



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 1st September 2024

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 1) reports a workforce shortage across the healthcare sector means aged care providers are competing for nurses, with providers being urged to improve incentives for nurses to help fulfill new 40 minute clinical care per resident requirements in the proposed aged care act. The federal government has spent \$11.3 billion on improving wages in the sector, with Aged Care Minister Anika Wells saying that “this significantly improved pay for 250,000 workers and was the biggest pay rise for the sector, ever”. *Also reported by:* [Sun Herald](#)
- **[The Sunday Times](#)** (page 1) reports West Australians are paying more for specialist services than national averages, while wait times are reaching over six weeks for a number of specialists, meaning more people are delaying seeking care.
- **[The Sunday Age](#)** (page 1) reports national legislation requiring multiple safety controls for worksites with silica-containing materials, as well as the ability to request silica risk control plans for high-risk environments, come into effect from today.
- **[The Sunday Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) reports that \$200 million in Victorian compensation for the cancelled Commonwealth Games will go towards the Scottish Games, with event organisers in Glasgow saying no public expenditure will be required as a result. *Also reported by:* [Sunday Telegraph](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane](#)

- [ABC Online](#) reports Victorians on surgery wait lists are still opting for private health options instead of waiting as doctors warn the end of a \$1.5 billion program that has reduced the wait lists could see numbers begin to rise again.
- [The Age](#) (page 8) reports that 60 day prescriptions for low-income earners, announced by Health Minister Mark Butler in last year's budget, came into effect today, with 300 medicines available for eligible patients.
- [The Sunday Herald Sun](#) (page 9) reports that semaglutide has been linked to improved cardiovascular health, according to a number of studies involving over 17,600 participants, which recorded lower morbidity rates than those on a placebo.
- [The Sunday Tasmanian](#) (page 11) reports robotic rehab aids designed and made in Australia are aiding patients with full and partial paralysis learn to walk again, with eight of the assisted gait trainers currently in use across the country.

MINISTER BUTLER

Boost for renters on assistance

Sunday Age, General News, 01/09/2024, Olivia Ireland, Page 8

Renters on Commonwealth assistance will receive an average boost of \$20 more a fortnight as federal Labor introduce a suite of measures to ease pressures during the cost-of-living crisis. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler first announced extending prescriptions from 30 to 60 days in last year's federal budget, which triggered months of tension with pharmacy owners.

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

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'Could be huge': Plans to boost rent relief, prescription medicines revealed

Herald Sun, Other, 31/08/2024, Nathan Schmidt

One million households across Australia will benefit this month from greater assistance from the government following an announced boost to the rental assistance scheme. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said a total of 300 medicines will be available as 60-day prescriptions from September 1.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! Finance Australia \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Augusta-Margaret River Times \(Online\)](#), [Manjimup-Bridgetown Times \(Online\)](#), [Broome Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#).

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Australia to boost rent assistance amidst cost of living crisis

The Australian Business Journal, Other, 01/09/2024

This month, one million Australian households are set to benefit from greater government assistance as part of a new effort to alleviate the nation's cost of living pressures. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler announced that starting September 1, a total of 300 medicines will be available in 60-day prescriptions.

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MINISTER WELLS

Care reform in doubt due to shortage of nurses

Sunday Age, General News, 01/09/2024, David Crowe, Page 1

A national nursing shortage is wrecking plans to improve aged care, despite a looming federal bid to fix the troubled sector, with the deficit likely to double by 2030 as demand continues to rise. [...] Aged Care

Minister Anika Wells said the government had put \$11.3billion towards a wage rise for aged care workers and was tackling the labour shortages as a major issue.

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

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Aussie Paralympian's medal pay vs Olympians: 'Aren't here for money'

Yahoo! Finance Australia, Other, 31/08/2024, Stewart Perrie

Australian Paralympians will be awarded the same cash prizes for bringing home a medal at the 2024 Paris Games as their Olympic counterparts. [...] Sports Minister Anika Wells said they are thrilled to have Paralympians and Olympians on the same pay packet.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

PM denies limiting LGBTQ scope of census

Sunday Age, General News, 01/09/2024, Olivia Ireland, Page 4

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has hit back at suggestions he is limiting the scope of the census data collection on LGBTQ Australians to just one question, as he continues to deal with the fallout of the past week from members of his own party, the opposition and advocates. [...] This prompted six Labor MPs, including Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney, to break ranks and tell Albanese to reverse the decision.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Gold Coast dad Craig Brennan has created a new app, Newbe, just for dads

Herald Sun, Other, 31/08/2024, Ann Wason Moore

To all the fathers and father figures out there, happy dad's day. [...] The Australian Government's Department of Health and Aged Care recognises these risk factors, stating that new fathers don't have access to the sort of services that new mothers do.

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

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Boomers are coming for aged care. We must be ready

Sun Herald, Editorials, 01/09/2024, Page 30

In two years, the oldest of the Baby Boomers, Australia's mega-generation, will turn 80. With their sheer numbers, the Boomers have transformed every stage of life they have entered.

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Concerns on retirement living approvals

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 01/09/2024, Lucinda Garbutt-Young, Page 7

More than two thirds of development applications for retirement living complexes in the territory take more than a year to be determined, a new report says. Developers feel delays could be contributing to a shortfall in seniors housing, and say it is bringing the viability of some projects into question.

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The retirees defying the downsizer trend

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 01/09/2024, Taylor Troeth, Page 29

The Aussie dream of a newlybuilt house on a quarter acre block has normally conjured images of younger families with kids - but the Sydney buyers of these properties are increasingly older residents in their retirement. Developers have revealed that empty nesters and other older Sydneysiders have become one of the biggest purchasers of large outer city houses with pools and expansive backyards, with retirees often choosing these properties over smaller, easy care homes.

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It's not a generation war, charging the wealthy more is essential to fix our aged care disaster

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 31/08/2024, Melinda Cilento & Cassandra Winzar

The needs of our ageing population is not being met by an aged care sector that is being squeezed on all sides. Beds in residential homes are sitting empty around the country despite long waiting lists – some homes are operating at just 50 per cent capacity and some have closed altogether – in part due to chronic worker shortages.

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Gwenda Darling on independence, fighting the system and dementia

The Senior, Other, 31/08/2024, Anthony Caggiano

Gwenda Darling describes herself as a mother, grandmother, great grandmother and a rebel. "I call it like it is; I've got nothing to hide; I've got no shame," she said matter-of-factly.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Anger at inaction on illicit smokes

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2024, Jon Kaila, Page 9

Premier Jacinta Allan has been accused of "fiddling while Rome burns", with Victoria now the only state in the country not operating a tobacco licensing scheme. A state government report recommended a

licensing scheme and stronger penalties in May 2022, but two years and three months on, nothing has been established.

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Clarke's selfless pitch for women to check breasts

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Editorials, 01/09/2024, Page 63

Peri-menopause perhaps, but cancer was the furthest thing from Adelaide media personality Ali Clarke's mind when she went for a check-up at her local GP. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, in two decades, breast cancer incidence has risen from 134 to 149 cases per 100,000 females.

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Psychiatrists call to upgrade Queensland's mental health units as ABC confirms 19 inpatient suicides in six years

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2024

The college of psychiatrists in Queensland says the state government needs to spend "hundreds of millions" of dollars to upgrade decades-old mental health wards, with a concerning number of patients dying by suicide inside public hospitals over the past six years. [...] Such deaths are one of ten types of nationally reportable sentinel events – defined by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) as "adverse patient safety events that are wholly preventable".

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Young widows Kayla Psaradellis and Nadine Allouche turn grief into change after losing husbands

Adelaide Now, Other, 31/08/2024, Adella Beaini

No one expects to farewell a partner in their 20s or 30s. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 169,500 new cancer cases will be diagnosed this year, 24 per cent of which will be rare or less common.

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

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Not expecting: pregnancy after getting 'tubes tied' is surprisingly common

The Guardian, Other, 31/08/2024, Jessica Glenza

A new study finds that getting pregnant after a woman gets her "tubes tied" – the colloquial expression for permanent female surgical sterilization – may be surprisingly common. The study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine Evidence, examined survey data of more than 4,000 women who reported tubal ligations, the formal term for a range of surgeries that clamp or remove fallopian tubes.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

I can save lives

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 01/09/2024, Ali Clarke, Page 1

It was perfectly normal afternoon and I was driving to pick up our youngest daughter, entrenched in working out if I could trick the kids into a second night of brown rice, when she rang. I normally ignore numbers I don't know but for whatever reason I answered to hear the calm and assured voice of a woman from Breast Screen SA asking me to come back in as they had found something they wanted another look at on my mammogram.

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"My dad has bounced back like a champion"

Sunday Mail Adelaide, Stellar, 01/09/2024, Angela Mollard, Page 4

Whether it's trying to find love, surviving the jungle, dancing her heart out or being filmed watching television, Angie Kent has built a reputation on being the girl with a big laugh and a big heart. But having kickstarted an award-winning TV career after finding fame on Gogglebox Australia in 2015, the alum of The Bachelorette Australia, I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here! and Dancing With The Stars admits she took her happy life for granted.

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

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'I can't drink beer any more': the symptom that led to prostate cancer

Newcastle Herald, Other, 31/08/2024, Damon Cronshaw

Mike Berton was a fit and strong man with no family history of prostate cancer. He was diagnosed with an aggressive form of at age 51, after having symptoms of urinating more than usual.

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PRIMARY CARE

Second opinion for parents

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2024, Angus McIntyre, Page 7

Parents concerned about their child's health in hospital will be able to seek second opinions from clinicians by calling a hotline after a series of preventable deaths in which emergency departments failed to diagnose serious illnesses. Some of the children's parents had desperately tried to raise their concerns about misdiagnoses, but they fell on deaf ears.

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Cost of living emergency

Sunday Times, General News, 01/09/2024, Claire Sadler, Page 1

Sick West Australians battling the cost-of-living crunch are increasingly facing the choice between paying hefty private medical bills or going without urgent care. And they are having to pay significantly more for private specialists than the average national cost.

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Integrated primary health care key to oral health improvement in rural and remote Australia

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 8

Access to oral health care for rural and remote Australians is limited, particularly for underserved populations that rely on public dental services. This includes First Nations Peoples.

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South Western Sydney's local health forums

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 13

A desire to find out exactly what their community wanted or needed when it came to health services prompted South Western Sydney Primary Health Network (SWSPHN) to begin hosting Local Health Forums in 2022. Community members, health professionals and service providers are invited to join the forums which are held twice a year across several locations throughout the region, including in the Southern Highlands, Campbelltown, Liverpool and Bankstown.

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Electronic communications must be available for Voluntary assisted dying

Electronic communication is essential for high-quality and safe health care. However, the Cth Criminal Code's restriction on how health professionals communicate about voluntary assisted dying (VAD) is causing disruptions and delays in care, and limiting health professionals' ability to do their jobs.

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Melbourne breast cancer survivor fundraising for own surgery due to public waitlist blow-out

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2024

Melanie Kuyl survived breast cancer, but the scars left by her double mastectomy have left her feeling damaged every time she looks in the mirror. "I don't want to look at somebody who's damaged anymore," Mrs Kuyl said.

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Greater Western Sydney doctors flag public health facilities do not have resources to treat all dialysis patients

ABC Online, Other, 31/08/2024

Specialist doctors in Greater Western Sydney say they are being forced to provide dialysis "at levels seen in the developing world" due to poor resourcing. Forty-five specialist doctors from Western Sydney, South West Sydney and the Nepean Blue Mountains local health districts (LHDs) have signed a letter to the state's health minister.

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Donna was waiting for a miracle – then the Royal Flying Doctor Service arrived

Adelaide Now, Other, 31/08/2024, Emily Kowal

She still remembers the moment she hit the mine shaft floor. It's this sensation of falling and her memories of the jolting pain that keeps Donna Synnerdahl up at night.

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

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Toowoomba Hospital: Ramping crisis deepens as elderly father with heart failure waits hours for bed

Adelaide Now, Other, 31/08/2024, Michael Nolan

The family of a man ramped at the Toowoomba Hospital for more than six hours while suffering congestive heart failure says overcrowding is putting lives at risk. Emma* said her 88-year-old father had a series of heart surgeries at Princess Alexandra Hospital at the start of August, which included the installation of a stent and pacemaker, and a bypass.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Nurturing our next ambassadors

Sunday Times, ReadersMart, 01/09/2024, Kaylee Cranley, Page 2

Reaping the benefits of the great outdoors can be all the more rewarding when it is influenced by an even greater cause. zero2hero is a Western Australia-based non-profit organisation dedicated to educating, engaging and empowering young heroes to become mental health leaders and help prevent suicide in WA.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Government orders health department to allow rural generalists to work across state's hospitals

Northern Territory News, Other, 31/08/2024, Simon Mcguire

Hearing a doctor speak about how Tasmania's restrictions on rural generalists are impacting the state's health system has triggered Premier Jeremy Rockliff to take action. During The Mercury Bush Summit, Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine Regional Director of Training Sally Street spoke about GPs having to fly interstate for shifts because a health policy prevents them from using their skills in Tasmanian hospitals.

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

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Exodus of health professionals from region a huge concern, says MP

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 31/08/2024, Monique Patterson

An exodus of specialist health professionals from south-west Victoria is alarming, according to Member for South West Coast Roma Britnell. She has spoken to a number of people who reside in south-west cities but travel for work.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

100% gorgeous & 25% the price

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 01/09/2024, Madeline Crittenden, Page 25

It took Britta Jordan several years, \$150,000, a refinanced mortgage and upwards of 10 failed IVF attempts to finally get her miracle babies. [...] While Medicare rebates in Australia are available to those diagnosed with medical infertility, with no limit on the number of cycles a patient can undergo, it is becoming a process that is far too expensive for many women.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

State's nursing union boss resigns in surprise announcement

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 31/08/2024, Troy De Ruyter & Joe Spagnolo, Page 10

Australian Nursing Federation WA secretary Janet Reah has announced her resignation. [...] Ms Reah was at the centre of complaints made to Federal regulator AHPRA , accusing her of sharing sensitive X-rays and medical records on the social media site ILikeToFart while working in a hospital.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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SPORT

Scot-free games

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2024, Carly Douglas & Shannon Deery, Page 1

Scottish taxpayers will not pay a cent for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, with Victorians picking up the tab. Almost \$200m of Victorian money will fund the Games, meaning there will be no need for any money from the Scottish government.

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

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Stadium crew on track for Games 2032 talks

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 01/09/2024, Taylah Fellows, Page 10

The world-leading architects behind the \$6bn Northshore stadium proposal have revealed they have already had serious talks with 2032 Olympic planning committees and will meet with the Brisbane Lions and Cricket Queensland within weeks. In a Sunday Mail exclusive, Brisbane Design Alliance (BDA) has delivered its step-by-step business plan to transform Northshore Hamilton into an entertainment precinct that rivals Queen's Wharf and Southbank and hit back at naysayers' claims about the costs, flood problems and transport woes.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Consumers as co-researchers: democratising results

The Health Advocate, General News, 01/08/2024, Page 16

Consumer involvement in health and medical research is increasingly recognised as a vital collaboration for successful and impactful research. The influence that consumers with lived experience of cancer can have on the design, development and conduct of research projects is significant and is building a substantial evidence base.

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'Getting the diet right can make a huge difference': \$3m for gut research

Newcastle Herald, Other, 31/08/2024, Damon Cronshaw

Chronic unexplained gut diseases will be examined in a \$3 million research grant awarded to University of Newcastle Professor Nick Talley. The federal government announced the funding on Friday, as part of \$60 million in medical research projects. said the grant would be "great for the uni, research and the community".

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

NT's youth crime crackdown 'locking up a generation'

West Australian, Other, 31/08/2024

A planned crackdown on youth crime by the new Northern Territory government has stirred controversy but the voices at the centre of the debate are missing. Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro, who led the Country Liberal Party back to power at last week's election, has vowed to reintroduce spit hoods on children and lower the age of criminal responsibility back to 10.

Also reported by: [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

New laws protect thousands of workers from silicosis

Sun Herald, General News, 01/09/2024, Amber Schultz, Page 10

Since being diagnosed with silicosis following her time working on a quarry site, mother of two Joanna McNeill says she's scared to live in the present. "My mental health is an ongoing battle because I live in the unknown.

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

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Africa mpox outbreaks could soon be ended

Sunday Canberra Times, International News, 01/09/2024, Page 15

The head of the World Health Organisation believes the ongoing mpox outbreaks in Africa might be stopped in the next six months and says the agency's first shipment of vaccines should arrive in the Democratic Republic of Congo within days. To date, Africa has received just a tiny fraction of the vaccines needed to slow the spread of the virus, especially in DR Congo, which has the most cases more than 18,000 suspected cases and 629 deaths.

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Bali introduces major change for 'all' Aussie tourists

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 31/08/2024, Courtney Greatrex

Aussies travelling to popular holiday island Bali will need to complete a new health declaration form as Indonesia attempts to curb cases of the rapidly spreading disease Mpox. All tourists travelling from abroad into the country — the world's largest archipelago state — will be required to fill out the electronic self-declaration form called SATUSEHAT Health Pass (SSHP) in order to gain entry into the popular tourist destination.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Diabetes drug helps boost heart health

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2024, Shoba Rao, Page 9

Diabetes medication could treat cardiovascular disease and other illnesses, according to research published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. [...] Novo Nordisk recently advised Australia's medicines watchdog TGA that Ozempic supply will remain limited for the rest of 2024.

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

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'Weight loss' drug a script for danger

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 01/09/2024, Brooke Grebert-Craig & Suzan Delibasic, Page 20

Dodgy doctors may be putting lives at risk by unnecessarily prescribing controversial diabetes turned weight-loss drug Ozempic to vulnerable patients. [...] A Therapeutic Goods Administration spokesman said the agency was aware of weight-loss medications being illegally promoted for sale through online forums and urged consumers to exercise "extreme caution".

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

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Rehab robot sets the pace

Sunday Tasmanian, General News, 01/09/2024, Sue Bailey, Page 11

When physiotherapist Phil Ladlow sees the tears of "joy and hope" from patients using a new \$500,000 robot to help them walk, he knows it was worth buying. The LEXO robotic assisted gait trainer, designed and manufactured in Austria, is the only one in Tasmania and only one of eight operating in Australia.

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Why you can expect to see more Aussie doctors using AI

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 31/08/2024, Jennifer Dudley-Nicholson

Next time you visit a doctor, a psychiatrist or even a vet, artificial intelligence could be listening to your concerns and taking notes. [...] Concerns about the use of AI scribes were raised at a recent Senate inquiry into adopting artificial intelligence, where experts revealed the tools were not subject to Therapeutic Goods Administration approval as they were not medical devices.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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IV fluids are salt water. Why are they so hard to make?

The New Daily, Other, 31/08/2024, Ellen Phiddian

A shortage of intravenous (IV) fluids has been causing serious problems for hospitals worldwide. [...] In Australia, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) regulates GMP compliance.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Cannabis use stable over past five years

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 01/09/2024, Lucy Bladen, Page 3

Rates of cannabis use in Canberra have remained stable in the nearly five years since possession of the drug was decriminalised, an ACT government review has found. But the conflict with Commonwealth laws on drug possession is continuing to be a challenge for officers.

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Series of suspected drug overdoses prompts police warning

9News, Other, 31/08/2024, Emily Bennett

A warning has been issued about the circulation of potentially lethal illicit drugs in Canberra after a four suspected drug overdoses in the past two months. Four people have died in recent weeks, including a man and a woman in separate incidents on Thursday, according to ACT Police.

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FOOD STANDARDS

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