



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 4th August 2024

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[Sunday Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) reports that the Victorian Department of Health has said they will provide an update on the legionnaires outbreak tomorrow, with an investigation ongoing into the source of the 71 confirmed and seven suspected cases.
- **[The Sunday Times](#)** (page 2) reports that a petition from the Health Services Union of West Australia has been delivered to the Deputy Premier urging the WA government to intervene in an ongoing pay dispute after rejecting an offer from the Department of Health.
- **[The Sunday Canberra Times](#)** (page 4) reports that, as part of the federal government's aged care reforms, the Dementia Respite Education and Mentoring Project has been developed to provide education and training to aged care and respite workers to improve dementia respite care.
- **[The Sunday Mail Brisbane](#)** (page 7) reports that RBWH hospital in Queensland is facing a shortage of beds and mental health doctors in the psychiatric emergency unit, with no psychiatric registrar rostered on between 10:30 pm and the morning shift.
- **[The Sun Herald](#)** (page 10) reports that intravenous vitamin infusion businesses are facing calls for regulation due to a lack of proven efficacy and amid a shortage of IV products. A spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler said they are addressing the current shortage,

saying “the TGA has approved a number of alternative supplies from overseas to supplement the local production”.

- **The Sun Herald** (page 10) reports that fertility organisations in Australia and New Zealand have called for an overhaul of the way Medicare defines infertility to include a broader range of patients, including LGBTQ people, single women, and single men seeking a surrogate. A spokesperson for the Department of Health and Ageing said they are looking at the changes and considering the implications it would have for fertility funding under Medicare.
- **The Sunday Mail Adelaide** (page 10) reports that a spokesperson for the TGA has said medical practitioners are responsible for revealing the possible side-effects of prescribed medication after a woman was prescribed Ciprofloxacin over the phone for a skin rash and developed peripheral neuropathy.
- **The Sunday Herald Sun** (page 11) reports that the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre has blamed funding cuts for a directive aimed at cutting staff overtime by 30 per cent, while the Victorian government maintains their budget will not affect patient care and does not represent a funding cut to healthcare.
- **The Sunday Mail Adelaide** (page 12) reports that the AEA has criticised a SA Health decision to end a code yellow on August 16, citing rising ramping hours and continuing disruptions to elective and non-urgent surgeries as proof of a health system still in crisis.

MINISTER BUTLER

Plea to alter fertility definition

Sun Herald, General News, 04/08/2024, Kate Aubusson, Page 10

Australia's peak fertility organisations say Medicare's definition of infertility is outdated and discriminatory, urging the federal government to give equal access to reproductive services regardless of relationship status, sexual orientation or gender identity. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler was advised of the groups' updated definition last week.

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

Alarm bells ring over taking vitamins in vein

Sun Herald, General News, 04/08/2024, Amber Schultz, Page 10

Intravenous infusions spruiked as hangovers cures or immunity boosters are surging in popularity, as doctors call for a crackdown on the unregulated market. [...] A spokesperson for federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the government was working with public and private health providers to address the IV shortage.

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

Teens still sniffing out 'banned' vapes

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 04/08/2024, Madeline Crittenden, Page 33

The scent of sickly sweet vapes is still flooding teen bedrooms and school bathrooms, despite new laws banning their sale. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said efforts to stop illegal vape sellers were "ramping up" with NSW Health Authorities visiting dozens of stores since July 1.

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

How to get government to listen to older Australians

The Senior, Other, 03/08/2024, Anthony Caggiano

If you've ever wondered if the higher powers ever hear older Australians' voices, perhaps this might change your mind. [...] The government has two ministers representing aged care (Mark Butler and Anika Wells), and an assistant minister for health and aged care (Ged Kearney).

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MINISTER WELLS

How to get government to listen to older Australians

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

New PSA fellows

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 03/08/2024, Jennifer Cooke

A bumper field of 23 Australian pharmacists have been approved by the PSA National Board for elevation to fellow status. [...] From New South Wales PSA National Vice President Caroline Diamantis and the Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health Emma McBride are now fellows, along with Sarah Dineen-Griffin, Cherie Lucas and Jonathan Penm.

[Read More](#)

PSA24: New cohort of PSA Fellows recognised for contributions

Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Other, 03/08/2024, Georgia Clarke

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) is pleased to present 26 PSA Fellowships this weekend at PSA24, recognising the significant contributions of members to both the profession and PSA. Among the new Fellows is Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health the Honourable Emma McBride MP – the only pharmacist currently serving in the Australian Parliament.

[Read More](#)

PD breaking news – PSA celebrates its top intern, locum and several fellowships

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 03/08/2024

High-achieving pharmacy professionals were recognised in front of their peers at the PSA national conference. [...] Among the new Fellows is the Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride – the only pharmacist currently serving in the Australian Parliament.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

This syndrome is shockingly misdiagnosed. Little wonder Bethany felt 'medically gaslit'

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/08/2024, Aisha Dow

Bethany Wormald was so unwell that she was spending 23 hours a day lying down. [...] For too long women's health has been overlooked and dismissed," Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said.

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

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Forum highlights women's health needs

The Bunyip, Other, 03/08/2024

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.

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How to get government to listen to older Australians

The Senior, Other, 03/08/2024, Anthony Caggiano

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

How to get government to listen to older Australians

The Senior, Other, 03/08/2024, Anthony Caggiano

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DEPARTMENT

LGBTQ fertility access sought

Sun Herald, Edition Changes - 2nd Edition, 04/08/2024, Kate Aubusson, Page 10

Australia's peak fertility organisations say Medicare's definition of infertility is outdated and discriminatory, urging the federal government to give equal access to reproductive services regardless of relationship status, sexual orientation or gender identity. [...] A spokesperson for the Department of Health and Ageing said the government was considering the implications of the proposed change.

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

Bega Council announces plan to stop providing ageing and disability services

About Regional, Other, 03/08/2024, Albert McKnight

Bega Valley Shire Council has announced it will stop providing family, ageing and disability services by June 2025, but it plans to transition the staff and clients affected by the decision. [...] "We will work with the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care to assist in the transition for clients in the Commonwealth Home Support Program by 30 November 2024," she said.

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CORONAVIRUS

No relevant coverage

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Fight for quality aged care respite

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 04/08/2024, Bridget Clarke, Page 4

When his wife was diagnosed with dementia, Tom Anderson was shocked. "I didn't believe it at first," he said.

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

Why it's a super idea to hang up on dodgy spruikers

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Business News, 04/08/2024, Scott Pape, Page 66

Talkback radio is a great medium for financial education: questions from listeners get the ball rolling, and there is usually ample time to discuss subjects in depth. My radio program on 4BC last Wednesday turned out to be all about superannuation.

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Support denied just hour's drive from city

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 04/08/2024, Sue Bailey, Page 15

A Tasmanian MP has highlighted the plight of elderly residents approved for home support who are struggling to access basic cleaning and gardening services which a lobby group says threatens their health. Independent member for Franklin David O'Byrne says elderly residents at Geeveston in southern Tasmania are missing out on vital support because nominated providers say they are unable to service the area.

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System failure angers

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 04/08/2024, Sue Bailey, Page 15

Geeveston Community Centre community connector Michelle Studley is frustrated people such as Margaret Riley cannot get the support they need. "They're struggling," she said.

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Avanti Health Centre to hold Over 50s Expo at North Ward

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/08/2024, Nikita Mcguire

Older Townsville locals will be spoilt with a variety of exhibitors at the Avanti Health Centres second annual Over 50s Expo. The expo will be held at Avanti Health Centre in North Ward on Saturday, August 3, aiming to inspire the community to live an active lifestyle by providing information catered to the ageing population.

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

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POPULATION HEALTH

Doctor love

Sunday Age, Sunday Life, 04/08/2024, Page 13

I often wonder if I am the only person in the world to forgo a career in medicine to become the activities coordinator at a nursing home. Did anyone else go from reading drug charts and monitoring blood pressure to reading out bingo numbers and monitoring balloon tennis?

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

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

Still easy for teens to sniff out vapes

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 04/08/2024, Madeline Crittenden, Page 21

The scent of sickly sweet vapes is still flooding teen bedrooms and school bathrooms, despite new laws banning their sale. From July 1, new federal laws regulated nicotine vapes as therapeutic goods, which could be obtained only at pharmacies with a prescription.

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

'Alarming' rates of period poverty

Sunday Examiner, General News, 04/08/2024, Annika Rhoades, Page 7

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.

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Children becoming homeless as housing crisis bites

Canberra Times, Other, 03/08/2024, Rachael Ward & Aaron Sheldrick

An urgent plea has been issued to stop tens of thousands of Australian children and young adults falling into a life of homelessness, as new data reveals the extent of the housing crisis. [...] More than 80 per cent of young people who sought help from specialist homeless services in 2022-23 were not accompanied by a parent or guardian, a report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare showed.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Caring siblings need a hand

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 04/08/2024, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 15

A national profit-for-purpose aimed at supporting siblings of people with disability or chronic illness is calling for more funding to help "drive its impactful work". Adelaide-based Siblings Australia estimates there are four million brothers and sisters across the nation living with children and adults who have a disability, chronic or mental illness.

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Little Ella won't let severe case of rare condition hold her back

The Courier Mail, Other, 04/08/2024, Isabella Pesch

Despite having one of the three most severe cases of a rare genetic condition in the world, this Sunshine Coast girl continues to be the bubbliest social butterfly in Queensland. Born in Sunshine Coast University Hospital, five-year-old Ella Carter was taken to the Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital after three days, where she was eventually diagnosed with Congenital Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1 two weeks later.

[Read More](#)

'Like getting hit in the head with a hammer': Paul Bovington suffers stroke while running at Parkrun

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/08/2024, Evangeline Polymeneas

Paul Bovington was a fit and healthy 42 year old man attempting to run a personal best on a Saturday parkrun when he suffered a life-altering stroke. "I woke up that morning, same as any other morning," the now 48-year-old said.

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

Olympic legend Michael Klim reveals devastating details of his 'tough' four-year battle with rare autoimmune disorder which left him unable to walk

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 03/08/2024, Kate Dennett

Michael Klim has revealed devastating details of his 'tough' four-year battle with a rare autoimmune disorder which left him unable to walk. The Aussie swimming legend, 46, was diagnosed with the neurological disorder chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP) in 2020.

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PRIMARY CARE

This syndrome is misdiagnosed. Little wonder Bethany felt 'medically gaslit'

Sunday Age, General News, 04/08/2024, Aisha Dow, Page 13

Bethany Wormald was so unwell that she was spending 23 hours a day lying down. Enduring massive heart palpitations, on her worst days, the furthest she could walk was to the next room. When she had to travel further, she would grip onto the wall.

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Warning as IV drips surge in use

Sunday Age, General News, 04/08/2024, Amber Schultz, Page 13

Intravenous infusion treatments spruiked as being able to cure hangovers or bolster immunity are surging in popularity, as doctors call for a crackdown on the unregulated market. Two dozen new infusion companies have registered with the Australian Business Register in the past five years.

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Doctors overtime cut alert

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 04/08/2024, Ashley Argoon & Sarah Booth, Page 11

A major cancer hospital has told doctors there was a "dramatic reduction in funding" for Victoria's health services in the last budget while announcing plans to cut staff overtime. Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre's executive John Spillane told staff "many hospitals are planning significant reductions to services to save costs" in an email, seen by the Sunday Herald Sun, on Tuesday.

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A crisis by any other name

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 04/08/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 12

SA Health's code yellow internal emergency officially ends on August 16 but documents show its measures will continue, under new names. These include "seasonal" elective surgery, paving the way for open-ended cancellations of non-urgent elective surgery when hospitals get busy, and plans to allow ambulance arrivals to leapfrog more urgent patients stuck in waiting rooms in order to cut ramping.

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

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No psych at RBWH

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 04/08/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 7

Queensland's biggest hospital, the RBWH, is without 24-hour mental health doctors in the psychiatric

emergency unit, forcing distressed patients to wait hours for care. A lack of beds also means patients are often left lying on the floor or lounges, with no new beds added in almost 20 years.

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Staffing turnover troubles Health

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 04/08/2024, Elise Kaine, Page 13

Staff shortages in Tasmania's health system are having a negative impact on remaining workers, Health Department acting secretary Dale Webster admits, but he says recruitment is still ahead of turnover. "I think it would impact some people, I have to be completely honest," Mr Webster said of the staff pressures.

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Action is needed, not a war of words

Sunday Examiner, General News, 04/08/2024, Craig Thomson, Page 14

The ongoing nurse staffing shortage in Tasmania has reached a critical point; the Rockliff government must take decisive action. The persistent war of words between the government and The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) does little to fix the situation; the union says beds were closed at the Launceston General Hospital (LGH); the Department of Health and the government said this was not true.

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Ambulance wait times increase for urgent patients in June quarter

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/08/2024, Abby Walter

Local ambos are under "enormous strain" as wait times for patients most in need of emergency cares increases, new data shows. Paramedics in the Barwon South West region faced one its busiest quarters from April to June this year, with more than 7550 code one emergencies

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

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DJ became infertile following chemotherapy. He was never asked this important question

SBS, Other, 03/08/2024, Catriona Stirrat

Dwone Jones, known as DJ, was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer in 2011. Five days after his diagnosis, he started radiation and chemotherapy to combat the aggressive nature of the disease.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

"I don't have to prove anything"

Sunday Herald Sun, Stellar, 04/08/2024, Karlie Rutherford, Page 7

For over half of her working life, actor and model Jodi Gordon has spent much of her time in a make-up chair. When she landed the role of Martha MacKenzie on Home And Away at the age of 20, her time in the chair also involved having a script in hand.

Also reported by: [Sunday Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Territorian \(Darwin\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#).

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Yes I'm sober, happy

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 04/08/2024, Page 11

Two years since she revealed her battles with depression and alcohol addiction, Jodi Gordon has revealed sobriety has turned her life around. "There was stigma there.

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

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A GP guide to managing grief in young people

Australian Doctor, Other, 03/08/2024

Grief is often considered an experience that mainly affects older adults. But grief is more common in the young than many people appreciate.

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This is how patients should taper off all psychiatric medicines

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 03/08/2024, Chloe Hava

Dr Horowitz almost died from severe antidepressant withdrawal effects, prompting him to develop the Maudsley Deprescribing Guidelines due to a lack of evidence based guidelines on ceasing antidepressants. Overprescribing of antidepressants in Australia makes these new guidelines a particularly useful tool.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

The mums willing to risk it all

Sunday Times, General News, 04/08/2024, Kate Emery, Page 29

The video shows a naked, panting woman on a bed. Don't worry: it's not that kind of a video (this isn't that kind of newspaper).

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Health workers petition Premier

Sunday Times, General News, 04/08/2024, Claire Sadler, Page 2

Thousands of health workers have signed a petition calling for the Premier to intervene in their fight for better pay and work conditions because the Department of Health has not met their demands. The petition, sent to The Sunday Times, has been signed by 2221 Health Services Union members and was handed to the Deputy Premier on Thursday, calling for wage increases, better work hours, safer workplaces, rewarding careers and a stronger workforce.

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'Invaluable' hands-on experience: students discover pathways in health

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 03/08/2024, Finn Coleman

Students considering careers in healthcare have pulled on the gloves as they were given the opportunity to explore the different roles and gain some hands-on experience. The introduces Year 10 students to careers in allied health and nursing allowing them to discover what they want for their futures.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Pharmacists can reduce strain on health system

Expanding the range of services community pharmacies can provide throughout the Northern Territory would be a major boost in providing accessible healthcare to the Territory's residents. It would ensure easier availability to a broader range of health services by allowing pharmacists to work to their full scope of practice.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

My doctor is on TikTok. Should I trust them?

Sunday Herald Sun, Body and Soul, 04/08/2024, Page 8

Those with a nightly doom-scrolling habit have likely been confronted at some point with one of the millions of videos on social media proffering medical advice to the masses. But have you ever wondered if the lab-coat wearer on the screen is actually a qualified doctor, or a self-proclaimed expert spreading unverified information?

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#).

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Queensland Children's Hospital nurse Hannah Pringle wins \$30,000 claim against Queensland Health after daughter Ruby died

Northern Territory News, Other, 04/08/2024, Toby Crockford

A nurse whose daughter died of brain cancer will receive more than \$30,000 after the state's Industrial Relations Commission ruled her employer, Queensland Health, gave her a "wildly inadequate" amount of special leave, and generally treated her in a "quite appalling" manner. Hannah Pringle is a full-time registered nurse at the Queensland Children's Hospital in South Brisbane. She has worked at the QCH since it opened in 2014 and has worked for Queensland Health for 12 years in total.

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

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Sister of man whose organs were donated to three different people urges public to register as donors

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/08/2024, Simon Mcguire

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.

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

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SPORT

Games guru to help us get \$2bn

Sunday Mail Brisbane, Edition Changes, 04/08/2024, Hayden Johnson, Page 15

Brisbane's Olympic Games organising committee has poached a big-name Paris 2024 director amid mounting concerns about its ability to fill a \$2bn sponsorship revenue hole. Eight years before the 2032 Games begin, Brisbane 2032 chief executive officer Cindy Hook has moved to hire Paris 2024 senior director of partnerships and licensing Francois-Xavier Bonnaillie as its chief commercial officer.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Prostate success

Sunday Times, Edition Changes, 04/08/2024, Page 23

Thousands of men with prostate cancer could live longer thanks to a breakthrough by British experts. Scientists have developed a new form of immunotherapy to delay resistance to hormone treatment.

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

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It is a plastic and vulnerable structure that gets damaged by a variety of stimuli. Studies have shown that it also gets affected in a variety of neurological and psychiatric disorders.

The New Daily, Other, 03/08/2024, John Elder

There is no doubt that dementia patients suffer from anxiety. Fear and confusion will do that to a person.

[Read More](#)

Breakthrough for stroke treatment after scientists discover protein can direct cells to repair damaged tissue

West Australian, Other, 03/08/2024, Hannah Cross

Medical researchers have learned more about the way the brain's cells respond to a stroke in a breakthrough for progressing new treatment options. Stroke can cause irreversible damage to the brain, making it a leading cause of disability in Australia and the third most common cause of death.

Also reported by: [Sunday Times \(Perth\)](#)

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Albanese urges new path at Garma

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 04/08/2024, Keira Jenkins, Page 9

First Nations people will renew themselves, despite the hurt of the failed Voice referendum, and continue to pursue a pathway to unity, attendees at the Garma Festival in the Northern Territory have heard. Yothu Yindi Foundation chief executive Denise Bowden told the crowd at Australia's largest Indigenous cultural gathering the result of October's referendum had been soul-crushing.

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

'They are not listening to us': Cairns Indigenous leader on tragic new figures

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/08/2024, Luke Williams

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.

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

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Calls for governments to deliver as Closing the Gap report shows NT going backwards on eight targets

The Courier Mail, Other, 03/08/2024, Fia Walsh

Eight out of 19 targets to Close the Gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Territorians are going backwards, new data has revealed, with the NT once again recording the worst outcomes of any Australian jurisdiction. According to the latest Productivity Commission report only five targets are on track nationally, and four are worsening.

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

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The life expectancy factor that Australians don't want to talk about

SBS, Other, 03/08/2024, Charis Chang

Decades after Fiona Cornforth gave birth to her first child, the trauma of her delivery room experience is still fresh in her mind. The Wuthathi descendant wanted her mother and sister in the hospital room with her but was told she had to choose — one or the other.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

My fight with a killer bug

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 04/08/2024, Carly Douglas, Angus McIntyre & Jordan McCarthy, Page 1

A Melbourne legionnaires' disease survivor has spoken of his terrifying near-death experience, as he and Derrimut and Laverton North residents slammed authorities for keeping them in the dark. When Taylors Hill painter Poki Matakovi began feeling ill 10 days ago, he assumed he was one of many Victorians battling the flu.

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

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Central QLD coal miner court ordered compensation for black lung disease

Cairns Post, Other, 03/08/2024, Kerri-Anne Mesner

A former Central Queensland coal miner has been awarded \$3.2 million in the Dust Diseases Tribunal of New South Wales as Australia's first successful trial brought by a black lung victim. Craig Keogh, 52, was exposed to "patently unsafe levels of dusts" while not provided with adequate protection or told about the risks while working at three coal mines in Central Queensland and one at Boggabri in New South Wales over an eight-year period, a tribunal has found.

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Mum's hell after antibiotic horror

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 04/08/2024, Douglas Smith, Page 10

An Adelaide woman who was prescribed a "last resort" antibiotic says she has suffered constant "unimaginable pain" after her doctor failed to warn her of the adverse side effects associated with the drug. [...] The Sunday Mail sent questions to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) asking why stronger warnings were not given to patients about the adverse effects of taking Ciprofloxacin.

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

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

'Unpredictable and potentially dangerous': How magic mushrooms are being sold online in SA

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/08/2024, Emily Olle

Social media platforms are being used to deal hallucinogenic "magic mushrooms" to a growing number of vulnerable South Australians, prompting warnings the drugs could be laced with other, dangerous illicit substances. Experts say platforms like Meta and TikTok are contributing to a resurgence in recreational use of the drugs – particularly among young people.

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

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FOOD STANDARDS

Tired? Try these iron- filled superfoods

Sunday Telegraph, Body and Soul, 04/08/2024, Page 17

Between a million different responsibilities, efforts to have a social life, keeping up some semblance of a wellness routine and just generally balancing our multifaceted lives, it's no wonder so many of us feel tired. [...] According to a survey by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Food Standards Australia New Zealand, one in eight Aussies don't eat enough iron-rich foods, with women more likely than men to struggle to get enough of it in their diet.

Also reported by: [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Territorian \(Darwin\)](#).

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