



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
and Aged Care

# TODAY'S NEWS

Wednesday, 23rd October 2024

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 1) reports that new research commissioned by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia has said the nation's midwife workforce is in "crisis" after the regulator revealed there were insufficient numbers to meet future demand, as federal Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney saying the recommendations would be the "first step" to ensuring the service is available to all Australian mothers.
- **[The Courier Mail](#)** (page 1) reports that the Katter's Australian Party has said it would not look to repeal the 2018 decriminalisation of abortion in Queensland's next parliament, with the party saying it will focus on a Bill forcing clinicians to care for babies born alive resulting from a failed termination of pregnancy.
- **[The Courier Mail](#)** (page 1) reports that Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) president Ben Houston has expressed his appreciation for Scotland's decision to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games, saying that it has "delivered the perfect blueprint for ongoing success and development".
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald](#)** (page 3) reports that a new study by KPMG has found up to 30 per cent of diseases could be safely treated in virtual or home hospitals, saving the healthcare system billions of dollars, with federal Health Minister Mark Butler saying he would examine the My Home Hospital model to see how it could be adopted more broadly.

- [The Adelaide Advertiser](#) (page 9) reports that a new study by the Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) has revealed peanut allergies are closely linked to increased levels in air pollution, with MCRI Associate Professor Rachel Peters saying. "These are small enough that they can enter your lungs or your bloodstream".
- [ABC News Online](#) reports that the federal government has announced plans to establish a mandatory code of conduct governing the advertising of baby formula in Australia.
- [ABC News Online](#) reports that Adrian Cohen from Headsafe, has said young people up to the age of 21 are more likely to suffer a significant brain injury from concussion, with data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare revealing 37 per cent of children were hospitalised in 2021-22 with a sports-related concussion.
- [ABC News Online](#) reports that Queensland researchers have led an international DNA and brain structure study into the causes of Parkinson's Disease and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), using genetic and saliva testing to identify the behaviour of genetic variants.
- [The Daily Telegraph](#) (page 14) reports that NSW Premier has said widespread social media use has contributed to an increase in mental health concerns in young people, ahead of his participation in Unplug24, a national day of action urging Australians to temporarily take a break from social media platforms.
- [The Hobart Mercury](#) (page 5) reports that claims from the Tasmanian opposition that the state government is set to cut \$290 million from the health budget this financial year has been rejected by Premier Jeremy Rockliff.
- [The Adelaide Advertiser](#) (page 2) reports that South Australian GP obstetrician Jeffrey Taylor has received support from local mothers who say he will be "a massive loss to the community," after the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency forbid him from contacting patients.

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Turning homes into hospitals to save billions

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 23/10/2024, Kate Aubusson, Page 3

Hundreds of thousands of seriously ill patients could be safely treated in their homes, freeing up critically needed hospital beds, if Australia committed to a major expansion of virtual hospitals. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said he would monitor My Home Hospital to see how the model might be adopted more broadly.

Also reported by: [The Age \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#).

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### MP calls on minister to back urgent care clinic

Newcastle Herald, General News, 23/10/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

Paterson MP Meryl Swanson has called for an urgent care clinic in her electorate at Raymond Terrace, an area that missed out on the Medicare initiative. Ms Swanson toured the area with federal Health Minister Mark Butler yesterday and urged him not to forget her electorate.

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

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### How many people will die because of this institutional indifference?

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 22/10/2024

The most disheartening aspect of our HTA system is the lack of a straight-talking public critique by many with the influence to drive change. Ironically, Health Minister Mark Butler is responsible for the most compelling and effective recent critique of Australia's HTA decision-making.

[Read More](#)

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

RiotACT, Other, 22/10/2024, Jen White

Have you been to the dentist lately? If you haven't, you're not alone, according to the latest national report on dental health in Australia. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has indicated there are no plans to include dental in Medicare in the near term.

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## Health Minister Mark Butler threatens businesses illegally selling vapes with federal prosecution

Sky News Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Oscar Godsell

Health Minister Mark Butler has warned businesses the government is prepared to prosecute stores caught selling vapes outside licensed pharmacies. Under vaping reforms passed earlier this year, vendors caught illegally selling vapes face penalties of up to seven years in prison and fines of up to \$2.2 million.

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## NBN Newcastle Hunter, NBN News, 22/10/2024, Natasha Beyersdorf & Gavin Morris

Health Minister Mark Butler spent the day in the Hunter spruiking recent medical milestones from the creation of Maitland Hospital to urgent care clinics. [...] Butler acknowledged the pain and said the government is tripling Medicare incentives for GPs while hitting the Hunter to celebrate 40 years of the initiative.

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## Curtin FM, 16:00 News, 22/10/2024

Vendors who are legally selling vapes outside pharmacies will be prosecuted. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the Government is discussing with the states and territories how to approach legal action against convenience stores and tobacconists illegally stocking and selling vapes.

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## 2SM, 16:00 News, 22/10/2024

Health Minister Mark Butler says the Government will be starting to prosecute vendors illegally selling vapes outside of pharmacies. They risk up to seven years behind bars and fines of up to \$2.2m. Butler says vape stores are starting to close in his electorate.

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## ABC Newcastle, Drive, 22/10/2024, Paul Culliver

Interview with Mark Butler, Minister for Health and Aged Care, regarding his ministerial visit to the federal seat of Paterson. Butler says he has been visiting a range of parts of Paterson after having several discussions with Meryl Swanson about healthcare in the Hunter Valley. He adds they had a range of meetings at retirement villages, general practice, an urgent care clinic, and a pharmacy talking about what they are doing to strengthen Medicare and make medicines cheaper, but also what they can do in the future because there's a lot more to do to get the healthcare system up to the level that the community expects.

*Interview continues on: [ABC Newcastle \(Newcastle\)](#).*

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## ABC Newcastle, 17:00 News, 22/10/2024

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler visited Raymond Terrace today with Member for Paterson Meryl Swanson to outline the Government's plans to improve the availability and cost of medical services. Butler says the Government intends to have established 87 urgent care clinics nationally by the end of the year, but Raymond Terrace remains on the waiting list.

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### Lidia Thorpe's King Charles protest was a masterclass on how to make front-page news in 2024

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Annabel Crabb

If you're Australian (and your name isn't Murdoch or Assange), getting on the front page in Britain isn't easy. It helps if you've got in a fistfight with a kangaroo. [...] Aged care is an extremely fertile ground for scare campaigns, but it's likely you won't hear one in this area because the government's Aged Care Minister Anika Wells and her opposition counterpart Anne Ruston both have skin in the game; having worked on the reforms with a degree of collaboration, both parties now own it.

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### Terminally ill man's heartbreaking decision to end his life after 10-month wait for home care in Australia

7news.com.au, Other, 22/10/2024, Ashlea Kunowski

A terminally ill man who has spent ten months waiting for at-home care has made the heart-wrenching decision to end his own life. [...] A spokesperson for Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said she is unable to comment on individual cases.

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### Govt appoints Inspector-General of Aged Care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 22/10/2024, Jodie Wolf

The government has announced bureaucrat Natalie Siegel-Brown as the incoming Inspector-General of Aged Care. In her new role, [...] Ms Siegel-Brown's cross-sector experience across a range of social policy areas will bring a fresh perspective to aged care and puts her in good stead to make a real impact to the aged care system in this role, said Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells in a statement.

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### Man, 86, applies to end own life due to blown-out MyAgedCare wait times

farahnewsonline.com, Other, 22/10/2024

An 86-year-old with terminal lung and heart problems has applied to end his own life because of blown-out wait times for federal government assistance. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells told 9News today she wouldn't speak about specific cases.

[Read More](#)

### Advocates welcome appointment of Inspector General of Aged Care

Starts at 60, Other, 22/10/2024, Matthew Hart

The decision by the Australian Government to appoint Natalie Siegel-Brown as the new Inspector-General of Aged Care has been positively received by advocates. [...] Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells said Siegel-Brown's experience positions her well to drive positive change in the sector.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

## Midwife crisis

Herald Sun, General News, 23/10/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 1

Australia's midwife workforce is "in crisis", a bombshell report has warned, and will not have the numbers to provide "quality midwifery care" to mums and babies without "urgent action". [...] Federal Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney said ensuring the care of a midwife is available to all Australian mothers "won't be achieved easily", but the report's recommendations were the "first step".

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#)

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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## DEPARTMENT

### What undervaccinated groups do pharmacists need to reach?

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 22/10/2024, Chloe Hava

Despite vaccination rates dropping, pharmacists continue to be vaccinators of choice for COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations. [...] The COVID-19 vaccine rollout was the largest immunisation program Australia has seen as a country, with pharmacists delivering over 12.5 million COVID-19 vaccines alone in a 3-year period, said Genevieve Donnelly Assistant Secretary, Access, Engagement and Compliance Branch at the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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### A year on from the Senate inquiry into concussion, what's changed and what comes next?

The Bulletin - News Co, Other, 22/10/2024, Annette Greenhow

The committee made 13 recommendations to improve outcomes for past, present and future players. [...] As part of this review, we searched the websites of the Australian government's Department of Health and Aged Care and the Australian Sports Commission /Australian Institute of Sport (ASC/AIS).

Also reported by: [hashtag.net.au \(Online\)](#)

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### A year since governments vowed to do better at treating concussion, the silence has been deafening

InQueensland, Other, 22/10/2024

A whole year has passed since the federal government was handed a landmark report on concussions and repeated head trauma in contact sports. [...] As part of this review, we searched the websites of the Australian government's Department of Health and Aged Care and the Australian Sports Commission/Australian Institute of Sport (ASC/AIS).

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### The Capital Water Cooler: Comings and goings in the APS

RiotACT, Other, 22/10/2024, James Day

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has appointed Phillip Bergensen as the branch manager of ICT integrity transformation. Carly Sierota is the new branch manager for service guidance at Services Australia. [...] Band 3 The Department of Health and Aged Care has appointed Mary Wood as deputy secretary.

Also reported by: [PS News \(Online\)](#)

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## Feedback invited for new health-based PFAS drinking water levels

The Mandarin, Other, 22/10/2024, Melissa Coade

The proposal to update the drinking water guideline revises a 2018 fact sheet about PFAS levels that are safe for a person to consume on a daily basis over a lifetime. [...] Chief medical officer Professor Tony Lawler, with the Department of Health and Aged Care, said the proposed guidelines recommended PFAS levels for drinking water that are below levels set by the EU.

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## Which mandarins got a glimpse of King Charles?

The Mandarin, Other, 22/10/2024, Melissa Coade

As King Charles and Queen Camilla swung by Canberra, we were on watch for the senior public servants who had some room in their diary for the regal engagement. [...] Also spotted on Monday was Department of Health and Aged Care secretary Blair Comley, who was likely on the hill for a Senate inquiry into the Aged Care Bill 2024.

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## Provider insight: Breaking down the new regulatory model

Helloleaders.com.au, Other, 22/10/2024, Alex Jacobs

The Department of Health and Aged Care shared a new guide on the updated aged care regulatory model, offering providers clear insight into its intentions and structure. The new aged care regulatory model is part of the new Aged Care Act, which will come into force from July 1 2025 pending no unexpected delays

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## 2MCE, 14:00 National Radio News, 22/10/2024

Confusion around infant formula will be addressed as part of a new regulatory proposal. The Department of Health and Aged Care has put forward a submission to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to move to mandatory legislation and tighter controls in the marketing of infant formulas.

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## VACCINES

No relevant coverage

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Serviced apartments are great but check the costs first

Sydney Morning Herald, Money, 23/10/2024, Rachel Lane, Page 1

In many retirement villages, you will find two types of accommodation one for people living independently (often called independent living units or apartments) and one for those living with support (typically called serviced apartments). The serviced apartments are often in the main building, close to dining areas, lounges and the social hub of the village.

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

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### We are short of workers, not jobs

Age, General News, 23/10/2024, Ross Gittins, Page 18

Because the proportion of people too old to work is growing, while families are having fewer children.

Old people don't stop consuming. They need more spending on services such as healthcare and aged care, which requires more workers.

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

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## Quality home care is a lifeline for seniors

Canberra Times, General News, 23/10/2024, Page 25

The demand for quality home care services is steadily increasing and provides a vital lifeline for seniors, allowing them to maintain their independence and live comfortably in their own homes. In the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), Goodwin Aged Care Services has established itself as a leader in home care services, offering a wide range of support options to meet the diverse needs of seniors.

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## A vital support for Canberra's growing senior population

Canberra Times, General News, 23/10/2024, Page 26

As our population ages, the demand for quality healthcare services, particularly those tailored to the needs of seniors, continues to grow. Allied health professionals play a crucial role in supporting older adults to maintain their independence, Goodwin Allied Health ACT improve their quality of life, and manage chronic health conditions.

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## Mega-growth proves care excellence in Murrumbidgee

Daily Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Jacinta Dickins, Page 10

With operations beginning in February of 2023 with just one staff member, Pearl Home Care now employs over 40 people across the Murrumbidgee region. Director Emily Watts and managing director Matt Watts said they are more than just a care provider.

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## Aged care home fail

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Abby Walter, Page 1

The federal aged care watchdog has found a Highton facility failed to meet key standards for wound care and recognising deterioration. The Charles Brownlow Retirement Village, located off South Valley Rd and operated by Ryman Healthcare, was also found non-compliant in the areas of personal and clinical care, and organisational governance.

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## Ageism is so much more than an argument about the term 'boomer'

West Australian, Other, 22/10/2024, Erin Timu

The state government may have got more than it bargained for with the release of a new "Challenge your Bias" campaign aimed at reducing ageism in WA. While the sentiment of the campaign was to address ageism in the WA community, unfortunately, the focus has shifted to whether using generational terms such as boomer and millennial are derogatory.

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## Five graphs show how the Australian family labour market is working

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Hannah-Murphy

A snapshot of Australia's labour market has revealed couples are more likely to live without dependants, and 75 per cent of single-parent families are headed up by mothers. [...] Bjorn Jarvis from the ABS said this could be attributed to Australia's aging population. "It's the fact that we've got couples that are grandparents that are getting old," he said.

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## Advocates want retirement villages to be regulated like financial products. Here's how that could work

More than 250,000 Australians over the age of 55 live in retirement villages. For many, they're a convenient and comfortable way to enjoy retirement. But an ABC investigation has found complex contracts and inordinate exit fees and refurbishment costs have left residents confused, frustrated, and, at worst, financially trapped.

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## 'Trailblazer' Maggie Beer wins top award amid ongoing recovery

The New Daily, Other, 22/10/2024, Louise Talbot

Maggie Beer has been honoured with a top award just days after the renowned TV presenter and cook broke her silence on her recovery after a fall in her South Australian home. [...] Spurred by the findings of the Royal Commission into Aged Care in 2021 – which ultimately exposed high rates of malnutrition in older adults living in aged care – Beer led a world-first social experiment to transform the meals and dining experience at an aged-care home in Perth, Western Australia.

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## COTA report delves into seniors' views on clean energy

Australian Seniors News, Other, 22/10/2024

A new report from Council on the Ageing (COTA) Victoria has gathered the perspectives of older Victorians on the shift to cleaner and more sustainable energy. [...] The report details those barriers alongside positive drivers for change and, most importantly, provides succinct recommendations to make the transition as easy as possible for older customers.

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## ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 22/10/2024, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Professor Vicky Vass, CEO, and Stephanie Rainey-Smith, Deputy Director of Research, Alzheimer's Research Australia, regarding the Therapeutic Goods Administration's decision not to approve the use of Lecanemab, an Alzheimer's drug that has shown to significantly slow a person's cognitive decline. The TGA said the benefits of the drug did not outweigh the risks, as it can cause fatal swelling and bleeding in the brain. Vass says they are disappointed in the decision mainly for the families, caregivers and health professionals who have to deal with the disappointment.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Tobacco wars 'here to despite arrest of alleged \$30m crime syndicate boss

Age, General News, 23/10/2024, Marta Pascual-Juanola & Cassandra Morgan, Page 2

Police say they have arrested the alleged leader of a \$30 million illicit tobacco syndicate in one of the most significant breakthroughs since the start of Melbourne's tobacco wars, but warn the arrest won't put an end to the wave of violence that has so far been linked to 109 firebombings. Officers arrested 25-year-old boxer Nazir Haddara at Melbourne Airport about 6am yesterday, as he attempted to board a flight to Dubai.

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### Cops smoke out crims

Herald Sun, General News, 23/10/2024, Mark Buttler, Regan Hodge & Miles Proust, Page 8

Police have struck a blow against a major Victorian illicit tobacco syndicate with Haddara family links in a wave of raids. The gang is one of the main operators of the state's illegal smokes sector and controls dozens of stores across Melbourne.

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## Study airs nut theory

Herald Sun, General News, 23/10/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 10

The Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) study found increased exposure to air pollution from birth not only raised the risk of developing the allergy, but also the likelihood that it would persist past infancy and into childhood. The study compared the average pollution levels at the homes of 5000 children with their allergy test results.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#).

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## Police smoke 'em out

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Dylan Hogarth, Page 6

Five men have been charged after a series of searches in five city suburbs as police cracked down on the underground tobacco war. It came after a Craigmore tobacco store was targeted on Tuesday morning for the third time in five days.

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

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## Abortion backflip

Courier Mail, General News, 23/10/2024, Hayden Johnson & Madura McCormack, Page 1

The Katter's Australian Party has shelved its vow to force a vote on repealing abortion laws a stunning about-face that will reshape the dying days of the election race. In the latest twist of a saga that's dominated the campaign, party Leader Robbie Katter softened his threat to repeal the 2018 decriminalisation of abortion in the next term of parliament.

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## Yes! He answered the question, but the other guy won

Courier Mail, General News, 23/10/2024, Madura McCormack & Taylah Fellows, Page 1

Opposition Leader David Crisafulli has finally said he is personally pro-choice after being forced to take a position under grilling from Premier Steven Miles in their final debate. The audience of undecided voters at The Courier-Mail/Sky News People's Forum last night said the Premier won by a whisker.

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## Topsy turvy: a breakout of scurvy

West Australian, General News, 23/10/2024, John Flint, Page 1

Scurvy is making a comeback in WA amid the cost-of-living crisis. The scourge of seafarers in the 15th and 16th centuries was found at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital when a Perth man in his 50s presented with his legs covered with tiny painful red-brown pinpoint.

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## Nuisance drinkers to pay up

Northern Territory News, General News, 23/10/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 5

The CLP government's introduction of a \$925 fine for nuisance drinkers in public places was expected to pass the Legislative Assembly late Tuesday. The Liquor Legislation Further Amendment Bill was the fourth of five law and order bills (the "Reducing Crime" package) the government has sought to ram through the assembly on urgency in its first sitting fortnight, in fulfilment of its election mandate.

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## One step at a time

Ballarat Courier, General News, 23/10/2024, Michelle Smith, Page 1

When Allannah Cramer and partner Braydon Newell lost their baby Lenny just 21 weeks into their pregnancy in 2022, they found there was nowhere in Ballarat they could turn for support or to speak to others who understood their grief. There were a wealth of online resources and support lines, and

some groups in Melbourne, but nothing in Ballarat bringing bereaved parents and families together, face to face, to connect and remember their babies and children.

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## LNP's free kindy health checks a 'cheap knock-off of Labor plan'

Cairns Post, General News, 23/10/2024, Madura McCormack , Page 19

Every kindergarten child would receive free hearing, speech, and vision testing from 2025-26 under an LNP plan to catch learning impediments early. The \$27.5m promise to deliver free and voluntary health checks to every kid in an approved kindy program will take place where they go to kindy.

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## Eight on charges of selling tobacco

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Chelsea Bunting, Page 3

A Geelong woman was one of eight people charged for their involvement in an alleged \$30m organised crime syndicate as police swooped on tobacco stores across Victoria in a major operation. Police allege the syndicate was leasing stores and employing staff under the guise of operating as legitimate gifts and confectionery stores while only selling illicit tobacco and related products.

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

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## Not letting cancer win

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 23/10/2024, Emma Downey, Page 1

In 2024, it is estimated that nearly 3300 females will die from breast cancer, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. During 'Breast Cancer Awareness Month' we are being urged to "take the time to find out what you need to know about breast awareness".

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## AI revolution fertile territory for women

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 23/10/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 18

Women will soon be able to check the best time to try for a baby and even when menopause is heading their way using a new online AI tool researchers say can revolutionise fertility treatment globally. The Chinese researchers behind the tool called OvaRePred are in Melbourne to present their "trailblazing" tool at the World Congress on Menopause.

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## Everything you need to know about menopause

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 23/10/2024, Sarah White & Judith Hammond, Page 19

Menopause is when a woman's menstrual periods stop because her ovaries are no longer producing eggs. In Australia, the average age of menopause is about 51 years of age and it's 12 months after your final menstrual period. You no longer have menstrual periods and you can't get pregnant.

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## AI, genomics and virtual care set to save buckling health systems

The Australian, Other, 22/10/2024, Natasha Robinson

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.

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## Police arrest alleged leader of \$30m crime syndicate but warn tobacco wars are here to stay

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 22/10/2024, Cassandra Morgan & Marta Pascual-Juanola

Police say they have arrested the alleged leader of a \$30 million illicit tobacco syndicate in one of the most significant breakthroughs since the start of Melbourne's tobacco wars, but warn the arrest won't put an end to the wave of violence that has so far been linked to 109 firebombings. Officers arrested 25-year-old boxer Nazir Haddara at Melbourne Airport about 6am yesterday, as he attempted to board a flight to Dubai.

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## Is green tea the secret to healthy weight loss?

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Sarah Mitchell

Semaglutides and oat shakes have been pushed online as the best way to lose weight, but according to TikTok, your morning cup of tea could be the key to meeting your weight loss goals. Users are dubbing green tea 'nature's weight loss hack', claiming it helps you to feel fuller for longer and speeds up your metabolism to assist with weight loss.

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

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## Cops spike major illegal syndicate as tobacco wars rage

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Regan Hodge & Mark Buttler

Police have struck a \$30 million blow against a major Victorian illicit tobacco syndicate in a wave of raids. The gang is one of the major operators of the state's illegal smoke sector and controls dozens of stores across Melbourne.

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

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## The top 5 moments that mattered in final leaders' debate

The Courier Mail, Other, 22/10/2024, Taylah Fellows & Madura McCormack

Opposition Leader David Crisafulli revealed he is supportive of a woman's right to choose, repeating that abortion laws would not change under an LNP government. Asked by Premier Steven Miles to give a yes or no answer to whether he supported a woman's right to choose, he said yes. But Mr Crisafulli dodged questions on the possibility of a conscience vote, telling Mr Miles to stop asking "silly little wedge questions".

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

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## Reducing child, teen obesity can save \$7b health costs

West Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, William Ton

Reducing childhood and teenage obesity could save more than \$7 billion in lifetime costs, but decision makers are prioritising short-term solutions over long-term strategies, researchers say. One in four Australian children and adolescents are classified as overweight or obese.

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

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## Police claim raids snuff out syndicate in tobacco wars

West Australian, Other, 22/10/2024, Melissa Meehan

Eight people were arrested and charged on Tuesday for their part in directing and assisting an organised crime syndicate. Police will allege the syndicate was leasing stores, employing staff and making deliveries under the guise of operating the stores as legitimate gift and confectionary businesses, while selling only illicit tobacco and related products.

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

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## Parents, carers shielded from 'shady' baby formula ads

Canberra Times, Other, 22/10/2024, William Ton

Anxious new parents and carers will be protected from being "preyed on" by baby formula manufacturers using "shady" and "irresponsible" marketing tactics. Australia's Department of Health has committed to mandating an industry code that oversees advertising standards around baby formula.

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

[Read More](#)

## **Wanted tobacco crime boss arrested moments before Dubai flight**

Canberra Times, Other, 22/10/2024, Anna Houlahan

An alleged crime boss, involved Victoria's illicit tobacco trade, has been arrested moments before he was due to board a flight to Dubai as police raided shops and homes connected to a criminal syndicate. A 25-year-old Hoppers Crossing man was among eight people charged with the Commonwealth offence of directing the activities of a criminal organisation.

*Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#)*

[Read More](#)

## **Condoms that weren't condoms not checked before being given to students**

Canberra Times, Other, 22/10/2024, Sarah Lansdown

An investigation into how thousands of lubricated probe covers were distributed as condoms by a sexual health organisation has found a number of failings in their procurement process. In August, Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) issued a recall for products that were distributed as condoms to school students and at community events since January.

[Read More](#)

## **Operation Eclipse: Five arrested in underground tobacco war raids**

Northern Territory News, Other, 22/10/2024, Luke Williams, Natalie Vikhrov & Dylan Hogarth

Five men have been arrested after a series of searches across five metro suburbs under police's crack down on the underground tobacco war. Just after 8am on Tuesday, detectives from Serious and Organised Crime Branch supported by 45 police from specialist areas including heavily-armed STAR officers, the Digital Evidence Section and Confiscations Section officers launched raids across multiple suburbs.

[Read More](#)

## **Think helmets protect developing brains from concussion? Experts say think again**

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Anastasia Safioleas

When Berengere's 11-year-old son Henri was hit on the forehead by a basketball during a school match, he felt unwell and experienced pins and needles in his arms and legs. [...] Figures from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) show that in 2021-22, while the number of adults hospitalised with a sport-related concussion was 14 per cent, for children it was as high as 37 per cent.

[Read More](#)

## **NSW coroner identifies critical police CPR training gaps after fatal Sydney M5 encounter**

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Kelly Fuller

A coronial inquest into the death of a man restrained by police on a busy Sydney motorway has recommended better CPR training be rolled out to New South Wales police officers. Kevin Edwards from Shellharbour, south of Wollongong, died at Liverpool Hospital on June 5, 2022, about an hour after being restrained by police on the M5 at Moorebank.

[Read More](#)

## **Robbie Katter clarifies plan to amend Queensland abortion laws first, before any repeal attempt**

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Emma Pollard

Katter's Australian Party has clarified its strategy for changing Queensland's abortion laws, saying it wants to first amend them to mandate care for babies born alive. Abortion has become a heated topic in the state election with Opposition Leader David Crisafulli facing dogged questioning about whether an LNP-controlled parliament could put it back in the criminal code.

[Read More](#)

## **New mandatory industry code for baby formula advertisements aims to protect parents**

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024

The federal government has released plans to establish a mandatory industry code around baby formula advertising in Australia. The new code aims to protect parents and carers from being "preyed on" by baby formula manufacturers using "shady" and "irresponsible" marketing tactics, according to the Australian Associated Press.

[Read More](#)

## **Victoria Police lays federal charges in raids on illegal tobacco syndicate**

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024

Victoria Police says it has made a major breakthrough in the state's ongoing tobacco wars by dismantling a \$30-million organised crime syndicate selling illegal tobacco. Police executed more than 25 search warrants across the state on Tuesday at tobacco stores, warehouses and homes, seizing more than 600,000 cigarettes, at least 75 kilograms of loose-leaf tobacco, "a significant quantity of cash", vans, a Lamborghini and a Range Rover.

[Read More](#)

## **Anti-abortion activist targets high-profile SA women with 'baby-killers club' social media posts**

The Guardian, Other, 22/10/2024, Tory Shepherd

The architect of "forced birth" abortion legislation in South Australia has painted high-profile women as being in a "baby-killers club" on social media. Joanna Howe, who has been credited by politicians in state and federal parliaments for her anti-abortion work, posted artworks of women including the SA Greens leader, Tammy Franks, to Instagram and X.

[Read More](#)

## **Five arrested as South Australian police crack down on illegal tobacco trade**

9News, Other, 22/10/2024, Samantha Hogan

The police crackdown on South Australia's illegal tobacco turf war has escalated, with five men arrested following six police raids. During the early morning raids, police descended upon a home in the Adelaide suburb of Blair Athol, bagging evidence and seizing mobile phones, clothing, CCTV equipment, and tobacco products.

[Read More](#)

## **Steph Claire Smith reveals she has been diagnosed with ADHD in tearful admission**

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Savanna Young

Steph Claire Smith has revealed she's been diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The model and fitness influencer, 30, bravely spoke about her health update in a vulnerable confession and admitted she felt 'relieved' when a doctor confirmed her diagnosis. [...] While ADHD is the most common disorder among boys four to 11, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare says about half the number of girls the same age are diagnosed.

[Read More](#)

## **Fake 'gift and confectionery' stores caught up in statewide investigation**

Shepparton News Online, Other, 22/10/2024

Kyabram and Echuca gifts and confectionery stores have been raided in relation to a state-wide police investigation in to trading of illicit tobacco. On Tuesday, October 22, 130 officers across the state executed more than 27 arrest warrants in relation to an organisation that has allegedly earned more than \$30 million across 12 months by trading illicit tobacco products.

[Read More](#)

## **Genome sequencing developed to trace Covid is now protecting babies in intensive care from infectious diseases**

Nursing Review, Other, 22/10/2024, Rhys Thomas-White, David Winter & Suzanne Manning

Anyone who has spent time inside a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) knows it's intense. For the tiny babies cared for in these wards, any infection could prove fatal. Great care is taken to prevent the spread of pathogens, but outbreaks still occur.

[Read More](#)

## **Reducing work-related muscular-skeletal disorders**

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 22/10/2024

WorkSpace Week (21-27 October) promotes prevention and early intervention, aligning with National Safe Work Month running throughout October. This year's National Safe Work Month theme, safety is everyone's business, calls on workplaces across the nation to make safety their business. [...]

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 30.8 per cent of Women suffer MSDs compared to 26.8 per cent of men.

[Read More](#)

## **Is it time to trade in BMI for body roundness?**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 22/10/2024, Chelsea Heaney

GPs need to move away from using BMI as a diagnostic tool, one expert in the field says. So how should patients' weight risks be calculated? The BMI concept was developed in the 1800s by a statistician based on the 'average man'.

[Read More](#)

## **GPs advocate for central role in youth justice**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 22/10/2024, Michelle Wisbey

The RACGP is calling for a health-first approach, with support for patients with neurodevelopmental disorders, for cultural connection, and a raised age of criminal responsibility. On an average day in 2022–23, 4542 children were under youth justice supervision, with 57% of those being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

[Read More](#)

## **Hip fracture outcomes best if guidelines followed: Study**

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 22/10/2024, Morgan Liotta

High-level clinical care of hip fractures is associated with lower mortality, but experts say delivery of this care and follow-up must be improved. Minimising risk of another fracture is a quality indicator met by less than 20 per cent of study participants, highlighting the need for improved delivery of hip fracture care.

[Read More](#)

## **Osteoarthritis: You could avoid the knife with these lifestyle changes**

The Senior, Other, 22/10/2024, Rowan Cowley

Osteoarthritis giving you serious grief? One doctor says making some major lifestyle changes now may help you avoid going under the knife in the future. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 242,000 Australians were hospitalised due to the disease in 2021-22.

[Read More](#)

## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### Breast cancer cost me dearly in just about every way

Age, General News, 23/10/2024, Kate Browne, Page 18

Being diagnosed with breast cancer five years ago was a complete shock. I had no symptoms or family history, and was told I was "young" to be considered at risk. Once I went through treatment, it was as I had expected: scary, painful, confusing and expensive. But there was one devastating part of my breast cancer experience that I never saw coming: divorce.

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

### One's Aussie day out

Daily Telegraph, General News, 23/10/2024, David Mills & Adella Beani, Page 1

The King had an even busier schedule, dropping by a sustainable housing development meeting in Glebe, attending a Sustainable Markets Initiative discussion at Admiralty House and meeting current Australians of the Year, Professors Richard Scolyer and Georgina Long at the Melanoma Institute of Australia.

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

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### Cancer pioneers teach King slip, slop, slap

Daily Telegraph, General News, 23/10/2024, Alex Mitchell, Page 11

King Charles spoke with a fellow cancer patient as he met Australian melanoma pioneers Georgina Long and Richard Scolyer yesterday. The King toured the Melanoma Institute Australia in Sydney where professors Long and Scolyer have developed research to turn advanced melanoma from fatal to curable.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#).

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

### Brave Bella's parting note

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Dylan Hogarth, Page 15

A young Adelaide woman selflessly continued to share her cancer journey to raise awareness and provide support for others right up until her final moments. [...] In lieu of flowers, Bella has asked attendees and followers to instead donate to one of the following charities: Head and Neck Cancer Australia, Cancer Chicks, Chris O'Brien Lifehouse Hospital or Rare Cancers Australia.

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

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

### A lifesaving home sale

Northern Territory News, General News, 23/10/2024, Courtney Snowden, Page 4

Determined parents Chris and Golden Whitrod are much closer to lifesaving treatment for their five-year-old daughter after selling their Darwin home at auction. The renovated property with two granny flats at 4 Beatrice St, Stuart Park, sold under the hammer on Thursday for \$1.05m.

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### Raising awareness of rare heart condition

Launceston Examiner, General News, 23/10/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 3

According to the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, women in their 40s and 50s are most at risk of SCAD, although it can occur at any age and also in men. "I used to be really fit and was going to the gym four to five times a week," Ms Daniels said.

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## Teenage cricketer's heart attack comeback the stuff of legend

Newcastle Herald, General News, 23/10/2024, Madeline Link, Page 1

Comeback kid Kade Sutton is alive today thanks to the quick thinking of his cricket coach Jed Dickson. The 18-year-old had a heart attack at training in August and Dickson performed CPR until paramedics arrived. The Charlestown all-rounder has his sights set on returning to the game he loves.

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

## 'Cancer blocking' protein

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 23/10/2024, Page 5

An immune protein could hold the key to developing new drugs to help fight bowel cancer, according to new research from The Australian National University (ANU). Bowel cancer is the second deadliest cancer in Australia, killing more than 100 Australians every week, however almost 99 per cent of bowel cancer cases can be successfully treated when detected early.

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## Dr Boreham's Crucible: Does this biotech have the horsepower to become 'the next Neuren'?

The Australian, Other, 22/10/2024, Tim Boreham

What's in a name? Not much, according to the CEO of the now cashed-up Percheron, Dr James Garner. Formerly known as Antisense Therapeutics, the rare disease specialist changed its name to Percheron in January.

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

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## Kevin Bartlett's wife Denise had a single wish after brain cancer treatment: to come home

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 22/10/2024, Henrietta Cook

AFL legend Kevin Bartlett slept in a hospital bed alongside his wife, Denise, for months as she battled brain cancer. But the height-adjustable bed was not in a hospital: it was in the couple's home in Melbourne's south-east.

[Read More](#)

## 'They saved my life': Vic mum shares Keynote 522 breast cancer drug trial success

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Robyn Riley

A Victorian mum who had the chance to trial a new drug to treat triple-negative breast cancer has described it a "life saver", sparking new hope of enhanced therapy options for women worldwide. Victorian women who were part of a large international breast cancer drug trial say it has been a "life saver".

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

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## Doctors point to oral sex as the cause of throat cancer epidemic

The Courier Mail, Other, 22/10/2024, Penelope Clifton

According to Family Planning Australia, "It is estimated that up to 80 per cent of people in Australia have HPV at some time in their lives. Many people who have HPV have no idea that they have been exposed to the infection."

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

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## It's time women get angry over deep-rooted health inequalities



Australia's own Heart Foundation CEO David Lloyd, highlighted the same concerns about endometriosis in his speech at a recent women's heart health breakfast event here in Perth, also pointing to his own organisation's findings that "heart disease in Australian women is currently under-recognised, under-diagnosed and under-researched".

[Read More](#)

## Daughter's death fuels brain cancer researcher's work

Canberra Times, Other, 22/10/2024, Tess Ikonomou & Kat Wong

When two-year-old Josephine was diagnosed with a rare brain cancer, her father switched focus, hoping he could do something about it. Originally a paediatric leukaemia research specialist, Matt Dun began researching diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) in 2018 after he found out the only therapy available to his daughter was palliative radiation.

*Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Daily Liberal \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#).*

[Read More](#)

## Genetic variants linked to ADHD and Parkinson's, Queensland led study on brain size finds

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Ciara Jones

An international DNA and brain structure study led by Queensland researchers is shedding light on the causes of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and Parkinson's disease. Around one in 20 Australians have ADHD, while Parkinson's disease affects an estimated 10 million people worldwide, with roughly 38 Australians diagnosed with the devastating and incurable progressive movement disorder every day.

[Read More](#)

## Major study finds surprising genetic links to ADHD and Parkinson's disease

7news.com.au, Other, 22/10/2024, Georgia Holland

The world's largest study of DNA and brain volume has found a surprising link between the genes that control brain size and the risk of brain-related conditions. QIMR Berghofer researcher Associate Professor Miguel Renteria led an international team of 189 researchers, who scanned DNA data and MRI scans from 76,000 participants.

[Read More](#)

## King Charles visits melanoma clinic in Sydney and meets cancer survivors

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 22/10/2024

King Charles visited a skin cancer clinic in Sydney on Tuesday where he met cancer survivors and researchers working on cures for the disease. The visit to the Melanoma Institute Australia was one of the final public appearances Charles made on his 16th official visit to the country, his first major overseas trip since being diagnosed with an unspecified form of cancer.

[Read More](#)

## 'Terrible monster': the man taking on devastating childhood cancers

Newcastle Herald, Other, 22/10/2024, Damon Cronshaw

A Newcastle researcher will receive a major honour for his work to improve the survival of children diagnosed with an aggressive and deadly cancer. Professor Dun, of University of Newcastle and Hunter Medical Research Institute, said it was "a huge honour and extremely humbling".

[Read More](#)

## World first as NSW identifies number of people with metastatic breast cancer

Nursing Review, Other, 22/10/2024, Stefanie Schultz

In a global first, almost 8,000 people have been identified by linking existing data as living with incurable breast cancer in New South Wales. Cancer Institute NSW has linked data sets from Australian cancer registry, hospitals and clinical treatments, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), and the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS), to identify 7850 women and 50 men with metastatic breast cancer (MBC) living in the state – a unique methodology that will soon be shared locally and internationally.

[Read More](#)

## **Asthma-related deaths are preventable, and treatment can be improved**

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 22/10/2024

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics data released by the National Asthma Council Australia (NAC), asthma-related deaths have returned to pre-pandemic levels. The figures show that there were 474 asthma-related deaths, made up of 325 females and 149 males.

[Read More](#)

## **Channel 9, Nine News Late, 22/10/2024, Natalia Cooper**

Interview Earlier today, King Charles took the time to visit charities and causes close to his heart. Among them was the Melanoma Institute, where he met joint Australians of the year Professor Richard Scolyer and Georgina Long.

[Play Now](#)

## **Channel 9, Nine News, 22/10/2024, Alicia Loxley & Tom Steinfort**

Traralgon mum Kylie Pardo says she feels she's made a difference seven years after signing a clinical trial testing a drug that's now standard practice to treat high-risk breast cancer. That medication was pembrolizumab or Keytruda, as it's more commonly known, an immune therapy drug administered via an IV before a chemotherapy session. It has become a standard of care now to approach the management of women with this high-risk breast cancer type.

*Report continues on: [Channel 9 \(Melbourne\)](#).*

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## **2CC, Breakfast, 22/10/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo**

Interview with Professor Peter Wark, Director, National Asthma Council, on asthma-related deaths tragically returning to pre-pandemic levels, according to new ABS data released today by the NAC. The figures show that there were 7474 asthma-related deaths recorded in Australia in 2023, made up of 325 females and 149 males, almost identical to the 473 asthma deaths recorded in 2022. Wark says people don't get a clear diagnosis that they have asthma and to do that, involves having some lung function tests.

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## **PRIMARY CARE**

### **Give for a child therapist**

Courier Mail, General News, 23/10/2024, Iwan Jones, Page 15

The Child Life Therapy program provides activities and demonstrations to minimise fear and anxiety of the unknown and improve children's ability to cope in clinical environments to make it less traumatic. Prince Charles Hospital Foundation spokeswoman Chloe Nguyen said it was a vital program and there was just a single Child Life therapist (CLT) available to support child patients at the hospital Ms Wadhwa.

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

### **Statewide developer charge sparks concern**

Ballarat Courier, General News, 23/10/2024, Page 4

Housing developers will be forced to fund public schools, hospitals, roads and transport across Victoria, but there are concerns a statewide charge could make homes more expensive. With her government's third housing policy announcement in as many days, Premier Jacinta Allan has flagged a pilot infrastructure contribution program for developers.

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## Renal dialysis on the cards

Border Watch, General News, 23/10/2024, Charlotte Varcoe, Page 15

Renal dialysis may be on the cards for the Naracoorte Hospital during the second stage of upgrades. Member for MacKillop Nick McBride questioned the state's Minister for Health and Wellbeing Chris Picton last week regarding when residents of the Upper Limestone Coast would have renal dialysis.

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

## Medibank signs digital health partnership with Canadian tech firm League

The Australian, Other, 22/10/2024, Jared Lynch

Medibank has signed a three-year agreement with Toronto-based League to offer "more personalised healthcare" to its 4.2 million customers. League – which attracted more than \$US220m in venture capital funding, including from Australian-founded TDM Growth Partners – connects people to a network of health services and benefits that can be accessed digitally via a wallet or app.

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

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## LNP wants health checks for preschool kids to 'turn their life around'

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 22/10/2024, Catherine Strohfeldt & William Davis

New hearing, vision and speech development checks will be available to all preschool children in Queensland if the LNP forms government after this weekend's election. Opposition Leader David Crisafulli says the \$27.5 million policy will improve education and health, while reducing youth crime over the long term.

[Read More](#)

## 2024 Qld state election biggest talking points during campaign

The Courier Mail, Other, 22/10/2024

Queensland's largest union launched a "Mediscare" style campaign claiming the LNP are planning to privatise health services – a debate that has since stirred endless debate. The Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union in an ad blitz called for voters to "put the LNP last" as the party was planning to "privatise health services" – despite having no evidence.

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

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## When I delivered the worst of news to my dying patient, she cried – but not about her prognosis

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Ranjana Srivastava

Doctors are trained to think too much and feel too little. Our patients know we think enough but want us to feel more. As technology, machinery and bureaucracy overwhelm us, the essence of good medicine remains an open secret.

[Read More](#)

## 'It's ridiculous': These Sydneysiders moved to the regions for a new life but were caught out by 500km GP round-trip

9News, Other, 22/10/2024, Emily McPherson

Tree-changers who have moved from Sydney to regional New South Wales say they have been caught unawares by the lack of healthcare services in the bush as rural towns grapple with a critical doctor

shortage. [...] With no doctor currently treating patients in Gulgong, Hermo said she tried to book an appointment at one of Mudgee's medical centres and was shocked when she was told they were not taking new patients.

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## Statewide developer charge sparks house price debate

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 22/10/2024, Callum Godde

Housing developers will be forced to fund public schools, hospitals, roads and transport across Victoria but there are concerns a statewide charge could make homes more expensive. With her government's third housing policy announcement in as many days, Premier Jacinta Allan has flagged a pilot infrastructure contribution program for developers.

Also reported by: [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#)

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## KFP exam changing to multiple-choice as young doctors report 'handwriting fatigue'

Australian Doctor, Other, 22/10/2024, Ciara Seccombe

While doctors' writing remains the butt of jokes, a broader generational shift against handwriting appears underway. The RACGP will remove short-answer questions from its Key Feature Problem fellowship exam after registrars criticised the perceived demands of having to handwrite full-sentence responses.

[Read More](#)

## What does it cost each year for you to work as a doctor? Find out with AusDoc's survey results

Australian Doctor, Other, 22/10/2024, Antony Scholefield & Paul Smith

What does it cost to be a doctor? Not the cost of becoming a doctor but just the cost of having your name on the medical register come October 1. [...] This was more than symbolic, according to then-AMA president Professor Steve Robson, it was " extortionate ".

[Read More](#)

## Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 22/10/2024, Ashleigh Gillon

Queensland Premier Steven Miles has used his visit in Mackay to announce the locations of 50 urgent health clinics, which Labor has pledged to set up around the state for \$365m. Miles says 38 of those bulk-billing GP clinics will be in regional Queensland and six of them in the Mackay-Whitsunday Region.

[Play Now](#)

## Radio National, Life Matters, 22/10/2024, Hilary Harper & Beverley Wang

Interview with Dr Nicole Higgins, President, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and Dr Elizabeth Deveny, CEO, Consumers Health Forum of Australia, on the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency uncovering some disturbing cases of doctors and nurses prescribing large quantities of cannabis via very brief telehealth appointments. Health experts warn the issue is far wider, with more single-use clinics popping up dealing with issues like ADHD and weight loss.

Interview continues on: [Radio National \(Canberra\)](#)

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### Disaster Ready, or will it be curtains?

Daily Telegraph, General News, 23/10/2024, Clare Armstrong, Page 2

The first two rounds of funding, successful projects have included non-infrastructure investments such as multiple mental health initiatives including \$643,000 for a bushfire kids program in NSW, grants for Canberra households to install thermal curtains to protect against heatwaves, and \$550,000 to investigate the removal of an infestation of willow trees in a Hobart river.

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

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## Let's lead by example on social media

Daily Telegraph, General News, 23/10/2024, James O'Doherty, Page 14

Vulnerable kids cannot be expected to protect themselves from anxiety-inducing social media if grown adults cannot pull themselves away, Premier Chris Minns says. Mr Minns will tomorrow participate in Unplug24, a national day of action calling on Australians to take a break from social media, to raise awareness about youth suicide and the harms of social media.

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## Training more tradies to help solve housing crisis

Herald Sun, General News, 23/10/2024, Jeff Kennett, Page 23

Daniel Andrews to chair Orygen for three years! What an absolute insult. The individual who contributed to more mental illness than any other Australian, and in only three years! So is the appointment for Andrews or for Orygen. I suspect the former. Orygen has lost credibility, and Andrews has none.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#).

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## To access vital NDIS support, I had to make a lot of noise

Canberra Times, General News, 23/10/2024, Elena Filipczyk, Page 16

My therapies related to my autism and other disabilities might be covered. There's my psychosexual therapy, for example, which is slowly helping me to have healthy, safe relationships. Then there's the physiotherapy, which is healing my traumatised body. I might even be able to get a hearing aid for my deaf left ear.

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## RSL leader's North East trek to support vets

Border Mail, General News, 23/10/2024, Beau Greenway, Page 6

The Wodonga RSL subbranch president will embark on a 96-kilometre trek from Bright to Wodonga starting on Thursday afternoon, October 24, and aims to complete it within 24 hours to raise funds and awareness for veterans and police who have PTSD. Mr Wolf chose the route as it was 96 kilometres, the equivalent distance of the Kokoda Track, which he tackled in 2022 to raise funds for Young Veterans Australia.

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

## What our cops want

Cairns Post, General News, 23/10/2024, Michael Nolan, Page 1

The results of the What Cops Want survey are backed up by new data from Work Safe Australia that shows the rate of officers making compensation claims for psychological injury has skyrocketed in the past four years, from 101 in 2019-22 to 254 in 2022-23. According to the Queensland Police Union, the 2023-24 figures are up about 125 per cent on the previous year.

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

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## Decades of making a difference to youth

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Abby Walter, Page 7

An Ocean Grove woman has been recognised for three decades of work and volunteering to help

establish programs promoting mental health in children and young people. Lyndie Freestone, a psychiatric nurse by trade, was inducted into the 2024 Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

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## Locals dress up and dance for a cause

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 23/10/2024, Samantha Newsam, Page 5

The White Elephant Ball is closing in on raising \$600,000 to help prevent youth suicide. Started up in 2014 by Katrina Campbell, following the death of her husband Scotty Campbell to suicide, as a fundraiser for youth mental health organisation, Batyr, in the ensuing years the ball has grown to become one of the biggest events on the Tamworth social calendar and raised over \$580,000.

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## Health centre for veterans

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 23/10/2024, Leighton Smith, Page 16

A Townsville doctor familiar with the challenges facing Australian Defence Force members transitioning from military to civilian life has opened a veteran focused health hub, along with a medical practice which has attracted Charters Towers' first CT scanner. Dr Michael Clements served in the Royal Australian Air Force for 13 years as a doctor and pilot, including deployments in the Middle East and Afghanistan, before being posted to Townsville in 2010, and opening his first medical practice at Fairfield Central in 2015.

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

## This tribe of mates is saving lives

Australian Financial Review, Other, 22/10/2024, Agnes King

Established in 2016 in response to alarmingly high suicide rates in blue-collar industries, MATES in Energy aims to reduce suicides in the energy sector.

[Read More](#)

## The one food you should avoid if you suffer from depression

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Tracy Swartz

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

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

[Read More](#)

## Unplug24: Sam Wood's fears for online safety of daughters

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Adella Beaini

The fitness guru and reality TV star reveals what scares him most about raising his daughters in a world with social media and the personal connection he has with the Unplug24 campaign. [...] The idea was the brainchild of Mac's dad Wayne, who has set up a suicide prevention charity called SmackTalk in memory of his son, and to raise awareness on the damage that can be done on social media and save the lives of others.

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

[Read More](#)

## Killer's 'paranoid assassination delusions' led to death of patient

Canberra Times, Other, 22/10/2024, Hannah Neale

A teenager was "acting on paranoid delusions" when he killed a fellow mental health inpatient, believing the victim was going to "assassinate" him. In November 2022, Dusko Culibrk, 38, was killed in the adult mental health unit at Canberra Hospital.

[Read More](#)

## Forced adoption survivors disappointed at government response to inquiry

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Claire Moodie

Survivors of the so-called forced adoption era in Western Australia have expressed disappointment after the state government failed to commit to a financial redress scheme. Mothers whose babies were taken away from 1939 to the early 1980s, as well as people who were removed as newborns, gathered at Parliament House on Tuesday to witness the tabling of the government's response to a recent inquiry.

[Read More](#)

## Liam Payne's death: How one celebrity loss can shape a generation's experience

SBS, Other, 22/10/2024, Ciara Hain

Dr Georgia Carroll is a sociologist and researcher who completed her PhD on fandom communities at the University of Sydney. "Obviously, there have been big celebrity deaths in recent years, but this is the first one on this global scale," she said.

[Read More](#)

## Anya says having a child was the 'stupidest' decision she ever made

SBS, Other, 22/10/2024, Matt Gazy

A single parent since her pregnancy, Anya could not fathom how much her daughter would impact her life — particularly when her daughter began experiencing depression, which she often expressed through anger. Eventually, Anya stopped working to care of her, and soon found herself in debt, socially isolated and dealing with her own mental health challenges.

[Read More](#)

## 'We have been waiting years for this day': Is a new era dawning for schizophrenia treatment?

Australian Doctor, Other, 22/10/2024, Rachel Carter

While doctors have witnessed firsthand the numerous wonder drugs in recent times — precision medicines in oncology, for instance — drug treatments for schizophrenia have remained largely the same. It has been 70 years since the last big thing: chlorpromazine hitting the market as the world's first antipsychotic drug.

[Read More](#)

## Channel 9, Today , 22/10/2024, Karl Stefanovic & Sylvia Jeffreys

Interview with Dr Rahul Jandial, neuroscientist, on Australia facing a mental health crisis with 1 in 4 young adults battling depression and a groundbreaking new brain study aiming to lower that number and treat the illness. Jandial says the study showed brain scans look different between adults and young people.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### Our midwife job 'crisis'

Daily Telegraph, General News, 23/10/2024, Page 3

Australia's midwife workforce is "in crisis", a bombshell report has warned, and will not have the numbers to provide "quality midwifery care" to mums and babies without "urgent action". The startling research, commissioned by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia, also revealed that a third of current burntout midwives were considering leaving and if they did the impact would be "catastrophic".

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

## Fears of health cuts as midwives count the babies

Hobart Mercury, General News, 23/10/2024, Duncan Abey, Page 5

Premier Jeremy Rockliff has rejected opposition claims that government razor gangs will slash \$290m from the state's health budget this financial year, after Labor frontbencher Ella Haddad called on incoming health minister Jacquie Petrusma to stand up for Tasmanian patients and healthcare workers. The funding spat, sparked by figures contained in the Health Department's recently released annual report, came as the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation began a Tasmanian campaign to include babies and not just mothers in maternity staffing ratios.

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

## Champions of maternity care

Northern Territory News, General News, 23/10/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 5

An innovative model integrating midwifery care with broader health services for families in need in the Top End is the Northern Territory's finalist in the national Stronger Medicare Awards. In Medicare's 40th year, the awards recognise and honour Medicare Champions from around Australia: outstanding individuals and practices that provide exceptional care, embrace innovation and work together to improve the health of their community.

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## Families left reeling after they were blindsided by devastating childcare centre blow

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Jonica Bray

Working mums, including nurses, teachers and aged care workers, have been devastated after Coast Childcare closed its doors without warning on Friday. Executive Officer Stephanie Wallace delivered the devastating news by email at 4pm, saying the Woy Woy centre on the Central Coast was no longer viable.

[Read More](#)

## 'Warm welcome': New nurses arrive in the Hunter from the UK and Ireland

Newcastle Herald, Other, 22/10/2024, Damon Cronshaw

The first of more than 140 overseas nurses have begun work in the Hunter-New England health district. The registered nurses were recruited from the United Kingdom and Ireland. Hospitals to receive nurses include Maitland (28), Tamworth (41) and Manning (37).

[Read More](#)

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

Nursing Review, Other, 22/10/2024

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.

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Psychiatrists threaten mass resignation in fight with hospital bosses over low pay

Australian Doctor, Other, 22/10/2024, Carmel Sparke

Hospital psychiatrists in NSW are threatening mass resignation unless their salaries are lifted to address a pay gap they say is behind "disastrous" staffing shortages. With the pay of public sector



psychiatrists some 30 per cent below their interstate peers, 140 of the 493 psychiatry positions in the NSW state system are now vacant.

[Read More](#)

## The medical board's new pathway for overseas specialists not being funded out of doctors' \$1000 registration fee, says AHPRA

Australian Doctor, Other, 22/10/2024, Paul Smith

Governments will provide AHPRA with almost \$2 million to cover the costs and staff required to set up the pathway. One question raised by the creation of the Medical Board of Australia's new fast-track pathway for specialist IMGs to work in Australia is who pays.

[Read More](#)

## 'Nowhere else I'd rather be than rural'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 22/10/2024, Morgan Liotta

Dr Sara Georg has wanted to be a rural generalist (RG) since before the term even existed. After her first stint in the country at regional South Australia's Whyalla Hospital for her fourth-year placement, she returned to the city 'with the strange feeling that I didn't belong there anymore', Dr Georg told newsGP.

[Read More](#)

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### Meet the 17 new Young Rich Listers

Australian Financial Review, General News, 23/10/2024, Yolanda Redrup, Page 1

Two new sets of brothers make the list this year, led by healthcare start-up founders Aengus and Dimitry Tran, who are behind Harrison.ai – an artificial intelligence start-up that analyses CT and X-rays to speed up and improve diagnoses.

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

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### CSL forced to pull three next 'big bets'

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 23/10/2024, Michael Smith, Page 15

CSL became one of Australia's biggest companies from the fast-growing immunoglobulin products at the heart of its portfolio.

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

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### Sigma's peace offer 'tokenistic': pharmacists

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 23/10/2024, Carrie Lafrenz, Page 15

The Pharmacy Guild, an influential lobby group representing thousands of pharmacies, says the merger between Sigma Healthcare and Chemist Warehouse should not proceed.

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

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

### PSA awards leading Queensland pharmacists

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 22/10/2024, Chloe Hava

At the 2024 Queensland Excellence Awards in Brisbane on Saturday night, these five pharmacists were honoured for their commitment to excellence in pharmacy practice. PSA Queensland President Shane MacDonald MPS acknowledged the achievements of the award winners as well as the continued dedication of pharmacists practising throughout the state.

[Read More](#)

## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### King of telethon

West Australian, General News, 23/10/2024, Lauren Price, Page 1

Charles gives our iconic fundraising bonanza the Royal Seal of Approval King Charles has celebrated Telethon's astonishing fundraising efforts, praising West Australians for their "generosity, compassion and community spirit". Despite facing a cost-of-living crisis, the people of WA dug deep at the weekend to raise more than \$83 million for sick and disadvantaged kids across the State.

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

### Government repeatedly ignored foreigner's Medicare fraud, on top of the abuse of his wife

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 22/10/2024, Shannon Molloy

A dangerous and abusive foreigner who was waved into Australia by bumbling immigration officials has also managed to dodge an investigation into his defrauding of Medicare. Despite damning evidence about the man's fleecing of taxpayer funds being provided to several agencies, the government has failed to take any action.

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

[Read More](#)

### Need a doctor after hours? There's a new free telehealth option for GP care

Ballarat Courier, Other, 22/10/2024, Michelle Smith

People living in Ballarat and western Victoria now have access to a free after-hours GP telehealth service to help patch a critical gap in the region's health system. "It is recognised that there is a lack of after-hours GP services in western Victoria, this is especially true in rural and remote areas," said Western Victoria Primary Health Network chief executive Craig Wilding.

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Mothers back a doc who delivered

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Brad Crouch & Tara Miko, Page 2

Naracoorte mothers have thrown their support behind GP obstetrician Jeffrey Taylor after his sudden resignation, saying he will be "a massive loss to the community". Dr Taylor resigned after a medical board prohibited him from contact with women patients. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency does not comment on matters relating to individuals.

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

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### Ex-Wagga nurse loses registration over misconduct

Daily Advertiser, General News, 23/10/2024, Andrew Mangelsdorf, Page 4

A former Wagga nurse has had his registration cancelled after commencing a sexual relationship with a former patient. Abhigith Maman will have to wait until October next year to apply to resume practising as a nurse after breaching his professional boundaries with the woman, the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal has ordered.

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

## Naracoorte doctor resigns

Border Watch, General News, 23/10/2024, Charlotte Varcoe, Page 5

A Naracoorte general practitioner has had restrictions put in place as an official medical board review is underway. [...] It comes as the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and National Boards (AHPRA) restricted Dr Taylor's working abilities.

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

## 'You're lucky this isn't murder': Nurse's chilling statement to cops after attacking man over rape allegation

The Australian, Other, 22/10/2024, Blake Antrobus

A nurse who tried to smash her way into a man's house armed with a knife chillingly told police they were "lucky this wasn't murder" after threatening to kill the man over an alleged rape, a court has been told. Kristy Lee Edwards was supported by family in Brisbane District Court on Tuesday as she learned her fate for the violent attack at Varsity Lakes, on the Gold Coast, back in early 2021.

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

[Read More](#)

## 'No further action' for nearly a third of pharmacists

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 22/10/2024, Michael Khoo

More than half of complaints relating to pharmacists were referred onto AHPRA, new report by Queensland's health regulator shows. Medical practitioners were most likely to be involved in complaints (55 per cent) in 2023-24, according to the Office of the Health Ombudsman's latest annual report of complaints about Queensland's health practitioners.

[Read More](#)

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

### Tender win for sporting precinct

Hobart Mercury, General News, 23/10/2024, Simon Mcguire, Page 10

Fairbrother has been tasked with constructing the \$60m Devonport Sports Precinct. The Tasmanian company has been awarded the tender for the jointly funded project, with the state and federal governments contributing \$25m each.

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## SPORT

### Good sports, but are big sponsorships worth it?

The Australian, Business News, 23/10/2024, Josh Faulks, Page 20

Sponsorship not only funds elite sporting teams and leagues, but it is also the life blood of many grassroots and community programs. It funds sporting infrastructure, and it means we can all watch our favourite footy team for free on television. Sponsorship is also big business. It is estimated that sports sponsorships in Australia are worth \$1.5bn a year. That investment accounted for more than 21 per cent of the marketing budgets in 2022.

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### Glasgow glee for Dan's \$200m Games gift

Herald Sun, General News, 23/10/2024, Nui Te Koha & Mitch Clarke, Page 1

Glaswegians are rightly stoked that Victoria's hard-earned taxes have given them the chance to host one of the world's most renowned sporting events for free. After more than \$200m of Victorian taxpayer dollars was handed over to Scotland to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, the Herald Sun took to the streets of the country's most populated city to gauge the mood.

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## Cut-price '26 Games

Courier Mail, General News, 23/10/2024, Julian Linden, Page 1

Glasgow has finally been confirmed as host of the 2026 Commonwealth Games, but they have cut a large chunk of the program to save costs. [...] Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) president Ben Houston applauded Scotland for cleaning up the mess left by the Andrews government.

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

## Hockey club gets \$290k for upgrades

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 23/10/2024, Daneka Hill, Page 7

Mundingburra MP Les Walker is on a sports spending tour this election week, and his latest announcement is \$290,000 for lights, solar and shade upgrades at the Townsville Hockey Association grounds. The hockey club which is based at the Murray Sporting Complex in Annandale has close to 900 registered players.

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## Safety is paramount by the pool side

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 23/10/2024, Justin Scarr, Page 14

With spring bringing warmer weather, Royal Life Saving Australia is asking all owners of backyard pools to check their pool fences and pool gates as a matter of urgency. Children under five are curious and fearless, and their love of water puts them at risk of drowning.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

No relevant coverage

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

### A poignant audience with Barbecue King in a neighbourhood so close to his heart

The Australian, General News, 23/10/2024, Joanna Panagopoulos, Page 1

Earlier, a small crowd gathered outside the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence in Redfern to meet the King, while Queen Camilla was at another engagement. On arrival they were greeted by National Indigenous Australians Agency chief executive Jody Broun and regional manager Leon Donovan before being welcomed with a smoking ceremony in the courtyard.

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### Workplace 're-education' hides culture of weakness

The Australian, General News, 23/10/2024, Janet Albrechtsen, Page 11

Monday might see workers at a company trot off to an afternoon of "cultural sensitivity and awareness training" so they understand people are all shaped by their cultural background, influencing how they interpret the world around them and relate to other people. Tuesday morning, we might receive an hour of online cultural training from the Victorian Supreme Court's ceremonial sitting "honouring First Nations people".

## Let's restore faith, confidence in this nation's successes

The Australian, General News, 23/10/2024, Tony Abbott, Page 11

Australia is one of the world's truly great stories: a land long hidden from the outside world, then chosen as a dumping ground, where people, white and black, rejected and despised, within scarcely a century, had built the most free, the most fair, and the most prosperous society on Earth. One indissoluble federal commonwealth under the Crown: with an Indigenous heritage, a British foundation and an immigrant character.

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## Indigenous fund backflip

The Australian, Higher Education, 23/10/2024, James Dowling, Page 21

Indigenous boarding schools at risk of closure have been given a lifeline after the Albanese government pledged to restore a discontinued grant program. In its most recent budget, Labor did not provide additional funding for its \$21.6m National Indigenous Australians Agency's Indigenous Boarding Providers Grant, which supports the schooling and boarding fees of Indigenous students from remote regions.

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

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## All hands on deck for royals' big day out

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 23/10/2024, Jordan Baker, Page 1

There were no moments of scandal, such as the one supplied by Senator Lidia Thorpe in Canberra on Monday when she shouted, "you are not my king" and accused the monarchy of "genocide against our people". Protesters, too, were thin on the ground, although a central Sydney statue of the King's great-great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, was defaced by red paint overnight, and a lone Indigenous protester made his anger known at the Opera House forecourt entrance before the royals arrived.

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## Royals go from scandal to sunshine

Age, General News, 23/10/2024, Jordan Baker, Olivia Ireland & Rob Harris, Page 1

There were no moments of scandal, such as the one supplied by Senator Lidia Thorpe in Canberra on Monday when she shouted, "you are not my king" and accused the monarchy of "genocide against our people". Protesters, too, were thin on the ground, although a central Sydney statue of the King's great-great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, was defaced by red paint overnight, and a lone Indigenous protester made his anger known at the Opera House forecourt entrance before the royals arrived.

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## Time for King to offer First Nations apology

Age, Editorials, 23/10/2024, Page 16

On Monday, Senator Lidia Thorpe, moved from the back of the Great Hall after the King had delivered his speech and shouted at him, and indeed the monarchy: "You are not our king. You are not sovereign. You committed genocide against our people. Give us our land back.

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

## NT government's new drinking and bail laws trigger jail warning from Arnhem Land politician

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Matt Garrick

A Yolngu politician and elder has delivered a stark warning to Aboriginal people sleeping rough in Darwin — leave now or risk ending up in jail under a suite of tough new alcohol and bail laws. The newly elected Country Liberal Party government has spent its first days in parliament putting forward legislation aimed at getting a handle on the Northern Territory's high crime rates.

[Read More](#)

## 'Political footballs': How at-risk youth are victims of Australia's populist politicians

The New Daily, Other, 22/10/2024, Parker McKenzie

Experts are worried children are becoming political footballs across Australia as MPs in three states recently made controversial decisions and policy suggestions about at-risk youth. The Northern Territory government's recent call to decrease the age of criminal responsibility was a prime example of placing politics above care for children, experts said.

[Read More](#)

## Carnarvon hosts inaugural Community Wellness Fair to promote mental health awareness

National Indigenous Times, Other, 22/10/2024, Rhiannon Clarke

The Gascoyne Community Services Aboriginal Corporation (GCS) recently held the inaugural 'Community Wellness Fair' in Carnarvon, bringing together community members and mental health professionals for a day of workshops, activities, and conversations about mental well-being. The event, hosted during Mental Health Week, aimed to foster a more open dialogue around mental health and reduce the stigma that often prevents people from seeking help.

[Read More](#)

## "She's got the ancestors right with her": Indigenous child commissioner defends Thorpe's King Charles protest

National Indigenous Times, Other, 22/10/2024, Dechlan Brennan

The ACT's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people commissioner has defended the actions of Senator Lidia Thorpe's comments towards King Charles on Monday, saying she "stood up to the monarchy and asked for equity, justice and equality". Bundjalung Widubul-Wiabul woman Vanessa Turnbull-Roberts' comments came as a media storm erupted in the aftermath of Senator Thorpe comments and actions.

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### WA Health issues urgent warning to locals and travellers in the State's North West over mosquito-borne disease

West Australian, Other, 22/10/2024, Katya Minns

An urgent warning has been issued by WA Health to prevent mosquito bites in Western Australia's north-west after a potentially deadly disease was found. The department has advised people to take caution when travelling through the Kimberley, after mosquito-borne virus activity was identified in sentinel chickens.

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

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### 4EK meningococcal fundraiser sees year 11 students at Ballarat school vaccinated against deadly disease

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Eden Hynninen

A grieving mother has raised enough money to vaccinate all year 11 students at Phoenix College in Ballarat from meningococcal B. In Victoria immunisation from the A, C, W and Y strains is free, but it can cost up to \$400 to be fully vaccinated against meningococcal B.

[Read More](#)

### Mpox spreading

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 22/10/2024

Victoria is in the midst of its biggest mpox outbreak since the first case was reported into May 2022, according to a health alert issued by the state govt. Cases are continuing to rise across Victoria and other parts of Australia, with all sexually active people with compatible symptoms encouraged to undergo testing with a GP or sexual health clinic.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

No relevant coverage

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## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

### Coke-test positive worker reinstated

The Australian, General News, 23/10/2024, Ewin Hannan, Page 7

A Sydney Trains rail safety worker sacked after testing positive for cocaine has secured his reinstatement after a Fair Work Commission full bench upheld a ruling that his dismissal after 26 years of service had been harsh, unjust and unreasonable. After returning to work from a period of annual leave, Reece Goodsell undertook a random drug and alcohol test where his urine sample tested positive for cocaine metabolites.

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

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### One in five Australians admit they don't wash their hands every time they use the toilet

The New Daily, Other, 22/10/2024, Christine Carson

Australia's Food Safety Information Council has released its latest report card on the country's hand-washing habits. It found 19 per cent of Australians don't wash their hands every time they use the toilet. Close to half (42 per cent) admit they don't always wash hands before handling food.

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

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## AICIS

### Dutton calls on Thorpe to resign after royal tirade

The Australian, General News, 23/10/2024, Rhiannon Down, Page 1

Though her conduct falls short of the standard required for referral to the standing committee of privileges and members' interests because Senator Thorpe had not obstructed the Senate, it is theoretically possible she could be stripped of her role as PFAS committee chair after a Senate vote. The Australian understands the Coalition would seek bipartisanship before pushing to censure Senator Thorpe, with Labor senators weighing whether it would be worthwhile reigniting tensions stemming from the incident.

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

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## Tests link 'forever chemical' to 1992 petrol tanker crash

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 23/10/2024, Ben Cubby & Carrie Fellner, Page 2

Independent tests on water that drains directly down from the crash site into Adams Creek to feed Medlow Dam have revealed the presence of synthetic PFAS chemicals at 3.4 micrograms per litre more than 40 times the current safe drinking water guidelines. The most prominent of the PFAS family of chemicals found near the crash site is PFOS a component of the firefighting foam used in huge quantities to quell the petrol tanker blaze.

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## Bring out your poisons

Burnie Advocate, General News, 23/10/2024, Sean Ford, Page 4

A North-West council will accept unwanted household chemicals and even vapes in an effort to help the environment and community safety. The Waratah-Wynyard Council will take everything from solvents and household cleaners to pool chemicals at its upcoming free household chemicals drop-off sessions at Wynyard and Waratah on November 16.

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## Hunter group calls for zero-tolerance stance on PFAS

Newcastle Herald, General News, 23/10/2024, Matthew Kelly, Page 4

The Hunter Community Environment Centre has called for a ban on the use and importation of PFAS chemicals until their health impacts are fully understood. It comes after the National Health and Medical Research Council proposed earlier this week to reduce the amount of the potential cancer-causing chemicals allowed in Australian drinking water.

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

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## 'Enormous implications': Australia's tap water clean-up could cost billions

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 22/10/2024, Carrie Fellner, Ben Cubby & Daniel Lo

Forever chemicals are a family of about 14,000 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) best known for their capacity to repel oil, water and stains. They were invented in the 1940s and are used in hundreds of consumer products. They are known as "forever chemicals" because they never break down in the environment, and linger for years in the human body.

[Read More](#)

## PFOS 'forever chemical' confirmed by environmental pollution regulator in Belubula River

ABC Online, Other, 22/10/2024, Micaela Hambrett

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has confirmed the presence of "forever chemicals" along a 40-kilometre stretch of a central west NSW river. Reports from the regulator have found perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) in the Belubula River near Blayney at levels toxic to the environment.

[Read More](#)

## What do new draft guidelines for 'forever chemicals' mean for Australia's drinking water?

The Guardian, Other, 22/10/2024, Ian Musgrave

The Australian National Health and Medical Research Council has today released draft guidelines for acceptable levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in drinking water. PFAS chemicals are also known as "forever chemicals" because they do not break down easily and can persist in the environment, including drinking water supplies.

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

[Read More](#)



## **ABC News, News Breakfast, 22/10/2024, Michael Rowland & Bridget Brennan**

New guidelines on so-called forever chemicals have been released from the National Health and Medical Research Council. It's part of an overhaul of Australia's drinking water standards and comes after two dams in the Blue Mountains were shut down over the discovery of elevated traces of PFAS chemicals. The NSW Government says almost all Sydney catchment drinking water complies with the new proposed guidelines.

[Play Now](#)

## **Channel 9, Today , 22/10/2024, Karl Stefanovic & Sylvia Jeffreys**

Australia could soon introduce new restrictions on forever chemicals in our drinking water, with new draft PFAS guidelines released. But water safety activists nationwide say this still isn't good enough for Australian standards.

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