



TODAY'S NEWS

Friday, 18th October 2024

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

LINKS

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [The Australian](#) (page 3) reports that a coalition of private hospitals and medical device manufacturers have written to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler calling for reforms to the process for setting health insurance premiums.
- [The Australian](#) (page 1) reports that Queensland LNP candidate Freya Ostapovitch has told early voters she wants abortion laws changed, adding that "I can't say anything yet because we have got to get elected before we do anything".
- [The Australian](#) (page 6) reports that the Therapeutic Goods Administration has rejected the use in Australia of Lecanemab, a drug developed by Esai to slow the progression of dementia, after concluding that the treatment's risks outweighed its efficacy.
- [The Herald Sun](#) (page 9) reports that 40 per cent of Victorian children show signs of tooth decay, with Department of Health figures revealing several towns have no fluoride in their water.
- [The Australian](#) (page 7) reports that 300 DNA samples have already been collected as part of OurDNA's effort to collect genetic information from thousands of Australians from diverse backgrounds.

- [The Adelaide Advertiser](#) (page 4) reports that a panel at the SXSW conference will discuss a project to collect genetic data from 20,000 Australians to help develop treatments for rare diseases.
- [The Herald Sun](#) (page 5) reports that a South Korean study has shown young women who received hormone therapy at the start of early menopause displayed a decreased risk of type 2 diabetes and other health problems.
- [The Australian](#) (page 3) reports that a study has shown nearly half of all patients who take antidepressants have experienced severe withdrawal effects.
- [The Herald Sun](#) (page 3) reports that the Victorian government has refused to comply with parliamentary rules in its attempt to prevent the release of documents related to the 2026 Commonwealth Games bid.
- [ABC News Online](#) reports that a University of Melbourne study has shown that nicotine pouches are becoming increasingly popular among teens, despite being illegal in Australia.
- [The Guardian](#) reports that the Victorian civil and administrative tribunal has banned a Melbourne psychologist from practicing for five years after finding he had a sexual relationship with a client.
- [The Northern Territory News](#) (page 10) reports that the South Australian government has signed a \$509 million deal with the Royal Flying Doctor Service to increase its operations.

MINISTER BUTLER

Hospitals demand premium reforms

The Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 3

Private hospitals and medical device companies are ramping up pressure for reform to the way health insurance premiums are set – including an independent umpire to oversee the process – amid ongoing warnings the sector continues to face unsustainable challenges. [...] It comes as the sector awaits the release of a summary of a federal health department-led viability review of private hospitals amid concerns many were facing a dire financial situation and some services, particularly in hospital mental health and maternity care, were unable to remain open.

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

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

Calls for urgent action as seniors wait up to four years for dental care

Canberra Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Rowan Cowley

The Australian Dental Association is calling for a federally funded scheme for seniors, with some facing waits of up to four years for care. [...] A spokesperson for health minister Mark Butler said the government was developing a new 10-year national oral health plan in partnership with all states and territories.

Also reported by: [The North West Star \(Online\)](#), [St George & Sutherland Shire Leader \(Online\)](#), [Moree Champion \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Tasmanian Examiner \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Milton Ulladulla Times \(Online\)](#), [Leeton Irrigator \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Port Macquarie News \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

We've had Medicare for 50 years, but where's the dental care?

About Regional, Other, 17/10/2024, Jen White

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's (AIHW) oral health and dental care report found that in 2022–23, more than 87,000 hospitalisations for dental conditions could have been avoided if patients had been treated earlier. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has indicated there are no plans to include dental in Medicare in the near term.

[Read More](#)

Why this GP is tracking his patients in real time from his computer

Australian Doctor, Other, 17/10/2024, Carmel Sparke

A sizeable chunk of patients who visit Dr Kean-Seng Lim can expect to walk out attached to a variety of wearable monitoring devices. [...] In many ways you should expect him to be excited by Mark Butler's big plan to start handing over Medicare cash for practices to develop care packages to keep their frequent flyers away from the hospital gates.

[Read More](#)

'Invisible, sidelined': landmark count for fatal cancer

HealthTimes, Other, 17/10/2024

Isolated, unsupported and not even counted correctly, people with metastatic breast cancer know they will eventually die from the disease. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the Cancer Institute's data collection was world-leading, indicating it would be adopted across the nation.

[Read More](#)

Butler to introduce 'sharing by default' next month, warns penalties may apply

Pulse+IT, Other, 17/10/2024, Kate McDonald

The Australian government will introduce legislation to Parliament next month to support its 'sharing by default' policy, which will mandate the sharing of key health information with consumers starting with pathology and diagnostic imaging report uploads to their My Health Record. Health Minister Mark Butler told the Victorian Healthcare Week conference today that penalties may apply.

[Read More](#)

'No rebate for you': Butler threatens path labs if they don't upload results

The Medical Republic, Other, 17/10/2024, Laura Woodrow

The federal government will withhold Medicare rebates from pathology services that do not comply with legislation for mandatory My Health Record uploading, says health minister Mark Butler. Last year, Mr Butler announced plans to implement mandatory uploading of pathology and diagnostic imaging reports to MHR and to void the seven-day delay on report availability for patients.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS

Son and mother together

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 18/10/2024, Will Keech, Page 17

A mother and son have won a "hard battle" against red tape that threatened to keep them apart. Anne Deans, 81, is the primary caregiver of her son 57-year-old Mark, who has Down syndrome. [...] Following the Geelong Advertiser's initial report, the family met an adviser of federal Aged Care Minister Anika Wells.

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

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Regular forum to update seniors about services

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 17/10/2024, Page 10

The Wyoming Community Centre was at capacity on Friday, October 4 as Federal Member for Dobell Emma McBride hosted one of her regular seniors' forums with Services Australia and the Seniors

Rights Service. The forum followed the September 20 increases to the Age Pension, Rent Assistance, and Home Care Packages, and expansions to income and asset tests for income support and the Seniors Health Care Card.

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

About Croakey Health Media

Croakey, Other, 17/10/2024, Melissa Sweet

Short-term, inflexible funding mechanisms and chronic workforce shortages are undermining the provision of allied health services to rural and remote Australian communities, including those serving many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who need better access to culturally safe care. [...] It will feature a video message from Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health Emma McBride, and a keynote from the Shadow Minister Anne Webster, the local Nationals MP.

[Read More](#)

Official opening of headspace in Kiama

The Bugle Newspaper, Other, 17/10/2024

Young people in Kiama and surrounding areas will now have access to in-person free mental health care and support with the opening of a headspace clinic. [...] Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Emma McBride and Federal Member for Gilmore Fiona Phillips joined headspace staff and youth groups and community members to celebrate the launch of headspace Kiama.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 17/10/2024, Ashleigh Gillon

Interview with Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride. Compere says the theme of the National Mental Health Month this year is "Building Resilience, Community, and Connections. McBride admits that demand for mental health services is growing now, and they are seeing this right around the country as distress is increasing. She states that they are assisting young people through strengthening headspace networks.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Women's savings gaps even larger than pay gap, new research finds

The Courier Mail, Other, 17/10/2024, Blair Jackson

Women earn less than men in Australia, and new research shows the gender savings gap is even larger than the pay gap. Assistant Health and Aged Care Minister Ged Kearney says the health system is "not right" as female GPs receive more "complex and difficult patients" which has created a gender pay gap for female GPs

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

Register for Gosford seniors forum on Tuesday

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 17/10/2024, Page 3

The Federal Assistant Minister for Women, Social Security, and Ageing, Kate Thwaites, will participate in a seniors forum on Tuesday, October 22 in Gosford. Member for Robertson Dr Gordon Reid has organised the forum which will be an opportunity for the community to learn about the work being undertaken by the Federal Government to help seniors with the cost of living.

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

DEPARTMENT

Hospitals demand premium reforms

The Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 3

Private hospitals and medical device companies are ramping up pressure for reform to the way health insurance premiums are set – including an independent umpire to oversee the process – amid ongoing warnings the sector continues to face unsustainable challenges. [...] It comes as the sector awaits the release of a summary of a federal health department-led viability review of private hospitals amid concerns many were facing a dire financial situation and some services, particularly in hospital mental health and maternity care, were unable to remain open.

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

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

Stop the rot with tot teeth checks

Herald Sun, General News, 18/10/2024, Athos Sirianos, Page 9

Half of Victorian kids have signs of tooth decay by the age of 12, prompting calls for parents to have their children's teeth checked for the first time by their first birthdays. [...] According to the Department of Health, Apollo Bay, Daylesford and Trentham are among the towns without fluoride in their water.

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

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

Safety assurance at trauma centre

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 18/10/2024, Kate McIlwain, Page 4

The Illawarra Women's Trauma Recovery Centre remains open and operating to help women in the region escaping family, domestic and sexual violence. [...] The ABC reported that a collective of staff had sent a letter to the federal Department of Health and Aged Care summarising their concerns.

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

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

Warning of 'genuine risk' from bird flu strain

Launceston Examiner, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 11

Australians are being urged not to become complacent with a deadly strain of bird flu, as the virus poses "genuine risks to people". [...] Despite Australia being the only continent without H5N1, chief medical officer Paul Kelly has warned it's only a matter of time.

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

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

1 in 4 infant supermarket foods fail WHO guidelines

Retail Pharmacy Assistants, Other, 17/10/2024, Katrina Crawford

A new study released by Monash University has found that less than one-quarter of food products promoted as suitable for toddlers and infants met the nutritional standards set by the World Health Organisation (WHO). [...] This study is timely given the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care recently held a public consultation on improving commercial foods for infants and young children.

[Read More](#)

One in four infant and toddler supermarket foods fail WHO nutrition guidelines

Retail World, Other, 17/10/2024, Meta Time

Ready-made food for infants and toddlers bought in pouches and boxes in Australian supermarkets

"fall short" of nutrient, labelling and marketing requirements set out by the World Health Organization (WHO), according to a new Monash University study. [...] "This study is timely given the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care recently held a public consultation on improving commercial food for infants and young children."

[Read More](#)

A new COVID-19 vaccine has been approved for Australians. Here's what to know

SBS, Other, 17/10/2024, Madeleine Wedesweiler

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has given Pfizer's new COVID-19 jab the green light. But what about vaccines from Moderna and Novavax? [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care previously told SBS News it anticipated the updated jabs would be rolled out in 2024-25, subject to approvals.

[Read More](#)

Dept of Health and Aged Care seeks CDIO

WEB IT News Australia, Other, 17/10/2024, Eleanor Dickinson

The Department of Health and Aged Care has reorganised its technology delivery to bring its separate IT and digital transformation units under the purview of a single executive. The federal department is recruiting for a full-time chief digital and information officer (CDIO) to lead a "substantial program of ICT investments and digital reforms".

[Read More](#)

Outback Radio 2WEB, 13:05 Local News, 17/10/2024

Queensland's St George Library is partnering with the Department of Health and Aged Care and the Australian and Information Association to promote changes to aged care. Residents are encouraged to drop into the Aged Care Information Hub at the library during September and October to access a range of resources and engage in conversations about aged care.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

VACCINES

Some opinions are more equal than others in Bill

Northern Territory News, General News, 18/10/2024, John Storey, Page 41

The Minister for Communications Michelle Rowland [...] claims that "misinformation and disinformation can threaten people's health, safety and wellbeing". To prove her point she provides an apparent example of misinformation circulating online the notion "that drinking bleach may cure Covid-19".

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

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

Key to mRNA Covid vaccine side-effects unlocked by Melbourne scientists

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 17/10/2024, Sarah Booth

Melbourne scientists may have unlocked the mystery behind common but annoying mRNA vaccine side effects — such as headaches, fever and fatigue — and the key to better cancer treatments. mRNA Covid vaccines have been designed to travel to our lymph nodes, but RMIT and Doherty Institute researchers have discovered tiny traces of mRNA end up in our bloodstream.

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

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

AGEING AND AGED CARE

Aged care to tower of luxury

Courier Mail, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 63

A long-term aged care facility in an exclusive inner city Brisbane suburb is being demolished, with the site to go on the market with expectations it will become a high-end apartment development. After almost 30 years Ozcare has closed its aged care home at 424 Bowen Tce, New Farm, with residents moving to a property at 43 Evelyn St in nearby Newstead, which has the same number of beds.

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

Scrap 'onerous' fines for aged care staff: union

Canberra Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Andrew Brown

Financial penalties for aged care workers who breach the code of conduct should be scrapped as part of reforms to the sector, unions have urged. The Health Services Union said while the federal government's aged care changes would have penalties for providers, the same civil penalties should not be extended to individual employees.

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

[Read More](#)

70 per cent of providers concerned about pace of Aged Care Act rollout

Aged Care Insite, Other, 17/10/2024, Stefanie Schultz

A survey conducted by an Australian aged care peak body has revealed that seven in 10 providers are concerned with the speed at which Labor's sector reforms are being rolled out, with 80 per cent saying they are worried the new Aged Care Act will put even greater pressure on an already strained industry.

[Read More](#)

"Adapt technology to suit people:" Tablet designed for older people wins design award

Aged Care Insite, Other, 17/10/2024, Stefanie Schultz

The team behind Australian designed, purpose-built tablet Lumin , used their expertise in tech and design into the "world's easiest tablet for seniors", with their efforts being recognised in the product category at this year's Australian Good Design Awards for Excellence in Design and Innovation.

[Read More](#)

Spacetalk teams up with Talius

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 17/10/2024

Smart assistive technology companies Spacetalk and Talius Group partnered to bring the former's wearable alert devices to aged care providers and consumers in Australia and New Zealand. Spacetalk's Life Mobile Personal Emergency Response System is an accredited mPERS device with voice calling, texts, and location sharing that family members and carers have access to via a simple app.

[Read More](#)

Stage reform implementation, says ACCPA

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 17/10/2024, Jodie Wolf

Provider peak body Aged & Community Care Providers Association has told a Senate inquiry that providers should have the final legislation, rules, guidance and education materials for at least 6-12 months before any new requirements under the new Aged Care Act commence. [...] Elsewhere in its submission, ACCPA has called for the removal of the proposed higher everyday living fee requirements on residential aged care providers until a review is undertaken on their impacts.

[Read More](#)

Remember to care for the carer

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 17/10/2024, Jodie Wolf

Carers are in the spotlight as the nation marks National Carers Week, a time to recognise and give thanks to those who may be supporting a friend or family member at home. Aruna Perera is one of Australia's many carers. In 2022, her daughter Morina began receiving palliative care after being diagnosed with bowel cancer aged 37. At 46 years old, after a decade of chemo, radiation and surgeries, the disease finally won last year.

[Read More](#)

OPAN welcomes new aged care Inspector-General

Australian Seniors News, Other, 17/10/2024

The Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN) has welcomed the announcement of Natalie Siegel-Brown as the new Inspector-General of Aged Care. OPAN CEO, Craig Gear OAM, says Ms Siegel-Brown (pictured) brings considerable experience to the position at an important time for the aged care sector, with the new Aged Care Act set to commence from 1 July 2025, pending parliamentary passage.

[Read More](#)

Deaf Connect program launched for Victoria

Australian Seniors News, Other, 17/10/2024

In celebration of Victorian Seniors Month, Deaf Connect has announced the state launch of its Ageing Well program for Deaf, deafblind, and hard-of-hearing Seniors. As part of the program, a comprehensive Auslan-delivered Home Care Package under the My Aged Care program will now be available for Deaf seniors in Victoria.

[Read More](#)

One in seven aged care providers not confident they will be delivering care in three years: ACCPA State of the Sector

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/10/2024, Caroline Egan

The inaugural State of the Sector report by the peak body for aged care providers, Aged and Community Care Providers' Association (ACCPA), released on Wednesday, shows that 17 per cent of aged care providers were 'not at all' optimistic about their ability to provide aged care services by 2027.

[Read More](#)

Increase grants for thin markets, concern about Support at Home price controls: the latest from the Aged Care Bill Senate Inquiry

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/10/2024, Caroline Egan

David Cox, Managing Director at WA aged care and retirement living provider Curtin Heritage Living, said in particular they would like to see Support at Home reforms delayed, a move also put forward by Catholic Health Australia, which represents over 350 aged care facilities and 20 per cent of the home care market.

[Read More](#)

200 patients still lying in SA hospitals waiting for aged care beds

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/10/2024, Caroline Egan

It would take two large aged care homes to house all the older patients in South Australian hospitals ready to be discharged, but with no bed available. The Malinauskas Government's promise to build more than 600 new hospital beds, including 300 this year, has seen ambulance ramping drop 41 per cent in September to 3,106 hours, the largest improvement recorded in the state, and the lowest level in a year.

[Read More](#)

Perth home care and veterans services provider TPG Aged Care's systems hacked

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/10/2024, Caroline Egan

Home care and veterans' services provider TPG Aged Care, which is based in Kingsley, 20km north of the Perth CBD, had its systems hacked, reportedly by affiliates of cybercriminals LockBit. A spokesperson for TPG Aged Care told The SOURCE, "TPG Aged Care experienced a cyber incident in mid-September which resulted in unauthorised access to some data on its servers and the exfiltration of some approximately 65GB of its data.

[Read More](#)

Bryan Dorman to retire 30 years after founding Australia's only remaining ASX-listed provider Regis Aged Care

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/10/2024, Caroline Egan

Regis Aged Care merged with Retirement Care Australia in 2007, forming one of the largest aged care providers in the country with 37 homes and 3,600 beds. Bryan was Executive Chairman of Regis Aged Care until 2008, and then Non-Executive Chairman until the company floated on the ASX in 2014. Today, Regis Aged Care is the only pure aged care company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.

[Read More](#)

BESTMED launches purpose-built medication management for home care

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/10/2024, Caroline Egan

Medication management solution BESTMED has launched BESTMED for Home Care ahead of the introduction of the strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards, which increase the medication management requirements for home care providers. The draft of Standard 5.3 requires home care providers 'involving any aspect of medication management' to implement an effective system and processes for medication management.

[Read More](#)

\$1 for a site in inner-city Sydney –just design, build and operate an aged care home

The Weekly Source, Other, 17/10/2024, Caroline Egan

The City of Sydney is looking for a Not For Profit aged care provider to design, build and operate a residential aged care home for the local community on its 1,925sqm site at 49 Cope Street, Redfern, which is currently being used as a 55-place car park. "It's an underdeveloped space in this busy and rapidly changing inner city neighbourhood," a statement from the City of Sydney said.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 17/10/2024, Michael Rowland & Stephanie Ferrier

Dementia Australia is this morning speaking out against the Therapeutic Goods Administration's decision to reject Alzheimer's drug Lecanemab for use in Australia. The drug is designed to help slow down the cognitive decline associated with the disease, and has been approved for use in the UK, US and Japan.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 17/10/2024, Brenton Ragless & Kate Collins

The number of seniors turning to the government's Home Equity access scheme for extra income has surged up more than 300% since the pandemic. Since 2020, the number of people using the government's home equity scheme has soared by 329%, and as of 2024 June, more than 13,400 people have signed up for pensions.

Also reported by: WIN Mt Gambier (Mt Gambier), WIN Riverland (Berri)

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

LNP pro-lifer breaks ranks

The Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Lydia Lynch & Sarah Elks, Page 1

One of David Crisafulli's self-described pro-life candidates declared at a polling booth this week that she wanted abortion laws changed but "I can't say anything" until after the Liberal National Party wins the state election. One-term Newman government LNP MP Freya Ostapovitch, contesting the Labor-held Brisbane seat of Stretton, has been heard telling people at an early voting booth she wanted legislation overhauled.

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

Samples collected in development of first national DNA database

The Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 7

It's the great conundrum facing genetic scientists: as the world moves towards a future of preventive medicine based on DNA screening, many people risk being locked out. Across the world, enormous DNA databases have been amassed that are already being used to analyse which common gene mutations cause a variety of diseases, but those resources are of little use to millions of Australians whose ancestry does not match the largely European cohort whose genetic information is stored.

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

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

Hight-tech script for medicine

The Australian, Special Report, 18/10/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 16

Health systems in Australia and globally face a series of unprecedented challenges that, unchecked, threaten our economic prosperity and way of life. An ageing population, falling birth rates and a wave of chronic disease, teamed with a virtual epidemic of mental health conditions, are putting unprecedented pressure on healthcare resources.

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

Magic medicine? The gene and us

The Australian, Special Report, 18/10/2024, Kathryn North, Page 34

Genomic newborn screening, still in the research phase, has the potential to fast-track diagnosis of serious conditions in newborns. For babies and children in intensive care with a likely genetic disorder, rapid genomic sequencing can return results and a diagnosis in a matter of hours, changing clinical management and enabling fast and targeted treatment options.

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

Anti-ageing pill years from approval: experts

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 18/10/2024, Liam Mannix, Page 15

Excitement about NAD was ignited in part by Australian longevity researcher Professor David Sinclair, whose team showed in 2017 the molecule played a role in repairing DNA. DNA repair mechanisms decline as we age, as do NAD levels. By boosting NAD levels in old mice, their cells "were indistinguishable from the young mice", Sinclair said at the time. Raising NAD levels was also linked in animals to improving the function of mitochondria, the cellular machines that produce our energy.

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

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

Siblings film is low key, high drama

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 18/10/2024, Karl Quinn, Page 25

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reports that one in 10 people aged over 14 was a victim of an illicit drug-related incident (experiencing verbal abuse, physical abuse or being put in fear) in 2022-23. That makes this well-acted, tightly woven film both intensely personal and broadly public.

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

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

Tackling diseases with DNA

Murdoch Children co-chair Sarah Murdoch will host a panel of world-leading medical experts at a Sydney conference discussing a project that aims to improve the treatments of rare diseases. The panel, to be held at SXSW, will discuss an ambitious new initiative aiming to tackle a gap in global genetic research by collecting genetic data from over 20,000 diverse Australians.

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

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

Pro-lifer backs change

Courier Mail, Edition Changes - Metro, 18/10/2024, Page 6

A pro-life LNP candidate has been overheard at a polling booth saying she wants abortion laws changed but "can't say anything" until the party is elected to power. The Australian reports that Freya Ostapovitch, who previously served in Campbell Newman's one-term government, is again running for the Brisbane southside seat of Stretton, now held by Labor.

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

Bioxyne's revenue soars 48pc after key manufacturing licences boost growth

The Australian, Other, 17/10/2024

Medicinal cannabis products supplier Bioxyne is on the up today after reporting a strong start to the new financial year with rapid growth following granting of key licences. Releasing its Q1 FY25 report, Bioxyne (ASX:BXN) said within a short period the company had made outstanding progress toward becoming Australia's leading manufacturer and wholesaler of novel medicines, complementing sale and distribution of its Dr Watson health products.

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

[Read More](#)

As crucial as gut health but not talked about. The vital role of vagina microbiomes

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 17/10/2024, Wendy Tuohy

It plays a vital role for women's wellbeing, reproductive health, sex life and can even be a warning sign for premature labour. But despite compelling evidence about the impact of a healthy vaginal microbiome, Catherine Slogrove spends an inordinate amount of time just explaining – particularly to men – what it is.

[Read More](#)

Labor MP Meaghan Scanlon targets LNP head David Crisafulli on abortion

The Courier Mail, Other, 17/10/2024, Ashleigh Jansen

Labor's sole Gold Coast MP Meaghan Scanlon continues to call out the Opposition to reveal their personal views on abortion laws. Opposition leader David Crisafulli was pressed this week for a staggering 132nd time for his position on abortion as the Katter party flags plans for a vote to criminalise terminations if the LNP is elected this month.

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

[Read More](#)

GIWA forum: Legumes and grain 'key' to satisfying world protein hunger

West Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Rebecca Turner

Grains and legumes are tipped to be the big players in feeding the growing global population, with plant-based protein the key to sustainably feeding another two billion people by 2050. This was the

message from Grains and Legumes Nutrition Council general manager Kathy La Macchia at this year's Grains Industry Association of WA (GIWA) forum on October 9.

[Read More](#)

'More than hurtful words': Australia's systemic racism

Canberra Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Alex Mitchell

Heartbreaking accounts have convinced the human rights watchdog racism is entrenched in the Australian community, with a society-wide response needed to stop the marginalisation. Systemic experiences of racial discrimination at health services, schools, workplaces and when interacting with police have led the Australian Human Rights Commission to double down on calls for a National Anti-Racism Framework.

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

[Read More](#)

'Can't censor stupidity': some embrace conspiracies

Canberra Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Dominic Giannini

Labor's bill has run into multiple hurdles, with the coalition, religious groups and human rights bodies worried it goes too far and will impact freedom of speech. Types of harm span electoral processes, public health, vilification, incitement of violence and imminent harm to the economy with some exemptions for satire, professional news and academic, artistic, scientific or religious purposes.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Daily Leader \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

South Australian upper house narrowly votes down late-term abortion law amendments

ABC Online, Other, 17/10/2024, Evelyn Leckie

South Australia's upper house has narrowly voted down a proposal to amend abortion laws that would have required people wanting to terminate their pregnancy after 28 weeks to deliver their baby alive. The amendments, proposed by Liberal MP Ben Hood, would have required women seeking to terminate a pregnancy from 28 weeks to instead undergo an induced birth, with babies to then be adopted.

[Read More](#)

SA abortion law amendment narrowly defeated amid controversy over voting pairing

7news.com.au, Other, 17/10/2024, Abe Maddison

A proposal to amend SA's abortion laws has been narrowly rejected, after an MP on leave for cancer treatment says she was forced into a "wild ride which had nothing to do with the Uber drivers". Liberal MP Ben Hood's private member's bill would have required women wanting to terminate their pregnancy after 28 weeks to deliver their baby alive.

Also reported by: [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Walk aims to raise awareness about suicide

Shepparton News Online, Other, 17/10/2024, Kate Walters

Participants at the 2023 awareness walk fell into a rhythm, walking, talking and connecting with each other throughout the evening. [...] In 2022, there were 3249 suicide deaths in Australia, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

[Read More](#)

The governor-general on Australia's 'serious challenges', the Voice, and

the King's visit

SBS, Other, 17/10/2024, Emma Brancatisano

While there are multiple definitions of social cohesion, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare states it is an important "determinant of well-being", indicating to what extent a society is "integrated or divided". The Scanlon Foundation Research Institute has been measuring social cohesion since 2007, intending to learn more about the transition of migrants into Australian society. It identified five key domains of social cohesion: worth, social justice, acceptance, belonging, and participation.

[Read More](#)

Busting misconceptions about MHT

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 17/10/2024, Chloe Hava

At one point in time, Menopausal hormone therapy (MHT) was used fairly extensively. But this has changed since 2002, when the Women's Health Initiative (WHI) published a study linking combined MHT (oestrogen and progestin) with an increased risk of blood clots, stroke, breast cancer and heart attacks.

[Read More](#)

Bone density tests' new role?

Medical Forum, Other, 17/10/2024

A new WA study has found that providing patients with results from blood vessel calcification imaging through bone density tests could spur them into making lifestyle changes. In a first-ever trial, researchers from Edith Cowan University provided older patients with abdominal aortic calcification (AAC) imaging results in a bid to get to them to make behavioural changes to improve diet, physical activity, and other cardiovascular disease risk factors.

[Read More](#)

New COPD guideline for doctors

Medical Forum, Other, 17/10/2024

For the first time, a national standard outlines best practice to diagnose and treat COPD, which affects an estimated 638,000 Australians – or one in 13 people aged 40 and over. The chronic lung condition, characterised by limited airflow which makes it difficult to breathe, is a leading cause of preventable hospitalisations in Australia, responsible for more than 53,000 hospital stays in people aged over 45 years.

[Read More](#)

First ever COPD Clinical Care Standard launched

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 17/10/2024, Chelsea Heaney

One in 13 Australians over the age of 40 have COPD, but research shows only half know they have it. [...] Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data shows that in Australia more than 7600 people die from COPD and 53,000 people aged 45 and over are hospitalised every year.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

The silent disease killing thousands

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 18/10/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 23

John Ruttle's doctor diagnosed him with chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD) and gave him 18 months to live. He is now 78. The disease kills more than 7000 people every year, but doctors say only half of the estimated 640,000 living with COPD know they have it.

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

Itinerary fit for a king

In Sydney the King will meet Professors Georgina Long and Richard Scolyer, the current Australians of the Year, to discuss their world-leading melanoma research, while the Queen will visit a Sydney library to meet students.

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

Hormone therapy winner

Herald Sun, General News, 18/10/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 5

Young women who take hormone therapy at the start of early menopause can "significantly" reduce their risk of type 2 diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure. That's the finding of a world-first study of more than 122,000 women in South Korea, to be presented in Melbourne this weekend.

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

It's a supercell

Herald Sun, General News, 18/10/2024, Jordan McCarthy, Page 17

Severe weather warnings were in place for parts of Victoria on Thursday night less than 24 hours after the southwest was battered by a "supercell" storm that tore off roofs and caused flash flooding. [...] SES emergency commander David Baker said there could be a moderate increase in risk for thunderstorm asthma. He urged those with asthma or hayfever to activate their plan.

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

Fearless four set a shining example

West Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, John Flint, Page 6

She has only half a functioning heart, but Florence Shanks' indomitable spirit to beat the odds and live her best life is a story to melt a million hearts. "She shouldn't be here. She's just fought every day and has never let her condition stop her doing anything she wants to do," mum Roslyn said.

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

Hope for diabetics

West Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 18

Early lab and animal tests show that a new form of insulin could help prevent sudden drops in blood sugar. The insulin, NNC2215, has a switch that can open and close in response to blood sugar.

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

A few minutes to save a life with Restart a Heart

Northern Territory News, General News, 18/10/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 3

St John NT said it was holding the community day on Saturday to lend its weight to a national push to make automated external defibrillators (AEDs) "as common place as fire extinguishers in the community". According to Heart Foundation data, every year in Australia about 26,000 people have a sudden cardiac arrest out of hospital.

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

'He is a fighter'

Cairns Post, General News, 18/10/2024, Janessa Ekert, Page 18

A North Queensland family has had their world turned upside down after learning one of their twin toddlers was riddled with tumours as he battles a stage four cancer diagnosis. [...] Within days of the diagnosis Lathan and his mum were flown to the Queensland Children's Hospital in Brisbane and since then he has already undergone four rounds of chemotherapy and had stem cells harvested.

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

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

Asthma sufferers warned to be on alert ahead of storms

Daily Advertiser, General News, 18/10/2024, Jeremy Eager, Page 5

Riverina residents with asthma or hay fever have been urged to take precautions ahead of possible thunderstorms and heavy rainfall. The first drops of rainfall were predicted to fall in Wagga last night but the worst of the wet weather is expected to hit today.

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

Aussies turn deaf ear to hearing loss

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 17

Almost 25 per cent of Australians know someone suffering workplace-related hearing damage, but one in three give little thought to protecting their own hearing, new research shows. Hearing Australia's national survey also revealed only one-in-four Australians think about hearing protection and use it at work or when undertaking noisy activities during their leisure time.

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

Family rallies around one-in-a-million Kingston

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 18/10/2024, Janine Graham, Page 1

Wollongong's Angel and Steve Everett knew there was something wrong with little Kingston just months after he was born but it took multiple visits to GPs and hospitals before he was diagnosed with the one-in-a-million condition juvenile myelomonocytic leukemia. Now almost eight months old, Kingston has already undergone one operation and is due to have a bone marrow transplant next month, with the bone marrow supplied by his older brother, four-year-old Kyrie.

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

Lakers, Kookas honour mother-of-two in Robinson Cup

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 18/10/2024, Agron Latifi, Page 75

It was a Sunday in late July this year when Kirrilli Robinson failed to wake up. Her 'devastated' family would only learn after the postmortem that the 35-year-old mother-of-two from Lake Illawarra had died as a result of an inoperable frontal lobe brain tumour.

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

16,000 reasons why coal seam gas is not the answer

Newcastle Herald, General News, 18/10/2024, Steve Phillips, Page 52

John Tierney's defence of coal seam gas and Santos' Narrabri gas project (Australia can supply the world with gas, but not itself, NH 17/10) ignored a number of important arguments - at least 16,000 of them, in fact. Reports have found a direct link between unconventional gas extraction and higher rates of cancer, birth defects, and respiratory illnesses in communities living near gas wells.

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

Workplace hearing damage for one in 10

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 16

Hearing loss from a workplace incident has impacted one in 10 Australians, despite most saying ear protection is not necessary, a report has revealed. Hearing Australia data released yesterday surveyed more than 1000 people on their experience with, and avoiding, hearing damage.

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

In the pink: Hot property helps fund breast cancer research

The Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Glen Norris

Professionals Real Estate has marked a corporate philanthropic partnership that has delivered \$4.5m to support lifesaving research by the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF) over the past 20 years. The financial support has contributed to funding world-class advancements in diagnosis and treatment, with the death rate from breast cancer falling by 27 per cent in Australia over the period.

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

[Read More](#)

The paracetamol lie you're probably falling for

In Australia, chronic pain affects 3.4 million Australians. Around 68 per cent of people living with chronic pain are of working age. This is why some companies pump millions into advertising every day to tell you their over-the-counter pill works best for your pain.

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

[Read More](#)

Wild weather to lash several states as systems collide

West Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Emily Verdouw

Wild weather is expected to hit a swathe of Australia with residents from South Australia to Queensland and the Northern Territory in the firing line. [...] There's also an increased risk of thunderstorm asthma for northern parts of Victoria.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

UWA study looks at using marine sponges to find cancer treatments

West Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Oliver Lane

Marine sponges found under the Busselton Jetty could be the key to unlocking new cancer treatments, University of Western Australia researchers believe. UWA post-doctorate marine chemistry researcher Darren Holland is one researcher who is focusing on the artificial reef under the Busselton Jetty due to its high biodiversity, including about 20 species of sponges.

[Read More](#)

Workplace hearing damage impacting one in 10 Aussies

Canberra Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Holly Hales

Hearing loss from a workplace incident has impacted one in 10 Australians, despite most saying ear protection is not necessary, a report has revealed. Hearing Australia data released on Thursday surveyed more than 1000 people on their experience with, and avoiding, hearing damage.

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

[Read More](#)

King Charles will arrive in Australia for his first visit as monarch. Here's where to see the royals

The Guardian, Other, 18/10/2024, Daisy Dumas

King Charles and Queen Camilla will touch down on Friday in Australia, marking the start of the couple's first visit to the country since he became its reigning monarch. [...] The king will also meet Australians of the Year and cancer researchers Prof Georgina Long and Prof Richard Scolyer and learn about their work addressing melanoma.

[Read More](#)

One Illawarra family's battle as baby boy diagnosed with rare leukaemia

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 18/10/2024, Janine Graham

It just took multiple GP visits, almost as many trips to the ED at Wollongong Hospital and paediatricians before specialists at Sydney Children's Hospital diagnosed juvenile myelomonocytic leukemia (JMML). It's a condition that affects just one or two people in every one million.

[Read More](#)

Be prepared for thunderstorm asthma

Shepparton News Online, Other, 17/10/2024

With rye-grass pollen season well under way in Victoria, Asthma Australia is urging asthma and hay

fever sufferers to be prepared. Rye-grass pollen is a major trigger for asthma and hay fever, with high levels of this allergen contributing to the thunderstorm asthma epidemic.

[Read More](#)

Nathalia learns to Restart a Heart

Shepparton News Online, Other, 17/10/2024

This Restart a Heart Day, Ambulance Victoria and the Heart Foundation are celebrating the success of the Heart Safe Communities initiative in the Hume region. The towns of Nathalia and Tallangatta are recent graduates of the program, which aims to improve survival rates for cardiac arrest by working with communities to raise awareness and teach residents how to perform CPR and use an automated external defibrillator.

[Read More](#)

Research links levonorgestrel IUDs to breast cancer, but GP says the risk is small compared to benefits

Australian Doctor, Other, 17/10/2024, Mohana Basu

A registry study found an excess breast cancer risk of 14 cases per 10,000 women. Levonorgestrel-releasing IUDs may be associated with an increased risk of breast cancer, research suggests, but a GP says the devices have significant benefits compared to their risks.

[Read More](#)

New Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Clinical Care Standard launched

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 17/10/2024, Robert Fedele

A nagging cough, coupled with being unable to breathe or walk properly, prompted John to visit his GP. After being referred to a lung specialist, he found out he had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and was given 18 months to live.

[Read More](#)

COPD standards

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 17/10/2024

The first national standard on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) has been launched by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare. Released today, the standard offers support for clinicians and healthcare services on managing COPD.

[Read More](#)

Improving heart health accessibility

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 17/10/2024

A recent heart screen program delivered by Shane Warne Legacy in partnership with Novartis Australia, SiSu Health and Wesfarmers has highlighted the important role of accessible heart screening programs in rural and regional areas of Australia. Cardiovascular disease deaths are more than 50 per cent higher in very remote areas of Australia and 33 per cent higher in remote areas, which is why the partnership focussed on delivering pharmacist-led heart health testing in Mallee (VIC) and Gilmore (NSW) communities with the support Federal Members of Parliament, Ms Fiona Phillips MP, the Member for Gilmore and Dr Anne Webster MP, the Member for Mallee.

[Read More](#)

Time to make a noise about workplace hearing damage

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 17/10/2024

Almost 25 per cent of Australians know someone suffering from workplace-related hearing damage but one in three give little thought to how to protect their hearing. Hearing Australia encourages everyone to prioritise their hearing health- at work and play.

[Read More](#)

Priceline cervical cancer screening plan draws fierce criticism

A pilot program enabling patients to self-test inside the pharmacy giant's stores has infuriated GPs who said it goes against the core values of the national screening program. The cervical screening program will operate in partnership with the InstantScripts telehealth service.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 17/10/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Karen Hirschausen, Principal Audiologist, Hearing Australia. Compere says almost 25 per cent of Australians know someone suffering work-related hearing damage, but one in three give little thought to protecting their own hearing. Hirschausen says those who are in the industrial line of work will be more at-risk of this issue, particularly areas like farming, mining, manufacturing, and construction.

[Play Now](#)

6PR, Mornings, 17/10/2024, Gary Adshead

Interview with Chris Pearce, spokesperson, Asthma Australia. Compere mentions that there are those who are suffering from asthma who are suffering at the moment due to the recent changes in the environment. Pearce says conditions that are seen in a thunderstorm event, as well as Spring summer when there are lots of pollen, are conditions that could affect someone with asthma.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

PRIMARY CARE

Misinformation debate being 'hijacked', says News executive

The Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Rhiannon Down, Page 4

News Corp Australia senior executive Campbell Reid says public debate about the threat of online misinformation has been "hijacked" by people seeking to label content they disagree with as false. [...] "Is it just, for instance, matters that might be said by say, me, who has an official role in the religious context, or is it for anyone who wants to make some comment on euthanasia on their social feed, being concerned about that," Archbishop Comensoli said.

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

Children in care fleeing

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 18/10/2024, Lauren Novak, Page 17

A child in state care who was reported missing almost every other day for a year is among a core group of repeat runaways, The Advertiser can reveal. Children and teenagers are breaching curfew, running home to parents and siblings or absconding to be in relationships with adults.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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

Miles from fact check

Courier Mail, General News, 18/10/2024, Taylah Fellows & Madura McCormack, Page 1

Scare campaigns and misleading claims have dogged both major parties throughout the 2024 election race, ranging from baseless claims of the LNP privatising hospitals to misleading flyers of Labor implementing a so-called "patients tax". And the Electoral Commission of Queensland is powerless to act, with existing laws only making it unlawful to mislead and cause someone to cast an informal vote or making a false statement about a person's character or conduct.

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

Scare campaigns a first step to trouble

Courier Mail, Editorials, 18/10/2024, Page 22

And so, we have Labor insisting that the LNP will have to sack 17,000 public servants to pay for its election promises and will restrict abortion rights claims built on speculation and drawing long bows rather than hard evidence. The LNP has meanwhile branded a change to payroll tax rules for doctors as a "patient's tax" clever wording, but also misleading.

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

Healthy fit found for owner-occupier

Courier Mail, General News, 18/10/2024, Chris Herde, Page 65

A two-level building with a long attachment to medical-related tenants in Brisbane's inner north west, has been snapped up by an allied health provider. An entity associated with a northside dermatology business bought the property at 22 Stewart Rd for \$1.839m plus GST after a private treaty campaign by Raine & Horne Commercial's Keelan Mylius and Hudson Dale.

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

Tackling one of the biggest issues

Canberra Times, General News, 18/10/2024, Lucy Bladen, Page 20

Health is one of the sharpest thorns in the side of the ACT government. Hospital waiting times are long, culture problems among staff are rife, training accreditation has been in the spotlight and access to general practitioners is poor. The list goes on. It has offered the opposition plenty of material with which to attack a long-standing Labor-led government.

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

High-flying \$509m deal speeds rescues

Northern Territory News, General News, 18/10/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 10

The Royal Flying Doctor Service SA/NT will get more staff, increase operations and respond to emergencies faster under a half-a-billion dollar deal with the state government. The \$509m 10-year contract announced on Wednesday will significantly boost capacity at Adelaide Airport, increasing RFDS operations to four aircraft during the day and three overnight up one for each shift.

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

Patients call out communication

Border Mail, General News, 18/10/2024, Carla Mascarenhas, Page 15

Most people are satisfied with the care they receive in NSW hospitals but only 40 per cent believed staff were open about problems and that figure was lower in some regional areas. The findings come in the latest Bureau of Health Information (BHI) report based on the feedback of more than 115,000 patients in the NSW public hospital system.

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

\$509m RFDS contract takes off

Border Watch, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 55

A new \$509.4 million contract has been established between the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) and the state government. Supporting the RFDS for the next 10 years, the investment will significantly boost operational capacity at Adelaide Airport - increasing RFDS operations to four aircraft during the day and three overnight.

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

MHA won't back budget

Burnie Advocate, General News, 18/10/2024, Matt Maloney, Page 16

Braddon independent Craig Garland said he had considered voting against the budget, but refrained from doing so as it would be seen as a statement of no confidence in the government. He said he could not support this year's budget due to underfunding of the state's schools, hospitals and the Integrity Commission.

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

Miles adds \$4.6m vow for charity

Sick Queensland kids and their families will have greater access to free stays near hospital if Steven Miles is elected next week, with a \$4.6m boost to Ronald McDonald House Charities. In 2023, the Ronald McDonald House North Australia in Townsville provided 7989 nights of accommodation for Queensland patients and their families.

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

Still lending a helping hand

Paydirt, General News, 01/10/2024, Michael Washbourne, Page 61

Longstanding Perth-based voluntary organisation Australian Doctors for Africa (ADA) recently shipped its 66th sea container of key medical, surgical and hospital supplies to some of the poorest parts of East Africa ahead of its 20th anniversary. Founded in 2005, ADA has over 120 Australian and international specialists who not only donate vital medical equipment but also their time to training and equipping surgeons, nurses and physicians in African countries such as Ethiopia, Madagascar and Somaliland.

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

Dashcam footage captures dramatic crash where an ambulance slams into a car on Sunshine Coast

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 17/10/2024, Mikaela Mulveney & Kate Kyriacou

Dramatic footage has captured the moment an ambulance collided with another car at a busy intersection on the Sunshine Coast, causing it to flip several times. Posted to Dash Cam Owners Australia's Facebook page, the video dated August 21 shows the blue Chery Omoda passing through a major intersection in Maroochydore with a green light when an ambulance comes racing at it from the left.

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

[Read More](#)

Three-year-old rushed to hospital with life-threatening injuries after collision in Endeavour Hills

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 17/10/2024, Fergus Ellis

A young girl is believed to have been struck by a car along a dangerous stretch of road in Melbourne's southeast. Victoria Police confirmed a three-year-old child is fighting for life after she was rushed to hospital with life-threatening injuries.

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

[Read More](#)

People at risk in hospital while waiting for NDIS care

Canberra Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Stephanie Gardiner

Hundreds of people with disabilities are "languishing" in public hospitals while they wait for adequate support, leaving them vulnerable to harm and infection, an inquiry has been told. Workforce shortages and a lack of disability accommodation in rural areas has led to an increase in NDIS participants staying in hospital, Western NSW Local Health District chief executive Mark Spittal said.

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

[Read More](#)

Video captures Queensland Ambulance crashing into car

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 17/10/2024, Freddy Pawle

The Queensland Ambulance Service has launched an investigation into a collision between a rapid response ambulance crashing into a vehicle on the Sunshine Coast in August. The collision sent the car flying through the air before coming to rest upside-down (pictured) and lead one passenger needing to be taken to hospital with a minor neck injury

Ambulance Victoria delivers more than just care

Shepparton News Online, Other, 17/10/2024, Taylah Baker

According to the latest national survey by the Council of Ambulance Authorities, 97 per cent of patients expressed satisfaction with the care provided by AV's paramedics and first responders. "Overall, patient satisfaction has remained at 97 per cent or above for the past nine years," AV acting chief executive Anthony Carlyon said.

[Read More](#)

Wagga paramedics take their skills to hospital ED as part of new pilot

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 17/10/2024, Finn Coleman

Wagga Base Hospital's healthcare professionals will be joined by paramedics in a new pilot program aimed at providing multidisciplinary care to patients and improving regional healthcare access. The Integrated Paramedic Workforce Model Pilot will see paramedics work alongside other clinical staff in Wagga's rapid access clinic (RAC) - which provides adult acute care to patients referred from GPs, the emergency department and NSW Ambulance Service.

[Read More](#)

73,000 blood bags wasted: GPs urged to send haemochromatosis patients to blood banks

Australian Doctor, Other, 17/10/2024, Heather Saxena

The RACGP's Dr Toby Gardner is backing a campaign to encourage donation over therapeutic venesection. When GP Dr Toby Gardner has a patient with haemochromatosis he encourages them to donate their blood through Australian Red Cross Lifeblood rather than undergo therapeutic venesection.

[Read More](#)

Expanded support for NSW pharmacists participating in opioid treatment program

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 17/10/2024

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has partnered with New South Wales Health to deliver specialised training and support for pharmacists providing services under the Opioid Treatment Program (OTP). These supports aim to grow the availability of OTP services across the state.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 17/10/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Dr Rebekah Hoffman, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. Compere discusses the disease Hemochromatosis who's a disease that causes the body to store too much iron. Hoffman points out that they are preparing a huge education piece regarding this disease. She explains that previously, patients with Hemochromatosis, they were told they needed to give blood and that was done through usually pathology centres.

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

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Side-effects common with antidepressants

The Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 3

Half of patients who have taken antidepressant medication for more than six months experience withdrawal symptoms when stopping that can include "brain zaps", anger and irritability, dizziness, nightmares, anxiety, panic and agitation. That's the finding of the most comprehensive analysis to date that confirms withdrawal effects from widely used antidepressant medications are common and increase with longer use.

Senator unleashes on 'dishonest' social media giants

Daily Telegraph, General News, 18/10/2024, Jessica Wang, Page 3

Greens senator Sarah Hanson-Young has unleashed a fiery rant against "secretive and dishonest" social media companies as the government moves to implement controversial laws to regulate the harm caused by misinformation and disinformation on the platforms. During a senate committee into the legislation on Thursday, Senator Hanson-Young took aim at Digital Industry Group director of policy affairs and research Jennifer Duxbury, who represents social media giants and digital organisations, including X, Meta, TikTok, and Google.

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

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

'Chop her up into little bits'

Herald Sun, General News, 18/10/2024, Oscar Jaeger, Page 16

A Cobram man accused of assaulting a woman just prior to her death allegedly said he would "chop her up into bits" to his little brother in the lead-up to her death. [...] The accused had been assessed for a Court Integrated Services Program (CISP) a form of bail support offered by court services which would offer him access to a mental health support program if he was bailed, the court was told.

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

Never hurts to try reach out

Border Watch, General News, 18/10/2024, Tony Stevenson, Page 8

It is absolutely critical that there is much more action from all Governments to support people in your area who have severe mental health issues. It is now estimated an alarming 68 per cent of people who have severe mental health issues are missing out on any kind of community support to help them ... that's nearly seven out of ten.

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

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

Security guard attacked

Cairns Post, General News, 18/10/2024, Samuel Davis, Page 1

A mental health patient who "nearly killed" a Cairns Hospital security guard by choking him has since been involved in at least three violent incidents, angering frontline staff. In an incident that has traumatised employees, staff members were forced to wrestle with the male patient, aged in his early 20s, as he strangled the private guard in August.

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

Time is up

Cairns Post, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 40

When the very thing implemented to keep staff safe at the trouble-plagued Cairns mental health unit a security guard is nearly killed by a violent patient, then you know we have a serious problem. What's worse is not only did the patient almost choke the guard to death, they have since been involved in at least three violent incidents.

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

Mother who lost son on a mission to break down barriers

Daily Advertiser, General News, 18/10/2024, Taylor Dodge, Page 2

Knowing all too well the pain of losing a child to suicide, a Wagga mother is determined to raise awareness around the importance of speaking out. The Cox family has partnered up with CharryBarra's Mitchell McDonell to host the first ever 24-hour Light Up The Lake charity event.

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

Mate steps up to honour best friend

After the loss of his best friend last year, a Mildura man and his family are taking part in a walking fundraiser for mental illness. Cooper Butcher said the subject of mental wellbeing had been something that's hit close to home for him, and he wanted to help make a difference.

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

Call to care for carers

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 18/10/2024, Wade Stephens, Page 10

Mallee Family Care is encouraging people providing unpaid emotional and practical support to family members and friends to access free local help services. Information and resources are available through Loddon Mallee Mental Health and Wellbeing Connect, a program for people who currently care for a person who is experiencing mental health and/ or substance abuse.

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

Community notices

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 30

Australian singer-songwriter Nathan Cavaleri is set to share his battles with anxiety at a special fundraiser to boost awareness and support for mental health. Your Mates Brewing is joining forces with the Mateship Foundation, LIVIN and the Veterans Welfare League for the fifth annual Meats with Mates fundraiser on Friday, October 25, at Your Mates BrewPub, Warana.

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

Leading high school Glen Eira College at the centre of serious bullying claims

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 17/10/2024, Rebecca Borg & Susie O'Brien

Students from a leading Melbourne high school are pleading for urgent action on bullying and sexual harassment in a series of damning petitions. Two Change.org petitions, collectively signed by almost 100 people, urge help to "save children from Glen Eira College" amid concerns about dress codes, teaching standards and mental health support.

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

[Read More](#)

End-of-year crunch: a guide for supporting Year 12 students

Canberra Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Gwen Liu

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, one in 10 people aged between 16 and 18 years has a mental health condition. Headspace's Carlyne Watts said the unrealistic expectations would reinforce students through self-denying thoughts such as "you're not good enough".

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

[Read More](#)

'Broad daylight hate crime': Allegations of physical assault towards LGBTQIA+ students in Tasmanian schools

ABC Online, Other, 17/10/2024, April McLennan

As a transgender and bisexual student at a Catholic school on Tasmania's north-west coast, Lexi said she was often the target of bullying and harassment. The former student said during this time their mental health declined with suicidal thoughts every day.

[Read More](#)

Kyabram gets behind Mental Health Month

Shepparton News Online, Other, 17/10/2024, Jemma Jones

A well-attended Kyabram event aimed at breaking the stigma surrounding mental health and providing outlets for assistance was received with praise from the community. On Thursday, October 10, the Campaspe Shire Mental Health and Wellbeing Expo took over the Kyabram Memorial Gardens,

welcoming community members, students and stallholders to raise awareness of the options on offer for mental health support in the community.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

'National scandal': Only 1-in-100 rentals are affordable for essential workers

Aged Care Insite, Other, 17/10/2024

Barely one-in-100 rentals in Australia are affordable for the average nurse, construction worker, early childhood educator or hospitality worker. Anglicare Australia has crunched the numbers and finds essential workers who can get a rental have essentially no money left to live their lives.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH WORKFORCE

Logistics giant Toll swoops on crippled Rex's air ambulance business

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 18/10/2024, Ayesha De Kretser & Sarah Thompson, Page 17

Regional Express' vast network is on the verge of being broken up with Japan Post-owned logistics company Toll closing in on a deal to buy the carrier's air ambulance business Pel-Air.

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

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

'Lacking evidence and probably ageist': RACGP hits out at medical board's mandatory health checks for older doctors

Australian Doctor, Other, 17/10/2024, Paul Smith

The RACGP says the Medical Board of Australia's push on mandatory health checks for older doctors is backed by no evidence and is probably ageist. The board wants all doctors aged 70 and over to go through a health assessment at least once every three years as a condition of their registration.

[Read More](#)

In Practice: AHPRA to detail registration restrictions

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 17/10/2024, Morgan Liotta

The health regulator is hosting an information session on restrictions placed on the registration of practitioners, and how they work. AHPRA is providing health practitioners with a detailed overview on what registration restrictions are, how they work, and how employers can support employees with restrictions.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

TWC against CW merger

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 17/10/2024

TerryWhite Chemmart CEO John Cullity says the planned merger between Chemist Warehouse and Sigma Healthcare would reduce choice in the market and potentially impact smaller businesses negatively. "I don't think that's in the interest of consumers generally," Cullity said in a statement.

MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Medicare 'past its use-by'

Medical Forum, Other, 17/10/2024

The Australian General Practice Alliance has called for a major overhaul of Medicare, including having a new independent pricing authority to set rebates. AGPA Deputy Chair Dr Mukesh Haikerwal said Medicare was no longer fit for purpose, with successive Labor and Coalition Governments starving funding to the point where primary healthcare for Australians was seriously jeopardised.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Darwin , Morning Show, 17/10/2024, Rick Hind

Interview with Dan Stinton, CEO, Healthengine. Compere mentions that the sixth Australian Health Care Index was released. Sharing people's perspectives and experiences with healthcare in Australia which shows some shocking figures. Stinton explains that telehealth is typically not covered by Medicare, so typically people are not getting any sort of rebate when they go to one of the big telehealth providers.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Doc hands over career

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 18/10/2024, Chloe Grimshaw, Page 7

New details have come to light regarding the retirement of a longstanding Noosa doctor, with court documents revealing he surrendered his registration after the "community were placed at risk" due to misconduct. Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal documents, published last Wednesday, found Cooroy-based doctor David Alexander Kirkman engaged in serious misconduct over his prescription of opioids to patients.

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

Perth psychologist struck off over sex with vulnerable clients

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 17/10/2024, Rebecca Peppiatt

A Perth psychologist has been struck off after he admitted having sex with patients in his office – including one encounter when a woman's husband was next door in the waiting room. Antonio Graneri had been a registered psychologist since 1986 and ran a private practice in Perth.

[Read More](#)

Ex-psychologist Antonio Graneri banned for re-registering for 9 years for having sex with vulnerable patients

West Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Emily Moulton

The disgraceful behaviour of a WA psychologist who had sex with his vulnerable female patients – including once in his office while her husband sat outside - has been revealed. Antonio Graneri surrendered his registration five years ago, but the Medical Board of Australia sought to ensure he could never seek to practise again and took the matter to the State Administrative Tribunal.

Also reported by: [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Melbourne psychologist who had sexual relationship with client barred

from practising for five years

The Guardian, Other, 18/10/2024, Melissa Davey

Melbourne psychologist Jonathon Walker, who coerced a young, vulnerable client and moved her into his home after they began an intimate relationship, has had his registration as a health worker cancelled. The Victorian civil and administrative tribunal (VCAT) also disqualified Walker from reapplying for registration as a psychologist or any other health practitioner for five years, and in its decision VCAT said Walker had limited insight into his misconduct.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

SPORT

Richlister adds to HITIQ backing

The Australian, Business News, 18/10/2024, Chris Herde, Page 17

Former rugby league star turned entrepreneur Adam MacDougall has poured a further \$3m into ASX-listed microcap HITIQ. MacDougall and wife Belinda, through their private investment entity Harmil Angel Investments, in May provided \$1.6m to smart mouthguard technology business HITIQ via a convertible note.

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

Cage fighting should not be taxpayer-funded

Sydney Morning Herald, Editorials, 18/10/2024, Page 28

Premier Chris Minns' cheer squad support for the brutal sport of cage fighting may be setting his government up for a world of pain with many women. Minns made an election promise in January 2023 to spend \$16 million luring three UFC fights to Sydney. The first event, 13 months ago, sold out in 13 minutes with 18,168 people attending, 52 per cent of them from overseas.

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

MPs' fury over the Games secrecy

Herald Sun, General News, 18/10/2024, Shannon Deery, Page 3

The Allan government is continuing to resist the release of hundreds of secret files related to the fiasco over the 2026 Commonwealth Games bid. On Wednesday evening, the Victorian parliament's upper house passed a motion noting the failure of the government to comply with standing orders in its ongoing fight to not release the documents.

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

Mackay stadiums win

Courier Mail, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 6

Premier Steven Miles has pledged more than \$25m towards two stadiums in Mackay, a battleground ahead of the election. The announcement comes just a day after his opponent, Opposition Leader David Crisafulli, committed \$23.5m to the same venue the Great Barrier Reef Arena (GBRA).

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

Sports unite for training teamwork

Hobart Mercury, General News, 18/10/2024, Ryan Rosendale, Page 1

Students given pathway into sports industry Sporting chance for all Young Tasmanian students aspiring to work in the sports industry will now have the best chance to do that on home soil thanks to a new

partnership between the state's top sporting bodies. An initiative of the Tasmania Devils AFL club, the long-awaited franchise has partnered with the Tasmania JackJumpers, Hobart Hurricanes and Netball Tasmania, along with TasTAFE, to form the Tasmania Academy of Leadership and Sport.

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

Sporting grants up for grabs

Border Watch, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 56

Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing Katrina Hildyard said upgrading and developing sporting facilities, programs and equipment was important to ensure South Australians could participate in the sport they love. "That is why I'm thrilled to be opening not just one, but two, grant programs which will make a real difference to people and create more inclusive and vibrant sporting communities across the state," she said.

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

Our Olympic dreams

Daily Mercury, General News, 18/10/2024, Page 28

This masthead has been pushing both parties to commit to funding the Great Barrier Reef Arena stage two upgrades because we believe it is Mackay's one-in-100 year chance to have an Olympic event. While cricket is yet to be formally announced for the Brisbane Olympics, it is already set for the LA edition in 2028, making it a shoo-in down under for audiences across the global south.

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

ABC Radio Adelaide, Evenings, 17/10/2024, Jason Chong

Sports Report Cricket Australia has produced a net deficit of almost \$32 million in the last financial year. The result comes off the back of home test series against Pakistan and the West Indies, which saw revenue drop by \$20 million from the previous year.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Aussie inventors boosting health

The Australian, Business News, 18/10/2024, Helen Trinca & Mackenzie Scott, Page 13

When the big pharmaceutical and medical tech company Johnson & Johnson closed its Australian operation during the Global Financial Crisis, two of its top industrial scientists Alison Todd and Elisa Mokany realised they had a double problem. The highly credentialed researchers were not only out of work but about to lose control of a great invention a radical diagnostic tool for pathologists which they had invented, developed and marketed for the global behemoth.

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

Medicine and healthcare

The Australian, Special Report, 18/10/2024, Page 40

The BiVACOR promises to last longer than other artificial hearts because it uses a single spinning disc to push blood around the body. The disc is magnetically levitated within its chamber, minimising wear and tear. The project aims to produce an off-the-shelf alternative to organ donation. It received \$50m in funding from the Australian government this year, while the Medical Research Future Fund has backed a trial in Australian patients.

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

[Back to Top](#)

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

'He's a monster': Victim's final, harrowing days

Age, General News, 18/10/2024, Melissa Cunningham, Page 7

Defence barrister Nelson Brown said Torney was vulnerable in custody because he was Indigenous, had been diagnosed with depression and had a drug addiction. Magistrate Simon Zebrowski refused bail saying Torney was an unacceptable risk due to his long history of violent offending and breaching court orders.

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

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

Australian interests come last with First Nations role

Daily Telegraph, General News, 18/10/2024, Rita Panahi, Page 13

Australians are entitled to ask why the Albanese government has appointed what it calls an Ambassador for First Nations Peoples to "embed First Nations perspectives into Australia's foreign policy". This is a role that exists nowhere else in the world and with good reason; a country's foreign policy should never be compromised with identity politics or racial grievances.

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

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

Royal Australian Air Force Exercise Kummundoo delivers healthcare services to the Kimberley

West Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Katya Minns

The Royal Australian Air Force's dental, medical, and environmental health teams are celebrating a decade of Exercise Kummundoo with their largest deployment yet by delivering essential healthcare services to the Kununurra community. Supporting the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation and Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service, RAAF personnel are providing clinics and educational programs throughout October.

Also reported by: [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Former AFL star Andrew Krakouer co-authors groundbreaking book for kids of incarcerated parents

West Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Sarah Crawford

Parental incarceration is an all too familiar journey for many Aboriginal people in Western Australia where close to one in four have been in prison. [...] The talented young footballer went on to play for Richmond for six years, however his career came crashing down when he was jailed for assault causing grievous bodily harm in 2008.

[Read More](#)

New model empowers Kimberley Aboriginal communities to lead health research

West Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Cain Andrews

A new research model prioritising the voices of the Kimberley Aboriginal communities has been launched by the Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance. The Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Model, which empowers local Aboriginal people to lead research initiatives, was developed in response to concerns about previous studies in the region that often failed to deliver clear benefits for the community.

[Read More](#)

Actions of NSW Police called into question at inquest into Tammy Shipley's death in custody

ABC Online, Other, 17/10/2024, Brianna Parkins

NSW Police have argued their actions in the lead up to an Aboriginal mother's death in custody are "too remote" to be examined in a coronial inquest. The inquest previously heard Tammy Shipley died alone in her cell, covered in her own urine at Silverwater Women's Correctional Centre in December 2022 after drinking up to 20 litres of water in one day.

Coroner finds Jeremiah 'Jayo' Rivers likely met 'foul play' on 2021 hunting trip in outback Queensland

ABC Online, Other, 17/10/2024, Eden Gillespie

Police have called for anyone who saw Jeremiah Rivers around the time he went missing to come forward. Facebook. Mr MacKenzie recommended police consider providing training on trauma-informed communication with First Nations families when they are concerned about a missing person.

[Read More](#)

QUT and Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service receive million-dollar grant for Indigenous Anti-Racism program

National Indigenous Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Joseph Guenzler

QUT's Carumba Institute and Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service (CHQHHS) have received an NHMRC Medical Research Futures Fund Indigenous Health grant just shy of \$1 million. The grant will be used to develop an anti-racist educational intervention in children's health and hospital services.

[Read More](#)

"Making a positive difference": support for community-led safety patrols in Central Australia

National Indigenous Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Callan Morse

First Nations people will continue providing safety patrols in Mparntwe/Alice Springs and surrounding remote communities after federal funding was announced to support the community-led initiative. The investment sees \$2.5 million to improve community safety in Central Australia by supporting programs including Alice Springs' Lhere Artepe and Tangentyere Night Patrol services.

[Read More](#)

Truth-telling can change lives by changing minds

National Indigenous Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Corey Smith

A constitutionally enshrined Voice was a practical proposal that would have given First Nations people a genuine say in how to fix the structural problems that cause on-going disadvantage. It would have saved lives and prevented more of the same failed programs and interventions.

[Read More](#)

CQUniversity leads new Indigenous health and wellbeing initiative

National Indigenous Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Joseph Guenzler

CQUniversity researchers have secured Federal Government support for a First Nations-led project aimed at using arts-based research to improve Indigenous health and wellbeing. The project seeks to address ongoing issues in Indigenous social and emotional wellbeing, which have persisted despite 16 years of the government's Closing the Gap strategy.

[Read More](#)

"We want to see community-led solutions": Indigenous MPs decry new NT bail laws

National Indigenous Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Dechlan Brennan

Despite going against the recommendations of experts and the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, breaches of bail by children as young as ten in the Northern Territory will now be a crime after parliament passed legislation on Wednesday. As protests raged outside in criticism of plans to lower the age of criminal responsibility to 10, the second sitting day of the 15th Legislative Assembly saw the CLP government introduced the Police Administration Amendment Bill 2024 and Bail Legislation Amendment Act 2024, both of which passed parliament with the government's super majority.

[Read More](#)

Aboriginal Legal Service WA calls for federal action on Western Australia's youth justice crisis

National Indigenous Times, Other, 17/10/2024, Giovanni Torre

The Aboriginal Legal Service of WA has called for urgent action by the federal government to address the crisis facing Western Australia's youth justice system and the basic human rights being denied to young people in detention. In a submission to the Senate Inquiry into Australia's youth justice and Incarceration system, ALSWA outlined the importance of legislating enforceable national minimum standards for youth justice, which it said would contribute to "essential and meaningful" change in youth justice systems across the country.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Anti-vaxxer's claims in court a lot of crepe

Northern Territory News, General News, 18/10/2024, Zizi Averill, Page 4

An anti-vaxxer who slapped the Northern Territory Chief Minister in the face with a "fresh cream crepe" has claimed she was the "victim" of a vast conspiracy to destroy her life. Former Darwin real estate agent Suzanne Lee Milgate faced Darwin Local Court on Wednesday to contest an aggravated assault charge against then-chief minister Natasha Fyles on Sunday, September 24, 2023.

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

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

Hope for a malaria vaccine

Paydirt, General News, 01/10/2024, Michael Washbourne, Page 61

Researchers from Queensland's Griffith University hope to roll out a new vaccine in some of the world's most malaria-endemic countries, including Uganda, Nigeria and the DRC. Currently there are only two malaria vaccines deployed across the African continent, but their efficacy has come under question in recent years.

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

An immediate ban has been issued for the herbicide dacthal. What are the health risks?

Medicine Today, Other, 17/10/2024, Ian Musgrave

Last week the Australian government cancelled the registration of all products containing chlorthal dimethyl, a weedkiller commonly known as dacthal. [...] This means using dacthal as a chemical agricultural product "is now illegal", according the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

'Disappointment' over dementia drug rejection

The Australian, General News, 18/10/2024, Petra Rees, Page 6

Dementia Australia has expressed disappointment at the decision to reject for use in Australia a new drug claimed to slow the progress of Alzheimer's disease. The Therapeutic Goods Administration on Wednesday announced its decision not to register lecanemab for the treatment of patients with mild cognitive impairment because of Alzheimer's disease and mild Alzheimer's dementia.

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

The end of Australia's most controversial sports sponsorship

Sydney Morning Herald, Sport, 18/10/2024, Adrian Prosenko, Page 47

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) launched court proceedings against Montu in April, forcing the Dolphins to cover up the Alternaleaf branding on their jerseys. It led to farcical scenes for their round seven clash against Parramatta in Darwin when the white tape covering the logo hastily applied after the TGA made the ruling the night before came off most of the jerseys in the hot and humid conditions.

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

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

Dementia help delay

Herald Sun, Editorials, 18/10/2024, Page 26

With dementia now one of the leading contributors to deaths in Australia, every effort needs to be made to find medical solutions. [...] The decision announced on Wednesday by the Therapeutic Goods Administration not to register the drug lecanemab was met by widespread condemnation from some health experts.

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

Nicotine pouches gaining popularity with teens despite being illegal in Australia

ABC Online, Other, 17/10/2024, Neelima Choahan & Michelle Wakim

Michelle Jongenelis, associate professor at the University of Melbourne, surveyed almost 1,600 adolescents and adults aged 16 to 39 years for a study published in Drug and Alcohol Dependence. Dr Jongenelis, the report's co-author, found that about a quarter of adolescents and young adults surveyed had used nicotine pouches and 77 per cent of them were aware of the products.

[Read More](#)

Dementia Australia 'disappointed' after Alzheimer's drug rejected by TGA

9News, Other, 17/10/2024, Mikala Theocharous

The national peak body supporting people living with dementia, Dementia Australia, has said it's "disappointed" after the Therapeutic Goods Administration rejected a "disease-modifying" Alzheimer's drug for use in Australia. The drug Lecanemab removes amyloid plaques from the brain, which slows cognitive decline associated with Alzheimer's, Dementia Australia said.

[Read More](#)

Landmark Alzheimer's drug deemed too risky for Australian release

SBS, Other, 17/10/2024, Cameron Carr

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has decided not to register Lecanemab, an Alzheimer's drug that has been shown to reduce cognitive decline and memory loss, for use in Australia. Trials of the drug in the UK showed it slowed a person's cognitive decline by around one-quarter to one-third.

[Read More](#)

Don't stockpile Metalyse: TGA

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 17/10/2024, Megan Haggan

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has said in a statement that the medication is now available for use in all clinical settings and the conservation methods that have been in place since 2022 are lifted.

[Read More](#)

TGA rejects lecanemab

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 17/10/2024

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has decided that it will not register Lecanemab (LEQEMBI), a medication for people living with mild cognitive impairment and the early stages of

Alzheimer's disease, as "the demonstrated efficacy did not outweigh the safety risks". The medication works by removing amyloid plaques from the brain, slowing down cognitive decline in patients.

[Read More](#)

TGA rejects Alzheimer's medication due to safety concerns

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 17/10/2024, Manisha Fernando

Advocates say the decision not to register lecanemab is a missed opportunity to begin reversing impacts of Alzheimer's disease. Dementia is on the brink of becoming Australia's leading cause of death. A plan to register lecanemab (sold as LEQEMBI) for patients with mild cognitive impairment due to Alzheimer's disease and early Alzheimer's disease has been rejected by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 17/10/2024, Sandra Sully

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has rejected what many have hailed a miracle drug, prompting harsh criticism from disease experts. New medication Lecanemab promises to give patients exactly that.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 17/10/2024, Sharyn Ghidella

A breakthrough drug that slows the progression of Alzheimer's disease will not be made available in Australia. The Therapeutic Goods Administration has rejected what many have hailed a miracle drug, prompting harsh criticism from disease experts.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, The Latest: Seven News, 17/10/2024, Charlotte Goodlet

News Charlotte we're all pretty familiar with the notion of renewable energy, solar power and those big wind turbines. But we're a nation surrounded by oceans. [...] Australia's TGA has knocked back approval for a new Alzheimer's disease drug.

[Play Now](#)

SBS, World News Australia, 17/10/2024, Catalina Florez

The country's medicines regulator has blocked the use of a new Alzheimer's drug in Australia. Trials of Lecanemab in the United Kingdom found it slowed down cognitive decline, with UK health authorities subsequently approving it for use, but the Therapeutic Goods Administration here says the drug doesn't provide a meaningful clinical benefit that would outweigh associated safety risks.

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Blowing big bucks into the hands of organised crime

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 18/10/2024, Caleb Bond, Page 13

The federal government is causing arson attacks across Adelaide. Victoria's tobacco wars in which more than 100 tobacconists and convenience stores have been firebombed as rival gangs fight for control of the illegal tobacco market have reached South Australia.

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

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

Trail of tobacco

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 18/10/2024, Natalie Vikhrov, Page 22

An alleged "significant" figure in Adelaide's escalating underground tobacco war wired \$1.2m overseas

and owns or is linked to a number of illegal tobacco stores, a court has heard. Ahmed Aref Abdul Al Mansoury, 34, appeared by video link at the Port Adelaide Magistrates' Court on Thursday.

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

Health Check: 'Cannabis corner' in the green with record revenues and favourable deals

The Australian, Other, 17/10/2024, Tim Boreham

For years the out-of-favour ASX cannabis space has looked more like a case of pot luck than coherent sales strategies, but more favourable trends are emerging. Take 'gummie' specialist Bioxyne (ASX:BXN) , which is on track to reach its targeted annual revenue of \$20 million and positive cash flow after a robust September (first) quarter.

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

[Read More](#)

Alleged 'key figure' in South Australia's tobacco wars revealed in court

7news.com.au, Other, 17/10/2024, Sowaibah Hanifie

The identity of a 34-year-old man police allege is a "key figure" in South Australia's escalating tobacco wars was revealed in court. Ahmed Al Mansoury appeared before Port Adelaide Magistrates Court on Thursday, charged with four counts of money laundering.

[Read More](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

AICIS

No relevant coverage

[Back to Top](#)

Prepared by Isentia

Subject to copyright. For internal use only.

See [Copyright Terms of Use](#)

