk of animal-borne diseases is small, but real

The Guardian, Other, 05/09/2023, Sarah McLean & Enzo Palombo

Our relationship with pets has changed drastically in recent decades. Pet ownership is at an all-time high, with a recent survey finding 69% of Australian households have at least one pet.

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

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Parents and experts slam vape stores openly targeting children

3AW, Other, 05/09/2023

Parents and officials have expressed outrage and concern at shops openly selling vapes alongside products marketed towards children. Director of prevention at the Cancer Council, Craig Sinclair, says this is happening all over Victoria.

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Healthy and helpful conversations key to obesity management

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 06/09/2023

The right kind of healthcare can make all the difference when helping patients with obesity," says the Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP). "Obesity is a delicate area for GPs and patients to navigate," says RACGP Specific Interests Obesity Management Chair, Dr Terri-Lynne South.

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3AW, Afternoons, 05/09/2023, Jacquie Felgate / Jimmy Bartel

Interview with Theo Foukkare, Australian Association of Convenience Stores. Compere says there are stores that target children by deliberately placing fruit-flavoured vapes, which the Cancer Council says often contains nicotine and tobacco. Foukkare says this is a mess driven by the quasi-prohibition by the federal government. He says if one is an adult and want to vape, one is meant to go and get a prescription from a doctor and then go to a pharmacy to have the nicotine dispensed to them. He says there is now an illegal black-market operating being run by illegal operators.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Afternoons, 05/09/2023, Sofie Formica

Interview with Dr Vicki Carson, obstetrician. This weekend is International Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder Awareness Day. Dr Carson has joined forces with DrinkWise to amplify the message. Dr Carson says they have research from DrinkWise this year and they know about 91% of Australians

agree that not drinking alcohol in pregnancy is a good idea and on 18-44yo women, that is 87%. She says this is much higher than it has been in previous years.

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[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

New state cancer plan

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/09/2023, Page 13

South Australians whose lives have been touched by cancer are being asked to have their say on a new plan to improve services across the state. The Draft SA Cancer Plan 2024-2028 is now open for consultation on the YourSAy SA site , with community feedback being sought.

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The hidden toll of migraines

West Australian, General News, 06/09/2023, Claire Sadler, Page 14

One in three women who regularly suffer with debilitating migraines have had to leave a job due to a lack of support in the workplace, data shows. The staggering results, released by Migraine and Headache Australia, comes amid calls for employers and the Australian Government to implement an awareness program to reduce the burden of migraines at work.

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Big Red Bus offers holiday freedom

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 06/09/2023, Michelle Smith, Page 4

When he was diagnosed with kidney failure two years ago, Nicholas Charalambous thought his days of exploring the countryside in his caravan were over. Facing a future of having dialysis for five hours, three times a week, to clean his blood and get rid of toxins from his body, he assumed his travelling days were done.

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Public defibrillators to help save lives

Border Mail, General News, 06/09/2023, Beau Greenway, Page 11

A north East community is better equipped to deal with cardiac arrest with two new public defibrillators installed at key points in the town. The devices, which can be accessed 24/7 by the public, are mounted at Chiltern's St Joseph's Primary School and Chiltern and District Men's Shed as part of Ambulance Victoria and the Heart Foundation's Heart Safe Communities program.

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Over 40 new gene mutations identified which may cause breast cancer to be hereditary

The Courier Mail, Other, 05/09/2023

More than 40 new gene mutations have been identified which may cause breast cancer to run in families. The study, by Australian researchers, compared the genes of 9,000 women who had breast cancer, to those of 55,000 healthy women.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Type 2 diabetics going without lifesaving continuous glucose monitoring device due to lack of subsidies

West Australian, Other, 05/09/2023, Claire Sadler

The Federal Government is being urged to subsidise a lifesaving medical device that many diabetics are choosing to go without because it is too expensive. Continuous glucose monitoring devices are

already subsidised for the 130,000 Australians with type 1 diabetes but there is no such help for the estimated 1.2 million people with type 2 diabetes.

[Read More](#)

Cancer Council Victoria warns of drop in bowel screening rates

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Robyn Riley

Laurie's negative bowel cancer test put his mind at rest until he was tempted to toss out the follow-up screening. It has been a year to remember for Laurie Cronin. [...] Now cancer free, Mr Cronin is the face of a new awareness campaign launched today by Cancer Council Victoria in partnership with the Victorian Health Department.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Doing These Workouts for 5 Minutes a Day Lowers Cancer Risk

Prevention, Other, 05/09/2023, Korin Miller

A recent Australian study reveals the huge impact of short bursts of vigorous activity. Experts explain the best types of exercise to reap the benefits.

[Read More](#)

Link between oral health and diabetes

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 06/09/2023, Ada Org

Failing to brush teeth twice a day and floss once a day can not only contribute to the onset of type 2 diabetes, it can also make an existing diabetes condition worse, says the Australian Dental Association (ADA). In fact, according to the ADA, poor oral health has serious knock-on effects on the rest of the body, including cardiovascular disease, Alzheimer's, rheumatoid arthritis, low birthweight and preterm babies, and diabetes.

[Read More](#)

Landmark Roundup cancer class action kicks off in court

The New Daily, Other, 04/09/2023, Cassandra Morgan

A lengthy class action to determine whether a weed killer contains a human carcinogenic has begun in the Federal Court of Australia. Live Hundreds of Australians diagnosed with cancer are fighting in court to prove their disease stemmed from a component of a widely used herbicide.

Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [In Daily \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Doctors warn of health threats from NT gas expansion

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 04/09/2023, Marion Rae

Deeply concerned doctors in the Northern Territory have issued a warning about the health and wellbeing risks of fossil fuel projects. Scientific research by the University of Sydney released on Monday points to harm to physical and mental health and interference in local ways of life.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 05/09/2023, Jennifer Keyte

A Melbourne father is urging Victorian men to take their free bowel cancer test as screening rates decline. Cancer survivor Laurie Cronin shared his experience of taking a bowel cancer test when he received a kit.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 05/09/2023, Peter Mitchell

A cancer survivor is pleading with Victorians not to ignore a national screening program as testing rates fall. Screening kits are sent out to over 50s by mail.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 05/09/2023, Michael Thompson

Millions of Australians have failed to complete their free at home bowel cancer test kits, prompting an urgent warning from experts. Cancer Council has launched a new campaign encouraging people to take part in the life-saving screening.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Breakfast, 05/09/2023, Ross Stevenson and Russel Howcroft

Interview with Anne Savage, Chief Executive Officer of the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. There are calls for greater awareness around prostate cancer following the release of new figures showing a 25% increase in deaths since 2007. Savage says 75% of Australians do not currently know the guidelines for prostate cancer testing and that's a really serious concern.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 05/09/2023, Leon Compton

Interview with Professor Ian Campbell, molecular geneticist and co-head of the Women's Cancer program at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Compton says breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancers for females in Australia. Researchers at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre have announced they've identified more than 40 gene mutations that may cause this cancer to actually run through families. Campbell says this has been a long-term project that they've been trying to figure out on why breast cancer runs in families. He explains how the gene mutations were found during their project.

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[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Worst part of job for paramedics is waiting

Age, General News, 06/09/2023, Henrietta Cook & Aisha Dow, Page 2

Demoralising. That's how one young paramedic who stood in the cool night outside Box Hill Hospital last week described the all-too-common experience of ambulance ramping.

Also reported by: [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [3AW \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#)

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Ballarat Base elective surgery lists ease

Ballarat Courier, General News, 06/09/2023, Michelle Smith, Page 3

Surgeons in Victoria's west are helping reduce pressure on elective surgery waiting lists in Ballarat. More than 30 patients in Horsham and Stawell who had been listed for surgery in Ballarat have had their surgery completed in hospitals close to home, freeing up spaces on Ballarat Base Hospital's theatre schedules for others awaiting vital surgery.

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

Tax changes sicken GPs

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 05/09/2023, Elise Davey, Page 16

Changes to payroll taxation threaten to close down your general practice. As a director of a medical practice, I am shocked at the announced revision of payroll tax by the state revenue office of Victoria. [...] The Royal Australian College of General Practice (RACGP) and the Australian Medical Association have warned of "catastrophic closures".

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

Hunter hospitals flooded with dangerously unwell

Newcastle Herald, General News, 06/09/2023, Gabriel Fowler, Page 4

Life or death presentations to Hunter New England emergency departments have hit record highs while the number of people languishing on surgical wait lists continues to grow. More than 111,900 people attended emergency departments in the Hunter New England region in the three months to June 30.

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#).

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

Wellbeing SA in the middle of the latest upheavals in SA Health

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Brad Crouch & Andrew Hough

Sa Health faces further upheavals with a key executive leaving and a major agency being scrapped. SA Health faces a major shake up with Wellbeing SA to be folded into a new agency as its chief executive Lyn Dean leaves.

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

[Read More](#)

Senate inquiry examining if ACT government should hold inquiry into Calvary Hospital takeover hears from church representatives

ABC Online, Other, 05/09/2023, Harry Frost

A representative of the Catholic Church has told a federal Senate inquiry that self-government in the ACT is not a right. Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Chancellor Patrick McArdle made the comments in a public committee hearing into a bill, which would effectively compel the ACT government to hold an inquiry into its own acquisition of Calvary Public Hospital earlier this year.

[Read More](#)

Remote & outback SA communities create makeshift runways for RFDS heroes

ABC Online, Other, 05/09/2023

Pilots for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, (RFDS) will land on just about anything to provide the medical care needed in remote and outback South Australia. Pilot, Laura Koerbin said, "A lot of the strips we fly into are dirt, or grass, or some kind of paddock-style sort of thing".

[Read More](#)

'Martha's rule': ministers consider law to give right to second medical opinion

The Guardian, Other, 05/09/2023, Aubrey Allegretti

Ministers are considering introducing Martha's Rule to make it easier for patients and their families who believe their concerns are not being taken seriously by medical staff to get a second medical opinion. Steve Barclay, the health secretary, said a similar measure enforced in Australia had been shown to have saved lives. He said officials had been tasked with looking into such initiatives could "improve patient safety here in the UK".

[Read More](#)

Aussie paramedic shares life-saving code to use if you're unable to speak on the phone to Triple-0

7news.com.au, Other, 05/09/2023, Cindy Tran

Remember, you only have a couple of minutes and you must do this immediately.' A former paramedic has shared the life-saving two-digit code to use if you ever find yourself unable to speak on the phone after making a Triple-0 emergency call.

[Read More](#)

Grassroots GPs back scope expansion: Twomey

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

General practitioners in northern Queensland are happily supporting efforts to expand pharmacists' scope of practice. Despite criticism from medical organisations GPs are happy to see pharmacists play

a greater role in primary care, Professor Trent Twomey, the Pharmacy Guild of Australia's national president says.

[Read More](#)

Voluntary assisted dying panel formed for Territorians

National Indigenous Times, Other, 05/09/2023

The Northern Territory government is taking steps to ensure that all Territorians have the right to make decisions about their end-of-life care, similar to other Australians. To achieve this, a community consultation process will begin to develop a framework for Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD).

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

'Secret' bid to bar hearings

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/09/2023, Charles Miranda, Page 17

A public push for an inquiry into shocking rates of military suicides was initially blocked after a secret forum was convened by then Treasurer Josh Frydenberg with a select clique of "powerful" civilians. The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has heard evidence the 2019 gathering in Mr Frydenberg's Melbourne office included a "back door appearance" by then Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

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

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Doctor chatbot will hear you now

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/09/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 17

Artificial intelligence may play a role in helping overwhelmed health services trying to support more than a million Australians with eating disorders. A team from Monash University is developing chatbots to deliver support sessions to people at different points of an eating disorder and potentially assisting with treatment.

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

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

Eating disorders rise by 150%, MP says

Launceston Examiner, General News, 06/09/2023, Isabel Bird, Page 3

Tasmanian families are spending more than \$60,000 for eating disorder support to keep their loved ones alive, according to an independent MP. The state has recently developed the Tasmanian Eating Disorder Service (TEDS) which offers six treatment services across the state, and commenced service delivery in June this year.

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'It beggars belief': Clancy takes aim over services gap

Border Mail, General News, 06/09/2023, Jodie O'Sullivan, Page 3

Albury MP Justin Clancy has accused the NSW parliamentary secretary for health of "running up the white flag" on funding an eating disorder co-ordinator for the city. Mr Clancy says it beggars belief that Albury residents continue to miss out on access to a service available to "every other resident in the state".

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

Eating disorders rise by 150%: MP

Burnie Advocate, General News, 06/09/2023, Isabel Bird, Page 5

Tasmanian families are spending more than \$60,000 for eating disorder support to keep their loved

ones alive, according to an independent MP. The state has recently developed the Tasmanian Eating Disorder Service (TEDS) which offers six treatment services across the state, and commenced service delivery in June this year.

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Communication key issue

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 06/09/2023, Steve Moylan, Page 24

A new Mental Health and Wellbeing Act came into effect last week. The legislation is designed to enhance the community's mental health and wellbeing and sets the legal framework that guides our mental health service system.

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[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

From here to maternity: Birth plans are not the issue

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 06/09/2023, Sophie Walker, Page 20

One in three Australian mothers report having birth trauma and thousands have submitted their stories to this week's landmark NSW inquiry. I'm one of them, having experienced physical and psychological birth trauma nine years ago.

Also reported by: [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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These women were told their babies would not survive - but Catholic hospitals refused to provide abortion

The Guardian, Other, 06/09/2023, Donna Lu

Both Jennifer and Amy were devastated when their wanted pregnancies were deemed unviable, but they were forced to go elsewhere when Catholic-run public hospitals would not terminate. When Jennifer* fell pregnant for the first time in August 2019, there was no indication that anything was amiss.

[Read More](#)

New initiatives to help rural QLD maternity services

Nursing Review, Other, 05/09/2023, Arshmah Jamal

The Queensland Government has introduced new initiatives to boost regional maternity services in rural and remote areas. As part of the \$42 million funding announced in June, five new actions have been introduced following stakeholder feedback from the Ministerial Maternity Roundtable.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

ABC North Queensland, Rural Report, 05/09/2023, Lucy Cooper

Interview with the Chair of Remote Australians Matter Annabelle Brayley. An upcoming conference is drawing together community and health groups from across Australia and it will take place at Charleville. Brayley says there is no minimum standard of primary health care available to remote and very remote Australians. Brayley says according to the Department of Health and Aged Care, they use the Modified Monash Model which classifies where Australians live from one to seven. Brayley says they chose to focus on six and seven.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Coalition silent on protesters despite rebuke

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 06/09/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 13

The Coalition has declined to condemn a rowdy protest by pharmacists in the parliament despite a pointed rebuke from the speaker that the protesters' jeers and swearing during question time was "very serious and concerning" and a reflection of the MPs who may have invited them. A contingent of about 200 pharmacists yelled obscenities and heckled Prime Minister Anthony Albanese before storming out of the House of Representatives on Monday afternoon as part of their protest against the government's 60-day dispensing rules.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Stories on doctor 'in public interest'

Age, General News, 06/09/2023, Michaela Whitbourn, Page 11

Reports about high-profile surgeon Dr Munjed Al Muderis were in the public interest and examined the "lived experiences" of some of his former patients, the barrister acting for Nine newspapers and 60 Minutes in his defamation case has told a court. Al Muderis launched Federal Court defamation proceedings last year over reports in The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald and 60 Minutes in September 2022.

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

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

Class action hits Allergan breast implants

Herald Sun, General News, 06/09/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 6

Thousands of women fitted with dodgy breast implants that can cause cancer and other illnesses are preparing for a class-action lawsuit against the manufacturer. Shine Lawyers has taken on the case against pharmaceutical company Allergan.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency targets, Botox, fillers, laser treatments

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Sarah Booth

The rules around Botox, fillers, laser treatments and other non-surgical cosmetic treatments are set to be tightened in a crackdown by the nation's medical regulator. Rules around Botox, filler, anti-wrinkle injections and other cosmetic procedures are set to tighten as the nation's medical regulator cracks down on the booming billion dollar industry amid patient safety fears.

Also reported by: [9News \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

'Rambling' GP fails in bid to regain medical licence

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 05/09/2023, Rex Martinich

A doctor who was struck off the register for "gross misconduct" has failed in a court bid to appeal the loss of his medical licence. Former general practitioner John Yuk Ching Ting, from Redcliffe north of Brisbane, had his medical registration cancelled in December 2022.

[Read More](#)

Suing surgeon failed but is not a monster, lawyer says

The Senior, Other, 05/09/2023, Jack Gramenz

Star surgeon Munjed Al Muderis is not a monster but there is a public interest in reporting when his operations fail as they have for dozens of people, a court has heard. The medical device inventor has sued Nine over reports alleging negligence and high-pressure sales tactics in relation to his prosthetic limb implants.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Evening News, 05/09/2023, Lorna Dunkley

Australia's health regulator AHPRA is expanding its crackdown on cosmetic surgery to include Botox and other injectables. The regulator has set up a hotline and they received more than 400 phone calls from patients and doctors with concerns about dodgy operators in the sector and it resulted to about 200 official complaints.

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

[Play Now](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 05/09/2023, Jennifer Keyte

Clinics offering procedures such as Botox and fillers have been put on notice following various complaints. The country's medical regulator AHPRA is planning a crackdown on operators who fail to fully inform their clients of the risks. AHPRA's Martin Fletcher says they are seeing more practitioners moving into offering cosmetic practises and more people are wanting cosmetic procedures.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, A Current Affair, 05/09/2023, Allison Langdon

Following intense pressure on medical regulator, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has launched a review into cosmetic surgery in 2021. Now non-surgical procedures are under review, including botox, filler, fat-dissolving injections, and thread face-lifts. Ahpra CEO Martin Fletcher says patient protection is at the heart of everything they do and they want to make sure patients are well-informed.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 05/09/2023, Peter Hitchener

Clinics offering Botox and fillers have been put on notice after a crackdown on cosmetic surgery. Australia's medical regulator has its sights on non-surgical procedures following a rise in complaints about rogue operators. The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency is taking a closer look at non-surgical cosmetic procedures such as botox fillers, thread lifts, and fat-dissolving injections.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Melbourne, Breakfast, 05/09/2023, Sammy J

Interviwe with Michael Fraser, co-founder of Operation Redress. Compere says the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and the Medical Board of Australia, are cracking down on cosmetic procedures such as botox and fillers. Fraser says the industry is presented as a beauty industry and

not a medical industry. He says medical procedures carry real risks and cosmetic surgery can kill people.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Perth, Mornings, 05/09/2023, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Martin Fletcher, CEO of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency. Mitsopoulos says AHPRA is turning its attention to non-invasive procedures. Fletcher says they are looking at things like botox, and fillers. Fletcher says the cosmetic sector is booming and they are seeing more health practitioners moving to work in this space.

Interview continued on: [ABC Radio Perth \(Perth\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, AM, 05/09/2023, Sabra Lane

A crackdown on the cosmetics industry is being widened. Non-surgical procedures like Botox and other injectable fillers are being targeted. The procedures are used to smooth wrinkles on faces but the health regulator is proposing new guidelines for how they're offered and advertised. Martin Fletcher, chief executive of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, says some cases involve misleading photos of before and after examples of care and use of testimonials, which are not allowed.

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Smoking and medication interactions

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/09/2023, Irene Vergos, Page 38

The prevalence of tobacco smoking has significantly declined over the years with tobacco taxes, smoke-free legislation and mass-media led programs aimed at encouraging smokers to quit. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) points to "a long-term downward trend in daily tobacco smoking seen by the end of the 1990s".

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[Back to Top](#)

SPORT

'Let sport stars sue for brain damage'

The Australian, Edition Changes - All-round Metro, 06/09/2023, Jessica Halloran & Wendy Carlisle, Page 3

A "landmark" Senate report on concussion has called for sweeping legal reform to allow professional athletes to sue for brain injuries and is proposing the major Australian codes hand over concussion management to the government. That recommendation will be vigorously opposed by the major codes, which maintain their concussion protocols are among the best in the world and based on the most up-to-date science.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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Consultants given days for key Games costings

Age, General News, 06/09/2023, Rachel Eddie, Page 1

Consultants had just days to budget for four sports the Andrews government added to the now-cancelled Commonwealth Games line-up at the eleventh hour, as part of a business case that fatally underestimated the investment needed from the state. Three other sports still had no proposed venues when DHW Ludus assessed facilities for lead consultants Ernst & Young on behalf of the Victorian government in January 2022, hundreds of pages of documents published late on Friday show.

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

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Cricket for our Games

Courier Mail, General News, 06/09/2023, James Hall & Ben Horne, Page 1

Cricket is set to be included in the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and the Gabba could emerge as the venue to host it. The International Olympic Committee's executive board will meet on Friday to consider a recommendation to include T20 cricket in the 2028 Los Angeles Games a move that would all but lock it in for Brisbane too.

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

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Mali wants Olympic T20 at Oval

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/09/2023, Kathryn Bermingham, Page 7

Premier Peter Malinauskas says Adelaide Oval would be the "perfect place" to hold cricket matches for the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and the state government would push to make it happen. T20 cricket is this week set to be officially admitted as a sport at the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

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

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Exercise fit for purpose

Herald Sun, General News, 06/09/2023, Page 14

Aussie researchers say keeping fit and exercising has a much better effect on our healthcare system than the costs that come from injuries caused by participating in sports and exercise. They estimated that physical inactivity accounted for about \$2.4bn in health spending in 2018-19, but the costs to health system would have been \$1.7bn without the health benefits from physical activity.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Channel 9, National Nine News, 05/09/2023, Michael Thomson

Making sport safe for children and adults is the aim of new concussion guidelines just released. A year long inquiry recommending better return to play protocols and a unified approach across all codes and age groups.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 05/09/2023, Andrew Lofthouse & Melissa Downes

The findings of a year-long inquiry into concussions have been handed to Parliament. It's hoped the recommendations will change the way games are played starting with the youngest athletes, including more focus on repeated head knocks and longer breaks after concussions. The inquiry heard submissions from both the NRL and AFL as well as netball, cricket, and water skiing.

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

World-first Gold Coast research reveals link between this disgusting habit and Alzheimer's disease

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Amaani Siddeek

You might want to think twice before you reach up to pick your nose. World-first Gold Coast research reveals the disgusting habit could be why you have bacteria in your brain.

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

[Read More](#)

How worried should we be about ultra-processed food during pregnancy?

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/09/2023, Sarah Berry

Conducting dietary studies on expectant mums is an ethical minefield. It's easy enough to do a randomised controlled trial where one group of pregnant women is put on the Mediterranean diet, while the other is not.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Taking a toll on mental health

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/09/2023, Angira Bharadwaj, Page 11

The increasingly divisive debate around the Voice referendum is harming the mental health of Indigenous Australians, experts have warned, as they descend on Parliament House demanding a more respectful conversation from all sides. Advocates from the Black Dog Institute, Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association and Indigenous Allied Health will today demand politicians endorse the Respectful Referendum Pledge after witnessing a deterioration in the health of their patients.

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

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

'Standing up on their behalf'

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 06/09/2023, Natasha Emeck, Page 1

The revolving door of CEOs at the Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Service (TAIHS) has prompted Indigenous activist Coralie Cassady to call for the board of directors to stand down. Protesting outside the TAIHS office in Aitkenvale, Ms Cassady said she held serious concerns about the management of the health service.

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

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CDU medical school would be a game changer

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/09/2023, Camden Smith

Excitement is growing as a decision looms about a new medical school in Darwin. Read what could happen.

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

[Read More](#)

This disease is killing First Nations people. But it's entirely preventable

SBS, Other, 05/09/2023

Research has found First Nations children living in remote and regional communities have some of the highest rates of rheumatic heart disease globally. Two Indigenous people are dying each week of an entirely preventable heart disease.

[Read More](#)

New program combines sleep science with traditional knowledge to address obstructive sleep apnoea in Indigenous communities

National Indigenous Times, Other, 05/09/2023

A program linking traditional knowledge with sleep science is being expanded to treat obstructive sleep apnoea (OSA) in regional Indigenous communities. An extension of the Let's Yarn About Sleep program (LYAS), the OSA program will be rolled out by the University of Queensland's Poche Centre for Indigenous Health.

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[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Is patenting vaccines a threat to public health?

ABC Online, Other, 05/09/2023, Natasha Mitchell

Pitting innovation against equitable access to medicine: Should drugs and vaccines have patents and fall under intellectual property laws? It's a particularly difficult question in times of a public health crisis.

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Be alert for breakthrough mpox in fully vaxxed patients, say doctors

Australian Doctor, Other, 05/09/2023, Kemal Atlay

Case reports suggest breakthrough and repeat infections happen but are generally less severe. A spate of breakthrough mpox infections in fully vaccinated patients suggests that vaccine-induced immunity does not offer complete protection against infection, doctors warn.

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How AI is joining the fight against superbugs

Daily Liberal, Other, 04/09/2023, Katharina Richter

The World Health Organization has identified antimicrobial resistance as a global health threat with the potential to eclipse COVID-19. Invisible to the naked eye, bacteria are constantly evolving in their quest for survival.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Major milestone

Shepparton News, General News, 06/09/2023, Murray Silby, Page 1

Cannatrek has been awarded Good Manufacturing Practice accreditation an important step in the company's growth. [...] Cannatrek has been granted Good Manufacturing Practice accreditation by Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration for a newly developed \$5 million Shepparton processing facility.

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

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France announces plan to make disposable nicotine vapes illegal

The Courier Mail, Other, 05/09/2023

Disposable electronic cigarettes are in the firing line as a major world player makes moves to stamp out nicotine addiction. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration told news.com.au that it and the

Australian Border Force have been "working closely" to find and evaluate nicotine vaping products being brought into the country, and infringements have been issued.

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[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Dark chocolate

Burnie Advocate, General News, 06/09/2023, Helen Kempton, Page 1

A Wynyard pensioner who grew cannabis and then removed the oil to make pain-killing chocolate to give away to hundreds of sick and suffering Tasmanians has pleaded guilty to multiple charges on his first appearance in the Burnie Magistrates Court yesterday. Magistrate Leanne Topfer has adjourned the case against Norman Vanderfeen to consider her sentence after the 69-year-old pleaded guilty to all charges on his first appearance in the Burnie Magistrates Court on Tuesday.

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