



Wednesday, 29th May 2024

Minister Butler | Minister Wells | Assistant Minister McBride

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

| Coronavirus | Ageing and Aged Care | Population Health

| Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions | Primary Care

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

| Health Workforce | Technology Assessment and Access

| Medicare Benefits and Digital Health | Benefits Integrity.

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

First Nations Health | Interim Australian CDC | Therapeutic Goods Administration

| Office for Drug Control | Food Standards | AICIS

LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The <u>Sydney Morning Herald</u> (page 1) reports patients at two of NSW's busiest hospitals are
 waiting at least 45 minutes longer in emergency departments than last year, with state Health
 Minister Mark Ryan warning the situation will worsen as flu season escalates. *Also reported by:*<u>Canberra Times</u>
- The <u>Herald Sun</u> (page 1) reports parents of a young boy whose death is now being
 investigated by the coroner are calling for reform to the way hospitals report and investigate
 sentinel events, saying a Melbourne hospital has been allowed to downplay and obfuscate their
 actions.
- The <u>Courier Mail</u> (page 1) reports Queensland public hospitals have experienced almost 14,000 occupational violence incidents across 2023-24, new Queensland Health data has shown.
- The <u>Herald Sun</u> (page 2) reports it can take younger Australians 60 per cent longer to receive a bowel cancer diagnosis, new research shows, with experts urging "red flag" symptoms be used to prioritise future diagnoses. *Also reported by:* <u>Daily Telegraph</u>, <u>Courier Mail</u>, <u>Adelaide</u> <u>Advertiser</u>, <u>Hobart Mercury</u>

- The <u>Daily Telegraph</u> (page 3) reports outdated skin cancer surgery methods could be harming
 patients, but Australian researchers say their data is not being recognised domestically. Also
 reported by: <u>Adelaide Advertiser</u>
- The <u>Herald Sun</u> (page 3) reports the government will consider 21 recommendations to
 overhaul the Online Safety Act and better protect people from "toxic" eating disorder content on
 social media platforms, Communications Minister Michelle Rowland says.
- The <u>Hobart Mercury</u> (page 4) reports residents and workers were evacuated from an aged care facility in Port Sorrell in Tasmania's north yesterday after a gas leak was detected.
- The <u>Herald Sun</u> (page 5) reports Sunshine Private Hospital in Melbourne's west will enter voluntary administration after just 14 months of operation. *Also reported by: <u>ABC Online</u>*
- The <u>Herald Sun</u> (page 8) reports blood cancer will kill 6,000 people annually, directly affecting
 one in 12 Australians, new data from the Leukaemia Foundation has shown. *Also reported by:* <u>Northern Territory News, SBS</u>

MINISTER BUTLER

Smorgasbord of ideas to fix social media

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2024, Jade Gailberger, Page 3

The Albanese Government has left the door open to adopting a series of critical recommendations to end the harm from toxic eating disorder content on social media platforms. The Herald Sun yesterday revealed experts from a landmark roundtable, led by Teal MP Zoe Daniel and the Butterfly Foundation, were urging the government to overhaul the Online Safety Act and increase accountability. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said there had been an alarming rise in levels of mental distress among young people over the past 20 years.

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Get checked

Gannawarra Times, General News, 28/05/2024, Noel Fisher, Page 6

Member for Mallee Anne Webster is urging people in her electorate to undergo skin cancer checks as she prepares to undergo surgery this week for a potential skin cancer on her face. [...] Dr Webster wrote to Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler last June advocating for Mildura to receive a state-of-the-art Vectra scanning machine, using 92 cameras to produce a 3D body image to detect and monitor potential lesions.

Also reported by: gannawarratimes.com.au (Online)

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Doctors laud Coalition incentives for juniors

North West Telegraph, General News, 29/05/2024, Gabrielle Becerra Mellet, Page 5

Junior doctors undergoing community GP training would be offered about \$32,500 in incentives under a Coalition government as part of a \$400 million investment to alleviate shortages. Peak bodies for doctors have welcomed the funding announced by Opposition Leader Peter Dutton, but say any cuts to the number of overseas skilled medical workers would send the health system backwards. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler has already flagged the Government will spend \$90 million over three years to expedite measures for foreign doctors and nurses to work in Australia.

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The Annual Lighting of the fire at D'Arcy Arms Irish Pub

Inside Gold Coast, Other, 28/05/2024

Get the good news first! Winter has certainly hit..... [...] The Annual Lighting of the D'Arcy Arms fire is this Saturday 1 June 2024 from 6pm What better way than to kick off winter with our annual Lighting of the Fire and fabulous Saturday fun with Mark Butler live in the Shamrock Bar from 7pm.

Tracey lost her eye to cancer, but her prosthesis was considered 'cosmetic'

9News, Other, 28/05/2024, Emily McPherson

Queensland construction manager Tracey Sims is a survivor who has been put through the wringer over the past six years. Back in 2018, Sims went to the doctor because she had a watery eye. [...] Head and Neck Cancer Australia was currently working in collaboration with expert Head and Neck Cancer clinicians on a funding proposal to put to Health Minister Mark Butler, she said.

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RSV vaccination 'mismanagement' leaves Victorian infants at risk

The Medical Republic, Other, 28/05/2024, Laura Woodrow

The RACGP is calling on the state's government to follow in WA, NSW and Queensland's footsteps to roll out a statewide RSV vaccination program for infants. [...] "I want all Victorians to benefit from new life-saving vaccines and treatments which is why I wrote to the federal health minister Mark Butler about the need for the Commonwealth to update its legislation to allow new treatments like nirsevimab to be eligible for the National Immunisation Program."

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ABC Radio Adelaide, Breakfast, 28/05/2024, Sonya Feldhoff and Jules Schiller

Interview with Vikki Thompson, Chief Executive, Group of Eight Universities, regarding medical placements at universities. Thompson says they would certainly take more medical students if they were able to take more medical students. She adds there is a demand from students wanting to do medicine, but they can't teach more than the places that they were funded for. Thompson says it's a federal-state issue because the states provide the bulk of the intern positions. Health Minister Mark Butler previously said that it's a problem because the population is growing and the cap isn't growing.

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Back to Top

MINISTER WELLS

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Back to Top

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Mental health centre officially opens

Ipswich Tribune, Other, 29/05/2024, Rob Mellett

The ribbon was cut on a new mental health clinic in Ipswich last week. The Ipswich Medicare Mental Health Centre (formerly Head to Health) will offer immediate, walk-in support for people experiencing distress or crisis. Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Emma McBride opened the new service on Nicholas Street.

Read More

Back to Top

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Back to Top

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No relevant coverage

Back to Top

DEPARTMENT

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

CORONAVIRUS

WHO in push to boost pandemic readiness

Canberra Times, International News, 29/05/2024, Page 13

Member countries have kicked off the World Health Organisation's annual assembly with hopes of improving global readiness for deadly outbreaks like COVID-19, after an ambitious "pandemic treaty" ran aground last week. Health officials are racing to get the world to agree to new ways to prepare for and fight an inevitable future pandemic. COVID-19 is fading into history as elections and crises like climate change and war compete for the public's attention.

Also reported by: <u>Bendigo Advertiser (Bendigo)</u>, <u>Border Mail (Albury-Wodonga)</u>, <u>Launceston Examiner (Launceston)</u>, <u>Illawarra Mercury (Wollongong)</u>

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Back to Top

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Aged care the only service you can buy without knowing cost

Canberra Times, General News, 29/05/2024, Rachel Lane, Page 16

Aged care is the only service you can buy in Australia without knowing the cost. Part of the problem is that many aged care homes only advertise the price of their accommodation, which is only one element. The other part of the problem is that what you pay is subject to a means test which is often submitted after you have moved into care and can change monthly.

Also reported by: <u>Bendigo Advertiser (Bendigo)</u>, <u>Newcastle Herald (Newcastle)</u>, <u>Launceston Examiner (Launceston)</u>, <u>Ballarat Courier (Ballarat)</u>, <u>Warrnambool Standard (Warrnambool)</u>, <u>Illawarra Mercury (Wollongong)</u>, <u>Northern Daily Leader (Tamworth)</u>

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Compo crisis hits aged care

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 29/05/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 19

More than 3600 compensation claims in five years from workers in residential care services - in particular aged care residential services - has prompted a statewide audit of equipment used for lifting residents and of staff training. SafeWork SA inspectors this month will start compliance checks on how staff are using equipment and other techniques to move residents with limited mobility from one location to another.

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Rubicon gas leak evacuations

Hobart Mercury, General News, 29/05/2024, Molly Appleton, Page 4

Residents and staff at a Port Sorell aged-care facility were evacuated on Tuesday morning. In a statement, OneCare chief executive Peter Williams said staff reported a strong smell at the Rubicon

Grove facility before the evacuation. He said all residents had been safely evacuated, however, 15 staff were assessed and treated at local hospitals after suffering nausea and associated symptoms.

Also reported by: Launceston Examiner (Launceston)

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Blue Haven buyer remains a mystery

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 29/05/2024, Glen Humphries, Page 7

Kiama council has found a buyer to take the Blue Haven aged care facility off its hands - but is keeping their identity quiet for the time being. The discussion on accepting an offer from the preferred tenderer was held behind closed doors in confidential session due to commercial concerns dictated by the Local Government Act.

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Home care packages are meant to help older Australians stay in their homes with support, so why is it so complicated?

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2024, Rachel Edwards, Brooke Van and Leon Compton

Heather An aged care package is the higher tier of support through the My Aged Care system. And it is where you have a more coordinated support. It is four levels, one, two, three, and four. Any support with aged care services needs to come through My Aged Care is based on assessed need. For an aged care package, it is the aged care assessment team that would come out and visit you. And there's a good, I think, two months wait for that to happen at the moment.

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Pre-frailty can start in your 40s but exercise will turn it around

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2024

We have all been conditioned to think that being frail and prone to falls is an inevitable product of ageing. But research suggests that frailty, and its precursor pre-frailty, are partially a product of our lifestyle. A new study suggests that simple exercises with resistance bands can help turn things around, and this may enable people to age well and live independently for longer.

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'Imagine the impact pharmacists will have when you are regularly onsite'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2024, James Lawson

Pharmacists have visited over 400 services across the country, providing education to over 7000 staff as part of the Clinical Pharmacy Unit (CPU) at the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, according to a Commission spokesperson.

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12 things you can do to reduce your dementia risk

HelloCare, Other, 28/05/2024, Jakob Neeland

Dementia is a leading cause of death in Australia. Although dementia mainly affects older people, it is an avoidable part of ageing. In fact, we all have the power to reduce our risk of developing dementia, no matter your age. Research shows your risk of developing dementia could be reduced by up to 40% (and even higher if you live in a low or middle-income country) by addressing lifestyle factors such as healthy diet, exercise and alcohol consumption.

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Aged care worker sentenced to life in prison for killing of resident

HelloCare, Other, 28/05/2024, Jakob Neeland

An aged care worker who was obsessed with serial killers has been sentenced to life in prison for the cold-blooded murder of a senior in his care. Jacob Anthony Hoysted appeared in The Supreme Court of Western Australia yesterday where the court heard the shocking details of his actions which resulted in the death of 70-year-old Monica Stockdale in her aged care home in Albany, WA in late 2022.

Read More

Affordable assistive devices to enhance daily life for older Aussies

The Senior, Other, 28/05/2024, Eileen Wood

Most people want to stay independent and in their own homes as they age but often daily activities become harder and sometimes more dangerous. It can be as simple as buttoning a shirt when arthritis means your fingers don't work quite as well as they used to, getting up from an armchair when you have back issues or walking, shopping, showering or going to the bathroom when your energy levels and balance aren't the best anymore.

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Regis Healthcare co-founder Bryan Dorman sells 5.81% stake for \$68M

The Weekly Source, Other, 28/05/2024, Caroline Egan

Bryan Dorman, the co-founder of Regis Healthcare, who grew it to become one of Australia's largest and most successful aged care companies before floating the business on the Australian Stock Exchange with a market cap of \$700 million-plus, has sold 5.81% of his stake for \$68.25 million according to back-of-envelope calculations on Monday.

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Stockland gets \$1.1B lift to conquer the seniors land lease lifestyle sector

The Weekly Source, Other, 28/05/2024, Ian Horswill

The Sydney-based property group and the Dallas-headquartered global real estate investment advisory manager, Invesco Real Estate, have entered into a strategic open-ended partnership to develop and hold an initial portfolio of three land lease community assets in a newly established Stockland Land Lease Partnership (SLLP1) which is expected to generate approximately \$1.

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The titanic has hit the iceburg; home is the new aged care

The Weekly Source, Other, 28/05/2024, Chris Baynes

Simon Miller said in 2023 we are the Titanic heading towards the iceberg. In 2024 he said it is too late; we are crashing and we will sink. He is right. As CEO of Anglicare Sydney, he was speaking at our LEADERS SUMMIT both years and he was referring to the ability of the home and residential aged care system's capacity to cope with future demand.

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Only in Saturday: How LDK makes care in retirement villages work financially?

The Weekly Source, Other, 28/05/2024, Ian Horswill

Retirement villages are being strategised by operators as the ideal location to deliver aged care, but does a traditional DMF contract supported by Home Care Packages offer the best business solution? We look at LDK Seniors Living 's membership model only in SATURDAY, the aged sector's digital magazine.

Read More

Back to Top

POPULATION HEALTH

Vape ban should just go up in smoke

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/05/2024, Brian Marlow, Page 43

We're all familiar with the expression "insanity is doing Wthe same thing over and over again and expecting different results" - all of us, with perhaps the notable exception of Anthony Albanese and the Labor Party. The US learned their lesson with prohibition from their failed attempt to ban the sale of alcohol in the 1920s.

'Forgotten' mums tolerate abuse

Daily Advertiser, General News, 29/05/2024, Bageshri Savyasachi, Page 10

A distressed mother called Remi King's workplace after her car broke down one afternoon. She told Ms King, who works at a women's shelter, she did not feel safe and had nowhere to go. [...] "They are 35 per cent more likely to be hospitalised," Ms King, a medical graduate, quoted from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

Also reported by: <u>Border Mail (Albury-Wodonga)</u>, <u>Launceston Examiner (Launceston)</u>, <u>Northern Daily Leader</u> (Tamworth)

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Fitter or fatter: the science of getting into shape

The Australian, Other, 28/05/2024, Peta Bee

Good news for sedentary midlifers! A new study has highlighted how quickly you can shed weight. Motivating yourself to exercise is the toughest part of the challenge, but results of a new study may just provide a dose of inspiration for those struggling to get off the sofa.

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Potting mix and compost are a breeding ground for fungi, but how likely are you to get sick?

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2024, Patrick Wright

Gardening is a healthy and fulfilling hobby for many Australians. But like many activities in our day-to-day lives, there is some risk involved — particularly when it comes to using potting mix and compost. Potting mix and compost can contain legionella bacteria which cause Legionnaire's disease, a potentially deadly form of pneumonia. These products are also breeding grounds for fungi.

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Do lactation cookies and nursing teas increase breastmilk supply?

ABC Online, Other, 28/05/2024, Kellie Scott

Many new mums who are breastfeeding worry about milk supply, so it's perhaps unsurprising that a 2021 study found 60 per cent of them reach for products promising to increase it. "You can't measure how much milk your baby is getting when you breastfeed, and society doesn't necessarily support women to feel that their bodies are brilliant and effective and awesome," says Victoria Marshall-Cerins, executive officer at the Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA).

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Alarming gaps in end-of-life care based on location and diagnosis

Healthcare Channel, Other, 28/05/2024, Ritchelle Drilon

A new report is shining a light on the lack of access to proper palliative care for thousands of Australians facing terminal illnesses. The data, released during National Palliative Care Week, highlights the immense benefits of quality end-of-life care but also exposes deeply troubling gaps in who is able to receive it. The findings from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare paint a distressing picture – some 110,000 people each year, or 2,000 per week, have life-limiting conditions like cancer, dementia, or heart disease that require palliative care.

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The beautiful heartache of raising a stranger's children.

Mamamia, Other, 28/05/2024, Belinda Jepsen

Remington Meyer's Queensland home is full of all the vibrancy and clamour that comes with raising young children. It's chaotic at times. [...] According to the latest data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 45,400 children are in out-of-home care in Australia.

Read More

Back to Top

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Colon red flags missed

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2024, Sue Dunlevy, Page 2

Many with cancer are still young It takes up to 10 GP visits for a young person with bowel cancer to get a diagnosis as doctors may dismiss symptoms even though rates of the disease in this age group are exploding. [...] There has been a 266 per cent increase in bowel cancer rates among teenagers and young adults in the past three decades, and Bowel Cancer Australia says GPs need to expedite colonoscopies when patients have red flag symptoms.

Also reported by: <u>Daily Telegraph (Sydney)</u>, <u>Courier Mail (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Hobart Mercury (Hobart)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Geelong)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Gold Coast)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>

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Blood cancer scourge

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2024, Page 8

New statistics have revealed how widespread blood cancer is in Australia, as it continues to be one of the nation's deadliest diseases. Latest figures from the Leukaemia Foundation found one in 12 Australians will be directly affected by blood cancer, with it claiming over 6000 lives each year.

Also reported by: <u>Northern Territory News (Darwin)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Geelong)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Gold Coast)</u>, <u>Cairns Post (Cairns)</u>, <u>SBS (Online)</u>

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Facing cancer head-on

Courier Mail, General News, 29/05/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 18

World-leading surgery has been performed in a rare, marathon operation in Brisbane that involved peeling the skin off a man's face to remove his cancerous jaw preventing the disease from spreading to his brain stem. The lifesaving 'face-off' surgery lasted 20 hours and included cutting out more than half of Paul O'Connor's lower jaw and then reconstructing his face with bone taken from his leg.

Also reported by: The Courier Mail (Online)

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THF's ambitious \$10m cancer centre appeal

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/05/2024, Michael Nolan, Page 5

Rebecca Johnson has sacrificed everything as she fights cancer. "I'm 43, and I've had to give up work, which I love," she said. "I've had to give up doing my markets and my craft because I just can't keep up. "As a mum the last thing that you want to do is leave your kids without being there. "I said to Harry, my oncologist, you've got to get me through this, I can't leave them.

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A closer look at macular degeneration

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 29/05/2024, Page 13

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is a painless and chronic disease which affects the macular region of the retina. The retina is the back layer of the eye which processes visual information when we look at things. The macula is the centre of the retina and is responsible for seeing the fine details in our central vision.

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Why eating disorders around menopause are a red flag

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/05/2024, Sarah Simpkins

Around 3-4% of women are estimated to have eating disorders in menopause. Middle-aged women with eating disorders could slip into menopause without realising it, drastically increasing their fracture risk, a leading endocrinologist warns. Eating disorders such as anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and

binge-eating disorder are typically seen in younger patients, yet an estimated 3-4% of menopausal women are also affected.

Read More

Back to Top

PRIMARY CARE

Longer waits in emergency

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 29/05/2024, Angus Thomson and Megan Gorrey, Page 1

Patients at two of the state's busiest hospitals are spending at least 45 minutes longer in the emergency departments than a year ago, as new figures reveal almost one in every 10 patients in NSW leaves without completing their treatment. NSW Health Minister Ryan Park yesterday warned that the "unprecedented pressure" burdening the state's hospital emergency departments would probably get worse as the flu season intensified in June.

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Private hospital 'shuts'

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 29/05/2024, Page 5

A private hospital in Melbourne's west has entered voluntary administration, just 14 months after opening. Sunshine Private Hospital opened its doors in March 2023d. However, just 14 months later, the company behind the private hospital revealed it had entered voluntary administration.

Also reported by: ABC Online (Online), ABC Online (Online)

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Pressure builds

Ballarat Courier, General News, 29/05/2024, Michelle Smith, Page 1

Patients are being admitted to ward hallways at Ballarat Base Hospital as a surge in winter illness clogs beds throughout the hospital and emergency department. The bed block is also impacting ambulances, which cannot hand patients over to the ED because of a lack of beds.

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Warning over extra pressure on hospital

Daily Advertiser, General News, 29/05/2024, Finn Coleman, Page 3

What would it mean for Wagga health service providers if the services offered in other nearby regions were to be cut? "Extra pressure on already-stretched resources," Wagga MP Dr Joe McGirr, said. Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) is updating its Cootamundra Health Service Plan and the community are fearful the update could see some reductions and changes to various services - including obstetrics, pathology and theatre services.

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Healthy boost to healthcare

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 29/05/2024, Andrew Potts, Page 9

Construction of the Gold Coast's giant new \$1.3bn Coomera public hospital will begin in early 2025 on the back of a record financial investment in the city's health sector. The state government will reveal on Thursday it will commit more than \$2.4bn towards the Gold Coast's health and hospital services in June's budget as its pre-election charm offensive ramps up.

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New hospital works stop, or do they?

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 29/05/2024, Connor Pearce, Page 8

When Kiama MP Gareth Ward posed for a photo outside the new Shellharbour hospital construction site with Shellharbour mayor Chris Homer and deputy mayor Kellie Marsh to ask why works had "stopped", it turned out the answer was standing on either side of him.

Alarm sounds over ailing health system

Newcastle Herald, General News, 29/05/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 3

Emergency department presentations have hit a record high in Hunter New England, heaping more pressure on the crippled public hospital system. The district recorded 113,365 presentations in the January to March guarter, the highest since modern records began in 2010.

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Hospitals crumbling under the strain of record visits

Canberra Times, Other, 29/05/2024, Jack Gramenz

Ambulance call-outs and emergency department visits have hit a record high in NSW as people face increasingly long waits or give up and leave the state's strained public hospitals. Some 810,201 people attended NSW emergency departments from the start of January to the end of March, an increase of more than five per cent compared with the same period in 2023.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online), Daily Mail Australia (Online), Yahoo! News Australia (Online)

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Multi-million dollar innovation centre headlines big budget spend on Cairns health

Cairns Post, Other, 28/05/2024, Samuel Davis

A "cutting edge" \$60m health service focusing on tropical medicine and research will be established in Cairns attracting skilled clinicians to Far North Queensland as part of increased investment in the region's hospital precinct, Premier Steven Miles says. The project will be officially announced on Tuesday and included in the state budget with Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service set to secure more than \$1.4bn, including \$450m in capital projects.

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'Significant pressure' as Illawarra EDs hit record patient numbers

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 29/05/2024, Kate McIlwain

More people than ever turned up to the Illawarra's emergency departments in the first quarter of this year, with a new report showing that the strain on hospitals across the state continues to rise. Login or signup to continue reading The latest Bureau of Health Information (BHI) quarterly report shows that 45,136 people fronted up to emergency departments in the Illawarra Shoalhaven between January to March, eclipsing the previous attendance record by more than 1000.

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Investment firms are buying up hundreds of GP practices — should you be worried?

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/05/2024, Sarah Simpkins

Private equity investment firms are buying up GP practices, taking over 256 clinics in just five years, a Medical Journal of Australia study has found. The study, published last month, found that 2008 was the first year in which multiple healthcare clinic companies were sold to equity investors in Australia.

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ABC, ABC News, 28/05/2024, Tamara Oudyn and Iskhandar Razak

One of Melbourne's newest hospitals has been placed into administration. The Sunshine Private Hospital only opened its doors just over a year ago, but now it's being wound down with surgeries being cancelled effective immediately. The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation has said it is a distressing and uncertain time for its members. The Australian Federal Health Department, which oversees private health in Australia, says that this is a private company's decision and it recommends that impacted patients call the hospital directly or their doctors.

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 28/05/2024, Sandra Sully

NSW's hospital systems are facing unprecedented pressure as flu and COVID cases, as well as a declining number of GPs, are seeing thousands of patients head towards emergency departments. Yesterday was one of the busiest days in years, leaving officials concerned about what winter will bring.

Report continues on: Channel 10 (Sydney)

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Back to Top

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Channel 9, Nine News, 28/05/2024, Peter Overton

Veterans and first responders have access to state-of-the-art mental health treatment at a refurbished hospital in Richmond. Today is the official opening of Saint John of God's redeveloped Richmond Hospital, specialising in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder for veterans and emergency responders. It will feature 112 private rooms, a wellness centre, a pool and new magnetic therapy and evidence-based treatment for depression and anxiety that does not involve general anaesthesia.

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ABC Radio Darwin , Breakfast, 28/05/2024, Adam Steer

Interview with Tony Stevenson, CEO, Mental Illness Fellowship Australia, regarding the MIFA finding that the NT is not doing enough to address severe mental illnesses like schizophrenia. Stevenson says people continue to fall through the gaps. Stevenson says severe and complex mental health are mental health conditions that have such an impact on people's lives that it's virtually impossible to live without the support. He adds there are several thousand people in the NT living with severe and complex mental illnesses including schizophrenia and half of that group are not getting any support in the community.

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Back to Top

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Nurses out of patience

West Australian, General News, 29/05/2024, Jake Dietsch, Page 10

Hundreds of staff at Perth Children's Hospital and Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital will walk off the job for half an hour on Wednesday as they demand a pay rise. Hospital workers from the United Workers Union and Health Services Union will join forces. The UWU covers a range of low-paid workers such as support staff, kitchen hands and cleaners, and enrolled nurses, while HSU members range from allied health professionals and technicians to ward clerks.

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Rural childcare: Protecting Australia's next generation of farmers

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/05/2024, Madeleine Stuchbery

Beulah's Heather Sherwell is raising her two young children in Victoria's southern Mallee while on maternity leave from her job in business development. But if the childcare in nearby Hopetoun cannot find educational staff by her return to work, she is "screwed", and the family may even have to relocate to Melbourne Ms Sherwell said she has rung every centre in her region and can only find one day of care for her children in Horsham, an hour's drive from home.

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FIFO midwives: Carnarvon shire president says lack of housing is a barrier to permanent workforce

West Australian, Other, 29/05/2024, Jessica Moroney

The Carnarvon community is concerned introducing FIFO midwives to restart birthing services in the

Gascoyne town could halt the return of a permanent service. Two years since maternity services were shut, Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson told budget estimates last week the State Government was discussing jetting midwives into Carnarvon from Perth on a rotating roster in a bid to restart maternity services.

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VIC nurses reject new pay offer and call for secretary to stand down

Nursing Review, Other, 28/05/2024, Arshmah Jamal

Victorian nurses and midwives have voted to reject a new pay offer and called for the branch secretary to stand down over her comments. A " last resort " industrial action by the members of the Victorian branch of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMFVIC) was suspended on May 17 after the Allan government struck an in-principle deal with the union.

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NSW offers nurses pay rise, short of unions demands

Nursing Review, Other, 28/05/2024, Arshmah Jamal

The NSW government has offered public sector workers, including nurses, a three-year pay rise worth 10.5 per cent, which is well under the demands of some of the unions. The Minns government announced the offer last Monday, and it applies to workers whose industrial agreements are due for renewals, including nurses.

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North QLD nurses secure QUT scholarship

Nursing Review, Other, 28/05/2024, Arshmah Jamal

Nine North Queensland nurses have officially accepted scholarships to study for their Master's at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Partnered with the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN), scholarships for a Master of Nurse Practioner or Graduate Certificate (Primary Healthcare) were given to nurses from Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Collinsville, and Moranbah.

Read More

Back to Top

HEALTH WORKFORCE

45 hospital assaults a day

Courier Mail, General News, 29/05/2024, Page 1

Queensland's public hospital workers are being abused, threatened or assaulted at record numbers, with updated data revealing an average of 45 violent incidents a day across the state. The staggering occupational violence figures have prompted a top union to warn Queensland Health's approach of offering aggravated people a "cup of tea" and telling them to calm down wasn't working.

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Latrobe Regional Health accused of gagging staff from speaking out about 'concerns'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/05/2024, Alex White

Staff at Latrobe Regional Health say they are being gagged from speaking publicly about "major concerns" they have about Gippsland's biggest regional hospital after a strict memo ordered no one to speak to the media without approval. However, the hospital management rejected the secrecy accusation, saying it was simply reminding staff of the organisation's media policy to assist the communications team.

Read More

Eight Mid West doctors appointed this financial year as Rural Health West increases regional GP numbers

West Australian, Other, 29/05/2024, Matthew Paddick

Eight new GPs have been placed in the Mid West as part of Rural Health West's near-doubling of recruits to the regions compared to last financial year. This year so far, the organisation has recruited 50 GPs to WA's rural and remote communities, with eight for the Mid West.

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Patients back scope expansion

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2024, James Lawson

Patients in NSW want pharmacists and paramedics to provide a broader range of healthcare, research reveals.

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Ambulance Victoria staff highlight importance of National Reconciliation Week

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/05/2024, Joseph Guenzler

To begin National Reconciliation Week, Ambulance Victoria paramedics and staff have shared their views on reconciliation and the importance of ongoing commitment to justice for Indigenous people. Gunaikurnai man and Paramedic Eddie Wright, now proud of his Indigenous heritage, grew up in the late 1960s and 1970s when his family avoided discussing their ancestry.

Read More

"Insidious" Health Tax scrapped

Shepparton News Online, Other, 28/05/2024, Georgia Tacey

The Victorian Government's Health Tax has been scrapped. Following significant campaigning from the Victorian opposition, Treasurer Tim Pallas announced that contractor and employee GPs providing bulk-billed consultations will be exempt from payroll tax.

Read More

\$10k to boost Tas hospital pharmacists

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 28/05/2024

A new initiative to support hospital pharmacists in Tasmania was recently announced by the state's Health Minister, Guy Barnett. A \$10,000 per annum market allowance has been approved for all pharmacists employed across the Tasmanian Health Service including in the Statewide Hospital Pharmacy, in accordance with the Allied Health Professionals Public Sector Unions Wages Agreement 2022.

Read More

2CC, Breakfast, 28/05/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Steve Robson, President, Australian Medical Association, regarding his written opinion piece on the current issues surrounding the health system which has been described as a deeply personal plea to fix the crisis at the heart of the medical profession. Robson says at the moment and particularly after the pandemic, healthcare workers around the country have been under extraordinary pressure, and the pandemic has left them with a legacy of work to do. He adds waiting lists are at all-time highs, people who work in emergency departments are under incredible pressure, and general practitioners find it hard to be able to provide equity and care to the patients that they see.

Interview continues on: 2CC (Canberra)

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Back to Top

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Over-the-counter pill available in WA soon

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 29/05/2024, Jake Dietsch, Page 2

Women in WA will soon be able to buy the oral contraceptive pill from pharmacies for a year without going to the doctor for a prescription. Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson and Premier Roger Cook announced on Tuesday that women who had been continuously taking the pill for two years would be able to access a resupply for up to 12 months from chemists.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online), 9News (Online), Pharmacy Guild of Australia (Online)

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Channel 9, Nine News, 28/05/2024, Michael Thomson

Accessing the contraceptive pill is set to become easier for thousands of WA women. Participating pharmacies across the state will be able to resupply the pill to those eligible in a bid to ease pressure on GPs.

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Back to Top

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No medicare funding forces closure of regional service detecting melanomas

Queensland Country Life, Other, 28/05/2024

A skin cancer service that was saving regional Queenslanders from travelling long distances to see a dermatologist had to close largely because it failed to get medicare funding. This was despite detecting 62 melanomas in patients as young as in their early 20s in the 30 months it was operating.

Read More

Hacked MediSecure data for sale on digital black market for allegedly just \$76,000

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/05/2024, Antony Scholefield

Officials have warned those affected that they may be targeted by scam emails or text messages. Prescription software company MediSecure says historical prescription data that were hacked earlier this month have been put up for sale on the dark web. According to several cybersecurity bloggers, a hacker using the nickname Ansgar is offering to sell a 6.5-terrabyte database of names, phone numbers, emails, Medicare numbers and prescription data for just \$76,000.

Read More

Back to Top

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Max should still be alive

Herald Sun, General News, 29/05/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 1

A grieving father fears more patients will die after he witnessed critical errors at Box Hill Hospital before his son's death. Emergency specialist Ben McKenzie was even forced to help resuscitate Max - who had suffered an allergic reaction to nuts - when he rushed to be with him.

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Boy in adult psych ward 'last resort'

Cairns Post, General News, 29/05/2024, Samuel Davis, Page 3

Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has defended a decision to place a child in a Cairns' adult psychiatric unit, despite whistleblowers and mental health advocates criticising the move. The boy, whose personal information can't be revealed, was admitted to the Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) before being transferred to another facility recently.

Also reported by: Cairns Post (Online)

Carer team left in limbo

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 29/05/2024, Amaani Siddeek, Page 2

A disability support service with hundreds of Gold Coast and Tweed Heads clients is preparing to sue the NSW Government claiming it was "forcefully" evicted from a hospital. Early childhood disability intervention service Shaping Outcomes risks shutting after it was told there was "no space" for it at the new Tweed Valley Hospital site.

Also reported by: Gold Coast Bulletin (Online)

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Medical board bans GP from performing circumcisions

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/05/2024, Carmel Sparke

Dr Hershel Goldman is seeking a stay of conditions preventing him from carrying out circumcisions, imposed by the Medical Board of Australia last month. The Melbourne GP has appealed the restrictions before the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, which heard the matter last week but is yet to publish its decision.

Read More

Back to Top

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

As a palliative care worker, I want a better conversation about health inequality

The Guardian, Other, 29/05/2024

Working in community palliative care, I have the privilege of being welcomed into the lives of a diverse range of families while they reckon with the dying process. As a social worker, each time I enter the home of a client I attempt to understand their worldview through the glare of blinding grief and often disfranchised trauma. Palliative care does not work to prolong life, nor does it intend to hasten death.

Read More

Back to Top

SPORT

Challenge like red rag to Bull

Herald Sun, Sport, 29/05/2024, Emma Greenwood, Page 53

A former surf lifesaver and firefighter is about to become one of Australia's most experienced Olympians in her chosen sport but doctors say Aly Bull shouldn't be there. Bull, who will equal the record of the remarkable Anna Wood when she lines up in a third Games for Australia in Paris as a member of the sprint kayak squad, is battling what she calls an "osteoarthritis s-t show" in her shoulder.

Also reported by: Gold Coast Bulletin (Gold Coast)

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Grants boost women's sport

Shepparton News, General News, 29/05/2024, Page 7

Clubs across Northern Victoria are receiving grants to boost opportunities for women and girls in sport. AFL Goulburn Murray and Shepparton Junior Soccer Association both received funding from the 2023-24 Change Our Game Community Activation Grants Program, which offers grants of up to \$10,000 to eligible organisations to provide more opportunities to women and girls in sport.

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Watch awkward moment Olympic Games team boss butchers squad announcement

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/05/2024, Ollie Lewis

Australia's water polo team for the Olympics was announced on Tuesday, although chief Matt Carroll had a hard time reading out the lucky stars who have made it to Paris. The 13-man team, which consists of 10 debutants, was named in a unique location, with members of the squad stood beneath a shark tank as Carroll reeled off the list to the media.

Read More

Thomas to lead independent Brisbane Games authority as interim CEO

The Mandarin, Other, 28/05/2024, The Mandarin

Recently departed Sunshine Coast Council chief executive Emma Thomas has been named interim CEO for Queensland's new independent Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority. Thomas, who announced she was leaving the Sunshine Coast last week after three-and-a-half years to become CEO of bulk water supply authority Segwater, will assume the interim Games role on July 1.

Read More

Back to Top

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

\$20m injection for telehealth firm

The Australian, Business News, 29/05/2024, Cameron England, Page 16

Bailador Technology Investments will pump \$20m into telehealth start-up Updoc, which has been self-funded to date. The platform, founded by Dylan Coyne and Clifton Hodgkinson who are both also involved in electric bike company Jot Bikes, connects consumers with doctors who can provide everything from prescriptions to specialist referrals.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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Skin cancer treatment could be all wrong: experts

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/05/2024, Clarissa Bye, Page 3

Many Australian skin cancer patients could be suffering from outdated surgery causing more harm than good, but debate is being stifled in Australia, according to researchers. The researchers reject the routine surgical diagnostic test called "sentinel lymph node biopsies" (SLNB) on patients' lymph glands, particularly on those under 40 and over 60.

Also reported by: Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide), Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)

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Tatts a bit of a cancer concern

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/05/2024, Zoe Smith, Page 10

Getting tattoos could increase a person's risk of developing cancer by 21 per cent, a shocking new study has found. The Swedish study found a link between tattoos and cancer of the lymphatic system, known as lymphoma. Researchers from Lund University emphasised that they were not trying to dissuade people from getting tattooed, however they said the longterm health effects of body art were not known due to a lack of research in the area.

Also reported by: <u>Courier Mail (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Hobart Mercury (Hobart)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Cairns Post</u> (<u>Cairns</u>), <u>Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)</u>

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Fruity solution to fatty liver

Courier Mail, General News, 29/05/2024, Page 4

An antioxidant found in some fruits and vegetables could have the potential of reversing damage caused by fatty liver disease. Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is caused by the physiological

manifestation of obesity in the liver. The disease has increased from 25.24 per cent in 2015, to 29.38 per cent in 2021, with it accounting for 45.8 per cent of all chronic liver disease-related deaths.

Also reported by: West Australian (Perth)

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Patients trial promising new drugs in last line of hope

Ballarat Courier, General News, 29/05/2024, Michelle Smith, Page 2

Some of Ballarat's sickest cancer patients are taking part in trials of new drugs that could change the way the disease is treated in the future. Up to seven patients with advanced cancer, for whom existing treatments have failed, are part of ground-breaking research to develop and test new cancer drugs - their last line of hope.

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Taking cancer research to the next level

Ballarat Courier, General News, 29/05/2024, Melanie Whelan, Page 2

On a historic brewery site in central Ballarat, a scientist is brewing her own batches of nanoparticles that have the potential to be a game-changer in cancer treatment. Nanoparticles are about 100 times smaller than fine dust. Interdisciplinary researcher Apita Poddar is focusing on using nanoparticles as a delivery system, taking drugs and treatments directly into cancer cells and leaving healthy cells alone.

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Statins may benefit over 60s

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/05/2024, Page 3

A new study has found the use of statins in adults over 60 could reduce the risk of heart disease and death. University of Hong Kong researchers found adults aged 60 years and older that use of statin therapy as primary cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention was effective for preventing CVD and all-cause mortality, even in adults aged 85 years and older.

Also reported by: Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)

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Gut key to slow disease

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/05/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 15

A group of Australia's top neurologists has high hopes of stopping or slowing the progression of Parkinson's disease with a world-first treatment that targets the gut microbiome. Human trials of the treatment will begin within weeks. Parkinson's disease, which affects millions of people worldwide, is the fastest-growing neurological disorder globally. There are currently no effective cures.

Also reported by: <u>Kalgoorlie Miner (Kalgoorlie)</u>, <u>ABC Online (Online)</u>, <u>ABC Online (Online)</u>, <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>, <u>West Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Mail Australia (Online)</u>

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Groundbreaking Strep A vaccine research offers hope to Australian children

9News, Other, 28/05/2024, Michaela Komarek

She said he was "constantly sick" until his tonsils were removed. "He is a completely different boy now," she said. "He's healthy, happy, so it was the best result for us." It's hoped the information collected will be an important first step in developing a vaccine against Strep A - a throat infection so severe that if left untreated, it can result in heart and kidney failure.

Read More

A popular diabetes medication has been found to prevent kidney failure and reduce deaths in people with type 2 diabetes and chronic kidney disease.

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2024

Antidiabetic medication semaglutide, more widely known by brand names Ozempic and Wegovy,

significantly reduces the risk of kidney failure, substantial loss of kidney function and death from kidney or cardiovascular causes, an international clinical trial led by UNSW Sydney researchers has shown.

Read More

ABC News, News Breakfast, 28/05/2024, Michael Rowland and Lisa Millar

Queensland researchers are embarking on a new groundbreaking trial to treat Parkinson's disease. Parkinson's disease affects hundreds of thousands of Australians and millions of people around the world, with 50 Australians diagnosed every day. The Translational Research Institute along with a team of scientists have been furiously working to develop a novel approach to treating the neurological condition. They've been working on new treatments that could potentially slow down and even stop the progression of the disease.

Report continues on: ABC News (Sydney)

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Channel 9, Today, 28/05/2024, Alex Cullen and Sarah Abo

Interview with Professor Richard Gordon, Translational Research Institute, regarding Qld researchers giving Parkinson's sufferers hope, trialling a new treatment that could slow or even stop the progression of the illness. Gordon says they have been very fortunate to be awarded the largest sort of tranche of funding from the US Department of Defence in Australia to undertake this work. He adds they are looking at transforming the way we treat and even study Parkinson's, which is historically been a brain disease that we've known for about 200 years. Gordon says they are looking at developing a new treatment for Parkinson's by targeting the gut rather than the brain for the first time.

Play Now

4BC, Breakfast, 28/05/2024, Laurel Edwards, Gary Clare and Mark Hine

Parkinson's disease could be slowed or stopped entirely thanks to a team of top Queensland scientists. The neurologists are set to start a clinical trial from evidence showing a link between Parkinson's and an imbalance of bacteria in the gut. Human trials are set to begin within weeks.

Play Now

ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 28/05/2024, Steve Austin

Queensland researchers are embarking on a radical new treatment approach for Parkinson's disease. It comes in the wake of growing evidence suggesting the gut is as important as the brain in the development of the illness. Scientists at Brisbane's Translational Research Institute are working on developing drugs to target bugs in the guts of Parkinson's disease patients, in a groundbreaking approach that they hope will slow or stop the illness's progression.

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Back to Top

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Riverina tops current flu levels recorded across regional NSW

Daily Advertiser, General News, 29/05/2024, Jeremy Eager, Page 3

Calls for flu jabs, COVID tests and better hand hygiene are growing louder as COVID, RSV and influenza cases rise across the region, with the growth not expected to slow down as the winter months arrive. Weekly data from NSW Health revealed the Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) has the

highest levels of influenza across regional NSW per 100,000 people, despite the flu still being at low to moderate levels.

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Gold Coast kids among lowest vaccinated

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 29/05/2024, Amaani Siddeek, Page 3

The Gold Coast has recorded some of the lowest childhood vaccination rates in Australia. It comes as childhood vaccination rates again fell across the country, latest quarter data by the Australian Immunisation Register shows. In the Gold Coast Hinterland, vaccination rates for children aged one and five reached 81.87 per cent and 79.82 per cent respectively.

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COVID hospital spike amid triple virus threat

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 29/05/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 3

COVID hospitalisations have almost doubled in a month in Hunter New England, as another wave of the virus takes hold. The wave is expected to peak in the middle of winter, worrying authorities as influenza and RSV cases are also rising. Dr Peter Murray, a Hunter New England public health physician, said "we're really concerned about these viruses all hitting at once during winter".

Also reported by: Newcastle Herald (Online)

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Take action to stop spread

South Coast Register, General News, 29/05/2024, Glenn Ellard, Page 4

Local health officials are urging people in the Shoalhaven to protect themselves and their communities by staying up to date with vaccinations. As the flu season begins and notifications of respiratory viruses rise across the state, the South Eastern Primary Health Network Coordinare has joined with the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District to urge people to take action.

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Mpox virus spreads as three new local cases detected

Canberra Times, Other, 28/05/2024, Anna Houlahan

Cases of mpox, the virus previously known as monkeypox , have been detected in Australia as health authorities warn of transmission risks. Three new locally-acquired mpox infections have been confirmed in Victoria between May 21 and 28, prompting the Chief Health Officer (CHO) Dr Clare Looker to release a public warning.

Read More

Authorities reassure community South West bird flu case unrelated and less spreadable than Victorian outbreak

West Australian, Other, 28/05/2024, Oliver Lane

Authorities have sought to quell fears over the detection of bird flu at a South West mixed poultry farm days after a separate outbreak of a different strain in Victoria. The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development confirmed the case at an unknown property on Thursday but was quick to allay fears of an outbreak similar to that seen in the Eastern States, which has reportedly led to the culling of 400,000 chickens.

Read More

COVID, RSV cases on the rise

Shepparton News Online, Other, 28/05/2024, Zoe McMaugh

Rowan Frazer and Todd Murphy. Locals are being encouraged to closely monitor their risks of contracting COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) after anecdotal evidence both are on the rise in the local area and greater Riverina region.

Read More

ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 28/05/2024, Ryk Goddard

The Australian Medical Association is urging people to avoid complacency as flu cases surge in the lead-up to winter. This year's vaccine is widely available from most pharmacies and clinics and has been developed to counter the latest strains. Parents are particularly being encouraged to take their young children in for the jab, with the vaccine free for those under the age of five.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 28/05/2024, Ryk Goddard

Interview with Dr Annette Barratt, Vice President, AMA Tas, on how people can protect themselves against whooping cough. Barratt says weeping cough is a bacterial infection caused by a bug called Bordetella pertussis which causes a coughing illness and for many people, it is annoying and frustrating. She adds it is treatable by antibiotics, but unfortunately, in young babies and pregnant women, it is extremely dangerous which is why people need to be vaccinated to ensure that they are not going to catch it or pass it on.

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Back to Top

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Titan steps down

Canberra Times, General News, 29/05/2024, Megan Doherty, Page 1

Canberra businessman Terry Snow has announced his retirement at the age of 80, bringing to end a dynamic chapter in the history of the national capital, one which started with a humble general store run by his grandfather and continued with a now multibillion-dollar business that stretches across aviation, property and philanthropy. [...] The historic Fairbairn base was also rejuvenated under his leadership, home now to organisations including the ACT Emergency Services Agency and, most recently, headquarters of the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

Also reported by: <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>, <u>Canberra Times (Online)</u>, <u>Australian Financial Review (Australia)</u>, <u>Australian Financial Review (Online)</u>

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Dr Boreham's Crucible: Diabetic diagnostic aiming to have an impact in the US

The Australian, Other, 28/05/2024, Tim Boreham

An ASX company aiming to give doctors a head start in treatment of diabetes, endometriosis and oesophageal cancer is (almost) ready to make its mark in the US, but first it must weather an unscheduled delay. Having served as Proteomics chief since he co-founded the company in 2001, Dr Richard Lipscombe is used to setbacks and delays. [...] The company hasn't been so lucky on its home turf: in September 2023, the Therapeutic Goods Administration knocked back approval "primarily due to changes to manufacturing".

Read More

If it wasn't an obvious deception at the time, in retrospect it can hardly have been anything else

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/05/2024, Shannon Deery

How do you know when a politician is lying? Their lips are moving. It's an old, unkind joke, but it speaks to the reality that we've come to expect nothing more from our MPs. [...] At the time the offer was made the drug was yet to be approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

Read More

Hailey Bieber uses Carroten for tanning – here's why it's so dangerous

The Courier Mail, Other, 28/05/2024, Mia Erickson

Looking to celebrities and influencers for style inspo and beauty recommendations has become the

norm in this day and age. [...] Thankfully, due to the Therapeutic Goods Administration's heavily regulated sunscreen marketing, packaging and formulation, Australia has some of the best sunscreen formulations and usage recommendations.

Read More

Vaping cessation aids on the horizon

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2024, James Lawson

Nicotine replacement therapy to help people quit vaping nicotine may become available for general sale once a suitable product has been successfully evaluated by the TGA, following amendments to the Poisons Standard this month.

Read More

Changes confirmed

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2024, Chris Brooker

A number of scheduling changes, announced as interim decisions earlier this year, have now been confirmed by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

Read More

No change to paracetamol

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2024, Chris Brooker

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has confirmed a preliminary decision to reject a proposal to allow general sale for effervescent paracetamol preparations of 16 tablets or less, packed in a container with a child resistant closure (instead of blister or strip

Read More

RSV vaccination 'mismanagement' leaves Victorian infants at risk

The Medical Republic, Other, 28/05/2024, Laura Woodrow

The RACGP is calling on the state's government to follow in WA, NSW and Queensland's footsteps to roll out a statewide RSV vaccination program for infants. [...] "I want all Victorians to benefit from new life-saving vaccines and treatments which is why I wrote to the federal health minister Mark Butler about the need for the Commonwealth to update its legislation to allow new treatments like nirsevimab to be eligible for the National Immunisation Program."

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Back to Top

OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

Back to Top

FOOD STANDARDS

Popular sauces pulled from Coles, Woolworths, IGA shelves

9News, Other, 28/05/2024, Adam Vidler

Food Standards Australia New Zealand said the recall was prompted by a labelling issue. The sauces were incorrectly labelled as gluten-free, Food Standards said in its notice. "Any consumers who have a gluten allergy or intolerance may have a reaction if the products are consumed," the notice read. People are urged to return the sauces to their place of purchase for a full refund.

Read More

Allergy experts calling on food services for mandatory allergy training

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 28/05/2024

Food Allergy Week (26 May-1 June) aims to bring awareness to food allergies including potentially fatal food allergies. This month's Food Allergy Week kicked off with allergy experts calling for mandatory allergy training for food service staff and for regulators to treat food allergy management as seriously as the responsible service of alcohol.

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Back to Top

AICIS

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Back to Top

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