



TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 8th September 2023

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports that the Australian Border Force has voiced concerns over the ACT government's plan to decriminalise small amounts of illicit drugs from October 28.
- **[Sydney Morning Herald](#)** (page 1) reports that parents have criticised the NSW government's decision to only allow low-complexity cardiac surgery at the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick.
- **[Canberra Times](#)** (page 1) reports that only a third of services promised under the former Coalition government's \$2 billion Community Health and Hospitals program has been completed. Current federal Health Minister Mark Butler has criticised the Community Health and Hospitals program, stating that "This taxpayer money was so poorly allocated that years later, at a time when Medicare and the health system are under such strain, just half of the \$2 billion has actually been spent."
- **[Hobart Mercury](#)** (page 1) reports that patients at the Royal Hobart Hospital have been asked to leave as the hospital experiences a high level of demand. *Also reported by: [ABC Online](#)*
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 4) reports that the AACS recorded its biggest decline in tobacco sales on record due to the volume of illicit tobacco and vapes on the black market. Health Minister Mark

Butler has announced further tobacco controls and measures to stop the importing of non-prescription vapes, stating that "Australia needs to reclaim its position as a world leader on tobacco control."

- [The Australian](#) (page 7) reports the Aged Care Industry Association has suggested well-off Australians should cover "a significant portion of their age care in order to ensure the sector remains sustainable. Aged Care Minister Anika Wells stated the government is committed to an "aged-care system that is fair and equitable," and will consider all recommendations from the Aged Care Taskforce in December.

MINISTER BUTLER

Tobacco sales go up in smoke amid black-market boom

The Australian, General News, 08/09/2023, Rhiannon Down, Page 4

The Australian Association of Convenience Stores recorded its biggest decline in tobacco sales on record, prompting concerns about the high volume of illicit tobacco and vapes flooding the black market and undercutting the government's future tax revenue. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has announced a ramping up of the nation's tobacco controls and measures to stop the importing of non-prescription vapes.

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

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Public inquiries must adhere to best practice

The Australian, General News, 08/09/2023, Scott Prasser, Page 11

Last week Federal Health -Minister Mark Butler, when asked when the Albanese government will honour its promises to appoint a royal commission into Australia's handling of the pandemic, stated "the Prime Minister has indicated the government will undertake that (an inquiry) at an appropriate time". But what does "appropriate time" mean this month, this year, next year or after the next federal election, or perhaps we should wait till the next pandemic has broken out?

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

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'This is people's lives'

Canberra Times, General News, 08/09/2023, Landis Hanley, Page 1

Hobart woman Lynda Bain watched for two months as the lump in her right breast continued to grow as she waited to get in for a mammogram. [...] But current federal Health Minister Mark Butler has slammed the of 13 Coalition government health and hospitals program, adding ation that just half of the promised \$2 vices billion has actually been spent ational on delivering these projects.

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Time to prescribe common sense

Canberra Times, General News, 08/09/2023, Jenna Price, Page 57

Should we care about pharmacists throwing a tantrum in Parliament House? [...] As the Health Minister Mark Butler has said many times during the pharmacists' campaign, pharmacies are a highly profitable business.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#).

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Pharmacies pay price of policy

The Extra (Albany), General News, 08/09/2023, Harry Grigson & Daniel Rooney, Page 3

Pharmacy owners in the regions 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 60-day prescriptions would ease the cost-of-living pressures faced by people with chronic and ongoing health conditions.

Picking up the 'pieces of failing mental health departments': Inquest into how 20-year-old Kobe Huddy was fatally shot by police

ABC Online, Other, 07/09/2023, Angeliqne Donnellan

Early one May morning in 2019, 20-year-old Kobe Huddy was desperate for help. He called a mental health service for advice. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler told 7.30 the government was committed to fixing fragmentation within the mental health system and had been handed a review into the operation of Headspace, which was under consideration.

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Nicola Roxon appointed AIHW Chair

Government News, Other, 07/09/2023

Former health minister and tobacco control champion Nicola Roxon has been appointed as the new chair of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said Ms Roxon's appointment comes as the Institute builds on its legacy as an authoritative source of national health and welfare data and analysis.

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Health department launches much-anticipated diabetes tender

HealthDispatch, Other, 07/09/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care has launched its tender for products supplied through the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS). [...] Health minister Mark Butler recently blocked MSAC's consideration of two submissions to widen subsidised access to CGM products.

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A cosmetic surgery clinic named as part of the "cosmetic cowboys" scandal has been shuttered, a court has been told.

Sky News Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Liam Beatty

A cosmetic surgery clinic named as part of the "cosmetic cowboys" scandal is in liquidation, a court has been told. [...] Last year, Health Minister Mark Butler announced a crackdown on the cosmetic surgery industry following a series of reports by The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald and 60 Minutes.

[Read More](#)

ABC, 7:30, 07/09/2023, Laura Tingle

The South Australian coroner is examining the events leading up to 20-year-old Kobe Huddy's death. Counsel assisting told the inquest the mental health court operator could not be held responsible for Kobe's interactions with police. His mother doesn't blame police, but questions why the officer wasn't certified to use a Taser. Professor Ian Hickie, the founding director of Headspace says the mental health system is too focused on brief interactions when people are in crisis. The Health Minister, Mark Butler, has been handed a review into the operation of Headspace.

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ABC Newcastle, Mornings , 07/09/2023, Paul Turton

Interview with Peter Breadon, Health and Aged Care Programme Director, Grattan Institute about ambulance data reinforces the pressures that are being faced by frontline medical personnel. Breadon says there's a push on to change primary care and improve it. He notes Health Minister Mark Butler has implemented strategies and has acknowledged the scale of the problem within our emergency services.

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Aged care user-pays push for 'well-off '

The Australian, General News, 08/09/2023, Jess Malcolm, Page 7

Older Australians living in aged care should pay for their everyday expenses including food, transport and accommodation costs if they can afford to, in order to ensure the sector remains sustainable. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells told The Australian the government was "committed to an aged-care system that is fair and equitable both for older people who contribute to the cost of their care and for working people who support aged care through their taxes".

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

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Backing for Games plan

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 08/09/2023, Tahlia Leathart and Andrew Potts, Page 15

Business kingpin Katie Page has thrown her support behind the sensational push for the Gold Coast to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games with an international edge. [...] Mr Tate was buoyed by Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells opening the door to the bid in a letter last week saying she would be "willing to consider such a proposal" if support was "forthcoming from the Queensland Government".

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Guide aims to improve quality of life through design

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 07/09/2023, Christopher Kelly

The aged care accommodation design guidelines have been released and are available for stakeholder consultation. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells promoted the document on social media Thursday, saying: "The Albanese Government is putting the home' back into aged care homes."

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Glen for Women officially opened

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 07/09/2023, Denice Barnes, Page 11

The Glen for Women, a rehabilitation centre run by Aboriginal women for Aboriginal women, was officially opened on Wednesday, August 30, by Federal member for Dobell Emma McBride. Set in a picturesque Wyong Creek acreage, the centre provides a minimum 12-week residential program in a culturally safe and supportive environment and is the first Aboriginal communitycontrolled women's rehabilitation centre in NSW.

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Supporting domestic and sexual violence survivors

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 07/09/2023, Page 26

The Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network (HNECC PHN) is one of six PHNs selected to pilot a new model of care to support victim-survivors of family, domestic and sexual violence commencing in 2024. More than \$103M is being invested in pilot programs to run through Primary Health Networks (PHNs) across Australia. [...] Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Rural and Regional Health and Federal Member for Dobell, Emma McBride, said with one in three women having experienced physical violence by the age of 15, and one in five has having experienced sexual violence, domestic and sexual violence was a major health and welfare concern for the government.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Share health system bias story

Fleurieu Sun, General News, 07/09/2023, Page 29

This Women's Health Week (September 4-8), the Albanese Labor Government is urging women to share their experiences of bias in the health system through the first public consultation of its kind in Australia. [...] Assistant Minister for Health Ged Kearney urged anyone who has faced or witnessed gender bias in the health system to share their story.

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Federal government expands pelvic pain clinics into Adelaide and Western Sydney

ABC Online, Other, 07/09/2023, Claudia Long

New clinics to treat pelvic pain and endometriosis are being opened in Adelaide and Western Sydney as the federal government expands a trial to improve access to treatment. [...] "We want women to know that they can seek support and care at these clinics, that they will be believed and there are treatment options available to them," Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said.

[Read More](#)

ABC Central Coast, Breakfast, 07/09/2023, Scott Levi

Interview with Member for Robertson, Dr Gordon Reid on men's health barbecue for the Central Coast with the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. Reid says they're launching the men's health forum following the success of women's health forum they had with the Assistant Minister for Women's Health, GED Kearney, earlier in the year.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

'This is people's lives'

Canberra Times, General News, 08/09/2023, Landis Hanley, Page 1

Hobart woman Lynda Bain watched for two months as the lump in her right breast continued to grow as she waited to get in for a mammogram. [...] But current federal Health Minister Mark Butler has slammed the of 13 Coalition government health and hospitals program, adding that just half of the promised \$2 vices billion has actually been spent ational on delivering these projects.

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Selectability takes over management

North West Star, General News, 07/09/2023, Finn Coleman, Page 4

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

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Psychology clinic up and running

Ovens and Murray Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 4

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. [...] It is also supported by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care through the Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training program.

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Patient enrolment starts in 24 days — this is what you should know

Australian Doctor, Other, 07/09/2023, Rachel Carter

The long and winding road to voluntary patient enrolment in Australia is nearly complete. [...] AusDoc has asked the Department of Health and Aged Care what will count as working towards accreditation and what evidence practices will have to provide of this.

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National forum urges rural maternity services reform a priority for National Cabinet

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 07/09/2023, Natalie Dragon

A national forum has called on the federal government to make rural maternity services a health reform priority at the next National Cabinet meeting on health. [...] These included consumers of rural maternity services, midwives, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies, rural generalist (RG) obstetricians, GPs and GP obstetricians, consultant specialist obstetricians, nurses, allied health and representatives from the state and federal health departments.

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Health department launches much-anticipated diabetes tender

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 07/09/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care has launched its tender for products supplied through the National Diabetes Services Scheme.

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

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New Face-To-Face Afterhours Health Service Open To All

Mackay and Whitsunday Life, Other, 07/09/2023

A new face-to-face general practice service, which aims to address the current gaps in afterhours primary health care delivery and improve access to timelier care, is now available for all residents in Mackay and surrounding areas. [...] NQPHN is an independent not for profit organisation, funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

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RACGP exploring integrating Healthy Habits app with practice software

Pulse+IT, Other, 07/09/2023, Kate McDonald

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners is exploring options to integrate its new Healthy Habits patient app and clinician dashboard with practice management software. Healthy Habits is a free digital tool developed by the RACGP with funding from the federal Department of Health and Aged Care that uses behavioural change techniques to encourage patients .

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Review backs overhaul of PBS chemotherapy funding

The Limbic, Other, 07/09/2023, Geir O'Rourke

Reforms are needed in the PBS Efficient Funding of Chemotherapy program to improve equity of access and reduce red tape for clinicians, a federal health department-commissioned review has found. [...] Releasing the report on 1 September, the Department of Health and Aged Care said it undertake further consultation with regards to the recommendations to ensure continued and improved access to safe, high-quality cancer medicines in Australia (

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Colleges call for national eczema strategy

The Medical Republic, Other, 07/09/2023

The poor cousin' of allergic and immune system diseases is one of the 10 most common health conditions in Australia. [...] Eczema Support Australia has written to the Federal Health Minister and Department of Health and Aged Care to share the report's findings and to seek their support for establishing a national eczema strategy.

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OPAN welcome final report on the draft National Aged Care Design Principles and Guidelines

The Weekly Source, Other, 07/09/2023, Ian Horswill

The Department of Health and Aged Care has released the final report on the development of the draft National Aged Care Design Principles and Guidelines. There are four Principles, each with a set of Guidelines that focus on a particular design challenge, providing an overview of key concerns and potential solutions.

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

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Compliance with care minute targets could become a requirement for three stars in residential aged care

The Weekly Source, Other, 07/09/2023, Caroline Egan

The Federal Government is "actively considering" limiting Staffing Star Ratings of 3 to residential care providers that meet mandatory care limits, a Department of Health and Aged Care webinar revealed on Tuesday. The average care minutes being delivered per operational bed per day was 190 at the end of March 2023.

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CORONAVIRUS

Long COVID symptoms can improve, but their resolution is slow and imperfect

Medicine Today, Other, 07/09/2023, Suman Majumdarr & Brendan Crabb

Around 510% of people who get infected with SARS-CoV-2 will experience symptoms that persist way beyond the initial acute period, a clinical syndrome we are learning more about, known widely as long COVID. Shortness of breath, brain fog, lethargy and tiredness, loss of smell or taste are common features of long COVID, as is the development of new conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke, depression and dementia.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Death 'could not have been prevented'

Launceston Examiner, General News, 08/09/2023, Benjamin Seeder, Page 4

A nurse and a carer have been cleared of any blame in the falling death of a 93-year-old woman in a Launceston aged care facility in 2018. Dayle Patricia Weldon died in hospital three days after falling from her walker in the secure Allambi suite of the Regis Aged Care facility in Legana.

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Southern Cross Care Tasmania back-paying staff millions of dollars after significant underpayment

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Rob Inglis

Tasmania's largest aged care provider has begun back-paying close to 2000 of its current and former staff after uncovering a massive underpayment issue. The state's largest aged care provider has begun reimbursing staff almost \$6.9m after discovering a massive underpayment in an internal review, Australia's Fair Work Ombudsman says.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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Age pension rates to rise, but many older renters still suffering

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Anthony Keane

Extra government cash will flow to more than 5.5 million people in a fortnight but it's not enough for some. See the list of who gets what.

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

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Victorian aged care homes most likely to be victims to theft

Aged Care Insite, Other, 07/09/2023, Arshmah Jamal

According to recent data, Victorian residents in nursing homes are the most likely to be theft victims. In the year to March 2023, aged care facilities saw more thefts than any other crimes with nursing homes in Monash being the most prominent victims.

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SCC to grow NT aged care footprint

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 07/09/2023

Southern Cross Care SA, NT & VIC has announced plans for an \$18 million expansion of Pearl Supported Care in Darwin's Fannie Bay to add places for residents with dementia and health services for other clients. The development includes a new purpose-built 26-bed dementia-friendly unit with two separate living wings and central lounge, dining and activities spaces.

[Read More](#)

The future of aged care is not about care

The Weekly Source, Other, 07/09/2023, Lauren Broomham

Bolton Clarke's new Ageing Well report has underlined the significant opportunity for aged care and retirement living providers to cash in' on the Baby Boomers' demand for wellbeing. Reading the Not For Profit's inaugural report this week, two points stood out: independence and staying active is the key priority for older Australians and those aged 55-plus were also the most likely to believe they are responsible for their own care.

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

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POPULATION HEALTH

It's time for a 'change' on menopause

Age, General News, 08/09/2023, Henrietta Cook, Page 12

For decades, menopause has been defined as not having a period for 12 months. But a new international review calls for an overhaul of this definition so the focus is no longer on menstruation.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#).

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It's a healthy reminder to get into the routine of looking after yourself | State politics

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 07/09/2023, Paul Toole

This year's Women's Health Week is being used as a reminder for women to book important health check-ups to take care of their physical and mental health and to expand their knowledge on their bodies. Women's Health Week is an annual national event, run by not-for-profit organisation Jean Hailes for Women's Health, and this year's theme is "grow your knowledge".

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Welders welcome tougher fume limits

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 3

Workers will be protected by tougher limits on welding fumes linked to increased rates of lung cancer after the Australian workplace threshold was updated for the first time in three decades. SafeWork Australia yesterday adopted a recommendation to immediately lower the limit for welding fumes from five to one milligram per cubic metre, bringing Australia on par with the Netherlands for the strictest limits in the world.

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Women in chronic pain want to be seen

Canberra Times, General News, 08/09/2023, Megan Doherty, Page 51

Every day, Megan Kuleas is in pain. While she's at work in the public service. While she's catching up with girlfriends.

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

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Bionic helping hand for stroke

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 3

Artificial intelligence and bionic hands offer new hope for stroke survivors with limited arm mobility including a woman who credits it with helping her overcome the ultrarare foreign accent syndrome. Melanie Valdes, 42, regained consciousness after a stroke last November and as she slowly regained speech it came with a French-South African accent despite the Sydney-born woman having a Filipino-Spanish heritage.

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Rann's man is now in heart role

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 28

The former chief of staff to former premier Mike Rann, Stephen Halliday, has been appointed as a member of the national board of the Heart Foundation. Mr Halliday has experience in a career across media, politics, government and government relations and was chair of the organisation's South Australian advisory board for more than eight years.

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More defibrillators rolled out

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Alex Gretgrix, Page 7

Residents across Bendigo will have a better chance of surviving a cardiac arrest with everyone having life-saving equipment accessible within two kilometres. An additional 12 Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) have become accessible 24/7 at bowls clubs in Eaglehawk, Golden Square, Kangaroo Flat, South Bendigo and more.

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

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Lymphoma patient calls for support

Daily Liberal, General News, 08/09/2023, Sarah Falson, Page 2

Nick Willetts has battled through diagnoses of blood cancer and a brain tumour, and now he's calling for more support groups in the Dubbo area to help people like him find others in the same boat. The Guerie resident, who has lost two houses, a V8 ski boat and numerous other possessions due to his medical costs over the years, said once he get home from hospital, the visits from friends dried up.

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Shock cancer statistics for Queensland

Daily Mercury, General News, 08/09/2023, Sandhya Ram, Page 14

Cancer deaths have reached a 25-year low in Queensland with a 41 per cent decline in melanoma deaths in the past decade. [...] Cancer Council Queensland accommodation services manager Annick Dubois said their goal was to ensure patients and carers did not have to navigate treatment alone by providing a "home away from home" at the Their catchment extended from Cardwell down south to the Torres Strait and as far as Normanton in the north, she said, citing examples of how donations helped patients.

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It can be a killer cancer, but early detection saves lives

SBS, Other, 07/09/2023, Omoh Bello

Australia is seeing a decline in a free bowel screening test participation that is a proven life-saver. Cancer Council Victoria is urging more eligible people to take part in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program.

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Deaths from prostate cancer are up by 25 per cent

The New Daily, Other, 07/09/2023, John Elder

For the first time, more than 10 Australian men are dying from prostate cancer every day. And 70 men are diagnosed with the disease daily. [...] As the Cancer Council explains: "There is concern that testing healthy men will cause unnecessary harm and lead to treatments that may not offer long-term benefits.

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PRIMARY CARE

Children's heart surgery under threat

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 08/09/2023, Angus Thomson, Page 1

Families whose children have been treated for life-threatening conditions at the Sydney Children's Hospital at Randwick say the state government has backflipped on its support for heart surgery at the site as tensions within the Sydney Children's Hospital Network threaten to re-escalate. Health Minister Ryan Park wrote to doctors at the Sydney Children's Hospital at Randwick in July to confirm only low-complexity cardiac surgery would be permitted at the hospital, while high- and medium-complexity heart surgeries including cardiac bypass would continue to be performed at the Sydney Children's Hospital at Westmead.

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Calvary bill should not pass: committee

Canberra Times, General News, 08/09/2023, Lucy Bladen, Page 3

A senate bill to force the ACT Legislative Assembly to conduct an inquiry into the takeover of the former Calvary Public Hospital Bruce should not pass, a committee has concluded. The Labor-led legal and constitutional affairs legislation committee has said the bill "would undermine the independence" of the territory's legislature.

Hospital probed

Daily Telegraph, General News, 08/09/2023, Jake McCallum & Tijana Birdjan, Page 16

Allegations from staff at Dubbo Base Hospital claim a boy who died had been discharged and then returned to the emergency department by carers raising the alarm in the hours before his death. The four-year-old boy, who was in out-of-home foster care, was discharged on Sunday by medical staff before his foster carers returned to the hospital less than 48 hours later. He died on Tuesday morning.

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Sent home baby dies

Courier Mail, General News, 08/09/2023, Rose Innes, Page 5

A baby girl has died just hours after being sent home from a Queensland hospital where her anxious parents were assured she would be fine despite their concerns about her breathing. The tragedy has prompted an investigation into the circumstances surrounding Lola Winchcole's treatment after it was revealed traces of deadly throat illness strep A were later found in her blood.

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

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Hospital thugs put on notice

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Brad Crouch, Page 1

Around-the-clock security will be in place "as soon as possible" at hospitals in Murray Bridge and Berri to provide greater protection to healthcare workers following a spate of violent incidents. There have been multiple acts of aggression against staff at the two hospitals including threats to kill and one where a nurse was assaulted with an oxygen cylinder after an aggressive male patient woke up and barged into the nurses' station.

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

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A plea to patients

Hobart Mercury, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 1

A day after Tasmanians were asked to avoid the state's overwhelmed hospital emergency departments except in a genuine times of need, patients at the Royal Hobart Hospital have been asked to consider leaving. However, the state government rejects suggestions a letter given to patients pressured them to leave, saying it was intended to improve the discharge process.

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

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Health hub lightening load for patients

Cairns Post, General News, 08/09/2023, Catherine Duffy, Page 15

Innovation is meeting care in a groundbreaking Allied Health Hub facility, officially launched by Royal Rehab LifeWorks this week. The state-of-the-art hub will use a range of immersive technology to help patients recover from injury or illness, redefining how individuals approach recovery, wellbeing and disability support.

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'Signs of improvement' at local hospitals, latest data reveals

Central Western Daily, General News, 08/09/2023, Allison Hore, Page 4

Good news for people waiting for surgery or visiting emergency rooms in the Central West - new data reveals wait times are down ... mostly. The latest hospital data reveals 79.0 per cent of all elective surgeries in NSW were performed on time between April and June of this year - up from 74.7 per cent last year.

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Wellington palliative care unit gets a 'homely' upgrade

Daily Liberal, General News, 08/09/2023, Allison Hore, Page 4

Hospital stays will be more comfortable for palliative care patients in Wellington with the completion of a recent refurbishment. Minister for regional health Ryan Park says a major refurbishment of the palliative care space at the Wellington Health Service will make it more "comfortable" and "home-like" for people receiving end-of-life and palliative care.

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Where you'll pay more for bulk billing

Daily Mercury, General News, 08/09/2023, Sue Dunlevy, Page 6

Patients are paying up to \$50 out of their own pocket to see a GP as bulk billing is in freefall. The proportion of GP visits that are bulk billed or provided free to patients has plunged by over 11 points from 89.6 per cent in January 2021 to just 78.8 per cent in June 2023.

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Caring & sharing to empower women

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Chelsea Bunting, Page 3

Barwon Health and multicultural organisation Cultura Geelong have teamed up to help women who are new to Australia access our healthcare system. Barwon Health's Refugee Health Team shared vital information about healthcare and services with an Afghan women's group on Wednesday as part of Jean Hailes Women's Health Week.

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Hip, hip for care update

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 3

An updated national clinical care standard for hip fracture is set to save lives by substantially reducing the time to surgery. The updated standard for hospitals reduces the maximum time to surgery from 48 hours to 36 hours in line with international guidelines.

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

Bond University, clinical facility estimates 700 public patient appointments a week

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Ashleigh Jansen

Bond University unveiled its new \$50 million health and sport precinct on Wednesday, which Vice Chancellor Professor Tim Brailsford said will help train the next generation of allied health professionals. According to Bond officials, the 11,500sq m building hosts state-of-the-art facilities modelled from leading specialised health clinics.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Townsville's new Rapid Access Clinics targeting emergency overflow

The Mercury, Other, 07/09/2023, Daniel Shirkie

The doctor leading Townsville's new Rapid Access Clinic has described their effect on patient outcomes and satisfaction as a great success' as the Townsville University Hospital works to divert patients suffering from chronic conditions away from the city's emergency department. TUH staff specialist Associate Professor Dr Manjit Pawar said the service, which has recently opened its second clinic, would soon expand to provide more services.

[Read More](#)

New mega-hospital on Albury greenfields site off the table as NSW opts for rebuild instead

The New South Wales government has fallen into line with Victoria over plans for a \$558 million hospital upgrade for Albury Wodonga. NSW Health Minister Ryan Park said his government now agreed the best option for improving hospital services in the border community was to redevelop the existing facility at Albury, rather than build a mega-hospital on a greenfield site.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 07/09/2023, Leon Delaney

An ACT Greens backbencher argues the high number of golden staph infections in Canberra's public hospitals should have been avoided. 45 cases of the infection were revealed to have occurred in 2022 to 2023. Brindabella MLA Jonathan Davis says hygiene protocols around such infections should have prevented case numbers becoming so high.

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2CC, Canberra Live, 07/09/2023, Leon Delaney

Interview with Professor Walter Abhayaratna, ACT President, AMA over the high rates of golden staph infections in ACT public hospitals. Abhayaratna explains figures may to some extent at least be the result of statistical anomalies rather than a genuine reflection of the actual infection rate. On acquisition of Calvary hospital, he states the governance issues between the two hospitals needed to be sorted out to improve the quality of care.

[Play Now](#)

6PR, Mornings, 07/09/2023, Gary Adshead

Interview with Professor Louise Baur, obesity physician about Royal Australasian College of Physicians' submission to a parliamentary committee on health aged care. Adshead says the RACGP believes that the Federal Government need to look at helping out those people who have obesity issues and would benefit from bariatric or lap band surgery. Baur says there's often a substantial gap that's actually charged, which makes it difficult for anyone other than those who have private health insurance to access it. She adds in Australia, about 1 in 20 of people have bariatric surgery. Have it done as a first line option in the public system.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, Breakfast, 07/09/2023, Stacey Lee and Nikolai Beilharz

Interview with Bernadette Mulholland, Chief Industrial Officer, Salaried Medical Officers Association on presence of asbestos in a pregnancy advisory clinic in the western suburbs. Mulholland says they're pleased that there's some movement from the Central Adelaide Local Health Network to rectify the significant health and safety issues.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 07/09/2023, Lucy Breaden

Interview with Anita Dow, Tas Shadow Minister for Health about Royal Hobart Hospital sending letters to inpatients asking them to help free up beds. Dow says it's caused undue concern for patients at the Royal Hobart Hospital and for the Tasmanian community. She notes the state's health system has no surge capacity. She states Tasmanian Labor's plan is to invest in regional health as an immediate solution to taking the pressure off our major hospitals and that would involve investing in district hospitals and better utilising those 18 of them across the state which she says currently 50% utilised. She rules out shutting down Mersey Community Hospital.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 07/09/2023, Ryk Goddard

The Royal Hobart Hospital's Medical Staff Association says staff are hurting as Tasmania's two major hospitals struggle to move patients out of emergency departments. The state's nurses union says the situation in Tasmania's major hospitals is the worst it's ever seen, with some patients waiting hours wrapped in ambulances while waiting for beds. The staff association's Dr Frank Nicholson says staff at

Hobart and Launceston's major hospitals are struggling with low morale and burnout due to the workload.

[Play Now](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 07/09/2023, Michael Rowland and Lisa Millar

Interview with Andrew Wilkie, Federal Independent MP for Clark. Tasmanian Premier Jeremy Rockliff has defended his management of the state's health system after the Health Department urged people to stay away from the state's two main hospitals yesterday unless it was an emergency. Wilkie says it's alarming that the Premier is telling Tasmanians to stay away from the hospitals except in the case of a genuine emergency. He adds bed-block has long been a problem in Tasmanian hospitals.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Suicide data released

Courier Mail, General News, 08/09/2023, Jill Poulsen, Page 5

Data collected on suicides around the state will be publicly released for the first time in a bid to help mobilise support from authorities and community organisations in areas dealing with suicide clusters. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman will today announce the change which comes after The Courier-Mail's recent Bush Summit highlighted calls from experts for greater transparency around suicide data.

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

Hope that funding will attract more staff to mental health

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Alex Gretgrix, Page 6

Bendigo Health has revealed it is struggling to cover a shortage of mental health staff but hopes a new funding announcement can help fill the gaps. Bendigo Health director of mental health nursing Tim Lenten said the organisation had a shortfall of 27 full-time equivalent places across the sector.

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

Aussies yet to shake pandemic blues: report

Launceston Examiner, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 16

Australians are generally not as happy as they were before COVID-19, as pandemic-related troubles give way to cost-of-living and housing concerns. A biennial report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare draws on wide-ranging data to analyse the pandemic's temporary and lasting affects on the way Australians live and work.

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

Women's Mental Health

Shepparton News, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 10

Gv Health, Alfred Health, and Ramsay Health Care have partnered to deliver the Specialist Women's Mental Health Service (SWMHS). This service is the first of its kind; an expert hybrid of private and public hospital care, developed to fill a gap in gender-focused psychiatric care.

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

Lifeline to hold Out of the Shadows walk in Hobart ahead of World Suicide Prevention Day

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Tess Mccracken

Tasmanians will converge on Parliament Lawns in a show of solidarity for families who have lost loved ones to suicide for Lifeline's Out of the Shadows march. Tasmanians will converge on Parliament Lawns in a show of solidarity for families who have lost loved ones to suicide for Lifeline's Out of the Shadows march.

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

[Read More](#)

Coroner finds teenager should have been treated in hospital rather than at-home system

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 08/09/2023, Amber Wilson

"His death is profoundly sad, but in my view it was regrettably foreseeable." Tasmania's mental health hospital-at-home service has been slammed following the suicide of a Hobart teenager.

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

[Read More](#)

Eating disorder service receives 'well overdue' funding as presentations spike 77 per cent during COVID

ABC Online, Other, 07/09/2023, Alex Brewster

From the outside, it's a nondescript wooden property in inner Brisbane, but inside passionate workers with lived experience are overjoyed with new funding that will further their mission to help people with eating disorders. Vibrant artwork from professionals and patients adorn the walls of the Eating Disorders Queensland (EDQ) clinic in South Brisbane, a recipient of an additional \$2.

[Read More](#)

Why is loneliness on the rise among young Australians?

SBS, Other, 07/09/2023, Jessica Bahr

An increasing number of people aged 15 to 24 are experiencing loneliness. Why are young people feeling isolated and what can we do about it?

[Read More](#)

Fast access to hormone therapy in transgender adults 'lifesaving', study finds

The Guardian, Other, 08/09/2023, Melissa Davey

Access to immediate testosterone therapy significantly reduces gender dysphoria, depression and thoughts of suicide, research finds. Fast access to testosterone therapy for transgender adults is "life-saving", leading to a significantly reduced risk of depression and suicide, a clinical trial led by the University of Melbourne has found.

[Read More](#)

Sunshine Coast teen's GoFundMe plea for rare eating disorder treatment

Cairns Post, Other, 07/09/2023, Letea Cavander

A Sunshine Coast teenager has quit school and undergone gruelling force feeding as an under-recognised eating disorder, that occurs in about 1 in 300 people, takes over her life. A lesser-known and crippling eating disorder has caused a Sunshine Coast teenager to dropout of school and led to an emergency hospitalisation after her appetite disappeared.

[Read More](#)

Mental health pharmacist integration: never a better time

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 07/09/2023, Megan Haggan

An updated Australian pharmacy practice standard for mental health has been released by the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. The updated standard includes new key features including a list of essential and emerging services, and guidance on the provision of mental health pharmacy services in diverse population groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 07/09/2023, Craig Zonca and Loretta Ryan

The Queensland Government will spend almost \$40 million to improve eating disorder treatment following a surge in demand since the Covid pandemic. Under the plan, an extra 34 specialists will be hired. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman says the investment is well overdue.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, AM, 07/09/2023, Sabra Lane

More than half of Australian families are reporting higher than normal distress due to the rising cost of living. The organisation suicide Prevention Australia started surveying people four years ago and it says this is the first time more than half of families have reported cost of living distress beyond normal levels. Clare Kinsella, Director, Suicide Prevention Australia is calling on the Federal Government to immediately invest in crisis services and also implement a national Suicide prevention Act like we've seen in South Australia and hopefully soon in New South Wales.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

'We're sorry'

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 08/09/2023, Kate McIlwain, Page 1

The Illawarra health district yesterday publicly apologised to women at a hearing into birth trauma in the region, saying sorry to those who did not receive the care they expected. Issuing the apology, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District chief Margot Mains said she had personally found it "challenging and very difficult to hear" the stories of women and their treatment by the region's maternity services.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

Cooktown's Multipurpose Health Service's midwifery team gets staffing boost

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Sandhya Ram

A Far North health service's midwifery unit has been fully staffed for the first time since 2020, marking a positive step towards rebuilding of rural birthing services. A Far North health service's midwifery unit fully staffed for the first time in three years following an intensive recruitment process.

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

[Read More](#)

Doctors call for staff, patients to be moved from Adelaide's 'mouldy' Pregnancy Advisory Centre

ABC Online, Other, 07/09/2023, Stephanie Richards

Health unions met with SA Health on Wednesday to discuss the future of the Woodville-based service, which supports women with unplanned pregnancies and those seeking pregnancy terminations. SA Salaried Medical Officers Association (SASMOA) chief industrial officer, Bernadette Mulholland, said the Belmore Terrace building was unsafe for the centre's approximately 30 staff, as well as patients.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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Funding cuts for trainee psychiatrists are 'disappointing', expert says

ABC Online, Other, 07/09/2023

There are fears the state could face a shortage of psychiatrists, if crucial funding for trainees is cut. Victorian chair of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists Dr Simon Starface told Virginia Trioli he wanted transparency about why the funding could be reduced.

[Read More](#)

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

'Escalating concerns' with Victorian govt's pharmacy prescribing pilot trigger AMA walkout

Australian Doctor, Other, 07/09/2023, Sarah Simpkins

AMA Victoria has stopped advising the State Government on pharmacy prescribing, accusing it of rushing into a pilot while key questions remain unanswered, including all the S4 medicines pharmacists will prescribe. [...] The \$20 million pilot will cap out-of-pocket cost at the maximum PBS co-payment price and also let pharmacists renew scripts for some oral contraceptives.

[Read More](#)

The steady growth of mirtazapine

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 07/09/2023, Megan Haggan

Use of mirtazapine in aged care facilities has been steadily growing but is it always appropriate? This is part one of a focus on the use of antipsychotics in residential aged care.

[Read More](#)

'For years I was prescribed opioids by my doctor. Then I got addicted to heroin.'

Mamamia, Other, 07/09/2023, Isabella Ross

Georgia vividly remembers the first time she was prescribed strong opioids. After injuring her back, Georgia went to her GP and was prescribed a variety of opioids for pain relief.

[Read More](#)

PSA updates guidelines for salbutamol, terbutaline inhalers

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 07/09/2023, Ajp Staff

Pharmacists key to supporting asthma patient to move away from relievers and toward preventers, PSA leader says. Updated treatment guidelines for pharmacists supplying salbutamol and terbutaline inhalers to patients with asthma from the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) aim to curb the overreliance on short-acting beta2-agonists (SABA).

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

[Read More](#)

PSA launches training for extended supply of oral contraceptive

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 07/09/2023

This Women's Health Week the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has launched the NSW Contraception Essentials training as onboarding begins for the next stage of the New South Wales Pharmacy Trial. The statewide trial, run by the University of Newcastle, authorises pharmacists participating in the trial to continue a prescription for the resupply of certain oral contraceptives for eligible women aged from 18 to 35 years.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

MBS colonoscopy items should require gastros to keep GPs in the loop: review

Australian Doctor, Other, 07/09/2023, Antony Scholefield

The 2019 changes to colonoscopy items have not achieved their goal of reducing low-value procedures, says the draft report. Providing colonoscopy reports to a patient's GP should be part of the Medicare items for gastroenterologists, the MBS Review Advisory Committee has recommended.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Doctor punched patient

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 08/09/2023, Tom O'Callaghan, Page 1

A Bendigo doctor who punched a patient in the face has been reprimanded by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. [...] The victim later told the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency they had struggled for four months to find another general practitioner and get medications in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

GP Matthew Thomas Kelly pleads guilty to sexually abusing 15yo patient on Gold Coast

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Jessica Paul

A successful doctor and father of three who sexually abused a 15-year-old girl on the Gold Coast has learned his fate in court. [...] Kelly must notify the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency of the outcome of his case.

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

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

AI used in war on vapes

Herald Sun, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 9

Artificial intelligence will harness the power of social media on young people by infiltrating their Instagram feeds to warn against the harms of vaping. Dr Janni Leung has been announced as the winner of the University of Queensland Foundation Research Excellence Award for her work using AI to develop posters, slogans and other messaging about the dangers of vaping on teens.

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

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

Qld pill testing plans

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 08/09/2023, Blair Jackson & Bethany Westwood, Page 1

The \$500,000 state-funded pill testing program will be done from a mobile festival site and at two fixed locations. The Queensland state government posted tender documents for the service on Wednesday, and aims to have the service up-and-running by December and operating into 2024.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#).

Report calls for national eczema plan

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 07/09/2023

Up to three million Australians, including one in three children aged six years or younger, are afflicted by eczema which causes severe pain, distress and sleep disruption. Those were the findings of 'The Burden of Eczema - Evidence for a National Strategy', a major report launched by Eczema Support Australia with input from a multidisciplinary group representing nurses, psychologists and GPs and supported by the Australasian College of Dermatologists.

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SPORT

Deloitte facing a Games grilling

Courier Mail, General News, 08/09/2023, Matthew Killoran, Page 8

Senior Deloitte partners will be grilled by the Senate inquiry into the Olympic and Commonwealth Games on their advice recommending that the Brisbane 2032 event's infrastructure oversight be kept inhouse by the Palaszczuk government. The inquiry's latest hearing, to be held in Canberra on Friday, will also focus on finding an Australian solution to salvaging the 2026 Commonwealth Games, as well as what legacy opportunities can be learned from the successful Women's World Cup and the Matildas.

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Important to back Olympic and Paralympic athletes as well as media too - Page

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 08/09/2023, Tahlia Leathart, Page 52

A major motivators for Katie Page throwing retail giant Harvey Norman's support behind the Gold Coast's annual celebration of local women is to get them the media coverage they deserve. The Harvey Norman CEO, a longtime backer of female sports and athletes, said it was very important companies like hers "with a marketing budget can support the media companies so that they get more visibility".

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Australian Olympic Committee denies changing citizenship support position for Perth Wildcat Bryce Cotton

West Australian, Other, 07/09/2023, Craig O'Donoghue

The Australian Olympic Committee has denied allegations from Perth Wildcats star Bryce Cotton that they changed their position on his citizenship dreams. Cotton is stuck in the middle of a messy legal fight with the Federal government after he was banned for applying for citizenship for four years.

[Read More](#)

Not just for 'big boofy footballers': action urged after Senate concussion report

SBS, Other, 07/09/2023, Deborah Groarke & Tom Stayner

A Senate inquiry has been investigating concerns over concussions in professional and community sport. Its final report has called for a national strategy and for government to take a greater hand in addressing the issue.

Also reported by: [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).

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Calling all male twins

Herald Sun, General News, 08/09/2023, Jordan McCarthy, Page 17

Male twins and their diets may be the key to understanding how food and drink affects a man's ability to have children. Researchers at Deakin University's Institute for Mental Health and Physical Health and Clinical Translation (IMPACT) are seeking to recruit male twins to take part in a study into how nutrition affects the quality of sperm.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#).

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Melbourne professor lauded for research on protective cells

ABC Online, Other, 07/09/2023

Melbourne-based researcher Laura Mackay has received the prestigious Jian Zhou medal. It's awarded by the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences to individuals making significant impact in medical science.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 07/09/2023, Brenton Ragless and Kate Collins

It affects around 360,000 diagnosed Australians. But now a potential new medication out of the University of the Sunshine Coast is giving hope to Australians living with coeliac disease. The trial is aimed towards people, with the disease who still experience symptoms despite following a gluten free diet.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, National Nine News, 07/09/2023, Michael Thompson

A new approach to tackling high cholesterol in patients who've had a heart attack could save thousands of Australian lives each year. A newly published study found that offering patients two medications upfront a high dose statin and another anti-cholesterol agent ezetimibe, was better than a single therapy. Patients were 47% less likely to die within three years. So that's a really important finding. It reinforces this concept of lower is better. Experts say the results, which were gleaned from a patient database in Europe, support a growing body of evidence which shows combination therapy is more effective. The treatment guidelines will be discussed by the country's peak heart bodies, but there's already change on the ground.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Mount Isa mum Kara Rudken fights her son's disease

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/09/2023, Blair Jackson

A Mount Isa mum became a healthcare worker in her 30s to treat the disease which afflicts her son. Ms Rudken's son Coen was only seven when, after repeated trips to hospital, his fever was finally diagnosed as rheumatic heart disease.

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

[Read More](#)

University of Queensland sleep program for outback teenagers to be expanded

ABC Online, Other, 07/09/2023, Emily Dobson & Larissa Waterson

John Donovan struggled with his sleep for years, staying up until 3am on most nights and feeling "very angry all the time and sometimes violent" when he woke up. The Kalkadoon, Mount Isa teen's school work was affected and he was getting into trouble with his teachers.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

No relevant coverage

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Accreditation boosts future growth plans: grower

Shepparton News, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 5

Medicinal cannabis grower and processor Cannatrek has ticked off another achievement that points to a growing future in Greater Shepparton, if you'll pardon the pun. Cannatrek announced on Tuesday that it has been granted Good Manufacturing Practice accreditation from the Therapeutic Goods Administration for its Shepparton processing facility.

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

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

Channel 7, Seven News, 07/09/2023, Mark Ferguson

Doctors say a national shortage of children's medicines is the worst they've seen in decades. Crucial antibiotics are in the most limited supply, including liquid versions of amoxicillin. Whilst there are other strengths available, they might only be a half strength and we're having to give twice as much to get the same dose.

There are more than 400 medicines in short supply because of global manufacturing issues.

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Channel 7, Seven News, 07/09/2023, Susannah Carr and Rick Ardon

Doctors say shortage on some medicines is forcing parents to turn to alternative drugs, which are more expensive and less effective. Pharmacists say it's not just paediatric antibiotics in short supply, but there's also a flow on effect to other medications, including heart disease, diabetes, hormone replacement and ADHD. There are currently 433 medicines listed as short supply on the Therapeutic Goods Administration website. Medical experts say they're being kept in the dark as to when the issue will end.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

ABF warns of risks in 'hard drugs' capital

The Australian, General News, 08/09/2023, Sarah Ison, Page 1

The Australian Border Force has cautioned the ACT government against going it alone as it prepares to decriminalise possession of small quantities of ice, heroin, cocaine and other drugs from next month, urging a co-ordinated national approach amid fears Canberra could become a hard drug centre. The comments follow massive drug seizures at Australia's borders over the past 12 months, including more than 300kg of heroin detected in Queensland in April and 250kg of cocaine found stashed in the hull of a yacht in July that resulted in the arrest of two men from the ACT.

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

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Medicinal cannabis eases pain, anxiety, fatigue: study

Launceston Examiner, General News, 08/09/2023, Page 16

Medicinal cannabis boosts the health and quality of life of patients suffering from mental health conditions, chronic pain and fatigue, an Australian study shows. The longitudinal study, led by the University of Sydney, followed 2327 Australian patients who were prescribed medicinal cannabis for health conditions between November 2020 and December 2021.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#).

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FOOD STANDARDS

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