



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 19th June 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

[Click here to view full print articles in this report](#)

[Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers](#)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Age** (page 1) reports the NDIS is compiling a list of serious criminals currently accessing the scheme following directions from NDIS Minister Bill Shorten sent to state and territory leaders in April.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 1) reports the mother of a young trans woman who has committed suicide after being badly injured in a "backyard operation" is calling for those responsible to be punished, while experts have warned accessing transitioning care is "difficult or impossible" to obtain in Australia. *Also reported by:* [Daily Telegraph](#), [Daily Mail Australia](#)
- The **Herald Sun** (page 1) reports Victoria's Ambulance Union has warned workforce shortages are leaving large portions of Melbourne without coverage and called for reforms to how cases are classified and distributed to paramedics.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 1) reports children exposed to influenza B are likely to be more resilient to similar strains of the flu as adults, new research by the Doherty Institute has found.
- The **Hobart Mercury** (page 1) reports over 15,000 Tasmanians were on a dental care waiting list with a median wait time of four years across 2023, a new report by the state's Auditor-General has shown.

- [The Age](#) (page 3) reports more people are smoking illegal cigarettes due to high tobacco taxes, new data from Victoria's independent Parliamentary Budget Office has found, but while regulating could cut their black market value, it would be unlikely to drive down illegal cigarette sales.
- The [Adelaide Advertiser](#) (page 3) reports South Australians born before the start of 2009 would be unable to smoke until they turn 21 under new legislation to be introduced to state parliament Wednesday by independent MLC Frank Pangallo.
- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 5) reports New South Wales will waive \$104 million in GP payroll tax debts and introduce incentives for clinics that bulk-bill at least 70 per cent of patients, Treasurer Daniel Mookhey as announced in the state budget. *Also reported by:* [The Australian](#), [Daily Telegraph](#)

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Answering urgent call to invest in GP Access pays off

Newcastle Herald, General News, 19/06/2024, Mark Butler, Page 18

There's no denying John Hunter is one of the busiest emergency departments in the state. When I visited this past week there was a constant stream of ambulances and patients filing in and out of the emergency department. It's no wonder the people of the Hunter were so despaired when the Liberals cut GP Access After Hours when they were in government. [...] Mark Butler is the Minister for Health and Aged Care

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

### Stronger Medicare awards - nominate your Medicare champion today

Winchelsea Star, General News, 18/06/2024, Mark Butler, Page 21

Is there a doctor, nurse or health professional who has consistently gone above and beyond for you or your family? If you know someone like this, then I encourage you to show your appreciation and nominate them for a Stronger Medicare Award.

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

### NSW GPs to be incentivised to bulk-bill in state first budget announcement

Herald Sun, Other, 18/06/2024, Jessica Wang

Doctor's appointments will hopefully become cheaper for residents in one state, in an Australian-first \$189m push announced in the NSW state budget. Doctor's appointments will soon become cheaper in one state, under an Australian-first move to incentive GPs to bulk-bill. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler holds a press conference to launch the commemorative 40th anniversary Medicare card at Parliament House in Canberra.

*Also reported by:* [Yahoo! Finance Australia \(Online\)](#), [Perth Now \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

### Chiropractors again banned from giving Australian babies spinal treatment

The Guardian, Other, 18/06/2024

Chiropractors are again banned from giving babies spinal treatment after health ministers demanded a regulator reverse its controversial decision. [...] The federal health minister, Mark Butler, demanded an urgent explanation from the board and raised the issue with ministers at a meeting on Friday.

[Read More](#)

### Ban on chiropractors giving babies spinal treatment reinstated after outcry

SBS, Other, 18/06/2024

After the Chiropractic Board of Australia's reversal of a ban on infants being given spinal manipulation

treatment sparked criticism from politicians and health professionals, it has reinstated it. Chiropractors are again banned from giving babies spinal treatment after health ministers demanded a regulator reverse its controversial decision. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler demanded an explanation from the board and raised the issue with health ministers at a meeting on Friday.

[Read More](#)

## **Not enough: State health ministers tell Mark Butler to increase GP bulk-billing incentives again**

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/06/2024, Lauren Kelly

The eight state and territory health ministers also called for restrictions on medical school places to be lifted. State and territory health ministers are calling for another increase to bulk-billing incentives. Last week they published an open letter to the federal health minister, Mark Butler, saying he needs to do more to tackle what they described as "a national crisis".

[Read More](#)

## **Mark Butler launches new biotech company targeting hard-to-treat cancers**

Biotech Dispatch, Other, 18/06/2024

Health Minister Mark Butler has launched a new biotechnology company that will use an innovative technology to target cancers that are difficult to treat with existing medicines. In 2023, the Albanese Government awarded \$15 million to establish the Australian Centre for Targeted Therapeutics, a collaboration between the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), the Children's Cancer Institute and Monash University.

[Read More](#)

## **Channel 7, Seven News, 18/06/2024, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings**

A recently lifted ban on chiropractors manipulating the spines of babies has been reinstated after a backlash from health professionals. Health Minister Mark Butler says parents can have confidence that the practice that has no evidence to support its efficacy has been suspended again.

[Play Now](#)

## **4BC, Mornings, 18/06/2024, Bill McDonald**

Qld Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has said while the urgent care clinics, together with satellite hospitals were having a positive impact in diverting patients from stretched to emergency departments throughout the state, at least five more are still needed. Sick kids have been the biggest cohort of patients presenting to Queensland's 11 clinics with almost 1 in 3 visits. The new Federal Department of Health data has revealed that there had been more than 64,400 presentations at the free Medicare UCCs in Qld alone. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has said at Logan Hospital, that presentations for category four and five patients were down by 10%.

[Play Now](#)

## **5CC, 07:00 Regional News, 18/06/2024**

While SA's hospitals continue to face staffing pressures due to illness, health funding has taken centre stage. State-based health ministers are teaming up to push Federal Labor for more hospital funding to help ease the pressure on the system. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the strain is a result of a lack of investment by Liberal governments.

[Play Now](#)

## **ABC Western Queensland, Breakfast, 18/06/2024, Danny Kennedy**

Chiropractors have once again been banned from manipulating babies' spines after the Chiropractic Board of Australia reversed its controversial decision to allow the practice. The about-face by the CBA follows revelations that practitioners have quietly given themselves the approval to resume spinal manipulation of children younger than two from November after a four-year ban. The axing of the initial

ban drew a fiery response from doctors groups and Federal Health Minister Mark Butler who put the issue on the agenda at a meeting of Australian health ministers last week.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## MINISTER WELLS

### Fed Govt launch new aged care capital grants with expanded operator eligibility

The Weekly Source, Other, 18/06/2024, Caroline Egan

Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells today announced Round 2 of the Government's Aged Care Capital Assistance Program, with \$200 million of taxpayers' money made available to upgrade existing infrastructure and build extensions. Round 2 has been expanded to include all regional, remote and rural areas ( Modified Monash Model 2-7 classifications).

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

### New centre fills the gap in Wagga's mental health support

Daily Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Finn Coleman, Page 9

Riverina residents will soon have access to free, walk-in mental health support with Medicare Mental Health Centres opening in Wagga and Young later this year. "There's no referral needed. [...] Federal mental health and suicide prevention assistant minister, Emma McBride, visited Wagga to announce the two locations, including one at 235-241 Baylis Street - the former Commonwealth Bank offices.

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

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## DEPARTMENT

### The Water Cooler: Comings, goings, hearings and consultations

PS News, Other, 18/06/2024, James Day

Aps Senior Executive Service Band 1 Rebecca Carpenter is the new chief of staff for the Home Affairs Secretary. The Murray-Darling Basin Authority has promoted Jacqueline Hickey to executive director of river management. [...] Band 2 Miriam Moore has been promoted to chief counsel at the Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## CORONAVIRUS

### Post-Covid nightmare we're finally waking up to

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Jessica Adamson, Page 13

This is the story of three Adelaide women who've had their lives turned upside by a cruel and debilitating illness. One was a teenage performer touring the country, one a young foreign aid worker and the other, a school student now studying medicine.

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

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

[Back to Top](#)

## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Care gaps upset

Lilydale Star Mail, General News, 18/06/2024, Mikayla van Loon, Page 1

As Australia's ageing population grows and more people elect to remain at home longer, concern over the ability to provide essential services has been raised. The outer east is not immune to this trend, with Casey MP Aaron Violi outlining in a private member's motion in parliament on Monday 3 June multiple cases of residents being unable to access in-home care.

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

### Training via virtual reality

Border Watch, General News, 19/06/2024, Melanie Riley, Page 20

Edgarley Assisted Living has been the first aged care facility in Australia to implement training in specialised dementia training recently featuring virtual reality. Ahead of its national release, 20 of the staff at Edgarley participated in the training through Dementia Training Australia.

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

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

### Thriving at home with help

Border Watch, General News, 19/06/2024, Page 21

Eileen Morris has plenty to say about the positive effects of in-home support, and she would know; she has been a client of Resthaven Limestone Coast Community Services for 16 years. Still living independently in her Mount Gambier unit, Eileen first enquired because, 'I just wanted some cleaning really; mainly the kitchens and bathrooms.

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

### Hope after a fall: get up and go for a walk

Launceston Examiner, General News, 19/06/2024, George Razay, Page 12

Balance problems and falls increase as we get older, affecting approximately 1/3 of people aged 65 and over every year. Falls are a major threat to health, leading to fractures, hospitalisation, institutionalisation and death, costing the Australian healthcare system \$2.3 billion each year.

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

### How positive cultural connections helped Maria embrace home care services

HelloCare, Other, 18/06/2024, Alex Jacobs

Our cultural heritage is always important, but it arguably becomes increasingly influential as we age. Why? For many their culture or religion produces a sense of identity and belonging, and it's what connects them to family, friends and their community.

## Richard de Haast is a pragmatist. Do we need more of him?

The Weekly Source, Other, 18/06/2024, Chris Baynes

Sitting behind Richard in the photo above is Scalabrini 's 1980s decommissioned aged care home on the absolute waterfront of Sydney Harbour in Drummoyne. He is redeveloping it as a retirement village. It is likely his last. He will only accept residents aged 75+ (no exceptions) and he expects all of them to pass away in their village home. Home care he believes will transform villages – and any other form of accommodation.

[Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

## POPULATION HEALTH

### Cigarette tax impost spurs black market

Age, General News, 19/06/2024, Kieran Rooney and Annika Smethurst, Page 3

Smoking and vaping rates have been climbing since the COVID-19 pandemic began due to an influx of illegal cigarettes and a growing black market, with new analysis showing high taxes on cigarettes are pushing people towards illicit nicotine products. Analysis from Victoria's independent Parliamentary Budget Office found that legalising and regulating vapes would potentially remove their illegal market but was unlikely to drive down illegal cigarette sales.

Also reported by: [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [The Age \(Online\)](#).

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

### Footballers tackling concussion culture

Daily Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Jeremy Eager, Page 7

Wagga soccer players and club presidents are speaking up about head injuries, as statistics reveal one of the youngest demographics are suffering the most concussions while playing sport. [...] People aged between 15 and 24 suffered the most concussions when playing sport compared to any other age group across Australia in the 2020-21 financial year, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

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

### Australia's biggest causes of death revealed

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 19/06/2024, Mia Erickson, Page 19

In the grand scheme of things, Australia is a country known for having a considerably extensive and accessible healthcare system. With a strong farming and food production culture to our name, Aussies are also fortunate to have access to fresh and healthy food, sometimes even in the most remote communities. [...] Now, new data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has revealed the greatest cause of death for Aussies in current times - and spoiler alert, we're all at risk.

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

### Hunter figures among biggest losers

Newcastle Herald, General News, 19/06/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 8

The rate of adults in Hunter New England and Central Coast who are overweight or obese has fallen to 59.7 per cent, federal data shows. [...] The weight data, released this week by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare [AIHW], was for the year 2022.

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

### How four minutes a day can boost your fitness

Australian Financial Review, Other, 19/06/2024, Luke Benedictus

Exercise snacking, where you fit several simple micro-workouts into your day, is an ideal solution for busy execs. It's mid-afternoon and I'm slogging my way through a scary backlog of emails in my home

office.

[Read More](#)

## Revolutionary smoking ban based on birth dates proposed for SA

9News, Other, 19/06/2024

The proposed legislation, if passed, would effectively establish a rolling age restriction, ensuring that future generations remain free from the harms of tobacco use. Pangallo confirmed the ban would include vapes.

[Read More](#)

## Life after 80: older Aussies weigh in on challenges of living longer

The Senior, Other, 19/06/2024, Desiree Savage

Australians are living longer causing them to fear of running out of money in retirement, but most people in their prime are loving life although there are still those struggling to hang on. In the May edition of The Senior we called for comment as to whether older Aussies were fed up with waiting to see the pearly gates of heaven, or not - the comment was mixed. [...] " The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) said our nation has one of the highest life expectancies in the world (83.2 years in 2021).

[Read More](#)

## Fictional choir brings real issues of homelessness to the forefront

The Senior, Other, 18/06/2024, Desiree Savage

The spate of older women ending up homeless due to a marriage breakdown or being widowed was the spark for a new novel highlighting the issue. Author Sandie Docker felt "alarmed" to learn three out of four people utilising homelessness services in Australia were women and children. In 2023, older women were becoming the fastest-growing demographic succumbing to homelessness in the country, increasing by 40 percent between 2011 and 2021, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 7, Sunrise, 18/06/2024, Monique Wright and Matt Shirvington

New research shows only 1 in 15 Australians are eating enough veggies. According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, people should be consuming five helpings of veggies every day, but most are falling short with the levels alarmingly low in low socio-economic regions.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Get tested and beat bowel cancer

Daily Telegraph, General News, 19/06/2024, Matt Cross, Page 21

In April I joined the 1295 Australians diagnosed with bowel cancer every month. I am 39. [...] June marks Bowel Cancer Awareness Month, and today Wednesday the 19th of June marks Red Apple Day, Bowel Cancer Australia's annual giving day, and also reminds us we can all take action to help beat bowel cancer.

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

### Painted dragons help brave Zoe fight cancer

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 17

Zoe Edwards faces a second battle with leukaemia but this time she has the power of dragons on her side. Thanks to the Women's and Children's Hospital Foundation's Arts in Health Program, Zoe has drawn inspiration from the art she has created of dragons to find the strength to push through chemotherapy, as she faces another two-year battle with leukaemia at just 10 years old.

## Cairns-first program to fight Parkinson's

Cairns Post, General News, 19/06/2024, Catherine Duffy, Page 8

A tailored exercise program to fight Parkinson's disease has arrived in Cairns for the first time. PD Warrior, run by Royal Rehab Lifeworks Cairns, will focus on fighting early onset symptoms of the neurological disease with group and individual classes.

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

## Breast cancer shock at just 41

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Chelsea Bunting, Page 11

Nicole Riddle was shocked when she was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 41. The mother of two from Hamlyn Heights found a lump on her left breast a few days before Christmas last year. "On January 15, my doctor rang me with the breast diagnosis," Mrs Riddle said. "They discovered quite a lot of cancer in my left breast.

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

## Menopause must not be 'catastrophised', health expert

Canberra Times, Other, 18/06/2024, Kat Wong

Australian women could face further workplace stigma and miss out on the support they need, even if menopause leave is implemented, health experts say. Menopause leave has been proposed as a potential fix at a Senate inquiry into issues relating to menopause and perimenopause, which heard earlier that symptoms from the condition are driving women to early retirement.

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

[Read More](#)

## Mackay cancer diagnosis rates highest in Australia says Atlas study

Daily Mercury News, Other, 19/06/2024, Heidi Petith

Mackay is officially the cancer hotspot of the country with residents in one suburb twice as likely to be diagnosed with the devastating disease compared to the average Australian. Mackay is officially the cancer hotspot of the country with residents in the CBD 57 per cent more likely to be diagnosed with the devastating disease compared to the average Australian. [...] The data was published in the Australian Cancer Atlas 2.0, a collaboration between Cancer Council Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology Collaboration.

[Read More](#)

## New screening technique revolutionises breast cancer screening in South Australia

9News, Other, 18/06/2024

South Australian women now have access to a new type of breast screen that can diagnose cancer more effectively than a regular mammogram. Contrast-Enhanced Mammography (CEM) offers a significant advantage over traditional mammograms, particularly for women with dense breast tissue.

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

[Read More](#)

## Virtual cancer care for rural patients

2GB, Other, 18/06/2024

A 12 week pilot program has wrapped up, providing nurse-led virtual care to rural prostate cancer patients. The Uni SQ project aimed to highlight and fix the gaps in cancer survivorship and supportive care services in rural Australia.

Also reported by: [4BC \(Online\)](#), [3AW \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)



### ED jam missed by Miles

Courier Mail, General News, 19/06/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Taylah Fellows and Kate Stephenson, Page 13

Sensational claims by Premier Steven Miles that road trauma victims were to blame for a choked hospital have been discredited by a top medical boss. In a saga labelled a "car crash" by the LNP, the Premier has been slammed for pointing the finger at careless Queensland drivers for putting pressure on healthcare, after the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital was forced to cancel surgeries due to a bed shortage.

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

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

### Secret order a risk for docs

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 9

Hospital doctors are being warned to check their indemnity insurance amid new claims of a secret order to fast-track ramped ambulance arrivals over sicker people languishing in waiting rooms. The extraordinary caution comes as the health system struggles with record ramping and full EDs - at 3pm on Tuesday clinicians in the \$2.7bn Royal Adelaide Hospital were treating 76 people in its 69-capacity ED.

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

### Dental delays bite

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/06/2024, Genevieve Holding, Page 1

About 15,000 Tasmanians sat on a general dental care waitlist in 2023 with a median wait time approaching four years, a report into the state of Tasmania's oral health care service says. A report by the Tasmanian Auditor-General was tabled in state parliament on Tuesday, showing the public Oral Health Services Tasmania is "struggling" to meet demand.

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

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

### RFDS plane hits cow on landing

West Australian, Edition Changes, 19/06/2024, Page 9

A Royal Flying Doctor plane has hit a cow while landing in the Pilbara. The bizarre incident unfolded when the plane came in to land at the airstrip in Nullagine, about 190km north of Newman, on Tuesday morning. As the plane descended, it struck the cow, killing it instantly.

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

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

### That's a healthy wrap

West Australian, General News, 19/06/2024, Kim Macdonald, Page 37

The \$1 billion redevelopment of Claremont on the Park is almost complete, with plans for a medical centre revealed for the last site in the 14-year-long regeneration project. The precinct comprises more than 750 apartments, in developments by Mirvac, Blackburne, Oryx Communities and Iris Residential, as well as nearly 12,000sqm of commercial space and 2600sqm of retail.

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

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

### \$3m question for hospital

Border Mail, General News, 19/06/2024, Layton Holley, Page 1

Albury Wodonga Health must find ways to save \$3 million in its 2024-25 budget, according to leaked internal emails. However, Benambra MP Bill Tilley said that considering the financial loss AWH suffered last year, the hospital will actually need to save more than \$25 million to break even.

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

## Hospitals served with 'brutal' budgets

Border Mail, General News, 19/06/2024, Ben Silvester, Page 10

Dozens of regional health services across Victoria have been handed "brutal" mandatory budgets by the state government with some hospitals facing cuts of nearly 40 per cent. Some of the hardest hit hospitals are the small rural services that already operate on a shoestring.

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

## Premier ignores regions: MP

Border Watch, General News, 19/06/2024, Page 8

The recent State Budget brings disappointing news for the over 16,000 locals who signed a petition to deliver radiotherapy services in the Limestone Coast. Despite an additional \$7.1 billion allocated to our State's healthcare system, the needs of regional South Australians have once again been ignored by Premier Malinauskas.

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

## New AED for Ouyen shed

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 19/06/2024, Phoebe Doyle, Page 8

The Ouyen community is now better equipped to respond to a cardiac arrest with a fourth publicly accessible automated external defibrillator, or AED, available in the town. Located at the Ouyen Men's Shed at 26 Rowe Street, the new AED is accessible to the public 24 hours.

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

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

## Doc gap

Swan Hill Guardian, General News, 18/06/2024, Sunehra Ahmed, Page 1

Balranald residents are navigating how to handle their health concerns two weeks after being left without a doctor. While temporary arrangements to access medical care in the township of 1063 people have been put in place, locals and health staffin surrounding towns are concerned about the impact.

Also reported by: [Swan Hill Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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

## War of words

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 19/06/2024, Monique Patterson and Katrina Lovell, Page 1

Member for Western Victoria Jacinta Ermacora has been slammed for "staying silent" on a number of vital south-west issues. Roma Britnell, Member for South West Coast, said she was bitterly disappointed Ms Ermacora had not responded to disappointment surrounding cuts to the \$384 million Warrnambol Base Hospital redevelopment.

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

## Call for support as eye care becomes too dear for many

Canberra Times, Other, 19/06/2024, Cassandra Morgan

People who need eye care are forgoing treatment because of its cost, say researchers calling for greater support for those without private health insurance. About 23 per cent of patients were avoiding general health care and optometry services because of cost barriers, according to a survey of visitors to the free-of-charge Centre for Eye Health in Sydney's east.

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

[Read More](#)

## 'No hospital closure under my watch' - Minister

Shepparton News Online, Other, 18/06/2024, Jared Loughnan

Yarrawonga Health has advocated for a strengthened partnership between health services. Victorian Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas has stated - there will be no hospital closures under her watch amid calls for the government to abandon its plan to amalgamate Victorian health services.

[Read More](#)

## Should the terminally ill 'bicycle bandit' be allowed to die on his own terms?

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024, David Bevan, Sonya Feldhoff and Jules Schiller

Bicycle bandit, Kym Parsons pleaded guilty to carrying out 10 armed bank robberies between 2004 and 2014. Should he be allowed to access voluntary assisted dying?

[Read More](#)

## Optimising transitional care after hospitalisation for heart failure

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024, Emily Lathlean

Evidence-based guidelines on the transition of patients hospitalised with heart failure to community care have been developed by a multidisciplinary group of Australian healthcare professionals. The guidelines, published in Heart, Lung and Circulation, noted that hospitalisations for heart failure were associated with high rates of readmission (of about 56%) and death (with an estimated all-cause mortality rate of 25%) one year after hospitalisation for heart failure in Australia, with even higher rates among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

[Read More](#)

## 2CC, Breakfast, 18/06/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Dr Kerrie Aust, ACT President, Australian Medical Association, on health officials misleading the public about the cost per service at the ACT's walk-in centres, by burying roughly \$10m expenses. It is according to documents that were obtained by The Canberra Times under freedom of information. Aust says the AMA has been calling consistently for the transparency of the cost of the service for the taxpayers because ultimately it's them who are paying for it. She adds they want to understand exactly where are patients being redirected to the emergency department and their general practitioners.

Interview continues on: [2CC \(Canberra\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### 'Social media should have health warnings'

The Australian, General News, 19/06/2024, Adam Creighton and Elizabeth Pike, Page 3

The government will consider tobacco-style warnings on social media platforms following a proposal in the US, as concerns mount over children's online safety. Communications Minister Michelle Rowland said "every parent and caregiver was concerned" about social media as the "vectors for harm have never been more exemplified, have never been better understood, and continue to be better understood as each day goes by".

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

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

### Women feel living cost pressures more

Herald Sun, General News, 19/06/2024, Jade Gailberger, Page 6

Women are experiencing higher levels of cost-of-living distress than men, sparking concerns about a rise in suicides. Suicide Prevention Australia's latest survey shows three in five Australians are reporting living costs as a key factor in suicidal behaviour.

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

### Simple act Aussies can no longer afford

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Tileah Dobson, Page 10

New research shows just how much of a mental toll the cost of living is taking on Aussies. A survey of 1500 people who sought help from the Salvation Army in a 12-month period showed cost-of-living

pressures were the main contributors to their poor mental health.

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

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

## Delivering support for mental health

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/06/2024, Guy Barnett, Page 21

Improving the mental health and wellbeing of Tasmanians by providing greater access to quality services is a vital role that our government must play. Mental health is something that can present significant challenges for Tasmanians, and we want to give every person the opportunity to access the supports they need, where and when they need them.

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

## They said goodbyes, then 'braced'

Border Mail, General News, 19/06/2024, Nigel McNay, Page 7

It revved and roared, "valves bouncing", a flash of red crossing erratically from one side of the road to the other. But in these last moments, the highly dangerous driving converged into a deathly straight line of speed and resolve. A man and his mate sitting in a Toyota Hilux ute thought this was it; they couldn't fathom survival in the seconds it took for the craziness to unfurl.

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

## Jasper's bill could hit \$1bn

Cairns Post, General News, 19/06/2024, Bronwyn Farr, Page 5

The cost of the post-Cyclone Jasper flood will be more than \$1bn with some families still displaced and others suffering from severe mental health issues six months after the unprecedented event. But the resilience and strength of Far North Queensland has never been in doubt, the state government body for natural disaster recovery says.

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

## Ageing wellness

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Page 4

Whether you're rich or poor, your mental wellbeing may be the most important factor in determining how healthy you are as you age. Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine researchers in China found that people with better mental wellbeing tended to be healthier as they aged, with healthy ageing characterised by improved resilience, higher self-rated health and longevity.

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

## 'No happiness': new mum's torment

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 19/06/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 8

As a child care worker and mum of two little boys already, Lisa Carrick thought she had everything sorted when she was pregnant with her third baby. "It was our third son, third pregnancy, so I thought I had this in the bag to be honest," the Dapto mother said.

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

## Is social media driving the rise of labiaplasty?

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024

New research has found social media is fuelling significant anxiety about genital appearance amongst young women, and that's being blamed for dramatic rise in labiaplasty. Labiaplasty refers to the surgery to reduce the size of the skin around the urethra and vagina, with almost one quarter of women aged 18-24 feel anxious, embarrassed or unhappy about the appearance of their labia - according to the research.

[Read More](#)

## Why critics worry counselling app BetterHelp could create codependency

After her mother's death, Elizabeth\* sought therapy to process the trauma of seeing her father abuse her mother while she was suffering from dementia. With a lack of therapists on the New South Wales South Coast, she turned to online counselling platform BetterHelp, which claims to "remove the traditional barriers to therapy".

[Read More](#)

## Should Teachers Be Helping Students Manage Their Anxiety?

School News Australia, Other, 18/06/2024, Shannon Meyerkort

What role should teachers play in helping students manage their anxiety, and how can they do that without compromising their own wellbeing? Everyone is under pressure these days. Whether it's work stress, the cost-of-living squeeze, physical or mental health concerns or academic pressure, there seems to be no end of factors that can cause stress and anxiety.

[Read More](#)

## ABC News, ABC Evening News, 18/06/2024, Lorna Dunkley

US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy has called for cigarette-style warning labels on social media platforms to highlight the dangers posed to young people. Murthy says the apps are contributing to a mental health emergency among teenagers, and increasing the rates of anxiety and depression.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 7, Sunrise, 18/06/2024, Monique Wright and Matt Shirvington

There are new calls for warning labels on social media platforms to help protect the mental health of young children. America's top doctor is demanding tobacco-style warnings that would advise parents of the damage that the sites could be having on their children. It comes after both PM Anthony Albanese and Opposition Leader Peter Dutton backed a total ban on those under 16 from accessing the platforms.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### Refusal to exempt nurses from cuts

Launceston Examiner, General News, 19/06/2024, Matt Maloney, Page 4

Premier Jeremy Rockliff has refused to exempt cuts to nurse and midwife positions in the Tasmanian Health Service in this year's budget. An internal Tasmanian Health Services memo was leaked last week in which a vacancy control committee was referenced. The committee would be charged with assessing the need to fill a particular vacancy, and ensure that redeployment was the first option in a recruitment process before the hire of a new recruit.

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

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

### Traumatic experiences of birth to be recounted in Tasmanian parliamentary inquiry into state's maternity services

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024

Tasmanian mothers have been speaking out on their birth experiences as part of a parliamentary inquiry investigating maternity services in the state. A submission from the Australian Lawyers Alliance (ALA) has highlighted claims of birth trauma suffered by multiple Tasmanian mothers. The submission included claims by one woman who said she went to a public regional hospital with abdominal pain but that medical staff delayed investigating the pain.

[Read More](#)

### Inadequate pay rises for NSW nurses and midwives' creates "wage

**curse”**

Nursing Review, Other, 18/06/2024, Stefanie Schultz

A new report claims that the public sector 'wages cap' enforced by the NSW Treasury between 2011 and 2023 has had a profoundly detrimental effect on the remuneration of nurses and midwives, resulting in a labour market in NSW under significant strain. The report examines wage movement between 1999 and 2024 and was prepared for the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association (NSWNMA) by Professor John Buchanan , an expert in labour market and industrial relations from the University of Sydney.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### **What a Wagga doctor learnt, experienced helping sick kids overseas**

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 18/06/2024, Jeremy Eager

learnt of the Royal Australian College of Surgeon's (RACS) planned trip to Samoa, the Wagga-based paediatric surgeon didn't think twice about jumping on board. She's no stranger to providing her expertise in the Pacific, having spent time in the Solomon Islands helping provide sick children the surgery they need to live healthy lives.

[Read More](#)

### **Doctor suicide: 'It's not always one big thing but a thousand paper cuts'**

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/06/2024, Carmel Sparke

Dr Sarah Kleinman says her local community has lost five doctors to suicide in just two years. When a GP took their own life earlier this year, Dr Sarah Kleinman experienced unwanted but tragically familiar feelings of guilt and shock.

[Read More](#)

### **'We're still learning' on pharmacy agreements**

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/06/2024, Ajp Staff

Does the 8CPA mean that community pharmacy is out of the 60-day dispensing woods? And how will scope of practice change how pharmacists work – and how owners manage resources?

[Read More](#)

### **NSW trial expands to skin**

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/06/2024

Pharmacists across New South Wales will soon be able to treat four specific skin conditions as part of the expanded NSW Pharmacy Trial. Luke Kelly, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) New South Wales, expressed strong support for this expansion.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### **Bulk-billing relief as treasurer ends doctor stand-off**

Local GPs will have an incentive to bulk-bill most patients after the NSW government struck a deal to end a six-year stand-off with peak doctor bodies over payroll tax. In Treasurer Daniel Mookhey's second state budget, the NSW Labor government revealed it would waive GP debts totalling \$104 million and introduce a full rebate for practices that bulk-bill at least 70 per cent of appointments.

*Also reported by: [The Australian \(Australia\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Australian Doctor \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).*

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

## Belt tightening with 'must-haves' budget

Newcastle Herald, General News, 19/06/2024, Page 7

A major boost to housing and incentives for bulk-billing GPs headline a tight NSW budget dishing out few new handouts and forecasting years of deficits. Thousands of extra social homes will be built but cash-strapped families face fewer handouts in a budget focused on "must-haves". Treasurer Daniel Mookhey has blamed GST changes painting his budget books red after \$11.9 billion was ripped from state coffers over four years.

*Also reported by: [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#).*

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

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 18/06/2024, Sandra Sully

The NSW Government has announced the Budget will prescribe \$189 million over four years to boost access to bulk billing GPS. It will waive a payroll tax introduced in 2018, which was a bitter pill for GPS to swallow. To be eligible for the rebate, a GP practice in Sydney must have 80% of its appointments bulk billed while for the rest of the state 70%.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Shorten asks states for list of criminals on the NDIS

Age, General News, 19/06/2024, Chris Vedelago, Page 1

Australia's national disability scheme is scrambling to discover the identities of dozens of sex predators, violent offenders and other serious criminals who are receiving financial support that allows them to live in the community. A document obtained under freedom of information reveals the National Disability Insurance Agency is seeking to compile a list of known offenders who are receiving or could be eligible for support when they are released from prison under the \$45 billion program.

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

### Horror of trans 'op'

Herald Sun, General News, 19/06/2024, Aneeka Simonis, Page 1

A transgender woman took her own life after she was horrifically mutilated in a backyard surgery by a rogue operator with no medical training. The 24-year-old was made to lie on a tarp on a bed during the unlawful genital removal procedure, which was abandoned due to extreme blood loss.

*Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).*

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

### Dash for life

Herald Sun, General News, 19/06/2024, Sarah Booth and Mitch Clarke, Page 1

Parents of a four-year-old child who wasn't breathing were forced to drive themselves to hospital after

being told the nearest ambulance was 50km away. The horrifying incident in metropolitan Melbourne early on Monday morning came after paramedic shortages left more than half of Victoria's specialist ambulances out of action on Saturday night.

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

## Doctor ban lifted despite abortion patient's death

Canberra Times, Other, 18/06/2024, Melissa Meehan

A Melbourne doctor whose women's health clinic is linked to the death of a patient following an abortion has won a battle to continue practising medicine. Michelle Kenney had her medical licence suspended in May after Hampton Park Women's Clinic was banned from undertaking surgical procedures following concerns of mismanagement.

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

[Read More](#)

## Program: Patient told to make own way to hospital after snapping Achilles tendon, or wait hours for an ambulance

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024, Leon Compton and Brooke Van

A first responder says he was left "flabbergasted and gobsmacked" after being told an injured football player needed to make their own way to hospital or wait up to four hours for a ambulance.

[Read More](#)

## Groundless complaints can drive doctors away. Here's why patients need to be held accountable

The Guardian, Other, 19/06/2024, Ranjana Srivastava

We have heard all about accountable doctors. Here's why patients must be held accountable. [...] The caller is the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, the authority that ensures the public can maintain trust in the medical profession.

[Read More](#)

## 'Endone meant to be destroyed but I took it'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/06/2024, Megan Haggan

A pharmacist was leasing a home from his country town employer – and what they found there when he went on holidays sparked an investigation into the store's stock.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

### Call to ban smoking for people under 21

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Agnes Gichuhi, Page 3

South Australians born on or after January 1, 2009 would be banned from smoking until they turn 21 under proposed laws set to be introduced to parliament today. The law proposed by independent MLC Frank Pangallo would increase the legal smoking age from 18 to 21.

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

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

### Ban on chiropractors manipulating babies' spines reinstated

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024

A ban on the spinal manipulation of children under the age of two has been reinstated by the body that oversees chiropractors in Australia. The interim ban had been in place since 2019, but was lifted under guidelines from the Chiropractic Board of Australia.

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



## National pulmonary rehabilitation framework released

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024

Lung Foundation Australia has released Australia's first National Pulmonary Rehabilitation Strategy Framework designed to change current pulmonary rehabilitation practices to ensure the program is accessible, affordable and impactful. The framework comprises four key action areas: image and awareness, including calling on health professionals to be aware of the evidence on the benefits of pulmonary rehabilitation in various lung conditions; data and service quality; access for all consumers; and funding.

[Read More](#)

## ABC News, News Breakfast, 18/06/2024, Michael Rowland and Emma Rebellato

A ban on the spinal manipulation of children under the age of two has been reinstated by the Chiropractic Board of Australia. The board had quietly lifted the ban, prompting a fierce backlash from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners which labelled it as reckless. The Chiropractic Board has reinstated the interim ban following a formal request from Australia's federal and state health ministers.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Riverina, 06:30 News, 18/06/2024

An analysis of unmet needs for psychosocial supports outside of the National Disability Insurance Scheme may not be released to the public. The Department of Health and Aged Care commissioned the analysis after a 2020 Productivity Commission inquiry found psychosocial support outside the NDIS is fragmented, complex and administratively burdensome. In a statement, the Department said the analysis has been completed and is expected to be considered by the state health ministers later this year.

[Play Now](#)

## ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 18/06/2024, Kylie Baxter

Australian Medical Association Federal President Professor Steve Robson is calling for more research to be done into chiropractic treatments for children. Robson says if they are going to offer any treatment to young Australian children, they need to make sure to take the time to get the evidence so every Australian parent can be reassured the treatment their children are getting is safe.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## SPORT

### Teeing off with \$3m to cut course in half

Daily Telegraph, General News, 19/06/2024, Page 6

Almost \$3 million will be chipped in to slash the Moore Park Golf Course in half from 18 holes to nine over the next year. The money will go toward the planning to transform half the course into a public park "in one of the most densely populated areas of Sydney", despite pleas from golfers to save one of the most affordable courses in Sydney. Nearby Centennial Park and Moore Park will also get \$9.4m for new sports and recreational facilities.

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

### Watch and you'll be inspired for 2032

Courier Mail, Editorials, 19/06/2024, Page 18

There are now just 37 days to go until the curtain goes up again on the world's greatest spectacle the Olympic Games. And it is about now in every four-year Games cycle that armchair critics start to roll out their predictions for how nations and athletes will perform in terms of medal tallies.

## We're good sports for tech

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 19/06/2024, Mitch Bourke, Page 2

A new partnership between the Gold Coast and a promoter of cutting edge sportstech aims to make the Glitter Strip Australia's Silicon Valley for sports technology innovation. The Gold Coast City Council has partnered with the Australian Sports Technologies Network (ASTN) to establish the 'Sportstech Gold Coast Growth Plan'.

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

## Concerns over Tabcorp's appointment of AFL boss

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024, Kathleen Ferguson

Australia has a gambling problem, with the highest per-capita losses in the world. And there are fears the line between betting and sport in Australia has become too blurred.

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

[Read More](#)

## Athletes warn 'hottest Games on record' could threaten lives at Paris Olympics

The Guardian, Other, 18/06/2024, Ben Doherty

The Paris Olympics could be the hottest Games on record, with leading athletes warning that the intense heat forecast for competition could lead to athletes collapsing or – in a worst-case scenario – dying in competition. A new report, Rings of Fire: Heat Risks at the 2024 Paris Olympics, argues the 2021 games held in Tokyo "offered a window into an alarming, escalating norm for Summer Olympics".

[Read More](#)

## First Nations youngster wants to go from the classroom to AFL coach

National Indigenous Times, Other, 18/06/2024, Brendan Foster

First Nations youngster Beau Robinson hopes one day to be an AFL coach. A proud Indigenous man from the Muruwari, Kullili and Kooma tribes, he is on track to fulfil that dream through the Gold Coast College of Sport and Business program at TAFE Queensland's Academy of Sport.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### Flu secrets unlocked

Herald Sun, General News, 19/06/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 1

Researchers have discovered why some people experience more severe symptoms of the flu than others. New research led by the Doherty Institute found people exposed to specific variants of the influenza B virus as children have more protection against similar variants of the flu as adults.

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

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

### Think you're having a stroke? Now there's an app for that

Herald Sun, General News, 19/06/2024, Ian Royall, Page 11

New face-screening technology for smartphones developed by Melbourne researchers could help paramedics identify a stroke in just seconds. Biomedical engineers at RMIT University used AI to create the smartphone tool which can detect changes to a person's facial movements - a key clue that a stroke has occurred.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#). [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#). [9News \(Online\)](#). [ABC Online \(Online\)](#).

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

## That snore is a worry

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 19

Snoring is more than annoying it can be an early warning of dangerous hypertension. A new study has found people who snore regularly have almost double the risk of uncontrolled hypertension, the medical term for high blood pressure over a long period that can lead to heart failure, stroke, and arterial and kidney disease.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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

## Mouthwash linked to cancer risk

West Australian, General News, 19/06/2024, Page 9

Scientists have found a popular mouthwash could increase the risk of cancer. Researchers at the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium, found two species of bacteria linked to cancer were more prevalent after three months using using Listerine Cool Mint mouthwash daily.

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

## Toxic toll

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/06/2024, Page 3

Air pollution could play a big role in increasing heart disease and death in cancer patients. Tongji Medical College researchers in China found exposure to PM2.5, or fine particulates in the air, was associated with higher rates of both the incidence of and death from heart disease among cancer patients.

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

## The Sydney student who uncovered a 'shocking' problem with global cancer research

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 19/06/2024, Angus Dalton

Modern medicine stands on the shoulders of Henrietta Lacks, a woman who, in January 1951, presented to Johns Hopkins Hospital for cervical cancer treatment because it was one of the few places in Baltimore that would treat African American patients. Lacks died shortly after but not before physicians, without her knowledge or consent, harvested a biopsy of her tumour. When researchers cultured the cancerous cells, they found something astonishing: the cells kept replicating.

[Read More](#)

## Personalised cancer treatment for Australian children improves survival prospects, study shows

SBS, Other, 18/06/2024, Hannah Kwon

There's fresh hope in the fight against deadly childhood cancers, with trials of a new approach doubling survival rates for some patients. Genome sequencing is being used to better match treatment to a child's cancer driver genes in what's called personalised medicine.

[Read More](#)

## Rheumatoid arthritis: improvements in disease activity and remission rates in Australia

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024, Melanie Hinze

Over the past 12 years, improvements have been seen in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) disease activity and remission rates across Australia, an Australian expert has told Medicine Today. Adjunct Clinical Professor Geoffrey Littlejohn, Emeritus Director of Rheumatology at Monash Health, Melbourne, was lead author of a study published in Clinical Rheumatology that reported the results of research involving 117 Australian rheumatologists and just over 48,000 patients with RA.

[Read More](#)

## Wide range of adverse events in patients with dementia taking

## antipsychotics

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024, Rebecca Jenkins

Use of antipsychotic medications in patients with dementia is linked to a wider range of adverse events than previously highlighted in regulatory alerts, research suggests. Current regulatory warnings when using antipsychotics for the behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia were based on evidence of increased risks of stroke and death, but evidence for other adverse events was less conclusive, UK researchers wrote in the BMJ.

[Read More](#)

## Adverse pregnancy outcomes associated with premature mortality in women

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024, Melanie Hinze

Five major adverse pregnancy outcomes should be recognised as long-term risk factors for premature mortality in women, according to new research published in JAMA Internal Medicine. In the Swedish national cohort study, researchers used data from almost 2.2 million women with singleton births between 1973 and 2015, according to the Swedish Medical Birth Register, to investigate the following major adverse pregnancy outcomes: preterm delivery, small for gestational age, pre-eclampsia, other hypertensive disorders and gestational diabetes.

[Read More](#)

## High mortality rate reported within 10 years of atrial fibrillation hospitalisation

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024, Rebecca Jenkins

Almost half of patients hospitalised for atrial fibrillation (AF) or flutter die within 10 years of discharge, an analysis of Australian and New Zealand data has found. AF and flutter were common causes of hospitalisations, but long-term outcomes were poorly understood, University of Queensland researchers wrote in the European Heart Journal.

[Read More](#)

## Combined cannabis and nicotine use in pregnancy linked with adverse perinatal outcomes

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024, Melanie Hinze

Combined use of cannabis and nicotine during pregnancy is linked with increased neonatal and infant death and increased maternal and neonatal morbidity compared with use of either substance alone, according to US research published in JAMA Network Open. The retrospective population-based cohort study used linked hospital discharge data and vital statistics for just over 3 million pregnant individuals (mean age, 29).

[Read More](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 18/06/2024, Sandra Sully

Australian researchers have developed a world-first smartphone app, and it's capable of detecting the signs of a stroke within seconds with an accuracy of 82%. It could mean patients receive life-saving treatment faster.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Indigenous women 'invisible' in family violence data

Canberra Times, Other, 18/06/2024, Keira Jenkins

A fear of being criminalised means Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women often do not report domestic and family violence, a Senate inquiry has been told. Antoinette Gentile, the acting chief executive of Indigenous-run service Djirra which supports women affected by family violence, said 90

per cent of family violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women went unreported in Victoria.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

## Victoria to raise age of criminal responsibility to 12 with no exceptions

The Guardian, Other, 18/06/2024, Benita Kolovos

Victoria is set to become the first state in Australia to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 12, although police will be given new powers to use "limited force" to compel 10- and 11-year-olds to accompany them to a police station. [...] Several human rights groups and Indigenous organisations had called for Victoria to immediately raise the age to 14, in line with medical expert advice and international standards for child development.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### ACT whooping cough cases quadruple

Canberra Times, General News, 19/06/2024, Bageshri Savyasachi, Page 10

With two new notifications on Monday night, the ACT has reported 79 confirmed and probable cases of whooping cough since April. Last year only one case was recorded in the same period. The respiratory tract infection, also known as pertussis, is said to be highly contagious. It can spread simply by inhaling the air around an infected person who is coughing or sneezing. "We are aware that we're seeing an increase in whooping cough activity in some states and territories," president of the ACT Australian Medical Association Kerrie Aust said.

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

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

### Air of danger surrounds building industry despite silica ban

Canberra Times, General News, 19/06/2024, Murray Vitlich, Page 18

Workers on a building site, whether it's a renovation or a large-scale commercial or residential project, already have one of the most challenging and labour-intensive jobs in the country. They face tight deadlines, long days and potential risks of all kinds to their body, from the occasional mistimed hammer on the thumb to safety issues far worse.

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#).

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

### Measles case identified in infant boy, bringing SA's annual tally to six

Adelaide Now, Other, 18/06/2024, Emily Olle

An infant boy is in a stable condition in hospital after contracting measles after a recent overseas trip, prompting an urgent alert from SA Health. The one-year-old is the sixth case of measles in South Australia this year, compared to three cases at the same time last year. A total of three cases were recorded in 2023.

[Read More](#)

### More than one million birds to be destroyed as bird flu is detected at a seventh Victorian farm

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024, Jane McNaughton and Warwick Long

Australia's largest outbreak of bird flu has hit a grim milestone, with Victorian authorities confirming more than one million birds will be killed to try and prevent the spread of the virus. Seven farms across

south-west Victoria have now been found with highly pathogenic strains of avian influenza, affecting hundreds of thousands of farmed birds.

[Read More](#)

## Devastated family speak out after mum of 13 Julie Theobald died from common illness

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 18/06/2024, Olivia Day

A family of 13 who lost their mother to influenza have 'no words' for the generosity they have been shown in lieu of her sudden death. Julie Theobald, 47, was admitted to an intensive care unit in Melbourne on June 10 after a nasty bout of the flu worsened and she contracted pneumonia

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

[Read More](#)

## 'Foul-tasting' almond milk behind rare Aussie botulism case

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/06/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

Doctors say antitoxin should be administered 'urgently' if botulism is suspected. The taste of almond milk can be divisive, but a particularly 'foul-tasting' batch led Sydney doctors to diagnose the first local case of botulism from a commercially prepared product since 2007.

[Read More](#)

## Global increase in STIs: WHO report

Medicine Today, Other, 18/06/2024

Global HIV, viral hepatitis epidemics and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) continue to pose significant public health challenges, causing 2.5 million deaths yearly, says a new WHO report, Global Health Sector Strategies on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infections, 2022-2030.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 7, Seven News, 18/06/2024, Mark Ferguson

As winter bites, the number of flu-like illnesses is rising and health authorities are on high alert. COVID, flu and respiratory viruses are posing a triple threat this season, putting serious pressure on our emergency departments.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

# THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

## 'Nanny state': YouTuber who fled Australia takes new swipe

NEWS.com.au, Other, 18/06/2024, Brielle Burns

A YouTuber has followed through with his decision to flee Australia over the federal government's ban on vapes, branding the country a "nanny state". [...] In a statement on its website, the TGA states regulations around the importation and supply of vapes are "designed to protect Australians, particularly young people, from the harms of vaping and nicotine dependence while ensuring vapes remain available to patients with a prescription, where clinically appropriate".

[Read More](#)

## Telix backs out of listing

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/06/2024

Telix Pharmaceuticals, one of Australia's largest biotechnology companies, has announced it has withdrawn its plans to raise USD \$200 million (A\$300 million) and list on the Nasdaq. The company cited that the proposed discounted prices did not align with its duty to shareholders. [...] Founded in 2015 and with operations around the world, Telix manufactures Illuccix, a product used in the detection and diagnosis of prostate cancer, approved by the US FDA, the Australian TGA, and Health Canada.

[Read More](#)

## OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

### Pill testing service granted a more certain future

Canberra Times, General News, 19/06/2024, Lucy Bladen, Page 10

Canberra's fixed-site pill testing facility will be granted a more certain future with the ACT government committing funding to the centre for another three years. The service has been operating out of a building in Canberra's city centre for the past two years.

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

### Revealed: How the drug and alcohol rehab centre could look

Daily Liberal, Other, 18/06/2024, Allison Hore

The first images of how a long-awaited drug and alcohol rehab centre could look have been revealed. Following a round of community consultation, the Western NSW Local Health District (WNSWLHD) has given a first look at the proposed Dubbo Residential Rehabilitation Centre.

[Read More](#)

### Program: New class of deadly drug sparks pill testing push

ABC Online, Other, 18/06/2024, Chloe Adams

A new family of drugs are causing alarm among medical professionals. Up to fifty times stronger than fentanyl, nitazenes are synthetic opioids that have been detected in Australia in recreational drugs like MDMA and ketamine.

[Read More](#)

### Radio National, Life Matters, 18/06/2024, Hilary Harper and Beverley Wang

Interview with Dr Nicole Higgins, President, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, and Associate Professor Shalini Arunogiri, Acting Executive Clinical Director, Turning Point, on doctors getting very worried about Nitazenes, the powerful new synthetic opioids that they're seeing crop up in drug tests lately. They've already triggered government health alerts and a coroner has also recommended increased drug testing in one state, at least to avoid more preventable deaths from these drugs. Higgins says the problem is that they can be up to 1000 times stronger than morphine, they can be mixed with other drugs and people often don't know that that's the case.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

## FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

## AICIS

### QFES to move Ayr Fire and Rescue Station due to cancer-causing PFAS chemicals

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 18/06/2024, Cameron Bates

Queensland Fire and Emergency Service has confirmed that it is planning to relocate its Ayr station due to contamination by a cancer-causing "forever chemical". It is strongly suspected that the

contamination is caused by per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at Ayr Fire and Rescue Station in firefighting foams used prior to 2003.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

