



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 20th September 2024

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)
| [Assistant Minister Kearney](#) | [Assistant Minister Thwaites](#) | [Department](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports Queensland Premier Steven Miles has claimed that LNP leader David Crisafulli plans to legislate new controls on access to abortion if his party wins the upcoming state election.
- The **[NT News](#)** (page 1) reports that a 55-year-old former worker at Darwin Private Hospital has been sentenced to a two-year supervision order for possessing and sharing child sex abuse material.
- The **[Courier Mail](#)** (page 4) reports that a shortage of female gynaecologists is forcing Queensland women to endure long delays if they do not wish to undergo intimate examination by a man.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 6) reports that Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee chair Andrew Liveris and Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner have urged the Queensland government not to make any appointments to the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority board until after the state election.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 7) reports that Medical Research Future Fund-backed research group Australian Parkinson's Mission has announced a new trial of genomically-directed treatments to slow the progression of Parkinson's disease.

- **The Australian** (page 7) reports a global meta-analysis has concluded that lucrative new gepant-class migraine medications perform no better than paracetamol in relieving migraine symptoms. *Also reported by:* [Daily Mail](#)
- The **Sydney Morning Herald** (page 7) reports Cricket Australia has banned former Sri Lankan Test cricketer Dulip Samaraweera from holding any position in Australian cricket for 20 years after finding that he maintained a coercive relationship with a player he coached.

MINISTER BUTLER

PSA24 highlights optimism and excitement

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/09/2024, Page 14

A record number of pharmacists attended the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) national conference (PSA24) at the International Convention Centre Sydney, 2-4 August. [...] PSA launched its flagship vision for the future of Australian pharmacy practice, Pharmacists in 2030, alongside Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. [...] Among the new Fellows is Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health Emma McBride – the only pharmacist currently serving in the Australian Parliament.

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Editor's letter

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/09/2024, Katrina Crawford, Page 8

[...] The first health feature looks at the contentious vaping legislation in the smoking cessation feature; at the recent PSA24, the Minister for Health Mark Butler announced an additional \$1.39 million to the PSA, so it can provide workshops, webinars and other education and training activities to support pharmacists in the lead up to the October 1 changes.

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Archer was kicked out of his own pub. Now the push to allow pets inside venues is going national

Brisbane Times, Other, 19/09/2024, Felicity Caldwell

[...] Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner responded by writing to federal Health Minister Mark Butler in July, asking for a review of the code, for businesses that maintained a high standard of food safety and personal hygiene. [...] Federal Health and Aged Care Department acting assistant secretary Tracey Andrews replied on September 11, the day after a media inquiry from this masthead, saying any request to change the code would require an application to be submitted to Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) for assessment.

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Free RSV vaccines for pregnant women could be coming next year — here's what you need to know

ABC Online, Other, 19/09/2024, Stephanie Dalzell

[...] Health Minister Mark Butler has flagged the government is in the "very late stages" of negotiations over the maternal vaccine, saying it could be listed on the National Immunisation Program (NIP) by winter 2025. [...] The Department of Health says it's the leading cause of hospitalisation from lower respiratory tract diseases — like pneumonia — in babies younger than six months.

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Government seeks deal for RSV vaccine

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 19/09/2024, Nicholas O'Donoghue

Talks between the government and Pfizer to deliver a National Immunisation Program (NIP) funded respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine for women in late-stage pregnancy are close to a conclusion, Mark Butler the Minister for Health and Aged Care says.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, Mornings, 19/09/2024, Kathryn Robinson

Pregnant women across Australia could receive a free vaccine to protect their babies against the potentially dangerous illness RSV from next year. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the government is close to finalising negotiations to add a subsidised RSV vaccine for pregnant women to the national immunisation schedule.

[Play Now](#)

Brayden's memory keeps his mum fighting for free vaccine

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 19/09/2024, Natalie Croxon

It is the memory of her son - and the opportunity she has to save lives - that keeps a Horsley mother fighting for free meningococcal B vaccines even as she comes up against an apparent lack of progress. [...] "I and my office remain in constant contact with the federal Health Minister [Mark Butler], both formally as well as informally, on a range of issues, including on the matter of access to the meningococcal B vaccine," Mr Park said.

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Calls for more consumer input on implementation and evaluation of complex vaping reforms

Croakey, Other, 19/09/2024, Melissa Sweet

The complexities of vaping reforms were highlighted at a recent Consumers Health Forum of Australia webinar, underscoring the importance of consumers being closely engaged in related processes, including the development of consumer friendly and targeted messaging on legal, safety and access issues. [...] Already hailed as a world leader in tobacco control for plain packaging legislation, Australia hit international headlines again this year when Health Minister Mark Butler introduced a full ban on recreational vaping, restricting sales of vapes to pharmacies, effective from 1 July.

[Read More](#)

New CDM MBS item number remains budget-less

The Medical Republic, Other, 19/09/2024, Laura Woodrow

With chronic disease management constituting 25-30% of some practice's revenue, concerns over the lack of a dollar figure for the new GP chronic disease management plan MBS item is giving practice owners the heebie-jeebies. [...] According to newsGP, RACGP president Dr Nicole Higgins penned a letter to the federal health minister Mark Butler outlining the "devastating impacts" on patient health of funding cuts to CDM and calling out the "lack of basic respect" for GPs.

[Read More](#)

Butler points finger at PBAC

Pharma In Focus, Other, 19/09/2024

Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler has pointed the finger of blame at the PBAC for being unable to offer funding for Sanofi's monoclonal antibody Beyfortus for infants, adding even if the company made a second attempt at winning a recommendation, it's unlikely to be in time for next winter.

[Read More](#)

“Setting a precedent”: Mark Butler grilled over aged care reforms

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

The Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler has been taken to task on the Government's aged care reforms in a lively interview on ABC Radio in Adelaide yesterday. Host David Bevan grilled the Minister on the Government's decision to unlock "this big bucket of money" to build new aged care homes, accusing the Government of "setting a precedent" by asking middle class Australians to contribute to the cost of their care, an argument that the Minister rejected.

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The ship is sinking: just 1,500 aged care beds added in the last 15 months

The Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care says operators are ready to start building "thousands" of new aged care beds – the reality is likely to be quite different. As we report in this issue , Mark Butler was bailed up on ABC Radio yesterday morning over the Government's aged care reforms where he acknowledged the need to build "many thousands" more beds.

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5AA, Mornings, 19/09/2024, Matthew Pantelis

Interview with Minister for Health Mark Butler regarding aged care reform.

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MINISTER WELLS

National sports governance policy revealed

Ballarat Times, General News, 20/09/2024, Adam Carswell, Page 24

The Victorian Minister for Community Sport, Ros Spence, and Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events, Steve Dimopoulos, have endorsed the new National Gender Equity in Sports Governance Policy announced in Canberra earlier this month. [...] Federal Minister for Aged Care and Sport Anika Wells said diversity within an organisation's senior roles provides a more complete mix of skills, perspectives and experiences, more often resulting in better decision-making and improved performance.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

ABC Central Coast, Breakfast, 19/09/2024, Scott Levi

Interview with NSW Minister for the Central Coast David Harris. [...] So my understanding, talking to my colleague Emma McBride, who's the Assistant Minister for Regional and Rural Health at the federal level, that bulk-billing rates on the Central Coast are on the improve. It's not a quick process. We have to recruit more GPs, there was incentives by the federal government as well for bulk billing, that's starting to make a difference. But we're turning around a decade of neglect.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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DEPARTMENT

Archer was kicked out of his own pub. Now the push to allow pets inside venues is going national

Brisbane Times, Other, 19/09/2024, Felicity Caldwell

[...] Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner responded by writing to federal Health Minister Mark Butler in July, asking for a review of the code, for businesses that maintained a high standard of food safety and personal hygiene. [...] Federal Health and Aged Care Department acting assistant secretary Tracey Andrews replied on September 11, the day after a media inquiry from this masthead, saying any request to change the code would require an application to be submitted to Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) for assessment.

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Free RSV vaccines for pregnant women could be coming next year — here's what you need to know

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PFAS 'forever chemicals' are all around us. What does it mean for our health?

ABC Online, Other, 19/09/2024, Olivia Willis and Fleur Connick

You might not have heard of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, but you've almost certainly been exposed to them. [...] But these health effects are "generally small and within normal ranges for the whole population", according to an expert panel established by the Department of Health in 2017.

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APS Professions adds three new streams

The Mandarin, Other, 19/09/2024, Dan Holmes

The Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) has launched three new professional streams to build specialist capability in the public service. [...] Develin is deputy secretary of primary and community care at the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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Angels in the sky set up shop on the ground to help desperate rural communities

A Current Affair, Other, 19/09/2024

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) is extending its lifesaving work in remote communities, establishing full-time GP clinics in isolated outback towns. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care's GP workforce report has shown Australia already has a shortage of 2460 GPs and predicts this shortage will grow to 5560 by 2033.

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“Looming threat” – Superbug deaths increase in over 70s by 80 per cent

Aged Care Insite, Other, 19/09/2024, Stefanie Schultz

A new study, published in The Lancet, has forecast that drug-resistant infections will be the direct cause of tens of millions of deaths by the middle of the century. [...] In a bid to combat AMR effects locally, the agency has collaborated with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and the Department of Health and Aged Care in the development of a new online resource: AMR Action and Insights, but it comes with a warning.

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New resource to inform policy, action on antimicrobial resistance

CSIRO has launched a new online resource, AMR Action and Insights, to halt the rising death rate and economic burden of AMR in Australia by 2030. [...] It had been developed as part of CSIRO's 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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GPs can lean on first eating disorders service manager

The Medical Republic, Other, 19/09/2024, Cate Swannell

GPs in Victoria now have the support of the state's first eating disorders service navigator. [...] It was developed in partnership with the National Eating Disorders Collaboration and is funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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Plans for WHO-compliant one-stop shop registry for clinical trials

Pulse+IT, Other, 19/09/2024, Kate McDonald

Australia hopes to build a national "one-stop shop" (NOSS) platform to unify the clinical trial and health research sectors into one operational system, building an ICT solution that will act as a World Health Organisation-compliant research registry and website for the community. The Department of Health and Aged Care has called for expressions of interest ...

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Support at Home's eight classifications unveiled in DOHAC webinar

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

A Department of Health and Aged Care webinar this afternoon attracted so many viewers, key speaker Nick Morgan, Assistant Secretary Support at Home with the Department of Health and Aged Care, dropped out of the session several times while presenting. The session attracted nearly 500 questions.

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Fed Govt slashes annual funding by \$11K for high-needs aged care residents

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

Reduced AN-ACC funding for the highest-care-needs aged care residents attracted repeated questioning at the Residential Aged Care Funding Reform Update webinar on Wednesday, reflecting deep concern among providers. [...] Mark Richardson , Assistant Secretary, Residential Care Funding Reform Branch with the Department of Health and Aged Care, acknowledged the delay may impact aged care providers' preparations.

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Deaths caused by COVID-19 in Australian residential aged care homes pass 7,000

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

The number of aged care residents who have died from COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic has crossed a new threshold, after another 12 residents died during the week. According to the Department of Health and Aged Care, 7,003 residents have now died from COVID-19.

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MMM areas 1-5 split to reflect higher costs outside metro areas

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

The Australian Government has changed its Modified Monash Model (MMM) funding categories to reflect the higher costs of delivering aged care services in regional areas. [...] "Non-metropolitan residential aged care services have different cost drivers and experienced poorer financial outcomes than their major city counterparts," Claudia Dukats, Director, AN-ACC Policy and Funding Reform, Department of Health and Aged Care, told the Residential Aged Care Funding Reform Update webinar on Wednesday.

IHACPA extends \$8M consultant contract for 2024 Residential Aged Care Cost Collection

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) last month extended an \$8 million contract with HealthConsult, commissioning the healthcare consultant to gather residential aged care pricing information that will be used by the Government to set price and funding levels. [...] 'Costing studies' help IHACPA understand how much residential aged care and Support at Home services cost; their findings influence the costing advice IHACPA gives the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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ABC News, The World, 19/09/2024, Yvonne Yong

The mpox disease continues to spread in the Democratic Republic of Congo. While Western countries have been quick to procure vaccines for themselves, the African nation is only now receiving its first doses. [...] The cost, combined with a slow and complex approval system, has led to vaccine inequity, according to Jane Holton, a former federal health department secretary, now the chair of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, which advocates for vaccine development.

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VACCINES

How Australia crushed the COVID curve and lost the race

Australian Financial Review, Review, 20/09/2024, Richard Holden and Steven Hamilton, Page 8

This country had one of the best-designed economic responses in the world, yet one of the worst vaccine procurement processes, write Richard Holden and Steven Hamilton.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

PEP bankers up for aged care giant Opal HealthCare, lobs bid

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 20/09/2024, Page 16

Australia's largest residential aged care provider Opal HealthCare has found itself a motivated core-plus infrastructure buyer as non-binding bids land in the hands of sell-side adviser Morgan Stanley. Street Talk understands Pacific Equity Partners' gun ...

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New owner, new hope for nursing home

Newcastle Herald, General News, 20/09/2024, Gabriel Fowler, Page 8

The community of Bulahdelah has been thrown an aged care lifeline following the sale of Anglican Care's Cedar Wharf Lodge, which will remain a nursing home. Stroud Community Lodge Chairman Robert Frost confirmed the sale went through on Monday and said the board was committed to running a facility responsive to the needs of the community.

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'It's not inappropriate': Why adults with dementia are often shamed for sex

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 19/09/2024, Lauren Ironmonger

Gwenda Darling, a 71-year-old Palawi woman living with frontotemporal dementia, says she became hypersexual following her diagnosis in 2011. Recently, the pendulum has swung the other way, and

Darling says she's become asexual.

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Healthy Ageing Program exercise, balance, and fitness classes abruptly end, infuriating seniors

ABC Online, Other, 19/09/2024, Declan Bowring

Around 750 people in Sydney's east take part in the AIM/WAVES Healthy Ageing Program, which holds exercise, balance and fitness classes for seniors aged 65 and over. South East Sydney Local Health District has informed participants that the program will end on September 27.

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Action needed for ageing population

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 19/09/2024, Deborah Jackson

The Retirement Living Council (RLC) is calling on governments across Australia to enhance planning systems in response to the country's ageing population, following the release of new Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data. The latest figures reveal that the 75 to 79 age group is the fastest-growing demographic in Australia, prompting urgent action.

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Fastest growing cohort of people are aged 75-79 and Governments stay silent: Retirement Living Council

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Ian Horswill

The Retirement Living Council (RLC) has seized on the new national, state and territory population figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics today, which showed the nation's population grew by 2.3% to over 27 million people for the first time in March 2024. The statistics show the fastest growing cohort is people aged 75-79 with an increase of 6.55% in 12 months.

[Read More](#)

Care finders navigating to nowhere

Community Care Review, Other, 19/09/2024, Anne Livingstone

Forgotten Australians, who lack access to specialised aged care services despite being a recognised special needs group, are being left to navigate a system with inadequate support, writes Anne Livingstone. Specialisation Verification Framework (SVF) Care Finder

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"It won't be peace at any price": Opposition warns of further amendments to Aged Care Bill

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

Many aged care providers will "put a shovel in the ground tomorrow" to build new aged care beds if they are given certainty about future funding arrangements, Shadow Minister for Aged Care Anne Ruston told Sky News on Monday. Yet despite acknowledging the need for certainty, the Opposition has made it clear they may seek further amendments to the Australian Government's new Aged Care Act bill before they sign off.

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FWC makes final Aged Care Work Value determination: what does it mean for providers?

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

The Fair Work Commission (FWC) made its final determinations relating to the Aged Care Work Value case last week, laying down important decisions about aged care workers' conditions, including pay rates and job classifications, with decisions relating to Registered and Enrolled Nurses remain pending.

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Spitting distance and resources not shared: Whiddon says

collaboration vital in regional aged care

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Ian Horswill

The Not For Profit has 17 residential aged care homes and eight home care hubs across New South Wales and Southern Queensland and is an advocate for improving rural and regional care. The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety found people in regional, rural and remote communities are significantly more disadvantaged when accessing aged care services than those in metropolitan areas and called for the adoption of flexible funding and flexible service delivery in these communities.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Pressure on to curb gambling problem

Canberra Times, General News, 20/09/2024, Kat Wong, Dominic Giannini and Jacob Shteyman, Page 3

The prime minister is being urged to follow through on a push to ban gambling ads, after appearing to soften his rhetoric on the issue. [...] That compares to the 38 per cent who bet on horse races and the 33 per cent who placed wagers on sports, according to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Kalgoorlie\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#).

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Tobacco seizure

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 20/09/2024, Chelsea Bunting, Page 1

More than \$400,000 of illegal tobacco was seized and four people arrested when Geelong police swooped on multiple shops allegedly selling illicit cigarettes and vapes. Stores were raided in Corio, Bell Park, Grovedale and Whittington by crime investigation unit detectives.

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

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DrinkWise supports sports fans to minimise alcohol-related harm

National Liquor News, General News, 01/09/2024, Simon Strahan, Page 35

DrinkWise CEO Simon Strahan shares an update on the success of the 'Always respect, always DrinkWise' campaign.

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Kidney care to curb a killer

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/09/2024, Cat Woods, Page 68

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) led to two million hospitalisations in 2020-21 and 28,500 people with kidney failure received kidney replacement therapy, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. In 2021, CKD contributed to around 20,000 deaths in Australia, about 12 per cent of all deaths that year, the AIHW's latest figures reveal.

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Retailers shun sugar tax

Retail World, General News, 01/09/2024, Page 33

Calls for a 'sugar tax' on beverages have reemerged following the Parliamentary Inquiry into Diabetes. The Australian Food and Grocery Council and the Australian Beverages Council have cautioned against the move, citing a lack of evidence that a tax would be effective (see The Beverage Guide for more details).

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Reproductive leave for all recommended by menopause inquiry as it urges medical profession to step up

ABC Online, Other, 19/09/2024, Claudia Long

Women are being routinely let down by the healthcare system and should have access to reproductive leave, according to a Senate inquiry examining menopause in Australia. The cross-party committee unanimously called for medical students to get far more education on perimenopause and menopause, finding some get just an hour on the subject.

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Channel 10, 10 News First, 19/09/2024, Natalie Forrest

There are growing calls for more Australian employers to offer reproductive leave. It's as a Senate inquiry has recommended greater support for women who are going through menopause.

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Pharmacists are key in establishing a future free from tobacco and nicotine dependence

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 19/09/2024

Pharmacists have a crucial role to play in tobacco and nicotine use cessation in order to reduce the heavy burden of non-communicable diseases, the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) said in a new statement of policy published today.

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More than 1,100 Australians living with dementia in hospitals daily

The Weekly Source, Other, 19/09/2024, Caroline Egan

In 2022-23, more Australians were admitted to hospital for dementia than for any other reason and their average length of stay was six times longer than the average hospital stay, according to new data. [...] These figures were released last week in the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)'s Dementia in Australia report, which provides a snapshot of dementia statistics in Australia.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Committee hears impacts of endometriosis

Border Watch, General News, 20/09/2024, Charlotte Varcoe, Page 2

The Select Committee on Endometriosis visited the region this week, hearing first hand accounts of the effect the disease has on regional patients. The committee formed to inquire into and report on the number of women in the state who suffer from endometriosis as well as barriers to getting a diagnosis, gaining access to treatment and the current treatment and support available.

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Channel 9, Nine News, 19/09/2024, Andrew Lofthouse

An emergency doctor turned GP says a new online tool will help ensure young Australians with bowel cancer symptoms are diagnosed sooner. Pei-Yin Lew was shocked to be diagnosed herself at the age of 35, and wants to make sure others aren't overlooked because of their age.

Also reported by: [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 9 \(Adelaide\)](#).

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PRIMARY CARE

Miles in abortion attack on Crisafulli

The Australian, General News, 20/09/2024, Lydia Lynch, Page 1

Premier Steven Miles and his frontbench have launched a scare campaign on abortion in a last-ditch ploy to stay in power with the help of women voters, despite LNP leader David Crisafulli's insistence he will not change laws and would continue funding Labor's \$42m abortion action plan. In a move to target progressive voters and frame the election around abortion, as Vice-President Kamala Harris has done in the United States, Mr Miles and the union movement are ramping up attacks on Mr Crisafulli, claiming he has "plans to legislate control of women's bodies" if the LNP prevails at the October 26 state election.

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

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Healthy boost for Far North

Cairns Post, General News, 19/09/2024, Arun Singh Mann, Page 9

Reliability and access to medication is set to improve in the Far North as a major distributor unveils plans to expand its Cairns operations. Wesfarmers Health's subsidiary Australian Pharmaceutical Industries has contracted Cairns' CSF Industries as its construction partner for the establishment of a new fulfilment centre at Aumuller St, Portsmith.

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

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Ambulance arrival times are not ideal

Central Western Daily, General News, 20/09/2024, Orlander Ruming, Page 3

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: [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#).

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ED presentations 'outpacing' NSW growth

Central Western Daily, General News, 20/09/2024, Carla Mascarenhas, Page 5

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: [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#). [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#).

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Unhealthy set of numbers

Daily Advertiser, General News, 20/09/2024, Emily Anderson, Page 1

A trip to the emergency department in Wagga is likely to last longer than four hours as patients keep turning to hospitals and ambulances instead of GPs as "their only option for care". The median wait time at Wagga Base Hospital's ED was 24 minutes longer than the same time last year, according to Bureau of Health Information (BHI) released for the April to June 2024 quarter.

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

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'No incentive' for therapists to help veterans in need

Daily Advertiser, General News, 20/09/2024, Emily Anderson, Page 8

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 helping veterans seven days a week.

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Heart centre funding request made on Valentine's Day: Premier

Premier Jeremy Rockliff says he sent a request to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese for federal government funding towards a planned \$120 million Northern Heart Centre in Launceston, in amongst other funding requests, on the day this year's state election was called.

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

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Health boss lays out challenges facing local health district

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 20/09/2024, Fiona Ferguson, Page 2

The Chief Executive of the Hunter New England Local Health District (HNELHD) has admitted there could have been more consultation with the community in the lead up to the closure of the Wee Waa hospital after hours emergency department due to a lack of nursing staff and an inability to recruit. Tracey McCosker, who was appointed to the role in February 2023, was giving evidence on day three of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Health Funding, which is holding hearings in Tamworth this week.

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New AWD ambulance hits the dirt road

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 20/09/2024, Alistair Finlay, Page 8

The trial of all-wheel-drive ambulance is underway in the region. Being run by Ambulance Victoria, the tests will see Mildura paramedics use the new all-wheel-drive vehicle, a Mercedes Benz Sprinter, for emergency callouts.

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The secret risks of labiaplasty that reality TV doesn't show

The Australian, Other, 19/09/2024, Magdalena Simonis

Labiaplasty, also referred to as "Barbioplasty" or "designer vagina", is the most requested of cosmetic procedures that fall under the umbrella of female genital cosmetic surgery. Twenty years ago, almost no one had heard of this procedure, including myself, a seasoned women's health expert.

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Labor would establish public IVF clinic in ACT

Canberra Times, Other, 19/09/2024, Lucy Bladen

A low-cost public IVF service in the ACT would be established as Labor promises to explore options to make fertility treatment more affordable. There is a scoping study under way into a public service in the territory but Labor said they will establish one if re-elected in next month's election.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 19/09/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Yesterday when I talked about ACT Labor's policy with regards to GPs and \$11 million injection that they were proposing, I said on the face of it, it looked pretty good, but the devil was always going to be in the detail. To talk to us about whether the detail is any good, Dr Rebekah Hoffman is the chair of the NSW&ACT Faculty for the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

[Play Now](#)

I spent five days in hospital waiting for an MRI. WA's health system is at breaking point

WA Today, Other, 19/09/2024, Sophie McNeill

It was on day four of trying to get an MRI as an inpatient at Fiona Stanley Hospital that one of my nurses broke down in tears in my cubicle. "How can I advocate for my patients in this system? When I have no power to help?" she told me crying, apologising again for the situation I found myself in.

[Read More](#)

Medical imaging delays add to bed lock pain at WA hospitals

How long is too long to wait for medical imaging and other essential medical diagnosis tests in Western Australia? The answer to that question is continuing to frustrate health workers and patients as wait times in under-resourced medical sectors continue to blow-out, say the Health Services Union WA.

[Read More](#)

Pilot program launches in ACT to train GPs to recognise and respond to domestic violence

ABC Online, Other, 19/09/2024, Lottie Twyford

The federal government has put \$4.3 million towards an ACT pilot program which will train GPs to recognise and respond to early signs of family, domestic, sexual violence and child sexual abuse. Part of the pilot will help link the primary health network to the support sector.

[Read More](#)

GP in top 10 list for drug company payments: analysis

Australian Doctor, Other, 19/09/2024

Ten health professionals received a total of around \$500,000 in pharmaceutical company payments between November 2023 to April 2024, analysis of Medicines Australia data shows. The 2022 Young Australian of the Year Dr Daniel Nour, who runs a mobile clinic for patients who are homeless, was the only GP in the top 10 list.

[Read More](#)

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

A controversial medical explanation for 'difficult' kids is gaining traction online

Age, General News, 20/09/2024, Liam Mannix, Page 8

When Zoe was little, she wanted to go to the park. The problem for the child and her mother, Anne Rhodes, was that Zoe also did not want to go to the park. She'd scream and howl as her mother popped the car door. It's a scene that would repeat when mother and daughter went for ice cream, to playgroup, to childcare.

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

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

Charlotte's final act a wake-up call to end bullying

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 20/09/2024, Page 14

School bullying touches most of us during our lifetimes. It crushes some, hardens others and tragically kills, too. Charlotte, a 12-year-old student at Santa Sabina College in Strathfield, left a farewell note citing bullying before apparently taking her own life on Monday, a tragedy that again has focused attention on the repugnant schoolyard culture.

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

Money concerns youth

Northern Territory News, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 18

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.

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

Report highlights mental toll on young Australians amid cost-of-living crisis

ABC Online, Other, 19/09/2024, Gemma Breen

A recent survey has found one in five young people are experiencing financial hardship, with impacts on mental health and wellbeing. Experts say young people are giving up on their dreams as cost-of-living pressures continue to hit.

[Read More](#)

Safe space better than ED

Daily Mercury, General News, 20/09/2024, Fergus Gregg, Page 8

A calm, comfortable space for patients experiencing mental health crises launched at Mackay Base Hospital this week. The new Crisis Support Service facility, Safe Harbour, aims to support patients presenting with psychological distress or other mental health issues by taking them out of the emergency department and into a safe space.

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

Confronting suicide: Safe space set to help people in their darkest hour

Newcastle Herald, Other, 19/09/2024, Damon Cronshaw

A safe space for prevention will launch in next month to give people in distress somewhere to turn for help and support. The space, which will welcome those facing thoughts or life crises to drop in, will be led by people with experience of living with Healing Path to Wellness, a health charity, will run the space "in response to the alarming demand for accessible care".

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

It's a fight to see a female gynaecologist

Courier Mail, General News, 20/09/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 4

Queensland women want to have the choice of seeing a female gynaecologist for intimate examinations in the public health system but workforce maldistribution and the need for fly-in doctors in some regions means there are often only males available. Many women are uncomfortable with male doctors performing internal checks, which are necessary for detecting cancer or other diseases.

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

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

'We are so happy': Pacific Island grads join aged care team

Launceston Examiner, General News, 20/09/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 5

Compared to her home country of Kiribati, a tiny island country in Micronesia, Tasmania's climate is "freezing" according to Keke Tamwi, a new Calvary aged care graduate. But she said the new opportunities are worth shivering for, as Ms Tamwi and three other Pacific Island women graduated as new aged care workers on September 19.

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

Why the workforce shortfall will likely continue

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 19/09/2024, Megan Haggan

In its Pharmacy Forecast Australia 2024, Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha, formerly the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia) asked whether the output of university graduates is expected to meet workforce demand – and found opinion ...

[Read More](#)

Juniper's Gerdewoonem Residential Aged Care Home replaces FIFO nurses with migrant workers under DAMA

Kimberley Echo, Other, 19/09/2024, Sarah Crawford

A Kununurra aged care service home which used to rely on fly-in fly-out workers to care for their residents has found a better way to manage the health sector skill shortage. Since January last year Juniper has employed 13 permanent staff at Gerdewoonem Residential Aged Care Home and their community centre through a skilled migration scheme.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

One-pill path to sobriety

Australian Financial Review, Review, 20/09/2024, Annabel Fenwick-Elliott, Page 3

It's the magic drug for hard drinkers that has an 80 per cent success rate, says Annabel Fenwick-Elliott, so why is this treatment so under-prescribed? [mentions Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme]

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Alleged fraudster nurse's rego suspended

Courier Mail, General News, 20/09/2024, Vanda Carson, Page 13

Six weeks after a nurse appeared in court, accused of using a seriously ill patient's bank card to go on a personal shopping spree, she has been suspended from working by the healthcare watchdog. Melelani Crelley (pictured) had her registration as a nurse suspended by the state's Office of the Health Ombudsman on Tuesday, according to an announcement posted on their register of protective orders on Thursday.

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

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Psych's improper cop client romance

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 20/09/2024, Lucy Rutherford, Page 17

A female psychologist who started dating a police officer client claims that she didn't intend to deceive the Psychology Board about when their relationship started. Dr Samantha Angelakis, 36, was found to have fallen substantially below the professional standard by a tribunal after she eventually married the client.

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

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

Depraved messages

Northern Territory News, General News, 20/09/2024, Zizi Averill, Page 1

A former Darwin hospital worker has become a "social pariah" after cops busted him with depraved child abuse material, including a video of a naked baby being vigorously shaken. Kaushik Paul, 55,

was sentenced in the Supreme Court after pleading guilty to accessing, possessing and sharing child abuse material.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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

Married prison psychologist's flirtatious phone calls with a Queensland inmate are revealed - after she was banned from speaking to him

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 19/09/2024, Max Aldred

A former prison psychologist has been reprimanded for professional misconduct after her flirty conversations with a maximum-security inmate emerged. The details of Melanya Polata's conduct with a male inmate in an unnamed prison were revealed in a judgement made by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) on Tuesday.

[Read More](#)

'Input error' after doctor's handwritten script change may have led to patient's death: coroner

Australian Doctor, Other, 19/09/2024, Paul Smith

A coroner has blamed an "input error" involving handwritten medication charts for the death of a patient from a paracetamol overdose administered following her surgery. Sharyn Kaine, who weighed 39kg, was originally taken by ambulance to Calvary Hospital in Canberra with a perforated bowel on 2 October 2021.

[Read More](#)

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Stem cell donor drought

Courier Mail, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 11

Australia is facing a critical shortage of registered stem cell donors - and the solution lies in the hands of younger Australians. On World Marrow Donor Day on Friday, the Leukaemia Foundation and Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry are joining forces to encourage all Aussies aged between 1835 to sign up to become a stem cell donor.

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SPORT

Games boss the star at Lib fundraiser

The Australian, General News, 20/09/2024, Sarah Elks, Page 1

Brisbane Olympics boss Andrew Liveris was the star attraction at an intimate fundraising event for federal Liberal National Party frontbencher Ted O'Brien on Wednesday night, months out from the federal election. Mr Liveris's decision to lend his stature as Olympics chief to an "exclusive" event for LNP donors and their hand-picked guests could be controversial in both political circles and the Olympics movement.

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

'Keep stadium authority jobs on hold until election'

The Australian, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 6

Brisbane Olympics boss Andrew Liveris has demanded Steven Miles's Labor government delay appointments to the independent agency tasked with managing the multibillion-dollar Games infrastructure program until after the October election. Legislation to establish the Games Venue and

Legacy Delivery Authority, charged with delivering key infrastructure for the 2032 Games, was passed in May but no independent directors have been appointed to its board after four months.

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

LNP hiding 'secret plan' for stadium

Courier Mail, General News, 20/09/2024, Taylah Fellows and Madura McCormack, Page 2

The state government has attacked the LNP for refusing to detail its vision for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games ahead of the election next month, accusing the party of secretly endorsing the Victoria Park stadium proposal. Premier Steven Miles branded Opposition Leader David Crisafulli "weak" while Deputy Premier Cameron Dick called him an "inner-city snob" who looks down on Brisbane's southsiders - a double retaliation to Crisafulli's criticism of the QSAC stadium proposal.

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

City in the running for venue

Cairns Post, General News, 20/09/2024, Arun Singh Mann, Page 1

The Brisbane 2032 Olympics boss has all but backed the construction of a new first class sporting stadium in Cairns, while outlining the blueprint for the city's success. President Andrew Liver is and his board visited Cairns on Thursday, in the organisation's first outing since Paris 2024, to meet with local businesses, clubs and leaders and begin hammering home the vision of what the event could bring to the Far North.

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

Top choice for the Games to 'go big'

Cairns Post, General News, 20/09/2024, Arun Singh Mann, Page 5

Moves are afoot to transform the tourism city into a sporting powerhouse. The Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games board could have chosen any destination for its first meeting post-Paris; it landed in Cairns.

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

Ban on cricketer over 'coercive' relationship

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 20/09/2024, Daniel Brettig, Page 7

Former Sri Lankan Test cricketer Dulip Samaraweera has been banned from holding any positions in Australian cricket for 20 years after a Cricket Australia integrity investigation found he had a coercive relationship with a female player he coached. Three senior cricket sources, who would not be named because of the sensitive nature of the case, said the charges related to "coercive and controlling" behaviour towards a player, which lasted for more than five years while he held numerous coaching roles.

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

Channel 9, Today , 19/09/2024, Karl Stefanovic and Sarah Abo

Venue plans for the Brisbane Olympics are shaping up to become a major state election issue. The Queensland opposition leader again slamming Labor's proposal. Live now to Today Queensland reporter Andrea Crothers.

[Play Now](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 19/09/2024, Michael Rowland and Bridget Brennan

The Brisbane 2032 Olympics chief says the city risks losing major sporting events without a new legacy stadium. It comes as the state's opposition slammed the government for its decision not to upgrade the Gabba. Reporter Arianna Levy joins us now from Brisbane.

[Play Now](#)

Dutton's pitch to give kids a sporting chance

Courier Mail, General News, 20/09/2024, Iwan Jones, Page 7

Opposition Leader Peter Dutton channelled his inner John Howard on the cricket pitch of a Brisbane cricket club as he touted the Coalition's plan to co-invest in upgrading facilities. Mr Dutton met with local junior players and volunteer parents, while inspecting facilities at the Valley District Cricket Club in Ashgrove, as he expressed his commitment to securing extra support for sporting clubs.

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

Demand has Raiders eyeing upgrades

Canberra Times, Sport, 20/09/2024, Chris Dutton and Caden Helmers, Page 71

The Canberra Raiders have launched talks with Canberra Stadium officials in a bid to increase the venue's hospitality capabilities and improve the game-day vibe next season. As debate rages about the cost, timeline and location of a new stadium in the capital, the reality is the grand old girl at Bruce is the only solution for the Raiders and ACT Brumbies for the next decade.

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

Pushing for Devils base in the North

Hobart Mercury, General News, 20/09/2024, Duncan Abey, Page 6

The Tasmania Devils should play out of Launceston while Hobart's stadium is under construction, independent member for Bass, Rebekah Pentland, has told parliament. The former Jacqui Lambie Network representative said while northern Tasmanian residents were generally supportive of the \$130m redevelopment of UTAS Stadium, there were ongoing community concerns about which events the ground would host.

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Cricket looks set to be cut from Games

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 20/09/2024, Ed Bourke, Page 60

Cricket faces the axe from a "more sustainable" Glasgow Commonwealth Games as Australia's governing body for the event vowed to protect other sports that missed out. As few as 10 sports will be on the program for the 2026 Games after it was confirmed Scotland had UK government support to pick up the struggling event.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

'Smart trial' cracks Parkinson's puzzle

The Australian, General News, 20/09/2024, James Dowling, Page 7

Stephen Reynolds, fresh from his latest harvest, says he is busier than he has ever been. At 52, working long hours farming boronias in rural Victoria, he's far from your typical Parkinson's patient.

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

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

Widescale plastic harm

Courier Mail, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 11

Microplastics contamination globally could more than double by 2040. A review of 20 years of microplastics research involving University of Wollongong scientists notes the tiny pieces of plastic are nearly impossible to remove once dispersed, have been found in more than 1300 animal species and have unknown long-term impacts on human health.

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

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Our fast-food nutrition fails

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 13

Australian fast-food outlets are making slow progress in their efforts to improve their nutrition

credentials, new Deakin University research reveals. The nutrition policies and practices of 10 restaurant chains were assessed by Deakin's Global Centre for Preventive Health and Nutrition GLOBE in the Institute for Health Transformation (IHT), and only one company scored higher than 50 out of a possible 100.

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

Colonial Foundation Diagnostics Centre to use 'spatial biology' to speed up inflammatory disease diagnoses

ABC Online, Other, 19/09/2024, Philippe Perez

A new Melbourne medical research centre will use spatial biology to better diagnose inflammatory diseases. Denise McFarlane, who lived with unbearable pain for years before being diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis, hopes the centre will improve treatment.

[Read More](#)

Australia's biggest medical imaging lab is training AI on its scan data. Patients have no idea

Crikey, Other, 19/09/2024, Cam Wilson

Australia's biggest radiology company has handed over the private medical scans of potentially hundreds of thousands of patients, without their knowledge, to a start-up company that will use the scans to train artificial intelligence, in what privacy experts say is a practice that the law should protect against.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

No relevant coverage

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Jabs urged amid surge in whooping cough cases

Border Watch, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 13

Health experts are reminding pregnant women and infants to get vaccinated against whooping cough, as a wave of the infectious disease sees case numbers climb to their highest in the last six years. The call comes as South Australia records 492 cases of pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, so far this year more than 10 times the number of cases reported at the same time last year.

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Popular kitchen item has been banned from importation into Australia

NEWS.com.au, Other, 19/09/2024, Claudia Poposki

Fake stone products will no longer be able to enter the country, taking the domestic stoppage on the deadly-illness causing item to a brand new level. Engineered stone bench tops, slabs and panels importation will be banned from January 1, 2025, the Albanese Government announced on Wednesday.

[Read More](#)

Researchers build shortlist of animals that could have started COVID-19 pandemic

9News, Other, 20/09/2024

A new international study has provided some of the "most important" evidence yet of the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic. Researchers for the first time had access to vital data released by the Chinese

Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, including 800 samples of animals at the Huanan Seafood Wholesale market, and viral genomes from early COVID-19 patients.

[Read More](#)

Mpox is not under control in Africa, warns Africa CDC

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 20/09/2024, Reuters

The mpox outbreak in Africa is still not under control, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) warned on Thursday, adding that cases were still increasing in several countries. The World Health Organization declared the recent outbreak of the disease a public health emergency of international concern after the new variant was identified.

[Read More](#)

Bavarian says mpox vaccine approved by EU regulator for adolescents

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 20/09/2024, Reuters

Bavarian Nordic said on Thursday its mpox vaccine was approved by the EU's drug regulator for use in adolescents, bolstering the case for using the shot in the 12 to 17 age group to contain an outbreak in parts of Africa. Mpox has been declared a global public health emergency by the World Health Organization (WHO), with children and adolescents being particularly vulnerable to the disease.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Migraine drugs 'no better' than paracetamol

The Australian, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 7

New, more expensive migraine drugs are no more effective against the throbbing headaches than traditional painkillers, and even performed worse than an older range of treatments called triptans, said a massive global analysis on Thursday. Migraines are severe, often disabling headaches that affect at least one in seven adults globally, according to the World Health Organisation.

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

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

New migraine drugs 'comparable to paracetamol', researchers suggest

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 19/09/2024

The effectiveness of new migraine treatments has been compared to paracetamol in a new study, which suggests drugs developed in the 1990s should be more widely promoted to patients with the neurological condition. Academics hailed certain triptans as the "most effective treatments" for migraine but said they are "underused".

[Read More](#)

Medical supplier hit with \$22m fine for bone graft breach

West Australian, Business News, 20/09/2024, Page 51

A medical supplier has been ordered to pay millions in the largest-ever penalty in Australia for unlawfully supplying more than 16,000 bone graft kits. [...] TGA head Anthony Lawler said the "significant penalty serves as a reminder to sponsors and others in the therapeutic goods industry to take their obligations seriously".

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

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Reshaping vaping

Retail Pharmacy, General News, 01/09/2024, Page 59

On July 1, Australia became the first country to pass laws that restrict vapes for purchase to pharmacies only. [...] "This model has been carefully designed to ensure that a pharmacist may only

supply a therapeutic vape to a person aged 18 or over where the therapeutic vape contains a maximum of 20mg/ml of nicotine, and the quantity does not exceed one month's supply at any one time," a TGA spokesperson said.

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'I was told to take Ozempic to help me fall pregnant. Here's what I want other women to know.'

Mamamia, Other, 19/09/2024, Erin Docherty

In 2024, Ozempic has tipped us over the edge of a weight loss revolution, with the drug remaining wildly popular in Australia despite still being increasingly difficult to access. Previously used only in the social circles of Hollywood, the diabetes medication has gone mainstream and has swiftly become more in demand than ever before.

[Read More](#)

Is fluoride bad for you? We brushed up on the science of toothpaste's star ingredient

Prevention, Other, 19/09/2024, Meryl Davids Landau

Who hasn't dashed into the supermarket and been stymied by the overwhelming number of toothpaste options: mint, fruity, gel, whitening, sensitive and, increasingly, fluoride-free? [...] In fact, fluoride amounts are regulated by the Therapeutic Goods Administration; companies can't simply load up their pastes with astronomical levels of it.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Sydney's pile of cocaine troubles

Daily Telegraph, General News, 20/09/2024, Josh Hanrahan and Madeleine Bower, Page 1

The people of NSW are buying 50,000 "bags" of cocaine a day, with the state's police minister Yasmin Catley pointing the finger squarely at her federal counterparts saying it's their job to stop the drugs at the border. It is set to ignite tensions between state and federal authorities, as The Daily Telegraph today uses a six-tonne pile of sand to demonstrate the scale of cocaine use.

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Out of commission gang fed 'massive appetite' for coke

Canberra Times, Other, 19/09/2024, Jack Gramenz

The head of the nation's largest police force has called for a broader conversation about users' insatiable appetite for drugs as investigators claimed victory over a syndicate allegedly controlling Sydney's lucrative cocaine market. Police raids on a group known as "The Commission" took down a network that allegedly facilitated about 50,000 daily cocaine deals, worth billions of dollars each year.

[Read More](#)

Medical pot play Cann Group sees an earnings turnaround through the haze

The Australian, Other, 19/09/2024, Tim Boreham

[...] Cann has its place in the annals of history by being the first Australian company approved by the Office of Drug Control to cultivate medical cannabis, in 2017.

[Read More](#)

Urgent alert as deadly drug CanKet uncovered at Brisbane pill testing site CheQpoint

The Courier Mail, Other, 19/09/2024, Jackie Sinnerton

Brisbane's service CheQpoint has issued an urgent alert following the first Queensland detection of

dissociative drug "CanKet" mixed with methamphetamine. The detection has caused fears of a wave of overdoses across Brisbane as advocates call for the expansion of pill testing services in the state.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Food for thought

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 20/09/2024, Page 5

Australians are wasting food because of unclear date labels and storage advice. About one-third of all food in Australia is either lost or discarded every year.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#).

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

'Confusing' labelling causing food wastage, extra cost for Aussies

9News, Other, 19/09/2024, Adam Vidler

A new study has shown how unclear labelling and storage advice is making Australians throw out food, hence costing them more at the shops The RMIT University study revealed that about one third of all food in Australia is either lost or discarded every year.

[Read More](#)

'A troubling halo of health': how Celsius became Red Bull for women

The Guardian, Other, 19/09/2024, Alaina Demopoulos

On Dakota Johnson's first day on set to film her directorial debut Loser Baby, she grabbed a can of Celsius and started drinking. She said she spent much of the rest of the shoot with a Celsius in her hand. She recalled feeling exhilarated, and though she also found it hard to sleep, surely that was just inspiration from the creative process flowing through her body.

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AICIS

6PR, Afternoons, 19/09/2024, Julie-anne Sprague

Interview with National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health's Professor Martyn Kirk regarding PFAS.

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ABC Radio Sydney, Mornings, 19/09/2024, Sarah MacDonald

Interview with EPA chief environmental scientist Patrick Taylor regarding PFAS.

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