



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 1st November 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](#)
| [Office of Drug Control](#) | [Food Standards](#) | [AICIS](#)

LINKS

[Click here to view full print articles in this report](#)

[Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports Bill Shorten says the government is "well on our way to getting the NDIS back on track" as projections in the latest Annual Financial Sustainability Report showing planned reforms to the scheme will save over \$1 billion.
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports nearly 30 per cent of Victoria's emergency department patients are not being treated within recommended time frames, the state Health Department's annual report has shown. Also reported by: [Herald Sun](#)
- The **[Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) reports scientists at Victoria's Florey research centre say a treatment that can delay or even reverse Alzheimer's is a step closer after new research discovering how to reset part of the immune system that fights plaque-causing amyloidbeta in the brain.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 2) reports Australia has seen an uplift in the number of offers to junior medics to begin general practice training, new figures released by Health Minister Mark Butler have shown.
- The **[Sydney Morning Herald](#)** (page 2) reports health officials have urged patients of a raided Sydney clinic to test for blood-borne diseases including HIV and Hepatitis amidst allegations of breached infection controls. Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia](#), [ABC Online](#), [Daily Mail Australia](#), [The Guardian](#)

- The [Sydney Morning Herald](#) (page 2) reports organisations have expressed concern about a lack of access to New South Wales' planned drug reform summit, but the state government says time and space constraints are behind the issue. *Also reported by:* [Daily Telegraph](#), [The Guardian](#)
- [The Australian](#) (page 3) reports a cocktail of three drugs can double survival time for patients with incurable breast cancer, a trial by the Institute of Cancer Research in London and the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust has found.

MINISTER BUTLER

Healthscope vows to end Bupa deal over extra fees

Australian Financial Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Michael Smith, Page 9

Healthscope has written to Bupa and other health funds threatening to terminate their funding contracts unless they agree to introduce clauses into agreements allowing it to slug their members additional fees of up to \$100 to use its private hospitals. He...

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

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

Without trust, institutions lose authority. Just ask Trump

Australian Financial Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Phillip Coorey, Page 35

In 2016 Donald Trump stormed into office on the back of voter cynicism and distrust. This week's revelations in Australia might see voters here trying to 'drain the swamp'.

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

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

Juniors, migrants reduce GP shortage

The Australian, General News, 01/11/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 2

The decline in the numbers of doctors training to be GPs is showing signs of reversing, with a sharp uplift in offers to junior medics to begin general practice training. Figures released by federal Health Minister Mark Butler show that in 2025, more than 1750 offers are expected to be made to junior doctors to begin government-funded GP training, with that intake expected to be up to 10 per cent larger than in 2024.

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

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

Breach of Medicare bulk billing rules

Boronia & The Basin Community News, General News, 01/11/2024, Mary Doyle, Page 15

Recently it was brought to my attention that some of my constituents in Aston were charged an upfront 'copayment' by a medical practice to guarantee subsequent bulk billed consultations for the remainder of the year. [...] Mark Butler, has asked his Department to investigate this urgently and take action to protect patients from overcharging.

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

\$22 million investment allows clinical trials to fight cancer

Local Ipswich News, General News, 31/10/2024, Rowan Anderson, Page 8

A major \$22 million investment has been announced into cancer clinical trials to be rolled out over the next three years. Ipswich recorded a 2.5% rate of cancer in its residents during the 2021 Census, with services and facilities being rolled out to work towards greater research and developing new forms of treatment. Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler has announced the successful applicants for the 2024-2027 Support for Cancer Clinical Trials (CTG) program.

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

Is the CDC enough to rebuild trust?

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 62

Editorial the federal government's decision to belatedly press ahead with an Australian Centre For Disease Control in response to the inquiry into governments' response to the pandemic is welcome. [...] While the Health Minister Mark Butler had no choice but to accept the finding that Australia is arguably less well-placed to deal with a pandemic today than in 2020 neither he nor Treasurer Dr Jim Chalmers had much to say about how they would turn that around.

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

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

Telestroke is saving lives

Port Augusta Transcontinental, General News, 31/10/2024, Page 7

More than 1700 people in regional South Australia and the Northern Territory have used a groundbreaking virtual service 'telestroke', designed to provide a potentially life-saving treatment for a stroke. The service will be enabled through the Federal Government's \$41.37 million medical research future fund (MRFF) grant to the Australian Stroke Alliance as part of the Stroke Golden Hour project. [...] Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said Telestroke was saving lives "You only have to look at Emily's experience," he said.

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

Saline solution

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz, Page 4

Australian hospitals are expected to face an ongoing shortage of critical IV fluids until at least the end of the year, with reports that healthcare providers are paying up to 10 times as much for imported substitutes. Health ministers, including federal minister Mark Butler, met in Sydney in August to discuss the shortage of intravenous fluid.

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

'Incredible benefits'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz, Page 6

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

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

Researchers welcome review finding pandemic response had 'significant and negative' impacts on children

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Melissa Brown and Madi Chwasta

Child health and wellbeing researchers and advocates have welcomed an independent review criticising the COVID-19 pandemic response in relation to young people. When the pandemic reached Australia, Syrenite Hewson was 18, in her final year of school in Warrnambool in Victoria's south-west and planning to become a hairdresser. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said he had "enormous respect" for the leaders involved in the pandemic response.

[Read More](#)

\$251m for Australian Centre for Disease Control

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/10/2024

The Albanese government has pledged \$251.7m to establish a permanent Centre for Disease Control (CDC) tasked with ensuring Australia is prepared for the next pandemic, with hopes it will restore the trust that was eroded during the Covid-19 pandemic. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler acknowledged Australia's pandemic preparedness was "grossly inadequate," which in turn forced decision makers to "build the plane while it was flying".

[Read More](#)

Death, stress and low wages: Covid Inquiry on aged care

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/10/2024, Stefanie Schultz

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PMC) and the Prime Minister have released the final report of an independent inquiry into Australia's response to Covid-19. [...] The Inquiry panel provided the government with nine guiding recommendations and 26 actions for change to ensure national preparedness for the next public health emergency, which Health Minister Mark Butler said will come sooner or later.

[Read More](#)

AusBiotech Conference attracts record numbers as biotech industry looks to future

Biotech Dispatch, Other, 31/10/2024

Australia's biotechnology industry has gathered in record numbers at the annual AusBiotech conference, held in Melbourne this week. The four-day conference has attracted 1,600 attendees across the week. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler spoke at the event.

[Read More](#)

Butler says leaders don't need to apologise for COVID response

CathNews, Other, 31/10/2024, Rebecca Comini

The leaders who oversaw Australia's COVID-19 pandemic response do not need to apologise to rebuild deeply eroded public trust, Health Minister Mark Butler said. An independent inquiry into the response warned trust had been diminished for a range of reasons including heavy-handed restrictions, vaccine mandates and inconsistent state and territory responses, making people unlikely to accept other harsh measures in any future pandemic.

[Read More](#)

Pandemic planning and responses must address equity concerns: national inquiry

Croakey, Other, 01/11/2024, Melissa Sweet

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups, people with disability, and children are among those who should be prioritised in planning and preparation for future pandemics. [...] The panel heard there was widespread public confusion around the roles and responsibilities of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation and the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

[Read More](#)

Pandemic review shows "fatigue"

Green Career, Other, 31/10/2024, Tim Hall

Australia's COVID-19 review warns future pandemic plans must address serious shortfalls. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler welcomed the report's findings, calling for a "high-level playbook for the next pandemic", with cabinet pledging to enact changes including establishing the CDC by January 2026.

Also reported by: [Executive Career \(Online\)](#), [Local GovernmentCareer \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

2SM, Afternoons, 31/10/2024, Pete Davis

Compere says an inquiry into the Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic revealed extensive delays to the vaccine roll-out resulted in some deaths and a \$31b blow to the economy. He states that according to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, the Government worked incredibly hard during the pandemic and made some incredibly courageous decisions.

[Play Now](#)

FIVEAA, Mornings, 31/10/2024, Matthew Pantelis

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Compere says a report was issued on how Australia

managed COVID and it wasn't overly flattering with the matter resulting to an establishment of a disease centre and the Government committing \$250m. Butler says the report authors mentioned that compared to pretty much every other nation in the world, Australia did relatively well.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS

New reforms help seniors to remain at home as they age

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 20

Around 1.4 million Australians will benefit from a new Support at Home program by 2035, as part of the federal government's historic aged care reforms that will allow seniors to retain their independence and remain in their homes for longer. The \$5.6 billion reform package represents the greatest improvement to the aged care sector in 30 years. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said they have heard the message from older Australians - they want support to stay in the homes and communities they love.

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

Evidence base

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz, Page 16

Healthcare-associated infections are the most common hospital-acquired complication in Australia, leading to readmissions, poorer patient outcomes and increased emotional and financial burden. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said the health care sector must be proactive when addressing the risk of infection for vulnerable Australians.

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

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Badu on the way to 'kikirriu dan walmai'

Torres News, General News, 31/10/2024, Page 1

Badu's Wakaid Tribal Council of Elders will be the first grassroots organisation in Queensland to establish a new haemodialysis unit in their community, which they say will bring services closer to home and ultimately save lives. [...] KPMG, Barbara Schmidt & Associates, Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health Ged Kearney, Queensland Senator Nita Green, Leichhardt Labor candidate Matt Smith, the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA), Envirotech, health workers, government reps and others joined about 50 community members at the meeting which filled the Ugairie Community Hall.

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

5CC, 08:00 Regional News, 31/10/2024

The Electorate of Grey has been identified as the most at risk area for ill health in South Australia. The report was presented in Parliament by Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney, who outlined essential steps for residents to improve their health.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

DEPARTMENT

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

VACCINES

COVID-19 bullies could do it again

Australian Financial Review, General News, 01/11/2024, John Roskam, Page 34

During the pandemic, few Australians were brave enough to say "stop". We can hope for a different future but there's no indication things will be any different next time.

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

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

Moves to lift ban on unvaccinated fireys

The Australian, General News, 01/11/2024, Christine Middap, Page 6

Professional firefighters who refused to have Covid-19 jabs may soon be allowed to return to work after Fire Rescue Victoria confirmed on Thursday that it was looking to lift its vaccination mandate. A decision would bring to an end the long-running dispute involving at least 50 Victorian workers who were stood down without pay because they refused to comply with workplace requirements to have three Covid vaccines.

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

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

Pandemic probe: put human impact first

The Australian, Business News, 01/11/2024, Lorraine Finlay, Page 11

The Covid-19 response inquiry report is an important first step, but there is much more that needs to be done if the government wants to start rebuilding public trust. The number one lesson should be that response measures do not operate in a vacuum.

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

Some fair findings in review of darkest days

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/11/2024, Josh Frydenberg, Page 71

This week the Albanese government released its Covid inquiry report. The inquiry into the once-in-a-century pandemic was timely and necessary, with important lessons to be learnt. But when the government appointed to the "independent" panel a former Labor staffer with a long track record of publicly attacking Coalition figures, including during Covid, it was an early warning sign that, disappointingly, their motives were not pure.

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

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

Trust eroded is not fast regained

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/11/2024, Matt Canavan, Page 71

In late 2021, I was one of five Senators to vote in favour of making Covid vaccine mandates illegal. I was pilloried as a murderer for not wanting to stop the spread. This week the official government inquiry found that social trust has been destroyed by the mandates and other draconian measures

adopted during Covid. It is too late now to reverse the damage, although we could at least scrap the inexplicable continuation of mandates for some workers (like firefighters in Victoria).

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

Pandemic premiers officially shamed but no apology

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 01/11/2024, Caleb Bond, Page 13

An independent inquiry into Australia's Covid-19 response has found ongoing restrictions and vaccine mandates were unjustified so when will the pandemic premiers apologise? The Covid-19 Response Inquiry may have been a sham insofar as it was not specifically charged with looking at the states and so no premier or chief public health officer was called before it and directly held to account but it did not miss in its criticism.

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

[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Nursing home complaints on the rise

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Gabriel Fowler, Page 18

Complaints about aged care services are increasing, along with the number of issues complained about, and larger service providers are the most likely culprits. Those are the findings of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission in its latest report that reveals 5427 complaints were made about residential care services in 2023-24, an increase of 6.9 per cent on the previous year.

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

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

Planning for aged care in the Hunter

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 56

Many families delay discussions about aged care until it becomes urgent. While it can be a challenging conversation, often fraught with concerns about losing independence, early planning can make a difference in maintaining your lifestyle and independence for longer.

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

Digitally transformed

Australian Ageing Agenda, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 1

After two years of using Humanetix ACE Platform, Kurrajong Nursing Home can't imagine continuing without it. As the care needs of residents increase and the demands for quality, personalised care and regulatory requirements change and grow, outdated and paperbased care management systems are no longer adequate.

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

Better-quality care

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz, Page 1

The Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency) and the Department of Health and Aged Care have announced two new initiatives in a bid to connect Australia's healthcare system under a shared national infrastructure. The Agency aims to transform digital health by supporting a nationwide adoption of digital health tools across the allied health, primary health and aged care sectors, including My Health Record and electronic prescription services.

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

'Short sighted'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz, Page 10

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) has alleged that some aged care providers may be reclassifying their lifestyle staff as Personal Care Assistants (PCAs) as a way to meet

mandated care minutes. ANMF Federal Secretary Annie Butler said the well-being of aged care residents should not be compromised and that it is the responsibility of care providers to prioritise residents' health as well as meet their lifestyle needs.

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

'They are like my own grandparents': Aged Care Center in Sydney immersed in Tihar festivities

SBS, Other, 31/10/2024

Sydney's Southern Cross Aged Care Centre recently organised a Tihar program to celebrate the Festival of Lights with the staff and residents. Nepali-speaking staff at the aged care centre spoke to SBS Nepali about their experience celebrating Tihar away from home and with residents.

[Read More](#)

BESTMED launches research-backed software

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/10/2024, Jodie Wolf

A new university-developed digital health tool promises a safety net for managing medications for people in aged care whilst lowering administration for aged care providers. Launched last week, BESTMED Connect allows aged care residents, their families and carers to see their medication list live and receive real-time notifications whenever a drug is prescribed, adjusted or discontinued.

[Read More](#)

Help address hidden mental health crisis

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 31/10/2024, Kerry Mann

As Mental Health Month comes to a close this week, it's important we carry its lessons into the rest of the year. This is particularly true for the aged care industry, which plays a vital part in managing mental health among the elderly. The theme, Let's talk about it, challenges a generation of older Australian men who were raised not to. But shifting those ingrained beliefs is crucial, and aged care providers have a key role to play.

[Read More](#)

Inform aged care innovation tool

Community Care Review, Other, 31/10/2024, Natasha Egan

Ariia is seeking feedback on the Readiness Assessment Tool being developed to help aged care providers implement innovative changes. Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia is seeking feedback from aged care staff, consumers and researchers on a tool they're developing for providers that aims to evaluate their readiness for implementing innovative changes.

[Read More](#)

Nationwide initiative to transform catheter care in aged care facilities

Healthcare Channel, Other, 31/10/2024, Ritchelle Drilon

A major research initiative has been launched to address the challenges of catheter care in Australian aged care facilities, where over 20,000 residents currently require catheter support. The National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) has unveiled its three-year IDC-IMPROVE project, aimed at revolutionising care for residents with indwelling urinary catheters (IDCs).

[Read More](#)

'The hardest parts we don't talk about when our parents get older.'

Mamamia, Other, 31/10/2024, Shona Hendley

Whether you're at a party or catching up with friends for a coffee — while important, the topic of ageing parents isn't always something that people are eager to talk about. I mean, it's not synonymous with having a good time or clinking your glass with a celebratory "cheers".

[Read More](#)

Medicines Australia statement in response to PBAC submission deferrals

Medicines Australia met with senior representatives from the Department of Health and Aged Care yesterday to discuss concerns held by Members following the Government's decision to defer consideration of a significant number of PBAC Submissions from the March 2025 meeting.

[Read More](#)

ACCPA calls for six to 12-month transition period for Govt's aged care reforms

The Weekly Source, Other, 31/10/2024, Lauren Broomham

Ahead of the Senate Inquiry report into the Aged Care Bill 2024 being tabled later today (31 October 2024), the Aged and Community Care Providers Association (ACCPA) is calling for realistic timelines to implement a raft of reforms as part of the new Aged Care Act.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

POPULATION HEALTH

Drug breakthrough for terminal breast cancer

The Australian, General News, 01/11/2024, Eleanor Hayward, Page 3

A combination of three drugs can double survival time for patients with incurable breast cancer, a trial has found. Researchers said the "huge breakthrough" could transform outcomes for many women with advanced breast cancer. [...] In Australia, breast cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer, with more than 20,000 new cases every year, according to Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data.

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

Drug-driving is much more common. Let's find out why

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Milad Haghani, Page 21

A new report from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research sheds light on an alarming trend: drug-driving charges have skyrocketed. In 2008, an average of 102 people faced charges for drugdriving each quarter. [...] The percentage of the NSW population reporting illicit drug use has climbed from about 13 per cent in 2007 to about 18 per cent in 2023, according to the National Drug Strategy Household Survey, conducted by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare every two to three years.

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

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

'More than a tablespoon of salt can kill you': push for mandatory sodium limits

Canberra Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Gwen Liu

Vegemite spread on a piece of warm toast with melted butter epitomises Australians' high-salt diet with experts urging mandatory sodium reductions for health. [...] Studies indicate excessive sodium intake is a "major killer" contributing to cardiovascular disease and chronic kidney disease The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows ischaemic heart disease is the most common cardiovascular disease, with two main clinical forms, heart attack and angina.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

'So fast': Heart condition cost Mark his legs, but cancer drug offers hope

Canberra Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Rowan Cowley

Mark Forrester knew his heart condition might cost him his limbs one day, but he didn't expect things to

happen so fast. He was holidaying in Fiji when he started to notice a painful throbbing in his foot. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, an estimated 20 per cent of people aged 75 or older live with the disease.

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

[Read More](#)

More than 1100 Melbourne schools and childcare centres are in a traffic pollution danger zones

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/10/2024, Sarah Booth

More than 1100 Melbourne schools and childcares are in a traffic pollution danger zone, leaving kids at higher risk of asthma, respiratory illness and other health issues. A new report has revealed the rate of exposed Melbourne schools was higher than any other Australian capital and warned even small levels of air pollution harmed our health. The report, released by the Climate Council on Thursday, found almost one-in-four Melbourne schools and childcare centres were within 100m of a busy road which is "close enough" to "raise health risks for the children who attend".

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

[Read More](#)

NSW is struggling to service drug users who want to get into rehab centres, with regional areas the worst hit

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Tom Hartley

Years of drug misuse are written all over Sharmain's face. So much so that she is self-conscious about her smile. [...] In 2022-23 almost 28,000 people received treatment in NSW for their own alcohol or drug use, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

[Read More](#)

Dentists warn take care of your teeth this Halloween

2GB, Other, 31/10/2024, Clinton Maynard

Halloween's biggest scare might be kids' sugar consumption, with over 70% of Australian children exceeding recommended daily sugar limits, impacting their oral health. Dentists caution that while occasional sweets are fine, frequent sugar exposure leads to decay.

Also reported by: [4BC \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

6PR, Drive, 31/10/2024, Oliver Peterson

WA Health Minister Amber-jade Sanderson has now defended her government's record tackling the proliferation of vapes across the states, and she sent a warning to retailers who flout the laws that there would soon be double the number of compliance officers on our streets.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

David's going on

Border Watch, General News, 01/11/2024, Tyler Redway, Page 1

After being given 36 months to live after a Motor Neurone Disease (MND) diagnosis, Limestone Coast local David Quill decided he still had a lot of living left to do. Now, 12 years after his original diagnosis, Mr Quill continues to push his boundaries by making his own handcrafted furniture.

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

Helping to mind their health

Border Watch, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 18

Farmers are often considered the backbone of the Australian economy. Yet with long hours, high demands, and tough conditions it's easy for them to put their health on the backburner. Now, new research from the University of South Australia hopes to provide farmers with a dedicated pain management resource, to help them better manage chronic pain.

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

Deadly tumour detected

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 01/11/2024, Luke Mortimer, Page 18

A northern NSW mum who discovered a deadly tumour creeping along her spine while she was pregnant with "miracle" twins says her boys saved her life. Elia Bruce is now battling to boost her independence following the shock find by fundraising for a life-changing wheelchair-accessible car for her family.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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

Breast cancer calls for vigilance

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 17

Wendy Rolls found the lump herself. "I had the mammogram last year in June. Then I felt a lump in November," Mrs Rolls, 63, said. "I went to the doctor and he sent me for an ultrasound. It came back as inconclusive. They said it didn't present like a cancer, but they'd look again in three months."

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

Quadriplegic stands tall

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 01/11/2024, Madeline Grace, Page 18

Three months ago a determined father was told he'd never walk again kickstarting his goal to get one per cent better each day. Through sheer grit and determination, he has proved doctors wrong. Sunshine Coast resident Chris Perry, 39, was met with applause as he left Sunshine Coast University Hospital one step at a time.

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

Report shows south-west smoking levels

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 01/11/2024, Monique Patterson, Page 3

A new study shows Glenelg Shire has the highest number of residents in the south-west who are smokers. The report compiled by Cancer Victoria reveals 15.2 per cent of residents in Glenelg Shire smoke. That is compared to 13.7 per cent in Corangamite and 13.6 per cent in Warrnambool. It also shows 13.4 per cent of residents in the Southern Grampians Shire smoke.

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

Is neuropathy flying under the radar?

Diabetic Living, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 10

Neuropathy is the nerve damage that causes pain and numbness in the feet and can eventually lead to falls, infection and even amputation. Recent research suggests it's not only common, it's underdiagnosed. Specifically, the study showed as many as three in four people living with neuropathy haven't been formally diagnosed with the condition, which is concerning because the earlier it's diagnosed and managed, the better.

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

Go to the doctor!

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Adrian Sheen, Page 18

Contrary to what most men believe, their bodies aren't bulletproof. As men age, the body does indeed change. The most common issues are some of the more confronting prostate enlargement, weight gain, rising blood pressure, and heart problems are likely to occur. Serious conditions such as diabetes, bowel cancer, liver problems, and urinary issues are also more common than most men realise.

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

'Limited awareness'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Emily Burch and Lauren Ball, Page 22

While you're likely familiar with type 1 and type 2 diabetes, you've probably heard less about type 1.5 diabetes. Also known as latent autoimmune diabetes in adults (LADA), type 1.5 diabetes has features of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. More people became aware of this condition after Lance Bass, best known for his role in the iconic American pop band NSYNC, recently revealed he has it.

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

'He had no symptoms'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Connie Henson, Page 26

Many people with atrial fibrillation don't have any symptoms. But this heart condition which involves an irregular and often rapid heartbeat increases the risk of stroke and heart failure, especially if untreated. Wearable devices such as smart watches are playing an increasing role in monitoring heart conditions like atrial fibrillation.

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

Cochlear-backed medtech Epiminder seeks \$200m val in pre-IPO raise

Australian Financial Review, Other, 31/10/2024, Sarah Thompson, Kanika Sood and Emma Rapaport

Melbourne's Epiminder, which counts the \$18.6 billion Cochlear as its largest shareholder, has spent six years developing its sub-scalp device to detect seizures for epilepsy patients. Now it's within inches of gaining Food and Drug Administration approval...

[Read More](#)

How a pact between high school friends became a life-saving tradition

Canberra Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Alise McIntosh

When Brooke Bateup turned 40, she, alongside her school friends made a pact to get regular mammograms. There was one friend who was the pioneer of the pack, and when this friend was diagnosed with breast cancer at 40 years old, reality really set in. "So three, four years ago, at 40, she found hers and she has been the advocate for all us girls who went to school together, 'get your boobs checked at 40', so off we all went," Ms Bateup said.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Everything breast cancer patients need to know about diet and exercise

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/10/2024, Mia Erickson

It's common knowledge these days that regular movement and a balanced diet are essential components of our health and well-being – at all ages. But how should those undergoing treatment for breast cancer approach exercise? An expert explains. As we wrap up another breast cancer awareness month, one major focus of researchers and experts across the country remains; understanding how to best support patients undergoing treatment.

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

[Read More](#)

City of Bunbury to push for more diagnostic services for breast cancer

West Australian, Other, 31/10/2024, Oliver Lane

The City of Bunbury will push for greater cancer diagnostic services in the South West region at the next South West Country Zone WALGA meeting, hoping the lobbying will reach the State Government. There are only two assessment clinics in Bunbury per month — happening fortnightly — at the St John of God Bunbury Hospital, leading to Bunbury city councillor Michelle Steck calling for change.

[Read More](#)

'I suppose I would be dead': Survivor urges men to watch their health

Despite "knocking on the pearly gates" a couple of times due to melanoma, Wagga's Don Smyth is still up and about. An active member of the Men's Shed Wagga, the 74-year-old discovered lumps on his leg a few years ago and was informed by a doctor it was a cyst. Thankfully for Mr Smyth his GP later asked about the lumps and sent him for a biopsy which came back positive for melanoma. While awaiting surgery to remove the cancer, Mr Smyth received a scan which showed it had spread to his groin.

[Read More](#)

Metabolic link to cancer

Medical Forum, Other, 31/10/2024

Metabolic disorders such as obesity, high blood pressure and non-alcoholic fatty liver diseases have been linked to an increased risk of developing bowel cancer. An Australian study points to a growing concern that metabolic syndrome – the cluster of risk factors that together increase a person's risk of stroke, heart disease and type 2 diabetes — can also cause cancer.

[Read More](#)

Tattoo removal cancer risk probe

Medical Forum, Other, 31/10/2024

New research is looking at the possible risk of exposure to cancer-causing chemicals in the body following tattoo removal. As tattoos become increasingly popular – nearly half of all Australians have a tattoo – so too does 'tattoo regret' with many people turning to laser treatments to remove their ink.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 31/10/2024, Jeremy Fernandez

Patients are raising concerns about the lack of informed consent over the nation's most popular osteoporosis drug. They say not enough of them are being adequately informed of side effects or complications when coming off the drug. The RACGP insists Prolia is safe and effective and warns injury from osteoporosis can be deadly.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Backlog of MRI scans a threat to patients

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Kate Aubusson, Page 15

A backlog of MRI scans at a major Sydney hospital is putting patients at risk of diagnosis and treatment delays, forcing radiologists to pull out of crucial meetings to determine treatment for cancer patients so they can focus on clearing it. Patients are waiting up to two months for MRI and other imaging reports because Westmead Hospital does not have enough radiologists to keep up with the increasing workload, despite outsourcing a large proportion of their emergency and inpatient reports.

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

Quarter of emergency patients miss time frame

Age, General News, 01/11/2024, Broede Carmody, Page 1

More than a quarter of Victoria's emergency patients are not being treated within the recommended time frames, as the Allan government also falls short on a raft of other performance benchmarks. The failings are detailed in the Health Department's annual report, which was tabled in state parliament yesterday. The report showed that while all category 1 patients requiring resuscitation were treated immediately, just 71.1 per cent of total patients presenting to emergency departments were seen on time in the 12 months to June 30, 2024.

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

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

'Insulting': 131 reports missing

Herald Sun, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 11

Victorian hospitals have failed to publish their annual reports on time as the sector grapples with funding challenges and major reform. Ambulance Victoria, Fire Rescue Victoria and the CFA were among 131 state-controlled entities that failed to table annual reports on Thursday.

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

Surgery delays costing lives

West Australian, General News, 01/11/2024, Libby Mettam, Page 60

A government that cannot see a problem cannot fix a problem. The Cook Government in the face of record ambulance ramping, dangerous staff shortages and plummeting morale, more than 30,000 people waiting for planned surgery, and 10,000 children waiting up to a year to see a paediatrician is becoming almost comical in its "nothing to see here" mantra.

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

Minister takes tour of hospital

Daily Advertiser, General News, 01/11/2024, Cai Holroyd, Page 5

The Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment is well on its way, on schedule to open in 2025 for full operation. Minister for Health Ryan Park toured the three-storey clinical services building along with member for Murray Helen Dalton and hospital staff, looking around the \$250 million development and scoping out what is left to be done.

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

Have your say on ambos

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 01/11/2024, Wade Stephens, Page 9

A parliamentary inquiry into the performance, workplace culture, and procurement practices of Ambulance Victoria continues to call for submissions. The upper house inquiry has been arranged by the Legal and Social Issues Committee, featuring seven Liberal members, one Nationals' member, four Labor members, two Greens' members and two Legalise Cannabis' members.

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

Patients at the Mount face new 'facility fee'

Medical Forum, Other, 31/10/2024

Patients booked into the Mount Hospital who are covered by certain health funds are being urged to switch insurers to avoid being slugged a new \$100 facility fee. Healthscope — the nation's second-largest private hospital operator which runs the Mount — has announced it will charge patients insured with Bupa and 29 smaller not-for-profit funds an extra \$50 per day for same-day services and \$100 for an overnight stay when they are treated at one of its 38 hospitals from November 26.

[Read More](#)

Radio National, Life Matters, 31/10/2024, Hilary Harper and Beverley Wang

A new report by the Australian Medical Association found mental health patients across the country are facing an average seven hour wait time in emergency departments, which it says is the highest on record. The report also found mental health patients stayed in hospital an average of 14 days, more than twice the length of stay for non-mental health patients, the latest state of the climate report has found.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Building connections

The biggest health epidemic of the 21st century is loneliness but now apartment developers are doing their best to find the cure. ou may be surrounded by people on all sides, above and below, but with apartment living, it can be loneliness not lov...

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

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

Record wait times for mental health

Canberra Times, General News, 01/11/2024, Rachael Ward and Andrew Brown, Page 20

Governments should stop treating funding for mental health as too difficult, the country's peak medical body says, with the public system accused of failing patients. The outlook for mental health patients in hospitals is only going to worsen, with more staff leaving the profession due to burnout, according to a new Australian Medical Association report.

Also reported by: [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Dubbo\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Tamworth\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Warrnambool\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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

The one food you should avoid if you suffer from depression

Daily Telegraph, General News, 01/11/2024, Tracy Swartz, Page 34

A renowned psychiatrist has revealed the one crucial thing you should avoid if you're depressed: junk food. "Your gut health is critical to brain health," Dr Daniel Amen, a brainimaging researcher in California, said according to the New York Post.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#).

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

Anger over state of mental health care

Newcastle Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 17

Waratah's Wayne Barrett has called for the NSW government to boost mental health funding for acute care, amid concern about a lack of beds in the public system. Mr Barrett questioned whether the government understood the gravity of the situation. "I imagine ministers and MPs are generally all in private healthcare and have very little interactions with the public system beyond cutting ribbons," he said.

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

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

Mental health patients 'failed' over record wait times

Canberra Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Rachael Ward

The public health system has been accused of failing mental health patients, as more arrive at hospital than ever before only to be met with record wait times in emergency departments. That's the verdict from the Australian Medical Association, sparking a warning the situation is only going to get worse as more staff leave the profession due to stress and burnout.

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

[Read More](#)

NSW worst in 'absolutely horrifying' emergency mental health beds list

Canberra Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Ben Silvester

Australia's mental health access has hit historic lows as wait times surge, with NSW under critical strain according to a national report. The AMA's 2024 Public Hospital Report Card for mental health found

access was so poor that 60 per cent of mental health patients arrived at hospital in an ambulance or police car.

Also reported by: [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Mental health taking a hit as climate crisis worsens

Canberra Times, Other, 31/10/2024

Australians are paying a mental health toll as extreme heat, fires and intense downpours become more frequent and harder to predict. The two-yearly State of the Climate report, issued by the CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology on Thursday, found global warming was bringing the nation more extremely hot days and fewer extremely cool days.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

'I feel like I'm about to break': Men open up about the stigma of anxiety and depression

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/10/2024, Tonya Turner

Hiking has been one of Kane Ford's favourite things to do since he was a young boy in scouts. He never could have imagined that one day it would save his life. It was five years ago that Ford, 46, of Nudgee Beach on Brisbane's northside, found himself at a crossroads. A successful finance businessman, he had worked 12 to 14-hour days, six days a week for years.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Mental health patients face record hospital wait times

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Rachel Mealey

New data shows mental health patients presenting to the country's public hospital emergency departments are waiting longer for a bed than ever before, and mental ill health is the number one reason patients are visiting their GP. The country's leading health associations are calling on the federal government to urgently increase the number of mental health sessions subsidised through Medicare, as the federal Greens propose free mental healthcare for everyone.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 31/10/2024, Leon Compton

The Australian Medical Association says the number of people seeking emergency mental health care has more than doubled in the past 15 years. A new report by the AMA has found that mental health patients across the country are facing an average seven hour wait in emergency departments, and that mental health patients stay in hospital on average 14 days, which is more than twice the length of stay for non-mental health patients.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, PM, 31/10/2024, Samantha Donovan

Doctors are calling for urgent action as Australian mental health patients face record waiting times for public hospital treatment. Dr Danielle McMullen, AMA President, says emergency wait times are exacerbated by people not getting the mental health care they need in the community.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Nurses scarcity a safe care risk

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/11/2024, Eleanor de Jong, Page 4

When Irene McInerney started nursing she had to be talked into the profession. Now, more than 40 years later, she's a stalwart of the union movement and a passionate advocate for nurses working in aged care, where she is seeing a "huge, huge need, especially in terms of the mental health needs of older Australians".

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

Nurse anger at stalled pay negotiations

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 01/11/2024, Gayle Tomlinson, Page 3

It was Halloween, but the nurses and midwives who turned up to protest at Health Minister Ryan Park's office in Corrimal yesterday were not out for fun. They dressed up as sick patients and held Ryan Park masks to their faces to make it clear they were angry at how the pay negotiations between the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association and the health minister were progressing.

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

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

State-wide strike

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Shultz, Page 9

From Albury to Tweed, NSW public sector nurses and midwives walked off the job on September 10 for more than 12 hours, saying they were "fed up with being ignored" by the state government. NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association members put tools down at 7am and did not return to duties until after 7:30pm as the union and its members demanded a one-year pay increase of 15 per cent.

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

Ongoing collaboration

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz, Page 15

The NSW government has issued its response to the Parliamentary Inquiry Report into Birth Trauma, committing to the support of 42 of the 43 recommendations made by the Select Committee. The inquiry, which concluded earlier this year, received more than 4000 submissions detailing the disrespectful and sometimes dehumanising treatment women had received in NSW's maternity system.

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

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Expert's shock death

Herald Sun, General News, 01/11/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 13

One of Australia's leading genetic epidemiologists and breast cancer researchers has died suddenly in Melbourne, where he was co-chairing a major international scientific meeting. University of Melbourne Professor John Hopper, 74, was head of the Breast Cancer Unit in the Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health.

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

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

'Incredibly needed'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Erin Morley, Page 11

Placement poverty experienced by students studying clinical allied health sciences is being ignored, Australia's council of allied health deans has said in its response to teaching, nursing, social work and midwifery students gaining paid work placements. Announced in May, eligible students are to receive \$319 a week to cover the costs associated with completing mandatory and historically unpaid work placements as a requirement to completing their degrees.

Scribing and prescribing

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 29

Imagine this. You've finally summoned up the courage to see a GP about an embarrassing problem. You sit down. The GP says: "Before we start, I'm using my computer to record my appointments. It's AI it will write a summary for the notes and a letter to the specialist. Is that OK?" Wait AI writing our medical records?

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

Health service to pay 'groundbreaking' \$316k penalty

Canberra Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Emily Woods

A health service has been ordered to fork out more than \$300,000 in penalties for failing to pay overtime to a junior doctor, which has sparked hope for class action settlements. Victoria's Peninsula Health was found to have failed to pay Gaby Bolton overtime 208 times between 2019 and 2021, when she was working as a doctor in training at Frankston Hospital.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Dr Rabeea Saeed on move from Abu Dhabi to Macksville on Mid-North Coast as part of regional NSW recruitment drive

The Courier Mail, Other, 31/10/2024, Toni Moon

It's been a long journey from Abu Dhabi to Macksville on the Mid-North Coast for international doctor Rabeea Saeed, who describes the move as a "180 degree change". The general practitioner lives with her family at Coffs Harbour and has been working with Bawruna Aboriginal Medical Services since July. After graduating in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in 2010, Dr Saeed decided she was going to work overseas for a "better education and a better future for her children".

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

State Government offering five-figure sums to coax dentists to regional Western Australia

West Australian, Other, 31/10/2024, Oliver Lane

Dentists are being offered \$11,000 as an incentive to move from the Perth-metro area to the South West to work at public sites as the industry says it's feeling the crunch of low staff numbers. The State Government is hoping to attract about 80 staff to the regions across the State through the program.

[Read More](#)

You bewdy: town's doc comes up trumps again at awards

The Border Mail, Other, 31/10/2024, Anthony Bunn

Mount Beauty doctor Angela Stratton has won a national award, continuing a remarkable run for medics in the Kiewa Valley town. The versatile practitioner received the 2024 rural generalist of the year prize from the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine at a ceremony in Darwin on Friday, October 25.

[Read More](#)

Workforce dip leaves Australia unprepared for next pandemic

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Peter Lusted

Emergency doctors and nurses say they are still struggling to get over the COVID-19 pandemic and the dramatic loss of staff since means they're not ready for the next health crisis.

[Read More](#)

Ben Bravery's 'unusual path' to medicine and what he finds 'relaxing and restorative'

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Anna Chisholm

Ben Bravery took an "unusual path" to medicine. Currently a junior doctor in the public hospital system, Ben is completing specialty training in psychiatry, but before this he was a zoologist. He was 28 years old working with researchers in China, running his own business when he developed symptoms of bowel cancer. Diagnosed back in Australia, Ben then went through chemotherapy, radiation therapy and surgery.

[Read More](#)

'We're not just stockpiling money': What will the RACGP do with its surplus cash?

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/10/2024, Rachel Carter

The RACGP is going to bring back discount membership for GPs on parental leave but is still deciding the details. Two years ago the RACGP was suffering financially.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Bill relief: \$1bn shaved from NDIS

The Australian, General News, 01/11/2024, Simon Benson, Page 1

Reforms to the NDIS will shave more than \$1bn from the growing cost of the ballooning scheme, according to new official projections that promise to deliver critical structural savings to the federal budget, as the government tries to steer it back toward a sustainable path. The savings, revealed in the latest Annual Financial Sustainability Report (AFSR) projections, obtained by The Australian, show the scheme is on track to meet targets agreed to by national cabinet last year to curb annual growth to 8 per cent from 2026.

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

Hundreds of Aussies owed more than \$10,000 in unpaid Medicare benefits to be paid by Services Australia

7news.com.au, Other, 31/10/2024, Hayley Taylor

The average Aussie is owed about \$260 each, and can be paid the sum within three days. More than 930,000 Australians are owed their share of \$241 million, the Department of Social Services said on Thursday. The unpaid Medicare benefits have been withheld from recipients who have not updated their bank details. The average Australian is owed about \$260 each, but 200 Australians are owed sums of more than \$10,000.

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

[Read More](#)

New telehealth cart keeps residents connected

Aged Care Insite, Other, 31/10/2024

An innovative telehealth cart is bringing families closer together at The Good Shepherd Home, in Townsville, especially for crucial conversations with health professionals. For instance, one of the home's residents recently connected to a family member who lived remotely and to her GP for a care plan review and case conference – both via the new telehealth cart.

Channel 9, Nine News, 31/10/2024, Alicia Loxley and Tom Steinfort

Almost a million Australians are being urged to claim more than \$240 million worth of Medicare rebates. They're entitled to. Most are people who've seen a doctor and are due a refund but need to update their bank details.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Drive, 31/10/2024, Gary Hardgrave

A welcome cash boost before Christmas, nearly 1 million Australians could have unclaimed Medicare rebates.

[Play Now](#)[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

HIV and hepatitis warnings after raid on Sydney cosmetic clinic

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 2

Patients are being urged to test for blood-borne diseases including hepatitis and HIV after health authorities raided a cosmetic clinic in Sydney's CBD that allegedly breached infection controls, used expired medication and advertised registration certificates belonging to people who had not worked for the business. [...] Authorities have ramped up efforts to rein in rogue beauty clinics particularly those offering Botox and dermal fillers following a crackdown by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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

Death from 'excessive' dose

Hobart Mercury, General News, 01/11/2024, Simon McGuire, Page 15

Human error has been blamed for the "inappropriate and excessive" dose of a drug given to a patient at the Mersey Community Hospital that likely led to his death, a coroner has found. Warren James Newell died on October 1, 2022, from an incident which caused bleeding between the skull and the surface of the brain.

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

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

Death of 26yo woman who lived with 'significant' disabilities prompts call for safeguards

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Josephine Lim

A disability advocate says the death of a woman with "significant" disabilities and who was living in "squalid conditions" is a reminder that change is needed to ensure people do not "slip through the cracks". South Australia police are investigating whether a 26-year-old woman suffering from a "serious medical condition and had open wounds and sores" at a home in Port Augusta was the result of criminal neglect.

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

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Nangs sale ban in force

West Australian, General News, 01/11/2024, Jake Dietsch, Page 10

Nitrous oxide canisters are no laughing matter for those suffering brain damage "Nang" peddlers face on-the-spot fines of up to \$6000, under moves to tackle a dangerous addiction snaring increasing numbers of teenagers. Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson said the new rules on canisters containing laughing gas colloquially known as "nangs" were now in effect.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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

Channel 9, Nine News, 31/10/2024, Michael Thomson

The sale of a popular and potentially deadly party guest with "nangs" no longer able to be sold over the counter in WA. However, Nine News revealed that the vapes and nangs are still readily available.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

SPORT

MP's bill to protect rights of punters

The Australian, General News, 01/11/2024, John Ferguson, Page 6

Online sports betting platforms would be stopped from blocking or curtailing successful punters under Australian-first legislation backed by a prominent independent MP. South Australian independent MP Frank Pangallo has introduced proposed new laws designed to stop gambling giants from using technology to weed out winning punters.

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

Bulldogs sack Addo-Carr over positive drug result

The Australian, Sport, 01/11/2024, Michael Carayannis and Brent Read, Page 24

Canterbury have sacked winger Josh Addo-Carr from the final year of his \$550,000 contract. Addo-Carr has played his last game for the club despite pleading his case in a 45-minute meeting at Belmore Sports Ground on Wednesday afternoon. He walked through the gates at Belmore Sports Ground for the final time as a Bulldog as he fronted the club's hierarchy to try and explain why he should not be sacked after returning a positive result to cocaine at a roadside police test in September.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#).

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

Four-year AFL ban

Herald Sun, General News, 01/11/2024, Michael Warner, Page 1

Melbourne footballer Joel I Smith has been slapped with a career-ending four-year ban for cocaine use and drug trafficking. Smith, 28, tested positive to cocaine following a match at the MCG in August 2023. He was later hit with drug trafficking charges by Sport Integrity Australia. The huge ban is expected to be announced by the AFL and SIA on Friday.

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

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

I don't regret what I said

Herald Sun, Sport, 01/11/2024, Mark Robinson, Page 84

The footy world we live in now means you can die by what you say and not be celebrated for what you did. In that regard, Gary Pert will be remembered more for saying that Melbourne had the best culture he's seen in 40 years in football than for helping to guide the club to the 2021 premiership.

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

[Back to Top](#)

BlackRock buys blood bank and a drug laboratory

Australian Financial Review, Property, 01/11/2024, Larry Schlesinger, Page 30

Global investment giant BlackRock and local fund manager Wentworth Capital have acquired a Red Cross bloodprocessing facility in Alexandria and a pharmaceutical laboratory in Macquarie Park as the first seed assets for a \$1.5 billion Life Sciences investm...

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

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

How the 'Jetstar of health' NIB forged its own path

The Australian, Edition Changes - All-round First, 01/11/2024, Eric Johnston, Page 13

Today's \$3bn private health insurer NIB almost never got a chance to get off the ground. A plan had been hatched in the ear days whereby its bigger rival Medibank was circling the Newcastle-based fund to make the smaller fund its "Jetstar of health". That was in 2006. The then Howard government had wanted to privatise the Canberra-owned Medibank. This prompted Medibank to consider bulking up with growth options, and NIB was in its sights.

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

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

UNSW lands big donation to help fight cervical cancer

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Daniella White, Page 15

The University of NSW has landed its largest donation to date more than \$25 million as competition for top donors to fund research, buildings and scholarships intensifies and as income from international students is expected to fall. The university will receive a sum of \$25.9 million from conglomerate Swire Group to support cervical screening and treatment for more than 130,000 women in the Pacific.

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

Alzheimer's breakthrough

Herald Sun, General News, 01/11/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 1

A new treatment to delay or even reverse Alzheimer's disease is a step closer after Victorian scientists discovered how to reboot the part of the immune system that "gobbles up" plaque-causing amyloidbeta in the brain. Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common form of dementia and is characterised by the accumulation of sticky amyloid-beta and tangled tau proteins in the brain which are thought to cause cognitive decline.

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

Sleep may mend heart

Courier Mail, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 4

Sleep has emerged in recent years as an essential factor in preserving heart health, with studies linking sleep to better blood pressure, lower cholesterol and a reduced risk of heart attack and stroke. Now, new Columbia University Irving Medical Centre research suggests sleep may also mend an injured heart.

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

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

FIFO affects partners

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 5

Partners of fly-in, fly-out workers are generally happier when home with their partner but are mostly making the same health choices for on and off weeks, a new study shows. Researchers from Curtin University, the University of Melbourne and Deakin University surveyed the partners of 44 FIFO workers every day for a month to investigate how their partner's work roster affected their physical and mental health.

AI help to ease diabetes load

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 14

Deakin University researchers are testing how artificial intelligence (AI) assistants can help older Australians in managing type two diabetes, with promising results. Buddy Link, new software delivered via virtual assistant devices such as Siri, Alexa or GoogleHome, could help ease the burden for people living with insulin-resistant type two diabetes, according to PhD candidate Costas Glavas and his supervisor Dr Paul Jansons, from Deakin's Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition (IPAN).

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

University of Melbourne team invent world's fastest 3D printer, that is set to save lives

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 31/10/2024, Robyn Riley

The world's fastest 3D printer has been invented in Melbourne, and it's capable of replicating the complex structures found in human organs and tissues in seconds — making it a lifesaver. Melbourne researchers have invented the world's fastest 3D printer that, for the first time, can replicate the complex structures found in human organs and tissues in just seconds.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Be part of medical innovation with GV Health

Shepparton News Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Grace Carter

Greater Shepparton residents have a unique opportunity to contribute to the future of medical research. Goulburn Valley Health is looking for people to join its Research Management and Governance Committee and contribute to the value, development, conduct, and communication of research. Successful applicants will engage with members of the Research Management and Governance Committee, providing the community's voice and feedback on research projects involving patients at GV Health.

[Read More](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned us into homebodies, but didn't make us more lonely, researchers say

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Zena Chamas

The world changed immensely since the COVID-19 pandemic. From the way we order food, to the way we go to work and socialise, many of these changes have had lasting impacts on our everyday lives. It's also impacted the time people are spending at home, according to a US study. The study published in the peer-reviewed Journal of the American Planning Association showed people after the peak of the COVID pandemic spend nearly an hour less a day doing activities outside the home.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

'Implicit biases'

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 20

Australian national data show First Nations women face almost twice the risk of stillbirth or "sorry business babies" compared to non-First Nations women. To address this inequity, Australia's national stillbirth action plan focuses on ensuring culturally safe stillbirth prevention and care for First Nations women. But first, we must understand the underlying reasons for the ongoing disparities in stillbirth rates and other pregnancy-related outcomes.

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

Indigenous stars Baker Boy and Daniel Rioli back new DrinkWise

campaign

The Australian, Other, 31/10/2024, Duncan Evans

Indigenous stars Baker Boy and Daniel Rioli dominate the stage and the field and now the two role models are backing a new campaign designed to help the next generation of youngsters make their own mark. Appearing in two separate videos launched on Thursday, Baker Boy and Rioli both warn against underage drinking and the pitfalls of peer pressure, with their words and insights directed at Indigenous teens.

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

[Read More](#)

Doors shut on Seymour's Goranwarrabul House amid calls for renewed funding

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Callum Marshall

In January, Wiradjuri elder Aunty Elaine Burton was told she had just a year to live. Battling liver cancer that had spread to her thyroid, the Seymour woman turned to her local Goranwarrabul House for support. The service is staffed by volunteers and others who provide health and community care and food relief. It is also a meeting place, connecting people at a time when loneliness is rife.

[Read More](#)

LGBTQ group ACON given \$7 million to produce non-gendered language cancer campaign meant for Indigenous and migrant women

Sky News Australia, Other, 31/10/2024, Caroline Marcus

The federal government awarded a \$7 million contract to a LGBTQ lobby group to produce a women's cancer campaign using non-gendered language, despite the public health message meant primarily for Indigenous and migrant women. Documents obtained under Freedom of Information reveal the Department of Health and Ageing granted the lucrative funding to ACON, which describes itself as NSW's "leading HIV and LGBTQ+ health organisation", without the contract going to tender.

[Read More](#)

Yuwi academic working to boost Indigenous participation in Australia's pharmacy field

National Indigenous Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Joseph Guenzler

Dr Jared Miles, a proud Yuwi man and academic at the University of Queensland's School of Pharmacy, is working hard to see more Indigenous people join Australia's pharmacy workforce. "Indigenous people make up just 0.3 per cent of the pharmacy workforce and we are incredibly underrepresented," Dr Miles said.

[Read More](#)

Yarn with me: Clinical Yarning model to be rolled out in WA's Midwest

National Indigenous Times, Other, 31/10/2024, Giovanni Torre

Training in an innovative framework designed to improve communication with Aboriginal patients is to be rolled out across Western Australia's Midwest. The Clinical Yarning model was developed in 2016 by a team from the Western Australian Centre for Rural Health (WACRH) and the University of Western Australia, and based on the research yarning framework developed by Professor Dawn Bessarab from the UWA Medical School.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Don't let mozzies bite

Northern Territory News, Features, 01/11/2024, Page 23

Mosquitoes are a fact of life in the tropics. There are more than 100 species in the NT. Some can carry and spread serious diseases such as Ross River virus and the potentially fatal Murray Valley and Japanese encephalitis to humans, pets and livestock. Mosquitoes are more common during the wet because they breed in water but you can get infected any time. Pooled water creates breeding sites for mosquitoes that can spread disease.

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

Beware melioidosis in the Top End

Northern Territory News, Features, 01/11/2024, Page 23

Melioidosis is a potentially deadly disease caused by bacteria found in northern Australia. It is more common in the wet season. During the dry season, melioidosis bacteria live deep within the soil. As the rains set in, large amounts of the bacteria come to the surface. How do you get it? You can become infected through direct contact with contaminated water and soil.

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

Consultation to help make silica workers safer

Build Australia, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 8

Public consultation is underway on the form and scope of a new register in New South Wales to monitor and track the health of at-risk workers exposed to respirable crystalline silica (RCS) - otherwise known as silica dust. The new silica worker register will be used to ramp up health screening services for atrisk workers, minimise the impacts of silica dust exposure and prevent illness.

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

Reforms lift compensation outcomes for dust disease sufferers

National Resources Review, General News, 30/09/2024, Page 11

Western Australians diagnosed with diseases caused by exposure to asbestos or silica will have improved access to compensation following the passage of laws in State Parliament. The state has joined several other jurisdictions in adopting legislation introducing provisions for damages following an emerging trend of cases of silica-related dust diseases.

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

Explainer: mpox

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Adrian Esterman, Page 24

Mpox cases in Australia are less severe than in Africa. Here's what to know about the strain spreading here Western Australia and Victoria have both issued health alerts over cases of mpox.

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

[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Men's opinions shouldn't rule women's bodily choices

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Madison Griffiths, Page 20

Following the state election last weekend, Queenslanders are staring down the barrel of a conscience vote on abortion rights in a parliament where around 63 per cent of MPs will be men on a health issue that concerns women's choices. Within the newly elected Liberal National Party itself, three out of every four MPs are men, and the three MPs within Katter's Australian Party which promised to bring forward a private member's bill to repeal abortion laws are all men. [...] The amendment meant these drugs were classified as a restricted good, so control of the drugs sat with the health minister and not the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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

Saline solution

Nursing Review, General News, 01/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz, Page 4

Australian hospitals are expected to face an ongoing shortage of critical IV fluids until at least the end of the year, with reports that healthcare providers are paying up to 10 times as much for imported substitutes. Health ministers, including federal minister Mark Butler, met in Sydney in August to discuss the shortage of intravenous fluid.

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

One Nation MLC Ben Dawkins defends controversial Port Hedland Councillor Adrian McRae in State senate

West Australian, Other, 31/10/2024, Cain Andrews

A vaccine conspiracy theory has reared its head in the WA Parliament after the Premier urged Port Hedland Cr Adrian McRae to resign over his comments on Russian State media and COVID-19 jabs. On October 24, One Nation MLC Ben Dawkins labelled Roger Cook's comments to Port Hedland Cr McRae "totally idiotic" and "unhinged". [...] In late October, the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration rubbished the claims made by Canadian virologist Dr David Speicher and promoted by Cr Adrian McRae.

[Read More](#)

Some Australian patients say they're not being adequately warned about side effects of osteoporosis drug Prolia

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Penny Timms

Patients have told ABC NEWS they're concerned about a lack of informed consent over Australia's most common osteoporosis drug and are sometimes "scared into" taking it. Tiffany May, 59, was hiking alone in the Adelaide Hills last year when she fell and lost consciousness. [...] Australia's medical regulator, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), approved Prolia's registration in 2010 saying it produced, "clinically meaningful increases in bone mineral density and reduces fracture risk at key skeletal sites".

[Read More](#)

Life-threatening effects caused by counterfeit Ozempic pens detected in Australia prompting TGA warning

7news.com.au, Other, 31/10/2024, Hayley Taylor

The tga has revealed how to tell fake pens from the genuine pens. Counterfeit Ozempic pens, which appear to be relabelled insulin pens, have been detected in Australia and have caused a life-threatening drop in blood sugar levels in at least one user — and others are now being warned. [...] All the counterfeit products "appear to be relabelled insulin pens" which is a different, and sometimes dangerous, type of medicine, according to the TGA.

[Read More](#)

'Very rare' risk of Guillain-Barre syndrome after Shingrix vaccination: TGA

Australian Doctor, Other, 31/10/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

The regulator said the vaccine was not generally recommended for patients with a history of the syndrome. Recombinant herpes zoster vaccine Shingrix carries a "very rare" risk of Guillain-Barre syndrome, the TGA says.

[Read More](#)

Pandemic planning and responses must address equity concerns: national inquiry

Croakey, Other, 01/11/2024, Melissa Sweet

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups, people with disability, and children are among those who should be prioritised in planning and preparation for future pandemics. [...] The panel heard there was widespread public confusion around the roles and responsibilities of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation and the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

[Read More](#)

Downsized painkiller packs

Medical Forum, Other, 31/10/2024

GPs need to be aware of new restrictions on paracetamol sales in case patients come to them with questions. From next February, new national legislation will limit the general sale of paracetamol in supermarkets and convenience stores to 16 tablets, with some of the new packets now hitting store shelves. [...] The changes come into effect on February 1, in response to a Therapeutic Goods Administration decision to reduce the size of paracetamol packs in a bid to reduce the risk of harm from intentional misuse.

[Read More](#)

Device warning after 3G shutdown

Medical Forum, Other, 31/10/2024

Doctors should check medical devices used by them or their patients that may be affected by this week's shutdown of 3G networks across Australia. The Therapeutic Goods Association has warned medical devices such as heart and glucose monitors and personal medical alarms could be impacted by the changes. [...] A TGA spokesperson said healthcare providers will likely have already been contacted by medical device sponsors if they have impacted devices.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

No-shows take wind out of drug summit

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 01/11/2024, Michael McGowan, Page 2

Less than a month ago, Chris Minns was at the International Convention Centre in Darling Harbour for a social media summit he organised with South Australia Premier Peter Malinauskas. The event, a two-day gathering across both states, had international experts flown in to speak and was promoted widely by Minns and his office in the lead-up, including two opinion pieces in the Daily Telegraph.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#), [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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

Should people be allowed to drive if they use medicinal cannabis?

ABC Online, Other, 31/10/2024, Rafael Epstein

Drivers in Victoria who use medicinal cannabis could be allowed on the roads under a proposed measure in state government. It is currently an offence for people with any trace of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in their system to drive, meaning medicinal cannabis users are at risk of losing their license every time they get in their car.

Also reported by: [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Credlin, 31/10/2024, Peta Credlin

Panel discussion with James Ashby, One Nation Chief of Staff, and Terry Barnes, author, The Spectator. Compere points out that pill testing is now made law in Vic. Ashby points out that this is also happening in Qld with Labor pushing for this for the last 12 months. He states that they are looking to roll it back, but they seem to be faltering in Qld.

[Play Now](#)

Advocates are welcoming legislation to legalise pill testing, which passed through Victorian Parliament this week. It comes after a 23-year-old man died from a suspected drug overdose at the Peach Festival, near the Grampians, earlier this year.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Food for thought on high salt

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 01/11/2024, Page 7

Making it compulsory for manufacturers to reduce sodium levels in Australian packaged foods in line with stringent targets recommended by the World Health Organisation could prevent about 40,000 cardiovascular events, such as heart attacks and strokes, and up to 3000 deaths over 10 years. Currently Australia has low, voluntary targets, and the average daily consumption of sodium is almost double the WHO recommendation.

Also reported by: [9News \(Online\)](#), [The Guardian \(Online\)](#).

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

Sugar substitute not so sweet for heart health

Diabetic Living, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 11

Xylitol is a zero-kilojoule sweetener that's often used in low-sugar and sugarfree versions of everything from chewing gum to peanut butter as well as some toothpastes and low glycaemic index or 'diabetes friendly' foods. But recent research has made the link between higher intakes of xylitol and an increased risk of cardiovascular events, like heart attack and stroke.

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

The battle brewing over how much red meat you eat

The Australian, Other, 31/10/2024, Andrea Petersen

Get ready for a big debate over the amount of red meat on your plate. Scientists advising the US government on its next round of dietary guidelines have drafted recommendations that would tell Americans to limit how much red meat they eat.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)