



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 3rd October 2024

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Age** (page 8) reports that federal Health Minister Mark Butler has said he will work with the states and territories ahead of the rollout of the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine in 2025, adding "The government has been working closely with the relevant pharmaceutical company on this and appreciates the positive engagement we have had".
- **The Herald Sun** (page 1) reports that the Victorian government has pledged \$18.7 million for a free long-lasting Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) "vaccine", which can be administered to unprotected newborns and eligible infants up to eight months, with Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas saying "We have worked closely with the federal government [...] to ensure we can deliver a lifesaving RSV immunisation program for all eligible women and babies regardless of their postcode or bank balance".
- **The Australian** (page 8) reports that the Office of the Inspector-General of Aged Care has warned the federal government's \$5.6 billion aged care reforms could fall short of the recommendations made by the royal commission to ensure the rights of elderly Australians are protected.
- **The Courier Mail** (page 1) reports that Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has said a critical shortage in Royal Flying Doctor Service pilots is having a significant impact on women's ability to access quality healthcare, including for serious pregnancy complications.

- **The Hobart Mercury** (page 5) reports that Advocacy Tasmania has said aged care providers are taking “unnecessary” guardianship of its residents’ finances, with the organisation’s CEO Leanne Groombridge stating that “There needs to be a lot more education of aged-care providers around resident’s rights”.
- **The Adelaide Advertiser** (page 10) reports that the Ambulance Employees Association has confirmed long-serving paramedic Paul Ekkelboom will be the union’s new leader following a three-week election, after he defeated incumbent state secretary Leah Watkins.
- **The Adelaide Advertiser** (page 11) reports that disability services provider Community Living Australia (CLA) has withdrawn from the proposed construction of a \$25m community health hub in the Mount Barker city centre, with CLA acting chief executive Karin Barry saying the decision was made because of the “rapid transformation of the NDIS”.
- **The Herald Sun** (page 10) reports that the federal Greens have launched a \$54bn healthcare proposal as part of its election pitch which will enable Australians to have subsidised access to doctors, dentists, nurses and psychologists, with Royal Australian College of General Practitioners president Dr Nicole Higgins saying the plan would be welcomed after “decades of underfunding and the Medicare freeze”.
- **The Adelaide Advertiser** (page 9) reports that new data from SA Health has revealed a significant rise in the number of whooping cough, influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) cases sweeping across South Australia, with acting chief public health officer Dr Chris Lease urging people to take precautions.
- **The Northern Territory News** (page 5) reports that Australia Post has awarded grants to three NT community organisations, which will include funding for mental health first aid training for youths, social connection for defence widows and families, and wellbeing forums for men.
- **The Northern Territory News** (page 12) reports that the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has warned Australians to be careful of counterfeit Ozempic-labelled pens being imported into the country, after being notified by the Australian Border Force (ABF).

MINISTER BUTLER

Health insurers are in a world of pain

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 03/10/2024, Michael Smith, Page 22

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler just wants NSW and the insurers to sort out their dispute without undermining patient care.

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

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

Victorian babies to get free RSV jab

Age, General News, 03/10/2024, Broede Carmody, Page 8

Premier Jacinta Allan yesterday unveiled the state’s \$18.7 million respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) plan, to be rolled out by next winter, targeting vulnerable infants up to eight months old. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said he was working with the states and territories to improve protection for all babies ahead of the 2025 RSV season.

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City blood service in spotlight

SE Voice, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 8

Mount Gambier City Council’s advocacy for a permanent blood donation clinic continues following an urgent call from Australian Red Cross Lifeblood for more donors. [...] Council will write to the Red Cross, Health and Aged Care Federal Minister Mark Butler and South Australia Health and Wellbeing Minister Chris Picton to address the issue.

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

They were designed to reduce pressure on emergency departments. Are Urgent Care Clinics working?

ABC Online, Other, 02/10/2024, Norman Hermant

On a Friday afternoon in Ballarat, a staff-student netball game has gone wrong for Nicole Reynolds. A tipped ball has hit her in the face and broken her glasses. [...] "I'm confident [this] is taking some of that pressure off," Federal Health Minister Mark Butler told 7.30.

[Read More](#)

Greens reveal plan for 1,000 new health clinics with free medical and dental care across Australia

The Guardian, Other, 03/10/2024, Josh Butler

The Greens want to open 1,000 new health clinics nationwide with free medical and dental care, in a \$54bn policy the minor party says it would push in the event of a hung parliament. [...] Labor tripled the previous bulk billing rate in 2023 for pensioners, concession card holders and children, which the health minister, Mark Butler, said increased visits and saw more clinics return to the bulk billing system

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Making the world a better place: Here are B&T's best of the best social changemakers!

B & T Online, Other, 02/10/2024, Arvind Hickman

The advertising, media and marketing industry is renowned for influencing change, particularly when it comes to advertising goods and services, and setting cultural trends. [...] Launched in March, the campaign petition received well north of 40,000 signatures, placing pressure on Health Minister Mark Butler to announce a \$49 million investment into tackling the condition.

[Read More](#)

Vaping flavours that appeal to kids go up in smoke

HealthTimes, Other, 02/10/2024

Reforms coming into effect from Tuesday will allow people able to buy vapes from chemists without a prescription, but users would need to speak to a pharmacist before buying. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the changes would help to stop more young people becoming addicted to vaping.

[Read More](#)

Luca Brasi's Tyler Richardson announces 2024 solo acoustic tour

Music Feeds, Other, 02/10/2024

In the past, Australian families of children with neuroblastoma have been forced to travel to the US in order to access a treatment drug known as DFMO. In August, Health Minister Mark Butler announced that DFMO will now be accessible for free in Australian hospitals. At a press conference, Butler said that this was done in order to "give these kids every chance of survival".

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Action taken amid continuing PrEP shortage

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 02/10/2024, Chelsea Heaney

As supply of the HIV prevention medication continues to be disrupted, the federal government has listed a US brand on the PBS to shore up access. [...] Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler said the listing 'will ensure Australians continue to have access to a world-class medication at an affordable price'.

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ABC, 7:30, 02/10/2024, Sarah Ferguson

Medicare urgent care clinics are a key part of the Labor Government's plans to relieve pressure on emergency departments, they are a new alternative to hospital, but the jury is out on whether they are actually working. Mark Butler, Minister of Health, says this is a new model of care for Australia that's

very common in other countries like New Zealand. ften till ten at night and on weekends. And they're bulk billed.

Similar content in: [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#), [ABC \(Melbourne\)](#).

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5AA, Evenings, 02/10/2024, Leith Forrest

Interview That's it. And you're being ripped off with those shops. Because as soon as they know it's my aged care, they triple the price. [...] And also, it's Mark Butler.

Also reported by: [5AA \(Adelaide\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

5AA, Mornings, 02/10/2024, Matthew Pantelis

Interview with Federal Health Minister Mark Butler. Compere says a caller who came from Bali and got the shingles is calling on the Government to make the vaccine free for everyone, not just for those who are immunocompromised. Butler explains that the way these vaccines and medicines are listed to the PBS or what they call the National Immunisation Programme, is that a company that has a particular product, in this case GSK, needs to be checked by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee, to be approved.

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MINISTER WELLS

Aged care funding welcomed

Stock Journal, General News, 03/10/2024, Jason Gregory, Page 7

A much-needed \$900 million federal funding injection has been welcomed by the Rural Health Alliance as vital to start providing Australians in the bush with the "high-quality, safe aged care they deserve". Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said the retention of aged care workers in rural regions had improved with a recent tranche of pay rises across the sector, with a 40 per cent bleed of workers in some areas having reduced to 20pc.

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'Treated humanely': Emmaus Village redefines dementia care in state first

Port Macquarie News, Other, 02/10/2024, Mardi Borg

As she prepares for her future, she said she's excited to consider options like St Agnes' Catholic Parish's new Emmaus Village and Community Centre - a purpose-built community for people living with dementia. [...] The official ceremony was attended by government representatives, including Senator Deborah O'Neill, who spoke on behalf of Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells.

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

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Club grant to help remove sport barriers to women

South West Voice, Other, 02/10/2024

A \$1 million grant to Macarthur FC under the Australian Government's \$200 million Play Our Way program will remove participation barriers to women and girls. [...] "Play Our way is all about creating greater opportunities for women and girls to have an equal chance to get the fun, satisfaction and health benefits sport offers," sport minister Anika Wells, said.

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Aged Care Minister's open letter expresses frustration with underperforming providers

Australia's Aged Care Minister, Anika Wells, has voiced her disappointment over the failure of some residential aged care providers to meet their care minute quotas, despite a significant boost in government funding aimed at improving care standards. In an open letter addressed to providers, Wells emphasised the critical importance of staffing levels, stating that they are "vital to the quality of care for older people living in residential aged care homes.

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Aged care providers must not shirk scrutiny

Medianet, Other, 02/10/2024, Nick Lucchinelli

The National Health Services Union has strongly endorsed an open letter from Aged Care Minister Anika Wells to residential aged care providers, which calls out the sector's lack of accountability. National Secretary Lloyd Williams praised Minister Wells' initiative: "This open letter is a crucial step towards addressing the longstanding issues in our aged care system.

Also reported by: [Business Acumen Magazine \(Online\)](#).

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2SM, 14:00 News, 02/10/2024

The National Health Services Union has strongly endorsed an open letter from Aged Care Minister Anika Wells to residential aged care providers. It calls out what they believe is a lack of accountability in our aged care system.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

A reflection on the 17th National Rural Health Conference: Shaping the future of rural health

Partyline Magazine, Other, 02/10/2024

As the final session of the 17th National Rural Health Conference approached its close in Perth, Nicole O'Reilly, Chair of the National Rural Health Alliance, looked out over a room that was, to her delight and mild surprise, still filled at 3 PM on day three. "Has it only been three days? [...]" This announcement was made in front of the Hon Emma McBride, Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health and the nearly 800 delegates in the Riverside Theatre at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

'I proved them wrong'

Canberra Times, Sport, 03/10/2024, Ben Richards, Page 36

Nigel Goldsworthy was given five years to live when he had a transplant in 1974. He defied the odds to prove doctors wrong, and is now competing in the Transplant Games in Canberra. [...] Assistant Minister for Health Ged Kearney said was important for every single Australian to register as an organ donor, if eligible.

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19-member collaboration to prepare health system for climate change

Hospital and Healthcare, Other, 02/10/2024

A cross-sector collaboration involving 19 health sector partners is set to work on delivering a framework for the federal government's health and climate strategy. [...] The Assistant Minister for

Health and Aged Care and Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health, Ged Kearney MP, said, "From extreme heat to more frequent bushfires, climate change is forever changing our environment and how we live.

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How BreastScreen Australia has halved breast cancer deaths

Your Life Choices, Other, 03/10/2024, Jan Fisher

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, breast cancer mortality has decreased by an amazing 50 per cent since BreastScreen Australia began, from 74 deaths per 100,000 women aged 50–74 in 1991, to 37 deaths per 100,000 women in 2022. [...] Return to screening "It's pleasing that this Breast Cancer Awareness Month we are seeing more women return to breast screening," said assistant minister for health and aged care Ged Kearney.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

NARI shines a light on older people's rights

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 02/10/2024, Jodie Wolf

The National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) held its 2024 Annual Summit entitled; Human Rights are Older People's Rights Too on Friday 20 September in Melbourne. More than 80 leaders, government officials, advocacy experts, industry representatives, academics, researchers, health and aged care professionals, and older people themselves joined the event, that was opened by the Federal Assistant Minister of Social Security, Ageing and Women, The Hon Kate Thwaites MP.

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DEPARTMENT

Don't redirect WIPs from doctors to practices, says ACRRM

Health Services Daily, Other, 02/10/2024, Laura Woodrow

Changing the funding model leaves us back at square one if it remains underfunded, according to the rural GP college. Last September, the Department of Health and Aged Care ordered a review of the Practice Incentives Program and the Workforce Incentive Program The core recommendation was a "simplified" blended GP payment model to replace WIPs and PIPs.

[Read More](#)

Government begins public consultation on new Aged Care Act

Helloleaders.com.au, Other, 02/10/2024, Alex Jacobs

The first stage of public consultation of the new Aged Care Act is underway after the Department of Health and Aged Care released the Act's service list. The Aged Care Bill was presented to parliament in September, ending months of speculation over the new Act's chances of being legislated by mid-2025.

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Push for MBS health assessment eligibility for all ages

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 02/10/2024, Chelsea Heaney

It is time for the Federal Government to invest in preventive health, the RACGP has urged, with an expansion of MBS items for the assessments. The Department of Health and Aged Care says submissions will inform advice on the future of changes to MBS health assessment items.

[Read More](#)

AI in healthcare: DoHAC wants your feedback

The Medical Republic, Other, 02/10/2024, Amanda Sheppard

A new consultation paper aims to promote the safe and responsible use of artificial intelligence in the sector. [...] While the Department of Health and Aged Care has acknowledged that AI can help solve urgent and emerging challenges in the healthcare system and support its workforce dedicate more time to delivering care, there remain some red flags around safety and risk.

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VACCINES

No relevant coverage

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Migrant backbone

The Australian, Commercial Property, 03/10/2024, Hari Hara Priya Kannan, Page 1

ACCI shared that in 2018, international education supported about 250,000 jobs in Australia. Census data shows the top occupations for non-Australian citizens enrolled in full-time university study were sales assistants (6500), waiters (4200), and aged and disabled carers (4000).

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

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Watchdog casts doubt on aged care reforms

The Australian, General News, 03/10/2024, Sarah Ison, Page 8

Labor's \$5.6bn package of aged care reforms risk falling short of what was recommended by the royal commission and puts in place an approach to safeguarding elderly Australians' rights that is purely "aspirational", the Office of the Inspector-General of Aged Care has warned. The government last month secured a guarantee from the Coalition that it would not make changes to the financial sustainability framework contained in Labor's aged care bill, clearing the way for the introduction of the legislation to parliament.

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

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Aged-care residents forced to fight for control of finances

Hobart Mercury, General News, 03/10/2024, Judy Augustine, Page 5

Residents of aged-care homes are having to fight for control of their finances and their lives as providers make "unnecessary" guardianship applications on their behalf, according to Advocacy Tasmania. The organisation's CEO Leanne Groombridge said there were recent examples where providers had made such applications, which would strip residents of access to the finances and shift decisionmaking to the Public Trustee.

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

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Bond University scientists uncover way to fight aged care malnutrition

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 03/10/2024, Jackie Sinnerton

Queensland scientists have uncovered a way to fight the epidemic of malnutrition among aged care residents - and it involves the lupin flower. Roughly 50 per cent of people living in residential aged care in Australia are malnourished or at risk of malnutrition, according to the 2018 Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

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

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Empowering seniors to remain independent for over three decades

Shepparton News Online, Other, 02/10/2024

For more than 30 years, Community Interlink, a department of Goulburn Valley Health, has been committed to helping seniors maintain their independence. As a Home Care Package Provider, Community Interlink ensures that eligible seniors receive the services and support they need to remain in their own homes.

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Taking the heat out of heatwaves

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 02/10/2024

People ageing in their own homes in rural Australia are particularly vulnerable during heatwaves, as the risk of heat stress injury increases with age, social isolation and geographic remoteness, as well as limited access to cooling and health services. Home care workers are a vital lifeline for Australians in their own homes in rural areas during heatwaves. BaptistCare has teamed up with researchers from Charles Sturt University to ensure this lifeline remains available as temperatures intensify.

[Read More](#)

ACCPA launches home care program

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 02/10/2024, Deborah Jackson

Home and community care providers eager to navigate the once in a generation aged care reforms can gain a head start through a range of vital home care webinars, workshops, and bootcamps. The Leading the Way in Home Care professional development program, has been crafted by the Aged & Community Care Providers Association (ACCPA), and aims to equip the sector for significant growth and upcoming legislative changes.

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Call for greater investment in chronic pain management

Australian Seniors News, Other, 02/10/2024

Older Australians suffering from chronic pain face a significantly increased risk of dementia, according to a new University of Southern Queensland-led (UniSQ) study. About one-third of older people are believed to be living with chronic pain, while the number of people with dementia, which is considered an age-related disease, continues to rise.

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More choice for aged care residents at Benetas breakfast buffet

Community Care Review, Other, 02/10/2024, Jodie Wolf

More options are now available to residents at Kangaroo Flat aged care home in Bendigo, now that a breakfast buffet has been introduced. The Benetas aged care home said goodbye to its set menu breakfast service that ran between 8 and 9am in August and welcomed a buffet-style offering with timings and variety that are more suited to their residents.

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Offering end of life support as part of home care is important – but may face some challenges

Your Life Choices, Other, 02/10/2024, Jennifer Tieman

Earlier this month, the government announced major changes to aged care in Australia, including a A\$4.3 billion investment in home care. Alongside a shake up of home care packages, the Support at Home program will include an important addition – an end of life pathway for older Australians.

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POPULATION HEALTH

System needs reform

Age, Letters, 03/10/2024, Tim Woodruff, Page 24

We ranked No. 1 out of 10 for our healthcare system according to the US based Commonwealth Fund. The ranking was based on combining five different measures. On access to health care we ranked ninth, just above the US. Somehow, despite that appalling ranking, we ranked No. 1 on equity.

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Right shot for babies

Herald Sun, General News, 03/10/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 1

Victorian babies will finally be able to get a free long-lasting Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) "vaccine" next winter, saving parents about \$300 a shot. Called nirsevimab, it is not a vaccine in the usual sense, but more a new form of immunisation that retains its activity for up to nine months.

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

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Cousins deserves a fair go at redemption game

Herald Sun, General News, 03/10/2024, Alice Coster, Page 27

When Bec Judd this week shared her support for Ben Cousins, asking social media to award the former AFL star a blue tick, the storm of criticism was not unexpected. [...] Earlier this year an Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report found 1 per cent of the population, approximately 200,000 people in Australia had used methamphetamine, with our country among the world's highest users of the drug, per capita.

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

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Tassie vape laws to stay in place

Burnie Advocate, General News, 03/10/2024, Helen Kempton, Page 5

Health authorities have confirmed Tasmanian vaping laws will remain in place despite national changes in a move the state's retailers say will make this state a black market target. Director of Public Health Mark Vietch said national vaping laws which came into effect on Tuesday will not apply in Tasmania.

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

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How hormones affect our health

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 03/10/2024, Jami Roberts, Page 13

A Townsville nutritionist who gained 14kg in six months after stopping contraception, is now helping women understand just how big of an impact hormones play in their overall health. When Sheridan Duff decided to remove her contraceptive implant, she didn't realise just how dramatic a change her body would undergo.

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Good bone health is key to a long and healthy life

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 03/10/2024, Page 31

Bone health is not something we all think about regularly but when we consider the impact that low bone density or 'osteopaenia' can have on our lives in terms of fracture, quality of life and even lifespan ... maybe we should. [...] And according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, osteoporosis was recorded as an underlying or associated cause for 10 deaths per 100 000 in Australia in 2022.

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The dangerous side of menopause no one talks about

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/10/2024, Mia Erickson

Whether you are on the cusp of menopause or going through the motions as we speak, you're probably familiar with some of the major physical and emotional symptoms that kick in as women age. As we bid farewell to our reproductive years with a course of hot flushes, brain fog and fatigue, the body undergoes a series of hormonal shifts that impact almost every system.

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

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Australian Food Icon Donna Hay weighs in on childhood obesity epidemic as she releases new cookbook Too Easy

7news.com.au, Other, 02/10/2024, Olivia Scott

Legendary Australian chef, author and TV personality Donna Hay says the solution to childhood obesity epidemic is to teach children to cook. The most recent Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data showed that in 2022 more than a quarter of Australian children and adolescents aged two to 17 were either overweight or obese, with 66 per cent of adults over 18 also either overweight or obese.

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South Australia poised to create 'smoke-free generation' with landmark tobacco legislation

9News, Other, 02/10/2024, Ollie Haig

South Australia has taken a significant step towards establishing a "smoke-free generation" by passing world-leading legislation in the upper house of state parliament late last week. The new laws aim to permanently ban the sale of cigarettes and vapes to anyone born from January 1, 2007, onwards, effectively prohibiting tobacco and e-cigarette product purchases for this cohort throughout their lifetimes.

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What's the impact of the upcoming insulin discontinuations?

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 02/10/2024, Chloe Hava

The number of people living with chronic diseases has continued to grow. To manage growing patient demand, a Novo Nordisk spokesperson told Australian Pharmacist that some of the manufacturer's earlier generation insulin products, including those with multiple presentations – will be phased out.

[Read More](#)

S3 vapes adherence tool

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 02/10/2024

An AI-powered tool called Dragatron S3-R has launched nationwide today, aiming to simplify vaping compliance for Australian pharmacies. The launch of the software comes just as NSW prepares to audit participating pharmacies to ensure adherence to vaping regulations.

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Private patients' bill shock at NSW public hospitals

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 02/10/2024

NSW residents with private health insurance are being hit with excessive out-of-pocket costs for opting to use their insurance in a public hospital. [...] Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data shows NSW is filling its public hospitals with more private patients than any other state, despite having the longest elective surgery waiting times for public patients in Australia.

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Sgt Sammy defies odds

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/10/2024, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 12

'Incredible' eight-year-old who's an honorary police officer In January last year, doctors told Alison Harrison her son would not survive a year, after he was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour. But more than a year and half later, eight-year-old honorary sergeant Samuel 'Sammy' Scully has continued to defy odds.

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

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Anything for you

Northern Territory News, General News, 03/10/2024, Courtney Snowden, Page 1

A determined couple has made the tough decision to sell their beloved family home to fund a gene therapy treatment to combat their daughter's rare neurodegenerative disease. Chris and Golden Whitrod will auction off their beautifully renovated property at 4 Beatrice St, Stuart Park, on October 17 through Andrew Harding of Ray White Darwin.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#)

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Disturbing detail in understanding of 'new asbestos' concerns

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/10/2024, Claudia Poposki

A disturbing detail has been discovered in those most at-risk when it comes to what is being labelled the "new asbestos" that is plaguing the construction and mining industries. Lung Foundation Australia is exposing the risk of silicosis, which impacts more than 600,000 Aussies in the construction, mining, manufacturing and tunnelling industries.

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

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'Game-changer' sleep study could help millions of Australians suffering from chronic pain

ABC Online, Other, 02/10/2024, Shari Hams

A Queensland study will investigate the link between sleep and pain hoping to fundamentally change the way doctors and clinicians treat people with chronic pain. About 50 participants will be set up with sleep monitors in their own home for eight days as part of the research.

[Read More](#)

New trial aims to find better outcomes for younger women breast cancer

9News, Other, 02/10/2024, Sarah Swain

When mother-of-two Tamara Dawes was diagnosed with breast cancer, she was just 42. The primary school teacher was initially told the cancer hadn't spread. But by the time she had surgery to remove the 95mm lump, along with her breast, it had reached some of her lymph nodes.

[Read More](#)

Discover the support available: Parkinson's workshop series now under way

Shepparton News Online, Other, 02/10/2024, Khadija Hadjab

Since its establishment in 2018, Parkinson's Darnley Montgomery Foundation has been committed to supporting people living with Parkinson's disease. The foundation was set up in honour of the late Darnley Montgomery, a long-term Parkinson's sufferer and a dedicated member of the Parkinson's Victoria Shepparton Peer Support Group.

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Shocktober looks to boost cardiac arrest survival

Shepparton News Online, Other, 02/10/2024, Emily Donohoe

October marks the beginning of the annual Ambulance Victoria Shocktober campaign, looking to encourage the community to Call, Push, Shock; the three steps for improved cardiac arrest survival. Call, Push, Shock is an Ambulance Victoria initiative for bystander invention during cardiac arrest, asking them to call 000, perform CPR and use an automated external defibrillator (AED) if available.

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Seizure safety is everyone's business, says Epilepsy WA

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 02/10/2024

Seizure safety should be everyone's business, not just those in the epilepsy community, says Epilepsy WA CEO Emma Buitendag, on the launch of Seizure Safety Month, which runs throughout October. "The reality is that around one in 10 West Australians will have a seizure at some point in their lives, so seizure first aid training should be on everyone's radar," says Ms Buitendag.

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PRIMARY CARE

Ambos stalwart elected new boss

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/10/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 10

A long-serving paramedic has recorded a landslide victory to become the new leader of the powerful Ambulance Employees Association. The AEA ballot saw Paul Ekkelboom poll 800 votes, twice as many as incumbent state secretary Leah Watkins.

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

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Hills health hub plan axed

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/10/2024, Natalie Vikhrov, Page 11

A \$25m community health hub has been axed from a proposed city centre development for Mt Barker after its operator pulled out of the project. It is the latest shake-up for the proposed project, which was revised just months ago after locals called for a multistorey car park to be dropped, alongside other changes.

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Bulk problems

Ballarat Courier, General News, 03/10/2024, Rachel Jackson, Page 1

Early findings from a nationwide survey of more than 3000 doctors found out-of-pocket costs for consults have increased, but a Ballarat GP says increased funding won't solve the issue alone. Conducted by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the survey showed out-of-pocket costs for a 20-minute consult had grown from \$34.91 to \$36.86 in the past year.

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Women's health receives a major boost

Border Mail, General News, 03/10/2024, Madilyn McKinley, Page 5

Border women now have access to improved healthcare services that could result in shorter hospital visits. Wodonga hospital unveiled new medical devices and equipment for gynaecological healthcare at the end of August, purchased with the \$160,000 raised by the 2024 City2City event.

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Pharmacy Guild president re-elected

Cairns Post, General News, 03/10/2024, Emma Cam, Page 6

Cairns Professor Trent Twomey has been re-elected as the national president of the Pharmacy Guild of

Australia for a second term. Professor Twomey said community pharmacy was evolving from the traditional dispensary-only model to holistic health hubs "where patients can access their prescription medication; be treated by a pharmacist for everyday health conditions; receive support for long-term condition management and find the health and wellbeing products they rely on".

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Sod turned at Shellharbour hospital site

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 03/10/2024, Page 7

Minister for Regional Health Ryan Park, Member for Shellharbour Anna Watson, and health workers combined forces on Tuesday to mark the start of main works construction at the new Shellharbour Hospital. Among the services previously mentioned - an expanded emergency department, increased surgical capacity, rehabilitation and aged care services for instance - the new hospital is being designed to allow for the construction of a rooftop helipad in the future.

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Liverpool Health and Academic Precinct: first look inside \$830m hospital development

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/10/2024, Jake McCallum

A massive \$830 million health and education precinct in Sydney's southwest is set to open in a matter of weeks after construction to complete the specialist Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and new birthing suites were completed. Hundreds of clinicians at Liverpool Hospital are set to move into their new, state-of-the-art digs this month as part of the redevelopment of the Liverpool Health and Academic Precinct, before a new Emergency Department opens next year.

[Read More](#)

Sunshine Coast University Hospital hits capacity nine times in three months

The Courier Mail, Other, 02/10/2024, Chloe Grimshaw

A major Sunshine Coast hospital was forced to declare nine occasions within a three-month period where resources were unable to cope with patient demand, data has revealed. According to Queensland Health performance data, between April and June this year, the Sunshine Coast University Hospital escalated to a tier three capacity a total of nine times.

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

[Read More](#)

New ambulance union chief vows 'stronger stance' on ramping

In Daily, Other, 02/10/2024, Thomas Kelsall

Members of the South Australian ambulance union have voted out their general secretary Leah Watkins in favour of a candidate who has vowed to take a "stronger stance" on ramping and "reestablish the AEA's political independence". Incoming Ambulance Employees Association general secretary Paul Ekkelboom and outgoing generally secretary Leah Watkins.

[Read More](#)

Private insurers short-changing hospitals and the state

Newcastle Herald, Other, 02/10/2024, Daniel Mookhey

Since the 1980s, private health insurers have paid for their members to use public hospitals. But now, some private insurers are only paying half the daily cost of a bed for a patient in a public hospital.

[Read More](#)

RACGP draft standards 'more red and green tape' for overworked GP staff, says practice owner

Australian Doctor, Other, 02/10/2024, Ciara Seccombe

The RACGP's draft accreditation standards show a "fundamental misunderstanding of how we can deliver value in general practice", a prominent practice owner says. The college released a 115-page

draft of its sixth-edition accreditation standards last week, which GP practices would have to follow to access the \$500 million Practice Incentives Program.

[Read More](#)

TGA urges 'extreme caution' amid fake Ozempic pen imports

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 02/10/2024, Michelle Wisbey

GPs are being warned to lookout for the counterfeit pens and are urged to inform their patients, with one person already suffering life-threatening complications. Australian Border Force has detected several counterfeit Ozempic-labelled pens being imported from overseas.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Greens staff quit senator's 'unsafe office'

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 03/10/2024, James Massola, Page 3

Twenty staff have left the office of Greens WA senator Dorinda Cox in just three years, with several lodging formal complaints alleging a hostile culture where employees felt unsafe. [...] "But the behaviour would continue, often times becoming aggressive, persistently negative and sometimes vicious which ultimately resulted in my mental health declining to the point of having daily panic attacks, thoughts of suicide and an almost complete loss of self-esteem in my professional ability," a former staffer said.

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

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Here's help for those seeking non-woke way

Daily Telegraph, General News, 03/10/2024, Kevin Donnelly, Page 25

Instead of allowing children to be indoctrinated with cultural-left mind control, a new breed of school is emerging dedicated to a curriculum that is intellectually rigorous, morally grounded and emotionally and spiritually enriching. Unlike the national curriculum that prioritises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, history and spiritually, Asia and the environment, this renaissance in school education centres on a classical/liberal education.

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I've struggled so much

Herald Sun, General News, 03/10/2024, Adella Beaini, Page 12

Despite trying to stay positive, Turia Pitt who has been open about her suicidal thoughts in the past following the fire said she hit a new mental low during her trip. "We all want to feel upbeat, positive and uplifted all the time because feeling like that does feel better than feeling stressed and anxious and down," Pitt said.

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

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Nikau's sacrifice to help grieving kids

Herald Sun, Sport, 03/10/2024, Dean Ritchie, Page 58

Letitia took her own life when the family were based in northern England, where Nikau was playing for Warrington. HeavenLeigh was 11 and Tyme just eight. "I had gone to pick my son up from school he was at cricket training," Nikau said. "I came back home and it had just gone dark but I noticed the light was on in the garage.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#). [The Australian \(Australia\)](#).

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Grants from Australia Post to deliver hope

A trio of local organisations has been awarded a combined \$20,000 under an annual grant scheme, with projects to be funded including mental health first aid training for youths, men's wellbeing forums and social connection for defence widows and families. Last month, Australia Post announced the recipients of its 2024 Community Grants Program, with Indigenous ranger organisation Karrkad Kanjdji Trust (\$10,000), Northern Territory Legacy (\$8000) and Scouts NT (\$2000) all successfully applying for cash.

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What if our children are taught too much?

Northern Territory News, General News, 03/10/2024, Gary Martin, Page 23

We often hear about teachers leaving the profession in droves, with inadequate salaries, unruly students and demanding parents often cited as the main reasons for their departure. [...] Parents expect the schools to tackle issues including consent education, cyber-bullying, mental health awareness, vaping and drug prevention, animal welfare, modern slavery, equity and inclusion, body image and eating disorders, sustainable energy, gambling addiction, climate change, artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, and the ever-increasing threats of cybercrime and the plague of identity theft.

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

Blue trees for mental health

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 03/10/2024, Page 7

Deakin University's Waurn Ponds campus will feature specially painted trees this month as part of the Blue Tree Project, a global initiative to raise awareness around mental health. Deakin is the first university in Victoria to join the project that encourages open conversations about mental health struggles and fosters connections between people.

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Early intervention program set to be rolled out in Shepp

Shepparton News, General News, 03/10/2024, Page 5

With family violence on the rise, one local organisation is taking action to nip it in the bud with a trial intervention program targeting teenage boys. The Bridge Youth Service is one of 12 specialist organisations across Australia chosen to deliver an early intervention program to support adolescent boys at risk of using family violence.

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Mourning South Coast mother Deanne Griffen's mission to stop youth suicide after losing son Sean

The Courier Mail, Other, 02/10/2024, Tom McGann

A mother determined to use her grief for good, after losing her son to suicide, has begun a mission to save other young lives from suffering from the same, tragic fate. South Coast mother Deanne Griffin's mission for youth mental health began when her 17-year-old son, Sean Griffin, took his life in December 2019, with his mother now creating murals and fighting to install suicide prevention posters across the community.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

ABC Foundation set to host community wellness fair in Carnarvon to support mental health

West Australian, Other, 02/10/2024, Matthew Paddick

A Gascoyne town is set to host its Community Wellness Fair as part of Mental Health Day later this month. The event, run by the ABC Foundation, aims to highlight mental health as an issue impacting a variety of different people.

[Read More](#)

Mothers keen to overcome barriers to Pacific islander girls' basketball participation create winning team

ABC Online, Other, 02/10/2024, Jo White

Noticing an absence of basketball opportunities for Pacific islander girls in the south-west of Sydney, mother-of-two Azzie Naloku took matters into her own hands. [...] She has witnessed the rise of mental health concerns among youth in her community and believes sport can play a crucial role in changing the lives of children from Pacific islander and Indigenous communities.

[Read More](#)

Skye Wheatley breaks down in tears as she admits mental illness is behind her plastic surgeries and she has 'daddy issues' following her fox eye lift

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 02/10/2024, Mikaela Wilkes

Skye Wheatley has admitted she suffers from body dysmorphia after getting a controversial fox eye lift surgery and several other procedures in Turkey last month. The social media star, 30, cried in an emotional video posted to TikTok on Tuesday and admitted the illness is 'probably why' she's had so many cosmetic procedures, adding she was terrified her two sons will eventually suffer from the same condition.

[Read More](#)

Goggles on: Peeling back the mental health onion without the tears

In Daily, Other, 02/10/2024

South Australian Mental Health Commissioner Taimi Allan says working on the "layers" of how we perceive and tackle mental health will deliver real change. Peeling an onion is one of those tasks that seems straightforward until you're midway through, tearing up, and wondering why you didn't put on a pair of goggles.

[Read More](#)

Watch for anxiety and hypertension during new ADHD treatment: Aussie guidance

Australian Doctor, Other, 02/10/2024, Mohana Basu

Professor David Coghill says the prescribing guide published this week has 'important nuggets' for GPs. Patients starting stimulants may become anxious due to sudden awareness of their behaviours, which can be mistaken for pharmacologically-induced anxiety, new Australian ADHD guidance says.

[Read More](#)

ADHD guide out

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 02/10/2024

The Australian adhd Professionals Association (AADPA) has launched a new ADHD Prescribing Guide to provide clear and consistent information on the pharmacological treatment of the condition. Led by AADPA Board President, Prof David Coghill, the guide responds to national variability in ADHD prescribing practices, and covers topics like diagnosis, medication dosing, monitoring, and addressing specific populations.

[Read More](#)

New ADHD prescribing guide launches

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 02/10/2024, Michelle Wisbey

The guide was designed to offer practical advice to GPs about safe and responsible prescribing, after finding significant variabilities. In Australia, ADHD is the most common neurodevelopmental disorder in children and adolescents.

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Premier in pitch to public servants

Courier Mail, General News, 03/10/2024, Hayden Johnson & Rose Innes, Page 6

Premier Steven Miles used his final hours in power to launch a last-minute charm offensive on Queensland's 308,000 public servants. In a mass email, he told government employees how valuable they were and how his landmark reproductive leave policy proved Labor's support for them.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Flying doc grounded

Courier Mail, General News, 03/10/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 1

Obstetricians and surgical specialists have for months not been able to reach patients in parts of remote Queensland. The pilot crisis means women who suffer serious pregnancy complications and patients requiring a flying surgical specialist could not be reached between 6pm and 6am.

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

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Health worker to stand for Greens in Braddon next election

Burnie Advocate, General News, 03/10/2024, Helen Kempton, Page 12

The Tasmanian Greens have announced that health care worker Erin Morrow will stand as their candidate for the federal seat of Braddon at the next election. The upcoming Braddon election campaign became more complex in July when incumbent Liberal MP Gavin Pearce confirmed he would not be standing for election again next year.

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Doctors escalate strike by temporarily stopping hospital work this week

Canberra Times, Other, 02/10/2024, Bageshri Savyasachi

Doctors will step away from some non-clinical duties during the stoppage without affecting patient care, Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation (ASMOF) ACT president Jeffrey Looi said. "The industrial action will be carried out in a manner that will not endanger the safety of any patient or any other person," Associate Professor Looi said.

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Doctors say the system isn't working: Bulk-billing changes bite

Ballarat Courier, Other, 02/10/2024, Rachel Jackson

Early findings from a nationwide survey of over 3000 doctors found out-of-pocket costs for consultations have increased, but a Ballarat GP said increased funding won't solve the issue alone. Conducted by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the survey showed out-of-pocket costs for a 20-minute consult have grown from \$34.91 to \$36.86 in the past year.

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Petition for a healthier rural Australia

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 02/10/2024

The petition calls for a 10-year National Rural Health Strategy which ensures federal and state governments and territories make an agreement to ensure rural Australia receives better healthcare access. Currently, rural people receive less access to health care and spend less on their health care per person than those who live in the cities.

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

New NDIS support rules exclude huge number of non-evidence-based treatments

7news.com.au, Other, 02/10/2024, Bryce Luff

Crystal and cuddle therapies, concert tickets, vapes and cigarettes, dating services and musical instruments will no longer be claimed through the National Disability Insurance Scheme. The federal government has released detailed lists making clear exactly what will and will not be funded through the scheme from Thursday, October 3.

[Read More](#)

'It raises hope': A new drug for schizophrenia approved for the first time in 70 years

SBS, Other, 02/10/2024, Elfy Scott

The Food and Drug Administration in the US has just approved Cobenfy, which one researcher referred to as a "game changer" for schizophrenia treatment. When will it come to Australia? [...] Christopoulos also said that, without listing on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, the drug could be prohibitively expensive for some people.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Greens unveil \$54bn bid for free GP visits

The Australian, General News, 03/10/2024, Sarah Ison, Page 8

Adam Bandt will demand Labor fork out more than \$50bn as part of a plan to allow all Australians to see a GP for free, should the government find itself needing to make a power-sharing agreement with the Greens after the election. To be paid for by the Greens' "Robin Hood" tax reforms that would target big business profits and raise more than \$500bn over a decade, the policy would see 1000 "free local healthcare clinics" set up across the country and a tripling in the bulk-billing incentive for all Medicare card holders.

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Green light on health

Herald Sun, General News, 03/10/2024, Jade Gailberger, Page 10

Australians would have free access to doctors, dentists, nurses and psychologists at 1000 new clinics nationwide under the Greens' ambitious \$54bn healthcare proposal. The bulk-billing incentive would also be tripled for all Medicare card holders, rebates for longer appointments would rise 20 per cent, and trainee GPs would receive equal pay to their counterparts in hospitals.

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

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It's not easy dealing with the Greens

West Australian, General News, 03/10/2024, Page 12

Labor would be pressured to spend almost \$4 billion to establish 1000 free healthcare clinics if it wants the Greens' support in a hung parliament. The super clinics, to be announced by Greens leader Adam Bandt in Perth on Thursday, would require up to 25,000 public health workers, including one in seven GPs, raising doubts as to whether it is achievable.

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Greens pledge to be thorn in Labor's side with healthcare spruik

The Australian, Other, 02/10/2024, Joseph Olbrycht-Palmer

The Greens are vowing to push major healthcare reforms into any parliamentary negotiations after next year's election, banking on Labor being forced to form a minority government. [...] The plan would establish 1000 free clinics across the country, offering Australians access to a GP, dentist, registered nurse or psychologist at no out-of-pocket expense.

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

[Read More](#)

Medicare is covering less of specialist visits. But why are doctors' fees so high in the first place?

The New Daily, Other, 02/10/2024, Susan Méndez

Recent data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows that in the first quarter of this year, Medicare rebates covered just over half (52 per cent) of the total fees. This is down from 72 per cent two decades ago, and the lowest proportion on record. Doctors can charge what they like, while the government determines the Medicare rebate.

[Read More](#)

\$760 million cost of ransomware attacks now on fraud balance sheets

The Mandarin, Other, 02/10/2024, Julian Bajkowski

The real price of successive ransomware rumbles of major Australian corporations, including Medibank and Optus, has washed through to official payment card fraud rates, courtesy of a massive 32 per cent spike in card fraud losses. Local banks and global card-scheme banks are pushing most of the cost back onto long-suffering merchants.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

The secret tax that will drive up health insurance costs

Newcastle Herald, General News, 03/10/2024, Rachel David, Page 24

If you are among the 67 per cent of people in Newcastle with health cover, the Minns government's plan to tax you from next year is bad news for your hip pocket, and your health. The cash grab will add about \$114 to the cost of an average silver health insurance policy next year.

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Bio Curious: 'Best-kept secret in Australian healthcare' spruiks its telehealth credentials

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 02/10/2024, Tim Boreham

Visionflex (ASX:VFX) CEO Joshua Munday admits that barely anyone has heard about the remote healthcare outfit, which listed in early 2022 via a back-door listing with patient booking portal 1st Group. "I hadn't heard of it, either. It's been one of the best-kept secrets in Australian healthcare," he says.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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'Ethics always needs to come first': Patients avoid I-MED for scans after AI training controversy

Crikey, Other, 02/10/2024, Cam Wilson

I-MED patients say they're going to stop using Australia's largest medical imaging clinic after it was revealed the business was giving medical scan data to a health technology company to train AI, as patient advocacy and privacy groups raise concerns about the practice. Last month, Crikey revealed that I-MED had given potentially hundreds of thousands of chest x-ray scans to harrison.ai, without patients' knowledge, to train a radiology AI tool.

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SPORT

Stadium upgrade delayed

Courier Mail, General News, 03/10/2024, Chloe Grimshaw & Edward Franklin, Page 8

A major stadium upgrade planned for the Sunshine Coast ahead of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games has been delayed by at least a year. The \$148m Sunshine Coast Stadium redevelopment was among several sporting venue projects that went out to tender in May this year, however, negotiations to date have failed to lock in an appropriate party to deliver the expansion.

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A chance to reimagine Brisbane

Courier Mail, Business News, 03/10/2024, Jen Williams, Page 41

Between now and 2032, many projects and transport links in the inner city will come to completion and precincts like South Bank, Roma Street and South Brisbane will continue their journey of revitalisation. But while Brisbane as an "emerging" city is moving forward, it is not immune from the lingering impact of the pandemic on visitation. Without a continual focus on supporting the city's unique ecosystem, these impacts may linger longer.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

September ASX health winners: EZZ and Althea lead, Fed rate cut lifts sector

The Australian, Other, 02/10/2024, Eddy Sunarto

Healthcare stocks have had a mixed year but they started picking up steam in July and August. The market has effectively broadened out, and strong performance is no longer just limited to the tech-heavy stocks that previously led the way.

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

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Traditional therapies: a growing force

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 02/10/2024

The traditional medicine industry continues to make a significant impact on both Australia's healthcare system and economy, according to a recent KPMG report commissioned by the Australian Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine Association (AACMA). The report finds the traditional medicine industry contributes between \$304.4 million and \$328.7 million annually to Australia's economy, driven largely by acupuncture and herbal treatments.

[Read More](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Aboriginal clinician Darryle Barnes is changing Indigenous health outcomes one GP visit at a time

ABC Online, Other, 02/10/2024, Will Hunter & Amelia Walters

Proud Barkindji man Darryle Barnes is no stranger to funerals within his community. His father died at the age of 52 and his grandfather at a similar age. And as Mr Barnes approaches his 50th birthday this month, it is an outcome he is driven to change.

[Read More](#)

Indigenous women are being murdered at an alarming rate

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 02/10/2024, Amanda Parkinson

Indigenous women are being murdered at a rate of up to seven times the national average, mostly at the hands of intimate partners. Over more than three decades, 455 women were killed by men, with 11 per cent of homicides involving a female offender, a report by the Australian Institute of Criminology shows.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Support for Australia's first Aboriginal owned and midwifery-led free standing birth centre

National Indigenous Times, Other, 02/10/2024, Dechlan Brennan

The South Coast Women's Health and Wellbeing Aboriginal Corporation (Waminda) Gudjaga Gunyahlamai Birth Centre and Community Hub in Nowra will receive \$45.5 million over seven years from the state government to support culturally safe holistic maternity care for Aboriginal women and their families in the South Coast region.

[Read More](#)

'Systemic': ABC racism, bullying and harassment review calls for safer workplace and stronger culture

The Mandarin, Other, 02/10/2024, Melissa Coade

The national broadcaster has released an independent report commissioned in the wake of the departure of journalist and Q+A host Stan Grant last May, outlining a litany of institutional barriers which disadvantage First Nations and CALD staff. Grant, a Kamilaroi and Wiradjuri man, resigned when racial abuse from outside the media organisation escalated following his participation in covering the coronation of King Charles III.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 02/10/2024, Manny Tsigas

The introduction of culturally appropriate health services is highlighted as one of the best ways to improve the health of Indigenous Australians. It's an approach that's been adopted by a clinic in regional South Australia under a model it's hoped can be used at other health services elsewhere. Cheryl Giles used to visit her GP just once every two years to manage her diabetes.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Triple threat of diseases

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 03/10/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 9

SA Health data shows influenza, whooping cough and RSV are all on the march, surging past case numbers at the same time last year. Flu cases are now at 20,714 confirmed cases, well past the 16,698 cases recorded at the same time last year which went on to reach a total of 22,405 cases.

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

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Your phone carries a dirty secret, and it could be a biosecurity risk

SBS, Other, 02/10/2024, Cameron Carr

DNA analysis of microbes found on the phones of international travellers has found antibiotic-resistant bacteria and harmful pathogens are entering Australia. Around 90 per cent of Australians own a mobile phone and there are about seven billion smartphones in the world, according to research by Deloitte.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Ozempic pens not real deal

Northern Territory News, General News, 03/10/2024, Adrienne Tam, Page 12

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), in collaboration with the Australian Border Force (ABF), has warned of counterfeit Ozempic-labelled pens being imported into Australia. The TGA says that while the pens are undergoing "laboratory testing", the safety and quality of the products are unknown and should not be used.

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A smartwatch helped save David's life, now he won't travel without one

The Senior, Other, 02/10/2024, Eileen Wood

Associate Professor Chrisan Nalliah a clinical academic electrophysiologist with MQ Health Cardiology, said some smartwatches could record a heart rhythm and others could also perform an ECG. Some watches are registered with the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

'We have power to stop it'

Hobart Mercury, General News, 03/10/2024, Simon McGuire, Page 5

Meth consumption is on the rise in Tasmania and police and port authorities are aiming to stop the illicit drugs coming into the state. Since July this year, the Tasmania Police Western District Drugs and Firearms unit has seized more than 1kg in methamphetamine, 23 firearms and \$172,000 in proceeds of crime.

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

Omara helps sniff out illicit drugs

Burnie Advocate, General News, 03/10/2024, Sarah Fittock, Page 2

The National Wastewater Drug Monitoring Program shows that Methamphetamine (ice) consumption has increased in Tasmania by 36 per cent in a 12-month period and is the second most consumed illicit drug in the state, behind cannabis. He added to this by calling on communities to 'play a vital role in disrupting the illicit drug trade' through what they see and what they hear.

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

Party drug warning for high-dose MDMA (ecstasy) tablets that can kill

Canberra Times, Other, 02/10/2024, Nadine Morton

An urgent warning has been issued for high-dose MDMA tablets (ecstasy) that can cause fits, irregular heart rhythm and death. The alert comes ahead of music festival season and health authorities say these tablets are in circulation now.

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

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FOOD STANDARDS

Teens ill, gummie blamed

Courier Mail, General News, 03/10/2024, Greg Stolz, Page 8

Paramedics were called to Palm Beach-Currumbin State High on the southern Gold Coast just after 1.30pm on Wednesday after two male students aged in their late teens became ill. [...] Food Standards Australia NZ issued a recall notice for the gummies in June.

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

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Food waste MCG by 10

Northern Territory News, General News, 03/10/2024, Page 5

Enough food to fill the Melbourne Cricket Ground to the brim 10 times over never makes it to a table, the Australian Foodservice Advocacy Body's latest report shows. This 7.6 million tonnes of food waste costs the economy \$36.6bn. One in six adults and 1.2 million children go hungry regularly in Australia, highlighting the damning statistics.

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Teens hospitalised after reportedly ingesting Uncle Frog's Mushroom Gummies

The Australian, Other, 02/10/2024, Aisling Brennan

Emergency services were alerted after two students started to feel ill at Palm Beach Currumbin State High School on the on Wednesday afternoon. [...] In June, the same product was recalled by Food Standards Australia (FSANZ) over health concerns after several people who had consumed the product were taken to hospitals around the country.

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

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