



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 7th March 2024

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [**Sydney Morning Herald**](#) (page 1) reports Aged Care Minister Anika Wells is believed to be one of several ministers to have spending proposals rejected by the expenditure review committee, of which Health Minister Mark Butler is a member, ahead of May's budget. *Also reported by: [The Age](#)*
- The [**Canberra Times**](#) (page 1) reports the medical community in Canberra has raised concerns over the decline in local graduates choosing to work in Canberra Health Services with around half of ANU medical students choosing to leave the ACT over the last decade.
- The [**Herald Sun**](#) (page 1) reports the AFL will require football players at the community level affected by concussion to stand down for a minimum of 21 days and will conduct a trial of new headwear rules for the 2024 season. *Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [ABC Online](#), [Daily Mail Australia](#), [7news.com.au](#)*
- The [**Hobart Mercury**](#) (page 1) reports Tasmania's Labor and Liberal parties revealed new healthcare spending plans on Thursday, with Labor promising funding to train new allied health staff and nurses, while the Liberals offered relocation allowances for interstate workers. *Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner](#)*

- The [Northern Territory News](#) (page 1) reports drug use in the Territory jumped from 19.6 per cent to 25.2 per cent, data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's National Drug Strategy Household Survey has shown.
- [The Australian](#) (page 3) reports NSW's religious leaders have urged the Minns government to prioritise reforms around drug abuse and called for a date to be set for a promised drug policy summit.
- The [Herald Sun](#) (page 4) reports cardiac arrest levels in Victoria have reached an all-time high, jumping six per cent on the previous year, according to the Victorian Ambulance Cardiac Arrest Registry.
- [The Australian](#) (page 6) reports Victoria needs to better engage with Indigenous communities to improve poor health outcomes for incarcerated first nations people, a report by the state's outgoing Outgoing Ombudsman Deborah Glass says. *Also reported by:* [The Age](#), [Canberra Times](#), [The Guardian](#), [SBS](#)
- [The Australian](#) (online) reports Assistant Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy has called for more efforts to address disproportionate rates of first nations incarceration and children living in out-of-home care following the latest Productivity Commission report on Closing the Gap targets. *Also reported by:* [Herald Sun](#), [ABC Online](#), [National Indigenous Times](#)

MINISTER BUTLER

PM clique pulls the strings: ministers

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/03/2024, James Massola and Shane Wright, Page 1

Federal ministers are frustrated that key spending proposals are being rejected by Anthony Albanese's powerful inner circle, with Penny Wong and Katy Gallagher dubbed "co-deputy prime ministers" in a sign of tension within the upper echelons of the government as it prepares the upcoming budget. [...] Ministers who have had spending proposals knocked back for inclusion in the May budget include Butler, Husic, Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth, Aged Care Minister Anika Wells and Climate Change Minister Chris Bowen.

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

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

E-cigarettes: well done, Minister Butler

Canberra City News, Letters, 07/03/2024, Alan Shroot, Page 14

Congratulations to federal Health Minister Mark Butler for his initiative in tightening the laws on electronic cigarettes. It is correct and commendable that the federal government is taking this action. He has shown courage not necessarily displayed by some of his predecessors in standing up against Big Tobacco.

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Emmie still happy says family at expert dementia discussion

Herald Sun, Other, 07/03/2024, Robyn Riley

The family of Gogglebox Australia fan favourite Emmie Silbery say she is happy in aged care and even has a few "boyfriends". [...] The federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler gave the opening address, quipping the Silberys were his favourite Gogglebox family.

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Bold thinking needed to win fight against nicotine products

West Australian, Other, 06/03/2024, Justin James

New laws that took effect at the start of this month marked a milestone in the public health campaign to combat the spread of vaping in our community. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler should be applauded for enacting these laws in a timely and comprehensive manner, and while there are fears of a black market developing, these regulations, enforced by the TGA and Australian Border Force, were necessary to end the vaping epidemic among our young people that has developed over several years.

Doctors say Medicare bulk billing incentives exacerbating gender pay gap among GPs

ABC Online, Other, 07/03/2024, Rachel Clayton

When Karen Price first started working as a GP she chose a medical clinic in a lower-socio economic area of Melbourne's south-east. "It offered great variety, your work had a lot more scope and you were an indispensable part of the community," Dr Price said. [...] A spokesperson for federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the tripling of bulk billing incentives was applied to "the most common GP consultation items" including face-to-face and telehealth general consults of more than six minutes.

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British American Tobacco makes largest donation to Nationals in over a decade amid vaping crackdown

The Guardian, Other, 07/03/2024, Melissa Davey

British American Tobacco has publicly donated to an Australian political party for the first time in more than a decade, as the Albanese government prepared to introduce vaping reforms. [...] Tobacco company Philip Morris Limited also donated \$75,000 to the Nationals on 10 May 2023, one week after the health minister, Mark Butler, announced the vaping reforms.

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Health insurance premiums to rise by 3 per cent in largest hike in five years

Sky News Australia, Other, 06/03/2024, Jack Quail

Almost 15 million Australians covered by private health insurance will be paying more for their premiums which are set to rise by more than 3 per cent on average — the largest increase in five years. On Tuesday, the Albanese government approved an industry average premium increase of 3. [...] The annual increase in the industry average premiums follows months of negotiations between the industry and Health Minister Mark Butler.

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Second SGLT2 inhibitor gets PBS listed for HFpEF

The Limbic, Other, 06/03/2024

Dapagliflozin (Forxiga) is now available on the PBS for chronic heart failure in patients with a left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) greater than 40%. The listing for the SGLT2 inhibitor, marketed by AstraZeneca, was expanded on 1 March to include patients with chronic heart failure with preserved ejection fraction. Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said there were around 98,000 Australians with chronic heart failure who might benefit from the treatment.

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Private health insurance premium increases should go to hospitals

PH News, Other, 06/03/2024

The increase to health insurance premiums should go towards supporting private hospitals, according to Australian Private Hospitals Association (APHA) CEO, Michael Roff. Federal health minister Mark Butler has approved an average 3.03 percent increase in health insurance premiums from April 2024. Mr Roff said private hospitals needed help.

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The price you pay for health

The Squiz, Other, 06/03/2024

Every year, the federal government reviews the price rises our private health insurers want to roll out. After initially knocking them back, the Albanese Government has agreed to an increase in premiums from 1 April. Health Minister Mark Butler says 15 million Aussies who hold private health insurance can expect an average increase of 3.3% to their bills, with NIB's premiums to go up 4%.

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Private health insurance premiums get government green light to go up

Switzer Daily, Other, 06/03/2024

The bad news is that private health insurance premiums are on the rise. The good news is that the rise isn't over the top. [...] The rise is portrayed as reasonable by Health Minister Mark Butler. "While we know that any increase will be hard to bear during a global cost-of-living crunch, the Albanese government has ensured that health insurance premiums will fall relative to Australians' wages," Josh Butler of guardian.com reports.

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Health insurance premiums have risen. Are the increases justified?

Your Life Choices, Other, 06/03/2024, Gary Andrews

So, we now know how much our health insurance premiums will be going up by, on average 3.03 per cent. It could have been worse, though. Federal health minister Mark Butler knocked back a request for a 6 per cent increase over Christmas.

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Channel 7, Early News, 06/03/2024, Jodie Speers

Next month, millions of Australians with private health insurance will see their premiums rise by an average of 3%. Insurers are blaming the nation's ageing population for the latest hit to the cost of living. Mark Butler, Health Minister, says they have worked so hard to keep the increase to the lowest possible number, substantially lower than the industry was seeking.

[Play Now](#)

hit102.5 Mt Isa, 12:00 Local News, 06/03/2024

The North West Hospital and Health Service has recorded no cases so far this year. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler didn't respond to our statement request before deadline.

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4CA AM, John Mackenzie, 06/03/2024, John MacKenzie

Health fund members are facing a further cost of living woes, with insurers hiking their premiums up to 4.1% in a move that will cost families hundreds of dollars a year. Health Minister Mark Butler announced yesterday he'd approved an average premium rise of 3.03%, which is less than inflation at 4.1%

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MINISTER WELLS

PM clique pulls the strings: ministers

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/03/2024, James Massola and Shane Wright, Page 1

Federal ministers are frustrated that key spending proposals are being rejected by Anthony Albanese's powerful inner circle, with Penny Wong and Katy Gallagher dubbed "co-deputy prime ministers" in a sign of tension within the upper echelons of the government as it prepares the upcoming budget. [...] Ministers who have had spending proposals knocked back for inclusion in the May budget include Butler, Husic, Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth, Aged Care Minister Anika Wells and Climate Change Minister Chris Bowen.

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

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

The proof doctors have a women problem

Age, General News, 07/03/2024, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 13

A 70-year-old woman once approached Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney in a bar to tell her a story. The woman had recently gone to see her doctor about abdominal pain she had during sex. "And the GP pretty much just said to her: 'You're 70 years old; of course sex is going to hurt,' " Kearney recalls. "It made her feel ashamed that she was having sex at 70. Three days later, she turned up to hospital with a ruptured appendix."

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

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La Trobe and Healthscope invests in health skills for the future

Star Weekly, Other, 07/03/2024

Healthscope and La Trobe University have officially opened La Trobe Private Hospital, a state-of-the-art centre for patient care, research and education, located within La Trobe's Bundoora campus. Furthering the university's commitment to world-class health innovation and excellence in education, the hospital provides students and researchers with enhanced opportunities to develop job-ready clinical skills, while offering better health outcomes for patients in Melbourne's rapidly growing northern suburbs. The hospital was officially opened by the Health and Ageing Assistant Manager Ged Kearney.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

Closing the gap targets 'worsening', Productivity Commission report finds

The Australian, Other, 06/03/2024, Ellen Ransley

The government will come under pressure to do more to address the persistent gap with new data revealing three closing the gap targets are worsening. Picture: NCA NewsWire / Martin Ollman
Australia is going backwards on key closing the gap targets, with rates of Indigenous suicide, adult incarceration and children in out-of-home care getting worse. [...] Assistant Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy said the data showed progress in some areas, but it wasn't enough to "carry through to other positive life outcomes" for First Nations people.

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

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New Productivity Commission report finds Closing the Gap targets 'worsening'

National Indigenous Times, Other, 06/03/2024, David Prestipino

Grim new data has revealed life outcomes for First Nations people have worsened and Australia is going backwards on key Closing the Gap targets, with rates of Indigenous suicide, adult incarceration and children in out-of-home care getting worse. Of the 19 targets, five were on track – up from four – but three were trending backwards, and one had no improvement. [...] Assistant Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy said the data showed progress in some areas but the latest results showed positive life outcomes for First Nations people were worsening.

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DEPARTMENT

No relevant coverage

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CORONAVIRUS

German man vaccinated against COVID 217 times

Canberra Times, International News, 07/03/2024, Page 23

Scientists have reported the case of a "hypervaccinated" man who has reportedly received 217 COVID-19 jabs. The German man had dozens of vaccines "for private reasons" over a period of 29 months, according to a study published in the journal Lancet Infectious Diseases.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Silver wave

The Australian, Commercial Property, 07/03/2024, Bernard Salt, Page 1

Building for the onslaught of an ageing population A demographic bubble of 85-year-olds is approaching with their needs to reshape how the country and property markets will operate over the next decade and beyond. In a wake up call to the policymakers and the private sector, demographer Bernard Salt warns that ageing baby boomers will soon become one of the country's greatest ever demographic forces.

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

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Everything taken care of to live life freely

Border Mail, General News, 07/03/2024, Jacinta Dickins, Page 26

Arthur Webb is a man about town. At 88, he's "fighting fit" and looking for a good woman - bonus points if she doesn't have a dog. You'll see the Lavington man out every night at the RSL club, and there is nothing he loves more than a good chat. "I'm ticking along AOK," Arthur said. "I had a pace-maker put in about 11 year ago, and have to watch my blood pressure, but apart from that I'm as fit as a fiddle."

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Aged care and disability support provider sacks 340 BlueCare employees amid cost-of-living crisis

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024, Lexy Hamilton-Smith and Janelle Miles

One of Queensland's biggest non-government employers has sacked hundreds of workers amid the cost-of-living crisis. Health service provider UnitingCare will lose about 340 employees. The ABC understands most of the job losses will be from its BlueCare service, which provides residential aged care, respite care, and nursing services to people in their own homes.

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Inform guidance for new standards

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/03/2024

The aged care regulatory body is requesting feedback on its draft guidance resources developed to help providers and other stakeholders understand the incoming strengthened quality standards. The draft standards were released online in December and due to come into play on 1 July this year.

ACH to open wellness hub and retirement village

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/03/2024

The health studio aims to support older people to stay physically active and connected to their communities. South Australian aged care services and retirement living provider ACH has begun construction on a health and wellbeing hub in Adelaide.

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Young nurse finds fulfilment in aged care sector

HelloCare, Other, 06/03/2024, Bianca Iovino

At 23, Crissy Hodge is joining the growing influx of nursing graduates forging a new career path, moving straight into aged care at a time of intense shortages. She's found fulfilment working with Australia's older generations, loving the flexibility her new career brings.

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Engaging older people and their carers as co-researchers

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 06/03/2024

A new perspectives brief released by the Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research lays the foundations for engaging older person and their carers, as co-researchers to improve health care that meets their needs. [...] 'In response to this changing need, the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (2021) identified the need to improve the delivery of health care to meet the needs of older persons and their carers, and directly involving them in this process is critical in achieving positive outcomes that actually matter to these communities.

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Call to mandate minimum training for aged care workers

The Senior, Other, 06/03/2024, William Ton

Aged care patients could have better quality and safer care if the government mandated minimum training requirements for workers, a new report states. By requiring all aged care workers to have at least a certificate III, care residents would be safer while workers would have better career progression opportunities, leading to more stability in the industry, it says. [...] A mandatory minimum certificate III requirement for personal care workers was recommended by the Aged Care Royal Commission in 2021 following extensive consultations and hearings over two years.

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St Basil's NSW/ACT appoints Diana Horvatovic as CEO

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/03/2024, Caroline Egan

The Chair of St Basil's NSW/ACT, James Jordan, has announced Diana Horvatovic, previously Acting CEO, has been appointed CEO after a lengthy recruitment process. Diana joined St Basil's NSW/ACT in 2021 in the role of Project Director - Quality, bringing more than 17 years of aged care industry experience with her.

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Southern Cross Care QLD acquires \$5M-plus Brisbane aged care site

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/03/2024, Caroline Egan

The Not For Profit has acquired a 4,768sqm site in Mitchelton, 8km northwest of the Brisbane CBD, for \$5 million plus GST, with approved plans for a four-storey, 106-bed residential aged care home. "At present, we do not have immediate development plans," a spokesperson for Southern Cross Care Queensland told The SOURCE.

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Opinion: positive financial results for aged care miss the point – the sector still needs a lifeline

The Weekly Source, Other, 06/03/2024, Lauren Broomham

The latest Quarterly Financial Snapshot (QFS) of the aged care sector has had some questioning whether the sector has reached a financial turning point – but there is still a need for funding reform. As we covered last week, the data from the Department of Health and Aged Care indicates that both residential aged care and home care providers delivered an increase in profits in the first quarter of FY24.

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POPULATION HEALTH

How TV doctor Michael Mosley fixed his insomnia

Age, Green Guide, 07/03/2024, Lauren Ironmonger, Page 6

A new SBS show profiles a world-first study setting out to tackle Australia's sleeplessness problem. He's a trained scientist, has written books on the topic and interviewed some of the world's leading researchers. By all accounts, Dr Michael Mosley is the last person you'd expect to struggle with sleep. And yet, for a long time sleep evaded him, proving that knowing more doesn't always mean doing better.

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Bushfires kill from hundreds of kilometres away

Age, General News, 07/03/2024, Bianca Hall, Page 21

Short-term exposure to air pollution has been found to kill more than 1 million people globally every year, even when people are exposed to bushfire smoke, dust and other pollutants for only a few hours or days. In Australia, the Black Summer bushfires of 2019-20 were estimated to have caused 429 smokerelated premature deaths and 3230 hospital admissions from acute and persistent exposure to bushfire smoke and pollution.

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

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Focus on women, at last, makes a healthy change

Herald Sun, General News, 07/03/2024, Jill Hennessy, Page 31

We are finally learning that, when it comes to healthcare and medical research, Wwomen are not just scaled down versions of men. This International Women's Day it's perhaps time to revisit how much of a watershed year the past 12 months have been for women's health. It feels like, for the first time, that women are being heard when they talk about their healthcare needs.

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Steps to delay death

Northern Territory News, General News, 07/03/2024, Page 12

Taking 9000 to 10,000 steps daily may counteract the risk of death and cardiovascular disease in sedentary people, according to Australian-led research. The University of Sydney team looked at data on 72,174 Brits fitted with fitness trackers for a week and found every additional step up to about 10,000 per day reduced the risk of death and heart disease, regardless of how much time was spent being sedentary.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#)

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Menopause catastrophised claim 'patronises sufferers'

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/03/2024, Wendy Tuohy, Page 18

Claims there is no strong evidence that menopause can increase risk of anxiety, psychosis or suicide have been attacked as patronising by leading women's health experts who say it is not true that menopause has been "over-medicalised". An Australian-led series on menopause published in the

prestigious journal The Lancet today suggests that over-use of hormone replacement therapy for symptoms is disempowering women, and the life stage is being "catastrophised".

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#).

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At least another six months for fluoride

Daily Liberal, General News, 07/03/2024, Orlander Ruming, Page 1

Residents of Dubbo and the surrounding villages will have to wait at least another six months for fluoride to be added into the water. In 2019, Dubbo Regional Council's audit of the fluoride dosing system at the John Gilbert Water Treatment Plant found a "significant number of non-compliances" with the dosing system.

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Homelessness NSW demands \$158m from state government to end homelessness crisis

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 07/03/2024, Jessica Wang

NSW's peak body combating homelessness has called on the state government to invest \$158m over the next three years, with demand on emergency and temporary housing reaching unseen levels. [...] According to the latest figures from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 58 out of 128 local government areas had reported an increase a rise in people accessing homeless services in 2023.

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The protein mistake you're probably making, according to a dietitian

The Courier Mail, Other, 06/03/2024, Susie Burrell

Australians wanting to up their protein intake often eat a slab of meat – but dietitian Susie Burrell says this is not the answer. Do you know how much protein you eat each day ? Or, more importantly, do you know how much you need? As we come to learn more about the importance of protein , especially when it comes to helping to optimise metabolism as we move through our 30s, 40s and beyond, we also come to understand that sitting down to a decent piece of meat or chicken at dinner will simply not cut it.

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Influencing Gen Vape report reveals seven types of vaping behaviours in Australian teenagers

West Australian, Other, 06/03/2024, Claire Sadler

A new Australian survey has identified seven types of vaping behaviours in teenagers giving medical professionals and parents tailored advice for each group for the first time. The Influencing Gen Vape report — released on Wednesday — from The Behaviour Change Collaborative and Victoria Health surveyed more than 3500 teenagers between Year 7 and Year 12, with one in five admitting they have tried vaping.

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Why Melbourne's Southern Cross Station may have some of the 'least clean' air in the city

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024, Jessica Longbottom, Madi Chwasta and Elise Kinsella

For years, environmental scientist Keith Loveridge has wondered if the air at one of Melbourne's busiest train stations has been putting his health at risk. "I got out of the train one day and I almost choked — I thought 'oh my God'," he recalled of one trip. He's talking about Southern Cross Station, which sees tens of thousands of commuters pass through its gates each day.

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Climate change is a 'threat amplifier' wreaking havoc on women's health

Australian Doctor, Other, 06/03/2024, Magdalena Simonis and Kate Wylie

Gender, inequality and climate change are inextricably connected. We see this play out with women being more vulnerable to climate health impacts such as displacement from natural disasters, food and water insecurity, personal violence and other health outcomes.

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Does your health and wellbeing need a boost?

Wellbeing Magazine, Other, 06/03/2024

Whether you have a specific health concern or are just feeling run down and in need of a serious energy boost, natural medicine could have the solution for you. The ultimate advantage to natural medicine is that it takes the whole body into account when determining how best to support your health and wellbeing.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Itsines hid 'secret' for 6 years

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/03/2024, Rebekah Scanlan, Page 14

Kayla Itsines is arguably one of Australia's most famous fitness experts - but despite sharing her lifestyle to inspire and motivate others, she hid a "secret" from her millions of followers for six years. The health and wellness entrepreneur, who co-created the popular fitness app SWEAT, is among the one-in-nine Australian women who live with endometriosis, a painful disease that occurs when tissue similar to that which lines the uterus grows outside of the uterus usually in areas like the ovaries and fallopian tubes as well as on organs such as the bladder, bowel, vagina, and cervix.

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Call for a ban on cigarette machines

Border Mail, General News, 07/03/2024, Nyibol Gatluak, Page 4

Hundreds of venues are still selling cigarettes from vending machines and cancer researchers want them gone - no ifs or butts. Research done by university professors examined the attitudes of more than 800 owners and managers of alcohol-licensed premises in NSW, Queensland and WA. [...] Christina Watts is a research fellow at the Daffodil Centre, a joint venture between the University of Sydney and Cancer Council NSW.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Hi-5 star shares health warning

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 07/03/2024, Madeleine Achenza, Page 5

A Hi-5 star is urging Australians to stay on top of health checks after her sister-in-law lost her battle with bowel cancer. Lauren Brant-Hall, 35, posted a heartbreaking tribute to her brother's wife Sandra Brant on the third anniversary of her death on March 4, 2021.

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

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Dad's inspiring legacy for family

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 07/03/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 1

Dad's lasting legacy Little Sophie Shumack will receive loving birthday cards from her dad Clint Shumack every year until she's 21, cards that he wrote in palliative care before his death from melanoma in December last year. Sophie and mum Dr Danielle Camer have made it their mission to spread the word about the disease and sun safety.

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

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Karen hasn't let MS stop her from teaching others

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 07/03/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 5

Karen Davies had to leave her classroom behind decades ago, but the passionate public school educator can't help but teach. Since being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis when she was 48, the Woonona woman has made it her mission to tell people about the disease, raising money and awareness through many charity events as an ambassador.

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Lived experience drives MS researcher

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 07/03/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 14

When Yasmine Probst was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis 20 years ago, she didn't know much about it. [...] Fast forward two decades and the University of Wollongong Associate Professor has been appointed an MS Australia Senior Research Fellow, and just got funding to begin an Australia-wide clinical trial to test a new telehealth method of delivering lifestyle advice to people with the disease.

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Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson, reveals major cancer milestone during Melbourne visit

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/03/2024, Mitch Clarke

The Duchess of York, fondly known as Fergie, has urged every Victorian to get regular cancer screenings in the wake of her own health scare. In an interview with the Herald Sun in Melbourne for the Global Citizen NOW action summit, Sarah Ferguson said she is "doing really well" and had received good news that her cancer had not spread.

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'I found out I had cancer the day I found out my baby's gender'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 06/03/2024, Shona Hendley

When 35-year-old mum Jessica noticed a lump in her breast while 16 weeks pregnant with her second child, she immediately knew something was wrong. "It was so big and so hard. I knew it was not normal and I called my mum straight away. She had breast cancer 2 years before me so I knew she would know if I was over-exaggerating or not."

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Libby Schoch: Why Palmerston public servant needs this pelvic pain clinic to stay the course

Northern Territory News, Other, 06/03/2024, Alex Treacy

A Palmerston woman says she hopes Commonwealth funding will support the Territory's only dedicated pelvic pain clinic, after decades of her life were gobbled up by a severe health battle. A Palmerston woman who is sharing her decades-long endometriosis hell says she hopes Commonwealth funding to support the Territory's only dedicated pelvic pain clinic, which opened last year, will be extended beyond its stipulated four-year period.

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Waikiki resident and double-lung transplant recipient Sara Miller taking part in Breaths and Beats ride

West Australian, Other, 06/03/2024, Laura Pond

Double-lung transplant recipient Sara Miller is continuing her vow to get the most out of her life-saving lungs. The Waikiki resident, who has also received a kidney from her dad and three stem cell transplants, is part of this year's Breaths and Beats Ride for Research raising money for the Heart and Lung Research Institute WA.

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'I knew it would keep me alive': painful side effects from cancer treatment

Newcastle Herald, Other, 06/03/2024, Damon Cronshaw

The aren't limited to Sally Keir's mind and body, they also affect where she lives. Dr Keir recently bought a house at in Port Stephens, so she could spend summers on the coast where it's cooler. [...] About 20 per cent of patients treated for breast, melanoma, gynaecological or prostate cancers will develop lymphoedema, according to the Cancer Council.

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Yeppoon woman spreads sun safety message after losing dad to melanoma

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024, Aaron Kelly

Graham Newsome's family had barely come to terms with his cancer diagnosis and treatment regime for metastatic melanoma when he died 11 weeks later. Seven years since she lost her father and best friend, Yeppoon woman Jessica Newsome is on a sun smart mission so others don't have to go through the same grief.

[Read More](#)

'This is the result of never wearing a hat or sunscreen'

NEWS.com.au, Other, 06/03/2024

Leigh said he never wore a hat or sunscreen as he reveals he's had close to 200 skin cancers removed. If you need more convincing to stay sun smart, look no further than this man. Leigh Raaschou was a junior lifesaver in Victoria and worked outside most of his life and "never wore a hat, never wore sunscreen and this is the result of that".

[Read More](#)

BCNA all for 60DD

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 06/03/2024

The Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA) has welcomed the news that six common drugs used to treat breast cancer can now be prescribed and dispensed for 60 days on a single prescription. The drugs include common types of hormone-blocking therapies such as letrozole, anastrozole and tamoxifen, among others, which combined represented almost one million individual prescriptions in the 2023 calendar year.

[Read More](#)

3AW, Breakfast, 06/03/2024, Ross Stevenson and Russel Howcroft

Hearing Australia has hit the road for the Hearing The Nation tour, offering free 15-minute hearing cheques for adults nationwide. This nationwide tour will see Hearing Australia visit 1000 locations across Australia throughout March, stopping in at city and country locations in every state and territory.

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PRIMARY CARE

Cardiac arrests' record high as public urged to help

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 07/03/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 4

Victorian regions with the lowest bystander CPR rates have been revealed as cardiac arrests reach a record high, with ambulance call-outs increasing for the fourth year in a row. About 20 Victorians suffered a cardiac arrest with just two surviving every day last financial year, but their shot at life more than doubled if they received CPR from a bystander.

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100,000 elective surgeries missed

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 07/03/2024, Ben Silvester, Page 5

Alan Rundell, 69, is in "excruciating" pain and becoming addicted to pain killers. He's one of tens of thousands of Victorians whose surgeries have been delayed while hospitals pocketed \$1 billion for

procedures they haven't delivered. ACM can reveal Victoria could have wiped out its elective surgery waiting list in a single year if public hospitals across the state had met their agreed targets.

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#)

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

Hospital 'secrecy' lashed

Border Mail, General News, 07/03/2024, Ted Howes, Page 1

Border health advocates have slammed a NSW and Victorian government claim they had never considered demolishing the \$36 million emergency department at Albury hospital. This is despite a recently released master plan for the hospital's \$558 million redevelopment clearly stating the emergency department would be demolished and relocated to another building.

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

St Lukes backs plans, but fears it's not enough

Launceston Examiner, General News, 07/03/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 10

St Lukes supported both Liberal and Labor's commitment to partner with the Launceston Health Hub and build a new short-stay hospital. But they raised concerns it would not be enough to meet the needs of the community alone, based on feedback received through their member survey and advice to the Department of Health.

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

How you can help shape our new Palliative Care Unit

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 07/03/2024, Page 4

What would you like to see in a new palliative care unit at Tamworth hospital? That's the question being asked of the community, as part of the planning process for the facility, which was announced after years of campaigning. The NSW Government has committed \$93 million to redevelop and refurbish five palliative care units across the state including Tamworth, Westmead, Nepean, Wyong and Orange hospitals.

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Women's health centres chosen for funding boost

Canberra Times, Other, 07/03/2024, Jack Gramenz

A boost to clinics for vulnerable women will help more access health care while reducing strain on public hospitals, the NSW government says. More than \$34 million announced in the state budget has now been allocated to women's health centres around the state, with regional areas to benefit from almost \$9 million.

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

[Read More](#)

Berrigan Shire Council and Tocumwal residents push to see ambulance station in southern NSW town

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024, Callum Marshall

Rebecca Cork will never forget her daughter Aaliyah not breathing and purple-faced in the back of her car, on the way to Tocumwal Hospital in southern New South Wales. It started when Aaliyah developed a temperature. Before long she started experiencing regular seizures, which would stop and start again. Ms Cork called triple-0 to get an ambulance straight away, with the nearest station at Finley about 15 minutes away.

[Read More](#)

Dead Curious: How Can We Do Death and Dying Better?

SBS, Other, 06/03/2024, Nadine Cohen and Anthony Levin

Life as we know it is changing, and so too is death. From death doulas to death cafes, bespoke funerals, and human composting, Grave Matters is your crash course in the end-of-life revolution. In this first episode, hear a fireside chat with one Australian woman leading the field. Bec Lyons is an end-of-life doula, independent funeral director, death literacy educator and family-led death care advocate.

ABC Radio Sydney, Breakfast, 06/03/2024, Craig Reucassel

Interview with Joel Gibson, Easy Money and Kill Bills author. Gibson points out that according to the latest data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, one in 10 people are waiting over a year for elective surgery in the public system.

[Play Now](#)[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Calls for dedicated minister for youth

Hobart Mercury, General News, 07/03/2024, Blair Richards, Page 9

Tasmanian young people need a dedicated government minister and tailored housing and employment strategies, the state's peak youth organisation says. Youth Network of Tasmania CEO Tania Hunt said housing and transitioning from school to employment were key areas of need for people aged 12 to 25.

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

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Brittany rushed to Perth hospital

West Australian, General News, 07/03/2024, Tim Clarke, Page 1

Brittany Higgins was admitted to hospital in Perth on Tuesday night after a breakdown in her marathon mediation talks with former boss Linda Reynolds. The West Australian understands Ms Higgins was treated at Royal Perth Hospital on Tuesday about 11pm after she and partner David Sharaz spent more than nine hours in mediation with Senator Reynolds as they tried to avoid a long defamation trial.

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

Singing praises of 'vital' group

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 07/03/2024, Tom O'Callaghan, Page 3

Enzo Scafati looked after his wife Roslyn every day until dementia took her life. "She went into respite and she never came out," he said. But, the journey could have been much harder for the former owners of Inglewood's Empire State Hotel if not for a group dedicated to families navigating all forms of dementia.

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

If life stress hits hard, where do you go?

Launceston Examiner, General News, 07/03/2024, Isabel Bird, Page 7

Hundreds of Tasmanians sought free mental health support at walk-in state-run services in January this year. More than 3000 people accessed the services in 2023, and more than 400 did so in January. The centres aim to provide support for people who walk in and ask for help and the Mental Health Council of Tasmania want to see them accessible for all.

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

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

Why young women are Australia's loneliest generation

Canberra Times, Other, 07/03/2024, Jennifer Dudley-Nicholson

Young women are among the loneliest and most isolated group of people in Australia, according to a study that found four in five felt left out and lacking companionship. A Headspace survey released on Thursday on the eve of International Women's Day, found young women suffered loneliness more than their male counterparts, even though young men were less likely to ask for help.

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

[Read More](#)

Navy veteran left 'broken' after treatment by military

Canberra Times, Other, 06/03/2024, Tess Ikonomou

A former navy clearance diver was left "broken" after receiving a report from the military about the details of his brother's suicide at a post office. Royal Australian Air Force Leading Aircraftman Andrew Armfield took his own life in 2011, but it took a decade before his family was given an internal report by the Australian Defence Force.

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

[Read More](#)

Dementia experienced firsthand through VR

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 06/03/2024, Christopher Kelly

A new training program targeting leaders and supervisors in aged care facilities uses virtual reality technology to help participants better understand the lived experience of dementia. Using immersive VR headsets, the program developed by Dementia Training Australia exposes participants to common symptoms of dementia, such as impaired vision, impaired hearing, and balance issues.

[Read More](#)

Dementia Australia announces new CEO

Community Care Review, Other, 06/03/2024

Public health expert Professor Tanya Buchanan joins the consumer advocacy organisation. Dementia Australia has announced public health expert Professor Tanya Buchanan will commence as chief executive officer of the advocacy organisation in May.

[Read More](#)

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Midwives in respect training

Courier Mail, General News, 07/03/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 20

Queensland midwives will be trained in "respectful" maternity care with a focus on getting mothers' consent on medical interventions and avoiding trauma in labour. The state government is investing \$4.4m in skill-boosting workshops designed to deliver better outcomes and care for expectant mums and their babies.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Fewer local graduates in Canberra hospitals

Canberra Times, General News, 07/03/2024, Lucy Bladen, Page 1

Canberra's medical community has expressed alarm at an exodus of local medical students, as graduates choose to leave the ACT at the end of their studies. The number of local graduates choosing to work in Canberra Health Services has declined over the past decade with just over half the services' interns this year coming from the Australian National University's medical school.

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

New hats

Courier Mail, Business News, 07/03/2024, Glen Norris, Page 27

Peter Devenish-Meares has handed over the role of chair at St John Ambulance to Brisbane businesswoman Judy Morgan. Devenish-Meares, whose varied career has included stints as an army and police chaplain as well as accountant and banker, completed three terms at St John, during which

time the organisation expanded into Indigenous ophthalmic care and mental health training for the workplace.

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Health cheques

Hobart Mercury, General News, 07/03/2024, David Killick, Page 1

Labor is promising to pay the university fees of graduate nurses, midwives and paramedics as part of a major push to boost Tasmania's health workforce, which is struggling with high turnover and worker burnout. On a day in the election campaign where both major parties continued a focus on health care initiatives, the Liberals say they have a plan to help recruit and retain the skilled medical workers the state needs.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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Smart fix to win key staff

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 07/03/2024, Page 26

Among the multitudinous problems within Tasmania's health system is the perennial issue of how to attract and retain the workforce the state needs in our hospitals. Labor and the Liberals both announced policies on Wednesday: Labor's centred around providing permanent employment and the repayment of university fees for new graduates; the Liberals countered with a plan to pay relocation allowances of up to \$15,000 for nurses and midwives and \$10,000 scholarships for new graduate nurses.

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Scientist who saw the bigger picture

West Australian, General News, 07/03/2024, Page 49

Dr David Robert Biggins Biochemist, public health researcher Born: Subiaco, 1944 Died: Perth, aged 79 David's parents had grown up in working-class families who valued the importance of education, and they gifted David with a belief in self-education and a lifelong love of learning. His father Bob grew up in Cardiff, near Collie, and had a distinguished career in education.

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AMA supports Libs on GP payroll tax

Launceston Examiner, General News, 07/03/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 10

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) backed the commitment from the Tasmanian Liberals not to alter payroll tax arrangements for contracted GPs. The issue was raised by Labor who pledged to abolish the tax altogether in the first 100 days of office if elected, which the AMA also supported.

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Wife of beloved Adelaide doctor Tim Proudman details what made him a special man on the eve of his funeral

Adelaide Now, Other, 06/03/2024, Dylan Hogarth

The wife of a beloved Adelaide doctor has detailed what made the popular surgeon such a special man on the eve of his funeral. The wife of beloved Adelaide doctor Tim Proudman has detailed passions that made the popular surgeon such a special man on the eve of his funeral.

[Read More](#)

St John Ambulance paramedics threatened with knives at Alice Springs Hospital ambulance bay

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024, Emma Haskin

Alice Springs paramedics have been threatened with knives and other weapons as they attempt to deliver care to critically ill patients. St John Ambulance Northern Territory director Andrew Thomas said the most recent attack happened in the past week in the ambulance bay of the Alice Springs Hospital.

[Read More](#)

Doctors who speak out against the Gaza medical catastrophe deserve more support from AHPRA

Australian Doctor, Other, 06/03/2024, Jon Fogarty

The horror of the war in Gaza is almost too hard to watch. The temptation is to look away. I certainly need to look away at times to preserve my own mental health. It is not the only horror on the planet at the moment, but watching the gross destruction of the health system in Gaza — the hospitals and clinics, medicine's essential infrastructure — is a public health and humanitarian nightmare.

[Read More](#)

8CPA negotiations in 'final stages'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/03/2024

Negotiators from all sides remain tight-lipped, but reports suggest 8CPA talks are nearing their conclusion "Significant progress" is being made in talks to secure the Eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA), pharmaceutical industry publication, BioPharmaDispatch reports Representatives from the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the National Pharmaceutical Services Association

[Read More](#)

PDL appoints two new professional officers

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/03/2024, Ajp Staff

PDL has announced the appointment of Kylie Neville and Dr Simone Henriksen as professional officers, joining Gary West, Jess Hadley and Naomi Lim Neville and Henriksen will work closely with the other professional officers and the professional development pharmacist, and provide 24/7 incident support and advice to PDL members.

[Read More](#)

12,000 treatments offered

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 06/03/2024

The NSW Government yesterday announced that its scope of practice trial for pharmacists has seen 12,000 treatments delivered. Under the trial, patients can access treatment for uncomplicated UTIs and repeat prescriptions of the oral contraceptive pill from their local pharmacist.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Fresh hope for patients in need of painkilling drug

9News, Other, 06/03/2024, Sarah Swain

Patients who rely on a type of painkiller that was discontinued in Australia have been given fresh hope after a new supplier was found. As reported by 9news.com.au Ordine is a type of liquid morphine that a drug company that supplied it decided not to make anymore because it was "not commercially viable".

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Our dwindling bulk billing practices

Daily Liberal, General News, 07/03/2024, Ciara Bastow, Page 2

At least half the GP clinics across the Dubbo, Wellington and Narromine areas charge upfront fees to see a doctor. Only four GP clinics across the area offered complete bulk billing services while other surgeries offered discounts for health care and concession card holders, veterans or children. But six practices in the regions listed no bulk billed services at all - five of them in Dubbo.

Urgency makes healthcare a cyber target

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/03/2024, Michael Khoo

Pharmacists urged to be on the guard as cyber threat to health industry grows Data-rich healthcare providers are increasingly becoming the target of cyber criminals, Tessa Bowles, NAB's security advisory and awareness senior consultant warns. Speaking during a webinar hosted by the bank, Bowles urged pharmacists and other healthcare providers to be conscious of the

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Workplace 'failure' of NSW Mental Health Commission

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/03/2024, Caitlin Fitzsimmons, Page 9

The workplace safety regulator has blasted the body responsible for improving mental health in NSW for failing to offer psychological safety in its own workplace. SafeWork NSW found the state's Mental Health Commission has breached workplace health and safety legislation over its management of bullying and other issues of the organisation's culture.

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

Will a crackdown end the botox boom?

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024

For more than 20 years, Australians have turned to botox when unwanted wrinkles begin to emerge. It's widely seen as a harmless way to look younger without surgery. Until recently botox and other cosmetic fillers have gone largely unchecked, so why have regulators decided to crackdown now?

[Read More](#)

Former RACGP presidential candidate loses legal bid to ban mRNA vaccines

Australian Doctor, Other, 06/03/2024, Heather Saxena

A former racgp presidential candidate must pay legal costs to Pfizer and Moderna after losing a court case arguing that their COVID-19 vaccines were unlicensed genetically modified organisms. The Federal Court of Australia dismissed Dr Julian Fidge's legal bid last week as "misguided" and "an abuse of process" that had no "reasonable prospect of success".

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

Vic snubs Olympians

Herald Sun, General News, 07/03/2024, Shannon Deery, Page 1

The cash-strapped Allan government is yet to commit any money to support athletes at this year's Paris Olympics. The Herald Sun can reveal that Victoria is trailing behind NSW, Western Australia, Queensland and the ACT, which have each donated to fundraising efforts.

Push for helmets

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 07/03/2024, Mark Robinson and Sam Landsberger;, Page 1

All community footballers could be forced to wear helmets, with a head protection trial being launched this season. New rules for 2024 will also require players to stand down for a minimum 21 days after concussions, in a landmark decision by the AFL.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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Kerr's white slur

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 07/03/2024, Danielle Gusmaroli, Page 1

Police will allege soccer superstar Samantha Kerr called an officer "a stupid white bastard," after a night out with friends. The Australian captain denies the allegation involving two police officers who were called to the scene to diffuse a dispute over a taxi fare in London. Kerr pleaded not guilty on Monday to a charge of intentionally causing racially aggravated harassment, alarm or distress to a police officer.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#).

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Pride attack player 'sorry'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/03/2024, Michael McGuire, Page 9

Adelaide United player Musa Toure has apologised to the club after an Instagram post where he criticised the club's pride game this weekend against Melbourne Victory. Toure's now deleted post said he was "an Adelaide United player, but I'm also a Muslim before anything".

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

Sports gender gap persists

West Australian, General News, 07/03/2024, Deb Childs, Page 46

In my role as chief executive of a mental health and carer support organisation and as a board director with various organisations, I often find myself at the intersection of values, ethics, and the pursuit of equity and inclusion. And what I notice is uneven progress across sectors.

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

GC going for gold

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 07/03/2024, Paul Weston and Andrew Potts, Page 1

A whopping \$5bn of taxpayer money can be saved if the Gold Coast's existing Commonwealth Games venues are used for the Olympics, a review reveals. The Bulletin has obtained the City's submission to the 60day review of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Brisbane 2032 Venue Master Plan.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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Women's change rooms left out of plans

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 07/03/2024, Connor Pearce, Page 8

New plans for long awaited sports fields in Shell Cove do not include facilities essential for women's sport, one of the groups involved in the design of the fields has said. As part of the Waterfront development in Shell Cove, jointly delivered by Frasers Property Australia and Shellharbour City Council, new sports fields will be constructed south of Harbour Boulevard and east of Rangoon Avenue.

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Foxtel under fire for displaying ads for illegal gambling companies during test cricket match

The federal communications watchdog is examining whether Foxtel breached gambling laws by broadcasting ads for two illegal offshore betting companies during last week's test cricket match between Australia and New Zealand. The ads included a prominently placed "virtual billboard" on the playing field for Parimatch, a Cyprus-based online casino and bookmaker the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) blocked to internet users in 2022 after an investigation found it was illegally offering unlicensed gambling to Australians.

[Read More](#)

Almost 100 people drowned in Australia over summer, a quarter between Christmas and New Year

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024, Jessica Lamb and Georgia Lenton-Williams

The quest to get a perfect selfie at a stunning, remote beach, or at a spectacular inland waterfall, as well as poor swimming abilities, are behind a rise in the number of drownings over summer, according to water safety experts. Across Australia, 99 people lost their lives at beaches and in rivers, pools, and other waterways between December 1 last year and February 29 this year — a 10 per cent increase on the previous summer.

[Read More](#)

Hundreds of public pools face an uncertain future

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024, Nakita Jager

The Royal Life Saving Society Australia estimates around 500 pools nationally are at least 50-years-old and require costly repairs. Local councils, which run most public pools, say they need more funding support.

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

[Read More](#)

How to talk to teens when they get benched

ABC Online, Other, 06/03/2024

Sport has benefits for everyone, from better physical health to improved social skills and resilience. Yet eight out of 10 Australian children fail to meet the WHO's guidelines of doing 60 minutes of physical activity a day.

[Read More](#)

AFL looks at taking the game to the USA after the NRL's Vegas gamble paid off - here's why they'll need help from cricket bosses

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/03/2024, Andrew Prentice

The AFL is considering partnering with Cricket Australia in a move which could see the footy code stage matches in the US again. It follows the NRL's bold venture into Las Vegas, which proved to be a success at Allegiant Stadium last Sunday. More than 40,000 spectators attended the history-making double header, with plenty of interested locals spotted in the crowd at Sin City.

[Read More](#)

AFL season to start full of promise even as off-field issues mount up

The Guardian, Other, 07/03/2024, Jack Snape

Australian rules is played by hand and foot, but the AFL in 2024 is set to be an arm wrestle as administrators, players, clubs and fans seek to shape the game. Last season was rightfully regarded as one of the best ever, with record crowds and an exhilarating grand final won by Collingwood. The AFL revealed a surplus of \$28m in its annual reporting, locked in a pay deal with players and transitioned to a new CEO.

[Read More](#)

Brisbane CEO Greg Swann says Lions would welcome new Victoria Park stadium for 2032 Olympic Games

7news.com.au, Other, 06/03/2024, Harrison Reid

Olympic organisers are still yet to settle on the centrepiece for the 2032 Games but one thing has become clear. The Brisbane Lions have checked their hopes of having the Gabba knocked down and rebuilt in time for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games.

[Read More](#)

'Hard to comprehend': NRL star's powerful message

National Indigenous Times, Other, 06/03/2024, Martin Gabor

Indigenous All Stars halfback Nicho Hynes has implored the NRL to take a strong stance against any racial slurs and declared it's "hard to comprehend" allegations Broncos star Ezra Mam was called a "monkey" by Roosters opponent Spencer Leniu in Las Vegas. Hynes, who was brandishing his club's Indigenous jersey on Tuesday in a show of support for Mam, didn't accuse Leniu, who is set to face the judiciary next week, of making the comment.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 06/03/2024, Jeremy Fernandez

Football Australia won't say whether it will stand down Matildas captain Sam Kerr, after she was charged with racially aggravated harassment. The star striker pleaded not guilty at a court in London yesterday to a charge that she'd used threatening, abusive or insulting words towards a London police officer.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 06/03/2024, Peter Mitchell

The AFL has just revealed sweeping changes to concussion rules on the eve of the new season. Mitch Cleary is at the season launch in Sydney. These new rules implemented today mean that all players at Junior Community Pathway and VFL competitions will now have to sit out for a minimum of 21 days after a concussion for AFL and AFLW players they'll still miss 12 days at a minimum.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 06/03/2024, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

Adelaide United is tonight in damage control after one of its brightest young stars Musa Toure, publicly condemned Pride Round. The 18-year-old rising star is at the centre of a pride round storm after an Instagram post condemning the annual event that promotes inclusivity and sport.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9 Darwin, Nine News, 06/03/2024, Paul Murphy

The NRL is under increasing pressure to come down hard if Spencer Leniu is found to of racially abused Ezra Mam on social media. Player Latrell Mitchell had called for a lengthy ban today.

[Play Now](#)

SBS, World News Australia, 06/03/2024, Janice Petersen

Former Socceroos captain Craig Foster has urged Football Australia to consider standing down Matildas captain Sam Kerr. It comes after she was charged with racially aggravated harassment of a police officer in an alleged incident in January 2023.

[Play Now](#)

Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 06/03/2024, Simon Love

The AFL is set to tweak its concussion rules as they further clamp down on return-to-play protocols. Concussion, as you mentioned, continues to be the most talked about issue in the game, with the commission meeting in Sydney to tick off changes to the guidelines. Currently, players enter into an 11-step, 12-day protocol after being diagnosed with a concussion.

[Play Now](#)

6PR, Afternoons, 06/03/2024, Julie-anne Sprague

Interview with Dr Thomas Heenan, Lecturer in Sport and Australian Studies, Monash University. Sprague says there has been some hard news against Matildas captain Sam Kerr, despite being one of the most marketable female athletes on the planet, as she has been charged with racially abusing a police officer in London. Heenan believes that the Matildas brand should be safe from this scandal that Kerr has gotten herself into, as she has been away from the team for a long period, which also allowed other players to raise their profiles.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Uni unbanned after 'white men' row

The Australian, General News, 07/03/2024, Tim Dodd, Page 7

One of Australia's largest private philanthropy groups, the Snow Medical Research Foundation, has ended its two-year ban on giving funding to the University of Melbourne after determining that it had "made progress towards gender equality". Snow Medical, the philanthropy arm of the Snow family that owns Canberra airport, has given more than \$100m to universities and medical research institutes since 2020 and is carrying on with a program to donate millions more dollars every year to tackle tough health challenges.

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Next step in battling disease

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 07/03/2024, Page 17

Victoria is one step closer to establishing the largest centre of infectious disease expertise in the southern hemisphere to help protect Australians from future pandemics. The state government will announce Kane Constructions has been appointed to prepare a new hi-tech facility site for construction in Melbourne on Thursday, which will support the work of the Australian Institute for Infectious Disease (AIID).

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#)

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Proteomics gets green light to continue diagnostic mission

West Australian, Other, 06/03/2024, Michael Philipps

Proteomics International Laboratories will continue important research and development for its diagnostic test products after meeting key standards set by the International Organisation for Standardisation. The company this morning confirmed it had received "ISO 13485 recertification – an internationally-recognised standard for safety and quality management systems in the manufacture of medical devices.

[Read More](#)

Ozempic reduces severity of liver disease in people with HIV, study shows

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/03/2024

A weekly injection of semaglutide was safe and reduced the amount of fat in the liver by 31% in people with HIV and a type of liver disease, a study funded by the National Institutes of Health showed on Tuesday. Semaglutide is the active ingredient in Novo Nordisk's popular weightloss drug Wegovy and diabetes treatment Ozempic.

[Read More](#)

Scientists may have finally found a 'cure' for pancreatic cancer

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 07/03/2024, Hannah Millington

Scientists have designed a candidate drug (a molecule with strong therapeutic potential) that could help make pancreatic cancer a treatable and potentially curable condition, according to new research.

While less common than other types, pancreatic cancer – found anywhere in the pancreas, an organ in the top part of your tummy – can be hard to treat and cure.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Promises on care end 'at jail gates'

The Australian, General News, 07/03/2024, Tricia Rivera, Page 6

A lack of consultation with Indigenous Victorians regarding care in prisons is having a devastating impact on their health, with commitments from governments ending "at the prison gates", the state's Ombudsman has warned. Outgoing Ombudsman Deborah Glass handed down a report into healthcare provision for Aboriginal people in Victorian prisons on Wednesday.

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

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Nation failing to Close the Gap

Herald Sun, General News, 07/03/2024, Clare Armstrong, Page 16

Australia is going backwards on key Closing the Gap targets, with rates of suicide, adults in prison and children in out-of-home care among Indigenous people getting worse. Grim new figures released by the Productivity Commission on Thursday also show that modest improvements in the life expectancy of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women have not been enough to put on track the target of ending the gap by 2031.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#).

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Indigenous death in care inquest

Northern Territory News, General News, 07/03/2024, Zizi Averill, Page 5

An Alice Springs man believed to be in the grips of a mental health crisis walked out of the Central Australian hospital against medical advice. Hours later, 45-year-old Anthony Rubuntja passed away, but it took four days for his body to be found. Territory Coroner Elisabeth Armitage heard this was the second Indigenous death in care connected to Alice Springs Hospital in just seven days in November, as she was also conducting another mandatory coronial inquest for a woman who passed on November 22.

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

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Critical health services set to return to disaster stricken remote Indigenous community of Wujal Wujal next month

Northern Territory News, Other, 06/03/2024, Samuel Davis

Works to establish a temporary health service in a southern Cape York community devastated by flooding have started, with authorities hoping to provide services to residents by late April. Works to establish a temporary health service in a southern Cape York community devastated by flooding have started, with authorities hoping to provide services to residents by late April.

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Indigenous incarceration and suicide rates continue to rise, new data reveals

National Indigenous Times, Other, 07/03/2024, Dechlan Brennan

Australia is failing to reduce the rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults being incarcerated according to the latest data from the Productivity Commission. The report also revealed the

heartbreaking reality that suicide remained the number one cause of death for First Nations people aged 15 to 44 years in 2022.

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New grants improve culturally aware healthcare services for First Nations communities

National Indigenous Times, Other, 06/03/2024, Dechlan Brennan

Cultural grants are being launched by a leading medical body to better foster cultural awareness in the treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island patients in the Northern Territory. The General Practice Registrars Australia (GPRA) has launched the Cultural Education Grants for NT-based registrars, with \$500 available for GP registrars from all pathways to help them "access further cultural education development opportunities" in their training.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Bug forces public pools to close

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 07/03/2024, Page 8

A parasitic infection has forced the closure of public pools at an inner-city aquatic centre amid a rise in people hospitalised suffering gastrolike symptoms. The latest outbreak of cryptosporidiosis, first linked to Northcote Aquatic & Recreation Centre's learn-toswim pool, resulted in the temporary closure of its 25m and 50m pools.

Also reported by: [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).

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'Big' flu season looms

Herald Sun, General News, 07/03/2024, Page 9

Aussies are being urged to get their children vaccinated ahead of what could be a very serious flu season. Latest data found there was an 18 per cent increase in confirmed influenza cases in children aged six months to five years in 2023, compared to the previous year.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Shingles: What is it and how do I protect myself from it?

The Senior, Other, 06/03/2024, Anthony Caggiano

Shingles: the pain from it can last for months, and getting the new, free vaccine for it has been tough lately due to supply issues. And while there has been a holdup in people getting access to Shingrix - which replaces the Zostavax vaccine on the National Immunisation Program (NIP) - Australia's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Paul Kelly, wants us to hold hope.

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Seven dire reasons it might be time to leave Australia – from floods to fungus

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 06/03/2024, Michael Dahlstrom

This article isn't about causing alarm, but rather sharing some of the annoying changes facing our nation. Dengue fever, swarms of marine stingers, and the spread of highly contagious fungus are not what most people think about when they hear the term climate change.

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Interview with Dr Ginni Mansberg, Sunrise GP. Barr says major public health alerts are being issued across Australia with whooping cough cases surging ten times higher than this time last year. Mansberg explains that these recent coughing spasms could be so bad that, particularly for babies, despite this matter being just an annoyance for adults.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

RSV infant inoculation

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 06/03/2024, Page 4

An immunisation designed to protect all infants from severe respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) has been registered for use in Australia by the Therapeutic Goods Administration. Beyfortus (nirsevimab) is now registered with the TGA for the prevention of RSV-related lower respiratory tract disease in all infants entering their first RSV season and for children up to 24 months of age who remain vulnerable to severe RSV disease through their second RSV season.

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Trikafta: The life-changing wonder drug that costs \$250,000 a year

Australian Doctor, Other, 06/03/2024, Rachel Carter

On a per patient basis, it's one of the most expensive drugs ever listed on the PBS. There are before and after worlds in Professor Hiran Selvadurai's respiratory ward. [...] The TGA has recently approved the use of the drug for children aged 2-5 years — and this month it's back on the PBAC meeting agenda for whether taxpayers should fund it.

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Consumer group backs compounding ban

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 06/03/2024, Chris Brooker

The CHF has said it 'understands' why the TGA is proposing a ban on pharmacists compounding Ozempic, but more must be done to boost supply. Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) says it "understands" why the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is proposing a ban on pharmacists compounding Ozempic, but also wanted to highlight the ongoing

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Groundbreaking children's brain cancer therapy gets TGA approval

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 06/03/2024

Rare Cancers Australia has welcomed the announcement that the Therapeutic Goods Administration has approved Novartis targeted therapy drug Tafinlar + mekinist, which has been proven to be effective in the treatment of a rare form of cancer mutation in paediatric low-grade Glioma patients.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Faith leaders urge action on drugs

The Australian, General News, 07/03/2024, Alexi Demetriadi, Page 3

Faith leaders have urged the Minns government to accelerate drug reform and relax laws to avoid "needless" and "disastrous" interactions with the criminal justice system as a promised drug summit remains dateless. In a letter to NSW Premier Chris Minns, leaders from the Jewish, Anglican, Catholic, Uniting and Muslim faiths also urged the government to move quicker and be more transparent on its promised drug summit.

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

Arguments stacking up to support legalising cannabis

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/03/2024, Jeremy Buckingham, Page 13

Around school drop-off time last week, a car drove up to the entrance of a Fairfield Heights unit block and five shots were fired. A 20-year-old man died. A couple of days later, a 40-year-old man was shot in the early hours of the morning in Guildford from a car that was parked in the street. Just another week of unending crime mayhem in Sydney. This comes on the back of the formation of a special taskforce last year promising to stop the shootings.

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We need the Lay verdict

Herald Sun, General News, 07/03/2024, Mitch Clarke and Carly Douglas, Page 11

An independent arbiter could be called in to determine whether the Allan government needs to release a long-awaited report into the city's second drug-injecting room. The government has been sitting on a report from former top cop Ken Lay, which it received in late May last year. The purpose of the report, commissioned in 2020, was to identify a CBD location for a drug-injecting facility.

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NT on top in drug use spike

Northern Territory News, General News, 07/03/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 1

The latest national drug use survey has shown a more than five percentage point jump in recent drug use in the NT, the largest increase across the federation. The rising popularity of drug use was driven by marked increases in the popularity of two substances in particular, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2022-23: hallucinogens and cannabis.

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

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Rural GP: Drug support vital

North Queensland Register, General News, 07/03/2024, Alison Paterson, Page 6

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners has called on the federal government to help GPs and practice teams help more people with alcohol and drug abuse. The RACGP call to action followed the release of the National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2022-2023 which found 1 per cent of people drank alcohol in ways which risked their health, 47 pc of people had used an illicit drug and while cigarette smoking had declined from 11 pc to 8.3 pc the use of e-cigarettes and vapes nearly tripled from 2.

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Illicit drugs bought online often adulterated, study warns

Australian Financial Review, Other, 06/03/2024

More than one in three illicit drugs bought on the dark web were not what they said they were, according to an Australian study that reviewed more than 100 samples drug users bought online. While 21 per cent of the samples did not contain any of the adver...

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FOOD STANDARDS

Rats! Shopper's bad-taste discovery

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/03/2024, Page 21

Coles is facing questions about how a dead rat snuck its way into a can of homebrand beans. Adelaide Hills mother Lauren Whitburn told 7NEWS that she had bought the red kidney beans from Mount

Barker Coles on Saturday. When she opened the can and poured it through a strainer, she found what appeared to be the carcass of a dead rat.

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

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Artificially sweetened drinks linked to risk of irregular heartbeat, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 06/03/2024, Erum Salam

Consuming two liters of diet soda or other artificially sweetened drinks a day can increase the risk of a dangerous irregular heartbeat by 20% compared with people who drink none, according to a new study by researchers in China. The study, from Shanghai, found that people who drink such beverages are more susceptible to a condition known as atrial fibrillation.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#).

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AICIS

Dormant asbestos in 580 schools

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 07/03/2024, Kathryn Bermingham, Page 7

Asbestos is lying dormant in more than 580 government schools and preschools across South Australia, new data shows, as parliament considers a push to remove the deadly building material from classrooms within 10 years. Figures released to SA Best MLC Connie Bonaros under Freedom of Information revealed the names of the school and preschool sites on the asbestos register.

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

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