



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 5th September 2024

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Australian** (page 1) reports health insurers have accused private hospitals of launching a scare campaign, with Private Healthcare Australia chief executive Rachel David saying they were trying to "pressure health insurers and the federal government into a bailout which would drive up the cost of health insurance for millions of Australians". *Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review](#), [West Australian](#), [The Guardian](#)*
- The **Northern Territory News** (page 1) reports the Northern Territory Aboriginal Investment Corporation has rebranded as Aboriginal Investment NT and launched a five-year \$655 million campaign to invest in Indigenous communities wealth and wellbeing.
- **The Age** (page 2) reports messaging by former supermodel Elle MacPherson about the use of alternative and holistic treatment for her breast cancer is dangerous and misleading, professionals have warned. *Also reported by: [The Australian](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Herald Sun](#)*
- The **Herald Sun** (page 3) reports Monash Health says patients will be discharged more quickly while Victoria's AMA says some doctors have been asked to take a pay cut as the state's health services analyse the impact of new budgets handed down by the Allen government. *Also reported by: [Canberra Times](#)*

- **The Australian** (page 4) reports Health Minister Mark Butler says his current focus must be strengthening funding for general practice in Medicare despite backbencher calls to add dental to public cover. *Also reported by: [ABC Online](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Sky News](#)*
- **The Australian** (page 7) reports young people experiencing sports-related concussions are not at risk of neurological damage, new research by the University of NSW has found. *Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [The Guardian](#)*
- **The Guardian** (Online) reports the Therapeutic Goods Administration has approved the import of HIV prevention medication PREP to prevent ongoing shortages, while sexual health organisations are urging people using the treatment to plan ahead so they don't run out. *Also reported by: [NEWS.com.au](#)*

MINISTER BUTLER

Private health giant Healthscope seeks rent relief at 38 hospitals

Australian Financial Review, General News, 05/09/2024, Tom McIlroy and Gus McCubbing, Page 1

One of the country's largest private hospital operators, Healthscope, has asked for rent relief from the company that owns its properties in another sign the sector is under financial pressure.

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

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Butler pulls dental but O'Neil keen

The Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Sarah Ison, Page 4

Cabinet Minister Clare O'Neil says she is "not surprised" to see members of the Labor backbench calling for dental to be added to Medicare, saying it was a "really important issue for constituents". [...] Despite Health Minister Mark Butler declaring he was "unapologetically" focused in the near term on general practice rather than expanding Medicare to include dental services, Ms O'Neil left the door open to the idea.

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

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High tax a 'factor' in illegal market

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/09/2024, Jon Kaila, Page 14

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has categorically ruled out lowering the tax on cigarettes, despite admitting it was a "factor" in the surging illicit tobacco black market. The comments came after The Daily Telegraph revealed a packet of legal cigarettes rose by another 6.8 per cent on Sunday due to increased excise and indexation, with three more price rises set for 2025.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#).

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Labor resists internal push for dental in Medicare, saying focus is on strengthening general practice

ABC Online, Other, 04/09/2024

The federal government has hosed down suggestions from within its own ranks that Medicare should be expanded to include dental, as new data shows almost two-thirds of Australians delayed treatment in the last 12 months, largely due to the cost. [...] However, Health Minister Mark Butler said it was not something the government was looking at in the near term.

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Free dental care could be coming for millions of Australians - as Labor MPs push for bold new Medicare overhaul

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 04/09/2024, Olivia Day

Free dental care could soon be available to millions of Australians amid mounting pressure on the

Albanese government for a Medicare overhaul. Polls indicate Labor may lose votes at the upcoming federal election , pushing them into minority government and giving more power to the cross bench. [...] A spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler said the government was considering including dental policies in the National Oral Health Plan for 2025-34.

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Are private hospitals in Australia really facing a cash crisis and could some close?

The Guardian, Other, 04/09/2024, Melissa Davey

Economists and policy experts have called out "murkiness" about the cost of private health care as the department of health prepares to deliver findings from its review into the financial viability of the sector. [...] "Reports about the sustainability of some private hospitals are concerning, particularly those in regional areas and where they play an important role in the local community," the health minister, Mark Butler, said.

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Melbourne hospital accused of obstructing ambulance service before patient's death

9News, Other, 04/09/2024

"AV has to go back to its core work of being an emergency service."? According to the health minister, crews did respond in the recommended time but couldn't save the patient. [...] "Obviously it's deeply concerning," federal health minister Mark Butler said.

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Several Labor backbenchers join Greens' push for dental care to be covered by Medicare

Sky News Australia, Other, 04/09/2024, Oscar Godsell

As polls have shown parliament heading toward minority government, some Labor backbenchers have aligned with the Greens' push for Medicare dental. Greens leader Adam Bandt proposed a supersized "Robin Hood" tax on corporations last week as a way to fund universally free dental care. [...] However, Health Minister Mark Butler told 3AW Radio on Wednesday the policy was nothing but a "thought bubble".

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Federal Health Minister bails out numerous Victorian health clinics

3AW, Other, 04/09/2024, Tom Elliott

Seven Medicare Urgent Care Clinics were at the risk of running out of funding, but Federal Health Minister Mark Butler told Tom Elliott said it was vital they remained opened. "These (clinics) are really there for a kid breaking their arm or being injured at Saturday sport," he said on 3AW Mornings

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Australian Government allocates over \$11 million for rheumatoid arthritis research

HelloCare, Other, 04/09/2024, Georgie Waters

The Australian Government recently announced that \$11.54 million will be allocated to improve outcomes for Australians with rheumatoid arthritis. [...] ' Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler expressed gratitude regarding the new research funding allocation and expected outcomes for people with rheumatoid arthritis.

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Bespoke tech driving Peter Mac

Pharma In Focus, Other, 04/09/2024

The challenges and triumphs of creating bespoke infrastructure to deliver new technologies such as CAR-T have been revealed by Honeywell whose building technology is helping power the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre's cutting edge \$105 million Melbourne cell and gene therapy manufacturing

facility. The Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing Facility was opened by the Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler in July last year, expanding the capacity for manufacturing the new therapies by 400 per cent.

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Build more houses or lose GST money, Coalition tells states and territories

PS News, Other, 04/09/2024, Chris Johnson

Gst payments to states and territories are set to be one battleground for the next federal election, with the Coalition linking housing supply to the contentious issue. Shadow Assistant Housing Minister Andrew Bragg has articulated an Opposition position that unless the states build more houses, their GST share could be slashed. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler immediately described Senator Bragg's comments as an uncertainty for state and territory budgets.

Also reported by: [RiotACT \(Online\)](#)

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More drugs added to 60-day prescription list

Your Life Choices, Other, 05/09/2024

A number of medications have been added to the 60-day prescription list, which allows patients to purchase up to two months' supply at once, as part of a raft of cost-of-living measures introduced by the government. The changes are part of a package of relief efforts aimed at reducing pressure on Australians already doing it tough. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler told reporters at a press conference for the package's launch that his government has prioritised getting the cost of medicines down for a public under a lot of pressure.

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ABC, ABC News, 04/09/2024, Tamara Oudyn

Paramedics say they are being blocked from doing their job as they point on an incident where a Melbourne man died of a heart attack as the paramedic was held up by the hospital and was told not to leave. Mark Butler, Federal Health Minister, says he's deeply concerned about this case and about all the other cases of neglect that he's seeing right around the country.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 04/09/2024, Alicia Loxley and Tom Steinfort

Maroondah Hospital is being accused of obstructing the ambulance service after refusing to release a crew to answer an emergency call for a patient who then couldn't be saved. Mark Butler, Federal Health Minister, says hopefully that a new clinic that they've established in the area would answer some of the issues.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Melbourne, 13:00 News, 04/09/2024

Labor backbencher Dr Michael Freeland has renewed his call to include dental care in Medicare, noting it is unfair. The majority of dental care is not covered by Medicare. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler states including dental on Medicare will not take place in the near term.

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3AW, 13:00 News, 04/09/2024

Some Labor backbenchers are urging the Albanese Government to consider including dental in Medicare. The Greens have been pushing to fully subsidise dental treatment. Federal Minister for Health Mark Butler says the Government is focusing on strengthening the fundamentals of Medicare.

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STAR FM 104.5, 12:00 News, 04/09/2024

The health minister is rejecting a push from some labor MPs to cover dental treatment as part of

Medicare. The Greens have also been calling for the policy, arguing it will make dental care more accessible for many Australians. The reform is forecast to cost tens of billions of dollars. Mark Butler says the federal government has other priorities at the moment.

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3AW, Mornings, 04/09/2024, Tom Elliott

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Compere points out that the Government put up \$227m to keep seven non-urgent medical clinics open around Melbourne. Butler clarified that the figure provided is a national figure and they are opening up several dozen more urgent care clinics around the country. He recalls announcing urgent care as a policy at the last 2022 election as a new model of care for Australia, but he adds that this is quite common around the world.

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MINISTER WELLS

\$16.5m for aged care beds

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/09/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 2

The Illawarra will get 48 desperately needed new aged care beds and a new dementia facility under a \$16.5 million grant for IRT to upgrade Marco Polo Aged Care Centre in Unanderra. Federal Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said that the money was critical, and would help to reduce the number of older patients who get stuck in the region's hospitals for weeks after their discharge date because of a lack of aged care beds.

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

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Island named after golden Fox sisters

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/09/2024, James O'Doherty, Page 7

An island at the stadium where Olympic champion Jess Fox was inspired to start her canoeing career will be renamed in honour of the entire Fox family, in recognition of their extraordinary contribution to Australian paddling. [...] Federal Sports Minister Annika Wells said the championships "will help inspire our next generation of canoe and kayak stars" in the lead up to Brisbane's 2032 Olympics.

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Report highlights another tragic drowning year

Surf Coast Times, Other, 04/09/2024, Nathan Rivalland

A new research report from Royal Life Saving Australia has depicted another tragic summer, showing drowning is a more persistent and traumatic issue than ever before. The National Drowning Report 2024 was released last week at Parliament House in Canberra. [...] Minister for Aged Care and Sport, the Anika Wells said the federal government was committed to supporting organisations like Royal Life Saving – Australia and Surf Life Saving Australia to raise water safety awareness.

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Paddle Australia to receive \$3.2 million boost for World Championships

The Western Weekender, Other, 04/09/2024, Troy Dodds

The Federal and State Governments have announced they will provide a combined \$3.2 million to Paddle Australia to support the hosting of the International Canoe Federation Canoe Slalom World Championships at Penrith Whitewater Stadium in October next year. The funding will be used by Paddle Australia for the organisation, staging, marketing and programming of the event. [...] Federal Minister for Sport, Anika Wells, said the Paddle Championships is another major international competition on our green and gold runway to the Brisbane 2032 Games.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 04/09/2024, Michael Thomson

A slice of the Slalom Athletes' Jess and Noemie Fox's home will be named after them, after bagging gold in the Paris Slalom. Anika Wells, Federal Sports Minister, says everyone is thinks they are best friends with the Fox sisters.

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ABC Radio Sydney, 13:00 News, 04/09/2024

Federal Aged Care Minister Anika Wells says she's hopeful new reforms to the sector will be introduced to Parliament this week. It comes as the Government and opposition have been in negotiations for months about changes to the aged care system, while many of the reforms remain under wraps.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Hunter self-harm rates alarm

Port Stephens Examiner, General News, 05/09/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 5

The Hunter health network recorded 6594 intentional self-harm hospitalisations in the last five years, national health data shows. This was the highest number among NSW's 10 primary health networks. [...] A spokesperson for Emma McBride, the federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, said the Albanese government was "establishing a National Early Intervention Service and building Medicare Mental Health Centres". It was also "expanding Headspace" and the mental health workforce.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

An overlooked secret to women's health? Friends

Women's Agenda, Other, 04/09/2024, Angela Priestley

Women's health is not achieved through expensive gym memberships or taking expensive supplements. It's not about following genetically blessed 'influencers' or spending thousands on ice baths and saunas. [...] We released the results in the opening session of the Women's Health and Wellbeing Summit in Sydney this morning, shortly before hearing from a lineup of guests including Tanya Hosch, The Hon Ged Kearney MP, Grace Tame, Jess Hill, Dr Talat Uppal and Dr Olivia Ong.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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DEPARTMENT

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Senate report rips into uncharacteristically quiet Ralph Babet

The New Daily, Other, 04/09/2024, Parker McKenzie

Senator Ralph Babet has been uncharacteristically quiet since the Senate report into excess mortality, an inquiry he was chief instigator of, found the vast majority of recent unaccounted deaths were due to Covid-19 and not vaccines. The report went on to lambast him for his conduct throughout the inquiry. The Senate Community Affairs References Committee launched its inquiry into why nearly 20,000 people above the baseline number died in 2022, concluding that the main cause was Covid, while also calling for greater data integrity and a compensation scheme for those injured by vaccines.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Kiama council waits a little longer for Blue Haven money

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/09/2024, Glen Humphries, Page 5

Kiama council will have to wait a little longer to get the money from the sale of Blue Haven, after the buyer pushed back the settlement date. Aged care provider Hall & Prior agreed to buy Blue Haven from the council for \$95 million, signing the contracts in July this year. Once all the liabilities are handed over - including the refundable accommodation deposits held by the council and the need to pay off the loan to build the facility - it will gain \$11 million from the sale.

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

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Partners sought for rehab in resi care trial

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/09/2024, Judy Skatssoon

Monash University is seeking partners for a planned grant application to trial a rehabilitation program based in residential aged care homes. The university is hoping to recruit 30 providers from across Australia for the trial, which will see them supported to access the My Therapy program in their facilities.

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Sue Gordon leaves ARIIA

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/09/2024, Judy Skatssoon

The research director of Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia Professor Sue Gordon has left the organisation after helping set up and establish it. ARIIA has paid tribute to her contributions, saying the organisation flourished under her leadership over the past three years and that it looked forward to continuing to work with her in a consulting capacity for the next few months.

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\$3M grant supports ROSA expansion

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/09/2024

The funding supports a five-year collaboration with seven project partners to investigate how the workforce impacts care quality. The Registry of Senior Australians has teamed up with StewartBrown, two aged care providers and four other partners for a five-year commonwealth funded project examining the impact of workforce on older people's care quality and health outcomes.

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Govt releases clinical software standards

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/09/2024, Judy Skatssoon

The federal government has released new minimum software standards for clinical care in residential

aged care homes, in line with a recommendation of the aged care royal commission. The Aged Care Clinical Information System Standards, released by the Australian Digital Health Agency and the Department of Health and Aged Care, cover clinical information systems and electronic medication management systems.

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Still more needed to meet future demand

Community Care Review, Other, 04/09/2024, Christopher Kelly and Judy Skatssoon

The number of allied health workers in home care rose dramatically between 2020 and 2023, but the sector's peak body says more will be needed to meet rising demand as the population ages and more Home Care Packages are released.

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Contribute to Diversity Council Australia's groundbreaking research on social class

HelloCare, Other, 04/09/2024, Alex Jacobs

Aged care workers can make their voices heard as part of the Diversity Council Australia's groundbreaking research on social class. Diversity Council Australia (DCA) is conducting new research on social class inclusion and is inviting workers across Australia to take part in a survey to support this important work.

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Wound care "warriors" use tech to treat aged care residents

The Senior, Other, 04/09/2024, Eileen Wood

Chronic wounds is a hidden epidemic that affects more than 450,000 Australians, mostly elderly, and costs the health and aged care budget almost \$7 billion a year. During this year's Wound Awareness Week (September 2- 8) aged care provider Uniting NSW.ACT is shining a spotlight on its wound care warriors - 420 nurses highly trained in chronic wound care.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Taking the plunging: why more CEOs are opting for ice baths

The Australian, Business News, 05/09/2024, Chris Herde, Page 15

What was once just a post-exercise ritual for elite athletes, ice or cold water immersion has become an increasing part of the business world's tool kit. Over the past few years, the trend has exploded, redefining the wellness sector and its relationship with chief executives and business executives.

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

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Walk to work for added benefits

Hobart Mercury, General News, 05/09/2024, Elise Kaine, Page 5

Tasmanians are encouraged to step into spring on Friday and walk to work to increase their mental and physical health, and save time. Chartered accountant at MWJ accountants Tim Moroney said he often ran to work. He said he found it a good way to increase mental and physical health. "It gets you ready to start the day," Mr Moroney said. "I don't have headphones in when I'm running or walking, so I do a lot of thinking," he said.

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Prevention better than hospital bed

Newcastle Herald, General News, 05/09/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

More than 16,000 hospitalisations a year for chronic conditions in the Hunter health network are

potentially preventable, national health data shows. [...] An AIHW report said primary and community health care "can be an opportunity for early intervention".

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South-west parents encouraged to attend 'Clear the Air' session

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 05/09/2024, Monique Patterson, Page 6

One in three teenagers have tried vaping and one in five are using an e-cigarette, a VicHealth study reveals. It shows parents are the secret weapon when it comes to tackling teen vaping. South-west parents and carers are invited to attend a special information session - Clear the Air - at the Lighthouse Theatre on September 12 at 5.30pm. The session will feature Dr James Durl, a researcher with Blurred Minds, a leading organisation in drug and alcohol education.

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Revolutionary workforce trend chronoworking expected to reach Australia

The Courier Mail, Other, 05/09/2024, Grace Koo

A pioneering concept that emerged overseas that allows employees to ditch the traditional 9am-5pm workdays and tailor hours around their body clock is expected to reach Australia soon. A leading expert has predicted a revolutionary workforce trend, which encourages employees to take up work patterns that best suit themselves, will reach Australia soon.

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Your Voice. Your Choice: Let's not talk in hushed tones this health week

Daily Liberal, Other, 04/09/2024, Orlander Ruming

"We don't have to speak about women's health in hushed tones." This is one of the things Jean Hailes' chief executive officer Sarah White says she loves about Women's Health Week. "Women's Health Week means a few different things to me personally. I just love seeing the incredibly wide variety of community groups and workplaces taking the time to think and talk about women's health," Dr White said about the week

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Dental care for women: Why it's crucial for your health

Shepparton News Online, Other, 04/09/2024, jaci hicken

Dr Victoria became a dentist to boost her confidence after having her crooked teeth fixed as a child, aiming to help others feel the same. Photo by Aidan Briggs Campaspe Dental Care dentists Victoria Sadler and Karen Liang like helping people of Echuca Moama with their dental care. Dr Victoria became a dentist because having her crooked teeth fixed as a child improved her confidence, and she wanted to do the same for others.

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Demand for Canberra's health system is outpacing supply, forcing more patients to travel interstate for treatment

ABC Online, Other, 04/09/2024

Femke Matthews lives just 10 minutes from Canberra's biggest hospital, so it was a shock to learn it would take a three-hour drive to access the medical treatment needed to save her daughter. [...] But emergency department wait times in the ACT are still longer than the national average, with 51 per cent of emergency patients seen on time in 2022-23 compared with 65 per cent nationwide, according to data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

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'Dead men don't talk' - but one mother is making her son's voice heard

9News, Other, 04/09/2024, Maddison Leach

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide (RCDVS) will deliver its final report in the next seven days, the culmination of more than 5800 submissions and three years of work. [...] David was one of 1677 ADF members who died by suicide between 1997 and 2021, per the Australian

Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), more than 20 times the number killed in active duty over roughly the same period.

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Tasmania has a sunburn problem

SBS, Other, 04/09/2024

Younger Australians are more likely to spend risky amounts of time in the sun according to new data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The data comes at a time when social media is adversely affecting the sun habits of younger generations. [...] Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare estimates that around 19,000 Australians will be diagnosed with melanoma this year.

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Still not enough to meet future demand

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/09/2024, Judy Skatssoon and Christopher Kelly

The number of allied health workers in home care rose dramatically between 2020 and 2023, but the sector's peak body says more will be needed to meet rising demand as the population ages and more Home Care Packages are released. Released last week by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the 2023 Aged Care Provider Workforce Survey shows that, last year, almost 15,000 allied health professionals and assistants were working in home care settings.

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Survey shows falling staff numbers

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 04/09/2024, Christopher Kelly

The residential aged care workforce fell by more than 45,000 between 2020 and 2023, a new report reveals. Released last week by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the 2023 Aged Care Provider Workforce Survey shows that, last year, there was an estimated 273,000 people working in residential aged care in 2023 compared to 277,671 in 2020.

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The 'whole community' effort tackling our homelessness crisis - can by can

The Senior, Other, 04/09/2024, Sarah Falson

A charity has emerged to tackle homelessness in New South Wales' Central West region - and a good chunk of its funds come from recycling. [...] The most recent National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing - put together by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare - showed that among people with a history of homelessness, 39 per cent reported experiencing a mental illness in the last 12 months compared with 20 per cent among people with no history of homelessness.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Macpherson's refusal of chemotherapy sparks warnings from cancer experts

Age, General News, 05/09/2024, Frances Howe, Page 2

Experts have encouraged patients to seek out evidence-based treatment options from trusted healthcare professionals after Elle Macpherson said she refused to include chemotherapy as part of her treatment for breast cancer. Macpherson, 60, was diagnosed with breast cancer following a lumpectomy, a surgery that removes cancer from the breast.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Australia\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#),

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Tanning fanning flames of cancer

Daily Telegraph, General News, 05/09/2024, Eliza Barr, Page 15

The NSW government has warned against potential skin cancer-causing tanning products which are being posted about online by Australian social media influencers. Tan-accelerating products without SPF (sun protection factor) ratings such as Carroten, The Fox Tan and Brunae Body claim to help users develop tans faster by intensifying the sun's effects.

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

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Not enough slip and slop

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 05/09/2024, Page 16

Skin cancer Australians are not using adequate sun protection to reduce their risk of skin cancer, the Cancer Council says. Only half (53.9 per cent) are using three or more forms of sun protection when exposed to the sun during peak UV times, a survey funded by the Cancer Council and conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows.

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'Stand firm in your truth'

Western Advocate, General News, 05/09/2024, Orlander Ruming, Page 1

In 2022, just days before Christmas, Danica Bunch was told she had metastatic breast cancer with "maybe two years left". She had noticed an unexpected indentation on her right breast and it wasn't going away. The mother of two and former ballerina said it was a "whisper from [her] body that something wasn't right". A mammogram showed little bit after insisting on an ultrasound, a lump was revealed. A further biopsy would confirm it was cancerous.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#)

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New funds for group that gave multicultural Illawarra women with cancer a voice

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 04/09/2024, Kate Mcilwain

A unique Illawarra cancer support group that has been helping women from multicultural backgrounds has been given funding to look into the impact it's had on the region over the past decade. Health Minister Ryan Park has announced funding of \$91,000 for a new research project for the Sisters' Cancer Support Group, which has helped women from diverse backgrounds access screening, health services and support from people like them.

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CTE North Queensland: Sarah Willey opens up on husband Steve's fight against brain disease

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 04/09/2024, Cameron Bates

A brave North Queensland mother of two young boys is speaking out about the dangers of CTE as her husband, a former avid sportsman, fights a losing battle against the fatal brain disease. A brave North Queensland mother of two young boys is speaking out about the dangers of CTE as her husband, a former avid sportsman, fights a losing battle against the fatal brain disease.

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What is a cancer cluster and why are they difficult to determine in the workplace?

ABC Online, Other, 04/09/2024

A Liverpool Council building in south-west Sydney has been ruled out as the site of a cancer cluster after a thorough testing process. [...] The Cancer Council defines a cancer cluster as an unusually high

number of the same type of cancer occurring in a group of people with a common exposure – where they live, work or some other usually long-term exposure to an agent that causes cancer.

Also reported by: 7news.com.au ([Online](#)).

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Nathan Buckley reveals girlfriend's secret health battle

NEWS.com.au, Other, 04/09/2024, Tsn Flex

Nathan Buckley has opened up about girlfriend Brodie Ryan's secret health battle with epilepsy. The footy legend on Tuesday went public in sharing details about Ryan's condition in the hope of raising public support for the Epilepsy Foundation's 'Walk for Epilepsy' campaign. Buckley has told reporters the Melbourne socialite only discovered that she has the neurological disorder as an adult.

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New trials offer hope for Aussies with Type 2 diabetes

9News, Other, 04/09/2024, Sarah Swain

New trials offer hope for Aussies with type 2 diabetes There's growing hope for more than a million Aussies with Type 2 diabetes. A series of diabetes clinics across the country are now working together to revolutionise treatments offered to patients to help manage the condition. Susan Kozij has been living with type 2 diabetes for more than 20 years.

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Asthma council issues warning over double-length scripts

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/09/2024, Mohana Basu

National Asthma Council Australia is concerned about missed opportunities to step down medication. Australia's peak asthma body is urging doctors to be cautious with 60-day dispensing for inhaler medications. Starting this month, patients with asthma will be able to receive multiple inhalers at each dispensing for more than 70 products, including all PBS-listed preventer and combined inhalers.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, A Current Affair, 04/09/2024, Allison Langdon

While the Federal Government recently lowered the age of those eligible for a free home test kit from 50 to 45, he says it should be available even earlier in the perfect world from the age of 30, we would undertake screening for bowel cancer, 99% of Australians who are diagnosed earlier with the early stage. Julian Wiggins, CEO, Bowel Cancer Australia, says bowel cancer can actually be cured.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Afternoons, 04/09/2024, Sofie Formica

Interview with Karen Hirshausen, Principal Audiologist, Hearing Australia. Hirshausen admits that it's quite common for musicians to suffer hearing loss due to being exposed fairly often to music. She mentions that a hearing aid's lifespan should be around five years.

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PRIMARY CARE

Fury over private hospital 'scare tactics' campaign

The Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Natasha Robinson and James Dowling, Page 1

The battle over private health has exploded into a bitter public war as health insurers respond with fury to suggestions patients may be denied cancer treatment and maternity care. Insurers have also accused one of the nation's biggest private-equity-backed hospital groups of resorting to scare tactics to mislead consumers and pressure the federal government to bail it out as it bleeds profits amid rising costs and plummeting revenue.

Also reported by: [The Australian](https://theaustralian.com.au) ([Online](#)).

Doctors, patients still feel squeeze

Herald Sun, General News, 05/09/2024, Sarah Booth and Alex White, Page 3

Monash Health has warned staff that patients will still have to be discharged quicker due to funding challenges, despite receiving a cash boost from the Allan government. Doctors' take-home pay could also be cut at some hospitals as they grapple with new budgets handed down by the government in recent days, a peak group for the health professionals warns.

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Private hospital war with health insurers

West Australian, Business News, 05/09/2024, Cheyanne Enciso, Page 38

The nation's second-biggest private hospital operator has taken aim at major health insurers such as Bupa, accusing them of under-funding and bleeding its hospitals dry. Launching a nationwide advertising campaign on Wednesday, Healthscope accused Bupa and non-profit insurer Australian Unity of under-funding its 38 hospitals across the country, including 12 in NSW and 13 in Victoria.

Also reported by: [The Nightly \(None\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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

Women's touch to tackle menopause

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 05/09/2024, Lucy Crock, Page 7

A new unique health clinic in Geelong hopes to change the way women view menopause. Menopause Health Geelong, which will open in Leopold from October, is the passion project of general practitioners Dr Elise Davey and Dr Yvonne McCartney. The pair saw a need for a clinic for an underserved population of women in Geelong - navigating the complexities of peri, post menopause and menopause.

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

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

Health minister defends 'urgent' \$422m hospital funding

Canberra Times, Other, 04/09/2024, Adrian Black and Rachael Ward

Victoria's hospitals came within days of being unable to pay staff or creditors, prompting the health minister to request \$422 million be urgently pumped into the system. Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas wrote to Victorian Treasurer Tim Pallas seeking support for "urgent payments" in June 2023, according to a letter obtained by the state's opposition under a Freedom of Information (FOI) request.

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

[Read More](#)

A paramedic team was delayed for several critical minutes because Maroondah Hospital staff insisted the crew wait with their patient

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/09/2024, Sarah Booth

A man in cardiac arrest has died after the closest intensive care ambulance crew was forced to stay with a non-urgent patient at a Melbourne hospital. The paramedic team was delayed for several critical minutes because Maroondah Hospital staff insisted the crew wait with their patient in the emergency waiting room because it was "busy". A furious whistleblower said the man who died deserved better as the delayed ambulance could have arrived about five minutes earlier.

[Read More](#)

New palliative care team, \$1 million a year for Wide Bay region

Fraser Coast Chronicle, Other, 04/09/2024, Carlie Walker

A new team and more than \$1m a year is set to boost palliative care services in the Wide Bay region. The team of nine new palliative care staff, funded by the state government, has started work across the Wide Bay Health and Hospital Service with more staff to join them soon. The team is set to include specialist consultants, principal health officers, social workers, occupational therapists and Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander health workers and is a part of increased funding to expand end of life care services.

[Read More](#)

Debate on voluntary assisted dying in the NT reignites

ABC Online, Other, 04/09/2024

The new CLP government says it will take time to decide on the issue as the Northern Territory remains the only jurisdiction in Australia not to have voluntary assisted dying laws.

[Read More](#)

Families face 10-hour round trip to Perth for vital disability support services when local clinic shuts

9News, Other, 04/09/2024, Maddison Leach

Families in Albany, WA, will be forced to travel almost five hours to Perth for in-person learning disability assessments when a local clinic shuts its doors in a few months' time. Local mum Kate Mitchell is fighting to stop that from happening, as she fears it will add pressure to a regional disability support system "that's already crumbling".

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 04/09/2024, Manny Tsigas

Nearly 30 years ago, the Northern Territory made history as one of the first jurisdictions in the world to allow voluntary assisted dying. Now, it's the only jurisdiction in Australia not to have laws, but the question of whether the NT will allow terminally ill patients to choose how and when they die could continue for years, with its new CLP government vowing to take its time congratulating her opponent.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Online spate of hate

Courier Mail, General News, 05/09/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 7

Cyber-bullying is pushing teen girls towards cosmetic procedures and eating disorders in frightening numbers, the first study of its kind has revealed. Nearly all girls aged 14-19 have been cyberbullied with 62 per cent of attacks relating to appearance, making them feel ashamed of their bodies. The bullying has sparked 92 per cent of them to want to change how they look with dieting and exercise and more than 80 per cent say they want cosmetic procedures.

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

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How do we stop men dying?

West Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Dana Wallace-Campbell, Page 44

There are plenty of conversations being had about the state of men's health, both here in WA and at a national and global level, yet the fact remains that the majority of men remain reluctant to put their hand up and ask for help, whether there are services available to them or not. There also remains a distinct lack of men's specific health services and cohesion in terms of bringing key groups together to achieve better physical and mental health outcomes for men.

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

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

How we can be happy, flourish and thrive

Newcastle Herald, General News, 05/09/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 9

A mental health expo will be held in Newcastle on Saturday to increase awareness of available services, reduce stigma and foster wellbeing. The inaugural Hunter Mental Health and Wellbeing Expo

will be held at Newcastle Racecourse. The Lake Macquarie and Newcastle Suicide Prevention Network will host the expo, which is free to enter.

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

When and how to take a mental health day off work

Prevention, Other, 04/09/2024, Madeleine Haase

Plus, how experts recommend you spend your time off. We all deal with varying levels of stress in our day to day, but feelings of burnout should not be ignored. So, if you notice that you are feeling overwhelmed, inundated, or like you are just trying to stay afloat, and you're feeling like your stress levels are at an 11, it might be wise to devote some time to reset by taking a mental health day away from your daily responsibilities and never-ending to-do list.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Linen presses point

Daily Advertiser, General News, 05/09/2024, Finn Coleman, Page 1

Overflowing linen baskets are just the beginning of the impacts industrial action is having at Wagga Base Hospital, fed-up nurses say. Nurses at Wagga Base Hospital, and across other parts of the state, escalated their industrial action against the NSW government last week as part of their ongoing fight for better pay.

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

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

Nurses draw line in pay dispute

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/09/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 1

Patients at Wollongong Hospital have been warned to expect even longer wait times and disruption of hospital services, as nurses and midwives escalate their campaign for a pay rise from the NSW Government. Union members have put new work bans in place, which means they will refuse to clean beds and equipment, pick up patient meals from the kitchen or empty bins and linen skips.

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Birth trauma inquiry delivers

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/09/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 1

Almost exactly a year since Illawarra women gave evidence at a hearing about their experience with birth trauma, Health Minister Ryan Park and the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District are announcing an expansion of Wollongong's Midwifery Group Practice, and the establishment of the program in the Shoalhaven. Hailed as the 'gold standard' in maternity care, the model allows women to have dedicated and continuous care from the same midwife throughout pregnancy, labour, birth, and up to two weeks after birth.

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

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Jo Morgan first Great Southern nurse to complete midwifery scholarship program & achieving her dream

West Australian, Other, 04/09/2024, Melissa Sheil

An Albany midwife who is part of the first cohort of graduates from a scholarship upskill program said she would not have been able to pursue her true passion without it. Jo Morgan is one of 15 graduates from the inaugural class of the State Government's program, which puts registered nurses through an 18-month graduate diploma of midwifery.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Chiropractor to open new clinic in CBD

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 05/09/2024, Jonathon Magrath, Page 2

Dr elsie Rodgers-Rutledge wants her clients to be relaxed before they've even laid down. The chiropractor is putting together the final pieces before she opens her clinic House of Healing at 1/113133 Mollison Street on September 23. The clinic was leased by DCK Bendigo and has been completely transformed from the former business, Bendigo Locksmiths, which has moved to 45 Eaglehawk Road, Ironbark.

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Are you one of 85,000 doctors who hasn't paid AHPRA rego yet?

Australian Doctor, Other, 04/09/2024

The annual fee has come under increasing scrutiny during a cost-of-living crisis. Doctors have until 30 September to pay their \$1027 AHPRA registration fee or face a \$30 surcharge. The annual fee — which is slightly lower for NSW doctors, at \$956 — has come under increasing scrutiny during a cost-of-living crisis, with the AMA calling for the Federal Government to provide more direct funding for AHPRA.

[Read More](#)

'Let's start with a joke' – docs lash out at new pharmacy regulator

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 04/09/2024, Megan Haggan

A new Pharmacy Ownership Council in Queensland launches, bringing it in line with other states – and is immediately slammed as "anti-competitive" by doctors But the AMA has been "caught out telling lies" about the new regulator, says the Pharmacy Guild. Queensland health minister Shannon Fentiman has announced the establishment of the new regulatory body,

[Read More](#)

Pharmacy profession needs more advancement and innovation, FIP president says

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 01/09/2024

Greater progression across the pharmacy profession is needed in order to address challenges such as inequitable healthcare access, medicines shortages, antimicrobial resistance, and substandard and falsified medicines, Mr Paul Sinclair, president of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), said today in his opening address at FIP's 82nd World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

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

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Lower co-pays

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 04/09/2024

Lowering the maximum PBS co-payment is the most effective way to reduce medicine costs and support Australians struggling with the cost of living, said Pharmacy Guild of Australia President Prof Trent Twomey. New data from the Commonwealth Government shows that cutting the maximum co-payment is over 11 times more effective in providing cost-of-living relief than other measures.

[Read More](#)

Opioid safety kit

A new Opioid Safety Toolkit was launched today to help prevent overdose deaths, coinciding with International Pain Awareness Month in Sep. The toolkit, developed by Monash University, PainAustralia, and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, aims to empower consumers with the knowledge and resources for safer opioid use.

[Read More](#)

Community Pharmacy delivers cheaper medicines for patients

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 04/09/2024

Figures released by the Commonwealth Government show lowering the maximum copayment is more than 11 times more effective in delivering cost of living relief to all Australians. "It's now clear that lowering the maximum Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) copayment is the best way to make medicines cheaper and support Australians challenged by the cost of living to meet their healthcare needs," Pharmacy Guild of Australia President Professor Trent Twomey said.

[Read More](#)

3AW, Drive, 04/09/2024, Jacqui Felgate

Interview with Dr Elise Davey, GP, and Director, Kensington Hill Medical Centre. Davey urges people with cancer to avoid holistic medication and utilise treatment that are being offered through the PBS. She mentions that those treatments are costing \$1m per patient per year, so patients shouldn't feel that there's a barrier in how a patient with cancer are getting what they need.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 04/09/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Dr Chris Pearce, GP and Board Member, Asthma Australia. Compere mentions that there are huge developments regarding asthma during the upcoming National Asthma Week, as a 60-day prescription is now going through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Pearce points out that the drug in question is Seretide, as he explains that traditionally, prescriptions have been limited to a month's supply or what they think a month's supply is, but now people are able to get two months' worth of supply, for a decent price.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Major NDIS changes start rolling out in a few weeks — but many participants still feel in the dark

ABC Online, Other, 05/09/2024

In short Less than a month out from the start of a major NDIS overhaul, many participants say they're in the dark about the changes. Participants and advocates say the changes have been poorly communicated, and because of that, misinformation has been allowed to proliferate.

[Read More](#)

'I agree': Paul Murray on call for dental to be incorporated into Medicare

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/09/2024

Sky News host Paul Murray says he agrees with the proposition of finding a way to incorporate dental care into the Australian Medicare system. "It is one the Greens have tried to own for a while, but I think there is a great opportunity here for everyone to think of how to do it and that is going to the dentist," Mr Murray said.

[Read More](#)

GP fees to be paid in feelings instead of money

The Medical Republic, Other, 04/09/2024

Medicare will replace its cash rebates for chronic care plans with a emotions-based funding model, DoHAC has announced. GP management plans and team care arrangements will disappear in November, but the Department of Health and Aged Care has been deliberately vague on detail because it has much bigger plans in mind.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Perth doctor accused of fracturing baby son's leg and rib has medical suspension overturned

ABC Online, Other, 04/09/2024

A Perth doctor accused of causing grievous bodily harm to his infant son has succeeded in having his medical suspension overturned. The man, who cannot be identified, is alleged to have fractured the baby's femur and one of its ribs during an incident on March 5. He is due to return to court next month, but the Medical Board of Australia suspended his registration in April, citing the public interest.

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

[Read More](#)

Victorian inquiry reveals sexism and delays in women's pain care

Shepparton News Online, Other, 04/09/2024

The Victorian Government's Inquiry into Women's Pain has shed light on the significant challenges faced by women and girls in seeking care for pain conditions. A survey of over 13,000 participants, including women, girls, carers, families and healthcare workers, revealed a troubling pattern of negative experiences in the healthcare system. Respondents reported encountering sexism, misogyny and dismissive attitudes from clinicians who often attributed their pain to psychological factors.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Leading health bodies say scrapping LGBTI+ questions from the 2026 census leaves Australia's 'invisible' populations at greater risk of harm

ABC Online, Other, 05/09/2024

Excluding lgbti+ questions from the 2026 census would put these Australians at greater risk of "marginalisation and disadvantage", multiple leading health and research organisations have said. Eight major health bodies, including the Australian Human Rights Institute and the University of NSW's Kirby Institute, have now called on the federal government to include questions on gender and sexual orientation in the next census.

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

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SPORT

Local sports get concussion all-clear

The Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Page 7

New medical research suggests non-professional sports players are not at risk of lifelong neurological damage from concussions, and that contact sports players perform better cognitively than the average person. Research by the University of NSW that analysed the long-term health outcomes of those who

had suffered sports-related concussions (SRCs) earlier in life suggests there is little to fear in the years following a concussion.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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

Survivors recount horrific details of sex abuse at hands of trusted swimming coach

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 05/09/2024, Sarah McPhee, Page 16

One of Sydney swimming coach Dick Caine's victims was 10 when she was first sexually abused by the man her parents had considered the "ants pants". More than four decades later, when news of Caine's arrest broke in 2022, the woman cried as she told her husband: "He got me when I was young."

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

'Hate' floors Raygun

Herald Sun, General News, 05/09/2024, Mandy Squires, Page 13

Kangaroo-hopping Aussie Olympic breakdancer Rachael "Raygun" Gunn has opened up on her Paris routine, which became internationally famous for all the wrong reasons, revealing she had to seek mental health help afterwards. On Wednesday night, Gunn told Channel 10's The Project that following her globally mocked performance she had "up and downs . good and bad days" and felt like she was in "a really weird dream" that she was going to wake up from.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#).

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Blunnies walk

Hobart Mercury, General News, 05/09/2024, Rob Inglis, Page 1

Bellerive Oval will no longer be known as Blundstone Arena, with the iconic Tasmanian brand announcing the end of its naming rights sponsorship of the venue after 13 years. The Mercury can exclusively reveal that Blundstone Australia will not seek to renew its contract with Cricket Tasmania beyond the expiry date of October 1. Another "well-known" local business is understood to be taking over as the new sponsor this cricket season and is expected to be announced in the coming months.

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

Sharks smell blood in footy club logo fight

West Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Mitchell Woodcock, Page 1

An extraordinary stoush between councillors and a WAFL club has needed government intervention after an attempt to ban a shark logo over fears it was confronting for families. East Fremantle Football Club - nicknamed the Sharks - are yet to return to their newly redeveloped home despite more than \$32 million in upgrades being completed at the ground earlier this year.

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Poor student fitness levels risk making Australia a 'nation of spectators'

9News, Other, 04/09/2024, Richard Wood

On today's National Health and Physical Education (HPE) Day in schools, one expert is warning activity levels of many students remain concerningly low. "There's a lot of hype about physical activity levels ... but really the evidence is anything but convincing in terms of getting kids out and moving," Professor David Lubans, of Newcastle University in New South Wales, told 9news.com.au.

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Saving lives in Western Australia

West Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Page 19

The Hospital Research Foundation Group funds life-changing medical research to find cures and improve healthcare for all Australians. Merging last year with the Fremantle-based Spinnaker Health Research Foundation, which has a 27-year history of supporting medical research in Western Australia, the charities combined now deliver real impact in more than 50 areas of disease and illness.

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WHO sends out safety message

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 05/09/2024, Ben Silvester, Page 20

The largest ever study into an association between mobile phone use and cancer has found no evidence to link the two. The World Health Organisation (WHO) commissioned the international investigation to settle the issue after several contradictory studies sparked alarm about mobile phone radiation. Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) scientist Ken Karipidis led the four-year analysis and said the results were "very reassuring". "We've been talking about this issue for the last 30 years," Associate Professor Karipidis said.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

Breakthrough Victoria facing second Federal Court case, allegations of 'obstruction'

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/09/2024, Angelica Snowden

A co-founder of medtech company Seer Medical has lodged a second legal claim alleging Breakthrough Victoria of effectively sinking the value of his shares. @ang3snowden The Australian Business Network The founder of a start-up that received a hit of funding from Victoria's venture capital fund has launched a second case against it, alleging Breakthrough Victoria was "obstructive" of efforts to raise money and was trying to secure a "better deal for itself".

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

\$655M for 'historic' push

Northern Territory News, General News, 05/09/2024, Fia Walsh, Page 1

More than half a billion dollars of Aboriginal money previously controlled by Canberra has been unlocked for Aboriginal Territorians, in hopes of building wealth and wellbeing of communities. Yesterday, the Northern Territory Aboriginal Investment Corporation announced its rebrand to Aboriginal Investment NT, and launched a five-year plan to invest \$655m in driving Aboriginal-led development across the Territory.

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Australia's first Indigenous ophthalmic surgeon joins forces with Turia Pitt to fight avoidable blindness in the Top End

West Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Page 19

Professor Fred Hollows' legacy in Australia is built on the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to sight, good health and self-determination. He once said, "It's obscene to let people go blind when they don't have to". Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples wait 40 per cent longer for cataract surgery than other Australians, and The Fred Hollows Foundation works across the country with health organisations to close this gap.

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Congo Is Still Waiting For Mpox Vaccines

The Nightly, General News, 04/09/2024, Stephanie Nolen, Page 21

There are no vaccines for mpox available in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the epicenter of a global health emergency declared on August 14, even though the country first asked for the shots two years ago and the manufacturers say they have supplies. So where are the shots?

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

Indigenous healthcare professional, Dr Mark Wenitong, teams up with DrinkWise to urge mothers to abstain from alcohol

National Indigenous Times, Other, 04/09/2024, Dechlan Brennan

A leading Indigenous health practitioner has partnered with DrinkWise to urge women to abstain from drinking in the lead up and during pregnancy, as well as breastfeeding, in the lead up to International FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) Awareness Day. Dr Mark Wenitong, along with actor Deborah Mailman, has joined forces with DrinkWise ahead of FASD Awareness Day on September 9 as research shows 87 per cent of women between the ages of 18 and 44 believe no alcohol should be consumed during pregnancy, up from 77 per cent in 2018.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Health alert as Victoria records surge in whooping cough cases

7news.com.au, Other, 04/09/2024

The state's health department has described the surge as a 'public health concern'. Whooping cough cases have skyrocketed in Victoria, with the state's health department labelling the worrying increase a "public health concern". More than 10 times the number of cases has been recorded so far in 2024 than for the whole of last year, with children aged 9–12 accounting for nearly 40 per cent of all cases.

[Read More](#)

As Australia's HIV diagnoses continue downward trend, experts say parts of the country are approaching 'the end of AIDS'

ABC Online, Other, 04/09/2024

Parts of Australia are already approaching "the end of AIDS", experts say, with new data showing a continuing decrease in diagnoses nationwide. New numbers released by the University of New South Wales's Kirby Institute show HIV diagnoses have reduced by a third over the past decade despite a 2023 increase.

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

[Read More](#)

Congenital syphilis cases on the rise

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 04/09/2024, Ruth Cooper

Syphilis cases have tripled in the last 10 years in Australia, leading to an 'avoidable and unacceptable' reemergence of congenital syphilis. This World Sexual Health Day (4 September), Australian Pharmacist explores pharmacists' role in addressing this escalating issue.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

High growth opportunities for Aussie cannabis producers

West Australian, General News, 05/09/2024, Wendy Bonython, Page 44

For more than 40 years, Amsterdam has been a favourite destination for young Australians drawn to its historic charm and famously relaxed cannabis scene. [...] Both the Office of Drug Control (in the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care) and the Therapeutic Goods Administration oversee complex regulatory regimes governing access to medicinal cannabis.

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

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Alive and Kicking: Lumos Diagnostics attracts 'Twiggy' Forrest as cornerstone holder in \$10m raise

The Australian, Other, 04/09/2024, Tim Boreham

Lumos Diagnostics to raise \$10 million, with a little help from an iron-ore baron Memphasys is not horsing around as it trials its Felix sperm-separation device for the equine market Medical cannabis and telehealth play Vitura Health says it's not going to pot, despite tough competition [...] The results are expected to support an approval application to the local Therapeutic Goods Administration.

[Read More](#)

August Health Winners: LTR Pharma, Control Bionics lead sector at the 'cusp of an extraordinary era'

The Australian, Other, 04/09/2024, Eddy Sunarto

The ASX Healthcare sector has outpaced the benchmark 10x since 2006. Pic via Getty Images ASX health stocks down in August and trail the broader market in 2024 CSL up 6,000pc since listing; sector outpaced benchmark 10x since 2006 [...] IBX Imagion Biosys ACW Actinogen Medical EOF Ecofibre ME1 Melodiol Glb Health LTR Pharma (ASX:LTP) LTP has achieved a significant milestone with its erectile dysfunction treatment Spontan, as the first patients have started using it under the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Authorised Prescriber Scheme (APS).

[Read More](#)

New COVID-19 vaccines targeting JN.1 variant under review by Therapeutic Goods Administration

ABC Online, Other, 04/09/2024

Australia's national drug regulator is evaluating the safety and efficacy of two new COVID-19 vaccines designed to provide better protection against new variants of the virus. Last month, pharmaceutical companies Pfizer and Moderna both submitted applications to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for COVID-19 jabs that target the Omicron sub-variant JN.1, first detected in Australia late last year.

[Read More](#)

Australia running low on HIV-prevention drug PrEP as experts warn users to plan ahead

The Guardian, Other, 04/09/2024, Natasha May

Australia is experiencing a shortage of an important HIV prevention medication and sexual health organisations are urging those who rely on it to plan ahead so they don't run out. [...] A spokesperson for the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) confirmed shortages of multiple brands of tenofovir/emtricitabine combination tablets, used for PrEP to reduce the risk of sexually acquired human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1).

Also reported by: [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Vaping changes: we're still in the clouds

Medical Forum, Other, 04/09/2024

As of 1 June 2024, it became illegal for any business other than a pharmacy to sell vapes or vaping products in Australia, irrespective if the vape contained nicotine or not. [...] "Vaping products have not been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and no nicotine-containing vape is listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods."

[Read More](#)

OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Tasmania's drug-related ambulance calls second highest in the country

Launceston Examiner, General News, 05/09/2024, Declan Durrant, Page 7

A national report found Tasmania has the second highest alcohol and other drug-related ambulance uses in the country, and that 29 Tasmanians died from unintentional drug induced overdose in 2022. Released this year, the Penington Institute report was a key topic at the annual International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) last week when buildings in Launceston were lit in purple and events were held across the city.

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

Man dies outside primary school near North Richmond's controversial injecting room

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/09/2024, Rebecca Borg, Shannon Deery and Suzan Delibasic

A man has died just metres from the front gates of a primary school next to North Richmond's controversial injecting room. A Victoria Police spokeswoman said it was understood a man collapsed along the corner of Lennox and Peers streets about 2pm on Wednesday. "Paramedics tried to revive him, but he died at the scene," the spokeswoman said.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Here's cheers – Calmer Co capitalises on Kava trend

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 04/09/2024

The Calmer Co International is capitalising on the booming Kava health trend, with Coles expanding its product range and moves to gain a strong foothold in the US market. Special Report The Calmer Co is seeing sales of Kava booming in Australia with Coles expanding the company's product range

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Brisbane eateries hit with food safety, hygiene fines

The Courier Mail, Other, 04/09/2024, Tayla Couacaud

Filthy eateries across Brisbane have been harbouring rodents and pests, storing food unsafely, and even operating without proper handwashing facilities according to shocking details of food safety fines issued to some of the River City's most popular restaurants. The Courier-Mail can exclusively reveal that Brisbane City Council issued almost \$600,000 in fines last financial year to 56 businesses who were found to be in breach of the Food Safety Act.

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Prevention or patch-up: Could the threat of a sugar tax work?

The Mandarin, Other, 04/09/2024, Ian Lowe

We know that the level of sugar consumption in Australia is unhealthy. Eating large amounts of sugar is associated with many health problems: increased risk of tooth decay, obesity, type two diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

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Is still water better for you than sparkling water?

The New Daily, Other, 04/09/2024, Christian Moro and Charlotte Phelps

Still or sparkling? It's a question you'll commonly hear in a café or restaurant and you probably have a preference. But is there any difference for your health? If you love the fizz, here's why you don't have to

pass on the sparkling water. What makes my water sparkle? This article specifically focuses on comparing still filtered water to carbonated filtered water (called "sparkling water" or "unflavoured seltzer").

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Harvard study reveals what ultra-processed foods can lead to early death

NEWS.com.au, Other, 04/09/2024, Claudia Poposki

Too many artificially sweetened drinks and processed meat may be pushing you one step closer to an early death, according to new research. A study of 115,000 people found that those who ate large amounts of ultra-processed food — particularly processed meat (like sausages, ham and bacon), sugar, artificially sweetened drinks, and sugary breakfast foods — were more likely to have heart issues or a stroke, a Harvard study published in revealed.

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