



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 3rd March 2024

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## LINKS

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [Sunday Age \(page 3\)](#) reports that the Australian Diabetes Society has called on the federal government to make continuous glucose monitoring devices available to both type 1 and type 2 diabetes patients in the NDIS scheme. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler is awaiting the report from the Standing Committee Inquiry into Diabetes.
- The [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(page 9\)](#) reports that the heart medicine Forxiga has been expanded in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme to include chronic heart failure of patients with a left ventricular ejection fraction greater than 40 per cent. Health Minister Mark Butler said that the listing would provide a more affordable cost.
- The [Sun Herald \(page 1\)](#) reports that skin cancer experts have criticised Brunae Body's advertisement of its skin tanning product and "accelerators" claiming they will increase melanoma rates, with the Therapeutics Goods Administration set to review the product.
- The [Sunday Tasmanian \(page 1\)](#) reports that the Tasmanian Liberal party has announced a \$275 million funding pledge for the Royal Hobart Hospital if the party is re-elected in the next state election.

- The [Sun Herald \(page 4\)](#) reports that the Queensland government has pledged \$42.3 million for public access to reproductive technologies such as IVF. Another \$10.2 million will fund a statewide fertility preservation service.
- The [ABC \(online\)](#) reports that the Therapeutic Goods Administration has approved the drug Ryeqo to treat symptoms of uterine fibroids in endometriosis. The Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee is set to announce whether the drug will join the PBS later this month.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Call to extend diabetes tech to those who have type 2

Sunday Age, General News, 03/03/2024, Mary Ward, Page 3

Clinicians are urging the federal government to widen eligibility for life-changing diabetes technology, warning the current model entrenches misconceptions that type 2 is a "lifestyle" disease. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the government was looking forward to the upcoming report from the Standing Committee Inquiry into Diabetes, where these groups made their case.

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

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### Huge savings on heart medication

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 03/03/2024, Page 9

Thousands of Australians suffering with chronic heart failure have been thrown a new lifeline, with a potentially lifesaving medication added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said listing the medication would give patients access to a new treatment at a more affordable cost.

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### Single picture reveals shocking extent of Australia's vaping habit: 'Putrid animals'

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 02/03/2024, David Southwell

A photo of a highway roadside littered with disposable vapes has sparked outrage with some labelling it an example of the 'worst of humanity'. [...] Last year federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced that single-use disposable vapes would be banned and that came into effect on January 1.

[Read More](#)

### Morphett Vale mother Kate Turner is fighting to access a lifesaving cancer drug Capivasertib and hopes to see another Christmas

Herald Sun, Other, 02/03/2024, George Yankovich

In 2019, Kate Turner discovered she and her two teenage children had a rare genetic condition that affects one in 200,000 people. With less than 12 months to live, she has only one option left, but it won't be easy. [...] However, on Wednesday February 21, Health Minister Mark Butler asked the company to change their decision, but there is still no indication how much it will cost.

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### 'Vape wall': Disturbing scene on busy Melbourne freeway

NEWS.com.au, Other, 02/03/2024, Brielle Burns

Aussies have reacted to a driver's "sickening" photo of a "vape wall" alongside a busy Melbourne freeway. The disturbing photo was shared to Reddit on Friday, showing dozens of discarded plastic vapes strewn across a roadside barrier on West Gate Freeway after being tossed out of car windows. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the changes protect Australians, particularly young people, from the harms of vaping and nicotine dependence.

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

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# Thousands of Aussies with chronic heart failure thrown major lifeline in medical shakeup, Health Minister Mark Butler announces

The Courier Mail, Other, 02/03/2024, Ellen Ransley

Thousands of Aussies living with a chronic health condition have been thrown a lifeline allowing them to get cheaper medication. Australian patients saved over \$250 million in 2023 due to the Albanese Labor government's cheaper medicine policies, says Health Minister Mark Butler.

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## MINISTER WELLS

### Huge jump in Queenslanders consenting to donate organs

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/03/2024, Jackie Sinnerton

Cairo Raif turned five this week but no birthday gift will ever beat the gift he was given from a complete stranger that has now given him "the perfect life". [...] Aged care 'spiralled into crisis' from lack of leadership: Anika Wells Eating disorders costing Australia \$67b per year Health Minister teams up with social media influencers to launch anti-...

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

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### Amy Gillett Foundation for cyclist safety to close after federal funds cut off

The Guardian, Other, 02/03/2024, Kieran Pender

The Australian cycling safety advocacy body behind the successful A Metre Matters campaign is being wound up after federal government funding was discontinued. [...] Brown and the sports minister, Anika Wells, were also approached for comment.

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### Huge jump in Queenslanders consenting to donate organs

The Mercury, Other, 03/03/2024, Jackie Sinnerton

Cairo Raif turned five this week but no birthday gift will ever beat the gift he was given from a complete stranger that has now given him "the perfect life". Cairo Raif turned five this week but no birthday gift will ever beat the gift of life he was given from a total stranger.

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## DEPARTMENT

### A new drug has been approved for endometriosis treatment in Australia. Here's what we know about it

ABC Online, Other, 02/03/2024, Widia Jalal

Australia's drug regulator has approved a new medication to treat endometriosis, aimed at people living with moderate to severe pain associated with the condition. [...] "Many of the medicines used to treat endometriosis were not approved specifically for endometriosis but are used as off-label for this purpose," a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care says.

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### South Yarra pharmacy tied to Essendon doping saga embroiled in new scandal after Ozempic dupe seizure

Sky News Australia, Other, 02/03/2024, Amy Roulston

A South Yarra pharmacy, previously linked to the Essendon AFL drug controversy, is now involved in another scandal after the TDA seized large quantities of a well-known weight loss drug, popularized by Hollywood celebrities. The national therapeutic goods regulator raided Como compounding Pharmacy in South Yarra on Thursday morning, where disgraced pharmacist Nima Alavi operated out of before he was found dead last year after he was hit with over 2000 criminal charges related to the illegal supply of prescription medication like oxycodone.

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## CORONAVIRUS

### Vax mandate likely to stay

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 03/03/2024, Alex White, Page 25

The state government is reviewing Covid vaccine mandates for frontline workers, but insiders say they are unlikely to be scrapped. The "routine review" comes after police and paramedics in Queensland successfully challenged their vaccination mandates. Victorian healthcare workers, firefighters and some other frontline workers must meet vaccine requirements to work.

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

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### More funds for fertility treatment

Sun Herald, General News, 03/03/2024, Page 4

More women suffering complex medical conditions like cancer will have access to cheaper reproductive care after Queensland became the latest state to announce public funding for fertility treatments. The Queensland government has pledged \$42.3 million, including \$32.1 million to fund

public access to assisted reproductive technologies like IVF, to help the one in six Australian couples experiencing fertility challenges plan a family.

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## Eggs-pensive business

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 03/03/2024, Sue Dunlevy, Page 27

IVF prices have soared by almost 20 per cent since 2022 and paying top dollar is no guarantee of success. Prices are now so high some couples who needed multiple high-cost IVF cycles may fork out \$200,000 to get babies. However, analysis of IVF costs around the nation shows some budget clinics charging just \$1000 in out-of-pocket fees per cycle are in the top 10 for delivering babies.

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

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## Labor pledges to make free health checks available to eligible Tasmanians if it wins government

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/03/2024, Rob Inglis

Free health checks would be made available to eligible Tasmanians under a Labor government, Opposition Leader Rebecca White has announced. In the latest addition to the party's health platform, Labor has committed to boosting resources at 23 community health centres across the state, employing 46 additional nurses to provide health checks at no cost. With a focus on managing chronic disease and promoting preventative health, Ms White said the initiative was sorely needed "at a time when many are financially constrained due to the cost of living crisis".

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

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## ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 01/03/2024, Lucy Breaden

Interview with Robert Taylor, Knowledge Manager, Alcohol and Drug Foundation. Breaden points out that according to a new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, less than 10% of Australians are smoking daily, however, the use of e-cigarettes has tripled in the last year and one in five or close to 20% of people aged 14 and over in Australia are reported to have used e-cigarettes. Taylor says tobacco use has been in decline since in the 90s and vaping has just recently seen an explosion in the last five or so years. He admits that vaping has become more prominent and popular among young people.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Christie reveals 'debilitating' pain

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 03/03/2024, Ally Foster, Page 25

Until her mid-20s, actor Christie Whelan Browne assumed the blinding pain she experienced every month was just something she had to endure. Her pain was constant but would become "debilitating" - excruciating cramps and shooting back and leg pain during her period.

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### Heart medicine cheaper

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 03/03/2024, Page 30

Thousands of Australians suffering with chronic heart failure have been thrown a new lifeline, with a potentially lifesaving medication added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. In a move praised by cardiologists, dapagliflozin sold by the brand name Forxiga and currently listed on the PBS to treat type 2 diabetes - will be expanded to treat chronic heart failure in patients with a left ventricular ejection fraction greater than 40 per cent.

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## \$18.6m boost to breast cancer

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 03/03/2024, Madeline Crittenden, Page 28

Tina Doran became one of the 57 Australians who are sadly diagnosed with breast cancer every day. In the days following her diagnosis, she worried about whether she would make it to her two sons' 21st birthdays or watch them walk down the aisle. She was worried about her treatment and how sick she may get.

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## Sniffing booze cuts cancer risk

Sunday Times, General News, 03/03/2024, Page 3

Sniffing beer and wine could reduce the risk of cancer. Boffins have discovered that diacetyl, a natural chemical discovered in the alcoholic drinks, works in a similar way when inhaled to drugs used to treat the disease. The chemical changed the DNA of human, mice and fly cells in a manner that could "delay neurodegeneration or memory deficits in diseases" without even touching them. Professor Anandasankar Ray of the University of California said they had only scratched the surface of the field and there was "limitless" scope for more discovery.

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## Heart drug offers hope

Sunday Times, General News, 03/03/2024, Ellen Ransley, Page 18

Thousands of Australians suffering chronic heart failure have been thrown a new lifeline, with a potentially lifesaving medication added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. In a move praised by cardiologists, dapagliflozin sold under the brand name Forxiga and currently listed on the PBS to treat type 2 diabetes will be expanded to treat chronic heart failure in patients with a left ventricular ejection fraction greater than 40 per cent.

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## Prostate test gets a bum rap

Sunday Times, General News, 03/03/2024, Page 24

GPs have been told to stop performing intimate examinations when checking for prostate cancer amid fears it puts men off coming forward. New guidelines published in the British Journal of General Practice say the test is not reliable and probably does more harm than good.

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## Ears a chance to make a difference

Sunday Territorian, General News, 03/03/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 4

A dozen NT Health audiologists are the thin line protecting kids from a damaging wave of hearing loss in regional and remote Northern Territory, a loss that would further marginalise a vulnerable community. Audiologist Laura Wade and health promotion team leader Sarah George spoke ahead of World Hearing Day, which falls on Sunday, and provided an insight as to the logistic nightmare that is servicing such a dispersed community.

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## Two million Australians live with rare diseases – this is what life is like for three

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/03/2024, Hannah Vanderheide

Living with a rare disease can be scary and at times deeply isolating. But for sufferers, it can also reveal the power of community and connection. Sometimes the people the rest of the world would consider pretty 'unlucky', are the ones who feel the most grateful to be here.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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## Publicly funded IVF on the way for Queensland women

The Border Mail, Other, 02/03/2024, Jacob Shteyman

More women and girls suffering complex medical conditions like cancer will have access to cheaper reproductive care after Queensland became the latest state to announce public funding for fertility treatments. The Queensland government has pledged \$42.3 million, including \$32.1 million to fund public access to assisted reproductive technologies like IVF, to help the one in six Australian couples experiencing fertility challenges plan a family.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## Queensland announces multi-million-dollar IVF investment to make assisted reproductive technologies more accessible

ABC Online, Other, 02/03/2024, Gemma Ferguson and Jay Bowman

The government has announced a \$42.3 million package to publicly fund fertility treatment for Queenslanders who have experienced serious illness. One in six Australian couples go through fertility challenges, but those who have undergone invasive treatments such as chemotherapy are at far higher risk of developing reproductive issues.

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## A GP guide to catheter ablation for atrial fibrillation

Australian Doctor, Other, 02/03/2024, Julia Zhou and Pierre Qian

This treatment is a well-established and increasingly utilised strategy for symptomatic atrial fibrillation. Need to know: AF is the most common arrhythmia encountered in clinical practice and a cause of significant potential morbidity and mortality. [...] Specifically, the European Society of Cardiology and National Heart Foundation of Australia recommend the strategies outlined in box 1 to reduce progression and recurrence of atrial fibrillation (AF).

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Hospital's food 'unfit for my dog'

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 03/03/2024, Isabel McMillan, Page 6

When Amanda Borchardt was admitted to the Flinders Medical Centre ED with a spinal injury, she didn't expect a five-star meal. She did, however, expect to be served edible, nutritious food while she received treatment. That isn't what happened, and, after complaining to the hospital's complaint board with very little action taken, she wants people to see what patients are being served.

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### Emergency patients gridlocked in hospital car parks

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 03/03/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 7

More than 82,000 hours have been lost to ramping since Labor was elected less than two years ago, new data shows, as ambulances with emergency patients spent 3757 hours stuck in hospital car parks last month. While this was 203 fewer hours than January, it was the sixth worst month on record and more than double the 1522 hours lost in February 2022, the month before the last state election where "fixing" ramping was Labor's core election promise.

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### 'Hospital' in payback row

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 03/03/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 11

SA government is seeking \$1.1m from the board of an infirmary that closed in 2023. The state government is trying to claw back almost \$1.1m it advanced to a community hospital which subsequently closed. The debt is owed by McLaren Vale and Districts War Memorial Hospital which shut suddenly last year.

## Libs pledge \$275m lift to hospital

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 03/03/2024, Sue Bailey, Page 1

The Royal Hobart Hospital is set for a massive funding boost with \$88m for more doctors and nurses in the emergency department and \$187m for capital upgrades if the Liberals are re-elected. Premier Jeremy Rockliff said the RHH was "the cornerstone of our entire statewide health system" and more staff and upgrades would ensure Tasmanians across the state had timely access to emergency health treatment. "Since 2014, we've delivered an additional 298 hospital beds and employed an extra 2500 health professionals including 1390 nurses - but there's more work to do and our health system still needs to be better," he said.

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## More ambos on Labor list

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 03/03/2024, Judy Augustine, Page 6

More paramedics would be hired to ease the burden on "overworked" crews, under Labor's new ambulance plan. Labor leader Rebecca White was in Deloraine on Saturday to unveil the party's latest election promise, which included hiring 88 paramedics by 2025. Health and Community Services Union industrial manager Lucas Digney said additional paramedics would be beneficial.

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## Centre's emphasis on best possible recovery

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 03/03/2024, Sue Bailey, Page 9

More than 1000 Tasmanians have been treated in the past year at a new centre at the Royal Hobart Hospital, many injured in falls and 300 classified as "major traumas". Trauma service director Adam Mahoney said the new centre specialised in looking after people who "have multiple or complex injuries".

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## Emergency funds

Sunday Examiner, General News, 03/03/2024, Page 1

Both major parties have rolled out big-money health announcements as the state election countdown ticks into the final three weeks. The Liberals have promised to spend \$53 million to double the size of the LGH emergency department, while Labor pledged to hire 188 new paramedics as part of a \$45 million policy.

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## Dying while waiting for help 'a tragedy'

Sunday Examiner, General News, 03/03/2024, Isabel Bird, Page 3

Dying while waiting to see a medical specialist in the public health system in Tasmania is a very real possibility when the wait times stretch into years, say professionals working in the sector. Between 20 and 35 people in Northern Tasmania die every month while waiting for an outpatient service, while in the North-West that figure sits between 12 and 28. Particular concerns about colonoscopy and gastroscopy delays exist.

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## February ramping hits 3757 hours, sixth worst month on record

The Courier Mail, Other, 02/03/2024, Brad Crouch

Ramping continues to haunt the state government as it opens new hospital beds, hitting 3757 hours in February almost two years after the election where fixing it was Labor's core promise. Taxis are being used to transport those in need of medical attention in South Australia to tackle ambulance response times.

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

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## NT hospitals: Only 50 per cent of ED presentations seen within clinically recommended time frame

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 02/03/2024, Alex Treacy

Just half of patients who present to public hospital emergency departments in the Northern Territory are seen within clinically recommended time frames. The damning statistics are included within the Productivity Commission's recently released Report on Government Services 2024, which has shown an 18 percentage point decline in the Territory's performance between 2019–20 and 2022–23, down from a high of 68 per cent.

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

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## The acceleration of social prescribing in Australia

ABC Online, Other, 02/03/2024

With rising levels of chronic illness, social isolation and mental illness, some medical practitioners are rethinking their approaches to treating patients. Doctors are increasingly looking at the underlying causes driving illness and linking people's lifestyles to their health outcomes in a more holistic manner.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### 'I needed help': Crichton breaks silence on mental health crisis

Sun Herald, Sport, 03/03/2024, Michael Chammas, Page 40

Angus Crichton could hear the sirens blaring. Fighting as he was being strapped to an ambulance bed. "The police had just Tasered me," he said. "They strapped me to this stretcher and Tasered me. Imagine if you had a bunch of policemen and paramedics trying to strap you to a bed for what you thought was no reason. You'd be like, 'What the hell is going on'.

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### Poorer mental health weighs on LGBTQI people: analysis

West Australian, Other, 02/03/2024, Esther Linder

Queer and gender-diverse people are suffering from rates of mental ill health far greater than their heterosexual counterparts. Three quarters of LGBTQI Australians have experienced a mental disorder or illness at some point in their life, an Australian Bureau of Statistics analysis of 2020 census data shows.

Also reported by: [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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### 'He checks in on me more than my friends and family': can AI therapists do better than the real thing?

The Guardian, Other, 03/03/2024, Alice Robb

It's cheap, quick and available 24/7, but is a chatbot therapist really the right tool to tackle complex emotional needs? Last autumn, Christa, a 32-year-old from Florida with a warm voice and a slight southern twang, was floundering.

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### 'It feels like we've been lobotomised': the possible sexual consequences of SSRIs

The Guardian, Other, 02/03/2024, David Cox

Long-term sexual dysfunction is a recognised side-effect for some patients who take these widely prescribed antidepressants, and can leave sufferers devastated. So why is there so little help available? During Melbourne's strict lockdown of 2020, Rosie Tilli, a then 20-year-old nurse living and working in the city, began to experience growing anxiety and depression.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Doctors set for a wages windfall

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 03/03/2024, Laura Placella, Page 18

Thousands of young Victorian doctors could soon claim millions of dollars in unpaid wages after Peninsula Health abandoned its appeal of a landmark wage-theft case. The change of heart by the health service has paved the way for more than 25,000 junior doctors to potentially be awarded up to \$250m.

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

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### Plan to catch chronic illness early

Sunday Examiner, General News, 03/03/2024, Matt Maloney, Page 4

Tasmanians will have better access to free general health checks if Labor can establish its plan to expand nursing resources at 23 community health centres across the state. The party plan to employ 46 additional community health nurses who will be able to: give Tasmanians aged 40 to 75 years old free checks on precursors to chronic illness; give teenagers a mental health and healthy lifestyle check for free; and give pre-schools a free check that focuses on behaviour and any risk of learning disability.

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### Labor promises ambo hiring spree, station upgrades

Sunday Examiner, General News, 03/03/2024, Joe Colbrook, Page 5

Labor has committed to implementing the full suite of recommendations from an independent review of Ambulance Tasmania. The policy would result in a mass hiring of paramedics - 88 permanent staff recruited by 2025 and 168 by 2032 - and a \$45 million commitment to upgrade ambulance stations statewide.

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### Angry nurses rally at Gold Coast University Hospital, demand jobs back

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/03/2024, Greg Stolz

Nurses have marched on a major South East Queensland hospital demanding their jobs back after findings into the state's vaccine mandate during the pandemic. Angry nurses sacked for refusing the Covid-19 vaccine have marched on a major South East Queensland hospital demanding their jobs back.

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

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

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## SPORT

### Arts, sport axing

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

The arts and grassroots sporting groups face major funding cuts in what is being forecast to be a second consecutive horror state budget. As the government struggles to rein in spiralling debt latest estimates suggest gross debt will hit almost \$250bn by 2027 the Sunday Herald Sun can reveal that widescale funding T cuts are being mooted that would critically affect arts and sporting groups. Government agencies could also bear the brunt of the "slash and burn" budget, while departments have been warned "there is no money in the cupboard".

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### Bold and the beautiful

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 03/03/2024, Hayden Johnson, Page 16

Victoria Park could be transformed into a world-class sporting, events and knowledge precinct for a similar price as the current plan to demolish and rebuild the Gabba and build Brisbane Arena over the Roma Street railway. Incredible new images have been revealed, showcasing exactly how the sprawling parklands would be connected above the Inner City Bypass to create a massive 90ha sporting and events venue precinct with a 70,000-seat stadium and Brisbane indoor arena.

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### Sharron Davies calls for IOC to back up words with action after fresh hope of receiving Olympic gold she was robbed of thanks to drug cheat 44 years ago

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 03/03/2024, David Coverdale

Sharron Davies has called for Thomas Bach to back up his words with action after being given fresh hope of finally receiving the Olympic gold medal she was robbed of in 1980. Mail Sport launched a campaign last year for Davies to be retrospectively awarded the gold she missed out on in Moscow ,

when she was beaten in the 400metres individual medley by East German Petra Schneider, who has since admitted her victory was achieved through state-sponsored doping

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### 'I found refuge in boxing': an Indigenous Australian woman making history at the Olympics

SBS, Other, 02/03/2024

Marissa Williamson-Polhman will become the first Indigenous female boxer to represent Australia at the Olympics. But having experienced bouts of homelessness from the age of 13, Marissa is using her meteoric rise to help others think more critically about First Nations kids in out of home care – and help others in a similar situation find hope.

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## OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### Dr Michael Clements urges MenB vax: 'When it hits, it hits hard'

The Courier Mail, Other, 02/03/2024, Blair Jackson

With a lifesaving vaccine now costing nothing, a leading Townsville doctor is urging all those eligible to get vaccinated, especially young children. A leading Townsville doctor is urging parents to get their kids vaccinated for meningococcal B. While it is not easy to catch meningococcal, the two main forms of the disease infect the lining around the brain and spinal cord with bacteria, and invade the bloodstream causing blood poisoning.

*Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#).*

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Alarm over 'dangerous' suntan oil ads

Sun Herald, General News, 03/03/2024, Aisha Dow and Georgia Westgarth, Page 1

Suntanning oils are being pushed on the young with shaky scientific claims and "reckless" social media advertisements promoting excessive UV exposure, experts say. [...] Following inquiries by The SunHerald, the Therapeutic Goods Administration said it would review the products to see if they presented as therapeutic goods, and if it had powers to take action.

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

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Celebrity weight loss drug Ozempic is among items that have been seized by the Therapeutic Goods Administration from a Melbourne pharmacy. Como Compounding Pharmacy in Melbourne's South Yarra was raided by the medicines regulator on Thursday.

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