



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 3rd August 2024

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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) leads widespread coverage reporting that Victorian health authorities are rapidly seeking the source of a deadly Legionnaires' disease outbreak in Melbourne's west with one person dead, 60 confirmed cases and 10 suspected cases. *Also reported by:* [Daily Telegraph](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Townsville Bulletin](#), [ABC News](#)
- **[The Warrnambool Standard](#)** (page 1) reports that a woman who had her toddler die after being turned away from Ballarat Base Hospital approximately four times says she wants answers, with a spokesperson for the Coroners Court saying an investigation is currently ongoing.
- **[The Weekend Australian](#)** (page 5) reports that the ground-breaking cancer drug Vitrakvi has been approved for patients on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme after a four-year wait.
- **[The Adelaide Advertiser](#)** (page 7) reports that a record high 5539 hours were lost to ambulance ramping at SA hospitals in July.
- **[The Weekend Australian](#)** (page 9) reports that acting Inspector-General of Aged Care Ian Yates has called for a rewriting of the Albanese government's proposed aged-care act, urging the government to ensure care is made available on a needs-based approach for all older Australians, suggesting universal entitlements similar to Medicare.

Disability reform is going to take time

Ballarat Courier, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 15

While the anger felt by many in the disability community over what they see as the government's "too little, too late" response to the disability royal commission report is understandable, it is, to some extent, misplaced. [...] The fact it has taken the Minister for Social Services Amanda Rishworth, Minister for the NDIS and Minister for Government Services Bill Shorten, and Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler so long to respond suggests they are taking the issues seriously.

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Disability reform is going to take time

Newcastle Herald, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 42

While the anger felt by many in the disability community over what they see as the government's "too little, too late" response to the disability royal commission report is understandable, it is, to some extent, misplaced. [...] The fact it has taken the Minister for Social Services Amanda Rishworth, Minister for the NDIS and Minister for Government Services Bill Shorten, and Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler so long to respond suggests they are taking the issues identified by the commissioners very seriously.

Also reported by: [Lithgow Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#)

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Redbank to receive Medicare Urgent Care Clinic

The Greater Springfield Times, Other, 02/08/2024, Jamie Furness

Two new Medicare Urgent Care Clinics have been announced for Inala and Redbank Plains, allowing locals to access care seven days a week over extended hours with no appointment required. [...] Health and Aged Care minister Mark Butler said the government was strengthening Medicare to allow all Australians to access affordable health care.

[Read More](#)

Urgent care clinics expanding GP scope of practice, health minister says

Australian Doctor, Other, 02/08/2024, Paul Smith

The Minister for Health and Aged Care has told doctors that his \$580 million urgent care clinics are helping to expand the scope of GP practice. Addressing the AMA annual conference on the Gold Coast, Mark Butler described the 63 clinics now open as a "key reform" to primary care.

[Read More](#)

What's in PSA's Pharmacists in 2030?

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 02/08/2024, Jennifer Cooke

Launched today at PSA24, Pharmacists in 2030 lays out how pharmacists can achieve their full potential. [...] Launching Pharmacists in 2030 today (2 August) at PSA24, Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said 'whether it be through expanding the role that pharmacists play in vaccinations, to working on-site in aged care to improve medication management, to boosting funding for general practice to expand their health teams, including with non-dispensing pharmacists.

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What scope of practice changes can pharmacists soon expect?

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 02/08/2024, Chloe Hava

Pharmacist scope of practice has been expanding to meet the surging needs of our rapidly ageing population, as discussed on the Policy Panel – Scope of Practice review panel today at day one of

PSA24. In mid-2023, federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler established the Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce – Scope of Practice Review to address this issue.

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Vision for Pharmacists in 2030 launched at PSA24

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Other, 02/08/2024, Georgia Clarke

On the first day of its national conference PSA24, the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has launched its flagship vision for the future of Australian pharmacy practice, Pharmacists in 2030, alongside Federal Health Minister the Hon. Mark Butler MP. Pharmacists in 2030 is an evolution of PSA's vision for the future of the pharmacy profession, and the steps that need to be taken to get there.

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Older Australians get a voice in government

National Seniors Australia, Other, 02/08/2024

The Federal Government's recent ministerial reshuffle produced a stand-alone Assistant Minister for Ageing. [...] Previously to Ms Thwaite's appointment to a dedicated ageing portfolio, the government's ministerial emphasis was on aged care – through cabinet Health and Aged Care Minister, Mark Bowen, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ged Kearney, and Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells.

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'Helluva lot of good policy': AMA launches 10-year vision

The Medical Republic, Other, 02/08/2024, Laura Woodrow

Despite early sharp elbows and plenty left to do, the AMA and federal government broke bread together today with goodwill and no fisticuffs... or ticking bombs. [...] Speaking at AMA24, federal health minister Mark Butler said he was excited to read the document in full, but from an initial review it appeared to contain "a hell of a lot of good policy".

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Bulk billing may be rising, but so are out-of-pocket costs

The Medical Republic, Other, 02/08/2024, Holly Payne

Health Minister Mark Butler is lauding the 'green shoots' of a bulk billing rebound, but Medicare's share of the health bill has stayed the same. Here's how both statements can be true at once.

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MINISTER WELLS

Older Australians get a voice in government

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\$205M for legacy sporting facility

Council Magazine, Other, 02/08/2024, Kody Cook

The City of Moreton Bay is set to benefit from a \$205.5 million legacy sporting facility that will serve as a state-of-the-art venue for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. [...] Federal Minister for Sport, Anika Wells, said, "We are determined to ensure the Brisbane 2032 Games creates more opportunities for more Australians to reap the physical and mental health benefits of sport."

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Aged care should be universal like Medicare, report urges

The Australian, Other, 02/08/2024, Stephen Lunn

Key parts of the Albanese government's proposed aged-care act should be torn up and rewritten to ensure care is made available to all older Australians based on need rather than continuing with the rationed approach, the nation's independent aged-care overseer says. [...] Aged care minister Anika Wells appointed Mr Yates into the role as acting Inspector-General in October last year.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

New service to support youth

Armidale Express, General News, 02/08/2024, Lydia Roberts, Page 4

A free service for young people suffering mental health issues has officially opened in Armidale. NSW Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride opened headspace, in Rusden Street, on Tuesday, July 30.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Transplant recipient kids urge Australians to get behind DonateLife Week

Western News, General News, 02/08/2024, Page 8

This DonateLife Week (Sunday 28 July to 4 August), Australians are being asked to register as organ and tissue donors and be the reason someone else gets a second chance at life. The Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ged Kearney launched the DonateLife Week 2024 at the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

Older Australians get a voice in government

National Seniors Australia, Other, 02/08/2024

The Federal Government's recent ministerial reshuffle produced a stand-alone Assistant Minister for Ageing. [...] Previously to Ms Thwaite's appointment to a dedicated ageing portfolio, the government's ministerial emphasis was on aged care – through cabinet Health and Aged Care Minister, Mark Bowen, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ged Kearney, and Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells.

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Aged care regressing before reforms begin

Wimmera Mail Times, General News, 02/08/2024, Rachel Lane, Page 9

The Albanese government came into power promising to "fix the aged care crisis", two years on and aged care remains in a crisis that seems to be deepening. [...] However, according to data from the Department of Health and Aged Care, in the March quarter only less than half of all aged care homes are meeting the total care minutes and registered nurse minute requirements.

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Paying to play: The Australian athletes crowdfunding their Olympic dreams

SBS, Other, 02/08/2024

Not all Olympians have sponsorship deals. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care is responsible for sports funding.

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World Health Organization 'Trojan Horse' claim is a myth

Australian Associated Press, Other, 02/08/2024

The Centre for Disease Control will help the World Health Organization (WHO) impose health policies in Australia. [...] A spokesperson for the federal government's Department of Health and Aged Care told AAP FactCheck the June IHR amendments will be subject to parliamentary scrutiny.

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Members

National Seniors Australia, Other, 02/08/2024

MyMedicare is a free and voluntary patient registration model that aims to strengthen the relationship between patients, their general practice, doctor, and primary care teams. The Department of Health and Aged Care says evidence shows that seeing the same GP and healthcare team regularly leads to better health outcomes.

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PSA24: Launch of Opioid Toolkit to promote safer medicine use

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Other, 02/08/2024, Georgia Clarke

Monash University has today launched its new online Opioid Safety Toolkit for consumers, inviting delegates attending PSA's National Conference, PSA24 so pharmacists can gain early access to prepare for its public release in late August. [...] The Opioid Safety Toolkit is funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care and was developed by pharmacists, consumers and other health professionals.

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Who I'm voting for in the RACGP election and why

The Medical Republic, Other, 02/08/2024, Jeremy Knibbs

The next president of the RACGP will be the most important in the history of the profession, if you choose the right candidate. [...] Note: a lot of people in government departments (not all for sure) think this still; GPs are paid for and looked after by the Department of Health and Aged Care (ie, GPs are on the payroll of the federal government on behalf of the people).

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Calculator weighs risk of long Covid

Daily Telegraph, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 33

The University of Queensland-led and developed Covid-19 Risk Calculator has been updated to determine a person's risk of developing long Covid. Developed in conjunction with scientists, clinicians and researchers from Flinders University, QUT, the University of Sydney and the Immunisation Coalition, the online calculator provides a personalised risk assessment of developing long Covid six months after infection.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Call to make aged care more like Medicare

Weekend Australian, General News, 03/08/2024, Stephen Lunn, Page 9

Key parts of the Albanese government's proposed aged-care act should be torn up and rewritten to ensure care is made available to all older Australians based on need rather than continuing with the rationed approach, the nation's independent aged-care overseer says. Acting Inspector-General of Aged Care Ian Yates has urged the government to "be bold" and recast taxpayer-funded support for older Australians in their own homes and in nursing homes into a universal entitlement, similar to Medicare.

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Parkinson's support group to campaign for specialty nurse

Daily Advertiser, General News, 03/08/2024, Jeremy Eager, Page 4

If a nurse or family member catches a cold, crucial support becomes limited - that's the reality of the hundreds of people in Wagga living with Parkinson's disease who require help in everyday life. Now a support group at the Riverina Gums Retirement Village has spoken out on how they believe more help is crucial, and they're doing something about it as they campaign for a specialty nurse.

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Start planning now to 'do death better' with the right help

Daily Advertiser, General News, 03/08/2024, Jacinta Dickins, Page 18

People go into life with their eyes wide open: researching what makes the best choice for school, the best choice for higher education, the best food to eat and the best choice of employer. Yet when it comes to death, many keep their eyes closed to the realities awaiting them and their loved ones.

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Providers need more lead time on reforms, finds IG

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 02/08/2024, Natasha Egan

The government should place a higher priority on ensuring providers have enough time to plan for change and the appropriate sequencing of reforms, according to a report on reform implementation progress tabled in parliament on Friday. For their part, many more providers need to actively think about transforming aged care in line with the intent of the royal commission, the report's author, Acting Inspector-General of Aged Care Ian Yates, told Australian Ageing Agenda.

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2CC, Breakfast, 02/08/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with aged care expert Rachel Lane discussing issues surrounding the aged care sector. The queue of people waiting for a home care package has grown significantly, and Lane says one of the big underlying causes is the workforce.

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Almost half of dementia cases could be prevented or delayed if risks were mitigated, including bad cholesterol, excessive alcohol consumption and a lack of cognitive exercise. Dr. Kaele Stokes, from Dementia Australia, says there needs to be a greater awareness of brain health.

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POPULATION HEALTH

The skinny on fat jabs

Weekend Australian, Review, 03/08/2024, Antonella Gambotto-Burke, Page 17

As a nation, Australia is now a long, long way from the Hollywood trope of sinewy surfers glistening in the morning sun. In 2022, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare found that 26 per cent of children aged from two to 17 and 66 per cent of adults are either overweight or obese.

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I understand what it's like to be lonely

Adelaide Advertiser, Weekend, 03/08/2024, Kate Uren, Page 12

Jaesen Pich sits opposite a total stranger, full of hope they can start a friendship that will fill the lonely void in his life. [...] Gen Z and millennials are now two of the loneliest generations, according to the latest Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data that puts 15 to 24 year olds and 25 to 34 year olds near the top of the scale, just behind 35 to 44 year olds.

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Tobacco turf war

Courier Mail, Edition Changes - Metro, 03/08/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 7

Fears are mounting that an escalating suburban tobacco turf war will see someone killed as organised crime gangs infiltrate lucrative under-the-counter "chop shops", sparking calls for the government to crack down on the illegal trade. Queensland retailers want dodgy operators fined up to \$1m and police to get greater powers to raid premises and prosecute traders selling black-market vapes and tobacco.

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Time for cops to stop chop shop rot

Courier Mail, Editorials, 03/08/2024, Page 67

The sale of illegal tobacco and vapes has escalated from a public health issue to a law and order one. The proliferation of suburban tobacco stores across Queensland in the last few years has fuelled a turf war between these so-called 'chop shops' that are a lucrative lure to a criminal underworld making extraordinary profits out of these products despite the arrival of tough new laws such as those passed in June this year by the state government.

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Mum turned to illegal smokes to pay fees at private school

Border Mail, General News, 03/08/2024, Nigel McNay, Page 19

A Melbourne mother who got involved in a \$150,000-plus cigarette excise ruse out of a struggle to pay private school fees was found out when caught speeding at Bowna. A NSW Police Highway Patrol crew was doing routine speed checks when a white Ford van came barrelling towards them, heading north on the Hume Highway at between 130kmh and 140kmh.

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Alleged tobacco smugglers John Aran, Mohammed Aloachey and Hussein Allaw face court after police sting

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/08/2024, Jason Walls

Three men arrested after police seized more than 300kg of illicit tobacco and more than 110,000 illegal cigarettes in Berrimah last month have faced court for the first time. John Aran, Mohammed Aloachey and Hussein Allaw faced the Darwin Local Court on Thursday charged with possessing or conveying tobacco products with intent to defraud the Commonwealth.

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

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Retailers demand \$1M fines as tobacco turf war intensifies

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/08/2024, Jackie Sinnerton , Greg Stolz , Shayla Bulloch & Samantha Scott

Fears are mounting that the escalating suburban tobacco turf war will see someone killed as organised crime gangs infiltrate lucrative under-the-counter 'chop' shops sparking calls for the government to crack down on the illegal trade. More than 1500 retailers across Australia, including 300 from Queensland are demanding all state governments increasing penalties as dodgy operators continue to sell illegal products in plain sight.

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

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Learn the ins and outs of good oral health Advertising Feature

Canberra Times, Other, 02/08/2024

It's Dental Health Week (August 5-11), and this year's theme is gum health. With that in mind, the Australian Dental Association shares some things you should and shouldn't put in your mouth to keep your oral health in check.

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Faith-based Adult and Teen Challenge patients raise concerns about lack of mental health support

ABC Online, Other, 02/08/2024, Emily Jb Smith

An alcohol and drug rehabilitation provider in southern Western Australia has vowed to review its program after former residents raised concerns about its reliance on unqualified staff and limited mental health support. Faith-based Adult and Teen Challenge operates all over the world, including on a property north of Esperance, to help people manage life-controlling addictions.

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Fluoride added to drinking water in Bunbury, but some residents are looking to filter it out

ABC Online, Other, 02/08/2024, Pip Waller

Fluoride has been added to the water supply of Western Australia's largest regional city as those opposed to the practice continue to spend significant amounts to get around it. Adding fluoride to drinking water is part of Australia's Oral Health Plan, which aims to combat tooth decay and improve the overall health of the community.

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Gum (Gingiva) health

SBS, Other, 02/08/2024

What should Australians do to keep their gum healthy? Dr Mikaela Chinotti, an Oral Health Promoter from the Australian Dental Association has some tips for you.

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Two new dementia risk factors identified — and what could help prevent or delay its onset

SBS, Other, 02/08/2024, Madeleine Wedesweiler

Making certain lifestyle changes can not only lower dementia risk but may also push back the onset of

the disease, according to new research. [...] A recent Australian Institute of Health and Welfare study commissioned by Dementia Australia predicted rates of the disease would surge by 94 per cent by 2054 unless there was a medical breakthrough.

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'Alarming' rates of period poverty in Australia

Daily Liberal, Other, 02/08/2024, 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: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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Your heater may be harming your health

Daily Liberal, Other, 02/08/2024, Christine Cowie & Bill Dodd

We now have a dizzying array of heating technologies to consider, besides the fire that warmed our ancestors. Salespeople will highlight any number of features and minor conveniences.

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What does a Schedule 3 vaping consultation involve?

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 02/08/2024, Chloe Hava

When it was announced in late June that nicotine vaping products will be downscheduled to Pharmacist Only Medicines (Schedule 3) from 1 October 2024, pharmacists were left reeling at the new role suddenly thrust upon them as prescribers of unregistered products that are both unproven and potentially unsafe. On the PSA24 Policy Panel 2 – Vaping, chaired by Peter Guthrey MPS, PSA Senior Pharmacist – strategic policy, a host of experts sought to answer some of the most burning questions that have cropped up since.

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ABC Radio Sydney, Breakfast, 02/08/2024, Craig Reucassel

Interview with Children's Medical Research Institute director Prof. Roger Reddel discussing the celebration of jeans for Genes Day. Reddel says the campaign has been supporting research into genetic diseases, which affect 1 in 20 children in Australia.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Dentist first stop in fighting oral cancers

Hobart Mercury, General News, 03/08/2024, Graham Hall, Page 41

Mr Graham Hall, who is a surgeon and was the director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Unit at the Royal Hobart Hospital for more than three decades, has witnessed the devastating consequences of mouth cancer. Reflecting on World Head and Neck Cancer Day on July 27, he said that despite advances in treatment since the 1970s and some reported improvements in survival rates, only two-thirds of patients are still alive five years after diagnosis.

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Highton mum Diana Ojajune turns to holistic therapies during stage four breast cancer battle

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/08/2024

A Highton mum has turned to holistic therapies after a devastating diagnosis. [...] Cancer Council Victoria's head of strategy and support, Danielle Spence, said it did not recommend the use of

alternative therapies as cancer treatment.

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

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Non-melanoma skin cancer causing growing concern

SBS, Other, 02/08/2024, Ciara Hain & Phoebe Deas

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world with Melanoma being typically the most serious type. But new research has discovered in the last 20 years, deaths from a high risk form of non-melanoma skin cancer have doubled.

[Read More](#)

Movers & Shakers: ACCC commissioner, new chief for DevelopmentWA

The Mandarin, Other, 01/08/2024, The Mandarin

Angela Barrett moves from Treasury to be chief operating officer at the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission. Band 1 moves from the Attorney-General's Department to become assistant commissioner at the Productivity Commission. [...] NSW board appointee for Hearing Australia - NDIS Minister Bill Shorten has announced the appointment of to the board of Hearing Australia.

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Skin cancer rising

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 02/08/2024

Deaths from non-melanoma skin cancers have nearly doubled in Australia since 2000, with new research from the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) revealing a hidden danger. Most fatalities are linked to a high-risk form of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), often found on sun-exposed areas of the head and neck and typically treated with local removal.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Sunrise, 02/08/2024, Natalie Barr & Matt Shirvington

A drug that mimics popular weight-loss medicine is set to launch here in Australia. Wegovy was approved for use by the TGA back in 2022 and hasn't been sold in Australia until now. It is similar to the sister drug Ozempic, which was manufactured for type 2 diabetes patients, whereas Wegovy has been adapted specifically for weight loss patients.

[Play Now](#)

3AW, Breakfast, 02/08/2024, Ross Stevenson & Russel Howcroft

Interview with Joseph Proietto, professor emeritus at the University of Melbourne discussing the launch of the Wegovy in Australia this month. Wegovy is a weight loss drug from the company behind Ozempic. Proietto explains how the drug works.

[Play Now](#)

5AA, Mornings, 02/08/2024, Matthew Pantelis

Interview with AMA president Professor Steve Robson discussing their concern that healthcare in Australia across the country is at breaking point. Robson explains that one of the issues for governments is that they tend to look at spending on the health system as a cost and not as an investment.

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PRIMARY CARE

Costs bite as Aussies shirk dental visits

Two-thirds of people only visit the dentist when they have a problem, and affordability is the main reason that keeps them away. New data from the Australian Dental Association's annual oral health survey of 25,000 people found that only one-third (31 per cent) go for a regular check-up.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [In Daily \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#).

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Call the rampulance

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/08/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 7

Levels of ambulance ramping at Adelaide hospitals have rocketed to an all-time high, doubling since Labor came to power. Figures released on Friday revealed hours lost to ramping soared to a new high of 5539 in July smashing the previous record set in May of 4773 hours.

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

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Slight for sore eyes: On day of op, I was canned

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/08/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 11

Sunday Mail columnist Peter Goers waited patiently for 18 months for cataract surgery only to be told on Thursday the day of the booked surgery that it was cancelled. "I'm almost blind in my right eye, it is a complete fog, and after 18 months' waiting I was telephoned on the day and told it could not be done for another three weeks.

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

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Cost-of living crunch bites into dental checks

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 03/08/2024, Justin Langer, Page 28

Two-in-three Australians are only visiting the dentist when they have a problem as cost-of-living pressures continue to bite, amid calls for dental subsidies to be expanded. In an oral health survey of 25,000 people, 61 per cent delayed treatment in the past 12 months, with affordability the major reason in most cases.

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

March to say: 'Hands off our hospitals'

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 03/08/2024, Jessica Greenan, Page 4

Long-time medical professionals from all corners of the south-west are endorsing a march against potential hospital amalgamations set for Warrnambool this month. The march, scheduled for 1pm on August 16 at the Civic Green, comes as Health Minister Mary- Anne Thomas considers the merging of health services across Victoria.

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'I need answers'

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 03/08/2024, Jessica Howard Framlingham, Page 1

Former Warrnambool woman Renee McGuinness says she won't rest until she has answers to why her daughter is no longer with her. Baby Harper Rose died at two-and-a-half-months-old after multiple hospital visits at which she was told she had a commoncold.

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

Abortion, contraceptive services rolled out

Ballarat Courier, General News, 03/08/2024, Anna Houlahan, Page 13

Almost three dozen general practice clinics in regional Australia will offer abortion and contraceptive services to women living far from citybased specialists. Women living in regional or remote areas have limited access to reproductive health care and are 1.4 times more likely to experience an unintended pregnancy than women living in cities.

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

Response times rise in Greater Bendigo

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 03/08/2024, Jonathon Magrath, Page 8

Greater Bendigo patients in urgent need of an ambulance are waiting longer as Ambulance Victoria response times climb statewide. Almost 40 per cent of ambulance responses in the Bendigo area were late in the last three months, according to Ambulance Victoria data.

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

Dental treatment delayed due to costs

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 26

Two-in-three Australians are only visiting the dentist when they have a problem as cost-of-living pressures continue to bite, amid calls for dental subsidies to be expanded. In an oral health survey of 25,000 people, 61 per cent delayed oral treatment in the past 12 months, with affordability accounting for 63 per cent of the reason.

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Man's horrifying find in hospital bed after 10 metre mine shaft fall

Daily Liberal, Other, 02/08/2024, Allison Hore

A man fell 10 metres down a mine shaft while looking for opals. But it was his stay in hospital afterwards which he dubs "the worst experience" of his life.

[Read More](#)

Back room strategy under way to improve social outcomes for Augusta-Margaret River shire

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 02/08/2024

A coalition of local groups is quietly working behind the scenes to improve how State Government-funded services penetrate the region. Longstanding concerns already reported by the Times identified a range of services across housing, mental health, business mentorship and others not sufficiently funded to extend beyond home base in Bunbury, according to pundits and on-the-ground volunteers.

[Read More](#)

Loved ones weigh in on NSW man Scott Hollingshed's decision to end life

7news.com.au, Other, 02/08/2024

Scott Hollingshed made a decision to end his life by lethal injection on Friday. His family say they believe he made the right decision.

[Read More](#)

Public patients treated at Gold Coast hotels as hospital-bed pressure soars

ABC Online, Other, 02/08/2024, Danielle Mahe

When Glenn Brittain was rushed to emergency in March, he never imagined his months-long "hospital" stay as a public patient would be in four-star hotels on the Gold Coast. "There was talk about it because I'd been there [at the hospital] so long, which is fair enough," Mr Brittain said.

[Read More](#)

SA Health's 'no comment' on claims staff at SA Pathology have been

suspended

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/08/2024, Brad Crouch

SA Health is refusing to comment on bombshell claims by a whistleblower key staff at SA Pathology have been suspended. It is alleged an internal investigation is underway and also a separate independent external investigation is being held.

[Read More](#)

NSW man's final words before death by assisted suicide

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/08/2024, Rebekah Scanlan

After going viral just hours before he ended his life under new voluntary assisted dying laws, Scott Hollingshed has taken his last breath. The Central Coast man chose to "pass with dignity" following a short battle with lung cancer, which saw his quality of life dramatically decline in a matter of weeks following his diagnosis in June.

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

[Read More](#)

'Record demand': Victoria's regional hospitals buckling as wait times soar

The Border Mail, Other, 02/08/2024, Ben Silvester

Emergency department wait times have blown out in Victoria's major regional hospitals despite statewide waits declining, according to the latest government hospital statistics. The data from the Victorian Agency for Health Information showed most health services managing rising patient demand between April and June 2024, but key regional hospitals struggling to cope.

Also reported by: [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

'Under pressure': Ambos face busiest winter quarter on record

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 02/08/2024, Katrina Lovell

It's taking longer to respond to code one emergencies in the south-west, new data shows, with Ambulance Victoria saying paramedics and first responders statewide have faced their busiest quarter on record. Across the south-west, the number of code one calls jumped 14 per cent from 1472 in the April to June quarter in 2023 to 1676 this year - an increase of 204.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Evening News, 02/08/2024, Joe O'Brien

The Gold Coast University Hospital has become the first public health service in Australia to outsource patient care to a hotel. Administrators say it has helped ease pressure on busy emergency departments, but the AMA has described it as a short term fix which exposes the underlying funding problems faced by the public health system. The initiative, which is the first of its kind in Australia, was introduced last year to help free up hospital beds.

Also reported by: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#), [ABC News \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC News \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC News \(Canberra\)](#), [ABC News \(Hobart\)](#), [ABC News \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC News \(Perth\)](#), [ABC News \(Regional NSW\)](#), [ABC News \(Regional Queensland\)](#), [ABC News \(Regional Victoria\)](#), [ABC News \(Adelaide\)](#), [ABC News \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC News \(Canberra\)](#), [ABC News \(Hobart\)](#), [ABC News \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC News \(Perth\)](#), [ABC News \(Regional NSW\)](#), [ABC News \(Regional Queensland\)](#), [ABC News \(Regional Victoria\)](#)

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ABC Radio Darwin , Breakfast, 02/08/2024, Adam Steer

The NT Voluntary Assisted Dying expert advisory panel final report was handed to the government before entering the caretaker period ahead of the election. VAD will be a conscience vote for both major parties. The panel's co-chair, Duncan McConnell, says the government could have sat on the report, but it chose to release it to the public.

2GB, Mornings, 02/08/2024, Ray Hadley

Hospital medical staff this week were warned by NSW of the IV supply shortages, as specialists cautioned patients that they may be forced to cancel surgeries. Australian Medical Association president Professor Robertson has called for the shortage to be treated as a national priority.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Afternoons, 02/08/2024, Sofie Formica

The Australian Medical Association has put forward their new ten year vision for the future of the nation's health. AMA president Professor Steve Robson launched it at the AMA National Conference in Gold Coast today. The manifesto calls for urgent progress on further reforming Medicare and shifting the funding towards preventative care.

[Play Now](#)

5AA, Afternoons, 02/08/2024, Stacey Lee

Interview with Ambulance Employees Association secretary Leah Watkins on SA's worst hospital ramping month on record. Watkins says the situation is horrific and awful, with some staff left working 12 hour shifts without a break on the ramp.

[Play Now](#)

5AA, Afternoons, 02/08/2024, Stacey Lee

Interview with SA Health Minister Chris Picton about the state's hospital ramping, which recorded its worst month. Picton attributes the worst month of ramping on record to full hospital beds.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Breakfast, 02/08/2024, Sally Sara & Patricia Karvelas

Interview with Associate Professor Andrew Dettrick from Sunshine Coast University Hospital Queensland, discussing a new study revealing that in the last 20 years, deaths from a high-risk form of non-melanoma skin cancer have doubled. Dettrick says there were just under 400 deaths from non-melanoma skin cancer across Australia, but by 2021, that number had risen to nearly 800.

Continues on: [Radio National \(Canberra\)](#)

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Can diet help with autism

AFR Weekend, General News, 03/08/2024, David Cox, Page 34

It's early days but researchers are hopeful that what children eat could be a key factor in easing some symptoms of the condition, writes David Cox. Could autism traits really be reversed through a targeted dietary and supplementation regime, combi...

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United on social media

Herald Sun, General News, 03/08/2024, James Campbell & Linda Silmalis, Page 3

Parents' groups making submissions to the parliamentary inquiry into the impact of social media have backed News Corp's Let Them Be Kids campaign to ban youngsters under 16 from social media. Submissions from parents' groups heavily favour raising the minimum age at which kids can access social media to 16.

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

Schools blocking access to therapists

Courier Mail, General News, 03/08/2024, Mitch Knightbridge, Page 12

Therapy for autistic children is hampered by unco-operative schools blocking access to therapists and clumsy NDIS bureaucracy, parents and researchers say. Experts are calling for more collaboration between healthcare professionals to provide autistic children with the best support possible.

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'Hour by hour': Loved ones left with never-ending trauma as NSW missing persons cases remain unsolved

The Courier Mail, Other, 02/08/2024, Toni Moon & Sam Stolz

When a person goes missing, what happens to those left behind? We revisit a handful of unresolved northern NSW cases, consider the impact on families – and what can be done better.

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

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Darwin , Morning Show, 02/08/2024, Rick Hind

Interview with Dr Cameron McLaren from VADANZ discussing NT's report on what its voluntary assisted dying system could look like. McLaren says the report is in line with what they've recommended across the states, and he's pleased to see most of the recommendations included.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Greater support for region's new mums and their families

Central Western Daily, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 2

Orange Health Service's Child and Family Health Nursing (CFHN) team is launching a project to enhance the experience of breastfeeding women and their families and create more supportive environments. Marking the start of World Breastfeeding Week, from August 1 to 7, Orange Health Service Primary and Community Health Manager Anthea Brand said enhanced infrastructure, support and resources for the community were central to the project.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Nurse a day quits health

Hobart Mercury, General News, 03/08/2024, David Killick, Page 15

ANMF Nurses are departing the state's public health system at a rate three times faster than they are being hired, a Mercury analysis has revealed. Over the past four months the state's public health system lost almost one nurse a day and recruited two per week.

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

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/08/2024, Stephanie Dalton

Tasmanian fertility nurses have rejected a pay offer from IVF Tas, instead voting to step up their

campaign for better pay. A stop-work action is set to be held at the Hobart Fertility Clinic from 9am to 9.10am on Tuesday, after union members knocked back a wage offer of a yearly 3.3 to 3.4 per cent increase, depending on their classification, over the next four years for permanent staff.

[Read More](#)

Bolton Clarke industrial action escalates

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 02/08/2024

Bolton Clarke staff are participating in further industrial action in a dispute over pay and conditions with the aged care and retirement living provider. Nurses and personal care workers will join stop-work rallies at various Bolton Clarke sites throughout August and September.

[Read More](#)

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Thyroid cancer drug lists

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 02/08/2024

Ipsen Australia's Cabometyx (cabozantinib), a once-daily oral medication for thyroid cancer, is now available on the PBS. The medication is for patients with locally advanced or metastatic differentiated thyroid cancer (DTC) that has progressed after prior VEGFR-targeted therapy, and is refractory or ineligible for radioactive iodine (RAI).

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Free telehealth training program launches

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 02/08/2024

A partnership of primary health networks has launched a national telehealth training program for the multitude of people delivering care to aged care residents. The Residential Aged Care Home Telehealth Training Program aims to provide consistent training on how to best use telehealth in aged care homes.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

I will never be a mum

Daily Telegraph, Weekend, 03/08/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 7

Fiona Seath will never be a mother. [...] McIlwraith says while there are mandatory reporting requirements for medical practitioners and health professionals through the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, there doesn't seem to be a similar scheme for laboratory scientists.

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

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Young doctor told to get ready for jail

Daily Liberal, General News, 03/08/2024, Stephanie Gardiner, Page 3

A young doctor accused of taking intimate photos of patients at a major regional hospital has been told to prepare himself for jail. [...] Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency records show Chu studied at the University of NSW and graduated in 2021.

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

The Sydney clinic barred from treating patients

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 02/08/2024, Angus Thomson

An alternative therapy clinic in Sydney's north-west has been forced to close its doors as part of the state healthcare watchdog's crackdown on a controversial medical procedure banned by regulators in the United States. The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission issued an interim prohibition order against the Ozone Clinic in Castle Hill while it investigates a complaint made about it by a member of the public.

[Read More](#)

Doctor who impregnated patient able to re-apply for medical licence

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 02/08/2024, Carla Mascarenhas

A NSW doctor who had a sexual relationship with a patient and impregnated her will be allowed to apply for his registration to be reinstated. Dr Aliyar Danaei worked as a general practitioner in Wyong on the NSW Central Coast when in 2018 he engaging in a sexual relationship with a "vulnerable" female patient.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Family's brave choice

Hobart Mercury, General News, 03/08/2024, Simon Mcguire, Page 23

About 22 years ago, while pregnant with her son, Vanessa Summers and her brother Andrew Grundy decided to register as organ donors. "We lived on the West Coast, and at the time, there was nowhere you could donate blood," Ms Summers said.

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Donated eyes a 'phenomenal' change

Burnie Advocate, General News, 03/08/2024, Tess Kelly, Page 13

Four successful eye transplants have helped a Smithton man regain his vision and his life. [...] Mr Roberts story coincides with the end of DonatLife Week which aims to encourage people across the country to get behind organ and tissue donation.

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Former Miss Universe Australia Olivia Molly Rogers opens up on meningococcal death of her cousin Jack Klemich and DonatLife

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/08/2024, Emily Griffiths

Olivia Molly Rogers has opened up on the devastating loss – and legacy – of her cousin, Jack Klemich. [...] "But about two weeks after he died we got this lovely letter from DonatLife in SA saying that his left kidney went there, his right kidney went there.

[Read More](#)

Mother who donated son's organs urges Tasmanians to talk about organ donation

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/08/2024, Stephanie Dalton

Launceston's Michele Polley was heartbroken when her 20-year-old son Aaron was involved in a devastating car crash on Tasmania's East Coast in 2003. [...] This DonatLife Week, Ms Polley is sharing her and Aaron's story to spread awareness of the importance of discussing organ donation.

SBS, World News Australia, 02/08/2024, Anton Enus

In an alarming new discovery, deaths from a high risk form of non-melanoma skin cancer have doubled in two decades. Australia also has the highest incidence in the world for a type of non-melanoma skin cancer called squamous cell carcinoma or SCC, and basal cell carcinoma, or BCC. Researchers at the University of the Sunshine Coast have discovered deaths from SCC have doubled over the last two decades, from 400 to 800, with the true impact likely underreported as they aren't recorded on cancer registries.

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SPORT

Sports, media, betting firms fight clampdown

AFR Weekend, General News, 03/08/2024, Sam Buckingham-Jones & Ronald Mizen, Page 2

Australia's sporting codes, media companies and wagering firms are locked in a last-ditch effort to lobby the Albanese government to avoid a crackdown on more than \$300 million spent in online gambling advertising each year. It has be...

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Women set new gold standard

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 03/08/2024, Jordan Baker, Page 1

Paris is being hailed as the first gender-equal Games. What rubbish.

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

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Call for lottery to fund athletes

Daily Telegraph, General News, 03/08/2024, James Willis, Page 19

The man who brought the Olympics to Sydney has called on sporting authorities and the federal government to radically overhaul the way we fund our athletes, and follow Britain by introducing a national sports lottery system. Rod McGeoch AM, the sports administrator who successfully led Sydney's Olympic bid in 2000, said Australia must adopt the British system , where a portion of lotto tickets sold goes to fund n a t i o n a l sports programs as well as the arts and charities.

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

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Well done scientists

Launceston Examiner, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 61

I congratulate Tasmanian scientists for their groundbreaking work in developing a computer test which may detect dementia in its infancy. The Wicking Dementia Institute, led by Professor James Vickers, continues to proudly display what Tasmania's best and brightest can achieve.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Renewables solution to closing gap

Weekend Australian, General News, 03/08/2024, Greg Brown & Paige Taylor, Page 1

Anthony Albanese has put his climate and industry policies at the heart of a revamped Indigenous affairs agenda that Labor will take to the next election, declaring the net-zero transformation is the nation's best opportunity to deliver jobs and tackle disadvantage in remote communities. The Prime Minister will say the contentious Future Made in Australia framework and the renewables rollout will be used to lift living standards for Indigenous Australians, at his first appearance at the Garma festival since the failure of the voice referendum last October.

Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#).

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

Indigenous bipartisanship is essential

Canberra Times, Editorials, 03/08/2024, Page 54

This weekend's Garma Festival, the first for senator Malarndirri McCarthy as Indigenous Affairs Minister, is being held just days after the release of yet another disappointing Closing the Gap report by the Productivity Commission. The 2024 report confirms that any illusion of progress in closing the gaps in health, prosperity, employment opportunities, education and community inclusion between Indigenous Australians and the rest of the country is at best a case of "two steps forward, one step back".

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'Work with us, not against'

Weekend Post, General News, 03/08/2024, Luke Williams, Page 18

A Cairns Indigenous leader says a dire new report on the nation's Closing the Gap failures shows the government is not listening and money is being thrown at communities as results only get worse. The latest Annual Data Compilation Report, which tracks progress towards the targets and indicators, showed just five of 19 targets are on track to be met.

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Indigenous health workers push to overcome organ donation stigma in the NT

ABC Online, Other, 02/08/2024, Lara Stimpson, Anisha Pillarisetty & Charmayne Allison

Only 9 per cent of people in the Northern Territory are willing to donate their organs, compared with about 60 per cent nationwide. Aboriginal health workers say distrust of health systems and a lack of awareness about the practice are key factors.

[Read More](#)

ACT worsening on two Closing the Gap target assessments — safe and secure housing and youth incarceration

ABC Online, Other, 02/08/2024, Georgia Roberts

The ACT Labor government proudly labels itself as progressive. In the Voice to Parliament referendum, 61.3 per cent of its population voted in the affirmative, making it the only jurisdiction to say Yes.

[Read More](#)

Outback town Dajarra trying to solve housing crisis by recycling cans

ABC Online, Other, 02/08/2024, Meghan Dansie

For the first time in two years, Bobbi-Joan Daniel lets her two young daughters play in the backyard of their rental property in the remote Queensland town of Dajarra. Until recently, it was too risky because of the raw sewage that backed up from blocked pipes and flowed into their yard.

[Read More](#)

First Nations healthcare access gaps laid bare

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 02/08/2024

Systemic changes and increased government intervention from all levels is urgently needed to address

worsening face-to-face healthcare access for Australians living remotely, according to a GP expert. The call for change comes as new Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) data reveals that, nationwide, 17% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people currently have relatively poor physical access to a GP.

[Read More](#)

Family carers essential to Kimberley Foster Care says Minister

West Australian, Other, 02/08/2024, Natasha Clark

"In a perfect world, we would like to phase out the need for foster carers," Kimberley MLA Divina D'Anna said. Though Ms D'Anna and Minister for Child Protection Sabine Winton understand that some family structures in the Kimberley are complex.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 02/08/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Centre for Independent Study indigenous forum leader Warren Mundine, discussing the release of his paper and looking at the future of indigenous policy. Mundine argues that education is the way forward to help and bring prosperity to Indigenous communities. He mentions Closing the Gap figures, revealing that Indigenous suicide and incarceration are increasing.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Woman dies amid disease outbreak

Weekend Australian, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 9

A woman has died after contracting legionnaires' disease in Victoria's largest outbreak of the illness in more than two decades. The woman in her 90s suddenly fell ill with the disease on Tuesday before dying that night.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#).

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Deadly outbreak

Herald Sun, General News, 03/08/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 1

Authorities are racing to find the source of an "unusual" and deadly Legionnaires' disease outbreak in Melbourne's west as experts warn case numbers could increase. Health officials are still searching for the exact site but believe a cooling tower in the Derrimut or Laverton North area is behind the spread of a bacterial pneumonia that killed a woman in her 90s.

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

The legionnaires' outbreak explained

Herald Sun, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 6

What is the disease? It is a severe pneumonia caused by bacteria typically found in wet environments, called legionella bacteria.

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Source eludes as infections rise

Herald Sun, Editorials, 03/08/2024, Page 58

Melbourne is suffering its worst Legionnaires' disease outbreak in 20 years and it has, again, begun to turn deadly. But frustratingly, its source was by Friday still unidentified and questions were rightly being

asked about the Victorian government's supposedly vaunted contact tracing systems that were honed during the Covid pandemic.

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Legionnaires' outbreak narrowed to two Melbourne suburbs

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 24

The source of a growing Legionnaires' disease outbreak that has killed an elderly woman has been narrowed down to two Melbourne suburbs. The woman aged in her 90s arrived in hospital severely unwell and died on Tuesday night.

Also reported by: [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Sunraysia Daily \(Mildura\)](#).

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

School flu vax push by govt

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 03/08/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 18

Every child in Queensland would be able to get the flu jab at school under an ambitious proposal by the state government after a worrying spike of influenza hospitalisations. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has called on the federal government to expand the National Immunisation Program to include influenza shots for school students following the increase in recorded cases.

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JCU researcher can't shake the flu

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 03/08/2024, Page 55

A James Cook University Researcher has spent most of her career working to understand influenza viruses. Immunology and Infectious Disease Researcher and Senior Lecturer Dr Hillary Vandervan works in JCU's containment labs at the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine experimenting with flu antibodies, but this wasn't always her plan.

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

Whooping cough warning for Ballarat parents as pertussis sweeps the state

Ballarat Courier, Other, 02/08/2024, Michelle Smith

Parents and families of young babies are being warned to be on the looking for symptoms of whooping cough as an outbreak sweeps the state. The number of reported cases of pertussis, better known as whooping cough, is just the tip of the iceberg warns Grampians Public Health Unit chief strategy and regions officer Rob Grenfell.

[Read More](#)

Aussie airport identified as potential breeding site for exotic disease-carrying insect

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 02/08/2024, Michael Dahlstrom

An underground drain at an Australian airport has been identified as a potential breeding site for deadly exotic mosquitoes. The insects have the potential to carry life-threatening diseases including dengue fever, chikungunya and Zika virus.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 02/08/2024, Nakari Thorpe

Vic has recorded its first death from a Legionnaire's disease outbreak. Vic Chief Health Officer Clare Looker says the woman aged in her 90s became unwell on Tuesday and died shortly after. Contact tracers have honed in on 100 cooling towers at industrial buildings in Melbourne's south west as the likely source of infection, with plans to test and disinfect them all. There are currently 71 confirmed cases, most are adults over 40, and almost all have been hospitalised.

Also reported by: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#).

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Interview with Monash University scientist Fernando Gordillo Altamirano discussing the outbreak of Legionnaires disease in Melbourne. He says there are currently 60 confirmed cases and he notes the main issue is that the authorities have not been able to pinpoint the source of the outbreak.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

New frontier in fighting the cause of cancer

Weekend Australian, General News, 03/08/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 5

A groundbreaking pan-tumour pharmaceutical that can act upon multiple different tumour types has been publicly funded in Australia and is set to offer hope to thousands of patients who would otherwise likely die. [...] Vitrakvi was registered with the Therapeutic Goods Administration in September 2020 and Bayer's first submission for PBS funding was considered a couple of months later.

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

ResMed calls out Ozempic 'tailwind'

Weekend Australian, Business News, 03/08/2024, Cameron England, Page 27

ResMed has delivered a strong set of quarterly numbers and says Ozempic-style drugs will be a boon for the business, debunking the initial narrative which wiped about \$10bn in value off the company. Chief executive Mick Farrell told The Australian on Friday that it was disheartening this time last year to see the company's share price smashed by the theory that next-generation weight-loss drugs would punch a hole in the ResMed business.

Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#), [AFR Weekend \(Australia\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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

Macy Gray rushed to hospital after revealing “painful” side effects of Ozempic

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/08/2024, Adella Beaini

American singer Macy Gray was rushed to hospital after complaining about the “painful” side effects of the weight loss drug Ozempic. [...] The drug has been approved for use by the Therapeutic Goods Administration since 2022, which allows its use for weight loss and weight management of people who are classified as obese or overweight when combined with increased exercise and a reduced-calorie diet, however it has never been sold in Australia.

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

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Ozone Clinic Castle Hill raided by Health Care Commission, handed temporary ban

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 02/08/2024, Madeleine Damo

A provider of a controversial, alternative medicine has been slapped with a temporary ban amid an investigation by the healthcare watchdog, following a search warrant of their clinic in Sydney's northwest. Madeleine Damo A provider of an alternative medicine known as "ozone therapy" is being investigated by the healthcare watchdog, following a search warrant of their clinic in Sydney's northwest. [...] The order was imposed following a search warrant of the clinic when the commission's inspectors and an officer from the Therapeutic Goods Administration was also in attendance.

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

Wegovy launches in Australia

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 02/08/2024

The manufacturer assured GPs supply planning has been its priority amid critical Ozempic shortages, but concerns remain over Wegovy's availability. [...] While welcomed, its launch has been met with concern and some scepticism from GPs amid the worldwide critical shortages of Ozempic The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) last year issued firm advice to GPs to not initiate new patients on Ozempic due to its short supply, and that is showing no signs of easing any time soon.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Online dealers pose a high risk

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/08/2024, Emily Olle, Page 10

Social media platforms are being used to peddle illegal psychedelic drugs, notably "magic mushrooms", to young South Australians, prompting a dire warning they could also be laced with illicit substances. Experts say platforms like Meta and TikTok are contributing to a resurgence in recreational use of the drugs particularly among the vulnerable.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Flight risk

The Saturday Paper, General News, 03/08/2024, Bianca Nogrady, Page 4

The beaches of South America's southeastern and western coastlines are breeding grounds for sea lions. [...] Food Standards Australia New Zealand has reassured the public that eggs and cooked chicken meat are safe to handle and consume.

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Popular Chapel St restaurant Little Tim Tam had rodent poo in its kitchen

Adelaide Now, Other, 02/08/2024, Aneeka Simonis

A popular Chapel St restaurant has spectacularly failed to keep secret its "revolting" food safety breaches, including rodent poo in the kitchen, after it was doxxed in for unsanitary conditions. Asian fusion restaurant Little Tim Tam spectacularly failed to keep secret its "revolting" food safety breaches after making and then abandoning a bid to suppress the case from being made public.

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

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6PR, Afternoons, 02/08/2024, Julie-anne Sprague

Interview with RMIT University lecturer in human biosciences, Dr. Sharayah Carter, about the changes coming to the food rating system. Carter says the government is shifting the oversight of health star ratings from the food industry to government regulators like Food Standards Australia and New Zealand.

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Should you worry about safety of non-stick cookware?

ABC Online, Other, 02/08/2024, Patrick Wright

If you have non-stick pots and pans in your kitchen, you might be worried about whether they're safe to use. Common concerns are usually focused on the use of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the coatings of non-stick cookware.

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