



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Monday, 7th October 2024

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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 3) reports the opposition has criticised new vaping laws as driving the illegal tobacco trade, while Health Minister Mark Butler has said the laws are aimed at protecting children from harm and helping people to quit smoking. *Also reported by:* [Daily Telegraph](#), [Hobart Mercury](#).
- **[The Daily Telegraph](#)** (page 3) leads News Corp coverage reporting the RACGP and ANZCA have voiced concern over a plan to allow AHPRA to fast-track registration for doctors from the UK and Ireland, saying they want to retain the management of accreditation as they believe they are more qualified to ascertain who is suitable for practice. *Also reported by:* [Courier Mail](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Hobart Mercury](#), [Northern Territory News](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle](#).
- **[The Australian Financial Review](#)** (page 5) reports surgeons have called on Health Minister Mark Butler to release a statement regarding whether the government will give financial aid to failing private hospitals following a review of the \$22 billion industry.
- **[The Canberra Times](#)** (page 6) reports data was incorrectly recorded in the ACT's Digital Health Record for 20 months, with presentations to walk-in clinics often being misclassified on input, meaning public reporting of performance data has been delayed.

- **The Australian** (page 6) reports former cabinet member Jann Stuckey has warned the LNP may reverse VAD and abortion laws if elected, with David Crisafulli saying he doesn't plan on making changes to the legislation.
- **The Australian** (page 6) reports Sport Minister Anika Wells has said she enjoys "infiltrating patriarchal spaces" in a social media post of her golfing. In response to questions about the post Minister Wells said "My girlfriends and I are enjoying being part of Golf Australia's determined efforts to continue lifting the sport's on course female participation rate which has increased from 23 to 30 per cent in the past year alone".

MINISTER BUTLER

Surgeons join push for private hospital support

Australian Financial Review, General News, 07/10/2024, Michael Smith, Page 5

Surgeons and other medical specialists are worried about unprecedented pressure on the nation's hospital system and say the federal government needs to inject more funds into the private sector to stop facilities closing and tackle soaring insurance costs.

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

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Surprise role for deadly spider

The Australian, General News, 07/10/2024, Blair Jackson, Page 7

World-first Australian research is using funnel-web spider venom to protect the heart during heart attacks. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler praised the innovative researchers.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Countryman \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Augusta-Margaret River Times \(Online\)](#), [Broome Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Harvey-Waroona Reporter \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Perth Now \(Online\)](#), [Sky News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#).

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Vape law 'a boost' to black market

Herald Sun, General News, 07/10/2024, Jade Gailberger, Page 3

Australian vapers will be driven to the black market because pharmacies are banned from selling e-cigarettes online, the opposition says. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the reforms aimed to help people quit smoking and protect Australian kids from harm.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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The Zap: all the essential health and aged care news, plus consultations now open

Croakey, Other, 06/10/2024, Marie McInerney

More reform has been underway over the past week on vaping regulations in Australia, while the Federal Government has called to account residential aged care homes on mandatory care minute requirements that were introduced a year ago. [...] Writing a year after the requirement first took effect, she said that analysis by the Department of Health and Aged Care had "found compliance with care minutes is disproportionately low in metropolitan areas, even though it is understood that workforce constraints are generally greater in regional, rural and remote areas".

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Channel 7, Seven News (Weekend), 06/10/2024, Rebecca Maddern & Mike Amor

A new drug that could save tens of thousands of Australians from heart attacks is set to be fast tracked

to clinical trials, thanks to a multi-million dollar funding boost. If successful, it would be a world first drug. [clip: Minister Butler]

Also reported by: Seven Albury (Albury), Seven Ballarat (Ballarat), Seven Bendigo (Bendigo), Seven Gippsland (Sale), Seven Mildura (Mildura), Seven Shepparton (Shepparton), Seven Swan Hill (Swan Hill), Seven Warrnambool (Warrnambool)

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MINISTER WELLS

Sport Minister tees off on 'patriarchal' golf clubs

The Australian, General News, 07/10/2024, Lydia Lynch, Page 6

Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells tries not to pick favourites when it comes to Australia's great games, but a private social media post has revealed golf is probably not near the top of her list. Characterising golf as a "patriarchal space", the Brisbane-based minister told her close circle of private Instagram followers recently that she was doing her bit to dismantle the boys club of golf.

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

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Doctors gave Nigel five years to live. Fifty years later he's competing in Canberra

Milton Ulladulla Times, Other, 06/10/2024, Ben Richards

The tears start to well in Nigel Goldsworthy's eyes when he thinks about the moment that changed his life almost 50 years ago. [...] Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney said was important for every single Australian to register as an organ donor, if eligible.

Also reported by: [South Coast Register \(Online\)](#).

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Federal Government has called to account residential aged care homes on mandatory care minute requirements that were introduced a year ago. [...] Writing a year after the requirement first took effect, she said that analysis by the Department of Health and Aged Care had "found compliance with care minutes is disproportionally low in metropolitan areas, even though it is understood that workforce constraints are generally greater in regional, rural and remote areas".

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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DEPARTMENT

The Zap: all the essential health and aged care news, plus consultations now open

Croakey, Other, 06/10/2024, Marie McInerney

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Australia's Remote Vocational Training Scheme: training and supporting general practitioners in rural, remote and First Nations communities

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/10/2024

The Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) is an independent rural general practice workforce and training program fully funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care since 2000. It is operationally delivered by the Remote Vocational Training Scheme Ltd (a national training provider).

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VACCINES

No relevant coverage

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

How quarterly age pension adjustments will affect you

Canberra Times, Business News, 07/10/2024, Noel Whittaker, Page 24

The quarterly age pension adjustments came into play on 20 September, and thanks to inflation all pensioners got an income boost. The pension rates are somewhat confusing because there are four changes a year: in July and January each year they adjust the thresholds, and in September and March they adjust the amount of pension paid.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#).

POPULATION HEALTH

Recently reunited refugee father mourns son's drowning

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 06/10/2024, Farid Farid

In what has become a daily ritual, Sayed Habibi drives the 80 kilometres from Adelaide to Victor Harbour with his wife to search for the body of his teenage son who drowned on Father's Day. Mehdi, who would have turned 17 five days later on 6 September, was taking photos on the cliffs of Granite Island in South Australia on a windy day.

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

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

How 'tapping' is dividing opinion in therapy circles

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 07/10/2024, Liam Mannix, Page 20

First, Fiona Redding checks in with herself. How's her stress? Her anxiety? Then she utters an affirmation: "Even though I'm feeling so stressed about this situation, I deeply and completely love and accept myself."

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Why breast cancer shouldn't be labelled a 'good cancer'

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 07/10/2024, Madilyn McKinley, Page 5

Bernadette Coates was only 48 years of age when she was diagnosed with early breast cancer. Her diagnosis in March 2022 was "a huge shock".

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

Taking up the fight

Daily Liberal, General News, 07/10/2024, Ann Rahn, Page 1

Growing up my family moved around Australia a lot working in various states and regions so I understood the impacts on health living in remote areas and always wanted to become a nurse and work in remote regions. My desire to work with the Royal Flying Doctor Service started 28 years ago before becoming a nurse when I lived in Goondiwindi, Queensland and had to be flown to Toowoomba for a possible ectopic pregnancy.

Also reported by: [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#).

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Townsville toddler's brave journey: Overcoming life-threatening heart condition

Adelaide Now, Other, 06/10/2024, Natasha Emeck

Looking at little Tayan today, you'd see a joyful, energetic toddler, full of life and happiness. However, the scar down his chest is a reminder of the extraordinary challenges he has faced — two lifesaving heart surgeries before his first birthday.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast](#)

[Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#),

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Jayden Wong: The Essington School student shares rare cancer battle, dreams of being a doctor

Adelaide Now, Other, 06/10/2024, Alex Treacy

A Darwin teenager's dreams of one day being a doctor have received a scholarship boost, with difficult medical exams unlikely to phase the brainy lad. After all, Jayden Wong, 15, a student of the Essington School, has dealt with far worse – like his ongoing battle with a rare cancer, grey zone lymphoma, which has led to Jayden and his mother having to relocate full-time to New South Wales to seek treatment at the Sydney Children's Hospital.

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

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PRIMARY CARE

Dan's secret poll order to strategist

The Australian, General News, 07/10/2024, Damon Johnston, Page 6

The Victorian government has been ordered to release secret cabinet-in-confidence emails and documents reveal that just weeks before the last state election, a taxpayer-funded strategist was conducting political research for Daniel Andrews. In a significant victory for the public's right to know, Victoria's information watchdog has dismissed attempts by the Department of Premier and Cabinet to keep documents relating to the pre-election work of QDOS Research under wraps.

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Abortion, VAD overturn fears

The Australian, General News, 07/10/2024, Lydia Lynch, Page 6

A former cabinet colleague of David Crisafulli fears Queensland's Liberal National Party will overturn abortion and voluntary assisted dying laws if elected on October 26. Jann Stuckey, who served in cabinet during the one-term LNP Newman government and quit the party in 2020, said there were "growing concerns" her old party would amend VAD and abortion laws if elected, despite Mr Crisafulli's insistence he would not.

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

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Just what the doctor ordered?

Canberra Times, General News, 07/10/2024, Ron Cerabona, Page 6

Chris Lawler has a simple philosophy as a pharmacist: be kind. Mr Lawler, co-owner of the Pharmacy on Northbourne and a few other pharmacies in the city and Manuka, puts this into practice in a number of ways.

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I was raped, then was abused by the system

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 07/10/2024, Jami Roberts, Page 7

A Townsville woman who was drugged and raped by a stranger was forced to wait more than two days for a forensic exam, calling it the "most traumatic part of the incident". This harrowing delay isn't unique.

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SA Health offers \$620,000 salary for Royal Adelaide Hospital Emergency Department head of unit

7news.com.au, Other, 06/10/2024, Hayley Taylor

SA Health has just announced a new job offering a salary up to \$620,000 — but is the pay high enough to attract a new Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) emergency department (ED) head of unit, as the ED faces “unrelenting ramping” issues? The salary is even higher than that earned by SA Premier Peter Malinauskas, and although the premier faces frantic calls to boost funding for the crippled department, the new head of unit will be responsible for making it all work, despite the stretched resources.

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Voters in Bundaberg, Queensland's most marginal seat, outline top priorities ahead of state election

ABC Online, Other, 06/10/2024

As shoppers come through the door of a discount grocery store in Queensland's most marginal seat of Bundaberg, the state election is the furthest thing from their mind. For Sue Tasker who runs the charity grocery store, Angel's Mini Mart, she sees everyday how hard cost-of-living pressures are hitting the city.

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Perth philanthropist Ros Worthington OAM dies weeks after brave decision to terminate her life

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 07/10/2024, Max Aldred

A decorated philanthropist and charity worker who spent her life serving others has died after choosing to terminate her life. Ros Worthington OAM was recently told she had weeks to live after she was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer and organised to end her life on her own terms under Western Australia's Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation.

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MP demands 'secrets' related to man's death and hospital be revealed

The Border Mail, Other, 06/10/2024, Ted Howes

Questions about failed cross-border health policies related to the death of a respected Albury businessman three years ago have been raised in NSW Parliament. Greens MP Amanda Cohn told Parliament compatibility issues between NSW and Victorian health policies needed to be addressed following the coronial inquest into the death of Roger Schnelle.

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Medicare: Australians face steeper health costs as prevention funding lags

The New Daily, Other, 06/10/2024, Matthew Elmas

You might have noticed your last medical bill was higher than usual. Whether it's a GP visit, getting a test, or seeing a psychologist, Australians are paying more for healthcare as Medicare struggles with the rise in chronic disease and mental health care.

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General practitioners' views and experiences of postpartum contraception counselling and provision: a qualitative–descriptive study

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/10/2024

A 2016 Australian survey found that 40% of pregnancies are unintended. A more recent study found that 31% of unintended pregnancies in Australia end in abortion.

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Social media 'cesspit' for kids

Courier Mail, General News, 07/10/2024, Joe Hildebrand, Page 1

Education Minister Jason Clare has declared war on the "cesspit" of social media, saying that banning it for kids would make them happier and healthier and help parents get them off their devices. In a landmark speech to parliament this week, Mr Clare (inset) will also warn that groundbreaking school bans on mobile phones are being undermined by social media use after hours that is hurting performance in the classroom.

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Ex-Cowboy sparks chat

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 07/10/2024, Nikita McGuire, Page 18

A Cowboys community program is aiming to help spark important conversations on mental health challenges faced by high schoolers. The North Queensland Toyota Cowboys Try Time! Head in the Game program is hosted by former Cowboys player Ray Thompson, who speaks on his experiences both in life and on the playing field as a North Queensland player from 2009 to 2017.

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A different approach to support details

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 07/10/2024, Lydia Roberts, Page 2

Thousands of coasters will soon grace the bars of pubs, clubs and hotels across New England, listing support services for men who may be contemplating suicide. Business cards with similar information will also be delivered to butchers, gyms, rural shops and motels from Tamworth to Tenterfield.

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Aspiring paramedic Sofia Heszterenyiova driven to help 'broken world' after losing 10 people to suicide

ABC Online, Other, 06/10/2024

Shattered after losing 10 loved ones to suicide, Sofia Heszterenyiova is gearing up to join the front lines of Australia's mental health battle. The 28-year-old is channelling her grief into becoming a paramedic so she can help people who are experiencing mental health crises.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

South Australia's high paying jobs: 13 positions and their salaries

Adelaide Now, Other, 06/10/2024, Tara Miko

Lucrative jobs across South Australia are going unfilled despite attractive incentives on offer to attract prospective employees. As the hunt for a suitable chief executive to steer the Coober Pedy council enters its fourth round, a recruitment specialist has revealed the job trend is leaning toward employers.

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

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

ACT Health working on report failure

Canberra Times, General News, 07/10/2024, Bageshri Savvasachi, Page 6

Real-time data from ACT's walk-in centres was misrepresented on the Digital Health Record for 20 months before health officials fixed the problem. If patients presented to a centre and they could not be treated, information about whether they were referred to the hospital emergency department or a GP was unreliable between November 2022 and June 2024.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Fast tracked docs a risk

Daily Telegraph, General News, 07/10/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 3

Experts say patients will be at risk if the federal government does not pause its plan to fasttrack the registrations of specialist international medical graduates in Australia. Two medical colleges are calling for the slowing down of the planned expedited pathway, due to start this month, saying there needs to be clarity about how it will ensure patient safety and care.

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

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Storm official sanctioned over disgraced NRL player's court case

Adelaide Now, Other, 06/10/2024

Australian athlete Tay-Leiha Clark has welcomed sanctions that have been handed down to a Melbourne Storm psychologist surrounding disgraced former NRL player Curtis Scott's trial. [...]
Melbourne Storm psychologist Jacqui Louder has now been hit with restrictions by the national health watchdog after Clark reported the matter to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (APHRA) last year.

Also reported by: [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Footy clubs urged to cut booze binges

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 07/10/2024, Caitlyn Rintoul, Page 10

WA country football clubs are front and centre in a new health campaign to combat excessive and underage drinking. One of the measures touted includes following the lead of the Perth Football League and banning after-match beers in the change rooms.

Hundreds gather in Canberra for first Australian Transplant Games in six years

ABC Online, Other, 06/10/2024

The sweaty, puffing, heart-pounding hallmarks of a good work-out are off-putting for many Australians, but 18-year-old Jazz Cairns can't get enough. Jazz has restrictive cardiomyopathy (RCM), a rare condition that causes the heart's muscle walls to become stiff.

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Towards evidence-based skin checks

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/10/2024

Melanoma is often referred to as Australia's national cancer, with the highest incidence per capita in the world due to the combination of high solar ultraviolet radiation levels, a temperate climate, outdoor lifestyle and genetically susceptible population. Melanoma is our third most common invasive cancer, and two-thirds of Australians will be diagnosed with keratinocytic tumours (including basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas).

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SPORT

Institutions yet to be led by women

Australian Financial Review, General News, 07/10/2024, Hannah Wootton, Page 2

Leading executive women are calling for public institutions and government organisations to ramp up efforts to achieve gender equality in their senior ranks after the University of Melbourne appointed its first female vice chancellor.

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Gabba for Olympics? Would-be premier says he's open to it

The Australian, General News, 07/10/2024, Page 6

Queensland election frontrunner David Crisafulli has left the door open to reviving plans to overhaul the Gabba as Brisbane's Olympic stadium. Under pressure over his refusal to deliver an Olympic venue plan before the October 26 election, the Liberal National Party leader reaffirmed his commitment that new stadium would not be built but remained open to renovating the Gabba.

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Gold medal dodge

Courier Mail, General News, 07/10/2024, Taylah Fellows & Hayden Johnson, Page 1

Queenslanders are still in the dark on the LNP's plans for an Olympic and Paralympic stadium after its leader David Crisafulli repeatedly refused to give a straight answer in a bizarre campaign press event. Mr Crisafulli was asked a total of 15 questions about the topic including nine on whether he would consider a private funding partnership but he did not bite.

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Kids get sporting chance

Herald Sun, General News, 07/10/2024, Emily Dann, Page 6

Thousands of Victorian families are eligible for \$200 sports vouchers in a bid to ease the mounting costs of children's sport across the state. The Allan government announced the latest round of the Get Active Kids Voucher Program today, helping families cover the costs of sports memberships, registration fees, uniforms and equipment.

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Premier calls for Games clarity

Cairns Post, General News, 07/10/2024, Hayden Johnson & Taylah Fellows, Page 19

Premier Steven Miles has demanded David Crisafulli reveal his plans for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games after the Opposition leader again ruled out QSAC and building a new main stadium. Mr Crisafulli has criticised Labor's plan to have the athletics at QSAC and pledged not to build a new stadium with the Gabba thought to be firmly in the mix.

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Cash tackle

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 07/10/2024, Andrew Potts & Paul Weston, Page 1

The Gold Coast will be aimed as a high performance hub for sport, with city leaders working to sell the Glitter Strip as a place to for athletes and teams to train, work and play. Council tender documents obtained by the Bulletin revealed the city's pitch for sports, as well as the first images of what a planned elite sports training centre, which was tipped to become the new home of the Gold Coast Titans, would look like.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Don't be too alarmed the great spring forward isn't the only reason you're sleepy

Age, General News, 07/10/2024, Lauren Ironmonger, Page 16

Yesterday, many of us would have set the clocks forward, effectively losing an hour of sleep as we welcome long summer days. While much has been said and written about the effects of the change on sleep, a new comprehensive analysis from Flinders University suggests the impacts are not long-lasting.

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One man's poison is a lifesaving drug

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 07/10/2024, Blair Jackson, Page 14

World-first Australian research is using funnel-web spider venom to protect the heart during heart attacks. The University of Queensland researchers were on Sunday granted \$17m of government money to run clinical trials.

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Pill with three drugs lowers blood pressure in revolutionary treatment that could save thousands of lives each year

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 06/10/2024, Luke Chafer

A single tablet containing a combination of medicines that combat high blood pressure could revolutionise treatment and save thousands of lives each year, according to research. Experts say that patients with the common condition – also known as hypertension – often fail to take all their prescribed daily pills, raising their risk of life-threatening heart attacks and strokes.

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Implementability and impact in clinical research and the role of clinical trial networks

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/10/2024

The Australian Clinical Trials Alliance (ACTA) impact and implementation reference group has published guidance on clinical trial planning, design, conduct and reporting, to optimise the impact of late-phase trials. It is critical that clinical trials are designed, executed and reported on so that the generated evidence can be implemented and applied to improve practice, health systems and policy (defined as implementability).

2GB, Weekends, 06/10/2024, Luke Grant

Sleep experts from Flinders University in Adelaide have carried out the world's first comprehensive study into the practice's long term impact, and they've found no significant evidence that it results in things like loss of sleep. Researcher Rhys Kemp says people living in daylight saving states get comparable sleep to those who don't.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Weekend Breakfast, 06/10/2024, Olympia Kwitowski

University of Queensland researchers have created a drug with a molecule from the venom of the deadly funnel web spider that could help prevent heart and brain cells from dying after a heart attack or a stroke. The Federal Government is investing \$18m into the project.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Upgrades for remote Aboriginal community to ensure clean drinking water

National Indigenous Times, Other, 06/10/2024, Dechlan Brennan

The remote Aboriginal community of Scotdesco received new equipment to allow residents to access clean drinking water this week. It comes as the issue of water scarcity and quality in Aboriginal communities remains.

[Read More](#)

Doctor dedicated to Indigenous people's 'genetic story'

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 06/10/2024, Keira Jenkins

Alex Brown was all set to become an engineer when his older sister convinced him to take a different path. While still in high school, Professor Brown went to visit his sister at university where she was studying medicine.

Also reported by: [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Young man dies while attending Knockout music festival

The Australian, General News, 07/10/2024, Hannah Moore, Page 7

A young man died at the Knockout music festival in Sydney, police have confirmed. [...] On Saturday, many Knockout festival attendees said pill testing was essential to guarantee the safety of festival-goers.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Improving the uptake of highly effective contraception by women using

teratogenic medications

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/10/2024, Sarah Donald

On any given day, more than 30% of Australian women aged 20–40 years take at least one medication subsidised by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), and about half these women take more than one. [...] in this issue of the MJA, Grzeskowiak and colleagues describe the findings of their retrospective cohort study of the concurrent use of hormonal contraception by women of reproductive age prescribed medicines that are known teratogens (ie, classified as category X by the Therapeutic Goods Administration).

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Aligning legislation with clinical practice: off-label prescribing under the microscope

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 07/10/2024

In the United Kingdom, there was much controversy regarding off-label prescribing of bevacizumab for age-related macular degeneration in favour of ranibizumab due to lower cost. [...] Surprisingly, despite its ubiquity, the legal status of off-label prescribing has never been analysed in terms of the Therapeutic Goods Act 1989 (Cwlth) and related instruments.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Greens push for free drugs

Herald Sun, General News, 07/10/2024, Lucy Callander, Page 7

A plan to give free drugs to addicts so they don't commit crimes has been slammed. Greens Yarra Council candidate Leonie Gnieslaw claimed the policy would curb drug-related crime and take dealers off the streets. "We need to give (users) free drugs so that they don't have to commit crimes to afford them," Ms Gnieslaw said.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Cairns restaurant Helga's Pancake House 'stressed' with red tape costs

Adelaide Now, Other, 06/10/2024, Arun Singh Mann

A Far North business owner is considering closing due to "red tape stress", as administrative costs across the state double in just three years. Helga's Pancake House owner Birgit Machnitzke says she spends as much time in the books as she does operating her hospitality business after first opening in 2015.

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

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