



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 6th October 2023

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 1\)](#)** reports that popular cold and flu tablets and allergy medications containing oral phenylephrine continue to be sold in pharmacies and supermarkets despite research showing it provided no benefit.
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 1\)](#)** reports revelations have emerged about how US multinational conglomerate could have known about toxic chemicals in their products at the same time they were attempting to delay the publication of scientific material which suggested they were hazardous. In 2003 the average Australian adult had the forever chemical PFOS in the blood at 20 times the "safe level" which a scientist employed by 3M had secretly calculated.
- **[The Age \(page 1\)](#)** reports that AFL match-day tests for assessing potential brain injuries should be improved to prevent manipulation by players memorising recall tests, according to two leading neurologists and a former player who retired due to concussion. "We're still using the same sort of procedure or protocol as we have for the last 30 years. We haven't really progressed at all, I don't think, in this space," La Trobe University Professor Alan Pearce said.
- **[The Canberra Times \(page 1\)](#)** reports that Canberra Health Services has denied accusations of a double standard after female staff at Canberra Hospital were subjected to a rule banning

them from wearing shorts, a rule which does not apply to men, in a directive unions have called “blatantly sexist.” “It’s just outrageous that in 2023, women cannot wear shorts in the workplace, but their male counterparts can, and we just don’t understand how that is even a conversation that we’re having right now,” Community and Public Service Union president Brooke Muscat said.

- **The Daily Telegraph (page 1)** reports that health professionals across Western Sydney have raised concerns that presentations at hospital emergency departments are surging because patients are struggling to afford costly visits to non-bulk-billing GPs.
- **The Herald Sun (page 1)** reports that \$6 million was spent by Victoria police on establishing a dedicated unit in preparation for the since cancelled Commonwealth Games. “We were working on how to best deliver the regional Games model consistent with the agreement that was signed by the government with the Commonwealth Games Federation and Commonwealth Games, Australia,” Jacinta Allan, who then led the Commonwealth Games preparation portfolio, said.
- **The Courier Mail (page 1)** reports that Moderna has advanced to late stage trials of a single combined Covid-19 and influenza vaccine “superjab” that has so far shown similar or greater effectiveness than separate doses.
- **The Northern Territory News (page 1)** reports that the Palmerston Medicare Urgent Care Clinic has opened as part of the federal government’s plan to reduce pressure on emergency departments and offer bulk-billed urgent healthcare by rolling out 58 clinics across the country. “It’s designed to provide people who are suffering some kind of urgent issue like ... a terrible cold or a temperature, or ‘I fell off the porch and I think I’ve broken something’,” Palmerston Medicare Urgent Care Clinic chief executive Robyn Cahill said.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Ban on next-gen smoking floated in UK as Australia butts out with a different plan

Age, General News, 06/10/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 17

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak this week declared England would follow New Zealand's path on tobacco control and in effect ban cigarettes for the next generation. Australian Health Minister Mark Butler - who has been talking for months about making the country a world leader in tobacco control again - says he will closely monitor progress overseas.

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

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### GP billing crisis hits hospitals

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/10/2023, Angira Bharadwaj and Madeleine Bower, Page 1

Cash-strapped Australians are failing to go to the GP to manage common chronic illnesses with experts warning the cost-cutting will cause an avalanche of patients flooding emergency departments. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler blamed the Coalition government for freezing Medicare rebates and making it more expensive to visit a GP.

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### Smoking ban comes of age

Herald Sun, General News, 06/10/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 17

A leading health campaigner says it is time for Australia to get serious about banning cigarette smoking. [...] Asked if it would follow the lead of Britain and New Zealand, Health Minister Mark Butler said: "The UK and New Zealand have responded to the specific tactics of Big Tobacco marketed to their populations, and we will monitor their implementation success."

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### Bitter pill for this tiny town to swallow

Trundle, the locals will tell you, is all the town you'll ever need. [...] While the policy reduces costs for patients, the Pharmacy Guild warns it jeopardises the viability of local pharmacies - concerns Health Minister Mark Butler dismisses as "a cynical scare campaign".

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## **Urgent care clinics confirmed for Coast**

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 05/10/2023, Terry Collins, Page 27

Providence Medical Umina and Coastal Lakes Medical Practice Lake Haven will be the providers of two Medicare Urgent Care Clinics (UCCs) set to open in November. Member for Robertson Gordon Reid and Member for Dobell Emma McBride recently announced the two sites, which will see urgent care facilities servicing both the south and north of the region. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the UCCs would make a big difference to patients on the Central Coast who would be able to get the urgent care they need when they need it.

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## **'These people are suicidal'**

Daily Mercury, General News, 06/10/2023, Estelle Sanchez, Page 8

There are fears the mental health crisis in regional Queensland is getting worse with reports professionals are going back to the cities, leaving patients with even less face-to-face appointments. [...] A Bowen psychologist has sent a letter to Health Minister Mark Butler revealing his four staff would leave the region by early 2024, creating a gap in mental health coverage for the area.

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## **Medical centre stouch**

Derwent Valley Gazette, General News, 04/10/2023, Page 3

Lyons Labor MP Brian Mitchell has found himself at the centre of a political stouch over the impending closure of Greenpoint Medical Service. [...] "That means Federal Minister Mark Butler and State Minister Guy Barnett sitting down together to find a solution.

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## **New action against tobacco**

Latrobe Valley Express, General News, 04/10/2023, Page 25

Heart Foundation has welcomed the introduction of the Public Health (Tobacco and Other Products) Bill 2023 as a critical action to prevent and further reduce the heart health harm caused to people by tobacco products and nicotine addiction. [...] Heart Foundation chief executive David Lloyd commended Health Minister Mark Butler and the federal government for their commitment to the health and well being of all people living in Australia.

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## **Minister under fire**

Whyalla News, General News, 05/10/2023, Rachel Hagan, Page 1

Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler was greeted by a volatile crowd when he visited Whyalla on Friday for a regional community health forum. Mr Butler said the federal government was doing its best to get out of the cities to visit regional centres after coming out of the most difficult days of the pandemic.

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## **Birthing in Whyalla step closer after review**

Whyalla News, General News, 05/10/2023, Rachel Hagan, Page 3

An Upper Spencer Gulf hospital is a step closer to having its birthing unit services reinstated after the findings from an external review were handed down. [...] The announcement came hours after the Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler visited Whyalla and was interrogated over the loss of the unit by fed-up residents, during a community forum on regional health.

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## England's smoking ban for children of the future a valid blueprint

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/10/2023

The proposal to stop the next generation of English children from being able to buy cigarettes is not only one of the toughest-ever crackdowns on the tobacco industry, but a brave reform that should be adopted worldwide. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the UK and New Zealand had responded to the specific tactics of Big Tobacco marketed to their populations, and Canberra would monitor their implementation success with interest, but the government would stick with its own tobacco legislation introduced in September.

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## Australians missing out on \$225m in unclaimed Medicare rebates

The Courier Mail, Other, 05/10/2023, Ellen Ransley

The Coalition have accused Labor of sitting on hundreds of millions of dollars which is owed to nearly a million Australians. Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler says the Albanese government is "determined" to strengthen Medicare for all Australians.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), and widely syndicated across regional publications

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## Australia watching England smoking ban 'with interest', as government reforms tobacco laws

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Jake Evans

The federal government will monitor a plan to ban smoking for future generations in England "with interest", as it progresses reforms to Australian tobacco laws. [...] Australian Health Minister Mark Butler told the ABC as Australia progresses its own reforms, he would be monitoring the UK and New Zealand schemes closely.

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## Australia is considering banning cigarettes as part of new law that would gradually increase age people can buy smokes

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023

Australia could ban teenagers from ever buying cigarettes by gradually increasing the age limit at which people can buy smokes. [...] A similar law has already been introduced in New Zealand Australian Health Minister Mark Butler told the ABC he would be keeping a close eye on the moves in England and New Zealand.

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## Covid-19 inquiry will examine border and school closures, lockdowns, independent panel member says

The Guardian, Other, 06/10/2023, Tory Shepherd

The impact of lockdowns, school shutdowns and border closures during the pandemic will be examined by the federal government's Covid-19 inquiry, one of the independent panel members says. [...] The Federal Health Minister, Mark Butler, said last week that the people who suffered from border and school closures and curfews would have their stories heard.

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## Ban smoking for next generation to 'keep pace' with UK and NZ, advocates tell Australian government

The Guardian, Other, 05/10/2023, Natasha May

The Health Minister, Mark Butler, has said the Albanese government will monitor the impact of smoking bans to be imposed by New Zealand and now the United Kingdom, as health experts and advocates say pressure is on Australia to "keep pace" with those countries. The UK Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, on Wednesday announced his government aims to raise the smoking age by one year, every year, so tobacco would end up never being sold to anyone born on or after 1 January 2009, following New Zealand's example with its world-first law introduced in December last year.

## ABC, The Drum, 05/10/2023, Casey Briggs

Panel discussion with Chris Gambian, Executive Director, Australians for Mental Health, Jenna Price, Australian National University, Ian Hickie, co-director of health and policy, University of Sydney's Brain and Mind Centre, and Angelica Ojinnaka, Western Sydney University. Hickie says Federal Minister Mark Butler says mental health, it's not just a health problem.

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## Channel 9, Nine Afternoon News, 05/10/2023, Davina Smith

Interview with Alecia Brooks, Chair, Cancer Council. Brooks says Health Minister Mark Butler has just announced a huge package of reforms that are comprehensive in their approach on smoking.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC North and West SA, Regional Mornings, 05/10/2023, Tom Mann

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says towns with populations of around 2000 people are finding it hardest to recruit doctors. The minister met with health leaders on the Eyre Peninsula last week to discuss GP retention in regional areas.

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## MINISTER WELLS

### Mandatory care minutes in aged care

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/10/2023

From today, the Federal Government announced that aged care homes must deliver a sector average of 200 care minutes per resident per day, including 40 minutes of registered nurse care. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said, "we are delivering an additional 1.8 million care minutes every day across the sector, and an additional 5,800 direct care staff.

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### Care minutes at 194 minutes per resident per day: "There is clearly an issue"

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Caroline Egan

The residential aged care sector was achieving care minutes of 193.99 per resident per day as of 1 October 2023, the day that 200 direct care minutes became mandatory, the Minister for Aged Care and Sport Anika Wells said in a statement. RNs delivered 36.78 minutes of care per resident per day, compared with the required 40 minutes.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### Urgent care clinics confirmed for Coast

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 05/10/2023, Terry Collins, Page 27

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## Lived experience key to world-first mental healthcare trial

Daily Liberal, General News, 06/10/2023, Sarah Falson, Page 5

Health practitioners from Dubbo are in talks with researchers to participate in a world-first study to improve physical outcomes for people with mental health issues in the regions. [...] Image Caption: Professor in Management, Russell Roberts, from the CSU School of Business, with Emma McBride, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention.

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## 'These people are suicidal'

Daily Mercury, General News, 06/10/2023, Estelle Sanchez, Page 8

There are fears the mental health crisis in regional Queensland is getting worse with reports professionals are going back to the cities, leaving patients with even less face-to-face appointments. [...] A Bowen psychologist has sent a letter to Health Minister Mark Butler revealing his four staff would leave the region by early 2024, creating a gap in mental health coverage for the area.

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## When you listen, you get better results - it's that simple: Emma McBride

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 05/10/2023, Emma McBride

When you listen, you get better results. It's that simple. [...] Emma McBride is the federal Member for Dobell, the Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and the Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

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## DEPARTMENT

### Toxic culture exposed

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 06/10/2023, Carrie Fellner, Page 1

This wasn't your typical gossip around the office water cooler. As two 3M employees met over coffee at the Fortune 500 company's sprawling corporate headquarters in Minnesota more than 40 years ago, one of them had something startling to get off his chest. [...] Australia's Department of Health says forever chemicals are today expected to be found in the blood of everyone in the country.

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

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## A professional and personal perspective of male carers and dementia

Have-a-Go News, General News, 06/10/2023, Josephine Allison, Page 9

Professor Warren Harding has seen both sides of the spectrum of Alzheimer's WA, his professional involvement in this field over many years and his own personal experience with his mother, who

passed away after 11 years of living with dementia. [...] Professor Harding, who holds a chair in dementia care from Sydney's Macquarie University, was also appointed to the National Dementia Expert Reference Group by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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## Healthy thinking

Ovens and Murray Advertiser, General News, 06/10/2023, Coral Cooksley, Page 1

A new resource to deliver integrated age-friendly healthcare for older people launched by a prominent national senior health care professional on Tuesday is believed to be the first of its kind in Australia. [...]

Image Caption: Dr Rachel Winterton (left), Glenda Chapman, Dr Kathleen Brasher, Wendy Kelly, Adjunct Professor Ruth Stewart and Dr Mark Ashcroft at the launch of delivering integrated age-friendly healthcare for older people held at the Grand Oaks Resort on Tuesday.

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## Mental health disorders in young Australians surge by 53 per cent over 15 years, new data shows

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Alison Branley and Jenya Goloubeva

Mental health disorders among young people have soared by more than 50 per cent in 15 years, new data shows, as experts warn the health system is struggling to cope with the growing complexity and demand. [...] Australia's deputy chief medical officer for mental health, Ruth Vine, said social media also played a role.

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## Two in five Australians have experienced a mental disorder

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Other, 05/10/2023

More than two in five Australians (42.9 per cent) aged 16 and 85 years have experienced a mental disorder in their lifetime, with one in five Australians (21.5 per cent) experiencing a mental disorder in the previous 12 months, according to findings released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). [...] This study was funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care as part of the Intergenerational Health and Mental Health Study.

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## GPs still say 'no' to independent prescribing

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/10/2023, Vicki Dyson

Enabling community pharmacists to independently prescribe would create "perverse risks of financial incentives from prescribing", the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) warns. [...]

\* Yes, keep fighting No, let this be handled through 8CPA negotiations now Undecided Who is paying the Health Department?

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## AMA shares insights into role of private health insurance

Australian Medical Association, Other, 05/10/2023

The AMA has detailed its views on private health insurance's key role in helping to ease the burden on public hospitals at a webinar on private health reform. [...] The webinars follow recent Department of Health and Aged Care reports into private health, including risk equalisation, regulatory settings for private health incentives and default benefits.

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## AMA opposes record uploads in colonoscopy item requirements

Australian Medical Association, Other, 05/10/2023

The proposed requirements in their present form could see patients denied MBS rebates. The AMA has opposed a proposal to link the patient's MBS rebate with the uploading of colonoscopy reports to My Health Record in a submission to the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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## AMA acts on telehealth red tape

Australian Medical Association, Other, 05/10/2023

The AMA has been actively advocating to minimise disruptions following fresh advice. The Health Insurance Act (1973) showed its age this week, after fresh advice was published by Services Australia in relation to verbal assignment of benefit arrangements for telehealth services.

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## More than a third of young Australians experienced mental health disorder in last 12 months

The Guardian, Other, 05/10/2023, Natasha May

"I always knew that I had this really bad feeling, but I just thought that was normal," Sam Tickle says. [...] Dr Ruth Vine, the deputy chief medical officer for mental health in the Department of Health and Aged Care, said the last time the survey was conducted in 2007 there was similar prevalence of anxiety and mood disorders among the general population.

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## Taskforce Interim Report to be withheld from public

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Caroline Egan

In conversations with the sector this week, we have learnt that the Aged Care Taskforce's highly anticipated interim advice to government will not be released to the public. [...] A spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care confirmed the interim report will not be publicly released.

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## Home care providers had to return unspent funds after Department of Health and Aged Care review

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Caroline Egan

A review of the accuracy of reported unspent home care funds and the capacity of providers to repay funds if required has found that initial discrepancies in reporting unspent funds were able to be eliminated or reduced, and 43 of the 44 Government and non-government home care providers that took part in the review had the capacity to return unspent funds if required.

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# CORONAVIRUS

## Scientific genius yet to find cure for human tribalism

The Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Claire Lehmann, Page 13

On Monday, the 2023 Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology was conferred to Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman, the two scientists who made effective mRNA vaccines possible. For those struggling to remember their high school biology, "mRNA" stands for messenger ribonucleic acid, which is a family of molecules that play various roles in our cells.

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

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## Single flu jab stops COVID

Courier Mail, General News, 06/10/2023, Jared Lynch, Page 1

A "superjab" combining Covid-19 and influenza vaccines in one dose has achieved a similar or greater level of effectiveness than existing shots, biotech giant Moderna says. Australia will play a key role in manufacturing the single jab, which is advancing to late-stage trials.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Australia\)](#).

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## Threat of Covid is still real

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/10/2023, Gary Grohmann, Page 23

With each wave of COVID-19, severity has lessened and infectiousness has increased. Omicron has now been with us for over 18 months with its various subvariants, but thankfully there is no sign of a major mutation that would allow us to move onto a new variant of concern — let's call it Pi, which would be more severe and/or transmissible and likely require a significantly updated vaccine.

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## Australia behind the world on long Covid

Herald Sun, General News, 06/10/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 7

Australia's response to long Covid has been found lacking, with "significant gaps" in services that require an urgent overhaul. That's the recommendation of new research by RMIT University and Northern Health, which found services, guidelines and public health information lagging in several categories when compared with international standards.

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

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## Fail mark for long COVID

West Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 38

Australia's long COVID-19 response continues to fall short of international standards and needs an urgent overhaul. Research by RMIT University and Northern Health examined Australia's long COVID services, guidelines and public health information compared with international standards.

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

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## Norman Swan outrage for endorsing graded exercise therapy for chronic fatigue syndrome and long Covid sufferers

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, David Southwell

ABC medical pundit Norman Swan has sparked outrage among chronic fatigue syndrome and long Covid sufferers for appearing to endorse a controversial therapy. A change.org petition has been launched demanding Dr Swan retract positive comments he made about Graded Exercise Therapy (GET).

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## Long COVID lingers: Australia's quest for answers

SBS, Other, 05/10/2023, Ruth McHugh-Dillon

Up to 40 per cent of people who contract COVID-19 experience lingering symptoms like fatigue, shortness of breath and brain fog. New research from RMIT University in Melbourne says Australia is lagging behind in how it deals with the impact of long COVID.

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Super funds reject call to fix aged care

Australian Financial Review, General News, 06/10/2023, Hannah Wootton, Page 3

The superannuation industry has warned the government it cannot use Australians' retirement savings as a "fix-all for aged care funding", saying its \$3.5 trillion asset pool "can't be the go-to solution" for broader problems.

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

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## **Aged care provider gets four stars**

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 3

A Quirindi aged care provider has achieved a 4-star result in the latest rounds of assessments. Eloura Residential Aged Care facility, operated by Quirindi Care Services (QCS), has been granted a 4-star rating under the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission's star rating system. The star rating system was introduced following the Aged Care Royal Commission.

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## **Calls for urgent action on severe lack of aged care workers**

The Australian, Other, 05/10/2023

There is a severe shortage of workers in Australia's aged care sector and it's only going to "get worse", according to CEDA Chief Economist Cassandra Winzar. Ms Winzar said there is an ageing demographic of more Australians requiring care services.

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## **Walbirniny Mia Aboriginal Elder Care development set for Beaconsfield home**

West Australian, Other, 05/10/2023, Gabrielle Becerra Mellet

A landmark development for Aboriginal elders to age in place is on track in Beaconsfield. [...] In 2018, the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety identified Aboriginal people having limited access to mainstream aged care and three years later the McGowan Government pledged \$10 million towards a dedicated facility in Queens Park.

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## **Australia's oldest man, Ken Weeks, celebrates 110th birthday in Grafton aged care home**

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Miranda Saunders and Bruce Mackenzie

He's lived through two world wars, the Great Depression and two pandemics, so no-one was expecting Ken Weeks to blow out 110 candles when he celebrated his birthday today.

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## **HammondCare opens new regional at-home service**

Aged Care Insite, Other, 05/10/2023, Arshmah Jamal

HammondCare has opened new headquarters for at-home care in Lismore, New South Wales, as a part of a commitment to bolster Lismore's future. Last week, Premier of NSW Chris Minns joined HammondCare's chief, Mike Baird, to formally open the new home care regional headquarters a move said to be "a bold, bricks-and-mortar commitment to be part of the city's future".

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## **RSL LifeCare announces new builds**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/10/2023

New South Wales aged care provider RSL LifeCare has announced plans for a new veteran wellbeing centre in Dee Why on Sydney's northern beaches in partnership with Dee Why RSL and RSL NSW. Dee Why RSL has committed \$1 million over the next four years to house and assist with the ongoing operating costs of the new Northern Beaches Veteran Wellbeing Centre and RSL NSW sub-Branchees will provide ongoing financial support.

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## **People's needs must steer codesign of services**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/10/2023, Natasha Egan

Codesigned, evidence-based and integrated services are the key to using technology and innovative care models to improve the independence of older people living at home, an aged care executive has told Australian Ageing Agenda Bolton Clarke teams support thousands of people every day with post-acute services to speed recovery times and reduce the risk of readmission to hospital, said Deidre McGill, the organisation's executive general manager of At Home Support.

## Josh McFarlane becomes Catholic Healthcare's CEO

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/10/2023

New South Wales aged care provider Catholic Healthcare has appointed Josh McFarlane as its chief executive officer. Mr McFarlane takes on the CEO role following a five-month stint as acting CEO.

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## Workforce pressures worsen, says CEDA

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/10/2023, Christopher Kelly

Many aged care homes are operating under capacity some as low as 50 per cent due to worker shortages aggravated by government reforms, according to a new report. Released Thursday by the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, the report finds that the mandatory care minute targets and the requirement for facilities to have registered nurses onsite 24/

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## Antibiotic resistance detected in aged care wastewater

Australian Seniors News, Other, 05/10/2023

A new study published this week, analysing wastewater samples from aged care and retirement homes in Adelaide, has uncovered worrying signs of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in at least one facility. High levels of bacterial resistance against three common antibiotics ceftazidime, cefepime and ciprofloxacin were identified in one aged care residential home, while a second facility recorded above average levels of antimicrobial resistance to gentamicin.

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## HammondCare's new home care office a boost for Lismore's community

HelloCare, Other, 05/10/2023, Alex Jacobs

HammondCare At Home client Roger Manby, 86, alongside HammondCare CEO Mike Baird. [Source: Supplied] Aged care services provider HammondCare has opened a new home care regional headquarters in Lismore, NSW, providing an invaluable resource for a region that has been hard hit by major flooding over the last six years.

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## Ageism Awareness Day

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 05/10/2023

This Saturday, October 7 Ageism Awareness Day seeks to remind all Australians of the harmful and damaging effects of stereotyping, discrimination and mistreatment directed towards older Australians. The day was pioneered by EveryAGE Counts and is now Australia's national campaign against ageism.

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## Old beds, new beds: the Aged Care Taskforce must deliver answer to sector's capital crunch

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Lauren Broomham

While all the talk about the Aged Care Taskforce is around Plan B customer co-contribution - there is another major issue that the Taskforce needs to urgently resolve. [...] Royal Commission failed to resolve capital question Currently, the development of new aged care homes relies heavily on the stability of the \$30 billion tied up in Refundable Accommodation Deposits (RADs).

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## Mandatory care minutes will erode aged care providers' profitability

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Caroline Egan

Increased spending on staff, particularly on Registered Nurses and agency costs due to the mandatory care minutes, are eroding the recent increases in Government funding to the aged care sector. Back in

May, aged care accountancy specialists StewartBrown warned that the introduction of mandated care minutes could erode gains from the increased AN-ACC funding (which came in from 1 October 2022) and FWC ruling (funding started to flow 1 July 2023).

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## **CEDA report today: Aged care sector running on empty**

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Caroline Egan

The call for increased consumer contributions, as advocated for almost two years by our Plan B advocacy, has been championed in the latest report by the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA).

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## **Aged care providers being charged for medication packaging**

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Caroline Egan

Anton Hutchinson, whose family has owned 114-bed Canberra Aged Care for more than 30 years, told The SOURCE that since 60-day dispensing came in on 1 September this year, they are being charged \$3-\$4 per Webster pack or about \$2,000-3,000 per month. These are costs that were previously included in their pharmacy expenses, and that can't be passed on to consumers.

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## **Nanyima Aged Care in regional QLD becomes Apollo Care's ninth aged care home**

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Caroline Egan

Nanyima, a 51-bed Not For Profit aged care home in Mirani, a rural town nearly 1,000km north of Brisbane and 37km west of Mackay, is joining Not For Profit provider Apollo Care Alliance from 1 October 2023 with the aim of expanding its aged care services to meet strong demand for aged care services in the region.

[Read More](#)

## **“Alternate aged care provider” wants to operate Feros Village Byron Bay**

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Ian Horswill

The NSW Department of Planning & Environment (Crown Lands) is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) for a new business to take over Feros Village Byron Bay, 772km north of Sydney. Minister for Crown Lands Steve Kamper said the EOI was "warranted as an alternate aged care provider has come forward to signal their interest in operating the site".

[Read More](#)

## **Aged care residents imprisoned behind new prison-style fencing for own safety at Old Timers Village in Alice Springs, NT**

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/10/2023, Ian Horswill

After a number of break-ins, car thefts and ram-raids, Australian Regional and Remote Community Services (ARRCS) has put in a new fence topped with razor wire to try to keep residents safe at its aged care facility in Alice Springs, Northern Territory. Photos of the desperate situation were shared by local bakery owner Darren Clark on his Action for Alice Facebook page.

[Read More](#)

## **ABC News, ABC Evening News, 05/10/2023, Joe O'Brien**

Some aged care homes are running at just 50% capacity because of worker shortages. The Committee for Economic Development conducted research into the situation and is now calling for urgent reform.

[Play Now](#)

## **Channel 7, Seven News, 05/10/2023, Mark Ferguson**

Australia's nursing homes' beds are sitting empty despite growing wait lists, and those who can't get in

are sent to overcrowded hospitals. The lack of available beds has also impacted an already stretched hospital system. The number of patients awaiting discharge to an aged care facility has tripled in the past two years. The sector calling for a user pay system, more housing for key workers and a specialised visa recognising existing qualifications.

[Play Now](#)

## **ABC Radio Sydney, Drive, 05/10/2023, Richard Glover**

Aged care providers are calling on the Federal government to create a new class of visa to attract migrants who want to work in the industry. A report by the Committee for Economic Development has found hundreds of beds in aged care centres across Australia are empty because of staff shortages.

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## **POPULATION HEALTH**

### **Ozempic left woman with 'severe burns'**

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 6

It's the "skinny jab" that's taken the world by storm. But fat-burning drug Ozempic allegedly had a horrific side effect for one woman with diabetes, who revealed she suffered "severe burns" on her genitals.

*Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), and widely syndicated across regional publications*

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### **'Ban the smokes to save teens'**

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/10/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 25

A leading health campaigner says it is time for Australia to get serious about banning cigarette smoking. Anti-cancer crusader John Tickell says the next generation of teens must be protected from "Australia's biggest killer", lung cancer.

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

### **Leo's battle for breath**

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/10/2023, Dasha Havrilenko, Page 28

Three-month-old baby Leo has suffered from an unfortunate string of respiratory sicknesses as he is now diagnosed with a Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and rhinovirus infection. Baby Leo struggles to breathe, sometimes gasping for air or just wheezing as he exhales.

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

### **The truth about being fat but fit**

The Australian, Other, 05/10/2023, Peta Bee

Can you carry extra pounds yet still be considered fit and healthy? If you are someone who hits the gym, swims or runs despite extra body baggage and elevated readings on the scales you should keep it up, according to scientists presenting at the European Association for the Study of Diabetes in Hamburg this week.

[Read More](#)

### **Give me crooked vampire teeth over a fake pearly white smile any day**

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/10/2023, Shona Hendley

When I smile for the camera, it generally involves a bit of a dancing act: two pursed lips upturned, my teeth remaining safely hidden, letting out some sort of muffled hum of whatever smile enticing word has been announced by the photographer. At this point in my life, doing this has become instinctual; a habit formed over years of self-consciousness around my very imperfect smile.

## Consumers get a raw deal on airlines, electric cars and medical devices

Canberra Times, Other, 05/10/2023, Adam Triggs

There's an old proverb that you don't put a fox in charge of guarding the hen house. It's obvious why. It's the same reason we don't let kids choose their own bedtime or let people choose how much their parking fine should cost: their incentives are out-of-whack with the public good.

[Read More](#)

## How to support a partner who experiences erectile dysfunction

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Kellie Scott

Almost half of Australian men will experience erectile dysfunction, but it's not something that's easy to talk about or even acknowledge. Matt Tilley, a clinical psychologist and lecturer in sexology at Curtin University, says it's a topic people often avoid discussing and it can be hard for partners to know how best to provide support.

[Read More](#)

## 'Wellness' vapes containing vitamins and caffeine raise potential safety concerns

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Anna Salleh

Feeling tired? Need a quick boost? Fancy inhaling your caffeine instead of drinking it? What about breathing in some Vitamin B12? Websites abound that boast "revolutionary" vapes that let you inhale "pure focus".

[Read More](#)

## Weight-loss jabs linked to 'severe' stomach problems - study

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/10/2023

Using weight-loss jabs such as Ozempic or Wegovy could increase the risk of "severe gastrointestinal problems", a study has suggested. The jabs, which have been hailed as a "game-changer" in the fight against obesity, were found to heighten the probability of pancreatitis, bowel obstructions and "stomach paralysis" in non-diabetics.

[Read More](#)

## Floods linked to increased deaths from heart and lung disease, Australian-led research shows

The Guardian, Other, 05/10/2023, Melissa Davey

It has long been known there is an increased risk of communicable diseases after floods but a new Australian-led study shows people are also more likely to die from heart and lung disease about three to six weeks after a disaster. That is likely to be due to reduced access to health services caused by road closures, along with increased exposure to black mould and other contaminants, including pathogens, researchers say.

[Read More](#)

## Everyone's weight loss journey will take a different number of steps

The New Daily, Other, 05/10/2023, Bob Buresh

Over the past decade, smartphones have become ubiquitous not just for sending texts and staying abreast of news, but also for monitoring daily activity levels. Among the most common, and arguably the most meaningful, tracking method for daily physical activity is step counting.

[Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

## Megan's tough decisions

Border Watch, General News, 06/10/2023, Charlotte Varcoe, Page 17

It was not until her mother was diagnosed with cancer that Mount Gambier/Berrin resident Megan Medhurst began to think about her future. Ms Medhurst was only in her teenage years when her mother was battling breast cancer and feared it would one day be her.

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

## Get a scan in the SA van

Border Watch, General News, 06/10/2023, Charlotte Varcoe, Page 20

Breast screens will be better accessible for women across the Limestone Coast this year with BreastScreen SA visiting the region soon. This year, the BreastScreen SA Van will visit Penola and Mount Gambier/Berrin before visiting Keith, Kingston, Millicent and Naracoorte next year.

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

## More than 20,000 Aussies diagnosed each year

Border Watch, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 21

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer amongst women in Australia, according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. About 57 Australians are diagnosed each and every day which equates to more than 20,000 people diagnosed each year.

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## Hoping to shed light on condition

Burnie Advocate, General News, 06/10/2023, Simon Mcguire, Page 13

Even though it affects an estimated 2300 young people across Australia, childhood dementia is still a widely unknown condition. A Tasmanian researcher is at the forefront of research into understanding the genetic changes that cause childhood dementia.

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

## Cancer risk reality for surfers

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 06/10/2023, Lisette Drew, Page 4

Last year, surfing legend Wayne "Rabbit" Bartholomew urged fellow surfers to drop in to a Gold Coast skin clinic and take part in a new study. And for good reason.

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

## Chemo brain boost

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 12

Brain inflammation is a common side effect of ongoing chemotherapy and a catalyst for a range of debilitating physical and psychological symptoms for which there's no solution. But new research from South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute and the University of Adelaide has shown that using a supplement to increase fibre intake while undergoing chemotherapy can significantly reduce brain inflammation and the associated health issues.

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

## Gynaecological cancer patients urged to donate live tissue

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, Jackie Sinnerton

Women who have been diagnosed with gynaecological cancers are donating live tissue with cancer cells to science in a bid to improve treatments for aggressive cancers. Scientists at Mater Hospital Brisbane run the state's only biobank using live collections and they need more donated tissue to support their groundbreaking research.

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

[Read More](#)

## 'Look, feel, learn': Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2023

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 05/10/2023, Robert Fedele

Kerry Pattford, Chief Nurse for the McGrath Foundation, has worked in breast care nursing for more than two decades. For as long as she can remember, breast cancer was “always part of the conversation” due to a strong family history.

[Read More](#)

## First person in the world to receive a vaccine that hopes to eliminate breast cancer says it's changed her life

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/10/2023, Cassidy Morrison

The first American woman to receive a vaccine scientists hope will prevent recurring bouts of an aggressive type of breast cancer said it has changed her life. Jennifer Davis, a 46-year-old nurse and mom of three from Ohio was the first of 15 women in a clinical trial to have received the three-dose series of the vaccine as part of a Cleveland Clinic-run study, which involves patients who completed chemotherapy treatment for a specific form of breast cancer in the past three years.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Private health 'needs urgent national reform'

The Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Natasha Robinson, Page 4

Urgent national reform is required to expand Australia's "piecemeal and fragmented" out-of-hospital care sector, with the nation squandering the potential to free up hundreds of thousands of beds and save well over \$100m a year because of a lack of co-ordinated national policy. A report by the Australian Medical Association has calculated that savings from out-of-hospital rehabilitation for total knee replacement alone could be as high as \$62m if all clinically eligible patients had access to such care, with a saving of between 47,000 and 94,000 bed days in hospitals.

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

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### Health wrong to hide bad survey results

Canberra Times, General News, 06/10/2023, Jasper Lindell, Page 12

ACT Health's decision to redact negative survey results because it would not be in the public interest to release them was contradicted by its own decision to release the survey's positive findings, a review has found. The ACT Ombudsman, Iain Anderson, overturned a decision to release only the more positive parts of a staff survey of workers in its digital solutions division.

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

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### We need fence at top of cliff

Daily Telegraph, Editorials, 06/10/2023, Page 22

Australia's cost-of-living crisis has become so acute it is now literally a cost-of-living crisis: People are struggling to pay for the things they need to physically stay alive. As revealed in today's Daily Telegraph, Australians are now so starved of cash that they are avoiding going to their GP to manage common chronic illnesses and are likely to end up clogging already overstretched emergency departments if they aren't already.

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### New women's health clinic launch a first for state

Hobart Mercury, General News, 06/10/2023, Tess McCracken, Page 4

Tasmania's first specialist women's clinic aimed at treating endometriosis and pelvic pain opened in Glenorchy on Tuesday as part of the Albanese government's commitment to deliver 22 new health clinics across Australia. The clinic will run out of the existing Family Planning Tasmania practice and will provide women with access to pelvic physio, pain management groups and allied health professionals.



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

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## Clinics ease wait pains

Northern Territory News, General News, 06/10/2023, Annabel Bowles, Page 1

A new clinic designed to ease pressure on emergency departments and offer bulk-billed urgent healthcare has opened in Palmerston. The same is also set to launch in Alice Springs next month as part of the federal government's rollout of 58 clinics across the country.

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

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## Bandaaid fix

Northern Territory News, Editorials, 06/10/2023, Page 50

Two new urgent care clinics will attempt to ease pressure on the health system, but are they enough? There wouldn't be many Territorians out there that aren't familiar with the obstacles to getting healthcare help up here when it's needed.

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## Geelong surgeon spearheads legal action against regulator

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 06/10/2023, Mandy Squires, Page 11

Some of Australia's most distinguished plastic surgeons have launched landmark legal action against the nation's health regulator over what they describe as "misogynistic, misleading and potentially dangerous" rule changes now governing the cosmetic surgery industry. The group - led by Geelong's Dr Peter Callan and Sydney's Dr Simone Matousek - allege that rather than stamping out "cosmetic cowboys" as promised, new regulatory requirements still allow untrained doctors to operate on unsuspecting patients.

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## Auxiliary receives a 'welcome' donation

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 5

Tamworth Town and Country Club has donated \$1700 to Tamworth Hospital Auxiliary to assist with the purchase of new or additional equipment for Tamworth hospital. A spokesperson said the Town and Country Club held a number of charity card days throughout the year, with all money raised being donated to various charities within Tamworth.

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## Work starts on \$100m private hospital

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 9

Construction has started on a "state-of-the-art" private hospital at the new Maroochydore City Centre. The \$100m Maroochy Private Hospital located at Mundoo Blvd is expected to be completed by 2025 to provide "world-class medical services".

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## Mackay Hospital and Health Service reveals new board a year after scandal

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, Zoe Devenport

A newly appointed board chair has promised no surprises' almost a year after the Mackay Health and Hospital Service board was dismissed by then Health Minister Yvette D'Ath. [...] Dr O'Mara became a Fellow with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) in 2003.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mercury News \(Online\)](#)

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## **Patients report long emergency department waits at Campbelltown Hospital, Westmead Hospital and Blacktown Hospital in Western Sydney**

7news.com.au, Other, 05/10/2023, Rhiannon Lewin

Patients at emergency departments in major Western Sydney hospitals say they have been forced to wait up to 12 hours due to under staffing. Mother-of-two Jo Tanginoa waited nine hours at Campbelltown Hospital last month only to be told she was fine and sent home with painkillers.

[Read More](#)

## **Victoria-NSW border residents at 'greater risk' of ambulance delays due to communication glitch**

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Lucas Forbes, Shannon Schubert and Emma D Agostino

The Victorian Ambulance Union says "unnecessary delays" are putting lives at risk in 38 communities on the border of New South Wales and Victoria where it claims residents may not get the closest ambulance when they call triple-0. The ABC has obtained Ambulance Victoria emails that warn some emergency calls from border towns are being directed to the ambulance service in the state the call came from rather than the closest ambulance service.

[Read More](#)

## **More staff needed as north Queensland doctors see 'wave' of demand for voluntary assisted dying**

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Rachael Merritt

When voluntary assisted dying (VAD) became legal in Queensland this year, practitioners like Claus Bader weren't expecting the "tsunami" of cases which followed. [...] Dr Clements, also the rural chair of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, said there had been a "steady stream" of people wanting to know if they were eligible.

[Read More](#)

## **Pharmacies urged to waive HIV co-pay**

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/10/2023, Megan Haggan

Queensland Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services Shannon Fentiman has announced that effective now, a co-payment waiver for HIV antiretroviral medication in Queensland has taken effect.

[Read More](#)

## **FIP focus on sustainability in pharmacy**

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/10/2023

The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) says that pharmacy professionals can "support planetary health...through equitable and environmentally sustainable practice".

[Read More](#)

## **RPTA registration is live**

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/10/2023

Pharmacies are being urged to submit applications for the Regional Pharmacy Transition Allowance (RPTA) Program, which was announced by the Government in Jul with the intention of providing temporary assistance to owners as they transition business arrangements for 60-day prescriptions.

[Read More](#)

## **HIV co-payment waiver installed in Queensland**

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 05/10/2023

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia Queensland Branch says it welcomes the announcement by the Queensland Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services, the Hon. Shannon Fentiman, confirming that the co-payment for all patients living with HIV in Queensland will be waived, allowing access to free HIV treatment.

## Cobram Rotary gives generously to emergency services

Shepparton News Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Gabriel Garcia

The Cobram Rotary Club has given donations to the Cobram SES, CFA and the Royal Flying Doctor Service in a ceremony held at the new Cobram SES headquarters. The event on Wednesday, October 4 was attended by members of the three services and members of the Rotary Club, who got to see some of the state-of-the-art equipment the Cobram SES uses.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 7, Seven News, 05/10/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

More Queenslanders will soon be able to access free doctor visits with another urgent care clinic opening in the south east. It comes as GPs are offered new bulk billing incentives to help battle the soaring cost of living on a whirlwind trip to Brisbane.

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## Channel 9, National Nine News, 05/10/2023, Melissa Downes

Residents on Brisbane's Southside now have greater access to urgent medical care. The Prime Minister visiting the city today to unveil the Cornwall Street Medical Centre in South Brisbane as a new urgent care clinic.

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## Sky News Live, Sharri, 05/10/2023, Sharri Markson

Interview with Nicole Higgins, President, RACGP. New figures from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners has revealed that 184 practises closed last year and while others did open up, there was in the end a net loss of 55 clinics. Now charging clinics payroll tax will obviously mean they either have to pass the cost on to patients or shut down. Higgins while the Federal Government is trying to bring bulk billing incentives on 1 November while the state governments completely killing off any of those reforms because you can't bulk bill and pass on a charge.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Anxiety epidemic worst among the young

The Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Stephen Lunn, Page 6

Young Australians are bearing the brunt of the nation's mental health burden as they seek to manage the impact of Covid-19, instability around jobs and education and a more complex world of constant digital connection, experts say. But they are also more willing to admit to their issues than other generations.

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

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### 'My son should still be alive'

Courier Mail, General News, 06/10/2023, Thomas Chamberlin, Page 20

The mother of a young man found dead in a Brisbane jail says her son should still be alive but was failed by the system that was supposed to rehabilitate him. Joshua Harris, 23, died after he was found unresponsive in his cell at Brisbane Correctional Centre at Wacol on Saturday evening. Officers tried CPR but he couldn't be revived.

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### Alarming rise in rate of suicide

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/10/2023, Grace Baldwin, Page 5

About 150 Australians attempt to take their lives every day and more than 1700 Australians consider it. Marking an increase in suicide rates since last year, new ABS data found 644,600 people or one in six Australians reported suicidal ideation in the past 12 months and tragically, 54,800 people attempted to take their lives.

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

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## The \$450K job that no one wants

West Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Claire Sadler, Page 5

How can child health sector be so bad? The condition of WA's child mental health sector is so dire that hospitals are failing to fill roles despite offering a small fortune, while private psychiatrists refuse to take on new patients.

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

## Mental health issues hit home

West Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 24

More than two in five Australians (42.9 per cent) aged 16-85 years have experienced a mental disorder in their lifetime, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. One in five Australians (21.5 per cent) have also experienced a mental disorder in the past 12 months.

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## Guy to tell own story

Ballarat Courier, General News, 06/10/2023, Melanie Whelan, Page 4

Pop star Guy Sebastian is set to share his Open Parachute story with families in a special Ballarat mental health awareness session. Sebastian will share the stage with Ballarat Olympic swimmer Shayne Reese and wheelchair rugby Paralympian Josh Hose, who hails from Camperdown.

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## Social life key for good mental state

Border Mail, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 39

There's not many better things than a good time spent with friends. It lifts spirits and makes people feel connected and alive. A good belly laugh with mates can be a tonic for all sorts of ills, especially the mental ones.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#)

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## Braving the distance on mental health walk

Border Watch, General News, 06/10/2023, Page 13

A South East woman is making a mammoth trek, walking from Melbourne to Kingston SE for mental health. Charlotte Northam will walk the 1200 kilometre journey to signify that, even when mental health makes things difficult, people can still "walk confidently along the road of life".

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## Self-care practices focus of upcoming Mental Health Week

Burnie Advocate, General News, 06/10/2023, Simon McGuire, Page 13

"What do you do to boost your mood?" That is the question that is being asked for Mental Health Week. Run by the Mental Health Council of Tasmania, the annual initiative will occur between October 7 and 15.

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## Tragic last words spark a mission

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 06/10/2023, Chelsea Bunting, Page 11

When Geelong West woman Ruby Hooper lost a friend to suicide earlier this year, she was left navigating "uncharted territory". "It feels like this tiny pressure you don't notice all the time, but you

know it's there," she said.

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## What suicide numbers don't tell us

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 06/10/2023, Natalie Croxon, Page 12

Last year, 3249 people in Australia died by suicide. The Australian Bureau of Statistics released the figure earlier this week in its annual Causes of Death report.

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## Study links social life to mental health

Newcastle Herald, General News, 06/10/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 9

Strong links between social exclusion and poor mental health have been revealed in a big study of young people, prompting calls for a national trial of "social prescribing". "When a young person is not travelling so well, they've often lost connection," Headspace Newcastle community development worker Byron Williams said.

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## Tasering, beanbag-round deaths spark calls for changes to mental health responses in NSW

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Romy Stephens

The New South Wales government is being urged to change how agencies respond to vulnerable people after recent deaths following interactions with police. Earlier this year 95-year-old Clare Nowland died a week after allegedly being tasered by police in her nursing home at Cooma.

[Read More](#)

## Exercise can be a healthy habit, but when done compulsively it can be a sign of an eating disorder

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Anthea Moodie

Lili Mooney is a regular at her local running group, but as she ties her shoes for one of her weekly runs, she admits her relationship with exercise hasn't always been positive. She developed an unhealthy association with food at 12 years old, and it was her intensifying running routine that masked an underlying eating disorder.

[Read More](#)

## ABC, The Drum, 05/10/2023, Casey Briggs

Panel discussion with Chris Gambian, Executive Director, Australians for Mental Health, Jenna Price, Australian National University, Ian Hickie, co-director of health and policy, University of Sydney's Brain and Mind Centre, and Angelica Ojinnaka, Western Sydney University. Ojinnaka says they started up an African Australian youth suicide prevention group to raise not only raise awareness but actually challenge the structural red tape barriers.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC News, ABC National News, 05/10/2023, Joe O'Brien

Young people are dealing with anxiety and depression at rates never seen before. The latest figures from the Bureau of Statistics show mental health disorders among young people have soared by nearly 50% in 15 years.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 10, The Project, 05/10/2023, Michael Hing, Waleed Aly, Georgie Tunny and Susie Youssef

Interview with Matilda Boseley, Guardian Australia and author. Boseley discusses ADHD. Hing says the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners saying that there might be an overdiagnosis of ADHD, particularly in children, and a worry about overmedication.

[Play Now](#)

## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### ERH welcomes special guest

Shepparton News Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Shannon Colee

Echuca Regional Health recently welcomed a special guest - the State of Victoria's Nursing and Midwifery Chief Officer Karrie Long. ERH executive director of nursing Maree Woodhouse said it was great for team spirit to have Ms Long come and visit the nurses and midwives.

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Short shrift

Canberra Times, General News, 06/10/2023, Lanie Tindale, Page 1

Female staff at Canberra Hospital have been subject to a "blatantly sexist" rule banning them from wearing shorts - a directive that doesn't apply to men, a union says. Canberra Health Services has denied a double standard, saying they issue uniform shorts for everyone regardless of gender.

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

### We're in a doctor crisis, so why make it more taxing?

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/10/2023, Caleb Bond, Page 13

The quickest way to slow something down is to slap a tax on it. So why in God's name, when we know there is a shortage of GPs, would you levy payroll tax on doctors' clinics?

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

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### 'No respect': Red Cross Lifeblood nurses rally over proposed enterprise agreement

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 05/10/2023, Robert Fedele

"I just don't think what they've put on the table for us so far is showing very much respect at all," says Lifeblood enrolled nurse (EN) Kelly Costello about her employer's proposed single enterprise agreement, which for the first time would cover all workers across the country. Kelly has worked at the Australian Red Cross' Lismore Donor Centre in NSW for more than a decade.

[Read More](#)

### 3AW, Afternoons, 05/10/2023, Jacquie Felgate and Jimmy Bartel

Interview with Lisa Fitzpatrick, Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Victoria Branch. Fitzpatrick says they do not support Vic Government's move bringing Victorian public sector nurses and midwives in alignment with the rest of the country which she said had removed their special paid leave. She states they proposed that nurses and midwives must have a minimum of 12 months of their own accrued leave up their sleeve before they would be required to utilise any of their personal leave in the event they tested positive for Covid.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

## Sotyktu on PBS

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/10/2023

Bristol-Myers Squibb's (BMS) Sotyktu (deucravacitinib) is now listed on the PBS for adult patients living with severe chronic plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy. Sotyktu's reimbursement is based on the outcomes of two pivotal, Phase three clinical trials (POETYK PSO-1 and POETYK PSO-2), which demonstrated superior efficacy of once-daily medication compared to placebo, and twice-daily apremilast, in 1,684 patients aged 18 years and older living with severe chronic plaque psoriasis.

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### Almost 200 patients at major Melbourne hospital caught up in data leak

9News, Other, 05/10/2023

The personal details of more than 190 patients being treated at a Melbourne hospital may have been accessed during a data leak. A spokesperson for Royal Women's Hospital in Parkville said recently cyber criminals accessed the private email account of a staff member, who had forwarded work emails to their personal account "to review and coordinate their patient appointments and care approaches".

[Read More](#)

### Cyber criminals access hospital patient information

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023

The private details of almost 200 patients being treated at a major Melbourne hospital may have been accessed by online criminals. On Thursday, the Royal Women's Hospital notified 192 patients their data might have been compromised.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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### Australians missing out on \$225m in unclaimed Medicare rebates

NEWS.com.au, Other, 05/10/2023, Ellen Ransley

The Coalition have accused Labor of sitting on hundreds of millions of dollars in unpaid Medicare benefits owed to almost one million Australians. Opposition government services spokesman Paul Fletcher has accused Labor of keeping the money from people who need it most, while the relevant government agency, Services Australia, says the pool of money is growing only because people aren't updating their details.

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

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Al Muderis denies practising in US

Age, General News, 06/10/2023, David Estcourt, Page 6

Prominent orthopaedic surgeon Munjed Al Muderis has denied performing medical services in the United States without a licence after being played a video in court of him changing a patient's prosthetic rod in an Arizona hotel room. Al Muderis faced cross-examination in the Federal Court defamation case he has brought against The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald and 60 Minutes over reports published in 2022 that he says defamed him by suggesting he performed surgery negligently.

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## 'Appalling': Anger rises over Cook's absence

West Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Josh Zimmerman, Page 5

Premier Roger Cook is yet to surface three days after it emerged a 13-year-old patient was allegedly raped inside Perth Children's Hospital. Neither the Premier, nor Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson fronted reporters on Thursday in what Liberal leader Libby Mettam described as an "appalling" lack of leadership.

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## Cook must front up on PCH

West Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Libby Mettam, Page 46

Four days after it was revealed a 13-year-old girl was allegedly raped at Perth Children's Hospital while in the mental health ward and it's still impossible to fathom how this was allowed to happen. How is it possible this young girl, who had been admitted to the ward amid fears she was suicidal after a previous sexual assault, was not protected?

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## Fake nurse gets three months jail

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 06/10/2023, Jessica Paul, Page 1

A Gold Coast woman who gave patients medical advice and injections while pretending to be a registered nurse is behind bars. Sonya Maree Whitestyles stood quietly with her head slightly bowed as she was sentenced to spend the next three months in jail, having pleaded guilty to three counts of fraud.

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## Charges dropped in Perth Children's Hospital rape case

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, Joel Erickson

A 13-year-old boy accused of raping a 13-year-old girl at Perth Children's Hospital had all his charges dropped last year. The AAP reports charges against the boy were dropped amid fears of forcing his alleged victim to give evidence about the incident could worsen her mental health, a prosecutor told the court last year.

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

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## Sexual misconduct cases taking over three years to resolve due to tribunal delays: AHPRA

Australian Doctor, Other, 05/10/2023, Antony Scholefield and Heather Saxena

Sexual misconduct complaints that go before a tribunal are on average taking three and a half years to finalise, AHPRA says. The watchdog provided the figures after questioning at a Senate hearing back in June, although they were not published until two months later.

[Read More](#)

## Seven staff were working when teen was allegedly raped at PCH. But only three locked themselves away

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/10/2023, Hamish Hastie

More questions have been raised about why security wasn't called when a 13-year-old mental health patient allegedly raped another patient at Perth Children's Hospital last year, after it was revealed seven staff were working in the ward on the night. The Child and Adolescent Health Service, which operates PCH, has been plunged into crisis after the alleged victim, also 13, shared her harrowing experience with the ABC.

[Read More](#)

## Cook mustn't become 'Good News Roger'

West Australian, Other, 05/10/2023



It's now been three days since shocking claims that a 13-year-old girl was raped by a fellow patient while in the care of Perth Children's Hospital's mental health ward came to light. And West Australians are yet to hear from their Premier about the catastrophic failures that had to occur to allow this unthinkable alleged incident to happen.

[Read More](#)

## **Kate Savage: Perth mum feared daughter would be sexually assaulted at same PCH ward girl alleges she was raped**

West Australian, Other, 05/10/2023, Josh Zimmerman

Kate Savage's mother feared her daughter would be sexually assaulted while receiving treatment at the same Perth Children's Hospital ward where another 13-year-old girl alleges she was raped. Kate took her own life in July 2020 immediately after leaving an appointment in Bentley with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service in a tragedy that also shone a spotlight on the level of care provided by PCH.

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## **HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES**

No relevant coverage

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## **SPORT**

### **Matildas help lift Optus brand by \$1b**

Australian Financial Review, General News, 06/10/2023, Sam Buckingham-Jones, Page 3

The Matildas' record-breaking FIFA Women's World Cup campaign has contributed to a near \$1 billion recovery in the brand value of Optus, almost erasing the catastrophic falls after last year's cyberattack.

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### **Cost risk of Dan's political Games**

The Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Damon Johnston, Page 8

Daniel Andrews' election-year rush to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games has been linked by government event chiefs to driving "significant cost risks" that sank the Games. In a five-page report to a parliamentary inquiry into the cancellation of the Games, the government-appointed Organising Committee identified a lack of time and money as major hurdles to delivering the regional event.

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### **Calls for overhaul of AFL concussion testing**

Age, Edition Changes - 2nd Edition, 06/10/2023, Marc McGowan and Peter Ryan, Page 1

Two leading neurologists and a former player who retired because of concussion believe some aspects of the AFL's match-day tests for assessing potential brain injuries should be improved to prevent manipulation by players. Amid hopes for a blood test that could provide more accurate diagnoses, experts say visible symptoms should more often rule players out of a game, because the recall tests used to assess concussion could be memorised.

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### **Games call was truthful: Allan**

Age, General News, 06/10/2023, Rachel Eddie, Page 1

Premier Jacinta Allan says she had no conversations about the possibility of cancelling the 2026 Commonwealth Games until the day lawyers were called in to give advice on how to abandon the event. Instead, she insists she was being truthful when she told a committee on June 13 that the event

was making "tremendous progress" but also says she wasn't surprised when she found out on June 14 that thenpremier Daniel Andrews was calling in legal advice to axe it.

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## Cop that bill

Herald Sun, General News, 06/10/2023, Shannon Deery and Carly Douglas, Page 1

Victoria Police spent \$6m setting up a dedicated unit to prepare for the now-scrapped Commonwealth Games as the scandal continues to grow over the cancelled 2026 event. The money - which could have paid the annual salary of 80 new recruits - included \$100,000 to send a delegation of senior police to the Birmingham Games for three weeks and another to a Gold Coast workshop.

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## Medal bet raids

Herald Sun, General News, 06/10/2023, Sam Landsberger, Page 1

Police have executed fresh raids on associates of the AFL umpire at the centre of the Brownlow Medal betting scandal in the lead up to this year's vote count. It's understood police attended the homes of several associates of Michael Pell, the former field umpire who was arrested over allegations he leaked Brownlow Medal votes.

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## Women's soccer delivered a tourism boost for Australia

Resort News, General News, 01/10/2023, Page 31

In August, all eyes were on the FIFA Women's World Cup with broadcast ratings proving women's soccer can attract millions of viewers. It also attracted the attention of global travellers looking to visit Australia.

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## Australia suffers big blow to potential 2034 World Cup bid

7news.com.au, Other, 05/10/2023, Steve Larkin

FIFA have invited bids from Asia and Oceania after announcing a shock move for the 2030 tournament. Any Australian bid to host the men's soccer World Cup in 2034 appears doomed after Asia's football confederation threw its support behind Saudi Arabia.

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## New Australian 'roll' models pushing the sport forward: The rise of women's skateboarding

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Indigo Willing

A decade ago, women or non-binary people were not always welcome or able to reach their full potential as skaters. In just under 10 years however, skateboarding is currently undergoing radical change.

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## Lord's expels MCC member after Australian cricketers David Warner and Usman Khawaja were confronted in the Long Room during feisty Ashes series as exclusive club announces its sanctions

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, Ollie Lewis

An MCC member has been expelled after Australian cricketers David Warner and Usman Khawaja were confronted in the Lord's Long Room by furious cricket fans during this summer's hostile Ashes series. The Australian opening batsmen and their team-mates were accused of cheating by furious Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) members following Jonny Bairstow 's controversial stumping on the final day of the second Ashes Test - which the tourists triumphed in to take a 2-0 lead in the series.

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## FIFA opens door for World Cup to return to Australia but big-spending

## **Saudi Arabia stand in the way**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, Ollie Lewis

Australia is still exploring a bid to host the men's soccer World Cup in 2034 despite Asia's football confederation throwing its support behind Saudi Arabia. Football Australia chief executive James Johnson hasn't directly addressed the Asian backing of the Saudi bid - a disaster for any Australian tender.

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## **Australia FA says still exploring bid for 2034 World Cup**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023

Football Australia chief executive James Johnson said on Thursday they are still exploring a bid to host the 2034 World Cup, despite the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) having declared support for Saudi Arabia. After naming Morocco, Spain and Portugal as 2030 World Cup hosts on Wednesday, with Uruguay, Argentina and Paraguay hosting the opening matches to mark the tournament's centenary, FIFA then invited countries from the Asia and Oceania regions to submit bids for 2034.

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## **Asia backs Saudi 2034 World Cup bid in Australia blow**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023

Any Australian bid to host the men's soccer World Cup in 2034 appears doomed after Asia's football confederation threw its support behind Saudi Arabia. Football Australia (FA) has said it will look at bidding for the showcase men's tournament after successfully hosting this year's Women's World Cup.

[Read More](#)

## **More fuel for treating athletes**

Medical Forum, Other, 05/10/2023

Not eating enough while undergoing tough training regimes is putting athletes' health at risk, according to a Consensus Statement by international and Australian scientists, published by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in the British Journal of Sports Medicine. Relative Energy Deficiency in Sport (REDs) develops when athletes fail to consume as much energy as they expend over long time periods.

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## **Identifying concussions more accurately**

Medical Forum, Other, 05/10/2023

Novel brain biometrics could help inform whether an athlete is ready to return to play following a concussion, according to new research from the University of SA. Conducted in partnership with the University of California San Francisco (UCSF), researchers found that changes in micromovements of the brain termed 'headpulses' could detect the lasting impacts of a concussion.

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## **Australia is hosting another big football tournament, and it 'means the world' to this community**

SBS, Other, 05/10/2023, Yumi Oba

The upcoming Para Asian Cup held on Australian soil will be an opportunity for cerebral palsy football to be seen and inspire. Coming off the hugely successful Women's World Cup, Australia is about to host another major football tournament: the men's and women's 2023 AFC Asian Cup Asia-Oceania Championships.

[Read More](#)

## **It's ready, set, go for Australian Masters Games 2023 in Adelaide**

The Senior, Other, 05/10/2023

Weekend warriors will lace up for a week-long sporting and social program at the Australian Masters Games in Adelaide. To be held from October 7-14, sportspeople from across the country and overseas will participate in more than 50 sports.

## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### **Vegetarian success may be planted in our genes**

The Australian, General News, 06/10/2023, Kaya Burgess, Page 7

The reason some people find it easy to stick to a strict vegetarian diet while others struggle may be governed by our genes, a study has found. Three key genes appear to play a role in whether people find it easy or hard to "survive and thrive" on a strictly meat-free diet.

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### **Dimerix doubles as biotech lands licensing deal for kidney treatment**

The Australian, Business News, 06/10/2023, Cameron England, Page 16

Dimerix shares more than doubled on Thursday after the biotechnology company announced a major licensing agreement for its DMX-200 drug candidate for treating a rare kidney disease. The stock piled on more than 100 per cent in heavy trade more than 30 times the previous day's turnover after the company revealed the deal, which comes with an upfront payment not far shy of half of Dimerix's market value before that announcement was made.

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### **G8 helping hand**

Courier Mail, Business News, 06/10/2023, Glen Norris, Page 59

Early childhood education and care provider G8 Education has rallied its national network to go the distance for sick kids, raising \$200,890 for children's cancer research in support of this year's Children's Hospital Foundation's 42k Your Way. Almost 200 centres participated in the virtual marathon fundraising challenge - collectively walking, running, rolling, skipping and dancing their way to the finish line.

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### **Policy research innovations to improve outcomes that matter to rural and remote Australia**

AHHA (Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association), Other, 05/10/2023

Geographically, Australia is one of the largest countries in the world. While much of our population lives in urbanised areas with relatively close access to health services, health policy research and planning must consider the specific needs of people and communities in rural and remote Australia.

[Read More](#)

### **Discrimination messes with an important part of your bodily function, raising risk of health complications, study suggests**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/10/2023, Emily Joshu

Experiencing discrimination may change how the gut and brain communicate, leading to cravings for unhealthy foods and an increased risk of obesity. Researchers in California asked more than 100 participants of varying races and ages, mostly women, to fill out questionnaires about the level of discrimination they experience in their everyday lives.

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### **Exploding kamikaze cells**

Medical Forum, Other, 05/10/2023

Australian researchers at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute (WEHI) have found that a genetic change that increases the risk of inflammation, through a process described as explosive' cell death, is carried by up to 3% of the global population. The study, published this week in Nature Communications, may explain why some people have an increased chance of developing conditions like inflammatory bowel disease or suffer more severe reactions to infections with bacteria like Salmonella.

## Perth stroke treatment hits phase 2

Medical Forum, Other, 05/10/2023

A Perth based biotechnology company is preparing to enter the Phase 2 proof of concept' clinical trial of its ground-breaking neuroprotective drug ARG-007, for acute ischaemic stroke (AIS) patients. Argenica Therapeutics' (Argenica) ethics application has been given the green light by St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne's Human Research Ethics Committee?

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## Yes to dairy for hearts

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/10/2023

A collaboration between Australian researchers has shown that the classic Mediterranean diet with added dairy has the potential to change the composition of gut bacteria for the better, triggering a variety of health benefits. Funded by Dairy Australia and published in Nutrients, the study assessed how the classic Mediterranean diet, supplemented with milk, cheese, and yogurt, can affect gut microbiome.

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## Endocrine hypertension centre of excellence for Melbourne

The Limbic, Other, 04/10/2023, Michael Woodhead

The Hudson Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne is to be home to the new NHMRC Primary Aldosteronism Centre of Excellence (PACE). Professor Peter Fuller, Head of the Centre for Endocrinology and Metabolism at Hudson Institute and the Endocrinology Unit at Monash Health, will establish the new centre as a collaborative venture with Associate Professor Jun Yang, who has spent ten years working with patients with primary aldosteronism (PA) in Australia's first Endocrine Hypertension Service, researching the condition at Hudson Institute and Monash Health and bringing it to the attention of the medical profession.

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## Channel 9, National Nine News, 05/10/2023, Brenton Ragless

A world first nasal vaccine could provide long term protection against deadly Strep A bacteria. Griffith University researchers are leading the development of the treatment, which is delivered through the nose where the bacteria often lives.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Louis Peachey was one of Australia's first Indigenous doctors. He doesn't know how he survived the horror of racism at school

ABC Online, Other, 05/10/2023, Louis Peachey and Christopher Testa

Dr Louis Peachey is an Indigenous doctor working on the Atherton Tablelands in Far North Queensland. He belongs to the Girimay and Djirribal people of the Djirribaligan language group of Far North Queensland, country that a lot of people would know as the rainforest area just north of Ingham up to the Cairns northern beaches.

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### Uluru Dialogue's architect meets with health sector in Meanjin

National Indigenous Times, Other, 05/10/2023

Alyawarre woman, Aunty Pat Anderson AO, a co-architect of the Uluru Dialogues, has emphasised that a 'yes' vote in the Voice referendum has the potential to significantly improve the future health and

wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. On Thursday she addressed the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (ACCHO) sector in Brisbane.

[Read More](#)

## APC Colloquium First Nations theme

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/10/2023

The Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has announced that its 2024 Interprofessional (IPE) Colloquium will be themed "Winhangarra: Listen, Hear, Think" with an intense focus on "amplifying Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices to transform health profession education and practice".

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## Walbirniny Mia Aboriginal Elder Care development set for Beaconsfield home

West Australian, Other, 05/10/2023, Gabrielle Becerra Mellet

A landmark development for Aboriginal elders to age in place is on track in Beaconsfield. [...] In 2018, the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety identified Aboriginal people having limited access to mainstream aged care and three years later the McGowan Government pledged \$10 million towards a dedicated facility in Queens Park.

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## OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### Spending \$81m on flu jabs could save 500 lives each year

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 06/10/2023, Laura Banks, Page 8

A mass flu vaccination of NSW residents that costs \$81 million would save 500 lives every year, a new report says. The NSW Productivity Commission believes herd immunity could be achieved by vaccinating 55 per cent of NSW residents aged under 65 every year.

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### A new malaria vaccine offers hope for a better world

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 05/10/2023, Liam Mannix

A new vaccine for malaria, which won the recommendation of the World Health Organisation on Monday, is likely to save the lives of tens of thousands of children around the world every year and significantly boost the economies of some of the world's poorest nations.

[Read More](#)

## Public health warning issued after traveller returns to Sydney with measles

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, Angus McIntyre

An urgent warning is in place after a confirmed case of measles on an international flight. The infected passenger arrived in Sydney at 7am on Monday October 2.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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## New SA tuberculosis cases detected amid current outbreaks in APY Lands and Murraylands regions

7news.com.au, Other, 05/10/2023, Jacob Shteyman

New cases of tuberculosis have been identified as health authorities scramble to contain separate outbreaks in the APY Lands and in the Murraylands. A young child is one of two new tuberculosis cases identified in South Australia as health authorities scramble to get on top of separate outbreaks.

## Measles alert at Sydney Airport after infectious passenger arrives on Qantas flight

9News, Other, 05/10/2023, Sarah Swain

NSW Health has issued an alert for airline passengers to be alert for symptoms of measles after a person flew into Sydney from overseas with the infection. The adult caught the disease in Africa and was infectious on an international flight into Sydney.

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## Thousands test positive for respiratory virus as spike reported in multiple states

Aged Care Insite, Other, 05/10/2023

An infectious disease expert has confirmed that a viral respiratory illness is surging in multiple states. NSW residents are coming forward with symptoms of the Human Metapneumovirus (hMPV) at an alarming rate, a new report has found.

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## Urgent health alert after tourist infected with measles flies into Australia from Africa

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/10/2023, Angus McIntyre

An urgent warning is in place after a confirmed case of measles on an international flight. The infected passenger arrived in Sydney at 7am on Monday October 2.

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## Tourist is bitten by a bat - and is now feared to have an infectious disease that NO ONE in Australia has survived

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023

A grandmother fears she may have a potentially fatal virus after being bitten by a bat while on holiday in Australia. Sandi Galloway, from Geelong, was enjoying a trip to Cairns with her husband Gordon when she was attacked by the wild animal.

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## Yours and Owls organisers say NSW festivals should be able to use pill testing

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 05/10/2023, Kate McIlwain

The organisers of Wollongong's long-running Yours and Owls festival say they are hopeful that they will one day be able to offer pill testing for patrons. In a "housekeeping" email to people planning to attend the October 14-15 event, organisers said they were keen for the NSW Labor Government to follow in the Queensland government's footsteps and allow pill testing.

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## One vaccine for hospital superbugs?

Medical Forum, Other, 05/10/2023

A new study assisted by researchers from the University of Melbourne has shown that a single dose of an experimental vaccine, administered in mouse models, turbo-charged immune cells, providing rapid protection against eight different bacteria and fungi species, including MRSA.

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## Sarah Joyce shares meningococcal trauma on World Meningitis Day

Newcastle Herald, Other, 05/10/2023, Damon Cronshaw

When Sarah Joyce was struck down by meningococcal disease at age 30, she wasn't expected to survive. The Central Coast resident, who contracted the rare disease seven years ago, was placed in an induced coma and on life support for nine days.

## 5AA, Breakfast, 05/10/2023, Will Goodings and David Penberthy

Interview with Professor Nicola Spurrier, SA Chief Health Officer. Spurrier provides update about the three independent tuberculosis clusters in South Australia She says it's not easy to catch TB and you have to be in really close contact with somebody hence it is not a risk for the whole of South Australia. She states what they're concerned about is that they've got a fairly large cluster.

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## ABC Radio Adelaide, Breakfast, 05/10/2023, Stacey Lee and Nikolai Beilharz

Latent tuberculosis has been diagnosed in 39 people during screening prompted by an outbreak of the disease in South Australia. Another new case involves a woman in her 60s recently in the APY Lands being treated for active TB, along with 13 others from the region. The chief public health officer, Professor Nicola Spurrier, says latent TB can eventually become active TB without treatment.

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## ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 05/10/2023, Mel Bush

Interview with Dr John Saul, Tasmanian President, AMA. Saul discusses HPMV.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Popular cold and flu drugs are 'a fraud'

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 06/10/2023, Laura Banks, Page 1

A key ingredient in the cold and flu tablets and allergy medications stocked at pharmacies and supermarkets has been found to be no better than a placebo. [...] A spokesperson for Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration told the Herald they were aware of the FDA advisory panel decision and would monitor any actions taken by the US regulator, but would not be removing the drug from the market.

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

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## OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

### Channel 7, Seven News, 05/10/2023, Max Futchter and Sharyn Ghidella

Queensland's drug driving shame has been laid bare in shocking new figures revealed only to Seven News. More than 30 drivers a day are testing positive to drugs across the state. And tonight, police warn the crisis is set to get worse. Anywhere, anytime, drug drivers are getting caught in the act. Most drivers testing positive to marijuana and methamphetamine, some on MDMA or cocaine with drugs playing a part in 26% of fatal or serious crashes.

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### McDonald's customer bites into a metal rod in his burger - as fast food



## workers express shock at the excuse for how it happened

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/10/2023, Zak Wheeler

A man was shocked to find a sharp metal rod in his McChicken after biting down on the classic McDonald's burger. His girlfriend anonymously asked for advice on a private social media page after he pulled the inch-long rod out to show her on Wednesday night.

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