



Sunday, 26th November 2023

Minister Butler | Minister Wells | Assistant Minister McBride

| Assistant Minister Kearney. | Assistant Minister McCarthy. | Department

| Coronavirus | Ageing and Aged Care | Population Health

| Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions | Primary Care

| Mental Health and Suicide Prevention | Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office

| Health Workforce | Technology Assessment and Access

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| Health Systems Strategies | Sport | Health Economics and Research |

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| Therapeutic Goods Administration | Office for Drug Control | Food Standards

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#### LINKS

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- The Sunday Mail Brisbane (page 1) reports that ARL Commission boss Peter V'landys has
  negotiated a landmark TV deal that will see the Broncos-Roosters and Manly-Souths Las
  Vegas matches broadcast live in the US on Fox Sports 1, which is expected to reach an
  audience of more than 90 million Americans.
- The Sun Herald (page 3) reports that Chief Health Officer Kerry Chant and senior NSW Health bureaucrats, Dr Nigel Lyons and Deb Wilcox, have issued a joint report calling for NSW's health system to reflect its ageing population and warned that public hospitals are becoming a place of last resort for patients let down by aged care and primary care services.
- The Sunday Mail Brisbane (page 6) reports that there is a full clinical review underway at Queensland's Redcliffe Hospital after a baby girl died hours after being born, with the mother accusing the hospital of providing the baby an empty oxygen tank and malfunctioning equipment.
- The Sunday Times (page 3) reports that a review of voluntary assisted dying laws in WA has ruled out patients suffering from dementia accessing euthanasia.

#### MINISTER BUTLER

# Claims vape ban creates black market 'opium war'

Sunday Times, General News, 26/11/2023, Eli Green, Page 26

A leading vape advocate claims China is waging a "reverse opium war" on Australia because of a lack of proper regulation of the black market. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has proposed some of the harshest laws in the world to crack down on unregulated vaping products - handing sweeping powers to States to ban the import of e-cigarette or vape products from next year.

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### It's time to up the ante in our war on deadly vapes

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Editorials, 26/11/2023, Page 63

We certainly didn't need another reason to fear the impact vapes can have on our young people, but we have it anyway. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler will introduce tough new laws next year, including banning the import of disposable vapes, but there must also be an increased emphasis on education and determent.

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### MINISTER WELLS

# ACT Government makes its pitch to keep AIS in Canberra as part of broader northside masterplan

RiotACT, Other, 25/11/2023, Lizzie Waymouth

The ACT Government says it wants the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) to play a "pivotal" role in a northside sport and health precinct encompassing the University of Canberra (UC), Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) Bruce, UC Hospital and North Canberra Hospital. [...] The review is expected to provide a report to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Catherine King and Minister for Aged Care and Sport Anika Wells in late 2023.

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## **DEPARTMENT**

# ACT Government makes its pitch to keep AIS in Canberra as part of broader northside masterplan

RiotACT, Other, 25/11/2023, Lizzie Waymouth

The ACT Government says it wants the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) to play a "pivotal" role in a northside sport and health precinct encompassing the University of Canberra (UC), Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) Bruce, UC Hospital and North Canberra Hospital. [...] The review is expected to provide a report to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Catherine King and Minister for Aged Care and Sport Anika Wells in late 2023.

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# Ruth has both ME/CFS and long COVID. Are the conditions linked, and is there a cure?

SBS, Other, 25/11/2023, Jessica Bahr

Long COVID and myalgic encephalomyelitis are both debilitating and complex conditions with no known cure and limited treatment options. Researchers believe the two may be linked. [...] According to the Department of Health and Aged Care, studies estimate between 0.4-1 per cent of the population have ME/CFS.

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### **CORONAVIRUS**

## Indoor air cure to stop COVID

Sunday Times, General News, 26/11/2023, John Flint, Page 26

Fighting future waves of COVID shouldn't invoke fears of lockdowns and onerous restrictions, according to a group of scientists who believe a longterm and easy option is literally in our faces. Renowned anti-tobacco campaigner Dr Bronwyn King is one of those leading the charge for clean indoor air in Australia.

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#### AGEING AND AGED CARE

#### Chant issues warning of looming health crisis in NSW

Sun Herald, General News, 26/11/2023, Mary Ward, Page 3

NSW's health system must adapt to reflect its ageing population, the state's top doctor has said, warning public hospitals are increasingly a place of last resort for patients let down by aged care and primary care services. A joint report by Chief Health Officer Kerry Chant and senior NSW Health bureaucrats, Dr Nigel Lyons and Deb Wilcox, argued the shifting burden of disease towards conditions associated with ageing and mental health required greater investment in out-of-hospital services and preventative care, which they said was discouraged by the current funding model.

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## Ten money traps that can hurt you - and your family

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 26/11/2023, Anthony Keane, Page 62

Ageing in Australia has always been complex financially, and sadly for the oldest among us, the complexities seem more severe. Dealing with aged care, assets, pensions and funerals is something that every family must face, often after a surprise health crisis, which is why experts say it pays to be prepared.

Also reported by: Sunday Mail Brisbane (Brisbane), Sunday Mail Adelaide (Adelaide), Sunday Tasmanian

# The secret weapon to ease South Australia's housing crisis

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/11/2023, Tom Bowden

Getting South Australia's retirees out of larger homes and into more suitable retirement accommodation could save the federal government \$1bn each year, help ease the housing crisis and would lead to a better quality of life for our elderly, a new report shows. The Better Housing For Better Health report commissioned by the Retirement Living Council reveals 76 per cent of all South Australians over 75 are living in large homes, with 7 per cent having at least one spare bedroom.

Also reported by: <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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# Home downsizing: Retirement village or aged-care facility? What's the difference and what's right for you

NEWS.com.au, Other, 25/11/2023, Daniel Gannon

As we get older, your outlook can be informed by health and ageing challenges, which might require a move into a retirement village or aged care facility. So, what's right for you?

Also reported by: Northern Territory News (Online)

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### POPULATION HEALTH

## Compo cut off

Sunday Territorian, General News, 26/11/2023, Jason Walls, Page 1

Workplace injury lawyers say dodgy insurance companies are 'putting the wellbeing of injured Territorians and their families at risk' by unlawfully cancelling payments. Nim Jayawardhana was on workers compensation after being assaulted at work until his insurer unexpectedly cut off his payments.

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#### Teachers ask CM to halt fracking

Sunday Territorian, General News, 26/11/2023, Jason Walls, Page 5

Hundreds of Northern Territory teachers have written to the Chief Minister urging her to ban fracking in the Beetaloo basin, flagging their "deep concern" for student wellbeing and educational outcomes. [...] "Fracking presents immediate human health concerns and will exacerbate the effects of climate change due to its greenhouse gas emissions," the letter reads.

Also reported by: <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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### Immigration, inflation, inhalation on parliament agenda

Canberra Times, Other, 26/11/2023, Kat Wong

Immigrants newly released from detention, cost-of-living and e-cigarette regulations will feature on the political agenda as federal parliament embarks on its last sitting fortnight of the year. The Senate will sit from Monday to Thursday both weeks while the House of Representatives sits for four days from Monday the first week, and the final Thursday the second week.

Also reported by: <u>West Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Mail Australia (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

## Shock number of SA kids poisoned by vapes, liquid nicotine

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/11/2023, Lauren Novak

Health authorities are sounding the alarm to parents after a surge in poisoning cases in the state. Babies and toddlers are being exposed to potentially deadly nicotine as the popularity of vaping grows.

Also reported by: <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser</u> (<u>Online</u>) and widely syndicated across regional publications

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# Advocates lobby government for more paid parental leave for parents of pre-term babies

ABC Online, Other, 25/11/2023, Daniel Miles

When Danni O'Connell's baby daughter was born she weighed little more than a 600mL bottle of water. Little baby Evelyn Menzies burst into the world much earlier than anticipated at just 29 weeks gestation.

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# Drivers with autism could hold licences in doubt after national guidelines quietly changed

7news.com.au, Other, 25/11/2023, Rhiannon Lewin

Some drivers with autism around the country may be at risk of fines due to a change in national regulations that considers who is fit to drive. The Assessing Fitness to Drive guidelines, which are updated every three years, listed autism as a condition that "should be assessed individually" for the first time in 2022.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

# NSW Young Australian of the Year: From cancer patient to doctor in 12 years

Sun Herald, General News, 26/11/2023, Mary Ward, Page 18

Four years ago, side-by-side pictures of a western Sydney man started cropping up in certain corners of the internet. In one, he was smiling on a fishing trip.

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# Sleep apnoea can stop you breathing freely more than 100 times an hour

Sun Herald, General News, 26/11/2023, Jackson Graham, Page 26

Each night was like a wrestling match with her own airways. With the lights out, her children asleep and the house quiet, Melinda Mahlberg would begin to snore. Her husband, Troy, wore earplugs.

Also reported by: Sunday Age (Melbourne)

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## Fit, 50 & lucky to be alive

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Supplements, 26/11/2023, Page 8

From my younger days I played football and I basketball, and did amateur bodybuilding in my early 20s. I kept going to the gym in my 30s and stayed away from the beers. I watched my diet don't get me wrong, I liked the occasional burger but never considered myself an unhealthy eater.

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#### Heart of the matter

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Supplements, 26/11/2023, Page 10

Experiencing a cardiac event can be a shocking experience, especially if you're fit, healthy, active and under 60 but it can also provide the opportunity to reevaluate your life and set yourself up for healthy ageing. [...] "It can have a big impact mentally and physically, especially if you think you are doing all the right things," says Dr Marie Ludlow, the Heart Foundation's general manager South Australia.

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## Can ultra-processed food ever really be healthy?

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 25/11/2023, Sarah Berry

A large new study looking at whether ultra-processed foods cause multiple chronic illnesses in this case cancer, cardiovascular disease and/or type 2 diabetes found that some are less harmful than others. Certain media outlets framed the research as suggesting that some ultra-processed foods are good for us.

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# Teen's untimely loss has grieving family working on taming asthma

Canberra Times, Other, 25/11/2023, Nigel McNay

Moments before closing her eyes, Savanna knew all was lost. Seven years earlier she'd endured a frightening asthma attack as a seven-year-old; this time, though, she couldn't find a way out.

Also reported by: Daily Liberal (Online) and widely syndicated across regional publications

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### PRIMARY CARE

## Surge in referrals puts children with autism years behind

Sun Herald, General News, 26/11/2023, Amber Schultz, Page 10

It took Mariam Mukhtar nearly two years to have her teenage son Raamiz assessed for autism following a paediatric referral, and she fears the delay in getting him support has cost him his high school experience. [...] GP and member of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners' ADHD, ASD and neurodiversity specific interest group Dr Melita Cullen said she was particularly concerned about the delays in getting older children diagnosed.

Also reported by: <u>Sydney Morning Herald (Online)</u>

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# **Gatto urges Shorten not to cut back NDIS**

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 26/11/2023, Brooke Grebert-Craig, Page 11

Melbourne identity Mick Gatto has urged Bill Shorten to not cut the National Disability Insurance Scheme funding, arguing "meltdowns" will occur. The Equal Access for Autism founder said autistic children would be left in a "very bad situation" if the funding was cut.

Also reported by: Sunday Tasmanian (Hobart), Sunday Telegraph (Sydney)

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#### Saving lives for a living

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 26/11/2023, Sarah Booth, Page 34

They are the team that nobody really wants to meet. But with a level head, steady hands and warm smile, they greet Victorians on what is nearly always the worst day of their lives.

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#### Dementia a grey area in voluntary dying review

Sunday Times, General News, 26/11/2023, Ben Harvey, Page 3

West Australians suffering from dementia will be denied euthanasia despite Mark McGowan and Roger Cook flagging support for them to be given the right to end their lives on their own terms. A review of voluntary assisted dying laws has categorically ruled out any tinkering with eligibility rules.

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## Dignity won't be my dying grace

Sunday Times, General News, 26/11/2023, Ben Harvey, Page 22

There are some afflictions in life that are so bloody awful that finding any bright side is almost impossible. Dementia is one, supporting Collingwood another.

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# Number of mental health beds slashed by 63 per cent

Sunday Examiner, General News, 26/11/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 1

Tasmanian hospitals have seen the greatest reduction of mental health hospital beds in the country with beds slashed by almost two-thirds, or by 63.5 per cent, in the past 30 years. [...] AMA president Professor Steve Robson said the latest data showed the length of stay in emergency departments (ED) for patients presenting with mental health-related conditions was at its highest since 2016-2017, with patients in Tasmania waiting in EDs for as long as 31 hours.

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## Tasmania lagging on home birth option

Sunday Examiner, General News, 26/11/2023, Page 11

Tasmania will soon be the only state not to offer publicly-funded home births after plans were announced to make the service available in Queensland. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman says \$1.2 million has been initially allocated to the service, which will start at Sunshine Coast University Hospital from mid-2024.

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# Women's group campaigns for changes to how D&C surgery is handled, to help prevent infertility

ABC Online, Other, 25/11/2023, Fiona Blackwood

While in transit at an airport in Doha, Qatar, Bec Kalpakoff became a mum to twins Indie and Nash. Her babies, however, were born over 3,000 kilometres away to a surrogate in Ukraine.

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# This week in Queensland politics saw the ghost of Campbell Newman past haunt Labor and the LNP

ABC Online, Other, 25/11/2023, Emma Pollard and Rachel Riga

Despite being evicted from Parliament house eight years ago, the ghost of Campbell Newman still haunts Queensland politics. [...] It criticised Mr Newman for scrapping Labor's fluoride mandate, despite backing in his policy of leaving local councillors in charge of the public health issue an area usually the domain of state governments.

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### Nothing but the tooth - Australian dental care needs an overhaul

SBS, Other, 25/11/2023, Angelica Waite

The Australian Dental Association is calling on the government to overhaul the dental care system and take immediate action to address unequal access. The ADA says a targeted approach to improve dental care for Australia's most vulnerable populations is urgently needed.

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# Why new parents fear the absolute worst

Sunday Age, General News, 26/11/2023, Aisha Dow, Page 12

New mother Donna Harrison was terrified to leave the house. If she wheeled the pram outside, then she was certain she was going to throw her baby son on the road.

Also reported by: Sydney Morning Herald (Online)

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## We need more help for mums

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 26/11/2023, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 16

The nation's peak psychology group is calling for easier and more affordable access to mental health support for expectant and new mums, also advocating for a trial of a "voucher system" in South Australia to fast-track the help they need. The Australian Association of Psychologists (AAPi) wants the women to be able to access 40 rebated sessions per year through Medicare four times more than they can now access.

Also reported by: Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne), Sunday Tasmanian (Hobart)

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# Disbanded jail suicide unit only partly reinstated

Sunday Times, General News, 26/11/2023, Rebecca Le May, Page 9

A special suicide prevention unit within the Department of Justice that was disbanded shortly after Labor swept to power in 2017 has still only been reinstated in an "interim capacity" despite a coroner saying 12 months ago it should be reformed "immediately". Coroner Michael Jenkin said in his November 2022 findings from an inquest into the hanging suicide of 42-year-old Wayne Thomas Larder at Hakea Prison that it was "astonishing" what was then known as the Clinical Governance Unit had been abolished with the 2017 "machinery of government" changes.

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### Number of mental health beds slashed by 63 per cent

Sunday Examiner, General News, 26/11/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 1  $\,$ 

Tasmanian hospitals have seen the greatest reduction of mental health hospital beds in the country with beds slashed by almost two-thirds, or by 63.5 per cent, in the past 30 years. [...] AMA president Professor Steve Robson said the latest data showed the length of stay in emergency departments (ED) for patients presenting with mental health-related conditions was at its highest since 2016-2017, with patients in Tasmania waiting in EDs for as long as 31 hours.

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#### Tree in Carrick painted blue

Sunday Examiner, General News, 26/11/2023, Declan Durrant, Page 3

A tree in Carrick has been permanently painted blue this week as a symbol of mental health awareness and in memory of a local woman who died by suicide earlier this year. More than 25 volunteers took part in the painting of the prominent gumtree on Oaks Road in honour of Tay Shaw.

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# CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

#### Heartbreak at loss of rural health hero

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 26/11/2023, Alex Treacy, Page 4

A renowned GP who moved to Tasmania in 2006 and worked for several years in Queenstown, where he was named the Tasmanian Rural Doctor of the Year, has died in a swimming tragedy. Dr Dennis Pashen vanished while swimming out to his dinghy at Kingfisher Beach, South Bruny, around 5pm on Thursday, Tasmania Police said.

Also reported by: <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>. <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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## Top award for dedicated doc

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 26/11/2023, Sue Bailey, Page 14

A "humble" and hardworking Tasmanian doctor has won a prestigious national award for his unwavering commitment to his patients. Dr Chris Hughes, a longstanding GP at the Greenpoint Medical Centre at Bridgewater, was awarded the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners' highest accolade, the Rose-Hunt Award.

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## Dignified care inspires nurse

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 26/11/2023, Sue Bailey, Page 15

As she embarks on a nursing career at Hobart's Whittle Ward, Tiffany Essen wants to emulate the nurses who cared for her mother with "dignity and respect". Like the nurses and ward staff, the 28-year-old wants to "make a meaningful difference in people's lives".

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## New midwives kick-start career in maternity services

Sunday Examiner, General News, 26/11/2023, Stephanie Dalton, Page 3

The Tasmanian Health Service (THS) has received an injection of new blood as 11 newly registered midwives kick-started their careers in maternity services across the state. At a ceremony in Hobart on Friday, November 24, the midwives graduated from studies in a Bachelor of Midwifery and were welcomed into roles in the THS.

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# Tributes for well known doctor Dennis Pashen after swimming accident death on Bruny Island

ABC Online, Other, 25/11/2023

A rural general practitioner and one of Australia's leading advocates for rural healthcare has died in a swimming accident off Bruny Island in Tasmania. The medical community is remembering Professor Dennis Pashen for more than four decades of service to rural generalist healthcare, most notably in Queensland and Tasmania, and for his research into rural health and leadership of advocacy bodies.

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# Disadvantaged students fight to get into medicine degrees. One's calling it out on TikTok

ABC Online, Other, 25/11/2023, Tynan King

At age 18, Fahad Kahn was sitting in a lounge room, eyes on his laptop, waiting for his ATAR score to pop up. "My hands were trembling, I had sweat dripping, beads of sweat," he says.

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## Rewards of going rural, as doctors push for recognition

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 25/11/2023

As a rural generalist doctor, Raymond Lewandowski might work in the emergency room in the middle of the night, tend to a birthing mother in the early hours and visit hospital patients during the day. "It's

full on, there's a lot of asks and a lot of things you have to do, but it's also full on in its rewards," said Dr Lewandowski, the president of the Rural Doctors Association of Australia.

Also reported by: <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>, <u>Yahoo! News Australia (Online)</u>, <u>West Australian (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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#### TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

#### Fraud in the fast lane?

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 26/11/2023, Briana Domjen, Page 102

'Cheeta"? or cheater? That's the question being asked following news the buyer of this McLaren is accused of defrauding the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Ben Huynh gifted this \$400,000 McLaren to his son Vu Huynh in April after he graduated from university.

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### MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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### **BENEFITS INTEGRITY**

# I want to change things so young mums are heard

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 26/11/2023, Madura McCormack and Jackie Sinnerton, Page 6

A baby girl has died hours after being born at Redcliffe Hospital in catastrophic circumstances, with the heartbroken mother alleging her baby was met with an empty oxygen tank and malfunctioning equipment and that her own concerns were not treated seriously enough. A full clinical review of the care received by young first-time mum Meg Flaskett and her daughter Thea is under way, with the coroner and Health Ombudsman undertaking separate investigations.

Also reported by: <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Toowoomba Chronicle (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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#### HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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#### **SPORT**

#### **Broncs score USA TV deal**

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 26/11/2023, Peter Badel, Page 1

The Broncos' season opener in Las Vegas will be streamed live on American prime time TV in a

broadcast coup for the NRL. ARL Commission boss Peter V'landys has negotiated a landmark deal in which the Broncos- Roosters and Manly-Souths games on March 2 will be broadcast in the US on Fox Sports 1.

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#### Bondi of the west

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 26/11/2023, Linda Silmalis, Page 1

Families in Western Sydney are to be given their own one kilometre Bondi-style Beach under a \$1.7 million Minns government plan to offer a refuge ahead of a long hot summer. The government has been secretly working on creating the infrastructure to support the swimming beach on the shores of a previously off-limits lake in Penrith.

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## Don't rip up our Gabba

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 26/11/2023, Page 16

Hundreds of angry Queenslanders have gathered outside the Gabba stadium to protest its demolition. It will be rebuilt as the centerpiece of the \$2.7 billion Brisbane 2032 Olympics.

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## Making a splash at Wadeye

Sunday Territorian, General News, 26/11/2023, Harry Brill, Page 8

Five years ago, the Wadeye pool was closed due to significant damage and residents were left without a place to swim. Last week, however, the pool was reopened after an NT government-funded \$4.5m refurbishment was completed.

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# Gina Rinehart offers radical plan to 'save' 2026 Commonwealth Games

7news.com.au, Other, 25/11/2023, Harrison Reid

Gina Rinehart is spearheading a radical bid to save the 2026 Commonwealth Games. The 2026 event, and the future of the Games more broadly, has been hanging by a thread since the Victorian government pulled the pin on its commitment to host them in just over two years' time.

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#### HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

#### TAIHS chair Randal Ross 'clears the air' on AGM turmoil, legal fees

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 25/11/2023, Natasha Emeck

The chair of TAIHS has spoken candidly about dealing with member discontent, legal fees and how he wants new blood to take the lead as they prepare to hold a long-overdue AGM. The eyes of the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) will be closely watching to see if TAIHS holds its AGM and elects new directors on Tuesday after five failed attempts.

Also reported by: <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>. <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>. <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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# Ngaanyatjarra lands doctor nominated for WA GP of the Year

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 25/11/2023

A doctor working on the Ngaanyatjarra lands, who has been nominated for WA's GP of the Year, feels privileged to look after the wellbeing of Aboriginal people on country. Rosalie Schultz, of the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service, is the senior medical officer at the nurse-led Aboriginal health service which sits in remote WA near the Northern Territory and South Australia borders.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online)

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# Flinders University is empowering future Indigenous health professionals

National Indigenous Times, Other, 25/11/2023, Joseph Guenzler

A group of 12 Indigenous students are celebrating a huge milestone on the path to becoming a doctor after successfully completing the 2023 Indigenous Entry Stream (IES) at Flinders University. Five students in Northern Territory and seven in South Australia have completed the program which provides Indigenous people with an alternative route to pursue a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree.

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# OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## Pill testing and Red Frogs: safety front of mind at Spilt Milk

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 26/11/2023, Tim Piccione, Page 7

"Canberra's an awesome place," the lead singer of Aussie band Royel Otis says from Spilt Milk's main stage during an early afternoon time slot. [...] The territory government pill testing site at the City Community Health Centre, CANtest, also extended its opening hours over the weekend, operating between 10am and 1pm on Saturday.

Also reported by: <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>. Similar coverage reported by: <u>Daily Mail Australia (Online)</u>, <u>NEWS.com.au (Online)</u>

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#### Parents warned on killer baby cough

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 26/11/2023, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 8

A leading infectious diseases pediatrician is warning of a whooping cough outbreak as national data points to a surge of cases this summer. The caution comes as an Adelaide grandmother pleads for people to take heed and check their vaccination status, after losing her only grandson to the illness when he was just four weeks old.

Also reported by: <u>Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>NEWS.com.au (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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## Australian vaccination warning as flu lingers into summer 2023/24

The Senior, Other, 25/11/2023, Eileen Wood

Winter may be long gone and summer just around the corner, but the flu season is dragging on with all states continuing to record cases. According to the Immunisation Coalition there have been 266,269 laboratory confirmed influenza cases in the year to November 10.

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# What we know about respiratory illness outbreak 'overwhelming' China's hospitals

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 25/11/2023, Stuti Mishra

China's hospitals have been flooded with cases of respiratory illnesses and sick children complaining of pneumonia-like symptoms, leading to increased scrutiny from the World Health Organisation (WHO). A Beijing children's hospital told state media CCTV that at least 7,000 patients were being admitted daily to the institution, far exceeding its capacity.

Similar coverage reported by: Yahoo! News Australia (Online)

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#### THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

## Why COVID 'will likely never go away'

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 26/11/2023, Steve Evans, Page 6

Just when you thought you'd seen the last of COVID, it's back. [...] "Two new vaccines have been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration, one form Moderna and one from Pfizer," Prof Esterman said.

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## Shock number of SA kids poisoned by vapes, liquid nicotine

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 25/11/2023, Lauren Novak

The federal government is cracking down on vapes with new rules to ban the import of all e-cigarettes, except those prescribed by a doctor to help people quit smoking. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration is also weighing up reducing the amount of nicotine allowed in pharmaceutical vapes.

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#### OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

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#### **FOOD STANDARDS**

#### Country of origin on seafood in venues

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 26/11/2023, Page 9

New national laws making it compulsory for hospitality venues to specify where their seafood comes from could be worth millions to local fishing industries, experts say. A vote to introduce country-of-origin labelling laws was unanimously passed by consumer affairs ministers around the country on Friday.

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#### Doctor calls out influencers' 'bullcrap' about seed oils

NEWS.com.au, Other, 26/11/2023, Zac Turner

They're in every Aussie pantry and are being labelled "toxic" but Dr Zac Turner says it's not as simple as that. Welcome to Ask Doctor Zac, a weekly column from news.com.au.

Also reported by: <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>. <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>. <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>. <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u> and widely syndicated across regional publications

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# **AICIS**

No relevant coverage

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