



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 10th May 2024

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Age** (page 1) reports health authorities understood the impact of electromagnetic interference from underground trains on a planned health facility in North Melbourne but failed to cost resolution efforts, Victorian health department documents have shown.
- The **Canberra Times** (page 1) reports the Australian Institute of Sport will receive a \$250 million upgrade to help athletes better prepare ahead of the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games, the government will announce on Friday.
- The **Daily Telegraph** (page 1) reports leaders from the health and transport sectors are calling for police powers to test drivers for opioids be expanded to include prescription medication after they were found to have contributed to a fatal bus crash in the Hunter Valley last year.
- The **Northern Territory News** (page 1) reports the federal government will invest \$24.6 million to establish a medical school at Charles Darwin University, with Mark Butler and Malarndirri McCarthy saying the new faculty will boost the number of local and Indigenous healthcare workers in the Northern Territory.
- **The Australian** (page 6) reports medications vital to the treatment of two heart conditions will be added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, Health Minister Mark Butler has announced, benefitting almost 5,00 Australians. *Also reported by: [9News](#)*

- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 8) reports a GP clinic at Northern Beaches Private Hospital has been closed 18 days so far this year due to a shortage of available doctors, owner Healthscope says.
- The [Canberra Times](#) (page 9) reports longer doctors' appointments to treat specialist gynaecological conditions, including endometriosis, will be added to the Medicare Benefits Scheme, Health Minister Mark Butler has announced. *Also reported by:* [Canberra Times](#), [Herald Sun](#), [News.com.au](#)
- [The Mandarin](#) (online) reports Australia's healthcare system could save \$6.5 billion annually if it better integrated digital networks, technologies and automation, a new Productivity Commission report has found.

MINISTER BUTLER

PBS listing for \$122k drug

The Australian, General News, 10/05/2024, Jessica Wang, Page 6

Australians with two different heart conditions will be able to access new medications on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), saving patients up to \$122,000 a year. From this month, mavacamten, also known as Camzyos, and tafamidis, which is sold under the brand name Vyndamax, will cost eligible patients a maximum of \$31.60 per script, or \$7.70 for concession card holders. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said affordable and ready access to the drugs would ensure quick treatment.

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

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Extra funding for specialist care

Canberra Times, General News, 10/05/2024, Steve Evans, Page 9

The government has promised extra funding for the treatment of complex gynaecological conditions. The Health Minister was to announce that women would have access to longer specialist consultations covered by Medicare. [...] "Women are suffering unnecessarily," Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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

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

Huge cash boost in 'endo' fight

Herald Sun, General News, 10/05/2024, Jade Gailberger, Page 7

Women suffering from endometriosis and chronic pelvic pain will have access to longer specialist appointments under a \$49.1m federal government investment in Medicare. The funding, which will be included in Tuesday's federal budget, aims to reduce out-of-pocket costs and waiting times. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the government had heard the call from women across the country and was strengthening Medicare so that it served the needs of women living with this debilitating disease.

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

NT medical marvel

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/05/2024, Camden Smith, Page 1

The Northern Territory has had a significant win in next week's federal budget with \$24.6m allocated to establishing a medical school at Charles Darwin University from 2026. [...] His federal Territory colleagues agreed, with Indigenous Health assistant minister Malarndirri McCarthy saying it will boost the Aboriginal health workforce.

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Able is no longer

Beauresert Times, General News, 09/05/2024, Lorraine Sathicq, Page 1

There was a public outcry online when Able Australia officially announced on 2 May that it would be ceasing its aged care services from September 30. [...] "We will absolutely be making representation to

the Federal Minister Mark Butler to give consideration in the upcoming budget for funding," he said.

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United for vaping

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 09/05/2024, Page 1

Australia's leading health organisations have united in a strategic alliance to support the Federal Government's vaping reforms. [...] Announcing the alliance, Health Minister Mark Butler emphasised the importance of protecting younger generations from nicotine addiction, saying, "the fight against youth vaping steps up every day, and pharmacists, who are very much on the frontline, have a key role in dispensing therapeutic vapes where clinically appropriate".

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

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Longer consultations for women with endometriosis

Canberra Times, Other, 10/05/2024, Andrew Brown

Women dealing with endometriosis will soon gain access to longer subsidised specialist appointments under Medicare in attempts for patients to receive a quicker diagnosis and treatment. The federal government will set aside \$49.1 million in Tuesday's budget to allow for women to access longer specialist consultations and increased rebates for gynaecological care. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the subsidised longer appointments would aim to allow more women to receive a quicker diagnosis.

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\$3.8 million to help Northern Rivers community heal after 2022 floods

The Northern Rivers Times, Other, 09/05/2024

Researchers at Southern Cross University have been awarded more than \$3.8 million to help Northern Rivers locals affected by the devastating 2022 floods. In a world-first approach, the researchers will implement a stepped care model to support over 200 people left with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) after the floods. [...] Quotes attributable to Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler MP: "Supporting the mental health of Australians is a key priority for the Albanese Government.

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Federal government announces \$49.1 million investment for endometriosis sufferers

NEWS.com.au, Other, 09/05/2024, Lexie Cartwright

Australian women will receive better access to help for the debilitating impacts of endometriosis with the Federal Government announcing a massive overhaul of the health system. On Friday the Albanese government will announce \$49.1 million investment into tackling the disease, which affects more than a million people nationally. [...] "I was deeply moved by the women who spoke about their experience with endometriosis during the About Bloody Time campaign," Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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Cost of two lifesaving heart disease treatments slashed by government

9News, Other, 09/05/2024, Josh Hohne

The costs of the two lifesaving heart medicines have been slashed after they were added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). Previously treatment for the two kinds of heart disorder cardiomyopathy, which together affect around 4800 Australians, could cost patients up to \$122,000. [...] "It's vitally important that Australians have ready and affordable access to the latest treatments," Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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'A nightmare': Doctors react after govt promises patients immediate access to test results

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/05/2024, Rachel Carter

The Federal Government will scrap the seven-day delay on patient access to pathology and imaging

results in My Health Record. "A patient with a large uterine fibroid read and misunderstood the radiologist's report. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler has called the current seven-day delay on patient access a "barrier to good clinical practice" that causes "untold frustration".

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Mark Butler highlights listing of medicines for serious heart conditions

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 10/05/2024

"It's part of the Albanese Government's commitment to keep medicines cheaper for Australians," said Health Minister Mark Butler.

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Federal Budget 2024/25: Health Budget overview with Minister for Health, the Hon Mark Butler MP

Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF), Other, 09/05/2024

What do the key budget measures delivered in the health portfolio mean for you? Join our special guest the Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care, as he takes us through the health budget measures for the next financial year.

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Vape laws normalising interactions with criminals

Convenience & Impulse Retailing, Other, 09/05/2024, Thomas Oakley-Newell

New research shows overwhelming support for regulating the sale of vaping products in the same way as tobacco is sold by licensed retailers. Research by RedBridge Group, commissioned by the Australian Association of Convenience Stores (AACS), shows that 82 per cent of those surveyed support the regulation and sale of vapes, while 70 per cent believe Australia's weak vaping laws are normalising interactions between young Australians and criminals. Theo Foukkare, CEO of AACS, said Health Minister Mark Butler is solely to blame for Australia's youth vaping crisis and the rampant black market.

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Two lifesaving heart medicines added to the PBS

OverSixty, Other, 09/05/2024, Rizna Mutmainah

Two lifesaving heart medicines have been added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). Previous treatments for the two kinds of heart disorder cardiomyopathy, which affect around 4800 Australians, previously cost patients up to \$122,000. [...] "A kick in the teeth": Father of Hunter Valley crash victim shares his anger "It's vitally important that Australians have ready and affordable access to the latest treatments," Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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Channel 7, Sunrise 5AM News, 09/05/2024, Edwina Bartholomew

Tens of thousands of Australians who've suffered from a potentially fatal genetic heart condition now have access to a breakthrough treatment called Camzyos with the drug being labelled as a game-changer and the Federal Government has agreed to subsidise the cost. Health Minister Mark Butler says this new [PBS] listing will cover about 3600 Australian patients every single year, providing them with hope and relief that they simply couldn't have before.

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Hope 103.2, 17:00 News, 08/05/2024

The Federal Government says it's not surprised the AstraZeneca Covid vaccine has been withdrawn worldwide amid a drop in demand. AstraZeneca has admitted its vaccine can cause fatal blood clots and low platelet counts in very rare cases. Health Minister Mark Butler says it's been discontinued in Australia since April last year.

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Around 4800 Australians are set to benefit from two life-saving heart medicines being added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Treatment for two kinds of prevalent heart disorders could normally cost patients up to \$122,000. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says it's part of the Albanese government's commitment to keep medicines cheaper for Australians.

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MINISTER WELLS

Mega boost for AIS in \$250m deal

Canberra Times, General News, 10/05/2024, Chris Dutton and Dana Daniel, Page 1

The Australian Institute of Sport will receive a \$250 million injection in the federal budget in a bid to restore it to an Olympic gold medal factory after decades of government neglect. [...] Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells said athletes needed eight years to prepare to compete on the world stage, and AIS improvements were aimed at success in Brisbane.

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

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

Funding boost for Whyalla aged care

agedhealth.com.au, Other, 09/05/2024

Helping Hand will significantly upgrade and expand its residential care homes in Whyalla, following further federal government funding. The funding means that more Whyalla residents will have access to quality care locally and be able to spend their final years close to their family and community. [...] The Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said the government was committed to supporting aged care services in regional Australia.

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Upgrades help keep residents local, says CEO

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 09/05/2024

Helping Hand has received over \$17 million in federal funding to improve and expand its aged care homes in Whyalla. South Australian provider Helping Hand has secured over \$17 million in federal funding to improve and expand its aged care homes in Whyalla. [...] And older people also want to stay in their own communities, said Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells.

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Helping Hand to Strengthen Whyalla Aged Care with funding boost

Fifty+SA, Other, 09/05/2024

The Albanese Government's continued investment in aged care will enable Helping Hand to significantly upgrade and expand its Residential Care homes in Whyalla, providing more quality care for local residents. · Helping Hand Chief Executive Officer Chris Stewart praised the Albanese Government for their \$17. [...] The Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said the government was committed to supporting aged care services in regional Australia.

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Whyalla aged care receives big funding boost May 09, 2024 , updated May 09, 2024

In Daily, Other, 09/05/2024

Aged care homes in Whyalla have received over \$17 million in funding from the federal government for upgrades and expansions. Two residential care facilities in Whyalla have received \$17 million in funding. [...] Federal aged care minister Anika Wells said the funding was aimed at supporting "building and upgrading aged care services for First Nations, regional, rural and remote communities".

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Disappointment confirmed: Taskforce recommendations excluded from next Tuesday's Budget

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Chris Baynes

The concerns on the silence on the recommendations from the Aged Care Minister Anika Wells' Aged Care Taskforce, which has been with the Government since December last year, has been confirmed today by an informed article in The Australian, "Aged-care reforms placed on the budget backburner"

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Aged care sector over 5,000 RNs short for tougher mandatory care minutes in October

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

The aged care workforce, as indicated by the number of Service Managers, Registered Nurses (RNs), Nurse Practitioners (NPs), Enrolled Nurses (ENs), and Personal Care Workers measured by the Quality Indicator Program (QI Program), increased by 896 workers in the three months to 31 December 2023 to 170,076, an increase of less than 1%. [...] The residential aged care sector was achieving care minutes of 193.99 per resident per day as of 1 October 2023, the day that 200 direct care minutes became mandatory, the Minister for Aged Care and Sport Anika Wells said in a statement.

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ABC Radio Canberra, Early AM, 09/05/2024, Sabra Lane

Many older Australians say that living independently at home without going into residential care is really important, however, older people are facing delays in accessing Federal Government-funded support because service providers say they are underfunded and understaffed. The Commonwealth Home Support programme also known as CHSP, helps keep more than 800,000 older people living at home through cleaning and gardening help and home modifications like handrails. Aged Care Minister Anika Wells declined an interview, but a spokesperson for her says further funding will be a decision for the budget next week.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Coasties benefit from bulk billing incentive

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 09/05/2024, Page 28

The Central Coast has seen some of the largest increases in bulk billing across Australia since the Federal Government tripled the bulk billing incentive, says Member for Dobell Emma McBride. McBride said the initiative, a key part of the Government's \$6.1B Strengthening Medicare, was the largest investment in bulk billing in Medicare's 40year history.

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Federal Government supports aged care workers

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 09/05/2024, Page 29

Federal Member for Dobell Emma McBride has praised her government's record on its unprecedented support for aged care workers. McBride, who is Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health and Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, said since coming to office the Albanese Government had shown it valued aged care workers.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Federal government announces \$49.1 million investment for endometriosis sufferers

NEWS.com.au, Other, 09/05/2024, Lexie Cartwright

Australian women will receive better access to help for the debilitating impacts of endometriosis with the Federal Government announcing a massive overhaul of the health system. On Friday the Albanese government will announce \$49.1 million investment into tackling the disease, which affects more than a million people nationally. [...] "I was deeply moved by the women who spoke about their experience with endometriosis during the About Bloody Time campaign," Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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Budget 2024: initiatives aimed at easing health workforce pressures

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

In the lead up to the Federal Budget, the Labor Government has unveiled four initiatives aimed at alleviating some of the pressures on the healthcare workforce, which will flow through to benefits for aged care, where the sector needs an estimated 5,000 Registered Nurses (RNs) by 1 October 2024 to meet increased mandated care minute targets. [...] This program will go a long way to ensuring Australians can get the best quality care regardless of where they live," said Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney MP Program to address Nurse Burnout A recent survey show seven out of 10 frontline health workers had symptoms of severe or moderate burnout, and the Commonwealth Government is investing \$25.2 million in the Nurse and Midwife Health Program Australia .

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

NT medical marvel

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/05/2024, Camden Smith, Page 1

The Northern Territory has had a significant win in next week's federal budget with \$24.6m allocated to establishing a medical school at Charles Darwin University from 2026. [...] His federal Territory colleagues agreed, with Indigenous Health assistant minister Malarndirri McCarthy saying it will boost the Aboriginal health workforce.

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Finding a way to bring Ailan doctors home

Torres News, General News, 09/05/2024, Darren Moncrieff, Page 5

Northern Territory Senator and Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians Malarndirri McCarthy (pictured left) has supported the idea of Torres Strait Islander doctors returning home to practise as GPs or within the broader hospital-health system.

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DEPARTMENT

Public service rich-list

Daily Telegraph, General News, 10/05/2024, Ben Butler, Page 27

The pay packets and perks of Commonwealth public service bosses should be reviewed, experts say, as concerns are raised about the staggering cost of the sector. The calls come as the combination of possible perceived political pressure, big pay packets and the prospect of lucrative contracting work after leaving the taxpayer's employ raise questions about the nature of work done at the top end of the service, despite a vow by the Albanese government to end "jobs for mates" and crack down on perks.

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

CORONAVIRUS

Dan Andrews is slammed by Greg Hunt

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 09/05/2024, Brett Lackey

Australia's former health minister has slammed state and territory leaders who implemented their own rules during Covid outside of national cabinet agreements. Greg Hunt, in a submission to the government's inquiry into the Covid-19 response, has called for a new national code that would require premiers and chief ministers to publish the medical advice they are acting on when making public health mandates.

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Victoria's long Covid a bonanza for SA economy

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/05/2024, David Penberthy, Page 13

In politics, as in life, all things are relative. It is a matter of debate whether the Malinauskas government has been a good government for South Australia. Less debatable is whether it is a vastly superior government to the one running Victoria, or rather running Victoria into the ground, as that poor state struggles to emerge from the budgetary aftermath of its unparalleled Covid lockdown.

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Peers' CHO of support

Courier Mail, General News, 10/05/2024, Jackie Sinnerton and Hayden Johnson, Page 23

The unprecedented call for the sacking of the state's chief health officer over the handling of the pandemic from a collection of scientists and clinicians has garnered anger from an opposing group of respected boffins. Australians For Science and Freedom, whose members include doctors, lawyers and academics, has written to Premier Steven Miles calling the attack on John Gerrard a witch-hunt, saying the CHO had been a consistent voice of reason in a "sea of confusion" and had guided Queensland safely through a difficult period in the Covid-19 era.

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

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Aussie doctor speaks out on AstraZeneca vaccine after it was pulled worldwide after safety admission

7news.com.au, Other, 09/05/2024, Caleb Taylor

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners President Nicola Higgins has told Australians who have had the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine they have no reason for alarm. The vaccine — called Vaxzevria and developed in partnership with the University of Oxford — was one of the most common COVID-19 vaccines used worldwide, with more than three billion doses supplied since 2021.

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

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Channel 7, Sunrise, 09/05/2024, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview with Dr Nicole Higgins, President, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. Barr says a major COVID vaccine is being withdrawn from the global market after its makers admitted it can lead to a very serious side effect. She says about 13 million doses of the AstraZeneca jab were administered in this country, but the company has now officially withdrawn it from all markets. Higgins says the vaccine has now been superseded in the country and what they have in the country are the ones that are targeting the new variants of COVID.

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Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 09/05/2024, Tom Connell

Interview with Professor Collignon, Infectious Diseases Expert and Microbiologist. Connell pharmaceutical manufacturer AstraZeneca is beginning a global withdrawal of its COVID-19 vaccine. Collignon admits that the announcement is rather expected as AstraZeneca was associated with a rare lethal side effect that kills people due to blood clotting. He states that the chances of people getting those blood clots are one in 100,000 people on average.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 09/05/2024, Ryk Goddard

Goddard is joined by Penny McLeod, ABC Radio Hobart, about AstraZeneca COVID vaccine being banned in the UK due to possible blood clotting. McLeod admits that it's rather fascinating that the vaccine was quite important at the start of the pandemic and is now being banned. She states that the vaccine has now been withdrawn globally due to its adverse effects. McLeod says the TGA in Australia actually discontinued its use in April.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

At home help for older australians

ABC Online, Other, 09/05/2024, Evelyn Manfield

Being able to live independently at home is something incredibly important to many older Australians. But some people who've been approved for government-funded help to keep them living at home have been left waiting months because service providers are too underfunded and understaffed.

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New report reveals older adults feel neglected and unheard – opinion

Aged Care Insite, Other, 09/05/2024, Julianne Parkinson

Australia, like many countries, is experiencing population ageing, with the number of individuals aged 65 years and over projected to increase from 3.7 million in 2016 to more than 10 million by 2066. In response to this demographic shift, we at the Global Centre for Modern Ageing (GCMA) have released a new report : Empowering Older Australians with Better Product Usability.

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Peak body calls for more support for older Aussies ahead of federal budget

Aged Care Insite, Other, 09/05/2024, Arshmah Jamal

Two peak bodies for older Aussies are calling on the Victorian government to fund programs for the ageing population as the federal budget looms closer. The Council on the Ageing Victoria (COTAVIC) and Seniors Rights Victoria (SRV) have welcomed the recent announcement of an extra \$31.

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SA Police Association launches new home care business

Aged Care Insite, Other, 09/05/2024, Arshmah Jamal

South Australia's Police Association has launched a new home care business to provide aged care services to the community. Lifestyle Plus Group has partnered with police and launched Police HomeCare Services , which will provide care services such as domestic support, personal care, community access, behavioural support, and allied health services.

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

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New psychotropic standard launched

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 09/05/2024, Natasha Egan

The clinical care standard includes eight quality statements describing safe and appropriate care and a

set of indicators to support monitoring and quality improvement. The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has published a national medicines standard that aims to curb the inappropriate use of psychotropic medicines among people with dementia and other cognitive impairments or disability.

Also reported by: [Australian Seniors News \(Online\)](#), [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#), [Retail Pharmacy \(Online\)](#),

[Read More](#)

Back to nature: Innovative nature-based respite project launches for people with dementia

HelloCare, Other, 09/05/2024, Alex Jacobs

GreenConnect Dementia Respite – a new program in the Loddon-Mallee region that uses the power of nature to help people with dementia – officially launched in Bendigo in April with the aim of providing innovative respite outside of aged care facilities and addressing the urgent need for better support plans for fatigued carers.

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Improving the quality of care for older Australians in hospital

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 09/05/2024

Flinders University researchers are focusing on quality improvement for older people within the healthcare system. Led by Matthew Flinders Professor Julie Ratcliffe, Professor of Health Economics at Flinders' Caring Futures Institute, the project will create tools to measure the quality of care that older people receive in clinical settings, including hospitals.

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

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Regis Aged Care sees rolled gold with four new developments with 433 beds

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

Regis Aged Care provided a third-quarter update at the Macquarie Australia Conference, held in Sydney on Wednesday, highlighting its strategy to grow earnings by expanding its residential aged care footwork through both acquisition and greenfield developments to meet the demands of the ageing population.

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Aged care social impact investor For Purpose Investment Partners buys a second meal service

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

For Purpose Investment Partners (FPIP), the Australian social impact investment fund manager which last month bought 14 aged care homes from private operator Signature Care, has purchased national meal delivery business Tender Loving Cuisine (TLC) through its disability services company, FP Ability Pty Ltd (FP Ability).

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Opinion: can aged care compete for cash in next Tuesday's Budget?

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Lauren Broomham

With other sectors all vying for taxpayer dollars, will the aged care sector be able to come out on top when Treasurer Jim Chalmers takes to the floor of Parliament next week? This week has seen a number of significant Budget commitments ahead of next week's main show.

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Community Industry Group awarded \$300K to try to solve Illawarra hospital to aged care placement delays

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

A regional collaboration led by Community Industry Group (CI Group) to research and implement a volunteer coordinator program to assist older hospital patients transition to residential aged care when

they are ready to be discharged will be trailed in the NSW Illawarra region.

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Home care provider Your Side appoints four new directors

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

Sydney-based Not For Profit provider of home support services for older people, Your Side, has made new boardroom appointments after several long-standing directors retired and in the context of the changing regulatory environment. "We are elevating our oversight and governance of clinical care, quality, customer engagement, and technology with the appointments of these four professionals," Your Side said in a statement.

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Attention all providers: 200 graduates nurses looking for work in aged care

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

Aged and Community Care Providers Association (ACCPA), the peak body for aged care providers, is seeking aged care and home care providers to partner with to help 200 nurses build their careers through the Nursing Transition to Practice Program. The program has been designed by ACCPA to make it easy for providers to find new nurse talent and to support nurses to enter and build their careers in aged care.

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Clayton Church Homes opens \$28M luxury Adelaide aged care home Summerhill

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

Clayton Church Homes' (CCH) \$28 million luxury Summerhill development was officially opened last month. South Australia's new Minister for Seniors and Ageing Well The Honourable Nat Cook MP and First Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health and Aged Care Trish Garrett jointly opened the boutique site in the Adelaide Hills town of Uraidla, with 120 people in attendance.

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Why pets are so important in aged care

Your Life Choices, Other, 10/05/2024, Brad Lockyer

Most of us can attest to the positive influence pets can have on our lives. The physical and mental benefits of having an animal friend are hard to ignore. But what happens when we get older, and can no longer care for ourselves or our pets? That's where Companion Animal Network Australia (CANA) comes in. An advocacy group specifically for pets (as opposed to wild or farm animals), CANA exists to fill the lobbying gap on behalf of pets and their owners.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 09/05/2024, Guy Stayner and Alexandra Alvaro

The Federal Government programme that's designed to keep older Australians living at home is failing to keep up with demand. The Department of Health and Aged Care says the time between a person being recommended a service and accessing one is highly variable, depending on the type of service and location, but those with urgent needs are prioritised in the coming months

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ABC News, ABC News Day, 09/05/2024, Ros Childs

A Federal Government programme designed to assist in keeping older Australians living at home is failing to keep up with demand, as people have to wait months to get the assistance that they need such as help with cleaning or gardening. The Commonwealth Home Support Programme or CHSP offers support like cleaning, gardening and home modifications to keep more than 800,000 older people living at home. The Department of Health and Aged Care says the time between a person being recommended a service and accessing one is highly variable, depending on the type of service and location, but those with urgent needs are prioritised in the coming months.

4BC, Afternoons, 09/05/2024, Sofie Formica

Formica says major aged care reforms proposed by the Federal Government taskforce are going to be delayed again beyond next week's budget. She states that the original plan involves more financial support for aged care in the regions, a boost to accommodation, and support for older Australians who are doing it tough. Formica says Aged Care Minister Anika Wells is now charged with negotiating the response.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Afternoons, 09/05/2024, Katherine Feeney

Pre-recorded interview with Chris Grice, CEO, National Seniors Australia. Feeney says the Commonwealth Home Support programme is designed to help older Australians live independently in their homes, but a lack of funding and resources has left many seniors waiting months for help. She states that the Department of Health and Aged Care is prioritising people requiring urgent services, but thousands of Queenslanders are still waiting for basic in-home care services. Grice points out that they do not want older people to actually do risky things at-home which actually perpetuate the issue since its the whole purpose of the programme.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 09/05/2024, Loretta Ryan and Craig Zonca

Older Australians say they're facing lengthy delays trying to access help through the Commonwealth Home Support Programme which offers assistance such as cleaning and gardening and home modifications. Applicants say they've waited months to get the help that they've been approved for, and others have been told they can't even join waiting lists because providers don't have enough funding. Craig Gear, CEO, Older Persons Advocacy Network, says the help is vital.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Anger is bad for you, so chill out

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 10/05/2024, Sabrina Malhi, Page 33

The phrase "anger kills" might have a more literal meaning: new research suggests a possible reason frequent anger has been linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, an estimated 17 per cent of Australians have experienced an anxiety disorder in the past 12 months.

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

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

Cancer survivor says greater attention and support is needed

Ballarat Courier, General News, 10/05/2024, Melanie Whelan, Page 2

"Don't travel by train" is one of Michael Bird's key lessons from prostate cancer treatment in Melbourne. [...] Prostate cancer is the third-leading cause of death among Ballarat men, behind heart disease and almost on a par with lung disease, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data shows.

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

Fire in vineyard at Nairne in the Adelaide Hills sparks public health warning over toxic smoke

Adelaide Now, Other, 09/05/2024, Dylan Hogarth

A fire burning in a vineyard has sparked a health warning for Adelaide Hills residents, with potentially toxic smoke billowing into the air. Hundreds of treated permapine posts were burning in the fire at a

proper on the Old Princes Hwy at Nairne, releasing potentially toxic smoke, prompting a specialist hazardous materials response by fire crews.

[Read More](#)

Thick smog hanging over human health

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 09/05/2024, Christa Pudmenzky

Every five seconds air pollution claims a life Globally, it is responsible for the early deaths of around seven million people a year , and is now considered the top environmental threat to human health. And despite Australia's reputation for crisp, clean air, pollution is responsible for nearly three times as many deaths annually as our national road toll.

[Read More](#)

Doctor's warning on why you should never go to the toilet 'just in case'

7news.com.au, Other, 09/05/2024, Cindy Tran

'Wow... This makes so much sense.' A doctor has warned everyone to stop running to the toilet "just in case" — as the habit can do more harm than good to your bladder over time. Dr Rachel Peck said using the bathroom at the slightest feeling of having to go, despite not really needing to, could lead to increased urgency and frequency — or even leakage.

[Read More](#)

Women with criminal records face stark barriers to reporting domestic violence, advocates warn

National Indigenous Times, Other, 09/05/2024, Dechlan Brennan

Criminalised women and girls face significant hurdles in reporting domestic violence when going to the police, often facing stigmatisation and rejection, according to leading abolitionist network. [...] The AIHW estimate that around 90 per cent of violence against First Nations women, as well as most cases of sexual abuse of First Nations children, are undisclosed.

[Read More](#)

COVID pregnancy impact

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 09/05/2024

Australian mothers and their babies experienced some positive outcomes during the early years of the pandemic, new research from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) has discovered. The report, titled Maternal and perinatal outcomes during the 2020 and 2021 COVID-19 pandemic, looks at statistics from the National Perinatal Data Collection to determine outcomes during the first two years of COVID-19 in Australia (2020 and 2021), compared with what would have been expected based on trends in the four years prior to the pandemic (2015-2019).

[Read More](#)

6PR, Mornings, 09/05/2024, Gary Adshead

Interview with Laura Hunter, CEO, Australian Council on Smoking and Health. Adshead points out that the Federal Government has made its stand known in regards to vaping as they are looking to introduce a new bill that will restrict in no uncertain terms the ability of people to just freely access vapes. Hunter believes that the decisions that the politicians are making are huge, due to it having a big impact on the health and wellbeing of kids. She states that the bill that's at Parliament at the moment takes vapes out of the hands of dodgy retailers that are selling illegal vapes.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

How little Luka beat the odds

Courier Mail, General News, 10/05/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 9

Born at 25 weeks, baby Luka could fit in the palm of a hand. Mum Anna Seidl came close to losing her tiny newborn, who hit the scales at 728g, had underdeveloped lungs, knotting in her gastrointestinal tract and a serious eye condition called retinopathy of prematurity.

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

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

Perfect time for matters of the heart

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/05/2024, Guy Barnett, Page 35

This week marks Heart Week, and we're encouraging all Tasmanians to 'never miss a beat' and take steps to improve their heart health. Run by the Heart Foundation, this is Australia's national heart health awareness week, providing an opportunity for the public and health professionals to start a conversation about heart health.

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

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

Desperate plea to save 'critical' cancer service

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/05/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 24

Alice Springs woman Carolyn Powell, 52, is living with stage 4 endometrial cancer - and it has turned her life upside down. "To be honest, I have had a lot of trouble coping when I first knew about things," the softly spoken former library employee said. "I'm not as fit as what I used to be on a daily level.

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Dreaming of a good night's sleep?

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 10/05/2024, Page 64

It's just past 10pm in Buckinghamshire, England, and Michael Mosley is ready for bed. It's something he looks forward to now, after suffering from insomnia for most of his adult life. And we'll get to that. Me, I feel like a fraud. Here, it's morning time. I check my sleep stats as soon as I wake up - when did we start doing that? - and how ironic on the night before I'm to interview Mosley about his ground-breaking sleep program, my results are "poor".

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

National call to get checked for kidney disease

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 09/05/2024

Kidney Health Australia is calling on Australians to find out early if they are at risk of kidney disease, as waiting for symptoms is too late to slow it down. Three in four Australians are at risk of kidney disease, with the highest contributing factors being diabetes and high blood pressure.

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PRIMARY CARE

Doctor shortage forces clinic to close

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 10/05/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 8

It's supposed to provide free healthcare every day of the week, taking pressure off the busy emergency department next door. Instead, the GP clinic at Northern Beaches Hospital has been closed at least 18 days so far this year as the private company running the hospital concedes it is struggling to find enough doctors.

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

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

Hospital rail magnetism a known issue since 2021

Age, General News, 10/05/2024, Henrietta Cook, Page 1

Health authorities knew in 2021 that electromagnetic waves from Metro Tunnel trains were a risk to

Arden's recently scrapped hospital towers but failed to put a dollar figure on resolving the issue, according to confidential state government documents. Despite spending \$10 million to plan the vision for redeveloping Parkville and Arden hospitals almost four years ago, the government says it only discovered a "couple of weeks ago" the significance of the interference that thrust a \$6 billion, 12-year strategy into turmoil.

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

ED pilot heals wait times

Daily Telegraph, General News, 10/05/2024, Madeleine Bower, Page 11

Hospital emergency departments across NSW are considering major changes in the way they operate to help filter patients though faster and reduce ambulance ramping times. Emergency short-stay areas within hospital EDs, which are often used in many hospitals as quasi waiting areas, would instead be used as separate wards for patients with moderate but complex conditions, such as urinary tract infections or mild respiratory issues.

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

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

Crucial services are saved in 'a small win'

Daily Advertiser, General News, 10/05/2024, Taylor Dodge, Page 2

After weeks of championing to have federal funding reinstated amid a nationwide domestic violence crisis, the Wagga Women's Health Centre (WWHC) has had a small win, but more work is needed. Following the 'No More' rally hosted in Wagga by the centre on April 28 following the death of Australia's 32nd woman this year, hundreds of letters were handed to Member for Riverina Michael McCormack.

Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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

'Direct insult': Hospital overlooked for extra cash

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 10/05/2024, Monique Patterson, Page 4

The state government's failure to provide additional funds to South West Healthcare's Warrnambool Base Hospital redevelopment is a "direct insult" to residents, according to MP Roma Britnell. The state budget included an additional \$54.6 million for the Ballarat Base Hospital upgrade while Warrnambool missed out.

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Airport repair boost for 'desperate' remote communities

Canberra Times, Other, 09/05/2024, Jacob Shteyman

On the edge of the Nullarbor and 800km from the nearest major city, Ceduna's cracked and cratered airstrip threatens to cut off the remote South Australia community from vital services. Residents who rely on the airport for life-saving medical flights and urgent supplies were thrown a lifeline on Thursday, with the federal government pledging \$500,000 to resurface the pot-holed tarmac.

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

[Read More](#)

WA State Budget 2024: \$3.2 billion ploughed into healthcare

West Australian, Other, 09/05/2024, Hannah Cross

The State Government will spend an additional \$3.2 billion on healthcare next financial year, with promises of more beds, critical infrastructure upgrades and better mental health services. Treasurer Rita Saffioti on Thursday spruiked WA's record spend on health, which she said had seen a 45 per cent spike since 2017.

[Read More](#)

State Budget 2024-25: Geraldton Health Campus receives extra \$43.4 million

West Australian, Other, 09/05/2024, Matthew Paddick and Anna Cox

The State Government has committed another \$43.4 million to the Geraldton Health Campus upgrade, with the project's price tag soaring to \$166.1m. The budget blowout to what is already WA's most delayed major project was revealed when Treasurer Rita Saffioti handed down her first Budget on Thursday.

[Read More](#)

Royal Flying Doctor Service marks 96 years of lifesaving missions in remote WA

West Australian, Other, 09/05/2024, Natasha Clark

The Royal Flying Doctor Service has provided emergency medical aid to those across Western Australia that would have been otherwise unreachable. Wednesday May 15 is Flying Doctor Day which marks the 96th anniversary of the service which has provided a safety net for regional WA communities.

[Read More](#)

Flinders Medical Centre's corridor care during internal overcrowding emergency was 'inherently unsafe', union says

ABC Online, Other, 09/05/2024, Rory McClaren

Doctors claim administrators at one of South Australia's largest public hospitals inappropriately called an internal emergency during a recent incident of overcrowding, describing the 'code yellow' as a 'health and safety risk'. In a report to the state's work safety watchdog obtained by ABC News, clinicians also raised concerns Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) moved away from "clinician led care" during the event

[Read More](#)

Vic Govt abandons major hospital projects amid Budget blowout

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/05/2024, Caroline Egan

The Victorian Government has delayed hospital building projects amid a shortage of construction workers and a blowout in interest repayments on debt. A plan to build two hospital towers - Royal Melbourne and Royal Women's Hospital - at North Melbourne's Arden development zone, a promise of the 2022 election, has been abandoned.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 09/05/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Dr Kerrie Aust, President-elect, ACT AMA. Cenatiempo says the heads of both the Australian Medical Association and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners have called for an independent review in other ACT's walk-in centres after the latest public hospital report card revealed damning evidence of the ACT's shrinking performance. Aust says one of the things that she's encouraging everyone to do is to start observation in their own GP. She states that she has had dialogue with some of their local GPs in the last 24 hours about where they can help patients understand the most appropriate treatment and its great to see that several GPs are shifting to more innovative practice styles.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Spotlight on vet health

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/05/2024, Lauren Novak, Page 28

High suicide and burnout rates among veterinarians should be investigated by a parliamentary inquiry, says a MP who worked as a vet before entering politics. One Nation's Sarah Game said her early years in the animal care industry left her "disillusioned and depressed" as she battled long hours, high workloads and "dangerous exhaustion". National data shows rates of suicides among vets are four

times higher than the Australian average and twice the rate among other health workers like doctors or dentists.

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

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Council teaches tools for coping with trauma

Shepparton News Online, Other, 09/05/2024, Emily Donohoe

Campaspe Shire Recovery Hub and Phoenix Australia hosted psychological first-aid sessions on Wednesday, May 8, and Thursday, May 9, at Echuca Neighbourhood House and on Thursday, May 9, at Campaspe Shire Council, with another planned for Friday, May 10.

[Read More](#)

Up to 40pc of mental health conditions are linked to child abuse and neglect, study finds

ABC Online, Other, 09/05/2024, Alison Branley

In 1996, Ange McAuley was just 11 years old when ABC's Four Corners profiled her family living on Brisbane's outskirts. At the time her mother was pregnant with her sixth child and her father had long ago moved back to Perth. It was a story about child protection and the program was profiling the role of community volunteers helping her mother, who had been in and out of mental health wards.

Also reported by: [Medical Forum \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Agnes donated an embryo and is now watching her child grow up from afar. She regrets it

SBS, Other, 09/05/2024, Edwina Storie

Women who donate their eggs and embryos give hopeful parents the chance to have a family. But what happens when a donor's gift might have been the wrong decision? Agnes (not her real name) has a second child but isn't raising them, and it is a deeply painful experience.

[Read More](#)

Virtual ED expands into mental health

Medical Forum, Other, 09/05/2024

In a WA-first, the State Government will launch a new mental health co-response model as part of the virtual emergency department within the State Health Operations Centre. The \$47 million funding package for the expansion of the WA Virtual ED (WAVED) will help to provide home-based mental health support to people in crisis.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 09/05/2024, Jeremy Fernandez

A new study has found that up to 40% of mental health conditions in Australia can be traced back to childhood abuse and neglect. Researchers are urging the government to invest more in prevention to help families break the cycle of abuse. Researchers are calling for a mental health immunisation schedule to help identify and deal with abuse and neglect early.

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ABC News, News Breakfast, 09/05/2024, Michael Rowland and Bridget Brennan

A new study estimates child abuse and neglect cause up to 40% of lifelong mental health conditions. The analysis by the University of Sydney's Matilda Centre found eradicating childhood maltreatment could prevent more than 1.8 million cases of depression, anxiety and substance abuse. Researchers want more focus on policies such as paid parental leave, affordable childcare and income support to help alleviate stress on families and prevent abuse and

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A new study has found child abuse and neglect are responsible for up to 40% of mental health problems in Australia. Researchers from the Matilda Centre at the University of Sydney collated data about more than 15,000 Australians. They found childhood maltreatment such as neglect, and physical, sexual and emotional abuse accounted for more than 40% of suicide attempts, over one-third of self-harm cases and 1 in 5 cases of depression.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Midwives gain praise

Border Watch, General News, 10/05/2024, Page 6

Midwives have been acknowledged in state parliament with Member of the Legislative Council Ben Hood expressing his gratitude. Mr Hood noted the "invaluable contributions" of midwives across South Australia, particularly in regional areas. It comes as May 5 was recognised as International Day of the Midwife - a day to celebrate those who remained primary care providers to women and their families during pregnancy, labour and postnatal.

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'Mother-baby' beds to ease perinatal health concern

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 10/05/2024, Page 4

Townsville will be one of six locations around the state to share in an expansion to Queensland's perinatal mental health care beds, Health Minister Shannon Fentiman will announce on Friday. Presently, the state only has 12 public perinatal mental health inpatient beds available to mothers experiencing distress and mental illness following the birth of their baby.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Union investigated amid training cash questions

Age, General News, 10/05/2024, Sumeyya Ilanbey, Page 19

The Victorian Health Workers Union is being investigated over allegations it secretly funnelled union money into a training organisation that an anti-corruption commission previously found was an abject failure, and paying its secretary Diana Asmar for non-union-related work at the organisation. The Fair Work Commission has been scrutinising the finances of the Health Workers Union (HWU), the conduct of Asmar who has been accused of misusing her position at the union to gain financial advantage, and the union's longtime accountant Stannards.

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Union slams Government for 'giving up' on search for dental staff

West Australian, General News, 10/05/2024, Jake Dietsch, Page 8

Plans to expand the dental workforce for schoolchildren and vulnerable adults have been abandoned because not enough staff could be attracted to the role. The move prompted the public sector union to accuse the Government of giving up.

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

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Key piece in assisting new health workers

Daily Advertiser, General News, 10/05/2024, Emily Anderson, Page 4

Taxpayers can now take a look at the new state-funded units that will accommodate a maximum of 15

short-term workers, in the Riverina. The NSW government has allocated 15 beds across four Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) hospitals as part of a \$45.3 million project for key worker accommodation.

Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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Crackdown on aggression in GP offices

Newcastle Herald, General News, 10/05/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 7

A Newcastle doctor has welcomed new laws that protect GPs and their staff from physical and verbal abuse. Milton Sales, who runs the Brunker Rd General Practice at Adamstown, said it was "fairly common" for reception staff to face verbal aggression.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Australian Doctor \(Online\)](#).

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Reducing personnel injury not a stretch for medical technician

Air Force News, General News, 09/05/2024, Rob Cochran, Page 6

Medical technician Iacw Raegan Lester's work on training improvements for a patient stretcher system has earned her a 2023 Air Force Safety Award. Posted to 2EHS at RAAF Base Darwin, LACW Lester has been acknowledged for her individual contribution (as a person not holding a formal safety appointment) to improving safety in deployable surface evacuation health capabilities.

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\$450k salary, rent-free home: Local practice's exuberant job offer for GP role in WA's Bremer Bay revealed

The Australian, Other, 09/05/2024, Aisling Brennan

A Western Australian beachside town is hoping a lucrative offer with a rent-free house and car perks will entice a new general practitioner to take up the essential job of taking care of the community. Livingston Medical is advertising for a new GP role in Bremer Bay, between Albany and Esperance on the state's south coast.

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

[Read More](#)

Housing 'pods' to tackle regional health staff shortage

Canberra Times, Other, 09/05/2024, Samantha Lock

The design for pre-fabricated housing units to be rolled out for healthcare workers across regional NSW has been released, as the state struggles to fill shortages in the bush. The focus of the \$45 million accommodation program will be speed rather than detailed design as the short-term housing is rolled out, the state's health minister says.

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

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Ozempic rebates reduced by health insurer HBF after claims double in wake of drug's release

ABC Online, Other, 09/05/2024, Nadia Mitsopoulos and Emma Wynne

Western Australia's largest private health insurer will slash rebates for weight loss drugs including Ozempic, saying the rise in claims has become unsustainable. [...] People who take Ozempic for weight loss are prescribed it "off-schedule", meaning it is not used for the purpose listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), and they can't access it for the PBS rate of \$41 per month or \$6.60 for concession card holders.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 09/05/2024, Sandra Sully

A heart condition known as HCM, affects tens of thousands of Australians looking to be treated through Camzyos, which will now be part of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

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Channel 7, The Latest: Seven News, 08/05/2024, Jerrie Damasi

Breakthrough treatment called Camzyos is being made available to tens of thousands of Australians who suffer from a potentially fatal genetic heart condition. The drug costs \$31,000 a year and now, on PBS, it works out to \$31 a script.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Productivity Commission puts its finger on Digital Health dividends

The Mandarin, Other, 09/05/2024, Julian Bajkowski

Australia's highly fragmented but otherwise functional healthcare system could collectively save taxpayers and the community around \$6.5 billion in costs per year if it properly sweated digital technologies that have been in the process of being rolled out for the past two decades.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Doctor's ban lifted

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 10/05/2024, Chloe Grimshaw, Page 5

A Sunshine Coast doctor, accused of misconduct by five women, will be able to treat female patients again after a successful application to review a previous ban. Doctor Richard Heath brought an application against the Medical Board of Australia in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal in March this year, seeking to have "less onerous conditions" imposed after the board ordered he stopped treating all female patients.

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

Melbourne GP deregistered for year after homophobic and anti-vaccination Facebook posts

The Guardian, Other, 09/05/2024, Melissa Davey

A Melbourne doctor who posted homophobic and anti-vaccination content to social media, and described hospitals as "death chambers," has had his medical registration cancelled until February. The Victorian civil and administrative tribunal (Vcat) found the posts from general practitioner Dr Michael Ellis had "the potential to influence the choices made by members of the public as to their healthcare" and "denigrated or demeaned groups within society".

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Australian Doctor \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#)

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

How healthy is our health system? Costa Georgiadis, Melissa Leong

and Samuel Johnson find out

SBS, Other, 09/05/2024

News headlines constantly tell us our public health system and its workers are at breaking point. But it really like to work on the hospital frontline? In this ground-breaking series three Australian icons with a unique connection to the health system take a deep dive into a public hospital's frontline to find out.

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SPORT

Five ways to get ball rolling on concussion, then play on

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 10/05/2024, Michael Morgan and Anthony Boyd, Page 27

The clash in the Herald between columnists Andrew Webster and Peter FitzSimons on rugby league and the risk of concussion from kick-offs highlights how confusing the debate can be when it is diminished to a few moments and isolated from the overall picture. Webster and FitzSimons have both suggested ways to reduce the incidence of concussions.

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He just won't stop

Herald Sun, General News, 10/05/2024, Brooke Grebert-Craig, Page 1

Disgraced former North Melbourne footballer Tarryn Thomas is again being investigated by police for allegedly harassing a former partner. The Herald Sun understands that in recent weeks Thomas has repeatedly called an estranged girlfriend, allegedly multiple times during the day and night. It's believed the phone calls were made after Thomas was cut by the Kangaroos and handed an 18-match suspension by the AFL after conduct breaches, including threatening the same woman.

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Russia in Olympics face-slap

Courier Mail, General News, 10/05/2024, Page 22

Russia's plan to host a rival event to the Paris Olympics in September proves "it disregards the principles of Olympism" and just wants to use sport as propaganda, Ukraine's Acting Sports Minister Matviy Bidnyi said. The Friendship Games are slated to take place in Russia on September 15-29, around a month after the Olympics end, with medals and money on offer to the winners.

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\$38m bid kicks off stadium planning

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/05/2024, Blair Richards, Page 1

Premier Jeremy Rockliff has doubled down on the Government's refusal to entertain any rival bids for Hobart's new stadium, ruling out considering Dean Coleman's Stadia Consortia plan for a \$2.3bn waterfront stadium for Hobart's Regatta Grounds, as an architecture firm credited with building stadiums around Australia yesterday declared: "We can build it".blair richards and duncan abey report,

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We need a home to call our own

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/05/2024, Ryan Rosendale, Page 9

Tasmania JackJumpers CEO Christine Finnegan has implored the state government to back the club's desire for its high-performance centre to be located in Kingston after years of delays at the original site, Wilkinson's Point, Glenorchy. Fresh off a championship win in March, the JackJumpers are intent on locking in a concrete location and construction date for their long-awaited facility, with the side currently training out of the Kingborough Sports Centre.

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Champs share Olympic passion

Australian Olympic champions have travelled to the Goldfields to share their passion for hockey and inspire and encourage young athletes. Former Olympians Jayde Taylor and Trent Mitton toured Kalgoorlie-Boulder and surrounding towns this week for the Australian Olympic Committee's Olympics Unleashed program, visiting schools and hosting workshops.

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Suns defender banned for homophobic slur

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 10/05/2024, Page 20

Gold Coast defender Wil Powell has been suspended for five games by the AFL for directing a "highly offensive" homophobic slur towards a Brisbane Lions opponent. Powell's ban comes less than a month after Port Adelaide's Jeremy Finlayson was given a three-game ban for his homophobic verbal abuse of an Essendon player and was ordered to undertake Pride in Sport training.

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

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Smiles all around for Cowboys House dentistry team

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 10/05/2024, Emily Devon, Page 5

The team at Project Outback Dental visits the Cowboys House each term to help -combat poor oral hygiene health within those students who are from remote -communities and often don't have access to -professional treatments. As part of a holistic model of care, the dentistry services are offered to 100 Indigenous boarding students at the NRL house and provides mouthguards, minor oral -surgery for wisdom teeth and treatments requiring general anaesthetic.

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NRL Cowboys House mental health team helping foster 'happier and healthier' futures

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 09/05/2024, Nikita McGuire

Boarding students at the NRL Cowboys House in Townsville are getting the full benefits of a dedicated in house mental health and wellbeing team, as they pursue secondary education away from their remote hometowns. Nikita McGuire Boarding students at the NRL Cowboys House in Townsville are getting the full benefits of a dedicated in house mental health and wellbeing team, as they pursue secondary education away from their remote hometowns.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Research finds cardio cuts disease, adds life by almost 20%

Daily Telegraph, General News, 10/05/2024, Mia Erickson, Page 63

We all know keeping fit is an essential part of maintaining our physical and mental health, but according to the latest research, regular exercise could extend your lifespan significantly. The study from the University of South Australia reveals every cardio workout you push yourself through could also reduce your risk of death by 11 to 17 per cent.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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Don't be deaf to research damage

Herald Sun, General News, 10/05/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 11

A world-leading Melbourne scientist says funding cuts risk the city's status as a leader in medical research and revealed his life-changing discovery that allowed deaf people to hear was only made possible by state government cash. The Herald Sun revealed research institutes' dire postbudget

warning on Thursday that they risked going broke without urgent funding reform after medical research investment dropped from \$108.1m in 2022-2023 to \$57.3m for 2024-2025.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [3AW \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#)

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Miracle cure for sepsis

Courier Mail, General News, 10/05/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 13

Queensland researchers have developed a world-first drug to fight sepsis, a sneaky disease taking the lives of seemingly healthy children, often within days. The drug, which Queensland Children's Hospital and University of Queensland scientists have successfully tested in mice, helps prevent organ failure by restoring the health of the patient's blood vessels.

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

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Biggest melanoma study of its kind taking place in region

Western Advocate, General News, 10/05/2024, Riley Krause, Page 2

A multi-million dollar research project targeting one of Australia's most commonly diagnosed cancers is taking place in Orange. Dr Michelle McRae from Pinnacle Dermatology initially expressed her interest in the melanoma imaging and diagnosis project in 2020 before Covid paused the study. So when the opportunity came up once again to take part, she decided it was too important a cause to turn down.

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With FDA approval close, Echo IQ's AI platform is set to disrupt US heart disease market

The Australian, Other, 09/05/2024, Eddy Sunarto

Asx stock Echo IQ is closing in on US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for its AI-powered tech, which can detect a potentially deadly heart condition within three seconds. That will be of great interest to investors. When looking at a healthcare stock to buy, one of the signposts potential investors often focus on for is how close the company's products are to a US FDA approval.

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The 'healthiest' way to spend 24 hours depends on what you value most

ABC Online, Other, 09/05/2024, Paige Cockburn

It's known as the "Goldilocks day": the "just right" way to allocate your time to various activities for optimal health. Sounds like a handy guide to life, right? But is it even possible? We already have guidelines around how much physical activity adults should get each week. So how many hours each day should we spend standing, sitting or sleeping? New Australian research published in Diabetologica provides an hour-by-hour breakdown of daily activities to reduce the risk of cardiometabolic diseases, which include disorders of the heart, diabetes and chronic kidney disease.

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3AW, Drive, 09/05/2024, Jacqui Felgate

Felgate is joined by Mark Allen, 3AW sports presenter and Bowel Cancer Australia Ambassador. Allen believes that the Vic Government can do more to help in dealing with bowel cancer. He states that the media company that he has been working with are trying to get \$12m just for a year to assist in bowel cancer research. Allen says bowel cancer is the number one killer for Australians 25 to 45yos, due to people not knowing its symptoms.

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Call to ante up on remote housing

The Australian, General News, 10/05/2024, Paige Taylor, Page 6

West Australian Premier Roger Cook has told the Albanese government it must start funding remote Aboriginal communities beyond the Northern Territory. Five years after the then Coalition federal government told the states to pay for their own remote Aboriginal housing, the WA Labor government says Canberra must enter "a genuine partnership" to deal with the enormous demand for housing, safe water and functional sewerage systems in its more than 150 remote Aboriginal communities.

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

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Healthy Harold spreads the message even wider

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/05/2024, Sierra Haigh, Page 16

The Healthy Harold many Territorians know and love is expanding his offering in order to cater to more students from different backgrounds. Life Education NT general manager Paige McMillan said her team had been working with nine Aboriginal communities - including their Elders and young people - to develop "culturally appropriate" learning resources reflective of Healthy Harold's messaging.

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

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Symposium on kids' health

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 09/05/2024, Carwyn Monck, Page 3

A recent child health study says reduced overcrowding in households, adequate housing infrastructure, and strong families would help tackle poor child health outcomes on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands. The Ngaanyatjarra Health Service presented the Ngaanyatjarra Aboriginal Child Health Symposium in Fremantle last month.

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

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Call to action

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 10/05/2024, Nikita McGuire, Page 1

Mental health, aged care and Indigenous health issues are poised to prove "catastrophic" for North Queensland in the next decade, a leading demographer says. But the region's leading health experts will today come together to highlight the opportunities where private and public sectors, alongside the community, can give our residents the best possible future.

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Coalition urges for \$27m promised for Makarrata Commission to be reallocated

The Australian, Other, 09/05/2024, Sarah Ison

All federal funding for truth, treaty and voice must be redirected into stopping violence in Alice Springs and remote Aboriginal communities, says in a pre-budget strike at the priorities of the Albanese government. With spending in the budget to signal the direction the government will take on Indigenous affairs following the failure of the voice, the Coalition is demanding Anthony Albanese pivot to practical issues at a time when some Indigenous leaders want funding for a legislated voice and a Makarrata Commission that would oversee treaty and "truth telling".

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First Nations program to focus on North Queensland children's first 1000 days

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 09/05/2024, Chris Burns

A new program for First Nations families in the Townsville area is being used to reduce health inequities and improving maternal and child health. It would help locally based medical personnel within these communities such as Palm Island and would offer prenatal and antenatal care, nutrition education, immunisation campaigns and mental health support.

Reliable energy key focus of WA Budget's \$300m funding support for Aboriginal wellbeing

National Indigenous Times, Other, 09/05/2024, David Prestipino

The WA Government has committed \$300 million in the 2024-25 State Budget to further support Aboriginal wellbeing. New investments were announced on Thursday for several economic, social and community initiatives designed to help Close The Gap for Aboriginal people living across WA, with significant funding to deliver them reliable energy.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Get jabbed, they say

Border Watch, General News, 10/05/2024, Charlotte Varcoe, Page 9

Community members are being encouraged to roll up their sleeves as the flu season kicks off. Last year's season was reportedly the worst flu season on record since 2019 with the increase in cases rising significantly in 2023 compared to 2022, according to the Australian Vaccine Services.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#).

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

Shock diagnosis led to pub fight

Daily Mercury, General News, 10/05/2024, Janessa Ekert, Page 12

A young dad still coming to grips with a devastating, life changing illness lashed out putting someone in a chokehold and repeatedly punching in an alcohol-fuelled assault. [...] The 30-year-old, who was diagnosed with silicosis, had been managing his emotions with alcohol and on July 14, 2023 things went too far after another man insulted his appearance, Mackay Magistrates Court heard.

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Mapping the value of vaccines

Medical Forum, Other, 09/05/2024

Telethon Kids Institute researchers have helped map the global impact of life-saving vaccines to mark the 50-year anniversary of the Expanded Program on Immunisation. The findings show that since 1974, vaccination has saved about 154 million lives – most of these children under the age of five – arguably the greatest contribution of any health intervention to mortality reduction and years of full health gained.

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Measles cases on the rise: when did you get the last shot?

SBS, Other, 09/05/2024

Measles is one of the world's most contagious diseases and was technically eliminated in Australia in 2014 thanks to vaccination. Still, the World Health Organization warns that there is a risk of "disruptive" outbreaks if immunisation rates are not kept high.

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Channel 9, Today, 09/05/2024, Karl Stefanovic and Sarah Abo

Queenslanders are being advised to get vaccinated amid warnings of a Covid and flu wave at the end of June this year. Within the State alone, over 12,000 flu cases have already been recorded, alongside 24 flu-related deaths. The elderly, and children are the most at risk.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

'Who is that?': Kelly Osbourne baffles fans with 'unrecognisable' picture

NEWS.com.au, Other, 09/05/2024, Joshua Haigh

Kelly Osbourne has left fans baffled after a picture of the star was posted to Instagram on Wednesday. The TV star has been mistaken for another celebrity after she shared the photo shortly after revealing she'd undergone a non-surgical procedure. [...] However in Australia Ozempic has been evaluated by the TGA for its safety, quality and efficacy for the treatment of type 2 diabetes only and not for weight loss, which is called 'off-label' use creating a wave of controversy surrounding its usage.

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Have you worked in a medicinal cannabis telehealth clinic? AusDoc would like to speak with you

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/05/2024

We are putting together a special report on the rise of medicinal cannabis. We are currently putting together a special report on the rise and rise of medicinal cannabis in Australia. So far, more than a million scripts have been written under the TGA's special access scheme.

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Abatacept shortage hits earlier than forecast

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 09/05/2024

Coronavirus panic hoarding led to sold out shelves. shortage of hand sanitizer, mask products. Pharmacists urged to advise patients with prescriptions for Orencia (abatacept) to speak to their specialists as shortages hit Bristol-Myers Squibb Australia (BMS) has advised the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) that both its Orencia 125mg/mL ClickJect autoinjector and prefilled syringe subcutaneous products are now in short supply.

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PSA call for vaping reforms to protect a new generation

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 09/05/2024

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) have joined leading health bodies and the Federal Government in calling for reforms to the sale, supply, manufacture and commercial possession of vapes to pass parliament. [...] "There are no nicotine vaping products on the market that have been tested and approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration as safe therapeutic goods, but there are pathways for vaping products to be used as a genuine smoking cessation tool with the support of healthcare professionals.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Opioids a threat on our roads

Daily Telegraph, Edition Changes, 10/05/2024, James Willis, Page 1

Drivers high on painkillers and prescription drugs are going undetected on NSW roads, with police powerless to test for their presence. The major road safety issue comes as bus driver Brett Button pleaded guilty to killing 10 passengers in the Hunter Valley last year. Button, who accepted a plea deal which resulted in prosecutors dropping manslaughter charges, was heavily affected by opioids at the time of the horrific crash.

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Fear for 300 recovering addicts as Wollongong's methadone clinic to

close

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 09/05/2024, Kate McIlwain

Andrew had a heroin habit by the time he was 18, with the drug "rampant" while he was at school and university in the final years of the Vietnam war. Since then, he has battled the "full-tilt disease" of addiction. But for nearly 30 of those years, he has been a patient at Wollongong's Denison Clinic , with judgment-free methadone treatment allowing him to live a stable, ordinary life.

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‘Alarming’ rise in drug overdoses in Australia as heroin-linked deaths surge 40%

The Guardian, Other, 10/05/2024, Charlotte Thou

Australia is seeing an "alarming and devastating" rise in the number of drug-induced deaths, with many of them preventable and being driven by opioids, including a 40% surge in heroin-related fatalities. The findings come from preliminary annual overdose data released by the public health research organisation the Penington Institute on Wednesday.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Taxing time for sugary drinks

Medical Forum, Other, 09/05/2024

The Grattan Institute has renewed calls for a sugary drinks tax, as soft drinks remain the single biggest source of sugar in Australian diets, increasing the risk of type 2 diabetes and obesity. The number of Australians with type 2 diabetes has nearly tripled since 2000, at a cost of nearly \$2.3 billion in 2020-21 — mostly due to pharmaceuticals, hospital care, and dental care — and it contributed to one in 10 deaths.

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AICIS

Asbestos signs at Munmorah power site raise concern about huge land parcel

Newcastle Herald, Other, 09/05/2024, Damon Cronshaw

Asbestos danger signs have been placed around the boundary of a huge bushland buffer next to the old site. The area includes land earmarked for the , for which the Minns government has committed \$6 million. [...] This was due to the detection of PFAS (per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances) associated with a former firefighting training area on the land, along with hydrocarbons.

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