



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 19th September 2024

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)
| [Assistant Minister Kearney](#) | [Assistant Minister Thwaites](#) | [Department](#)
| [Vaccines](#) | [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Population Health](#)
| [Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions](#) | [Primary Care](#)
| [Mental Health and Suicide Prevention](#) | [Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office](#)
| [Health Workforce](#) | [Technology Assessment and Access](#)
| [Medicare Benefits and Digital Health](#) | [Benefits Integrity](#)
| [Health Systems Strategies](#) | [Sport](#) | [Health Economics and Research](#) |
[First Nations Health](#) | [Interim Australian CDC](#) | [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Canberra Times](#)** (page 1) reports that a hearing into the death of a woman at Canberra Hospital in 2021 who was administered an excess of painkillers, has been told by an anaesthetist it wasn't appropriate for a woman of her weight.
- **[The Canberra Times](#)** (page 8) reports that federal Health Minister Mark Butler has said the crisis in NSW's emergency departments and ambulances services cannot be solved through additional funding, as a range of government programs were already operating in the state.
- **[The Courier Mail](#)** (page 4) reports Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee president Andrew Liveris has urged the state government to back a "right-size" 80,000-seat stadium rather than rebuilding a smaller venue at the Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre.
- **[The Canberra Times](#)** (page 5) reports that Australian Medical Association ACT board member and former junior doctor, Dr Betty Ge, has said the state government and Calvary Health Care ACT had initially resisted the class action suit brought by junior doctors for claims of unpaid overtime.
- **[The Guardian](#)** reports that the counsel representing the Psychology Board of Australia has told a tribunal that a Melbourne psychologist who was involved in a coercive relationship with a significantly younger client has used his training to "manipulate" [the woman].

- [The Guardian](#) reports that Greens senator and spokesperson for women, Larissa Waters, has told a Senate inquiry a recommendation made in a bipartisan consensus review that the Department of Health and Aged Care Commission conduct research into the impacts of menopause and perimenopause would be a positive development.
- [The Hobart Mercury](#) (page 19) features an opinion piece by Australian Nurses & Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Tasmanian branch secretary Emily Shepherd, who discusses the funding shortfalls in the Tasmanian state budget to address "chronic understaffing" in the state's healthcare system.

MINISTER BUTLER

Plea to feds to help EDs in freefall

Canberra Times, General News, 19/09/2024, Page 8

A primary care system in "freefall" has heaped unparalleled pressure on NSW's emergency departments and ambulances services, as governments are urged to pump more money into the health network. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said a range of government programs were already operating, meaning extra funding wasn't the answer to the NSW crisis.

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Dementia no 'old person's disease'

The Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, James Dowling

A raft of new research makes Australia and the western Pacific a proving ground for the future of dementia treatment, laying to rest its perception as an "old person's disease". Neuroscience Research Australia (NeURA), the Lancet research journal and Health Minister Mark Butler on Tuesday outlined a strategy to combat the increasingly prevalent cognitive condition.

[Read More](#)

Medicines Australia campaign to end long wait for new drugs

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/09/2024, Robyn Riley

A peak body has warned Australia is becoming the world's biggest waiting room when it comes to new medicines, with it taking almost 470 days from when a new drug is approved to when it is available on the PBS. [...] Describing the review as "visionary," Health Minister Mark Butler said the goal was to provide faster access to the best medicines and therapies, at a cost that patients and the community can afford.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

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Federal cash plea to remedy emergency health services

Canberra Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Alex Mitchell

A primary care system in "freefall" has heaped unparalleled pressure on NSW's emergency departments and ambulances services, as governments are urged to pump more money into the health network. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said a range of government programs were already operating, meaning extra funding wasn't the answer to the NSW crisis.

Also reported by: [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The North West Star \(Online\)](#), [St George & Sutherland Shire Leader \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Blue Mountains Gazette \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#).

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Appalled patients lift lid on emergency department treatment at Blacktown Hospital

7news.com.au, Other, 18/09/2024, Sarina Andaloro

Past experiences in the emergency room of Blacktown Hospital have been so bad one chronically ill

patient begs paramedics and doctors to send him elsewhere, he told 7NEWS. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler responded: "There's nothing unique about the NSW hospital system, all hospital systems around the country — frankly, all hospital systems around the world right now — are under extraordinary pressure."

[Read More](#)

Inside Australia's 'worst emergency room' where patients say they would rather die than be treated there

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 19/09/2024, Zak Wheeler

Traumatised patients have revealed that they would rather die than return to a hospital emergency room in Sydney. People who have spent time in the emergency room at Blacktown Hospital in 's west have said they would rather be sent anywhere else. [...] But Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said there was 'nothing unique' about NSW.

[Read More](#)

450 tip offs and a series of raids, results in over 3,500 illegal vapes seized by new taskforce

Glam Adelaide, Other, 18/09/2024, Glam Adelaide

South Australia has intensified its crackdown on illegal vaping products with thousands of unlawful vapes being confiscated as part of a comprehensive enforcement strategy. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler and SA Health Ministers Chris Picton and Andrea Michaels have expressed their concerns and detailed the ongoing measures being implemented to combat this issue.

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Ambulance wait times have blown out because nation has gone soft, according to minister

The Betoota Advocate, Other, 18/09/2024, Errol Parker

As ambulance wait times across Australia continue to reach record highs, the Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has taken a unique approach to addressing the crisis, suggesting that the issue lies not with the health system, but with Australians themselves. In a press conference this morning in Canberra, the minister declared that the nation's ambulance services are being overwhelmed because Australians have simply "gone soft."

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Chance to slash wait times for new treatments by 16 months

The Medical Republic, Other, 18/09/2024, Cate Swannell

Waiting times for new medical treatments could be slashed from 22 months to "within six months" if the government acts positively on 50 recommendations by the Health Technology Assessment review, released earlier this month by the Department of Health and Aged Care. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler committed the government to establishing an implementation group to guide the HTA reform process and provide regular updates to government.

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[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS

Further \$3.8bn investment for aged care wages

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 18/09/2024, Deb Jackson

The Albanese Government will invest a further \$3.8 billion into aged care wages over the next four years, building on its \$11.3bn commitment in 2023, and on top of the \$5.6bn announced by the Prime Minister last week. [...] Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells, said through this additional funding, the government is supporting a sustainable sector delivering high-quality care that older people can access when and where they need it.

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The aged care system looks to be about to get a fire-cracker up its backside to start meeting patient expectations!

Australian Health Information Technology, Other, 18/09/2024, David More

The Albanese government sacrificed about \$5 billion in budget savings in return for securing the Coalition's support for the aged care reforms announced this week, according to sources in both camps. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said asking people to pay a bit more was essentially for their own good.

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Trailblazer Tracey Holmes on overcoming hurdles in sports media

BroadAgenda, Other, 18/09/2024, Ginger Gorman

Tracey Holmes was Australia's first female host of a national sports program. [...] "We need more women making decisions for more women," Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells said. "Our sporting systems are not equal, and this policy will help address the gender imbalances prevalent in sports leadership."

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Don't believe the hype; these aged care reforms are little more than a money grab

Croakey, Other, 18/09/2024, Melissa Sweet

The federal government's aged care reforms are a money grab by the aged care sector and the Government, with just "a few token" efforts to address safety and quality concerns, according to policy analyst Charles Maskell-Knight. [...] On Thursday, 12 September Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells introduced the long awaited and much delayed Aged Care Bill 2024 into Parliament.

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Pay rise for 340,000 aged care workers announced

HelloCare, Other, 18/09/2024, Jakob Neeland

The Albanese Government has announced a new \$3.8 billion investment aimed at increasing wages for aged care workers, with the goal of improving care for older Australians. [...] Aiming for Better Aged Care Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells, stressed the importance of this investment for both the workers and the aged care sector as a whole.

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Government invests \$3.8 Billion to boost aged care worker pay

Inside Ageing, Other, 18/09/2024, Amy Clarke

The Albanese Government is committing \$3.8 billion over four years to support pay increases for aged care workers, beginning on 1 January 2025. [...] In a release, Aged Care Minister Anika Wells shared, "These award wage increases apply to workers who provide more direct support and care to older people – personal care workers, assistants in nursing, recreational activities officers and home care workers.

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

New pilot program for GPs in the territory

Canberra Times, General News, 19/09/2024, Lucy Bladen & Tara Highet, Page 3

When Anita Hutchinson visited a health professional more than a decade ago during a family violence situation she was told "can't you just forgive him". [...] Federal Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said GPs are often the first point of contact for victim-survivors but many are not equipped to support these women and this program would be focused on tackling that.

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[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

NARI Annual Summit puts human rights under the spotlight

Helloleaders.com.au, Other, 18/09/2024, Alex Jacobs

The National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) is hosting its 2024 Annual Summit this Friday with the theme Human Rights are Older People's Rights, Too. [...] The in-person and virtual event features several high-profile speakers, including the recently appointed Federal Assistant Minister of Social Security, Ageing and Women, Kate Thwaites.

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[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

New record-high wait time in ED

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 7

The average time patients spend in Wollongong Hospital emergency department has hit the five-hour mark for the first time on record, according to new data. [...] This is consistent with data from the Federal Department of Health and Aged Care which showed there were fewer GPs in NSW in 2023 than in pre-pandemic 2019 with numbers falling from 9,700 to 9,485.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [South Coast Register \(Online\)](#), [Southern Highland News \(Online\)](#), [Milton Ulladulla Times \(Online\)](#).

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Menopause should be taught in Australian medical schools to prevent women being gaslit, inquiry finds

The Guardian, Other, 18/09/2024, Caitlin Cassidy

Medical professionals should be better educated on menopause during their degrees and women experiencing menopause need more flexibility in the workplace, a Senate inquiry has found. [...] Greens Senator Larissa Waters said the most encouraging part of the report was its first recommendation, that the Department of Health and Aged Care Commission conduct research to establish a comprehensive evidence base about the affects of menopause and perimenopause, including its differentiation from midlife stressors and impact on mental health.

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IHACPA has released its 2024-25 Residential Aged Care Pricing Advice

Inside Ageing, Other, 18/09/2024, Amy Clarke

The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) has released its 2024–25 Residential Aged Care Pricing Advice, marking the second year of its advisory role to the Australian Government. [...] The authority continues to collaborate with the Department of Health and Aged Care, evaluating grants and subsidies to adjust future pricing strategies.

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Keeping weight off online

The CSIRO has launched a new tool designed to help Australians ditch unhealthy eating habits and lose weight instead. [...] AMR Action and Insights was developed as part of their Minimising AMR initiative that was co-created with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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'Gaining ground quite rapidly': What we know about XEC, the new COVID-19 variant

SBS, Other, 18/09/2024, Emma Brancatisano

Experts are tracking a new COVID-19 variant called XEC which is starting to spread overseas — and could soon arrive in Australia. Official sources, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the US, have not published information about the variant at time of writing, with Australia's federal Department of Health confirming no sequences as of 29 August

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Chance to slash wait times for new treatments by 16 months

The Medical Republic, Other, 18/09/2024, Cate Swannell

Waiting times for new medical treatments could be slashed from 22 months to "within six months" if the government acts positively on 50 recommendations by the Health Technology Assessment review, released earlier this month by the Department of Health and Aged Care. [...] Federal health minister Mark Butler committed the government to establishing an implementation group to guide the HTA reform process and provide regular updates to government.

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Visionflex reimagines telehealth and its once flaky future

The Medical Republic, Other, 18/09/2024, Jeremy Knibbs

Once a basket-case health directory ASX listing, Visionflex has quietly pivoted into high functionality telehealth, potentially changing the game for aged care, and rural and remote providers. [...] CEO Joshua Mundy's biggest potential issue is that PHN funding is very often ephemerally directed downwards to them from the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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[Back to Top](#)

VACCINES

Why Albanese never wanted a COVID royal commission

Canberra Times, General News, 19/09/2024, Page 16

Last week the Albanese government rejected by a single, short sentence, "the government does not support this recommendation", the Senate legal and constitutional committee's proposal for a "royal commission to examine the Australian response to the COVID-19 pandemic". Likewise, the government rejected other recommendations for there to be a federal-state royal commission, the detailed three-page draft terms of reference, and its call for further public consultation.

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Covid linked to diabetes

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 19/09/2024, Adella Beaini, Page 12

A new study has revealed how a Covid infection can trigger or worsen diabetes, shedding light on the damage the virus has on blood sugar regulation. Researchers from Weill Cornell Medicine used a new and advanced model to find out how the virus causing Covid, SARS-CoV-2, causes new cases of diabetes and makes existing diabetes worse.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Anglicare gets funds to expand coverage

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 19/09/2024, Page 6

Anglicare Southern Queensland will expand its coverage in the Darling Downs after it won federal government funding for an extra 24,000 Home Care Packages. The packages are for older Australians with complex needs who may require additional care and support to remain living at home safely, whereas the Commonwealth Home Support Program provides support for people with low-level care needs.

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Horror disease is killing Australians

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 19/09/2024, Sarah Jones, Page 7

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare issued a sobering report earlier this year, jam packed with very concerning statistics. They estimate that in 2023, there were a staggering 411,100 Australians living with dementia. Based on AIHW estimates, this is equivalent to 15 people with dementia for every 1000 Australians, which increases to 84 people with dementia for every 1000 Australians aged 65 and over.

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

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New aged care rules will leave most of us worse off as costs rise

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/09/2024, Rachel Lane

Following the biggest reforms in 30 years, aged care – and who pays for it – will be redefined in "once in a generation" changes to take effect next year. The fundamental difference is that the government will pay for aged care for everyone, regardless of means – but those receiving care will have to fork out more for services defined as non-care, such as help with medications, showering and dressing, shopping and preparing meals.

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\$5,000 for railway museum

Shepparton News Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Anne Freestone

The alliance is sanctioned by the Berrigan Shire Council, meets regularly, is auspiced by Finley Regional Care and shares its activities and minutes with Dementia Australia. One of the first activities of the alliance was the creation of an action plan which has been formally approved by Dementia Australia.

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Singalongs, gardening, footy: The activities that transcend dementia

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 18/09/2024, Emily Anderson

There are an estimated 421,000 people living with dementia in Australia in 2024, and it is thought that 54 per cent of aged care residents have the condition. Dementia illnesses, including Alzheimer's disease, cause a loss of cognitive function including memory, language and a change in mood and behaviour.

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Expert joins Anglicare's dementia care program

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 18/09/2024, Jodie Wolf

Specialist Victoria Cain has been appointed as the Clinical Lead of Anglicare's Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP) units. Responsible for the growth of both new and current programs, Ms Cain

will offer clinical oversight to guarantee best practice dementia care principles and the highest quality of care is given to all residents.

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A new era for aged care

Community Care Review, Other, 18/09/2024, Deborah Jackson

In a significant development for Australia's aged care system, a new Aged Care Act has been formalised, promising to reshape the landscape of care for seniors, particularly in the realm of home care. The act is seen as a progressive step forward, addressing long-standing concerns within the sector.

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Could geriatric hospitals reduce pressure on the health system?

HelloCare, Other, 18/09/2024, Jakob Neeland

Australia is facing a surge in hospital presentations in older adults. Between 2015–16 and 2019–20 , hospitalisations among people aged 75–84 increased by an average of 3 per cent annually, the largest rise of any age group.

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[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

Bosses must do more on menopause: Senate

Australian Financial Review, General News, 19/09/2024, Hannah Wootton, Page 3

Women should get a legal right to work flexibly during menopause and the federal government should make getting hormonal medications cheaper and easier, a Senate committee has unanimously recommended.

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

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Why women need to alter their move into menopause

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/09/2024, Sarah Berry, Page 15

In the 13 years since Kirsten King opened her first Fluid Form Pilates studio in Sydney, she's seen that what once worked for clients no longer seems to be effective. "They need to be doing different types of exercise," says King, who is in her 40s and launched an online program in June for women, with a focus on plyometrics and weightbearing exercise.

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

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We must act now to help women

Courier Mail, General News, 19/09/2024, Clare Armstrong, Page 15

A senate committee looking at issues related to perimenopause and menopause has made 25 recommendations to improve primary health care and workplace supports for women, after receiving hundreds of submissions. About 160,000 Australians enter menopause each year, with symptoms including vertigo, muscle and joint pain, memory lapses, sleep disorder, hot flashes, mood changes, headaches and difficulty concentrating.

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

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Boozy boomers can learn from Gen Z

The Nightly, General News, 18/09/2024, Jeni; O'Dowd, Page 18

In Australia, the number of young people abstaining from alcohol has risen, and fewer are turning their

nights out into all-night drinking affairs. This trend is so pronounced that in Sydney, some pubs now insist on a cover charge on weekends because the younger crowd isn't drinking like previous generations. As well, the stereotype of the rowdy, beer-chugging Aussie man no longer holds true.

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Here's how universities get away with making utterly false claims

Canberra Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Paul Mason & Peter Brukner

Australians are frequently inundated with nutrition articles seeking to expose fad diets, such as the high-fat ketogenic diet popularised in the 1970s by the late Dr Atkins. These articles, ostensibly published in the public interest, often reference scientific research as their foundation.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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What are menopause supplements, do they work, and are they safe?

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Rachel Carbonell

With a parliamentary inquiry into menopause expected to report shortly, experts are warning of a rise in ineffective and potentially harmful menopause supplements. Susan Davis, head of the Women's Health Research Program at Monash University, said women are being targeted by "commercial interests".

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[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

'Holy Grail' – Alterity Therapeutics aims to slow progression of Parkinson's disease

The Australian, Other, 18/09/2024

Alterity Therapeutics has its roots in developing drugs for neurodegeneration with its latest focus on Parkinson's disease and related disorders, in an approach considered "the Holy Grail in neurology" for slowing disease progression. Speaking to Stockhead from the US, Alterity Therapeutics (ASX:ATH) CEO David Stamler said its lead drug ATH434 targets the underlying pathology of the disease.

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

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Kingscliff singer-songwriter, epilepsy sufferer Mardi Wilson opens up on upsetting episode

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/09/2024, Sam Stolz

A talented Tweed singer-songwriter and severe epilepsy sufferer has been left feeling disheartened after being ignored and barked at by bystanders during a seizure episode outside a supermarket. Kingscliff resident Mardi Wilson, 29, a well-known musician in the area, took to social media to shed light on her horrific ordeal. She "wanted to do this post" and went public "to raise some awareness".

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Tweed Daily News \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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Imugene gets crucial FDA nod for bile tract cancer drug

West Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, Craig Nolan

Imugene has landed a prized United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) orphan drug approval for its bile tract cancer therapy following positive results from its recent metastatic advanced solid tumour (MAST) trials to treat the rare and insidious disease known as cholangiocarcinoma. The FDA has granted orphan drug designation (ODD) to the company's novel oncolytic virotherapy, "VAXINIA".

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At 98, Abraham shares life lessons for thriving despite overwhelming odds

Canberra Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Jodie Bruton

Now aged 98, the Albury resident reflected on his punishing upbringing in his new memoir, Kumbanad Kudummam. Plagued with scabies, whooping cough, conjunctivitis, roundworms and year-round flu, he didn't have the constitution to thrive but he certainly retained his unwavering drive.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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UK can expect 'tsunami of missed cancers' in wake of pandemic, experts say

The Guardian, Other, 18/09/2024, Anna Bawden

The UK can expect a "tsunami of missed cancers", leading experts have said, after an international study found that diagnoses fell sharply during the pandemic. Preliminary figures from the International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership, presented to delegates at the World Cancer Congress in Geneva, compared data on the instance and stage of cancer diagnosis in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway and the UK, before and during the pandemic.

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Coffee may protect against multiple cardiometabolic diseases

The New Daily, Other, 18/09/2024, John Elder

The best way to protect your heart and metabolic health is to do more exercise, eat a healthy balanced diet, don't smoke, don't abuse alcohol and keep to a regular sleep pattern. [...] According to the Heart Foundation Only one in four adults believe that being overweight?

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[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

NDIS shows the risks in universal childcare

Australian Financial Review, General News, 19/09/2024, Phillip Coorey, Page 1

Seven years later, the NDIS has 650,000 participants and growing, is costing double what the PC forecast, and the cost will be north of \$100 billion by early next decade unless reined in.

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

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Drug mixup factors in death at hospital

Canberra Times, General News, 19/09/2024, Peter Brewer, Page 1

A woman who died in Canberra Hospital in 2021 had received massive doses of painkillers which an anaesthetist, in giving coronial evidence, believed was not appropriate for a woman her weight. Coroner Ken Archer was told Sharyn Kaine weighed just 39 kilograms when she was taken by ambulance to Calvary Hospital with symptoms of stomach pain and a distended and painful abdomen.

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

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Unpaid overtime rife, Minister welcomes \$31m doc settlement

Canberra Times, General News, 19/09/2024, Lanie Tindale, Page 5

The issue of junior doctors working unpaid overtime is not unique to the ACT, the Health Minister says. Australian Medical Association ACT board member and former junior doctor, Dr Betty Ge, said both the government and Calvary had initially resisted the class action.

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

Housing and health top Greens' agenda

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, Rob Inglis, Page 8

Delivering a budget reply speech in parliament, the Greens leader said "big corporations and special interests" had "lined their coffers" on the state government's watch as public services "fell apart". "Everyone knows about the shocking state of our health system, the cost of living and housing crisis, the damage being done to the environment, the problems in education," she said.

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LGH pathology staff strike due to 'unsustainable' workloads

Launceston Examiner, General News, 19/09/2024, Annika Rhoades, Page 1

Pathology members at the Launceston General Hospital (LGH) walked off the job for the second time in three months due to "unsustainable", extreme workloads and understaffing. Health and Community Services Union state secretary Robbie Moore said the pathology staff need 17 full-time equivalent workers, but the Tasmanian Government "doesn't even have the courtesy to sit down and talk to [the staff]".

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The Sydney suburbs where patients wait the longest for an ambulance revealed

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/09/2024, Angus Thomson

Critically ill and injured patients in Sydney's inner west, northern beaches and Hawkesbury regions are waiting longer for ambulances than this time last year as NSW emergency departments grapple with increasingly sick patients. There were 385,345 ambulance responses in NSW between April and June, the most of any quarter since 2010, data released by the Bureau of Health Information (BHI) on Wednesday revealed.

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Public medical imaging service slated territory's north if Labor re-elected

Canberra Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Lucy Bladen

A new medical imaging service which would provide free X-rays and ultrasounds to Canberrans would open at the Belconnen walk-in centre if Labor is re-elected. Labor has also revealed it plans to build a new health centre in Macnamara, which is one of Canberra's newest suburbs and is located in west Belconnen.

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Emergency department presentations 'outpacing' NSW population growth

Canberra Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Carla Mascarenhas

NSW regional hospitals have shown mixed results in the face of record emergency presentations in the latest Bureau of Health Information (BHI) report. The report, released on September 18, shows the performance for public health services in NSW from April to June 2024.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#).

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Push to give doctors and teachers more training and support to help people experiencing family and domestic violence

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Rosie King

The Melbourne general practitioner has been in practice for almost three decades and throughout her career, she has made a conscious effort to enrol in additional family violence training. [...] Dr Magdalena Simonis, who is also the Australian Medical Association's general practice representative, can't say the same about others in her profession.

Coroner finds paracetamol overdose partially to blame for death of grandmother at Canberra Hospital

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Lottie Twyford

73-year-old Sharyn Kaine was admitted to hospital experiencing abdominal pain in October 2021 and died later that month. The coroner found her death was due to multi-organ failure and paracetamol-induced liver failure.

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Ambulances taking longer than 15 minutes in half of emergency calls

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 18/09/2024, Orlander Ruming

Only half of the ambulances called for emergency situations in the Central West are arriving within 15 minutes. The latest data from the Bureau of Health Information shows one in five emergency calls in the Central West are taking longer than 30 minutes for an ambulance to arrive

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

[Read More](#)

Kimberley health practitioners first to use controversial law to refer patients to Banned Drinkers Register

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 18/09/2024, Sarah Crawford

Kimberley health practitioners have become the first to use a controversial new law which allows them to refer patients for a ban on buying takeaway alcohol. When the revamped Banned Drinkers Register was introduced in December to tackle alcohol-fuelled violence across regional WA, doctors widely criticised a provision which allowed them to refer patients for a ban, potentially without their consent, saying it would breach clients' trust.

[Read More](#)

Record triple zero calls, as hospitals face 'unprecedented pressure'

Newcastle Herald, Other, 18/09/2024, Damon Cronshaw

More than 10,000 triple-zero calls were made for an in each of the last three quarters, the highest results on record. The data showed the calls numbered 10,377 (April to June), 10,550 (January to March) and 10,332 (October to December 2023).

[Read More](#)

'Fees are inadequate': No incentive for therapists to help veterans

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 18/09/2024, Emily Anderson

An occupational therapist thinks she knows why few people are lining up to do her job within a 300-kilometre radius of Wagga. If her clients were NDIS participants, Judy-Ann Emberson believes she could be earning far more than what she gets for seven days a week.

[Read More](#)

BHI: demand for ED grows in NSW

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/09/2024

The Bureau of Health Information (BHI) has released its latest Healthcare Quarterly report, showing continued growth in demand for emergency department (ED) and ambulance services in NSW from Apr to Jun 2024. ED attendances reached 795,817 during the quarter, a 3.3 per cent rise from the same period in 2023 - highlighted by all the peak pharmacy organisations who continue to call for expanded scope of practice to deal with the mounting pressures on hospitals.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 18/09/2024, Sandra Sully

Recent health data reveals pressure in the healthcare system is rising faster than population growth in NSW. Health Minister Ryan Park has been calling on the federal government to invest more in aged

care and GPs, but Dr Kathryn Austin from AMA NSW says both levels of government need to step up.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 18/09/2024, Mark Ferguson & Angela Cox

A Seven News investigation revealed complaints from patients at Blacktown Hospital. NSW Health Minister Ryan Park blames the Federal Government for the rising pressure in emergency departments across the state and the soaring GP prices.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 18/09/2024, Peter Overton

New figures show overworked emergency departments are impacting patient care, noting a 3 per cent increase in patients compared to last year and over 69,000 patients left untreated. The workload of paramedics also increased by 7.8 per cent as the percentage number of patients taken to hospital also increased. NSW Health Minister Ryan Park is calling on the Federal Government to invest more in the system to give the community more access to GPs.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Canberra Live, 18/09/2024, Leon Delaney

The RACGP and the AMA welcomed yesterday's policy announcement to provide \$11m to encourage more GPs to bulk bill.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Mornings, 18/09/2024, Sarah MacDonald

Recent data from the Bureau of Health Information shows a near-record number of patients presenting to hospital emergency departments during the April-June quarter. The data also shows a decline in GP visits by more than 100,000 in the 12 months to June 2023.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Insta's teen move 'just a tactic'

Herald Sun, General News, 19/09/2024, Adella Beaini, Page 4

Child safety advocates have slammed Instagram's move to introduce "teen accounts", warning it is a tactic to deflect from forthcoming social media age bans. [...] The move by Meta chief Mark Zuckerberg to automatically opt-in more than 100 million accounts to parental controls comes after years of criticism from mental health and child protection experts, and the Herald Sun's Let Them Be Kids campaign.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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

Money concerns youth

Herald Sun, General News, 19/09/2024, Page 8

The number of young Australians concerned about the country's economy and finances has tripled in just a few years. A new report from Orygen and Mission Australia has shone a spotlight on the issue's impact on mental health, as more than half of older teenagers worry about their financial security.

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

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

Empathy key to just society

West Australian, General News, 19/09/2024, Michelle Scott, Page 32

The sad news that 60-year-old American Denise Prudhomme had died at her desk but went unnoticed for four days highlights a poignant issue. Loneliness is a growing concern affecting not only the elderly but increasingly young people as well and this profound sense of isolation underscores a larger societal challenge.

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

Account changes deflect issues

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, Adella Beaini & Justin Vallejo, Page 2

Child safety advocates have slammed Instagram's move to introduce "teen accounts", warning it is a tactic to deflect from forthcoming social media age bans. [...] The move by Meta chief Mark Zuckerberg to automatically opt-in more than 100 million accounts to parental controls comes after years of criticism from mental health and child protection experts, and the Herald Sun's Let Them Be Kids campaign.

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Sentence delay for testing

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, Genevieve Holding, Page 11

Sentencing has been delayed by four months for a man who pleaded guilty to possessing child exploitation material, because the state's Forensic Mental Health Service could not provide an assessment requested two months ago. Magistrate Jackie Hartnett oversaw the case of Corey Scott Ross Killingback on Monday in the Hobart Magistrates Court, where he faced one count of allegedly possessing child exploitation material.

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

Teen social separation

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 19/09/2024, Page 16

As social media platforms face increasing scrutiny over their impact on mental health, especially for younger users, a new trend has emerged: the introduction of "teen accounts". [...] The move by Meta chief Mark Zuckerberg to automatically opt-in more than 100 million accounts to parental controls comes after years of criticism from mental health and child protection experts, and this masthead's Let Them Be Kids campaign.

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

Take a moment to ask

Border Watch, General News, 18/09/2024, Tyler Redway, Page 7

The Mount Gambier and District Suicide Prevention Network and Anglicare SA banded together to provide a safe space for locals to come for coffee and a chat to celebrate R U OK? Day. Volunteers from both organisations set themselves up for a morning session at A Slice of Metro and an afternoon session at the Espresso Eatery in the Mount Gambier Marketplace to give passers-by the time to ask R U OK?.

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

David deserved better

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/09/2024, Will Keech, Page 1

A former Geelong woman whose veteran husband died after a long battle with mental health has opened up on her "nightmare", amid calls for Defence Minister and Corio MP Richard Marles to provide answers on the treatment of returned service people. David Whitfield, who served from 1997-2004 as a medic, committed suicide in February.

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

Response team tackles housing crisis

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 19/09/2024, Natasha Emeck, Page 3

Townsville's streets are now patrolled by a team in bright pink, working to tackle the city's growing homelessness crisis head-on. [...] Targeting hotspot areas such as The Strand and Dean Park, the

team is connecting rough sleepers with local services to provide food, clothing, mental health support, and housing assistance.

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

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The death that shocked Sydney and puts a school's actions in the spotlight

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/09/2024, Jordan Baker

Charlotte, who had faced "relentless friendship issues" and cried on her way to class almost every day, had been found dead that morning. Her farewell note cited bullying. She was 12 years old. [...] Rachael Murrihy from The Kidman Centre says many institutions don't know what to do about it, and parents and educators were resorting to lawyers to represent or investigate students.

[Read More](#)

A moment that changed me: my dad helped me with everything – then suddenly he was gone

The Guardian, Other, 18/09/2024, Melissa Blake

On that day he took his own life. He had been suffering from sinus cancer for the last four months. A marble-sized tumour was found wedged inside his nasal passage after he began having unexplained nosebleeds in late 2002.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Nurses at mercy of sex-pest prisoner

The Australian, General News, 19/09/2024, Sarah Elks, Page 4

Cairns nurses were sexually harassed and subjected to violence and aggression for a fortnight by a prisoner in the mental health ward, after hospital management ignored repeated pleas for a security guard to protect staff. Fresh revelations about an aggressive prisoner in the far north Queensland public psychiatric unit follow whistleblower nurses' complaints they are regularly assaulted by offenders who are not guarded by prison officers, because of a provision in the Mental Health Act.

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

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

Oh boy, time to deliver bub care

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, Rob Inglis, Page 8

An independent MP has accused the state government of "doing nothing" to establish a new mother and baby unit in Tasmania's South since the closure of the only service last year. David O'Byrne said he was disappointed the Liberals were still considering options for the unit, 16 months after St Helens Private Hospital - which had eight mother and baby beds - closed its doors for good.

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

No help in budget for nursing issues

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, Emily Shepherd, Page 19

The state budget will not address the chronic understaffing and access and flow demands that continue to plague the Tasmanian health system. To be blunt, the Australian Nurses & Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Tasmania predicted this budget.

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

Clare O'Neil says Greens holding nurses and childcare workers hostage after they managed to delay Help to Buy vote

The Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, Rosie Lewis

Greens leader Adam Bandt declared the government had two months “to get serious about the housing crisis” and negotiate, while Housing Minister Clare O’Neil insisted the party had offered no amendments. “What the Greens are doing is holding the aspirations of childcare workers and nurses to own their own home hostage, to generate media and attention,” she said.

[Read More](#)

Co-sleeping with older children is more common than you think, but even parents who do it worry it's not OK

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Anna Kelsey-Sugg & Lisa Needham

Parents who decide to co-sleep with their children can find themselves battling away derision or criticisms from friends and family. [...] There are also the rightful safety concerns about co-sleeping, and parents should be provided with in-depth information about minimising any sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) risks for babies.

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[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

WA Liberal Party vow to reintroduce vital healthcare services in regions, including Carnarvon maternity

West Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, Jessica Moroney

Member for North West Central Merome Beard has vowed to reintroduce Carnarvon maternity services and other vital health services in regional WA if the WA Liberal Party is voted back into Government. The Liberals will commit to establishing a \$400 million Regional Health Development Initiative if the party is successful in next year's State election, aimed at giving people in regional WA better access to health care.

[Read More](#)

Board announces fee rise

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/09/2024, Megan Haggan

The National Boards have announced their annual fees, saying they continue to minimise fee increases Ahpra and the Boards have issued a statement in which they are very aware that health professionals are affected by the current cost of living crisis. Four have frozen their fees for 2024-25, but the Pharmacy Board is not among

[Read More](#)

Overseas GPs rolled out too fast?

Medical Forum, Other, 18/09/2024

Just weeks ahead of the launch of a fast-tracked path to approve overseas-trained GPs to work in Australia, the Royal Australian College of GPs is worried the program is not ready. Initially prioritising GPs, anaesthetists, obstetricians and gynaecologists, and psychiatrists (in line with jurisdictional priorities), the new process aims to get more medical specialists face to face with patients in Australia, through a fast track that will sit alongside the existing specialist medical college assessment system.

[Read More](#)

ED visits soaring amid GP shortages

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/09/2024, Michelle Wisbey

A nationwide shortage of GPs is beginning to take its toll on state health systems, with fresh data revealing emergency departments are bearing the brunt of general practice funding shortfalls. Released on Wednesday, the latest Bureau of Health Information results shed a light on the importance of funding primary care in New South Wales, finding emergency department (ED) visits are soaring at the same time as residents struggle to see a GP.

[Read More](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

ACT Labor pledges more scope if it wins

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/09/2024

If re-elected, ACT Labor has pledged to expand pharmacists' roles, allowing them to treat common conditions like earaches, acne, nausea, and reflux at community pharmacies. The Pharmacy Guild of Australia's ACT Branch welcomed this commitment, which would align the Territory with recent changes in New South Wales, granting Canberrans greater access to healthcare for acute and chronic conditions.

[Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

But wait, there's more IR pain for bosses

The Australian, General News, 19/09/2024, Geoff Chambers, Page 1

The 2022 ALP election review, chaired by Greg Combet and Lenda Oshalem, included a topline recommendation that resonates today. [...] The review said if the Albanese government delivered on wages growth, the cost-of-living, housing affordability, Medicare and health, jobs and economic growth, the ALP would "achieve a lift in the primary vote".

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Prison shrink crossed line

Courier Mail, General News, 19/09/2024, Vanda Carson, Page 1

A former prison shrink who engaged in dozens of flirty phone chats with a maximum security inmate and lied to cover up a visit to him when confronted by her supervisor has been reprimanded for professional misconduct. Details of psychologist Melanya Polata's misconduct with the inmate at an unnamed prison, including her offer to pick him up from jail on his release, were revealed in a decision handed down by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal on Tuesday.

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

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Melbourne psychologist began sexual relationship with client and shared details on other patients, tribunal hears

The Guardian, Other, 18/09/2024, Melissa Davey

A Melbourne psychologist began a coercive relationship with a young client while she was particularly vulnerable, moved her into a unit on his mother's property, and shared confidential details about other clients with her, a tribunal has heard. [...] When someone reported the relationship to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), Walker and his mother asked the woman to send a letter to AHPRA denying everything, the tribunal heard.

[Read More](#)[Back to Top](#)

Bio Curious: Phone autism test strives to make diagnosis quicker and more blinkin' simple

The Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, Tim Boreham

Blinklab executive director Anton Uvarov admits that the company's smartphone-based diagnosis test for the early onset of autism is not new – but the delivery mechanism is. [...] Autism affects about 4% of children, with the incidence fairly uniform across western countries. Autism is estimated to be a US\$700 billion-a-year market, with the average cost of diagnosis in the US put at US\$1000 to US\$5000 per patient.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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[Back to Top](#)

SPORT

Crisafulli right: it won't play but what's his solution?

The Australian, General News, 19/09/2024, Jamie Walker, Page 4

David Crisafulli didn't mince his words when he finally took a stand over the shag on a rock that's supposed to become Brisbane's 2032 Olympics stadium. And about time, given the Liberal National Party leader is the hot favourite to trade up to premier when Queenslanders go to the polls five weeks from Saturday.

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

LNP to scrap Labor's \$1.6bn Olympic venue plan

The Australian, General News, 19/09/2024, Lydia Lynch & Sarah Elks, Page 4

Queensland election favourite David Crisafulli will rip up Brisbane's Olympic venue blueprint if he wins next month's state poll, declaring Labor's plan to revamp a near 50-year-old suburban stadium as the main athletics hub was "horrendous". The Liberal National Party leader, who successive public polls suggest will win majority government at the October 26 election, said Australia's third Olympics was at risk of becoming an "embarrassment" after years of shambolic planning, but has refused to commit to an alternative stadium proposal.

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

Scaled-back 2026 Games in Glasgow after deal

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/09/2024, Rob Harris, Page 14

Glasgow will host a scaled-back Commonwealth Games in 2026 after the Scottish government approved a proposal in part funded by the Australian governing body. A reduced version of the Games, expected to feature just 10 sports and hundreds fewer athletes, will return to the city 12 years after it last played host, with Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) promising "a multimillion-pound investment" to help with the cost of the event.

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

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School splashes \$85m on 'humble' pool

Age, General News, 19/09/2024, Noel Towell, Page 2

A Melbourne private school's new swimming and sports complex - once described by a local Labor MP as "humble" - is set to cost \$85 million. Presbyterian Ladies College (PLC) has not previously disclosed the cost of the 25-month build for the new sports and aquatic centre, but confirmed it yesterday.

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You've Scot to be joking

Victorian taxpayers have been dealt a double blow, with Glasgow confirmed to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games at our expense as a new independent analysis of the Suburban Rail Loop reveals its benefits come nowhere near matching the dollars spent on the huge project. After marathon negotiations, Scotland yesterday celebrated its official announcement as replacement host of the Games we ditched, with more than \$200m in Victorian taxpayers' dollars to fund the event.

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Scot-free Games

Herald Sun, Editorials, 19/09/2024, Page 20

On the issue of unconscionable waste by the Andrews-Allan government, Victorians will also be angered at the formal decision by Scotland to adopt what was meant to be our Commonwealth Games. The Games Federation yesterday announced the 2026 Games are officially happening, to be hosted by Glasgow.

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

In-Seine not to get venue like Paris

Courier Mail, Edition Changes - Metro, 19/09/2024, Taylah Fellows & Hayden Johnson, Page 4

The Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games showed the world the value of having an 80,000-seat stadium for the success of the Games, says the man charged with delivering the Brisbane 2032 event. In a pointed take-down of Premier Steven Miles's plan to spend \$1.6bn on a temporary 40,000-seat athletics facility at the old QEII Stadium now the Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre (QSAC) 2032 Organising Committee president Andrew Livers said he was still unclear about the "cost aspect" of having a venue half the size of the Paris one.

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

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\$9bn to fix the Bruce

Courier Mail, General News, 19/09/2024, Taylah Fellows, Page 1

Ensuring every part of Queensland's major highway meets the basic safety standards would cost not much more than the money allocated for venues for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games, state government modelling shows. For the first time, Premier Steven Miles has revealed the price to ensure every section of the highway rates at least three out of five stars for safety \$9bn.

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Our cash to host games in Glasgow

Courier Mail, General News, 19/09/2024, Todd Baly, Page 5

It's official the 2026 Commonwealth Games will be staged in Glasgow. More than a year after then Victorian premier Dan Andrews bailed out on hosting the Games, putting the competition in danger of becoming extinct, the Scottish government has given final approval for Glasgow to save the event.

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Stadium plans lodged

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, Rob Inglis, Page 1

Construction of the proposed Macquarie Point stadium is expected to begin late next year after the project cleared a major hurdle in the planning process. An application for the stadium development has been lodged with the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) in what the state government has described as a "significant milestone" for the project.

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

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[Back to Top](#)

Deeply coloured food reduces risk

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/09/2024, Page 16

A study involving Edith Cowan University researchers found that adults aged 40 to 70 who consumed the highest amounts of flavonoid-rich foods, especially tea, red wine and berries, had a lower risk of dementia, especially if they had a high genetic risk of dementia, high blood pressure or depression.

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

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New blood test offers hope in early detection

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/09/2024, James Vickers & Jane Alty, Page 18

There are dozens of conditions that can cause dementia with the major diseases being Alzheimer's disease, Dementia with Lewy Bodies, Parkinson's disease dementia, frontotemporal dementia, and vascular dementia. While many of these conditions are ageing-related, there is also increasing awareness of rare genetic disorders that cause dementia in younger adults and even in children.

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Australia proves its reputation as 'go-to' destination for clinical trials

The Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, Nadine Mcgrath

MTPConnect says Australia has a global reputation as a 'go to' destination to conduct clinical trials Sector generated \$1.6bn for the Australia economy in 2022, up by more than 4 per cent on 2019 figures. Argenica says cost to conduct trials in Australia is much cheaper and they receive automated approval as an eligible R&D tax activity.

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

[Read More](#)

Health Check: Paradigm receives FDA guidance on proposed trial for dodgy knees

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/09/2024, Tim Boreham

Paradigm Biopharmaceuticals says the FDA has endorsed key elements of its proposed phase III knee osteoarthritis trial. Stockhead Health Check (briefly called Alive and Kicking before we grew tired of the Simple Minds tune running through our noggins) is renowned biotech journo Tim Boreham's NEW daily wrap covering morning movers and shakers of note in the ASX Healthcare sector, Monday through Thursday.

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

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After a decade, the New Colombo Plan has proven its worth — but reforms are needed to share the benefits

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Ly Tran & Trevor Goddard

The Australian government launched the New Colombo Plan (NCP) in 2014, a signature initiative aiming to lift Australia's knowledge of the Indo-Pacific. [...] The New Colombo Plan comes to life in two forms: a scholarship program of up to nineteen months for study, language training, internships and mentorships; and a flexible mobility program for shorter programs in study, language learning, internships, practicums and research.

[Read More](#)

Flavonoid-rich foods and drinks may cut risk of dementia, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 18/09/2024, Andrew Gregory

Consuming more food and drinks rich in flavonoids, such as berries, tea and red wine, could lower the risk of dementia by 28 per cent, a study suggests. The number of people living with the disease

globally is forecast to nearly triple to 153 million by 2050, which presents a rapidly increasing threat to global health and social care systems.

[Read More](#)

New research confirms the health benefits of native bushfood Indigenous people have used for millennia

National Indigenous Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Giovanni Torre

University of Queensland research has confirmed antioxidant properties in an Australian bushfood used by Indigenous people for generations. Dr Oladipupo Adiamo from UQ's Centre for Nutrition and Food Sciences is investigating the safety and efficacy of powdered Kakadu plum as a food ingredient.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Free childcare looms as Labor election sweetener

The Australian, General News, 19/09/2024, Natasha Bitá & Sarah Ison, Page 1

Free daycare for the poorest families and taxpayer subsidies for parents who don't work or study spearhead a \$6bn reform package likely to be unveiled by the Albanese government before next year's election. [...] The federal government has already waived the requirement for both parents to work or study to gain access to cheap childcare for Indigenous children.

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

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Crucial minutes could have saved Tammy Shipley

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 19/09/2024, Page 18

The Sydney Morning Herald Jails and police cells have always been dangerous places for Aboriginal people, but it beggars belief that in 2024, an inquest can be told authorities took 23 minutes to begin CPR on a woman with a history of illness after staff first spotted her lying prostrate on the floor. Those minutes were the crucial period that could have saved Tammy Shipley's life.

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

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Kimberley Aboriginal men take charge of health and wellbeing at groundbreaking gathering

West Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, Cain Andrews

A new initiative delivered by the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service is empowering Aboriginal men to take charge of their health and wellbeing while staying connected to culture. The Kimberley Regional Aboriginal Men's Health Gathering brought together more than 40 men each day to discuss key health and wellbeing issues, including alcohol and other drugs, family and domestic violence and chronic disease at Djarindjin Campground.

[Read More](#)

Two people arrested and charged over allegedly supplying remote Aboriginal communities with alcohol and drugs

West Australian, Other, 18/09/2024, Lauren Price

Two men have been arrested and charged over allegedly supplying remote Aboriginal communities with alcohol and drugs. A 29-year-old Northern Territory man and a second person are alleged to have sold alcohol to restricted communities, as well as shipped drugs over from South Australia to be sold to vulnerable groups.

[Read More](#)

Why lower life expectancy among First Nations people is affecting

super

Canberra Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Madilyn McKinley

First Nations Foundation chief executive Phil Usher helps to reunite First Nations people with super they never knew they had through financial literacy training, outreach and community engagement, including a Financial Wellness Week initiative. "We've done [reunited] hundreds of thousands of dollars in superannuation before, particularly some people that have worked at council or worked in public service roles," he said.

Also reported by: [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Goondir celebrates 30 years of dedication to Indigenous health

National Indigenous Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Joseph Guenzler

Goondir Health Services is marking 30 years of delivering culturally sensitive healthcare to Indigenous communities across southwest Queensland. To celebrate, Goondir is hosting a series of community celebration days in Dalby and Chinchilla on September 20, in St George on September 26, and in Oakey on October 4.

[Read More](#)

National Network says South Australian AG Kyam Maher "evading responsibility and accountability"

National Indigenous Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Dechlan Brennan

Justice advocate group the National Network of Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls has called on South Australia Attorney-General to talk - and listen - to the children in youth detention. The call comes after National Indigenous Times revealed on Tuesday Mr Maher had ignored an invitation from the state's Guardian for Children and Young People, Shona Reid, to be interviewed, speak to children in detention, or even reply to a report detailing detainees experiences while incarcerated.

[Read More](#)

The Kids Research Institute Australia 10-year strategy has strong focus on First Nations health

National Indigenous Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Giovanni Torre

Western Australia's biggest and only medical research institute dedicated to improving kids' health and wellbeing has rebranded to The Kids Research Institute Australia, and strengthened their already significant focus on Indigenous health. The Kids, as it is now known, reflects the significance and breadth of research being undertaken to deliver even more impactful outcomes, faster.

[Read More](#)

Productivity Commission recommendations a "game changer" if governments "bold enough" for reform, SNAICC says

National Indigenous Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Dechlan Brennan

The peak body for Indigenous children says the latest Productivity Commission's report on reforming early childhood education and care will be a "game changer" for First Nations children if governments are bold enough to implement it. On Wednesday, A path to universal early childhood education and care, the final report of the Productivity Commission's inquiry into early childhood education and care (ECEC) was released.

[Read More](#)

'No fault' evictions case shines light on "unfair, unjust" public housing system

National Indigenous Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Giovanni Torre

A Supreme Court challenge to the WA government's use of no grounds evictions at the end of fixed term public housing tenancies was adjourned to October 7 after hearings on Tuesday in which lawyers for two public housing tenants argued the policy is unlawful because it denies procedural fairness and is legally unreasonable.

"Everyone in the Kimberley knows someone who is impacted by kidney disease"

SBS, Other, 18/09/2024, Sydney Lang & Christopher Tan

More than one thousand delegates have gathered in Perth for the largest rural health conference of its kind in the southern hemisphere. A key highlight of the three-day event was addressing the unique challenges faced by Indigenous communities in some of Australia's most remote locations.

[Read More](#)

Exploring the art of blind fishing with James Griffiths

SBS, Other, 18/09/2024, Lowanna Grant

James Griffiths, is a proud Wangaaypuwan man from Cobar NSW, who now calls Gippsland home after more than two decades in Victoria. James has become a passionate First Nations advocate for disability inclusion. He's served as a Victorian Disability Advisory Council Member, and has also been a board member for Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Corporation in Sale, and the Gippsland Disability Advocacy Inc.

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SBS, World News Australia, 18/09/2024, Janice Petersen

This year's National Rural Health Conference highlighted the critical need for accessible health care in remote communities and emphasised ongoing efforts required to close the gap in health equity in First Nations people in the Kimberley. The work of Kimberley Renal Services was also noted for being the only Aboriginal-led renal service in the country.

Continued on: [SBS \(Sydney\)](#).

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Killer stone ban to be extended to imports

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/09/2024, Jessica Wang, Page 7

Engineered stone used widely in kitchen and bathroom benchtops will no longer be allowed to be imported into Australia from January 1 next year. When cut, the material releases crystalline silica dust that, in large amounts, can lead to the incurable and fatal lung disease silicosis.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Gavi announces purchase of 500,000 mpox vaccine doses

Canberra Times, Other, 18/09/2024, Jennifer Rigby

The global vaccine group Gavi will buy 500,000 doses of Bavarian Nordic's mpox vaccine, its first purchase of the shot to help battle an outbreak in parts of Africa, the group says. In 2024, there have been more than 25,000 suspected mpox cases and 723 deaths in Africa, mainly in the Democratic Republic of Congo, according to the World Health Organisation, which has declared the outbreak a global health emergency.

Also reported by: [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#).

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Silicosis-causing fake stone imports to be banned from January 1

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Isabel Row

Fake stone products will be stopped at the Australian border from next year, marking the final step in a

national ban on the once-popular building material, which can cause the deadly dust disease silicosis. The Albanese government will today announce a ban on the importation of engineered stone benchtops, slabs and panels from January 1, 2025.

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Superbugs could kill nearly 40 million people by 2050, study estimates

9News, Other, 18/09/2024

The number of lives lost around the world due to infections that are resistant to the medications intended to treat them could increase nearly 70 percent by 2050, a new study projects, further showing the burden of the ongoing superbug crisis. Cumulatively, from 2025 to 2050, the world could see more than 39 million deaths that are directly attributable to

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End RSV vaccine 'postcode lottery': Ruston

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/09/2024, Nicholas O'Donoghue

Government urged to act on PBAC's RSV vaccination recommendation to ease cost-of-living pressures Shadow Health Minister, Senator Anne Ruston is calling on the government to fund the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine through the National Immunisation Program (NIP). Speaking in the Senate on Tuesday (17 September 2024), the South Australian noted that "hospital across Australia.

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Silicosis story deepens

Medical Forum, Other, 18/09/2024

Australian research has shown that just as many workers exposed to occupational respirable crystalline silica have developed autoimmune diseases, in addition to or independent of silicosis. The Monash University study included 1238 artificial stone benchtop workers who attended screening from June 2019 to August 2023.

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[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Aussies' long wait for new medicine

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/09/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 7

Australians are being urged to support a new campaign to slash the long waiting times to access affordable new drugs. On average, it takes 466 days from when a new medicine is declared safe and effective by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) to when it is made available and affordable on the government subsidised Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

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Why Australians don't report ADRs

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/09/2024, Megan Haggan

Around three-quarters of Australians have experienced an adverse reaction to a medicine – but less than half have actually reported it, new data shows. Researchers from the University of South Australia polled 544 people who were taking one or more medications, and found that 405 had experienced an ADR.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 18/09/2024, Alicia Loxley & Tom Steinfort

Medicines Australia launched a campaign to reduce wait times from the time medicine is approved by the TGA to being listed on the PBS. It takes an average of 466 days for approved medication to be listed on the PBS.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Call for reform to roadside drug-testing laws to protect medicinal cannabis users in SA

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Malcolm Sutton

South Australia's zero-tolerance approach to drivers with cannabis in their system has been blasted by legal experts during a parliamentary inquiry calling unanimously for change. Drivers who test positive to tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) during roadside drug testing of their oral fluids and blood in SA can lose their licence immediately for three months.

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Low grasp of ADR tools

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/09/2024

A university of South Australia study has found that only 36 per cent of adults who experienced adverse drug reactions (ADR) reported them to health authorities. Most of the 544 participants were unaware of the digital tools available for reporting ADRs, such as the Therapeutic Goods Administration's website, phone, or email.

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[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Chicken bites recalled

Courier Mail, General News, 19/09/2024, Page 15

Parents have been issued an urgent warning amid contamination concerns in a popular children's snack. [...] Food Standards Australia said consumers should return the product to any Aldi store for a full refund, and seek medical advice if worried about health.

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Popular product is urgently recalled from Aldi Australia over contamination fears: 'Do not eat'

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 18/09/2024, Clareese Packer

Customers warned not to eat Parents have been issued an urgent warning amid contamination concerns in a popular children's snack. [...] 'Any consumers who have a peanut allergy or intolerance may have a reaction if the product is consumed,' the alert from Food Standards Australia states.

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[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

Who will win Tasmania's best tasting tap water?

Burnie Advocate, General News, 18/09/2024, Libby Bingham, Page 2

The annual competition to decide where Tasmania's best-tasting tap water comes from will be judged in Devonport next week. [...] The two chemicals are part of the family of PFAS substances known as "forever chemicals."

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Dam faces long-term shutdown after 'forever chemicals' discovery

Authorities are considering a long-term shutdown of Medlow Dam in the Blue Mountains, as independent tests show high levels of cancer-linked PFAS chemicals are embedded in the sediment in nearby waterways. WaterNSW said it may upgrade drinking water filtration infrastructure, or try and isolate the source of contamination away from the dam network.

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NSW Health to help test for PFAS in drinking water supplies as scientists warn of 'knowledge gaps' in spread of the chemicals

ABC Online, Other, 18/09/2024, Xamthe Gregory

NSW Health is offering to help water suppliers test for PFAS "forever chemicals" following a growing body of evidence suggesting the cancer-linked substances are far more widespread across the state's water catchments than previously thought. The health authority has told the ABC it will assist local water utilities to screen for the manmade substances.

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[Back to Top](#)

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