



# TODAY'S NEWS

Tuesday, 10th September 2024

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## LINKS

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Australian** (page 1) reports Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Tuesday will commit to world-leading social media age limits to tackle wellbeing issues amongst teenagers, with legislation to be introduced during this term of parliament. *Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [Canberra Times](#), [Daily Telegraph](#)*
- **The Australian** (page 1) reports the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has recommended a new agency to help personnel transition into civilian life, faster processing time for entitlement claims, and called for more severe measures to deter sexual violence with the Defence Force. *Also reported by: [Australian Financial Review](#), [The Australian](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [Canberra Times](#)*
- **The Age** (page 1) reports the National Health Workers Union yesterday voted to begin court action to force its Victorian branch into administration amidst allegations of financial misconduct by its secretary Diana Asmar.
- **The Australian** (page 3) reports former supermodel Elle McPherson's messaging on effective breast cancer treatment could lead to fatalities without more balanced reporting, former TV presenter Kerri-Anne Kennerley has warned. *Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia](#), [NEWS.com.au](#), [7news.com.au](#)*

- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 3) reports a patient of a Sydney beauty clinic raided by the New South Wales Health Care Complaints Commission may have contracted Hepatitis B due to its lax infection controls.
- The [Herald Sun](#) (page 3) reports Ambulance Victoria has appointed its fourth replacement chief executive in as many weeks, with current executive director Danielle North to fill the role for acting chief Anthony Carlyon while he takes unexpected personal leave.
- The [Adelaide Advertiser](#) (page 3) reports Royal Adelaide Hospital has become the first in South Australia to offer electric vehicle charging bays for patients, visitors and staff at a cost of \$0.45 per kWh. *Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser](#)*
- The [Daily Telegraph](#) (page 4) reports nurses across New South Wales will strike from 7am on Tuesday in defiance of an Industrial Relations Commission ruling which found the action illegal. *Also reported by: [Canberra Times](#)*
- [The Australian](#) (page 5) reports former aged-care minister Richard Colbeck has cautioned the Coalition to seek a clear definition of who will be required to pay co-contributions for aged care under proposed reforms, saying it could adversely impact people receiving a partial pension.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### New life for free medical clinic

Dandenong Star Journal, General News, 10/09/2024, Cam Lucadou-Wells, Page 2

A Dandenong South clinic that's diverting up to 500 patients a week from Dandenong Hospital emergency department is now being federally funded. The Dandenong Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in the industrial-set Logis Boulevard has been formerly performing the same vital role as a state-funded Priority Primary Care Centre (PPCC) since 2023. [...] Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said the clinic offered "high quality, timely and free care".

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### Push to give workers 12 reproductive leave days every year

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 10/09/2024, Jessica Wang, Page 7

The Albanese government is being called to give all workers 12 days reproductive leave to cover IVF treatments, severe period pain, menopause, vasectomies and gender transitioning therapies. The powerful Health Services Union on Monday will begin a national campaign for the leave entitlement to be enshrined into the National Employment Standards. Union representatives seeking meetings with senior cabinet ministers including Health Minister Mark Butler, Workplace Relations Minister Murray Watt and Minister for Women Katy Gallagher.

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

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### Urgent care clinic open

Star Weekly, Other, 09/09/2024

Inner west residents needing to see a doctor now have more options with a new Medicare Urgent Care Clinic now open in Maribyrnong. The Edgewater Medical Centre on Edgewater Boulevard opened on September 1, one of 29 such clinics funded by the federal government in the 2024-25 budget. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler said the new clinic would help address the health needs of a growing area.

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### Toby lives with childhood dementia. Limited funding in Australia is leaving families without hope

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

For Nicole the hardest part of her son Toby's childhood dementia is its regressive nature. "Having a child, watching them grow, watching them achieve and then watching that slowly be unpicked until there's nothing left. [...] The Australian government was the first in the world to commit targeted funding

for childhood dementia research – the health minister Mark Butler invited families to take part in the project in April led by the Childhood Dementia Initiative partnering with researchers from the University of NSW and The Sydney Children's Hospital Network.

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## **HSU pushes for Australian workers to get 12 days of reproductive leave**

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

Millions of workers could be set to get an extra 12 days off in paid reproductive leave to cover treatments such as severe period pain, menopause, gender transition, IVF, and vasectomies if a new union proposal succeeds. On Monday, the Health Services Union (HSU) will begin campaigning for the extra leave to be enshrined into the National Employment Standards, The Australian reported. The union is seeking meetings with senior MPs including Health Minister Mark Butler, Workplace Relations Minister Murray Watt and Minister for Women, Katy Gallagher in a bid to secure support for the push.

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## **Australia war games bird flu fightback as deadly strain looms**

9News, Other, 09/09/2024, Adam Vidler

Environmental groups, poultry producers and government officials are joining forces for a large-scale "war game" as Australia prepares for the potential arrival of a deadly strain of bird flu. The H5N1 strain of avian influenza has been detected in every continent around the world, except Australia. [...] Although many scientists predict that H5N1 will at some point arrive in Australia, possibly via sick wild birds, Health Minister Mark Butler said the current risk to Australians was "very low".

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## **'We'll watch our child waste away': The forgotten children living with a death sentence**

SBS, Other, 09/09/2024, Caroline Riches

Each year in Australia, as many children will die from dementia as die from cancer. So why is it that childhood dementia remains relatively unknown? [...] On Monday Health Minister Mark Butler said the government would deliver \$750,000 in funding to the CDI to support children and families affected by childhood dementia.

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## **Australia Urged to Lead Global Effort Against Childhood Dementia**

FNArena, Other, 09/09/2024

A groundbreaking new report, "State of Childhood Dementia in Australia 2024," released today at Australia's Parliament House in Canberra by the Childhood Dementia Initiative, has revealed the devastating impact of childhood dementia on Australian families. [...] Assistant Health Minister, Ged Kearney, and MP, Gavin Pearce, spoke at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia, to address the findings of the report.

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## **Corporate Ladder: your weekly guide to executive appointments in South Australia**

In Daily, Other, 09/09/2024

South Australia's premier executive appointments column tracking the movements of those driving the state's public and private sectors. Plus, the latest executive recruitment opportunities. [...] Jane Mussared Mussared joins the Maggie Beer Foundation from an advisory role to Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler.

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## **Boost for community-led program for First Nations children in SA**

National Indigenous Times, Other, 10/09/2024, Tiesha Hewitt

Kura Yerlo has been granted a \$1.8 million expansion to deliver the community-led program - Connected Beginnings - for First Nations children in Port Adelaide. Federal Minister for Early Childhood

Education Dr Anne Aly announced the funding boost this week. [...] Member for Hindmarsh, Minister Mark Butler, said Kura Yerlo has been central to Indigenous families in the western suburbs for decades.

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## Major push to give millions of Aussies 12 extra days off work: 'Incredible benefits'

Yahoo! Finance Australia, Other, 09/09/2024, Stewart Perrie

The Health Services Union will be pushing the Albanese government to usher in reproductive leave. The Health Services Union wants to see workers given 12 days off per year for their reproductive needs. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler and Workplace Relations Minister Murray Watt have not confirmed whether the federal government will support the HSU's initiative.

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## Curtin FM, 16:00 News, 09/09/2024

Millions of workers across Australia could soon access an extra 12 days off in paid reproductive leave. The Health Services Union will begin campaigning for the extra leave, which will include treatment for gender reassignment surgery, period pain, menopause and gender transition to be enshrined in the National Employment Standards. The union is seeking meetings with senior MPs, including Health Minister Mark Butler, Workplace Relations Minister Murray Watt, and Minister for Women Katy Gallagher.

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## ABC South East NSW, Breakfast, 09/09/2024, Eddie Williams

Interview with Dr Michael Holland, Member for Bega and Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Regional Health. Holland discusses the release of a report that confirms enough demand for radiotherapy services at the new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital, scheduled to open in 2027. He says he has cosigned a letter alongside Eden-Monaro MP Kristy McBain and Gilmore MP Fiona Phillips to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler and NSW Health Minister Ryan Park, urging them to ensure radiotherapy is included in the new hospital.

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## MINISTER WELLS

### Aged-care reforms 'redefine wealthy'

The Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, Sarah Ison, Page 5

Former aged-care minister Richard Colbeck has urged caution from the Coalition before accepting Labor's aged-care bill, saying proposed increases to co-contributions for "wealthy" elderly Australians risk unfairly hitting part-pensioners. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells told providers and advocates last week that Labor was "very close to an agreement" with the opposition on the bill, stressing that she would not proceed without bipartisan support because "you can't have the rules change when the government does".

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

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### 'Funding neglect' key to low tally of medals

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 10/09/2024, Sophie Aubrey, Page 15

Australia's top Paralympics officials say a lack of funding was always going to result in the country slipping to its worst ranking in 36 years at the Games. [...] A spokesperson for federal Sport Minister Anika Wells said: "The Albanese government has made a record-breaking investment in our Paralympians, doubling their additional funding over the next two years to almost \$55m.

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

## Federal government announces gender equity board policy for national sporting organisations

ABC Online, Other, 09/09/2024

National and state-level sporting organisations across Australia must have an equal split of men and women on their boards from 2027 or risk having their funding withheld, the federal government has announced. The National Gender Equity in Sports Governance Policy, launched by the Albanese government this week, aims to address the chronic under-representation of women across governance and leadership positions in Australian sport by creating a financial incentive for organisations to make their boards more equal. Anika Wells announced the new gender equity policy on Monday.

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## What the ministers said at IDC24

Aged Care Insite, Other, 09/09/2024, Stefanie Schultz

Almost 1000 participants converged on Sydney last week to hear from trailblazing researchers, advocates, tech developers and those with lived experience, at the biannual International Dementia Conference 2024. The two day forum featured more than 90 keynote speakers and panellists, discussing best practice in dementia care, palliative care and positive ageing. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells was first to approach the lectern on day one, delivering an update on governmental policy and action, and reflecting on her own journey within the sector.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

### Australia Urged to Lead Global Effort Against Childhood Dementia

FNArena, Other, 09/09/2024

A groundbreaking new report, "State of Childhood Dementia in Australia 2024," released today at Australia's Parliament House in Canberra by the Childhood Dementia Initiative, has revealed the devastating impact of childhood dementia on Australian families. [...] Assistant Health Minister, Ged Kearney, and MP, Gavin Pearce, spoke at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia, to address the findings of the report.

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### NITV, NITV News, 09/09/2024, Breanna Holden

A new Aboriginal community-controlled health clinic has opened in Melbourne's northern suburbs, aiming to provide culturally safe care for all Indigenous people. The Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) in South Morang will serve the growing First Nations community in the area, with a focus on women and children. The clinic received \$2 million from the federal government to support its opening. Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health Ged Kearney notes the importance of healthy futures for babies.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

## POWER FM Illawarra, 08:00 News, 09/09/2024

Waminda South Coast Women's Health and Wellbeing Aboriginal Corporation has been given a federal government grant of almost \$360,000 to support local First Nations women. Assistant Minister for Women Kate Thwaites and Member for Gilmore Fiona Phillips have visited Waminda to learn more about the activities the grant will support.

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## DEPARTMENT

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Consent and sexual health: International Dementia Conference 2024

Aged Care Insite, Other, 09/09/2024, Stefanie Schultz

Those in the International Dementia Conference (IDC) arena faced some of the biggest taboos in aged care head on. One of the most complex being the sexual health and rights of people living with dementia. The already sensitive issue of sexual consent becomes even more nuanced with the introduction of cognitive decline and the discussion around decision-making capacity.

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### IDC24: Dementia in the Commonwealth Report

Aged Care Insite, Other, 09/09/2024, Stefanie Schultz

The Commonwealth Association for the Ageing (CommonAge) has released what is believed to be the first report to address the state of dementia, care and support across the Commonwealth specifically, launching the paper on Friday afternoon at the International Dementia Conference 2024.

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### Three groups central to living with dementia well

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 09/09/2024, Natasha Egan

In an industry-first interview, HammondCare CEO Andrew Thorburn discusses IDC2024 and responding to the sector's challenges. As the issues continue to pile up, the sector needs to stay focused on the needs of people living with dementia, their carers and the workforce, says HammondCare chief Andrew Thorburn.

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### Spotlight on dementia in Commonwealth

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 09/09/2024, Jodie Wolf

CommonAge has released a groundbreaking report highlighting the challenges and best practices across the Commonwealth. Inequities in access to dementia support, workforce shortages and funding challenges are shared by Commonwealth Countries, according to the findings of a new report released at this month's dementia conference

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## Antimicrobial prescribing in aged care continues to rise

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 09/09/2024, Chloe Hava

While Australians are taking fewer antibiotics overall, there are concerns that antimicrobial prescribing is steadily increasing in aged care. Each year, the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care's Antimicrobial use in the community (AURA) report analyses antimicrobials supplied under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and Repatriation PBS (RPBS) – featuring both antimicrobial use in aged care and by local area.

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## Is better mental resilience the key to a longer life?

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

Researchers have found that older people who exhibit higher levels of mental resilience are more likely to live longer than peers who are not mentally resilient. This highlights the importance of developing the associated skills as a younger person. The Australian aged care workforce shortages are expected to sit at 110,000 vacancies for direct aged care workers by 2031, causing stress and challenging situations for aged care workers currently caring for Australia's ageing population.

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## Grim realities: rural workforce shortages exposed

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

There's a hidden ageing and workforce crisis in Australia's rural communities with ageing towns at risk of being forced to choose between funding schools or aged care as they struggle to recruit staff. "The exodus of young people has led to a rapidly ageing population in our rural and regional towns.

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## Sale flyer states Aveo is the retirement village's "premier option" with a \$1.6M average median house price

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/09/2024, Ian Horswill

The Brookfield-owned business owns and operates 65 retirement villages with 27 in Queensland, 15 in NSW and 23 in Victoria, according to the sale flyer from Morgan Stanley and Barrenjoey and which assumes its exiting two sites in Tasmania will be sold. Aveo is being sold as a 3.4 million square-metre portfolio of 10,000-plus units in premium locations across the East Coast, with more than 3,000 units in its pipeline in the 19-page sale flyer.

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## Odyssey Robina breaks ground on its fourth and final tower

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/09/2024, Ian Horswill

An eight-storey building with 68 apartments, developed in consultation with residents, will be the final addition to Phil Usher's first venture of operating private aged care under the Retirement Village Act in Robina on Queensland's Gold Coast. "Our market has been asking for more two bedroom and even three-bedroom options, and the new building, Biarritz, will offer both," Phil said at a sod turning ceremony, with building company Mettle.

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## Radio National, AM, 09/09/2024, Sabra Lane

Parliament is set to discuss a potential bipartisan deal on aged care reform. The major parties aim to avoid making the issue a 'political football,' particularly on whether wealthier individuals should pay more for their care. Six months after the Task Force on Aged Care delivered its recommendations, and nearly three years since the Aged Care Royal Commission, pressure is mounting for solutions. Labor MP Jenny McAllister and Treasurer Jim Chalmers have indicated that deals on key reforms are close.

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## Students training regionally is just what the doctor ordered

Canberra Times, General News, 10/09/2024, Maddie Leung, Page 16

Almost 90 per cent of psychiatrists working in Australia do so in cities - with over twice the number of metro-based psychiatrists compared to inner regional areas; three times that in outer regional areas; and over six times the number in very remote areas, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare says. As a newly minted psychiatrist I have chosen to stay and work in regional Victoria.

*Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).*

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## Vulnerable feel pinch

Herald Sun, General News, 10/09/2024, Page 6

Almost three quarters of Australians receiving income support are cutting back on meat, fresh fruit and vegetables due to the low rate of payments and rising cost of living. Fifty-one per cent are skipping meals altogether, an ACOSS survey of people living on JobSeeker, Youth Allowance and Parenting Payment found.

*Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#).*

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## The science of good parenting

West Australian, Today, 10/09/2024, Katie Hampson, Page 1

In the age of misinformation is a plethora of parenting myths masquerading as qualified medical advice. It can be hard for parents to know what's fact, pseudo fact or trustworthy advice, especially when sleep deprivation or stress is combined with an urgent need for guidance to assuage their worries. Trying to figure out what you need to know and what you can ignore can be exhausting.

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## Never alone

Cairns Post, General News, 10/09/2024, Page 12

Check in on those nearest to you and ask 'Are you OK?' Then listen to the answer Are you OK? No seriously, are you OK? How often do you ask your friends that? How often do you ask your family members that? [...] The data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows 224 people died by suicide across the region between 2018 and 2022.

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## Event promotes mental resilience

Daily Liberal, General News, 10/09/2024, Ciara Bastow, Page 3

Crossfit Dubbo turned its gym into an arena of endurance over the weekend, challenging its members to row non-stop for 24 hours to raise funds and awareness for mental health. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 3000 people die by suicide per year in Australia.

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## Q1 lit up as beacon of hope for Wellbeing Week

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 10/09/2024, Keith Woods, Page 2

The Q1 will be lit up on Tuesday night to mark the inaugural Gold Coast Wellbeing Week. It is one of a number of events taking place as part of the week, which is being organised by the newly formed Gold Coast Suicide Prevention Community Collaborative with support from council and the Gold Coast Primary Health Network.

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## 'Unacceptable': veteran suicide inquiry demands changes

Canberra Times, Other, 09/09/2024, Tess Ikonomou

Defence personnel transitioning to civilian life should receive tailored assistance from a dedicated agency, the veteran suicide royal commission recommends. [...] According to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data at least 1677 serving and ex-serving members died by suicide between 1997 and 2021, more than 20 times the number of personnel killed in active duty during that same period.

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

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## City of Greater Geelong to lead the Barwon South West Vaping Prevention Coalition

Geelong Advertiser, Other, 09/09/2024, Lucy Crock

Geelong youths are hooked despite major crackdowns, with council receiving \$200,000 to lead a push to stamp it out. Lucy Crock Geelong council has received \$200,000 to lead a push to stamp out vaping in the region, as illegal e-cigarettes continue to be sold despite government crackdowns.

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## Could your smart watch soon help you detect health problems? Sorry, this audio is not yet available or has expired

ABC Online, Other, 09/09/2024

Many of US use wearable technology to monitor our health, like how many steps we're walking, what we're eating, and even our how well we're sleeping. But new research reveals that wearable activity trackers are effective at detecting early signals of disease. Could a smart watch become a cost-effective way of screening for potentially deadly diseases?

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## Program empowering pregnant First Nations women to live smoke-free expands nationally

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

A groundbreaking and community-designed initiative to help pregnant First Nations women quit smoking has announced a national expansion after clinical trials this week. The iSISTAQUIT program will launch nationally after the testing of training and resources involving more than 40 health services throughout Australia, including many Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service (ACCHOs). [...] Nonetheless, the Australian institute of Health and Welfare notes First Nations mothers are more likely to smoke during pregnancy than non-Indigenous mothers.

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## Private health insurance premiums predicted to rise after claims increase

Your Life Choices, Other, 10/09/2024, Andrew Gigacz

For those with private health insurance, the premium increases that come along yearly are an annual thorn in the side. However, in the past few years at least, the average increase has been relatively low compared to pre-pandemic years. This year's average increase of 3.03 per cent was slightly higher than 2023's 2.90 per cent. But it was well below the 5.59 per cent of 2016 or the huge 6.20 per cent increase of 2014.

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Kerri-Anne gives 60 Minutes Elle on cancer

The Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, James Dowling, Page 3

Tv legend Kerri-Anne Kennerley says "someone is going to die" following supermodel Elle

Macpherson's claims on 60 Minutes to have rejected conventional medical treatment for her breast cancer, arguing that the program failed in due diligence. In her new book *Elle: Life, Lessons, and Learning to Trust Yourself*, Macpherson detailed her choice to forgo a mastectomy, chemotherapy, radiation, hormone therapy and breast reconstruction in favour of "an intuitive, heart-led, holistic approach".

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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## Workers comp fight loss

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/09/2024, Judy Augustine, Page 12

A construction worker who lost their hearing over the course of 50 years has faced a hurdle in their fight for compensation. In a decision handed down this month, the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TasCAT) ruled in favour of the employer, Stubbs Construction, which denied the 66-year-old man's employment had substantially contributed to hearing loss.

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## Take the plunge for research

West Australian, Today, 10/09/2024, Katie Hampson, Page 1

Perth's Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research is launching a new 12-hour overnight relay swim that will make taking the plunge well worth it. Competitors will do laps in a relay format to support groundbreaking medical research initiatives into the hardest-to-treat cancers, heart disease, diabetes and rare genetic diseases. Swimmers at any level can join in teams of eight or more and the swim is tipped to become an annual event.

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## Sisters' search for colour in farm workwear aims to save lives

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 09/09/2024, Rachel Simmonds

Searching for colour in the daily farm uniform has led two Longreach sisters to launch a "glove up" campaign to save lives. Angie Nisbet, 37 and Shona Larkin, 38, started their new venture, FarmHer Hands, to provide a range of sun-safe gloves for farmers, in response to a lack of skin check services in rural areas. They said their personal experiences with skin cancer had motivated the cause, including their two-year goal to glove 8000 women.

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## 'I let him down': Father's sorrow spurs on fundraising campaign for live-saving technology

The Mercury, Other, 09/09/2024, Eleanor de Jong

Six-years after the death of his son Jack from brain cancer, Ken Fleming, still blames himself. "When you're a parent, you're there to look after your children. I didn't look after my child even though, you know, this disease was bigger than anybody, but I let him down," Mr Fleming said. "I told him I'd save his life. He always believed I would, and I didn't do it." Jack was in his second year of university when he was diagnosed with stage four brain cancer in 2016 and he died 22 months later, aged 21.

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## Thurgoona family relishes big and small moments in the face of childhood dementia

The Border Mail, Other, 09/09/2024, Jodie Bruton

For Jobe Koistinen and his twin brother, Tate, turning nine this spring is a cherished milestone. Loginor sign up to continue reading Devastatingly, Jobe was diagnosed with childhood dementia seven years ago. Fifty per cent of children with the chronic disease don't make 10 and 70 per cent won't see adulthood. All will die prematurely. The twins' parents Tim and Tenille Koistinen are watching the progression and regression of their children in real time in their Thurgoona home.

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## Luke Henderson's health journey ahead of Cancer Council Relay for Life

Sunshine Coast Daily, Other, 09/09/2024, Madeline Grace

Having secured his dream job and moved his young family from regional Victoria to Queensland, Luke Henderson was not prepared for the hellish nightmare that awaited him. Since his pancreatic cancer diagnosis in late 2023, he has been living with a strong case of "survivors' guilt" and a growing hatred for being labelled a fighter. [...] He joined Cancer Council Queensland as a regional development specialist, a role that focused on raising awareness of Cancer Council Queensland's research, prevention, and support services.

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## Does intermittent fasting increase or decrease our risk of cancer?

The New Daily, Other, 09/09/2024, Amali Cooray

Research over the years has suggested intermittent fasting has the potential to improve our health and reduce the likelihood of developing cancer. So what should we make of a new study in mice suggesting fasting increases the risk of cancer? What is intermittent fasting? Intermittent fasting means switching between times of eating and not eating. Unlike traditional diets that focus on what to eat, this approach focuses on when to eat.

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## The weapons industry causes immense human suffering, so why is Melbourne University in bed with its biggest player?

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/09/2024, Elise West

The University of Melbourne, like many universities around Australia, is deeply entwined with the weapons industry. This industry that has a profoundly negative effect on global public health as well as facilitating egregious violations of human rights. Since 2016, my organisation, the Medical Association for Prevention of War, has been lobbying the university to cut its ties with the industry, and in particular with Lockheed Martin — the worlds' biggest weapons company.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### System in crisis as solution gathers dust

Canberra Times, General News, 10/09/2024, Zoe Wundenberg, Page 16

Healthcare is a vital part of our wellbeing and capacity to thrive both individually and as a community, but here in Albury-Wodonga, it's a source of frustration, resentment and no small amount of despair. Last weekend I attended the Better Border Health Forum to learn more about the plans for Albury Wodonga Health's (AWH) redevelopment and the reasons why so many clinicians and allied health practitioners have stuck their necks out in protest against the current brownfield redevelopment plan.

*Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#).*

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### Waiting at ED? Charge your EV

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/09/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 3

They might not have solved the ramping crisis, but health officials have plugged into the needs of waiting motorists with the installation of EV-charging bays at Royal Adelaide Hospital. The RAH is the first public hospital in SA to provide a charging option to patients, visitors and staff - at a cost of \$0.45 per kW/h. The six EV stations are adjacent to the Emergency Department entrance and one unit is in an accessible parking bay.

*Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#).*

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## Closures of health units prompts AMA summit

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 10/09/2024, Claire Sadler, Page 6

The head of WA's peak body for doctors has warned health insurers need to meet the rising costs of private patient care or the State's health system could be put in jeopardy. Australian Medical Association WA president Michael Page called a summit on private health and hospitals in response to recent closures of several St John of God and Ramsay Health Care maternity hospital units and the Bethesda mental health unit.

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

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## New tax is an unfair burden

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 10/09/2024, Chris Burns, Page 6

A Townsville dentist has blasted a payroll tax rollout which he said has created yet another barrier in North Queensland's fight to recruit health professionals. Former 1300 Smiles owner, Daryl Holmes, who continues to practice as a semi-retired professional at its Belgian Gardens clinic, accused the state government of "gouging" with its payroll tax as health practices were required to backpay for the previous five financial years.

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## Benham backs closer health service links

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 09/09/2024, Alistair Finlay, Page 3

A local MP has backed the further formalisation of partnerships between some of the region's health services. Speaking in Victorian Parliament in late August on a Bill that would reform elements of the state's health-care system based out of the recently released Health Services Plan, Member for Mildura Jade Benham said the move would be a "no-brainer".

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

## \$78.3m satellite hospital planned for Sunshine Coast under Labor rule

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 09/09/2024, Letea Cavander and Chloe Grimshaw

Labor has promised to build a \$78.3m satellite hospital on the Sunshine Coast if it retains power in the October election but has not confirmed the suburb it would be built in. The Sunshine Coast Satellite Hospital would have a minor injury and illness clinic, which would open from 8am to 10pm and provide free treatment for non-life threatening illnesses and injuries like fevers, ear aches, cuts, burns and broken bones, and would be run by doctors and senior nurses.

[Read More](#)

## Ambulance ramping leaves Victorian regions without paramedics as state grapples with ongoing issue

ABC Online, Other, 09/09/2024

Matthew Watt has faced many emergencies during his nine years as a paramedic but he says the night of Friday, August 16 was one of the worst. Ambulances were ramped at Bairnsdale hospital in eastern Victoria and paramedic crews had to be reassigned from surrounding areas.

[Read More](#)

## Couple's plan to die in Aussie suicide pod

NEWS.com.au, Other, 10/09/2024, Tsn Flex

A couple from the UK will become one of the first to make use of a double suicide pod, invented by an Australian, to end their lives. The machine, known as the Sarco, can be turned into death mode with a simple flick of a switch from inside the futuristic capsule that resembles a modern car. Peter and Christine Scott, from Suffolk in England's east, have revealed they intend to travel to Switzerland to die together after Ms Scott, a former nurse, was diagnosed with early-stage vascular dementia.

[Read More](#)

**Channel 10, 10 News First, 09/09/2024, Natalie Forrest**

WA doctors are warning about the potential collapse of the state's health system within the next decade. The Australian Medical Association (AMA) highlights recent closures of private maternity and mental health units as evidence of severe funding issues. Dr Michael Page, WA AMA president, warns that the pressure on public hospitals is immense and without a viable private hospital sector, the system could collapse.

[Play Now](#)

### **ABC Radio Adelaide, Mornings, 09/09/2024, David Bevan**

Interview with Greg Horan, CEO, Healthscope, on the company's new campaign accusing some health insurers, including Bupa and Australian Unity, of underfunding private hospitals. Horan argues insufficient funding limits Healthscope's ability to invest in equipment and retain staff, potentially affecting patient care. He calls for fair funding to sustain quality care across their 38 hospitals nationwide.

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### **ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 09/09/2024, Nadia Mitsopoulos**

Interview with Dr Michael Page, WA President, Australian Medical Association, on a summit focused on the viability of private hospitals in light of rising costs and funding challenges. Mitsopoulos highlights the closure of services like obstetrics at Saint John of God and mental health facilities at Bethesda as signs of pressure on the sector. Page says the summit aims to address these issues by fostering collaboration between private insurers, hospitals, and clinicians.

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## **MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION**

### **Albanese, premiers to impose age limits on social media access**

The Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, Geoff Chambers, Page 1

Anthony Albanese will impose minimum age access to social media platforms before the election under sweeping laws inspired by Peter Malinauskas's legislative push banning kids under 14 from setting up online accounts. In response to a surge in doxing, deepfake pornography and online bullying among teenagers, the Prime Minister on Tuesday will commit to introducing worldleading legislation in the current term of parliament to protect children from digital harm.

*Also reported by:* [Australian Financial Review \(Australia\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#)

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### **'National tragedy': ADF brass, governments and bureaucrats fatally failed our Diggers**

The Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, Joe Kelly and Rhiannon Down, Page 1

A landmark Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has proposed a new agency to transition former defence personnel into civilian life, sounded the alarm on the high rates of military sexual violence and backed a more ambitious processing time for veterans' entitlements claims. After a three-year inquiry, the royal commission concluded that the Department of Veterans' Affairs was not, in its current form, capable of delivering optimal wellbeing support to the veteran community or of addressing the risks of suicide.

*Also reported by:* [Australian Financial Review \(Australia\)](#), [The Australian \(Australia\)](#), [The Australian \(Australia\)](#), [The Australian \(Australia\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Age \(Melbourne\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Canberra\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [The Nightly \(None\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Australian Financial Review \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#)

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## Packer's shock drug admission

The Nightly, General News, 09/09/2024, Alex Chapman and Summer Woolley, Page 3

Billionaire businessman James Packer admits he "couldn't tell you" what medication he's on because there's "so much" that a travelling nurse administers it for him. "I'm on something and I'm really embarrassed what I'm about to say . . . I have a nurse that travels with me," the 57-year-old mogul told 7NEWS Spotlight in an exclusive interview on mental health that aired on Sunday night.

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## Let's start the conversation to prevent suicide

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/09/2024, Michael Kelly and Mitch McPherson, Page 16

Every one of us can play a role to make sure those around us are OK, say Michael Kelly and Mitch McPherson World Suicide Prevention Day, September 10, is a significant day to highlight the importance of suicide prevention, reduce stigma and raise awareness. Each year around 3000 people die by suicide in Australia we lose 8 people every day.

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

## 'Kids' blood on their hands'

West Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, Roxanne Moore, Page 38

Two weeks ago, a 17-year-old boy took his own life in youth prison. This is the first ever death in custody at Banksia Hill youth prison. Unforgivably, it is the second death in custody of a child within 12 months. This is unprecedented, and we can never allow it to happen again. The WA Government has failed children in prison, and their families and communities, like never before and the cost has been these two young lives.

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

## Mental health ARC court notches up a year

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 10/09/2024, Ben Loughran, Page 7

Twenty-five members of the Bendigo community have been assisted by the Assessment and Referral Court since its rollout last year. The ARC court is a mental health court aimed to support people diagnosed with a mental illness, an intellectual disability, an acquired brain injury, an autism spectrum disorder or a neurological impairment.

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## 'Bringing suicide out of the shadows'

Border Mail, General News, 10/09/2024, Jodie O'Sullivan, Page 4

Border's leading suicide prevention service is calling on the community to unite to bring suicide stigma out of the shadows and into the light. Every life lost to suicide is "a tragedy that goes far beyond an individual, families, friends, workplaces and communities," says Lifeline Albury-Wodonga chief Stacy Read. And that ripple effect is felt far more keenly when we lose someone to suicide in a smaller, regional community, she adds.

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## Some would say it's easier to give up cigarettes than the internet, Caleb Bond goes cold turkey from his phone

Adelaide Now, Other, 09/09/2024, Caleb Bond

A 2012 Chicago University study found that people were more likely to give in to the urge to check social media or emails than the craving for a cigarette or a drink. Picture: iStock I recently did something extremely brave – I went without phone coverage for 24 hours. Some would say it's easier to give up cigarettes than the internet.

[Read More](#)

## Pressure and perceptions: Why women keep downplaying their health concerns

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 09/09/2024

Far too often Julia Maher is seeing women downplaying their mental health. Ms Maher is the community engagement and health promotions officer at the Central West Women's Health Centre. Almost 40 per cent of the centre's clients present with mental health concerns.

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

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## How to start a conversation if you're worried someone is thinking about suicide

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 09/09/2024, Natalie Croxon

More than 3000 people die by suicide in Australia each year, but it is preventable - and just starting a conversation can have a powerful impact. September 10 marks World Suicide Prevention Day, a time to honour the memory of those who have died, acknowledge those who have experienced a suicidal crisis, and support others affected.

[Read More](#)

## New \$5 million Distress Brief Support program trial: a band-aid solution?

Shepparton News Online, Other, 09/09/2024, Khadija Hadjab

The Allan and Albanese governments recently pledged a combined \$5 million to fund a 21-day program designed to ease the burden on emergency departments from mental health-related visits. "I am proud to announce the new providers for the Distress Brief Support program trial, as it brings us closer to start this crucial service that will help people manage their distress before they reach a crisis point," Victorian Mental Health Minister Ingrid Stitt said.

[Read More](#)

## Lack of childcare causing issues for families

ABC Online, Other, 09/09/2024

The lack of childcare services available is causing financial and mental health struggles for families in remote, rural and regional Australia. Many parents are unable to work or forced to find work that is low-paying or unsuitable, because they can't access better care.

[Read More](#)

## The hidden dangers of appearance-based comments

SBS, Other, 09/09/2024

Eating disorders are increasingly prevalent in Australia, with over million people suffering with the illness. A new campaign is looking to address the issue of appearance-based comments which can act as a damaging trigger for eating disorders.

[Read More](#)

## The 'damaging' hidden crisis affecting thousands of Australian children

SBS, Other, 09/09/2024, Omoh Bello

Australian children are facing more emotional abuse than ever before. New research reveals it has become the most common form of child abuse in the country. But only half of Australians would report their concerns about suspected child abuse to authorities. Dr Katrina Lines is the chief executive officer of Act for Kids — an organisation that provides therapy and support to children and families at risk of harm.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 09/09/2024, Sharyn Ghidella

Australia needs a permanent new body to oversee fundamental reform of the Defence Force. It is a key recommendation of a Royal Commission which has found the culture inside Defence contributes to

persistently high rates of suicide among service members. Nearly 2000 veterans and serving military members have taken their own lives since 1997, more than 20 times the number killed on operations or in training.

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### **Sky News Live, AM Agenda, 09/09/2024, Ashliegh Gillon**

Australian billionaire James Packer has opened up on his well-documented battle with mental health issues in a television interview. Mr Packer recounted several breakdowns and being in and out of rehabilitation programmes leading up to his bipolar diagnosis in 2018. The former Channel Nine owner also detailed manic episodes, which led to debilitating experiences with medicines to ease the issues.

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### **ABC News, News Breakfast, 09/09/2024, Michael Rowland and Bridget Brennan**

South Australia is proposing new laws to restrict social media use for children, potentially setting a national precedent. Under the plan, children under 14 would be banned from social media platforms, while 14 and 15-year-olds would need parental consent. The proposal, which follows a review led by former High Court Chief Justice Robert French, aims to address concerns about social media's impact on young people's mental health.

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### **Radio National, PM, 09/09/2024, David Lipson**

The final report of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, released today, includes 122 recommendations after a three-year investigation. Key findings reveal significant issues with sexual violence within the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and inadequate support for veterans' health and well-being. Recommendations include establishing a new agency for veteran support and creating a suicide database. Defence Minister Richard Marles has promised a timely response to the recommendations.

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### **2CC, Canberra Live, 09/09/2024, Leon Delaney**

Interview with Professor Steve Robson, Australian Medical Association President, on the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide. Robson notes the report's focus on the need for an independent oversight body to ensure proper care for veterans. He calls for a systemic change within the Defence Force to address both combat and systemic trauma.

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### **ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 09/09/2024, Steve Austin**

Interview with Nick Kaldas, chair of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide. Host notes that the report shows ex-serving men are 44% more likely to die by suicide than the general male population, with the rate for women being approximately 100% higher. Kaldas says that previous inquiries and recommendations have not led to lasting improvements, and he advocates for an independent oversight body to ensure effective implementation of the commission's 122 recommendations.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### **Best reproduction advice is do what comes naturally**

The Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, Ramona Koval, Page 11

Don't you know there's an app for that? I'm told this by the younger women in my family when I venture to advise on biological matters. I realise it has been nearly 50 years since I had my first child, but that's



not a long time in evolutionary terms. Not nearly long enough to change the basic principles of reproduction, surely?

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

## Nurses to ignore Commission and strike on Tuesday

Daily Telegraph, General News, 10/09/2024, Madeleine Bower, Page 4

Nurses across the state will walk out of hospitals for 12 hours on Tuesday despite the Industrial Relations Commission ruling the action to be illegal as it would risk the safety of patients. The IRC ordered the strike to immediately cease on Monday afternoon, but the nurses union confirmed it would continue to go ahead.

*Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#).*

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## Clinic opens for expectant mothers

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 09/09/2024, Page 4

A new monthly antenatal service is being launched for pregnant women living in the Mallee Track Health and Community Service coverage area. The appointments will provide local care by midwives from the Mildura Base Public Hospital, with the MBPH obstetrics team on hand as well.

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## Program: Call for school nurses to weigh children

ABC Online, Other, 09/09/2024

Would you be comfortable with a nurse weighing your child at school? The Australian College of Nursing is advocating for every school to have a registered nurse, and to normalise tracking children's height and weight.

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

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## ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 09/09/2024, Steve Austin

Interview with Karen Grace, national director of professional practice, The Australian College of Nursing, on a proposal to weight children in schools to address the growing issue of childhood obesity. Grace highlights the potential long-term health risks such as heart disease and diabetes. She says the program would focus on early intervention and normalising weight checks to avoid stigma.

*Interview continues on: [ABC Radio Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [ABC Radio Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#).*

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## Radio National, PM, 09/09/2024, David Lipson

Australia's leading eating disorder charity has criticised a proposal from the Australian College of Nursing to weigh students annually. The college argues that regular height and weight measurements by school nurses could help identify and address obesity early. However, the Butterfly Foundation, which supports individuals with eating disorders, warns that the proposal could lead to more children developing eating disorders and notes an increase in distress calls to their helpline.

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Court fight looms for health union

Age, General News, 10/09/2024, Kieran Rooney and Lachlan Abbott, Page 1

The embattled Victorian Health Workers Union faces a court battle to avoid entering administration after its national leadership lost patience with the state branch's refusal to stand down controversial secretary Diana Asmar. The union's national executive unanimously voted yesterday to begin Federal Court action that would put the HWU, which represents about 16,000 mostly low-paid health sector workers, into administration.

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## Medical boss in big move

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/09/2024, Page 15

SA Health is reeling from the bombshell resignation of Flinders Medical Centre boss Professor Kerrie Freeman to take up the job of chief executive of the Brisbane City Council as it heads towards hosting the 2032 Olympics. Prof Freeman is chief executive of the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network, which also Dr Kerrie takes in Freeman Noarlunga Hospital and the Repat precinct.

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

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## Ambos playing musical chairs

Herald Sun, General News, 10/09/2024, Shannon Deery, Page 3

Ambulance Victoria has been forced to appoint its fourth chief executive in as many weeks to take control of the embattled service. It comes after acting chief Anthony Carlyon, who is filling in for interim chief Andrew Crisp, who replaced chief Jane Miller last month, was forced to take sudden personal leave.

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

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## Housing a key to securing more rural doctors

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/09/2024, Simon Mcguire, Page 7

Boosting accommodation for medical professionals in remote areas and enhancing primary care in regional locations are among priorities the Rural Doctors Association of Tasmania (RDAT) has unveiled ahead of the state budget. The organisation's president, Ben Dodds, said access to health services and professionals was "generally worse" in rural areas than in more urban locations.

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## Frontline doctors recognised for talent

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/09/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 6

Professional association General Practice Registrars Australia is lauding the success of its inaugural Northern Territory scholarships program for trainee doctors, which saw six inspiring young NT-based registrars feted in Darwin at the weekend. Dr Asim Razi (Darwin), Dr Sophie Yeates (Nhulunbuy/Gove), Dr Ella Heggen (Darwin), Dr Shauna Hill (Alice Springs), Dr Leah Ginnivan (Wadeye), and Dr Anna Walmsley (Darwin) were all awarded scholarships of between \$5000-\$20,000.

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## Border medical advocate to step down

Border Mail, General News, 10/09/2024, Ted Howes, Page 5

Border region medical identity Craig Underhill will step down from clinical practice at Albury Wodonga Health to focus on research projects - but not away from his fight for a better health system. The vocal critic of funding levels for AWH said while his role had changed, he would continue to advocate for better state government funding for health services for the Border region.

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## Nose, pain, throat: pharmacies to treat more minor ailments in NSW

dubbophotonews.com.au, Other, 10/09/2024, David Dixon

Seeking to reduce pressure on our hard-pressed GP services, pharmacists throughout NSW will soon be allowed to diagnose and prescribed treatments for a series of minor health ailments, including ear infections, nausea, acid reflux, acne, and muscle and joint pain.

## Almost half of doctors sexually harassed by patients, research finds

The Guardian, Other, 09/09/2024, Denis Campbell

Almost half of doctors internationally have been sexually harassed by patients, new research has found, prompting calls for medics to be given panic alarms to help repel such behaviour. Globally, 45% of doctors have suffered sexual harassment of different sorts from patients, according to a review covering seven countries published in the Internal Medicine Journal.

[Read More](#)

## SA govt signals go ahead for scope

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 09/09/2024

The South Australian Office of the Chief Pharmacist has confirmed that pharmacists in the state can now administer medicines to patients, a move welcomed by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA). The development marks progress toward national consistency in pharmacists' scope of practice, allowing them to administer certain medicines across all states and territories.

[Read More](#)

## Wellnex's new Chair

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 09/09/2024

Wellnex Life has appointed former Pharmacy Guild of Australia President George Tambassis as Non-Executive Chair. Tambassis brings extensive experience, having served 15 years as a director of the Guild, including seven years as National President. During his tenure, he played a key role in finalising the 6CPA and 7CPA with federal governments.

Also reported by: [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#)

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## Channel 9, Nine News, 09/09/2024, Peter Overton

Nurses across NSW will walk off the job tomorrow to rally for better pay. The government attempted to halt the protest through the Industrial Relations Commission but was unsuccessful. Despite the commission's ruling to call off the strike, the Nurses and Midwives Association will proceed with the action. The strike will impact elective surgeries and significantly increase wait times for non-urgent patients, though critical services will maintain minimum staffing levels.

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## 2GB, Drive, 09/09/2024, Chris O'Keefe

Interview with NSW Health Minister Ryan Park on the New South Wales Nurses and Midwives Association's 12-hour strike tomorrow. O'Keefe says the association is demanding a 15% pay increase. Park expresses disappointment over the strike, noting it would cause delays for non-urgent care and cancellations of elective surgeries. He says the government has offered a 10.5% pay rise over three years, highlighting their commitment to rolling out nurse-to-patient ratios.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### Cheaper pill bills saves \$9m

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/09/2024, David Killick, Page 6

Tasmanians have saved \$9m thanks to reforms to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, the federal government says. Across the country, Australians have now saved more than a half-billion dollars. As of 1 September 2024, Australians can now receive 60day prescriptions for about 300 different medicines, further reducing out-of-pocket costs and the frequency of doctor visits.

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## Critical medication shortage could risk pregnant patients' lives

ABC Online, Other, 09/09/2024

A shortage of blood pressure medications deemed safe to use on pregnant patients could leave vulnerable women at risk of major health complications, including brain bleeds.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#).

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## Guild details new payments

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 09/09/2024

At last week's Pharmacy Connect 2024, Pharmacy Guild of Australia President, Trent Twomey, did a deep-dive into the payments in the 8th Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA), which will provide \$26.5 billion to support community pharmacies. Of the contribution, \$2.1 billion will fund the new Additional Community Supply Support (ACSS) payment, legislated under Clause 4.

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## Channel 7, Seven News, 09/09/2024, Peter Mitchell

Doctors are warning that supplies of critical pregnancy medications are running dangerously low. Treatments for conditions like pre-eclampsia, nausea, and postpartum haemorrhage are among those affected, putting pregnant women at increasing risk. A new report calls on the government to create a publicly funded body to monitor drug imports and ensure a stable supply of essential medications.

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## Channel 10, 10 News First, 09/09/2024, Sandra Sully

Health professionals are warning of a critical shortage of essential blood pressure medications for pregnant women, crucial for preventing pre-eclampsia. Recent research highlights that several drugs are in short supply. With no new medications approved for pregnancy in the past 30 years, and only six proven safe, experts are calling for more clinical trials involving pregnant women to ensure the availability of effective alternatives.

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## ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 09/09/2024, Georgia Stynes

Interview with Dr Kerrie Aust, AMA ACT President, on current shortages of HIV prevention medication PrEP and blood pressure medications safe for pregnancy. Aust explains that Australia depends significantly on international markets for medications, and older drugs, especially those related to pregnancy, often face supply shortages due to lower market incentives. She says patients should review long-term medication needs with their GP to ensure ongoing treatment safety amid the shortage.

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### Card changes leave seniors in rude health

The Nightly, General News, 09/09/2024, Nick Bruining, Page 28

September 20 heralds the annual increase to limits allowing access to the popular Commonwealth Seniors Health Card. The CSHC is usually available to people who are pension age but are ineligible to receive a pension because of means testing. The basic nationwide concession for CSHC holders is an ability to access PBS-listed drugs at just \$7.70 a script, with an annual maximum of \$277.20.

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### **Banned doctor accused of infecting patients in clinic**

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 10/09/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 3

A banned doctor and convicted fraudster has been accused of infecting patients with hepatitis B at a beauty clinic in Sydney's CBD after the state's healthcare watchdog raided the Macquarie Street practice in its continued crackdown on cosmetic cowboys. [...] Botox and dermal fillers have been the focus of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency's review targeting rogue operators in the cosmetic industry.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#)

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### **'Health policy failure': Coroner says baby who was ineligible for Medicare fell through the cracks**

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/09/2024, Heather Saxena

Siya Patel, who died of malnutrition complications, was ineligible for a Medicare-funded postnatal review. A newborn who died from malnutrition complications was ineligible for a Medicare-funded domiciliary review through the hospital where she was born and fell through the cracks in the health system, a coroner has found.

[Read More](#)

### **Channel 7, Seven News, 09/09/2024, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings**

Former Australian surgeon Dr Yaser Jabbar is under investigation by London's Great Ormond Street Hospital for allegedly mishandling dozens of operations on children. Reports indicate severe cases, including a child who had a leg amputated unnecessarily. Jabbar previously worked at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne and The Children's Hospital at Westmead in New South Wales but is no longer registered with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency.

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

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

### **Backing for NDIS 'navigator' plan that could save up to \$5b**

Australian Financial Review, General News, 10/09/2024, Tom McLroy, Page 9

Replacing intermediaries in the National Disability Insurance Scheme with trained plan co-ordinators could save taxpayers up to \$5 billion a year. New research being considered by the Albanese government shows NDIS participants would benefit from being as...

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

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### **Father of two flies 10,000 miles from his home in Australia to meet the British woman who saved his life by donating her stem cells to help him survive his battle against leukaemia**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 09/09/2024, Ed Holt

A father has flown 10,000 miles from his home in Australia to meet the British woman whose donated stem cells saved his life. Kate Hero's stem cells travelled all the way from Sheffield's Royal Hallamshire Hospital to the hospital in Perth, Australia, where Matt Skeet, 44, was being treated for leukemia.

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## SPORT

### NRL rocked by Bulldogs star's roadside drug test

The Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, Page 3

Bulldogs star Josh Addo-Carr is under investigation after allegedly testing positive to a roadside drugs test on Friday night, sending the club into a spin on the eve of their first final in eight years. Police have confirmed a 29-year-old male registered a positive reading to cocaine after he was stopped for a roadside test late on Friday night, having pulled the representative winger over about 10.45pm while he was driving in Sydney's inner west.

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

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### Political football

Canberra Times, General News, 10/09/2024, David Polkinghorne, Page 1

A civic Stadium is back on the ACT political agenda. Not only that, it could be built sooner than the middle of next decade. The Canberra Liberals have revealed the Acton Waterfront as their preferred site for a new stadium as one of their ACT election promises. ACT Opposition Leader Elizabeth Lee will build a 30,000-seat stadium, with a clear roof, in the West Basin precinct if she's voted into power at the election on October 19.

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### Peninsula wants slice of new sports action

Herald Sun, General News, 10/09/2024, Lucy Callander, Page 14

A world-class action sports precinct with year-round skiing and skate parks to take athletes from the basics to elite competition is on the cards for the Mornington Peninsula. The \$48m centre, believed to be an Australian first, is proposed for an existing camping and horseriding business at Boneo known as The Ranch. It is expected to attract close to 500,000 visitors and pump about \$38m into the local economy each year.

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### Spin up the hype

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/09/2024, David Killick, Page 1

Riders of every age and level of fitness are being beckoned south to Cygnet for a huge cycling carnival. The Bendigo Bank Cygnet Cycling Festival will be held on Saturday, November 9. Organiser Sofia Tsamassiros said the festival, which was launched in 2022, was growing in popularity each year. "The first festival saw more than 240 participants across all of the events and we hope to continue to build on those numbers and engagement by providing activities for everyone," she said.

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### Shame on the game

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/09/2024, Nathaniel Chambers, Page 1

A shocking on-field brawl which marred a Northern Territory women's rugby league grand final provoked further post-match fights among spectators, forcing police to deploy capsicum spray on fans. Now, players and club officials could face heavy penalties as NRL NT match review officials investigate the incidents.

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### Ceduna footy dust-up leaves police officer injured with glass bottle to the face

Adelaide Now, Other, 09/09/2024, George Yankovich

A female police officer was allegedly glassed in the face during a violent footy dust-up in Ceduna involving dozens, as liquor sale restrictions are relaxed in the troubled town. Footage aired by 7NEWS

Adelaide showed police struggling to contain the crowd at a football finals match on Saturday night, with the injured woman forced to use pepper spray on the crowd. Another officer could be seen putting another attacker in a headlock.

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## ABC Radio Darwin , Territory-wide Mornings, 09/09/2024, Rick Hind

Hind is joined by ABC reporter Katie Kelly. Kelly reports on the closing ceremony of the Paralympics and Madison de Rozario's silver win in the marathon. She notes while other nations are heavily investing in Paralympic athletes, there is concern that Australia may need to step up its government and corporate funding to remain competitive in future events like the 2028 Los Angeles and 2032 Brisbane Games.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### Fallout of cancer news

Courier Mail, General News, 10/09/2024, Page 4

US scientists say receiving a cancer diagnosis may increase a person's close relatives and spouse's risk of developing psychological and heart-related illnesses. Mayo Clinic researchers looked at health records of 77,938 first-degree relatives and spouses of 49,284 people diagnosed with genito-urinary cancer and compared them with 81,022 relatives and spouses of 246,775 people without cancer.

*Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).*

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### Unhealthy night owls not so wise

West Australian, General News, 10/09/2024, Page 15

Night owls are more likely to smoke, have an unhealthy diet and develop type 2 diabetes, according to a Dutch study. The researchers, who used data from the Netherlands Epidemiology of Obesity, stressed the diabetes risk may not be caused by lifestyle factors alone. Scientists analysed sleep timing, waist circumference and the body mass index of 5026 people.

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

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### Neurotech's cannabinoid drug reverses immune dysregulation in PANDAS/PANS kids

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 09/09/2024

Neurotech International has announced positive results of a genomic analysis conducted as part of its Phase 1/2 open-label clinical trial involving 15 paediatric patients treated with its broad-spectrum cannabinoid drug NTI164. The Phase 1/2 trial is focused on children diagnosed with Paediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) and Paediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS).

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### Wollongong scientist wins Eureka Prize for research into deadly childhood infection

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 10/09/2024, Kate Mcilwain

A University of Wollongong scientist who is part of a team trying to develop a vaccine for deadly Strep A infections has shared in one of Australia's most prestigious science awards. Molecular microbiologist Professor Martina Sanderson-Smith is among a group of scientists who won an Australian Museum Eureka Prize last week.

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## Study links bananas, oats and yoghurt to greater diabetes risk in susceptible children

The Guardian, Other, 09/09/2024, Denis Campbell

Children who are susceptible to type 1 diabetes and eat bananas, oats and yoghurt are more likely to contract the disease, while consuming strawberries and blueberries lowers the risk, research has found. Wheat also emerged from the study as a risk factor for the autoimmune form of diabetes, while vegetables such as broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage have a protective effect.

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## Childhood colds and asthma 'red flags' for adult rhinosinusitis: Aus study

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/09/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

Professor Peter Wark says early treatment of allergic rhinitis may help prevent chronic rhinosinusitis. Kids with asthma or frequent URTIs could have a higher risk of chronic rhinosinusitis as adults, according to an Australian study that followed participants from 1968.

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## Diabetes drug can lower your risk of dementia, study finds

Your Life Choices, Other, 10/09/2024, Brad Lockyer

The results of a promising new study show that a drug typically prescribed to treat diabetes can also significantly lower your risk of developing dementia later in life. Cases of dementia are growing in number worldwide.

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

Interview with Associate Professor Alan Young, sleep and respiratory physician, Eastern Health, on the challenges patients face in getting sufficient sleep in hospitals. Felgate reports research shows patients average about 5.5 hours of sleep per night, often disrupted by medical interventions and noise. Young says he supports the Sleep Health Foundation's code of practice for sleep care in hospitals, which proposes measures like earplugs and face masks to improve sleep quality.

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### Funds needed for children whose pregnant mums drink

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/09/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 5

The peak body for Aboriginal medical services in the Northern Territory says there is an underreported epidemic of children in Central Australia presenting with debilitating foetal alcohol spectrum syndrome. The syndrome - FASD - can lead to lifelong physical and mental disabilities and likely costs Australia billions each year.

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### Time to talk the talk

Border Mail, General News, 10/09/2024, Madilyn McKinley, Page 1

A border Indigenous boxer has his eyes on breaking a world record while ending mental health stigma. Buddy Oldman will be punching a boxing bag for 86 hours, starting at midnight on Tuesday, October 1, at Hurricane Combat Centre in North Albury. The Wiradjuri man will be using the event to encourage everyone to "speak up, not shut up" about mental health.

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## New initiative empowering Indigenous pharmacists



Two future First Nations pharmacists have been awarded the 2024 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Leadership Grant, providing students the opportunity to develop invaluable leadership skills through an international and cross-cultural experience. The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) announced the recipients of the initiative, supported by Pfizer Australia last week, with Barkindji woman Cheyne Sullivan and Wiradjuri woman Jes Pearson being given the opportunity to expand their already well-established knowledge.

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## Discovery of worms in Fitzroy Valley tap water brings sharp focus to ongoing crisis

National Indigenous Times, Other, 09/09/2024, Giovanni Torre

The discovery of worms in tap water in a Kimberley Aboriginal community has brought sharp focus on the provision of water infrastructure and services in the region, revealing very little of a \$350 million fund has been spent on upgrades since it was allocated in 2023. The Western Australian Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage told National Indigenous Times it was made aware of "issues with the water tank in Fitzroy Valley" on August 20 and collaborated with other authorities to undertake immediate action.

[Read More](#)

## Peak body calls for better access to foetal alcohol spectrum disorder intervention in the Top End

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

The peak body for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in the Northern Territory has raised concerns regarding the lack of screening and early intervention for children and young people suffering from Foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). Coinciding with FASD Awareness Day on Monday, the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT) has called on the Territory and Federal governments to establish a multidisciplinary neurodevelopmental assessment service in Darwin.

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### Whooping cough on the rise

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/09/2024, Page 8

Whooping cough has surged to a six-year high in South Australia, with 492 cases recorded so far this year a tenfold increase compared with 48 cases at the same time last year and just 19 this time in 2022. Pertussis, known as whooping cough, is a serious lung infection caused by bacteria.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#).

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### Channel 10, 10 News First, 09/09/2024, Kate Freebairn

South Australian health authorities have issued a warning after a surge in whooping cough cases, with 492 reported this year. Chief Public Health Officer Professor Nicola Spurrier urges members of vulnerable groups to get vaccinated.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Stench of sulphur, relentless nausea and diarrhoea. What happened

## when these women tried Ozempic

SBS, Other, 09/09/2024, Alex Tarney

Semaglutide drugs like Ozempic and Wegovy are hyped as gamechangers for weight loss with demand driving nationwide shortages. As the government is restricting access to cheaper replicas - are the potential side effects worth it? [...] Increased demand for Ozempic leads to shortages The 'off-label' prescribing of Ozempic for weight loss is driving shortages which the TGA thinks will last until 2025.

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## All home-use fetal dopplers deregistered following safety review

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

Reports of false reassurances being linked to stillbirths triggered the TGA review. The TGA has cancelled all home-use fetal dopplers left on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods, warning that the devices may give false reassurances to pregnant women.

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## 6PR, Mornings, 09/09/2024, Gary Adshead

Interview with Dr Scott White, Chair of the Women's Health Committee, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, on the recent ban on home use of fetal heart rate monitors. White explains the devices have been linked to stillbirths due to false reassurance when parents misinterpret heart sounds. He says that the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has withdrawn them from the sale and advises expectant mothers to seek professional help if they are concerned about their baby's wellbeing.

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## OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

### Pill testing is on its way. Here's how it'll work

Age, General News, 10/09/2024, Liam Mannix and Rachel Eddie, Page 5

In a fluorescent-lit lab in the CBD, machines hum as they work to determine whether a batch of illicit drugs might ruin someone's day at a music festival or even worse, land them in hospital. Scientists scrape a sliver off the edge of a pill and mix it with a solvent before feeding it into the detectors.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#)

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### On the nose

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/09/2024, Sean Fewster and Kathryn Bermingham, Page 1

With a rolled-up \$5 note to his nostril, David Speirs has been captured on video appearing to loudly snort some sort of white powder from a plate on his kitchen bench at 4.12am. But Mr Speirs said last night he was the victim of a "deep fake", saying he had never taken drugs. The Advertiser obtained the video, taken while Mr Speirs was Liberal leader, and a forensic analysis found it appeared authentic and was not tampered with.

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### 'I never know whether my son's dead or alive'

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 10/09/2024, Grace Crivellaro, Page 1

A heartbroken Kanahooka mother who has watched her drug-addicted son cycle in and out of jail has spent the past 11 years desperately trying to help him. Belinda Clark remembers watching her son Tyson Phipps' baseball talents - also recognised by American colleges who would phone her, asking him to come play for them. But in his later high school years, he fell onto the wrong path. Casual cannabis use spiralled into taking harder drugs - ice being the one Ms Clark says destroyed her family.

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### Industry slams climate call on red meat

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 10/09/2024, Jason Gregory, Page 13

Cattle Australia has slammed a suggestion made by the government's climate change agency that Australians could eat less red meat to help the nation meet net-zero targets as "utterly ridiculous". In the landmark 2024 Climate Change Authority Sector Pathways Review, the authority said greenhouse gas emissions could be reduced with a concerted switch from beef and lamb to lower-emission proteins such as pork and kangaroo.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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## AICIS

### Winds of change blowing through Port

Newcastle Herald, General News, 10/09/2024, Matthew Kelly, Page 11

Port Stephens pressure to build more sustainable housing, upgrading an ailing road network and protecting the environment - these are all important issues that will influence the makeup of the next Port Stephens council. [...] For instance, one of the sites at Fullerton Cove is contaminated with PFAS.

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