



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 1st August 2024

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)
| [Assistant Minister Kearney](#) | [Assistant Minister Thwaites](#) | [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

- **9News (online)** reports access to immunotherapy cancer drug Tecentriq via injection is being added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, saving lung and liver cancer patients more than \$100,000. Health Minister Mark Butler said the addition was a critical development for patients and hospitals. *Also reported by:* [Channel 9](#)
- **7news.com.au (online)** reports Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney has announced ten paediatric hospitals across Australia are introducing a free world-first peanut allergy immunotherapy program for babies. *Also reported by:* [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [9News \(online\)](#), [Channel 7](#)
- **NBN Coffs Harbour** reports Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride welcomed the opening of the new Coffs Harbour Medicare mental health centre, which allows people in the region to access mental health support and care free of charge and without an appointment.
- **The Australian (page 2)** reports the Productivity Commission's latest Closing the Gap report shows that while life expectancy for Indigenous men in the NT is on the rise, the jurisdiction is failing more than it is succeeding across a range of measures, including life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous women, and the numbers of underweight Indigenous newborns. Across Australia, there is also no significant or sustained reduction in Indigenous suicide. *Also reported by:* [National Indigenous Times \(online\)](#), [The Guardian \(online\)](#).

- [The Australian \(page 6\)](#) reports a partnership between the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Queensland's North West Hospital and Health Service is hoping to make regional residencies a more attractive career opportunity for junior doctors.
- [The Sydney Morning Herald \(page 12\)](#) reports the Federal Government has released its response to the findings of the disability royal commission and has accepted 13 recommendations in full, including regular government reporting to the Department of Health and Aged Care on the progress of their implementation. *Also reported by:* [The Age](#), [The Australian \(online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(online\)](#), [ABC Radio Adelaide](#), [The Australian](#)
- [The Northern Territory News \(page 7\)](#) reports the NT's independent expert advisory panel on Voluntary Assisted Dying has recommended allowing access to life-ending care for patients over 18 with a "serious and incurable condition that is causing intolerable suffering".
- [The Herald Sun \(page 7\)](#) reports Victoria's Legionnaires' disease outbreak is its worst in more than two decades as identified case rise to 40.
- [The Herald Sun \(page 12\)](#) reports non-melanoma skin cancers have almost doubled this millennium, with the latest research showing most deaths are attributed to a cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma commonly found on sun-exposed areas of the head and neck.
- [The Guardian \(online\)](#) reports the Royal College of Pathologists (RCPA) has issued a warning on a concerning rise in cases of gonorrhoea, syphilis and HIV nationally and have Australians to get tested more regularly for sexually transmitted infections.

MINISTER BUTLER

Life-changing cancer-treatment jab added to PBS

9News, Other, 31/07/2024, Claudia Vrdoljak

Australians fighting lung and liver cancer will soon be able to access a life-saving cancer treatment through a simple, seven minute injection. The nation's first immunotherapy cancer jab, Tecentriq, is being added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, slashing the cost by more than \$100,000 and allowing patients to bypass lengthy infusions in a hospital chair. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler says it's a critical development.

[Read More](#)

Advocates 'devastated' by Albo's disability royal commission response

The Australian, Other, 01/08/2024, Joanne Williamson and Joseph Olbrycht-Palmer

The head of Australia's disability rights peak body has lashed out at the Albanese government, calling its long-awaited initial response to the disability royal commission's landmark report "completely disproportionate". [...] Health Minister Mark Butler, Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth and NDIS Minister Bill Shorten have released the initial response to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability.

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

[Read More](#)

Albanese government releases response to disability royal commission report

Herald Sun, Other, 31/07/2024, Joanne Williamson

The head of Australia's disability rights peak body has lashed out at the Albanese government, calling its long-awaited initial response to the disability royal commission's landmark report "completely disproportionate". [...] Picture: NewsWire / Kelly Barnes Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth, NDIS Minister Bill Shorten and Health Minister Mark Butler will release the initial response to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability at 10am on Wednesday.

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

Butler to launch vision for pharmacy

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 31/07/2024

Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, will unveil a plan for the evolution of the pharmacy profession for the next six years The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's (PSA's) new vision for the profession will be unveiled by Health Minister, Mark Butler, this week.

[Read More](#)

Inclusivity and equity focus for initial government response to disability royal commission

The Mandarin, Other, 31/07/2024, Melissa Coad

Changes to Australia's disability sector must be long-term and meaningful, according to the federal government, whose response to a landmark royal commission accepted the majority of 222 recommendations. A joint statement issued by Social Services Minister Amanda Rishworth, NDIS Minister Bill Shorten and Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler underscored they were committed to taking the first steps to ensure people with disability could thrive and be safe.

[Read More](#)

Hearing loss hub to offer life changing services in Macarthur

South West Voice, Other, 31/07/2024

Dr Mike Freeland says the opening of a Shepherd Centre in Oran Park was a great day for children with hearing loss in outer South Western Sydney. [...] Yesterday he joined Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, health minister Mark Butler and local state and federal MPs for the official opening at Oran Park.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 31/07/2024, Peter Overton

Australians fighting lung and liver cancer will soon be able to access a life-saving treatment that takes just seven minutes. The nation's first immunotherapy cancer jab is being added to the PBS tomorrow slashing the price by more than \$100,000. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says this is giving them access to the life-saving treatment in a convenient injectable form at PBS prices.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 31/07/2024, David Bevan

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Bevan points out that Butler was recently in a press conference with Ministers Bill Shorten and Amanda Rishworth, in regards to the Disability Royal Commission. He states that the issue about the saline shortage might be a bigger issue than just in SA. Butler points out that the shortage is seen globally, particularly as hospitals rebounded from the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

MINISTER WELLS

Supporting our stars of tomorrow

Courier Mail, Business News, 01/08/2024, Kelly Egan, Page 43

Nothing in sport matches the pride that washes over the nation during the Olympic and Paralympic Games. [...] Earlier this week, Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells told media: "Everybody in sport has very good ideas on what to spend money on but we are trying to be thoughtful and strategic about it."

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

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

NBN Coffs Harbour, NBN News, 31/07/2024, Natasha Beyersdorf and Gavin Morris

Coffs Harbor is the latest location nationwide to house a Medicare mental health centre. The doors officially swung open today, providing a much-needed free service for those suffering from mental health issues on the Coffs Coast. Emma McBride, Assistant Minister for Mental Health, says this means so much that people will be able to utilise this centre around the Coffs Harbour area, free of charge.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Forum highlights women's health needs

Bunyip, General News, 31/07/2024, Page 7

A range of community members and health professionals turned out in force to take part in a northern suburbs women's health forum on Thursday, July 25. Member for Spence Matt Burnell and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney hosted the forum to hear directly from the community around which women's health services were most needed in the region.

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

Breakthrough for babies with peanut allergies in world-first treatment program at Australian hospitals

7news.com.au, Other, 31/07/2024

Peanut allergies are the second-most common allergy in Australia — and for those severely allergic to the legume, mere traces can be fatal. [...] "It can be like having a poison in every fridge," Federal Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said.

[Read More](#)

Babies with peanut allergies to receive world-first treatment in bid to build tolerance

9News, Other, 31/07/2024, Yashee Sharma

Babies diagnosed with peanut allergies across Australia are being offered the chance to take part in a world-first treatment program. [...] Ged Kearney said this program could be the "game changer" needed in fighting what is the most common food allergy among school-aged children in Australia.

[Read More](#)

Up to 6000 student nurses getting GP placements under \$4.2m govt scheme

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2024, Antony Scholefield

The Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care says nurse placements at GP clinics remain rare. The Federal Government will spend \$4.2 million to fund 6000 student nurse placements in GP practices and other primary care clinics over three years. The Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association will organise placements for student nurses at GP practices that express interest in hosting, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney announced this week.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 31/07/2024, Jennifer Keyte

Melbourne's Legionella disease outbreak has expanded to a concerning level with authorities unable to pinpoint its origin. Ged Kearney, Assistant Federal Health Minister, says the Vic Health Department are

doing everything it can to locate the source. She adds that finding the source is important, but its also important to get the people affected get the treatment they need.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2024, Max Futchner

More Australian children could be cured of peanut allergies as a revolutionary treatment goes mainstream. The Queensland Children's Hospital is one of ten hospitals offering immunotherapy in a world-first nationalist approach. Ged Kearney, Assistant Health Minister, says having peanut allergy is like having a poison in every fridge.

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Perth\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

5AA, Mornings, 31/07/2024, Matthew Pantelis

Interview with Rebekha Sharkie, Member for Mayo, welcoming the appointment of Kate Thwaites as Assistant Minister for Ageing. Ms Sharkie says she will write to Ms Thwaites to discuss her vision and issues related to ageing, including elder abuse.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

Impasse over disabled rights act

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/08/2024, Olivia Ireland, Page 16

The federal government's response to the disability royal commission has put on hold the recommendations for a disability rights act and a separate department for disability inclusion. [...] The 13 recommendations the government has accepted in full are minor changes such as requiring all levels of government to review and update Australia's disability strategy to ensure it reflects the issues raised in the commission, regular government reporting to the Department of Health and Aged Care on the progress of implementing recommendations and a new disability employment services model.

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

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

Giving voice to diverse populations in aged care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/07/2024, Christopher Kelly

The government is establishing a dedicated multicultural unit to develop a culturally sensitive aged care sector. Sitting within the Department of Health and Aged Care, the Multicultural Aged Care Unit – which aims to "engage and collaborate with multicultural communities to develop a robust, dynamic approach to culturally sensitive aged care" – is a recommendation of the government's Multicultural Framework Review.

[Read More](#)

The Regression of Reablement: Unraveling the Decline of Allied Health in Aged Care

HelloCare, Other, 31/07/2024, Jakob Neeland

The aged care sector in Australia is witnessing a significant decline in the provision of allied health services, despite their critical importance. [...] Yet there is not even individual data on this, because currently, the Department of Health and Aged Care only publishes median care minutes for limited types of allied health across all residential aged care facilities, with several disciplines, such as

occupational therapy, being deemed too small to even register as separate minutes, The Consequences of Inaction If the current trend continues, the quality of life for aged care residents will further deteriorate.

[Read More](#)

PwC offshoot joins sprawling aged care tech work

InnovationAus, Other, 31/07/2024, Joseph Brookes

The federal offshoot of disgraced consultancy PwC will be paid almost \$40,000 a day for the next 15 months to assist with the Health and Aged Care department's technology uplift, as a government mandate to start insourcing more work gets going. Scyne Advisory this month picked up its biggest federal contract since the PwC tax leaks scandal rocked the consulting sector and triggered its fire sale buy of its government work and staff last year. It's new \$12.8 million deal with the Department of Health and Aged Care runs until late next year and adds Scyne to a growing list of technology vendors and consultants associated with the new Aged Care Act.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CORONAVIRUS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Keys to dodging dementia

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 9

Education and exercise help cut risk by half A good education early in life and regular physical exercise from childhood can help cut the risk of developing dementia by almost half. These known modifiable risks are among 14 listed in the 2024 Lancet Commission on Dementia report released on Thursday.

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

Report recommends NT government legalise voluntary assisted dying, after months of consultation

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Oliver Chaseling

A report into the development of voluntary assisted dying laws in the Northern Territory has recommended the government legalise the practice in line with other Australian jurisdictions. Released on Wednesday, the NT government-commissioned report summarised the findings of an independent panel of appointed experts following months of consultation across the territory.

[Read More](#)

Governance compliance still an issue, says report

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/07/2024, Christopher Kelly

Governance compliance continues to be an area of concern for the sector's regulatory body, according to the latest analysis. Released last week by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, the January to March 2024 sector performance report shows that three of the 10 quality standard requirements with lowest compliance relate to standard 8 – organisational governance: effective organisation-wide governance systems, risk management systems, and clinical governance framework.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Peanut allergies targeted

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 18

Babies with peanut allergies in Australia will be offered a treatment program under a world-first model aiming to transform allergy care. Ten pediatric hospitals across five states have partnered with the National Allergy Centre of Excellence, hosted at Murdoch Children's Research Institute, to be the first globally to introduce a nationwide peanut oral immunotherapy program into mainstream care.

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

Don't brush off mouth health

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 01/08/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 22

By gum Aussies are neglectful, dentists say exclusive It is enough to wipe the smile off the face of adult Australians. A survey has found most do not care for their gums properly, if at all, which puts many on a fast track to serious dental and other health issues.

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

Qld Health under fire for only carrying out four vaping raids since new July 1 laws

Adelaide Now, Other, 31/07/2024, Judith Kerr

Australian Association of Convenience Stores chief executive Theo Foukkare said the proposed tobacco licence would help to weed out dodgy tobacco sellers in Queensland. Picture: Contributed Convenience stores and petrol station retailers across the South East are blaming a 20 per cent drop in tobacco sales on the failure of the state health department to patrol the vaping black market.

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

[Read More](#)

'Alarming' rates of period poverty in Australia

Canberra Times, Other, 01/08/2024, Annika Rhoades

Imagine having to decide between buying food or menstrual products or resorting to using toilet paper or socks instead. Not-for-profit organisation Share the Dignity founder Rochelle Courtenay described period poverty as a "fundamental flaw in Australia" and said a new survey of 153,619 people shed light on the severity of menstrual inequality

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), and syndicated widely across regional online

[Read More](#)

One in five Australians improvised period products due to cost barriers, survey finds

The Guardian, Other, 01/08/2024, Stephanie Convery

About three in five people with periods have struggled to afford menstrual products and one in four have worn a tampon or pad for more than four hours in the past year due to cost, an Australian survey of more than 153,000 people has found. In its second triennial report on period poverty, charity Share the Dignity found that periods were still having a substantial impact on the ability of women, girls and gender-diverse people who menstruate to study, work and play sport without interruption, due to cost, pain and stigma.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Skin cancer deaths up

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 12

Deaths from non-melanoma skin cancers have almost doubled in Australia this millennium and the culprit is hiding in plain sight, according to new medical research led by the University of the Sunshine Coast. In a study that has alarmed researchers, most of the deaths were attributed to a high-risk version of cutaneous (skin) squamous cell carcinoma commonly found on sun-exposed areas of the head and neck and often cured by localised removal.

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

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

Patients treated 'second-class'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 20

Mount Gambier residents have been left shocked and saddened that their pleas for a cancer treatment centre have been knocked back saying they feel like "second-class citizens". Plans for a radiation therapy service won't go ahead after a study found half of local cancer patients would still need to travel to Adelaide for treatment.

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

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

Community backs regional cancer centre

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 01/08/2024, Christine Schindler, Page 9

Darling Downs residents and businesses have dug deep into their pockets with a show of support for a regional cancer centre, as plans for it to be built alongside the new Toowoomba Hospital at Baillie Henderson progress. On Thursday, Toowoomba Hospital Foundation announced the organisation had raised more than \$300,000 in their first goal to reach \$1m by 2025, with a target of reaching \$10m within the next five years.

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

Limestone Coast radiation treatment centre found unfeasible and 'not clinically safe' after six-month study

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Becc Chave and Sam Bradbrook

Advocates for a cancer radiation treatment centre in South Australia's largest regional city are disappointed a feasibility study has found it unviable. Health company Icon first put forward plans for a radiation centre in Mount Gambier in 2019, but the federal government said it would only fund the service if the SA government provided half the cash.

[Read More](#)

'Rogue' billboard has gone viral for the wrong reasons

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2024, Laura Jackel

A viral billboard has been causing a stir online after it was spotted and shared across a number of social media platforms. But the 'fast food' ad that at first glance looks very familiar, is not all that it seems, with one missing letter causing a mix of both hilarity and queasiness.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Migrants blamed for services strain

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2024, Natasha Bitá, Page 5

Migrants are being blamed for piling pressure on public schools and hospitals, as NSW Premier Chris Minns demanded more federal funding for state-run services. As state governments refused to sign a national 10-year school funding and reform agreement on Wednesday, Mr Minns called for extra commonwealth spending.

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

Hospital on life support

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2024, Shannon Deery, Mitch Clarke and Sarah Booth, Page 11

The Royal Children's Hospital has warned of significant job losses and program closures ahead. Leaked internal hospital documents show up to 15 jobs are at risk while units including the Academic Child Psychiatry Unit are under threat.

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

Allow the right to die

Northern Territory News, General News, 01/08/2024, Zizi Averill, Page 7

Final report released for Territory laws to help... Territorians living a life of "intolerable suffering" could soon be able to die with dignity as an expert panel reveals their recommendations for a future voluntary assisted dying scheme.

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

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

Planning under way to house vital medical equipment

Ballarat Courier, General News, 01/08/2024, Melanie Whelan, Page 3

Grampians Health is edging closer to housing a new PET scanner for the region. A spokesperson for the health service confirmed GrampiansHealth was working with the Victorian health department on project infrastructure plans to introduce the complex medical imaging equipment to Ballarat Base Hospital.

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

Hospital helipad questions unanswered

Border Mail, General News, 01/08/2024, Ted Howes, Page 7

Doubts over whether a helipad will be part of Albury hospital's redevelopment are growing. NSW Health Infrastructure refused to answer a series of questions by The Border Mail after Benambra MP Bill Tilley raised concerns that plans for a helipad on the site had been axed.

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

FNQ's new ambulance top boss

Cairns Post, General News, 01/08/2024, Catherine Duffy, Page 7

From delivering a baby over the phone to leading a team of 400 officers during a once-in-a-lifetime flood event, Queensland Ambulance Service veteran Brina Keating has been appointed as the Far North's new Assistant Commissioner. Ms Keating, who has spent two decades in the Queensland Ambulance Service, said she was the first person in the role who did not spend time as a paramedic.

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

Probe reveals hospital deaths a symptom of ED failings

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 01/08/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 11

The tragic deaths of a man found unresponsive in a hospital toilet and another who died of an agonising infection have exposed alarming clinical failings at the state's busiest emergency department. Leaked documents from reviews into the deaths at Gold Coast University Hospital reveal failings in treating common but deadly conditions such as chest pain and sepsis.

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

Zane Jamison's death at Launceston's hospital fuelling the fight for answers by his aunt Nicole

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024

Every year when Zane Jamison's birthday comes and goes, his aunty Nicole Harrison wonders what type of man he would have been. "What he would look like, whether he'd be a dad, whether he'd be a husband or a partner," she said.

[Read More](#)

Senate inquiry hears women not believed about perimenopause by doctors

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Kenji Sato

When Jennifer Hacker Pearson entered perimenopause, she says she had to go through four doctors and one gynaecologist before anybody believed her. The Brisbane psychotherapist and mother of three said her symptoms came a few days after her 45th birthday, rapidly ruining her life.

[Read More](#)

Queensland rehab bed shortages lead to long and challenging spinal injury recoveries

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024

Chris Perry still has a long road to recovery after suffering a severe spinal injury while on a holiday with friends at a Sunshine Coast caravan park in June this year. He was collecting firewood when his bike hit a chain strung between two bollards, catapulting him over the handlebars.

[Read More](#)

Tocumwal's ambulance crisis: urgent action needed

Shepparton News Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Zoe McMaugh

Distressed parents driving their own children 40km to hospital, residents crippled in pain waiting for an ambulance and near-fatal bouts of croup. Those are just some of the stories that have been shared to support the campaign for an ambulance station to be established in Tocumwal.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 31/07/2024, Brenton Ragless and Kate Collins

The Opposition says the number of hours patients have spent waiting in ambulances outside hospitals since Labor took government will this week pass 100,000. Emergency measures to free up beds by postponing surgeries have now been in place for two months.

[Play Now](#)

Sky News Live, Paul Murray Live, 31/07/2024, Paul Murray

Murray points out that the reality for a lot of people in Australia is that healthcare is incredibly complicated. He adds that the capacity for local hospitals to be able to do so-called elective surgery is quite strong, as seen in a recent news about a little girl waiting for elective surgery for seven years.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

World-first study 'changes life' of Geelong woman

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 01/08/2024, Chelsea Bunting, Page 7

A Geelong woman who went from spending the majority of her time sitting down to walking 10km most days says that her life has changed for the better. Teresa, 56, was a participant in the Curbing Anxiety and Depression using Lifestyle Medicine (CALM) trial, a world-first study conducted by Deakin University researchers in Geelong.

The surrogacy relationship that 'saved' Sylva's life after pregnancy heartache

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Brianna Parkins

When Micaela Roy gave birth two weeks ago, she was eager to hand the baby girl over to a woman she met on Facebook just 18 months prior. Nearby, Sylva Lloyd and her husband Kim had waited longer than most to hold their daughter, grateful to their surrogate for making them parents after a traumatic fertility journey.

[Read More](#)

Nutrition and exercise as good as therapy for mild and moderate depression, study says

The Guardian, Other, 01/08/2024, Natasha May

Lifestyle therapy including nutritional counselling and physical activity is just as helpful as traditional psychotherapy for reducing non-severe depression, according to a new study. Researchers from Deakin University's Food and Mood Centre say their world-first findings show dieticians and exercise physiologists could be trained and redeployed to be part of the mental health workforce, helping to alleviate staff shortages.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Flying doctors specialise in getting medical students to regions of need

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2024, James Dowling, Page 6

Medical student Kaitlin Brownhill, from the suburbs of Brisbane, is part of a generation of young doctors striving to improve by specialising. She never expected to find those qualifications in outback Burketown, nestled on the Gulf of Carpentaria.

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

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

Questions raised over nursing pay rise funding in thick of pandemic hangover

Ballarat Courier, General News, 01/08/2024, Ben Silvester, Page 5

Victoria's public hospitals say a billion-dollar nursing pay deal with the state government has not been fully funded, fuelling a budget crisis that poses a significant risk to health services. The Victorian Healthcare Association, which represents the state's public hospitals, said baseline funding appeared to be available under the deal, but there was no evidence that a range of extra costs had been taken into account.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#).

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

Breaking point

Burnie Advocate, General News, 01/08/2024, Tess Kelly, Page 1

Nurses and midwives at the North West Regional Hospital have been left feeling frustrated, angry, exhausted and dejected by a failing government Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF)

Tasmanian branch secretary Emily Shepherd said after meeting with staff this week. "The resounding feedback we are hearing from our members is that they inherently feel the clinical environment isn't safe," she said.

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

Doctor suspended over multiple patient relationships

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2024, Melissa Meehan

A Melbourne doctor who had sexual relationships with three patients he met at his clinic and then lied about it to authorities has been suspended for four years. Eltham GP Benjamin Gowrie was suspended by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal this month after the Medical Board of Australia raised allegations against him.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), and syndicated widely across regional online

[Read More](#)

Nurses reject IVF Tas offer, ramp up industrial action as pay parity dispute continues

The Mercury, Other, 31/07/2024, Stephanie Dalton

Health workers in Tasmania have rejected a 3.3 to 3.4 per cent nominal pay increase and voted overwhelmingly in favour of industrial action. ANMF Tasmania Branch Secretary Emily Shepherd shares why IVF Tas nurses are preparing for industrial action.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Channel 9, Nine News, 31/07/2024, Peter Overton

Australians fighting lung and liver cancer will soon be able to access a life-saving treatment that takes just seven minutes. The nation's first immunotherapy cancer jab is being added to the PBS tomorrow, slashing the price by more than \$100,000.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

P&O cruise dance floor mishap exposes Medicare 'misconception' costing travellers thousands

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 31/07/2024, Carly Bass

A P&O cruise passenger has issued an important reminder for travellers embarking on domestic voyages after her sister required medical care while on board this week, resulting in an almost \$8,000 bill. [...] Worryingly, it isn't covered by Medicare, despite it happening within Australian waters.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Do-little reply to key report 'fails disabled'

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2024, Stephen Lunn and Alexi Demetriadi, Page 6

Advocates for disabled Australian have accused the federal and state governments of moving too slowly on reform after their response to the landmark disability royal commission left open the longterm future for special schools rather than bringing all students into mainstream schools within a generation. The governments also kicked the future of disabled group homes and low-paid employment programs for people with disability down the road after both issues caused a split among the six commissioners in their final report delivered in September last year.

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

Labor's disability inaction 'distressing'

The Nightly, General News, 31/07/2024, Ellen Ransley, Page 8

Peak disability advocates say they are "disappointed and distressed" by the Federal Government's response to a landmark royal commission, which failed to action key recommendations regarding the future of special schools, segregated workplaces and group homes. The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, which spanned 4.5 years and cost almost \$600 million, handed down its landmark report in September, making 222 recommendations across 5000 pages.

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

Home care can save hospitals

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 19

As many as one in five people return to hospital within three months of discharge, a number of which may be preventable, new data suggests. Medibank has launched a home care program after data showed 120,000 customers were readmitted to hospital within 90 days of leaving every year 300,000 bed days.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#)

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

Kidney op survivor hails organ donors

Northern Territory News, General News, 01/08/2024, Gera Kazakov, Page 17

With more than 1200 Territorians registering as organ and tissue donors last year, a new campaign is underway to get more people to join with one kidney recipient sharing how the donation changed her life. Now in its 13th year, DonateLife week is back on, running from July 28 to August 4 - and this year DonateLife NT has also launched a video designed, written, and narrated by Aboriginal Liaison officers from Alice Springs Hospital.

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

Disability groups say Labor's response to report 'kick in the guts'

West Australian, General News, 01/08/2024, Andrew Brown and Kat Wong, Page 8

Thousands of people with a disability spent years telling their stories, hoping to spark change. But disability groups say the Government's response to their testimony fails to match the scale of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation these Australians experience every day.

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), and syndicated widely across regional online

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

Federal government responds to disability royal commission, disability

advocates 'devastated'

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Evan Young

The federal government has revealed its response to the landmark disability royal commission, but not committed to a number of the most contentious recommendations, including phasing out special schools, group homes and segregated employment. In responding to 172 of the recommendations it has primary or shared responsibility for, the Commonwealth has not committed to introducing a disability rights act or creating a federal disability department.

[Read More](#)

The bathroom step 74 per cent of Aussies are skipping that could lead to disease

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2024, Robyn Riley

It is enough to wipe the smile off the face of adult Australians. A new national consumer survey has found most are not caring for their gums properly, if at all, and this is putting many on a fast track to serious dental and other health problems.

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

[Read More](#)

Tool available to monitor adverse drug reactions

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/07/2024

Researchers have developed a monitoring tool to help aged care workers spot the signs and symptoms of adverse drug events. The checklist is the result of a study – conducted by Monash University's Centre for Medicine Use and Safety – that centred around the use of psychotropic medicines used in aged care homes to manage a range of mental health conditions including depression, anxiety and insomnia.

[Read More](#)

Doctors 'profiteering' from ADHD crisis, says Professor Patrick McGorry

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/07/2024, Rachel Carter

The psychiatrist and founder of Headspace believes co-payments should be capped or regulated. Professor Patrick McGorry says ADHD and autism are overdiagnosed in patients who can afford \$3000 fees and underdiagnosed in patients who are being priced out of psychiatrist assessment.

[Read More](#)

An organ donation helped a mum grieve and touched four other families

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2024, Annika Rhoades

Michele Polley's son Aaron was only 20-years-old when he was involved in a car crash that left him brain dead. He'd been on a Boxing Day surfing trip with a mate on Tasmania's east coast in 2003 when the car they were in crashed, rolled and burst into flames.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), and syndicated widely across regional online

[Read More](#)

Don't floss? Dentists warn of serious health conditions

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2024, Grace Dudley

Over half of Australians neglect their gum health putting them at risk of serious health conditions, a recent survey reveals. New research from the Australian Dental Association (ADA) found 50 per cent of Australians don't believe gum health is important Out of the 25,000 surveyed, 74 per cent of Australians said they rarely or never flossed their teeth, which ADA dentist Dr Chinotti found concerning.

Also reported by: [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

'It's everything': rural Australians fear Rex's fate

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2024, Stephanie Gardiner

The roar of a Rex plane is the sound of life in Birdsville. Locals in the small outback Queensland town rely on a twice-weekly Rex Airlines service to receive mail and groceries, to get to bigger centres for medical care or to fly their children to boarding school in the city.

Also reported by: [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), and syndicated widely across regional online

[Read More](#)

Disability rights groups 'devastated' by government's Royal Commission response

SBS, Other, 31/07/2024, Sydney Lang

The government has responded to the Disability Royal Commission's recommendations, 10 months after its submission. Advocates say the response is "deeply disappointing".

[Read More](#)

Race to end hepatitis by 2028

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 31/07/2024

Hepatitis NSW has committed to eliminating viral hepatitis by 2028, emphasising the need to distribute cures and vaccines effectively. As World Hepatitis Day took place just last week, the spotlight is on Hep B and C as the most prevalent blood-borne illnesses in Australia, and the second leading cause of death from infectious diseases globally, stated the World Health Organization.

[Read More](#)

Albanese government leaves open possibility of Rex bailout and equity stake but wants input

The Australian, Other, 31/07/2024, Charlie Peel, Robyn Ironside and Rosie Lewis

The Albanese government is leaving all options on the table to rescue Rex – including a stake in the airline and bailout – but wants a say in its future. [...] National Rural Health Alliance chief executive officer Susi Tegen said regional Australia was a powerhouse when it came to economic output from the resources, agriculture and tourism industries but, because of its relatively small, scattered population, needed to be supported with essential services that the rest of the country took for granted.

[Read More](#)

Governments urged to fund disability reform

The Australian, Other, 30/07/2024, Stephen Lunn

Governments must back up their coming response to the recommendations of the disability royal commission with adequate funding, advocates say. Federal and state governments must back up their coming response to the recommendations of the disability royal commission with enough funding to end the violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability, advocates say.

[Read More](#)

STIs surge across Australia while resistance to antibiotic treatments 'increasing rapidly'

The Guardian, Other, 31/07/2024, Natasha May

Australians are being urged to get regular tests for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) after a significant rise in cases across the country, including an almost 20% increase in New South Wales gonorrhoea cases between 2022 and 2023. The Royal College of Pathologists (RCPA) issued a warning on Wednesday of a concerning rise in cases of gonorrhoea, syphilis and HIV nationally. The RCPA is the lead body for pathologists who are specialist doctors trained in laboratory techniques used to test for disease.

Do your friends and family know about your preferences for organ donation?

The Mandarin, Other, 31/07/2024, Melissa Coade

The community is being urged to have important conversations with loved ones about the gift of organ and tissue transplant, with more than 390 patients in NSW benefiting from organ donation last year. NSW recorded more than 47,000 registrations in 2023 for people who wish to be listed as an organ and tissue donor.

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

SPORT

Data junkies aim to give athletes the edge

Australian Financial Review, General News, 01/08/2024, Zoe Samios, Page 4

You won't be able to watch them on television, and nor are they in Paris, but there's a group of highly trained sports professionals helping Australia win medals at these Olympics.

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

Stepping on it for updated netball centre

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/08/2024, Lynton Grace, Page 11

New images have been released of the South Australian Netball Centre, as the project enters its next stage and the government seeks feedback. Ahead of the Thunderbirds' home grand final at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on Saturday, the government has released a fly-through video showing how the new centre will look once it's finished.

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

Child's play for Olympic hopefuls

Cairns Post, General News, 01/08/2024, Samuel Davis, Page 18

Upgraded Far North playgrounds may be the launching pad for the Brisbane 2032 Olympics' breakout star with more than half-a-dozen of the region's schoolyards receiving more than \$25m to improve sporting infrastructure under the state government's Go for Gold program. The latest round of funding has focused on rural and remote locations, where improved facilities are hoped to increase engagement in sport.

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

Channel 7, Seven News, 31/07/2024, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

Collingwood is standing by CEO Craig Kelly as a fresh racism scandal engulfs the club. The Magpies are vowing to fight legal action launched by a former employee who's alleging abuse and victimisation.

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

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Band-Aid solution to shark bite

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 24

Scientists have revealed that injury dressings found in firstaid kits can reliably be used to identify shark species involved in bite incidents by deploying medical gauze to gather DNA samples from equipment such as surfboards. The Flinders University research shows that this new collection method can

improve how shark-related incidents are investigated and can provide accurate and timely information using regular first-aid equipment carried by surfers, boaties, and emergency responders.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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

'Star Trek' science behind sick kid cure

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/08/2024, Eilidh Sproul-Mellis, Page 24

Six-year-old Joseph Cisca looks like a typical kid and, most of the time, he lives like a typical kid too. Behind the cheeky grin, however, his family has to "work hard" to keep him that way, mum Sarah says.

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

Aussie babies get peanut allergy therapy in world-first

Canberra Times, Other, 31/07/2024, Melissa Meehan

Australian babies with peanut allergies will be offered oral immunotherapy in a world-first program. Ten pediatric hospitals across five states have partnered with the National Allergy Centre of Excellence (NACE), hosted at Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI), to be the first globally to introduce a nation-wide peanut oral immunotherapy program into mainstream care.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#) and syndicated widely across regional online

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Urgent plea to close the political gap

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 1

Labor will seek a new bipartisan approach to closing the gap between Aboriginal Australians and the rest of the country, as bureaucrats' tightening grip on Indigenous policymaking is blamed for a calamitous backslide in suicide and incarceration rates. In her first pledge since taking over the troubled Indigenous Australians portfolio from Linda Burney, new cabinet minister Malarndirri McCarthy said she would reach out to the Coalition and other crossbenchers to tackle increasingly entrenched Aboriginal disadvantage.

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

PC report reveals Territory of despair

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2024, Paige Taylor, Page 2

The Northern Territory has recorded the worst results of any Australian jurisdiction in the latest Closing the Gap report, overseeing a litany of increases in disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the top end over the past four years. The NT has recorded worsening results against eight out of 17 targets, some that are counted as two targets because they have two parts to them.

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

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

Rights agenda must be responsible

The Australian, Editorials, 01/08/2024, Page 10

More bureaucrats are the problem in closing the gap, not the solution Far from closing the gap in key outcomes for Indigenous Australians, the situation is going backwards and governments are to blame. This is the stark message from the latest Productivity Commission report, which makes the same points that have long been obvious to anyone with a serious interest in the issue.

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

To Close the Gap bureaucrats must loosen their grip

The Australian, General News, 01/08/2024, Natalie Siegel-Brown, Page 11

There is not a whole lot to hold governments accountable for doing what they promised under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. The data the Productivity Commission releases each year, through its consolidated reporting, is considered by many the proof in the pudding of progress.

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

Aboriginal child 'ripped' from mum

Age, General News, 01/08/2024, Wendy Tuohy, Page 1

The forced removal of an Aboriginal child from their mother's arms in front of other parents was "just about as bad as it gets" in the mishandling of First Nations family welfare, Indigenous leaders say. A non-Indigenous childprotection worker from the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing walked into a central Victorian Aboriginal centre and took the child from the mother, who was attending a meeting.

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

Gap remains 'troubling'

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 11

Australia is still failing to close the gap for Indigenous people, with only five of the 19 targets to reduce disadvantage on track according to new data. Indigenous Australians Minister Malarndirri McCarthy described the data as "deeply troubling".

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

Prevention or patch-up? Individual responsibility for FASD doesn't make sense

The Mandarin, Other, 31/07/2024, Geoff Edwards

There is a curious statement on page 105 of the current Australian Dietary Guidelines published by the National Health and Medical Research Council: Foetal alcohol syndrome is also still present in some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. For downplaying the seriousness and ubiquity of this dead weight on the entire Australian criminal justice and health systems, this bland statement deserves a prize.

[Read More](#)

QLD First Nations Community 'sick of attending funerals' as new data puts Closing the Gap in doubt

Adelaide Now, Other, 31/07/2024, Shaye Windsor

A peak First Nations health body says the state government will not meet Closing the Gap targets in their remaining eight-year time frame. @shaye_windsor 4 min read A peak First Nations health body has hit out at the state government over its closing the gap targets.

[Read More](#)

14 of 19 Closing the Gap metrics are not on target - new report reveals

National Indigenous Times, Other, 31/07/2024, Declan Brennan

Only five of the 19 Closing the Gap targets are on track, the latest data from the Productivity Commission shows, with incarceration and out-of-home care rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continuing to rise. The latest Annual Data Compilation Report (ADCR) released Wednesday night revealed a further five targets show improvement but are not on track to be met, while progress towards four targets is worsening.

[Read More](#)

'Deeply troubling' trends found in first Closing the Gap report since voice referendum defeat

The Guardian, Other, 01/08/2024, Amy Remeikis

The number of Indigenous Australians imprisoned, taking their own life and losing children to out-of-home care have all increased in the first Closing the Gap report since the voice referendum was

defeated. Not only were key measures to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians sliding backwards, prompting concern from leaders, but parties to the national agreement for closing the gap still cannot agree on an approach to measure priority areas.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

New legion of bacteria cases

Herald Sun, General News, 01/08/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 7

Melbourne's sudden spike in Legionnaires' disease is the city's worst outbreak of the bacterial pneumonia in more than two decades, with cases rising again to 40. A further six people were suspected cases and there have been "multiple admissions to intensive care for severe" pneumonia.

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

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

Queensland whacked by sudden 'alarming' virus surge

Cairns Post, General News, 01/08/2024, Blake Antrobus, Page 18

Queensland has been whacked by a sudden and "alarming" surge in influenza cases the number now surpassing those diagnosed with Covid-19 in hospitals for the first time this year. Health authorities confirmed letters were being pushed out to schools and vaccine providers across the state urging people to get vaccinated in a bid to combat the rising numbers.

Also reported by: [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Sky News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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

Mpox cases rise, ACT Health urges awareness

Canberra Times, General News, 01/08/2024, Bageshri Savyasachi, Page 5

Seven more cases of mpox recorded in the past few weeks have prompted an ACTHealth alert urging Canberrans to learn more about the virus. The case total increased to nine after the directorate said two cases of mpox had been reported as of July 13.

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

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

'Pressing public health issue': Doctor's warning amid STI case surge in Australia

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/07/2024

Australians have been urged to be more vigilant about their sexual health amid a "concerning" rise in STI cases across the nation. Data from the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA) showed a staggering increase of nearly 20 per cent in gonorrhoea cases between 2022 and 2023 – with another surge expected this year. Syphilis cases are also on the up – tripling over the past decade – as are rates of HIV.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Legionnaires' disease outbreak widens in Melbourne as authorities work to find its source

9News, Other, 31/07/2024, Yashee Sharma

An outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in metropolitan Melbourne has widened to 40 confirmed cases as authorities continue to trace its source.

A further six are suspected of having the infection, Victoria Health said in today's update.

[Read More](#)

Whooping cough cases triple in WA amid warnings of national outbreak

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Jacqueline Lynch

Whooping cough cases in Western Australia have more than tripled from last year, with the state's South West recording a larger number of cases this year than Perth. WA Health data shows 88 cases of Pertussis, or whooping cough, have already been recorded this year in the South West, while 84 cases have been identified in the metropolitan area.

[Read More](#)

Victoria's new 'clean air' project could help end the COVID pandemic and boost productivity

ABC Online, Other, 31/07/2024, Hayley Gleeson

Hand sanitiser. After several Australian water polo players tested positive for COVID in Paris last week, Olympics officials were pressed for details on how they would be mitigating viral transmission at the summer games.

[Read More](#)

'It's not too late': Flu cases explode, Qlders urged to get jab

The Courier Mail, Other, 31/07/2024, Tayla Couacaud

Influenza cases are on the rise, as the state records a five-year high, with authorities urging Queenslanders to protect themselves and their families by getting vaccinated. Influenza cases have hit a five year high, as Queensland Health warns the peak is not expected till end of August.

[Read More](#)

'Flunami' erupts in Queensland as hospitalisations soar and doctors hold crisis meetings

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 31/07/2024, Pdraig Collins

Australia is being slammed by a wave of illness It is affecting hospital bed availability Queensland is in the midst of a 'flunami' as influenza cases place a strain on the health system and authorities launch crisis talks over a hospital beds shortage. The number of residents being hospitalised for the flu surpassed the number of patients being admitted with Covid for the first time this year.

[Read More](#)

STIs surge across Australia while resistance to antibiotic treatments 'increasing rapidly'

The Guardian, Other, 31/07/2024, Natasha May

Australians are being urged to get regular tests for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) after a significant rise in cases across the country, including an almost 20% increase in New South Wales gonorrhoea cases between 2022 and 2023. The Royal College of Pathologists (RCPA) issued a warning on Wednesday of a concerning rise in cases of gonorrhoea, syphilis and HIV nationally.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Urgent recall after dips sold in NSW, Queensland and the ACT contaminated with listeria

The Australian, Other, 31/07/2024, Emma Kirk

Listeria has been found in Paradise Beach Purveyors Smoked Trout and Chive Dip 150g packages with a use by date of October 7. The product is sold at IGA supermarkets in NSW, as well as Harris Farm Markets in NSW, the ACT and Queensland.

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

[Read More](#)

Popular dip pulled from shelves at hundreds of stores

7news.com.au, Other, 31/07/2024

A popular dip has been recalled after it was found to be contaminated with the bacteria that causes the infection listeria. [...] According to Food Standards Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ), the bacteria can cause "severe illness" in pregnant women, newborn babies, unborn babies, the elderly, and immunocompromised people.

[Read More](#)

Dip pulled from shelves over potentially deadly contamination

9News, Other, 31/07/2024, Adam Vidler

Paradise Beach Purveyors is recalling its 150-gram smoked trout and chive dip over listeria contamination. [...] "Listeria monocytogenes may cause severe illness in pregnant women, unborn babies, neonates, the elderly, and immunocompromised individuals," Food Standards Australia New Zealand said in its recall notice

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

ABC, 7:30, 31/07/2024, Sarah Ferguson

The blaze at the ACB Group took more than 50 firetrucks and 180 firefighters to control. It came just nine months after another chemical fire on the site, which killed a factory worker. Richard Greenwood, chemical safety expert, says the sequence of events that led to the huge fire through the chemicals is quite astonishing.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

