



TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 24th October 2024

[Minister Butler](#) | [Minister Wells](#) | [Assistant Minister McBride](#)
| [Assistant Minister Kearney](#) | [Assistant Minister Thwaites](#) | [Department](#)
| [Vaccines](#) | [Ageing and Aged Care](#) | [Population Health](#)
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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Canberra Times](#)** (page 1) reports that Independent ACT Senator David Pocock has expressed his disappointment over the federal government's delay in delivering a national Centre for Disease Control following the retirement of chief medical officer Paul Kelly, while Health Minister Mark Butler said, the interim CDC was "already significantly strengthening Australia's preparedness for future pandemics".
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports that new figures from Women's Health Victoria has revealed two-thirds of local government areas in the state have no surgical abortion facilities, with WHV chief executive Sally Hasler saying she would like to see abortion "integrated into the health system as a part of standard maternity care service".
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports that new data from the 44,000 WorkCover claims lodged by emergency workers across Victoria has revealed a 50 per cent increase in mental injury claims caused from the Black Saturday and Black Summer extreme bushfire periods compared to other periods since 2005.
- **[The Guardian](#)** reports that Nationals senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price has been criticised by Coalition frontbenchers Sussan Ley, Jane Hume and Bridget McKenzie, for politicising women's reproductive rights, while federal Health Minister, Mark Butler, said the issue was a state responsibility.

- **[The Courier Mail](#)** (page 4) reports that medical experts in Queensland have called on the LNP not to scrap pill testing at Schoolies next month if it wins this week's election, following the detection of a super-potent synthetic opioid in the state.
- **[The Guardian](#)** reports that a 51-year-old Perth man has been treated for scurvy after presenting to Sir Charles Gairdner hospital with tiny, painful red-brown pinpoint on his legs, with a doctor at the hospital saying, "It's not something that I expected to come up in today's time".
- **[The Sydney Morning Herald](#)** (page 6) reports that private hospital operator Healthe Care yesterday announced the closure of its maternity unit service on the Central Coast, a decision that leaves the public Gosford Hospital the only birthing facility for the region.
- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 7) reports that Commonwealth Games Australia boss Craig Phillips has said Victoria could have hosted the 2026 event if existing infrastructure in the state had been considered, whilst adding that anger from athletes towards the government was "well placed".
- **[The Adelaide Advertiser](#)** (page 12) reports that South Australian Premier Peter Malinauskas is set to join Unplug24 on Thursday, in a national day of action against the dangers of social media, and one year after 17-year-old Mac Holdsworth took his own life after being blackmailed online.
- **[The Guardian](#)** reports that a new study by the NSW Council of Social Services and Canberra University has revealed healthcare has become less affordable for a majority of Australians, with the proportion of people delaying a GP visit because it was too expensive rising 246 per cent over the last four years.

MINISTER BUTLER

Cloud over Centre for Disease Control

Canberra Times, General News, 24/10/2024, Dana Daniel, Page 1

The future of the Australian Centre for Disease Control is under a cloud after its interim head, chief medical officer Paul Kelly, retired and with no funding allocated to deliver it. [...] A key Albanese government election promise, the CDC has the backing of public health advocates within and outside of Parliament, including Health Minister Mark Butler.

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Patients blindsided by senseless decision

Hobart Mercury, Letters, 24/10/2024, Page 18

Many Australians are gripped in a cost-of-living crisis. This will come as news to no one. [...] From July 1, 2025 they will no longer be able to do that, thanks to Labor's Health Minister, Mark Butler.

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Healthcare 'out of reach for too many'

Newcastle Herald, General News, 24/10/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 8

One in five people aged over 15 delayed or avoided seeing a GP in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie due to cost - a 211 per cent rise in four years, new research shows. [...] While in the Hunter on Tuesday, federal Health Minister Mark Butler said "there's more to do to strengthen Medicare".

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Coming up on Q+A: October 28, 2024

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024

Our healthcare system has been called one of the best and most accessible in the world. [...] On the Panel Mark Butler Minister for Health & Aged Care Mark Butler has been the Labor Member for Port Adelaide and Hindmarsh in the Federal Parliament since 2007.

[Read More](#)

Senior Coalition women and pro-life senator Matt Canavan reject Jacinta Price's abortion comments

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Karen Middleton & Josh Butler

Senior Coalition women have rebuked Jacinta Nampijinpa Price's comments about abortion, saying the Liberal Party had "no interest in unwinding women's reproductive rights" and saying it was an issue advanced by "fringe" politicians. [...] The federal health minister, Mark Butler, also stressed it was a state responsibility, and noted the Labor government had improved access to non-surgical abortions by removing restrictions.

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Push for a third bulk-billing clinic in the Hunter during Health Minister visit

Maitland Mercury, Other, 23/10/2024

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 on Tuesday and urged him not to forget her electorate.

Also reported by: [Macleay Argus \(Online\)](#), [Port Macquarie News \(Online\)](#), [Manning River Times \(Online\)](#), [Port Stephens Examiner \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Path labs that do not send results to My Health Record will lose Medicare rebates, govt says

Australian Doctor, Other, 23/10/2024, Rachel Carter

The Minister for Health and Aged Care will introduce the legislation next month. [...] While the details were unclear, a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care stressed that the move did not imply that patients would be left out of pocket for a pathology company's failure to upload.

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Minister flags 'sharing by default' mandate for digital health record

FST Media, Other, 23/10/2024, Yasmine Raso

The federal Minister for Health and Aged Care has flagged the introduction of new "sharing by default" legislation to mandate the near real-time availability of test and scan results on My Health Record. Speaking at the Victorian Healthcare Week 2024, the Hon Mark Butler MP said Australia has fallen behind in maintaining international best practice for the collection of health information and exchange standards, some of which can be attributed to the state of disrepair My Health Record has fallen into in recent years.

[Read More](#)

Butler wants bigger bulk-billing bump before new investments

The Medical Republic, Other, 23/10/2024, Holly Payne

The Minister for Health was cagey when questioned earlier this week on new solutions to the affordability crisis in primary care. The next federal election cycle is just about to start spinning, but Health Minister Mark Butler has indicated that there will be a long wait on the government's health policy.

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Triple M Newcastle, 12:00 News, 23/10/2024

End of the year remains the target for a new urgent care clinic in either Newcastle or Lake Macquarie. Tenders have closed, with the health minister promising an imminent announcement. Health Minister Mark Butler says having something up and running in the lead up to Christmas would be a huge relief for hospital workers expecting a flat chat holiday period.

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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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New reforms help seniors to remain at home as they age

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 23/10/2024, Nicki Davey

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

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'Mum never got dignity': Women desperate to share aged care ordeals ahead of federal reforms

A Current Affair, Other, 23/10/2024

Australia's aged care industry has been plagued by problems and the federal government is in the process of passing new legislation it claims will fix it. [...] Since June, Kim Sutton has been on a mission to meet with aged care minister Anika Wells, in the hope she can prevent other elderly Australians from suffering the painful death her dad John Currie endured.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 23/10/2024, Allison Langdon

When Kim Sutton lost her father John at an aged care home, she swore that no one would suffer the kind of death he did. They've been driving on a three-hour journey that started at 630 in the morning. Their mission is to meet Aged Care Minister Anika Wells, who's been too busy to see them so far.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

The Glen celebrates 30 years of helping those in need

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 24/10/2024, Page 5

More than 800 people gathered at Chittaway recently to celebrate the 30th birthday of The Glen, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre for Indigenous and nonIndigenous men. [...] MC'd by former client of The Glen, special guests included Member for giveaways Josh Toomey, Dobell Emma McBride, Member for Terrigal Adam Crouch and Member for Gosford Liesl Tesch.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Health tick for Tangney

PerthNow Canning, General News, 24/10/2024, Gabrielle Becerra-Mellet, Page 7

Tangney and Curtin electorates rank among the lowest in the country for health risks such as daily smoking and obesity, according to new data. [...] The findings were presented in Canberra, with Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney describing the issues in the report as "multi-faceted" and "affecting millions of Australians".

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Take notice of symptoms

Port Pirie Recorder, General News, 24/10/2024, Page 11

Ovarian cancer takes the life of one Australian woman every eight hours and with no early detection test only 49 per cent of people diagnosed with ovarian cancer are estimated to survive five years after their diagnosis. [...] Federal Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Ged Kearney, said the funding would ensure the project stayed the course to help more women and their families now and in the future.

Also reported by: [Whyalla News \(Whyalla\)](#), [Port Augusta Transcontinental \(Port Augusta\)](#), [Murray Valley Standard \(Murray Bridge\)](#).

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Bombshell report commissioned by Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia reveals workforce in crisis

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Sarah Booth

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: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#).

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

Cloud over Centre for Disease Control

Canberra Times, General News, 24/10/2024, Dana Daniel, Page 1

The future of the Australian Centre for Disease Control is under a cloud after its interim head, chief medical officer Paul Kelly, retired and with no funding allocated to deliver it. [...] A key Albanese government election promise, the CDC has the backing of public health advocates within and outside of Parliament, including Health Minister Mark Butler.

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Forum tackles aged care issues

Riverine Grazier, General News, 23/10/2024, Page 3

The Hay Shire Council Aged Care Roundtable was held last Monday and was organised by the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care Local Network. More than 25 people attended, representing Council, Haydays, Hay Multi-Purpose Service, and aged care providers and support services.

Also reported by: [Australian Rural & Regional News \(Online\)](#).

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Health Check: Despite headwinds, Australia's third force in pharmacy finds prescription for growth

The Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Tim Boreham

According to the World Health Organisation, eight million people acquitted syphilis in 2022, while the local Kirby Institute reckons syphilis diagnoses in Australia have tripled over the last decade. "The syphilis epidemic in Australia is past a tipping point ... we must act now," intones Australia's chief medical officer, Professor Paul Kelly.

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

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Path labs that do not send results to My Health Record will lose Medicare rebates, govt says

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The Minister for Health and Aged Care will introduce the legislation next month. [...] While the details were unclear, a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care stressed that the move did not imply that patients would be left out of pocket for a pathology company's failure to upload.

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Free hearing tests offer hope for people in New South Wales

Disability Support Guide, Other, 23/10/2024, Georgie Waters

By 2060, an estimated 7.8 million Australians will have some form of hearing loss, as per information from the Department of Health and Aged Care. Eligible Australians can access hearing services and support through the National Disability Insurance Scheme Lions Hearing Clinics are offering free hearing tests at available clinics, helping to ensure that Australians get assessed before hearing concerns become permanent and require specialist support.

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Anti-smoking event prioritises First Nations

MIX – Asia's Creative Meetings Magazine, Other, 24/10/2024

First nation involvement is at the core of the Oceania Tobacco Control Conference (OTCC 2024) taking place in Gold Coast, Australia, this week. [...] Mining congress digs history in Brisbane According to the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care, smoking causes 37 per cent of all First Nations deaths and 50 per cent of deaths of First Nations people over the age of 45.

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UK GPs vote to scrap physician assistants

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 23/10/2024, Morgan Liotta

After GPs in the UK voted to phase out physician assistants, the RACGP says yes, instead pointing to an existing model. [...] In Australia, RACGP President Dr Nicole Higgins said it is a national issue and wants the Department of Health and Aged Care to ensure PAs are not rolled out – because they are a less qualified, cheaper workforce solution to substitute for doctors.

[Read More](#)

Public health experts welcome regulation of baby and toddler formula marketing

SBS, Other, 23/10/2024, Hannah Kwon

The federal government is planning to introduce a mandatory code of conduct around the marketing of infant baby formula and toddler milk in Australia. [...] The ACCC and Department of Health and Aged Care have outlined a plan to introduce mandatory legislation and tighter controls.

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General practice is doomed in the places of greatest need

The reprieve on chronic care plans is just a brief delay on the journey to non-viability. After months of uncertainty and confusion, which is unfortunately the norm in Australian general practice, the Department of Health and Aged Care has put a temporary stay of execution on the policy to remove and dismantle much of the chronic health care planning item numbers.

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SBS, World News Australia, 23/10/2024, Janice Petersen

The federal government is planning to introduce a mandatory code of conduct around the marketing of baby formula and toddler milk. [...] The ACCC and the Department of Health and Aged Care have outlined a plan to introduce mandatory legislation and tighter controls on baby formula distribution and marketing.

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VACCINES

Codeine bans helped avoid a COVID spike in 'deaths of despair'

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Shane Wright

Deaths of despair claimed the lives of almost 6500 Australians during the first full year of the COVID pandemic, new research shows, but a ban on over-the-counter codeine pain relief drugs helped prevent more people from dying. The Centre for Population, a part of the federal Treasury, on Tuesday released its first examination into "deaths of despair" which have become a growing focus of attention by economists due to the factors underpinning the deaths.

[Read More](#)

Gold Coast city councillors vote on Office of Independent Assessor legal bills

The Courier Mail, Other, 23/10/2024, Paul Weston

Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate in his email listed what he considered "examples of the OIA's overzealousness" including: The Barcardine Mayor being found to have a case to answer for questioning QLD Health's rollout of Covid vaccines.

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

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

FWO claws back \$473m for workers

The Australian, General News, 24/10/2024, Ewin Hannan, Page 5

Acting Fair Work Ombudsman Michael Campbell said the regulator had "created a firmer culture of accountability across workplaces where Australia's largest employers, like all others, are expected to prioritise compliance". [...] "We are continuing our intelligence-led, priority-driven work in 2024-25, targeting high-risk sectors including aged-care services, agriculture, building and construction, disability support services, fast food, restaurants and cafes, large corporates and universities," Mr Campbell said.

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AI future

The Australian, Commercial Property, 24/10/2024, Hari Hara & Priya Kannan, Page 1

Looking ahead, jobs that rely on AI-human collaboration like healthcare technologists or AI-assisted

teachers are expected to boom. These roles use AI to augment human expertise, improving decision-making and outcomes, while still requiring human oversight and empathy.

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

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Sale for ages as inner-city property hits market

The Australian, Commercial Property, 24/10/2024, Chris Herde, Page 4

A long-term aged care facility in an exclusive inner-city Brisbane suburb is being demolished, and is expected to become home to a high-end apartment development after the land is sold. After almost 30 years, Ozcare closed its Palm Lodge aged care home at 424 Bowen Terrace, New Farm, after residents were moved to a property at 43 Evelyn Street in nearby Newstead, which has the same number of beds.

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Record taxes will not stop years of deficits, says IMF

Australian Financial Review, General News, 24/10/2024, Michael Read & John Kehoe, Page 4

EY Oceania chief economist Cherrille Murphy said "spending has also been high. This has been driven by an ageing population, meaning strong demand for health and aged care services".

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

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Maggie Beer on a mission for victory

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Emily Griffiths, Page 4

Beloved SA cuisine queen Maggie Beer has beaten a field of famous international TV hosts to take out a prestigious award in Cannes. [...] Spurred by the shock findings from the Royal Commission into Aged Care, the series tracked Beer and her team as they brought a new "appetite for life" to the residents and carers.

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

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Agency's spendathon continues

Canberra Times, General News, 24/10/2024, Connor Pearce, Page 9

A small agency rapped over the knuckles for spending too much on consultancies has continued to shell out millions on outsourced contracts, spending even more in the 12 months following a review than in the year prior. [...] The report from former Finance secretary David Tune, written in response to the findings of the royal commission into aged care, noted the Corporate Services Group had a 34 per cent vacancy rate and ICT APS staff were less than five per cent of the Commission's overall staff level.

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

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Scammers offer fake Centrelink payments

Burnie Advocate, General News, 24/10/2024, Sean Ford, Page 4

Anyone can fall into scammers' traps and education is vital, the president of a group representing Tasmanian seniors says. "It's become so much more sophisticated it's trapping even some of the tech-savvy people," Council on the Ageing Tasmania president Ingrid Harrison said.

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An emotional award win

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 24/10/2024, Samantha Newsam, Page 1

One of Sharon Tibbs' fondest memories of her dad, Kerry, is the way he loved helping others. [...] It was one of two awards the aged care transport service drove away with, with social coordinator Natalia Wills awarded the Employee of the Year gong.

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Charles Brownlow Retirement Village found non-compliant in four Aged Care Quality Standards

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Abby Walter

The federal aged care watchdog has found a Highton facility failed to meet key standards around 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.

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

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Esprit de Vie: First look at two-tower retirement village on ultra-thin Runaway Bay's Bayview St

The Courier Mail, Other, 23/10/2024, Andrew Potts

A controversial development on an ultra-thin site which was greenlit by the courts after council rejected it has been dumped in favour of two towers. The project, on Runaway Bay's Bayview St will become a two-tower retirement village overlooking the Broadwater under fresh plans lodged by Esprit de Vie.

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

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Regis CEO Dr Linda Mellors and Mercy Health CEO Clare Douglas warnings to Senate Inquiry into Aged Care Bill

The Weekly Source, Other, 23/10/2024, Caroline Egan

Dr Linda Mellors, Managing Director and CEO of Regis Aged Care, and Clare Douglas, CEO of Healthy Ageing at Mercy Health Australia, appeared before the Senate Inquiry into the Aged Care Bill 2024 last week delivering a sober message. Together, the providers care for more than 16,000 older Australians, and both leaders expressed reservations about the reforms, but warned that if the Bill is not passed this year, there will be dire consequences.

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Michael Reid AM appointed Independent Chair of aged care providers' peak body ACCPA

The Weekly Source, Other, 23/10/2024, Caroline Egan

The former Director General of both New South Wales Health from 1997 to 2002 and Queensland Health 2008 to 2011 replaces inaugural Chairman Dr Graeme Blackman AO, who is stepping down from the peak body after three years' service. [...] The recruitment process was led by a sub-committee of board members chaired by Bapcare CEO and Aged and Community Care Providers Association Deputy Chair, Geraldine Lannon.

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ACCPA appoints new chair

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 23/10/2024, Jodie Wolf

Thousands of aged care stakeholders have gathered in Adelaide this week as host ACCPA announces Michael Reid as incoming chair. Aged and Community Care Providers Association has announced experienced health administrator Michael Reid as the incoming chair at this year's annual conference where over 2,000 people have gathered.

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What are the different types of dementia?

Your Life Choices, Other, 24/10/2024, Jan Fisher

Dementia is the dirty word of ageing. It haunts us all, and with good reason. Dementia Australia (DA) estimates more than 421,000 Australians live with dementia. Without a medical breakthrough, the number of people with dementia is expected to increase to more than 812,500 by 2054.

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Advocates want retirement villages regulated like financial products

Your Life Choices, Other, 23/10/2024

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.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Breakfast, 23/10/2024, Adam Shirley

Interview with Chris Grice, CEO, National Seniors Australia. Compere mentions that census data that they have discussed about yesterday shows that over the past 20 years, the number of Australians 55 to 64yos who own their own home outright has almost halved. Grice says there was always an expectation that folks would be able to clear the mortgage prior to retirement, but they're certainly seeing a lot more older Australians entering retirement having to yet clear their mortgage.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Crisafulli evasive on abortion backflip

The Australian, General News, 24/10/2024, Lydia Lynch & Mackenzie Scott, Page 6

David Crisafulli has refused to explain why he voted against 2018 abortion reforms despite declaring on Tuesday night that he now believed a woman had the right to decide whether to continue a pregnancy. In a conscience vote in 2018, the LNP leader voted against Labor's laws that removed abortion from the Criminal Code and allowed the procedure on request up to 22 weeks' gestation.

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Many facing abortion access barriers

Age, General News, 24/10/2024, Henrietta Cook, Page 1

Women are struggling to access abortion services in Victoria, with more than two-thirds of local government areas having no surgical abortion providers, a new report reveals. The Women's Health Victoria report has also uncovered that almost 40 per cent of the state's local government areas have no listed pharmacies that dispense abortion medication.

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Tobacco sellers to require a licence

Daily Telegraph, General News, 24/10/2024, Madeleine Bower, Page 8

Retailers across the state will only be able to sell tobacco products with a licence under new laws proposed by the Minns government, with black market peddlers stripped of their right to sell any tobacco products if they are found to be breaking the law. The Daily Telegraph can reveal that NSW for the first time will have a tobacco licensing scheme which will require both retailers and wholesalers of tobacco and non-tobacco smoking products to pay an annual fee to maintain their licence.

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Abortion postcode lottery

Herald Sun, General News, 24/10/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 15

Abortion access in Victoria is a "postcode lottery", experts warn, and a fifth of all local government areas do not have a single listed provider. "Major inequities" in abortion and contraception access have been detailed by a new Women's Health Victoria report, which warned the "basic healthcare rights" were "not accessible for all".

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'Baby Killers Club' campaign leader doubles down

Pro-life activist Professor Joanna Howe has doubled down on her controversial "Baby Killers Club" campaign, defying requests to delete social media posts labelling opponents with the term and instead promising to expand it. The University of Adelaide law professor said critics now accusing her of inciting hate were silent when pro-abortion activists paraded in front of Parliament House with banners calling on the public to "abort Ben Hood".

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'Assault over rivalries'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Isabel McMillan, Page 17

Five men face court for role in SA's illicit tobacco trade Five men charged over the alleged South Australian tobacco wars have faced court charged over an alleged assault, which prosecutors say was motivated by interstate syndicate rivalries. Brothers Sajad Aref Abdul Al Mansoury, 31, Ali Aref Abdul Al Mansoury, 23, and Ahmed Aref Abdul Al Mansoury, 34, faced Adelaide Magistrates Court after they were arrested on Tuesday.

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Abortion not dead

Courier Mail, Letters, 24/10/2024, Donna Purcell, Page 22

How often have we heard during political campaigns that the actions do not match the rhetoric? Opposition Leader David Crisafulli and his party voted overwhelmingly against the decriminalisation of abortion. Even if they don't change anything we know where their mindset is.

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Echuca, Kyabram tobacco stores raided in alleged illicit trade

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Ben Loughran, Page 2

Two businesses in Echuca and one in Kyabram have been raided in a statewide police sting targeting an organised crime syndicate involved in an alleged \$30 million illegal tobacco trade operation. Detectives from the VIPER and Lunar taskforces, alongside the Australian Federal Police (AFP), the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), Australian Border Force's (ABF) Illicit Tobacco Taskforce and Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), executed search warrants at 27 properties across Victoria on Tuesday.

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'No plans' to unwind abortion

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Page 7

Women's reproductive rights won't come undone under a coalition government, an opposition senator has confirmed, as the culture war over abortion reignites. Pregnancy termination has emerged as one of the biggest issues in the Queensland and US presidential elections as politicians threaten access to the medical procedure.

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#)

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

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Page 7

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

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#)

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North-east raid part of crime crackdown

Border Mail, General News, 24/10/2024, Ted Howes, Page 3

A Yarrowonga tobacco store was one of 27 properties raided in a massive statewide crackdown on organised crime on Tuesday. A crime investigation unit from Cobram executed search warrants as part

of the operation which resulted in eight people across Victoria being charged with Commonwealth offences related to an organised crime syndicate.

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George Town moves on aquatic centre

Launceston Examiner, General News, 24/10/2024, Aaron Smith, Page 2

The George Town Council has taken another step towards its planned Aquatic, Health and Wellbeing Centre as the local pool approaches its final season. Tenders have been advertised for the new facility's preliminary construction stage after George Town Council secured \$15 million of federal funding and \$2.5 million from the state government.

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Study airs nut theory

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 24/10/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 13

Peanut allergies are linked to air pollution, world-first Australian research has found. The study found increased exposure to air pollution from birth not only raised the risk of developing the allergy, but also the likelihood it would persist past infancy and into childhood.

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

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Crisafulli 'pro-choice' but won't say why he voted against abortion decriminalisation

The Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Lydia Lynch

David Crisafulli has refused to explain why he voted against 2018 abortion reforms despite declaring on Tuesday night that he now believed that a woman had a right to choose whether to continue a pregnancy. In a conscience vote in 2018, the Liberal National Party leader voted against Labor's laws that removed abortion from the Criminal Code and allowed the procedure on request up to 22 weeks' gestation.

[Read More](#)

The brothers making a fortune revolutionising healthcare with AI

Australian Financial Review, Other, 23/10/2024, Yolanda Redrup

What the Tran brothers have built is almost unique – an Australian AI business that's moved from start-up to scale-up.

[Read More](#)

Senior Liberals Jane Hume, Sussan Ley slam Jacinta Price's 'fringe' abortion call

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Natassia Chrysanthos

The Coalition's senior female frontbenchers are seeking to shut down a national debate over abortion laws, labelling it a concern held by "fringe parties" as the controversial issue engulfs Queensland's state election campaign. Deputy Liberal leader Sussan Ley, Nationals Senator Bridget McKenzie and Liberal Senator Jane Hume on Wednesday morning refused to endorse their colleague, Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price, who had called for abortion to be on the national agenda.

[Read More](#)

Pediatric nutritionist reveals truth about favourite kids' snacks

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Claudia Poposki

A pediatric nutritionist has called out a food rating system parents use to give their kids the healthiest diet, saying it can be "manipulated". The Health Star Rating system was created in 2014 by Australian and New Zealand governments, and is a voluntary front-of-pack labelling system.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Five men face court after Operation Eclipse arrests

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Izzy McMillan

Five men charged over the alleged South Australian tobacco wars have faced court charged over an alleged assault, which prosecutors say was motivated by interstate syndicate rivalries. Brothers Sajad Aref Abdul Al Mansoury, 31, Ali Aref Abdul Al Mansoury, 23, and Ahmed Aref Abdul Al Mansoury, 34, appeared in the dock of the Adelaide Magistrates Court after they were arrested on Tuesday.

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

[Read More](#)

We went on a \$300 health retreat to show you how to avoid burnout on a budget

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Leah Goulis

According to recent research conducted by the Parenting Research Centre, three in five parents reported that they did "nothing to relax and re-energise", and nearly half felt they did not have enough time to "get everything done." Yep, sounds like parents need a holiday! Even better if it is solo and focused on relaxation. But "who has the money for a bougie health retreat?" I hear you ask.

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

[Read More](#)

Rockcliffe Winery in Denmark will be first in WA to produce non-alcohol wine thanks to \$225k REDs grant

West Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Melissa Sheil

A Denmark winery will be the first in Western Australia to produce zero and low-alcohol wine thanks to State government funding, marking "one of the most exciting developments" in the operation's 22 years. Rockcliffe Winery — one of the largest wineries in the state with 155 separate tanks — will use the \$225,000 grant to install Spinning Cone Column technology, a piece of machinery that selectively removes ethanol from wine to de-alcoholise it while protecting its flavour.

[Read More](#)

Tax incentives will provide extra meals and cut waste

Canberra Times, Other, 23/10/2024, Tess Ikonomou

A homeless person could have an extra meal every day for more than two years, under proposed tax changes to motivate businesses to donate more food and cut waste. Foodbank chief executive Brianna Casey says under the current rules, the tax system treats donating food no better than dumping.

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

[Read More](#)

Alleged ringleader of tobacco syndicate makes bail bid

Canberra Times, Other, 23/10/2024, Tara Cosoleto

The alleged ringleader of an illicit tobacco crime syndicate has made a bid for freedom after he was arrested while waiting for a plane to Dubai. Nazir Haddara, 25, was arrested at Melbourne Airport on Tuesday and charged with four offences, including directing the activities of a criminal organisation and knowingly possessing unlawful imported tobacco.

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

[Read More](#)

Pill testing, workforce staffing and bed numbers — the report card is in on Labor and LNP health policies

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Janelle Miles & Emma Pollard

A doctors' lobby group has hit out at the LNP's promise to cancel pill testing at next month's Schoolies

Week if the party wins government in Queensland on Saturday. In its state election commitments score card, the Australian Medical Association Queensland (AMAQ) branch said it was disappointed with the LNP's pill testing stance, describing the measure as an important health intervention for young people "contemplating taking an unknown substance".

[Read More](#)

How physios are helping women have less painful, more pleasurable sex

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Alex Barwick

Pelvic pain during sex can be caused by conditions like endometriosis or vestibulodynia (pain in the vulva area) but many women can have pain during sex without evidence of any disease or named condition. Associate Professor Helena Frawley, an expert in pelvic floor physiotherapy at the University of Melbourne, says pain symptoms can vary.

[Read More](#)

Want to live longer? Forget blue zones – these factors improve your chances of ageing well

The Guardian, Other, 24/10/2024, Melissa Davey

In September, the Australian researcher Dr Saul Newman, now with the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing in the UK, won an Ig Nobel prize after he uncovered the one critical factor key to longevity that all these regions have in common. Terrible record-keeping, it turns out.

[Read More](#)

Queensland election abortion debate: it's what David Crisafulli is not saying that matters most

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Ben Smee

Pollsters say one word – "abortion" – has entered the minds of Queensland voters as Saturday's state election draws near. "It is coming up unprompted in our surveys, people are bringing it up as an issue" one political strategist told Guardian Australia last week.

[Read More](#)

Urban green spaces have vital role in cutting heat-related deaths, study finds

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Andrew Gregory

Green spaces in cities play a vital role in reducing illness and deaths caused by climate breakdown, according to the most comprehensive study of its kind. The findings of the review suggest that adding more parks, trees and greenery to urban areas could help countries tackle heat-related harms and improve public health.

[Read More](#)

When abortion becomes a political issue, women make their voices heard

The New Daily, Other, 23/10/2024, Parker McKenzie

Australia's conservative federal politicians have been warned they should think twice about picking an argument on abortion given how damaging such debate it has been for US Republicans. It comes after Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price was the latest Coalition politician to put changing abortion laws on the national agenda this week.

[Read More](#)

'No plans' to unwind abortion under federal coalition

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Kat Wong

Women's reproductive rights won't come undone under a coalition government, an opposition senator has confirmed, as the culture war over abortion reignites. Pregnancy termination has emerged as one of the biggest issues in the Queensland and US presidential elections as politicians threaten access to the medical procedure.

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

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In the lab and beyond: Hunter medical research in action

Newcastle Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Frances Kay-Lambkin

This week the Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) Medical Research Week is shining a well-deserved spotlight on the vital role that medical research plays in shaping our health, our communities, and our future. For Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI), this week is an opportunity to highlight the depth and breadth of medical research that is carried out at home and beyond, and to remind the community that research is not confined to the laboratory.

[Read More](#)

The campaign by out-of-touch elites to ban abortion is now a federal election issue

Crikey, Other, 23/10/2024, Bernard Keane

Peter Dutton needs to find a way to reassure voters he won't be changing abortion laws while satisfying extremists in his own ranks who want to end women's right to choose. Peter Dutton's importation of Republican political tactics from the United States looks likely to deliver at least the reduction of Labor to a minority government at the next federal election, and, with some good luck, the outside chance of a Dutton minority government.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

The one wish KB's wife Denise had after cancer treatment: to go home

Age, General News, 24/10/2024, Henrietta Cook, Page 5

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. "After eight weeks of intensive radiation and chemotherapy, she wanted to come home," the former Tigers star says of his wife of 54 years, who died in March.

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

Lunch to help raise funds for prostate cancer nurse

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Ben Loughran, Page 1

Support in cancer fight Kevin Nolan's life is in limbo. The 75-year-old, who was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2021 before having the cancer removed about eight months later, is now awaiting further results after another unusual blood test result. He is one of hundreds of people in the Bendigo region who are diagnosed and treated for prostate cancer each year.

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Harley's fight for life: stem cells, seedlings and sex workers

Newcastle Herald, General News, 24/10/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 8

Gateshead's Harley Muir dreams of trying a stem cell transplant that he hopes will improve and extend his life. Harley was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy at age 11. [...] Now 37, his hopes of further extending his life were raised after listening to a podcast about the Stem Cell Institute in Panama.

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Divorce can be a hidden cost of the fight against breast cancer

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 24/10/2024, Eileen Wood, Page 5

When Kate Browne's husband asked her for a divorce she was blindsided as are many women faced with this situation. But for Kate, the situation was especially harrowing as she was also struggling with

a breast cancer diagnosis and treatment which had stripped her of energy and confidence.

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

Sign of the times? Archaic illness resurfaces in WA as cost of living bites

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Jesinta Burton

A group of West Australian doctors fear the rising cost of living could fuel a resurgence of scurvy after a Perth man was diagnosed with the rare 18th century disease. The man in his 50s was admitted to Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital after presenting with a petechial rash on his lower limbs, blood in his urine and anaemia.

[Read More](#)

Is cancer in young women on the rise?

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Tabby Wilson

We asked an expert Tabby Wilson Breast cancer researcher Dr Kellie Mouchemore, from the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute, who says triple-negative breast cancer tumours are to blame for increasing diagnoses of breast cancer in young women. Most people in 2024 are familiar with cancer – it's rare for someone to remain untouched by the disease in some way, shape or form.

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

[Read More](#)

Scurvy case 'unprecedented' Libs say

West Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Dylan Caporn

A case of scurvy in a Perth hospital has sparked concern amongst the State's political leaders, with the Liberals using it to accuse the government of wasting WA's boom. Revealed by The West on Wednesday, a middle-aged Perth man, who'd been eating hardly any fruit or vegetables and often skipping meals, was treated for scurvy at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital.

[Read More](#)

Doctors discover case of scurvy in Western Australia, warn it is a 're-emerging diagnosis'

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Nicolas Perpetch

A case of scurvy, a now-rare disease best associated with sailors' lack of fresh fruit and vegetables on long sea voyages, was recently detected in WA. The cost-of-living squeeze and poor diets are putting people at a higher risk of developing scurvy, with a case caused by an acute vitamin C deficiency recently treated at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in Perth.

[Read More](#)

Perth man treated for scurvy as cost-of-living crisis brings back 'disease of the past'

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Natasha May

Doctors have treated a man for scurvy in Perth, warning what was once considered "a disease of the past" is re-emerging due to the rising cost of living. The condition, caused by severe vitamin C deficiency, was common during the 18th century among sailors who spent months at sea without fresh food. But Australian doctors have described their surprise at seeing it in the present day in an article published on Wednesday in BMJ Case Reports.

[Read More](#)

Return of scurvy: Cost-of-living crisis driving vitamin C deficiencies

The New Daily, Other, 23/10/2024, John Elder

It's more than 250 years since Captain James Cook fed his sailors watercress, sauerkraut and orange extract to prevent them from developing scurvy, a severe vitamin C deficiency. [...] Recently, doctors in a Western Australia hospital were initially stymied by a man aged in his early 50s with slightly subtler symptoms like a red-brown pinprick rash and pain when moving.

[Read More](#)

Teann and Lorna had very different cancer battles, but didn't let it win

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 23/10/2024, Emma Downey

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".

[Read More](#)

Daily high-dose ICS linked to adverse heart and lung events: study

Australian Doctor, Other, 23/10/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

GP asthma expert Dr Kerry Hancock says the findings underscore the importance of regular review. Daily high-dose inhaled corticosteroids are associated with a fourfold increased risk of pneumonia and major adverse cardiac events and in adults with asthma, UK researchers say.

[Read More](#)

Asthma concerns

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 23/10/2024

Asthma-related deaths have returned to pre-COVID levels, according to new ABS data released by the National Asthma Council Australia. The figures show that there were 474 asthma-related deaths recorded in Australia in 2023 - almost on par with the 473 asthma deaths recorded in 2022.

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PRIMARY CARE

Why won't Canberra vote the Libs in?

Canberra Times, Editorials, 24/10/2024, Page 20

The truth is Jeremy Hanson and the other members of the "old guard", many of whom are completely out of step with the broader community on voluntary assisted dying, territory rights, abortion, gay marriage, drug law reform and Indigenous reconciliation, are the problem.

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

How to protect yourself from a potentially fatal disease

Burnie Advocate, General News, 24/10/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 4

The Department of Health has warned that Tasmanians are at risk of contracting Legionnaires' disease as the weather heats up and they tend to their gardens. As the temperature rises, the risks of illness caused by breathing in Legionella bacteria increase.

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

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Labor calls out reduced budgeted health spend

Launceston Examiner, General News, 24/10/2024, Matt Maloney, Page 3

There is a \$249.7 million difference in what was spent on Tasmanian hospital, mental health, ambulance and public health services in 2024 and what is budgeted to be spent on these services in 2024-25. Labor on Tuesday claimed this difference was evidence of the government cutting health expenditure, however, Premier Jeremy Rockliff pointed to the government's record investment in health in this year's budget and investment in primary health reform to ease pressure on hospitals.

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Labor MPs told to cut wish lists, avoid infrastructure in budget bids

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Kieran Rooney

Labor MPs have been told to halve the number of funding requests for their local communities and not

seek any financial support for infrastructure projects in preparation for another difficult Victorian budget. [...] However, their funding changes sparked a war with public hospitals that ultimately ended with the state pledging to add an extra \$1.5 billion this financial year.

[Read More](#)

Australia could save \$7 billion by turning homes into hospitals

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Kate Aubusson

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. A new KPMG report, commissioned by Medibank, found home hospitals (also known as virtual hospitals or "hospital in the home") can treat up to 30 per cent of diagnoses treated in traditional hospitals – including cardiac failure, pneumonia, blood clots, severe mastitis, cellulitis and infections requiring intravenous antibiotics – as well as provide effective post-operative care.

[Read More](#)

Chris Perry, of Buderim, walks out of hospital following freak push bike accident

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Madeline Grace

A beloved father and footy gun has defied the odds, miraculously walking out of hospital despite being paralysed from the neck down four months ago after a tragic bike accident. [...] Three months ago a determined father was told he'd never walk again – kickstarting his goal to get one per cent better each day.

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

[Read More](#)

AMA expresses concern for Naracoorte GP Dr Jeff Taylor's loss

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Brad Crouch

The sudden retirement of prominent Naracoorte GP obstetrician Dr Jeffrey Taylor has triggered a warning from the Australian Medical Association that women in the region must continue to have access to good obstetric care. Dr Taylor told The Advertiser he has decided to retire "effective immediately" after the Medical Board put restrictions on his registration preventing him from contact with female patients

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

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Liberals announce Elective Surgery Guarantee to 'clear backlog' if elected

West Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Madeline Hayes

Pilbara Liberal candidate Amanda Kailis has accused the Labor Government of causing Western Australians unnecessary pain, discomfort and reduced quality of life due to blown-out surgery wait times. Her comments follow the WA Liberals Elective Surgery Guarantee announcement, proposing all Western Australians will get surgery within the medically recommended timeframe.

[Read More](#)

Shire of Dandaragan opens new runway at Jurien Bay Airport to help planes take off in all conditions

West Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Matthew Paddick

A new runway has opened at Jurien Bay Airport to improve safety and boost service capacity. [...] It will also allow the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the aerial water bombing fleet to fly in and out of Geraldton year-round.

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

[Read More](#)

Labor is set to form government again in the ACT — here's what they promised they'd do if they were re-elected

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Penny Travers

In addition to starting work on the new \$1 billion northside hospital, Labor promised to hire 800 more health workers, along with additional surgical specialists to help address the elective backlog and boost access to paediatric, cardiac and bariatric procedures. The party also promised to expand the Women's Health Service, boost funding for gynaecological services, and establish a high-risk breast cancer clinic at the North Canberra Hospital.

[Read More](#)

Queensland Greens vow ban on new deals to outsource hospital services to anti-abortion organisations

The Guardian, Other, 24/10/2024, Ben Smee

The Greens have promised to introduce a bill banning the Queensland government from any new deals to outsource public hospitals to organisations that refuse to provide abortions. The promise, days before the Queensland election, comes amid a heated statewide abortion debate. It follows reporting by Guardian Australia last year revealing concerns that Catholic-run public hospitals would not provide reproductive care.

[Read More](#)

Even wealthy Australians avoiding GP visits as cost of living hurts access to healthcare

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Catie Mcleod

A new NSW Council of Social Services (Ncss) report, based on modelling of Australian Bureau of Statistics data by researchers at the University of Canberra, found healthcare had become less accessible for more people. Those on low incomes still struggle the most to see a doctor: there was a 301% increase in the proportion of this demographic who delayed or avoided a GP visit due to the cost between 2020 and 2024.

[Read More](#)

Sigma's CWH guarantee 'tokenistic': Guild

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 23/10/2024, Bob Tran

Sigma Healthcare's offer to enter an undertaking with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to secure its blessing of a merger with Chemist Warehouse (CWH) is called "tokenistic" by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

[Read More](#)

Pharmacy Guild adds fuel to CW fire

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 23/10/2024

Opposition calls to reject the proposed merger of Chemist Warehouse and Sigma Healthcare are growing louder, with the Pharmacy Guild of Australia further expressing its disapproval. In a submission to the ACCC's competition review and reported by the Australian Financial Review, The Pharmacy Guild has labelled efforts by Chemist Warehouse to lessen the impact as "tokenistic".

[Read More](#)

RACGP celebrates practice managers at national conference

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 23/10/2024, Michelle Wisbey

The college used the event to 'listen, discuss, and share', highlighting the importance of the profession and learning what it needs. The RACGP's Sharon Safstrom and Steve Carroll at the Australian Association of Practice Management National Conference in Darwin.

[Read More](#)

'Troubling increase' in patients avoiding GP due to cost

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 23/10/2024, Michelle Wisbey

With a 243 per cent jump in NSW middle and high-income earners now delaying healthcare, the RACGP is calling for urgent intervention. The NSW Council of Social Services investigation found that for low-income earners, there was a 301% rise in people delaying a trip to the GP due to cost.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Andrews' new role an insult to the agony of parents

The Australian, Business News, 24/10/2024, Peta Credlin, Page 11

Last week, news seeped out that former Victorian premier Daniel Andrews had been controversially appointed chair of the leading youth mental health service, Orygen. The backlash was harsh and immediate. And for me, it came with a personal insight into the trauma this announcement has inflicted on families impacted by decisions he made in government.

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

Extreme fires inflict toll on emergency workers

Age, General News, 24/10/2024, Bianca Hall, Page 1

The ongoing trauma inflicted by extreme bushfires on emergency services workers has been laid bare, with mental health issues among the most common injuries suffered by police and firefighters. An analysis of more than 44,000 WorkCover claims lodged by first responders across Victoria shows there was an almost 50 per cent increase in workers' compensation claims in which the cause was listed as mental injury during the Black Saturday and Black Summer extreme bushfire periods, compared with other periods since 2005.

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

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Reboot life, unplug the app

Herald Sun, Editorials, 24/10/2024, Page 20

Every parent knows it and, if pushed for the truth, probably every teenager would admit it far too many hours are spent scrolling and wasted online. It has become habit, for some an addiction, combined with ready access 24 hours a day, seven days a week through ever-present smartphones and devices that were designed to make things easier and more efficient but which have also complicated life, imposed new risks and served as conduits for a tsunami of misinformation, abuse and exploitation.

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Mali posts a winner by switching off

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Paul Starick, Page 12

Premier Peter Malinauskas will suspend his prolific social media posts for a day as part of a campaign to highlight the damage online abuse can cause and promote safety. Joining in the national day of action on Thursday through Unplug24, Mr Malinauskas will highlight the case of Mac Holdsworth, 17, who tragically took his own life a year ago after being blackmailed by someone using fake social media accounts.

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

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Killer acting on 'assassination delusions' as patient attacked

Canberra Times, General News, 24/10/2024, Hannah Neale, Page 7

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.

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Importance of good mental health

Launceston Examiner, Letters, 24/10/2024, Clare Smith, Page 16

I am pleased to read that Mental Health Week this year focuses on good (not just poor) mental health. The mental health implications of widespread climate grief or eco distress are enormous. [...] Maintaining good mental health amid climate grief is an important focus of the Tasmanian Climate Collective and other community groups across the island. To this end we focus on two things.

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

Support service celebrates a year

Local Government Focus, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 11

Hornsby Shire Council, in collaboration with Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury Sydney, launched free mental health support for the local community a year ago. Staffed by trained Lifeline volunteers, "Lifeline Connect", offers a confidential conversation in a safe space where participants can feel heard, listened to and supported.

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Health worker Claire Lee steps up to tackle alarming eco-doom crisis

The Courier Mail, Other, 23/10/2024, Judith Kerr

A chronically ill Brisbane woman has put aside her own pain to help solve a mental health crisis, triggered by climate doom, sweeping over Queensland's youth. [...] Ms Lee, who is a member of the Young Adult Health Centre, was compelled to act after an alarming report found the emerging mental health disorder is mentally crippling two-thirds of the state's young adults.

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

[Read More](#)

Senior Coast cop fears officer will continue walking off job as workload skyrockets

The Courier Mail, Other, 23/10/2024, Charlton Hart

A senior Gold Coast police officer fears officers will keep walking off the job as a leaked screenshot shows the pressure on the frontline. [...] The QPS also maintain a number of programs are in place to support officers with managing fatigue, prioritise their mental health and promote their wellbeing.

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

[Read More](#)

Life in Australia can be hard for international students and university staff — but religion and spirituality can help

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Sharlotte Tusasiirwe

As I learned in interviews and group conversations with a range of students and staff, the sources of stress that would have such a detrimental effect on their mental health typically began well before migrating to Australia. Among these, financial stress is the most overwhelming. Before international students can migrate, they have to pay for overseas student health cover which, for a family of two adults and one child, can come to more than \$40,000.

[Read More](#)

Bruce Lehrmann allowed to continue appeal in failed defamation action as judge pauses \$2m costs order

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Amanda Meade

The federal court has ruled Bruce Lehrmann will be allowed to continue his appeal against the dismissal of his defamation suit against Network Ten and Lisa Wilkinson. [...] Lehrmann has always denied the rape allegation and pleaded not guilty at his criminal trial in the Australian Capital Territory supreme court which was aborted. Prosecutors did not seek a retrial due to concerns about Higgins's mental health.

Toowoomba Hospital Foundation reveals Toowoomba's museum of health

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 23/10/2024, Christine Schindler

Australia's first appendectomy on a table in a bedroom and the transformation of mental health care, find out what's to come in Toowoomba's new Museum of Health. [...] While mental health care has come a long way since then and even today continues to develop best practices, Dr James Hogg was known for applying transformative ideas to the institution, regarding the residents as his patients, rather than inmates who belonged in cells.

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

[Read More](#)

War took me from my parents as a child. This was the powerful tool I used to cope

SBS, Other, 23/10/2024, Abang Anade-Othow

Born into a loving family in what is now South Sudan, Abang's life was shattered by civil wars, the pain distorting her memories. But through resilience and the creation of a visualisation technique, she transformed her trauma into a tool for healing.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Pezzullo rebuke: 'it's out of order'

The Australian, General News, 24/10/2024, Greg Brown, Page 1

Prominent Order of Australia holders have criticised the decision to strip Mike Pezzullo of his honour and are demanding more transparency about why the action was taken despite the former mandarin not being convicted, charged or accused of a criminal offence. [...] Other members of the council recommended by the Prime Minister in 2022 were union leader and nurse Annie Butler, former independent MP Cathy McGowan and academic Samina Yasmeeen.

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

Midwife care faces crisis on staffing

The Australian, General News, 24/10/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 5

Workforce shortages are set to have a "catastrophic effect" on midwifery care, a new report has found, as private obstetric units come under severe pressure. [...] The private maternity crisis comes as analysis commissioned by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia found that Australia's midwifery workforce is also in crisis and there are not enough midwives or current midwifery students in the pipeline to meet future needs.

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

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

Private maternity service to close

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 24/10/2024, Kate Aubusson, Page 6

Families have been devastated by the closure of the Central Coast's only private maternity unit amid a crisis in the region's public obstetrics services and the collapse of private birthing hospitals nationally. Private hospital operator Health Care yesterday announced it would close Gosford Private Hospital's maternity services on March 31, leaving the public Gosford Hospital as the only birthing unit for a region spanning 1680 kilometres and with a population of more than 350,000.

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

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

Mothers united in sharing journeys

Daily Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Finn Coleman, Page 4

For Wagga's Cait Apps, to hear other women in her community had similar birthing experiences meant she wasn't alone. Ms Apps - who had her son at 29 weeks - spent 11 weeks in the Canberra neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), which included three surgeries for her newborn.

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

Mothers and babies are 'at risk': Union

Launceston Examiner, General News, 24/10/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 5

The maternity ward at the Launceston General Hospital is under pressure as babies are not counted in patient-staffing ratios, the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Tasmania claims. Tasmania branch secretary Emily Shepherd said "at best" the ratio was one midwife to six mothers in a post-natal maternity unit.

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

Nation faces midwifery crisis

Shepparton News, General News, 24/10/2024, Page 11

Australia faces a midwifery "crisis", with more than a third of workers considering leaving the profession and graduate numbers potentially not meeting future demand. Those are the findings from a report commissioned by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia, which surveyed more than 3000 midwives, 300 students and 70 educators.

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

Stripping Mike Pezzullo of honour 'out of order', say recipients

The Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Greg Brown, Noah Yim & Sarah Ison

Prominent Order of Australia holders have criticised the decision to strip Mike Pezzullo of his honour and are demanding more transparency about why the action was taken despite the former mandarin not being convicted, charged or accused of a criminal offence. [...] Other members of the council recommended by the Prime Minister in 2022 were union leader and nurse Annie Butler, former independent MP Cathy McGowan and academic Samina Yasmeen.

[Read More](#)

Push for urgent delivery of support for midwives crisis

Canberra Times, Other, 23/10/2024, Ethan James

Australia faces a midwifery "crisis" with more than a third of workers considering leaving the profession and graduate numbers potentially not meeting future demand. Those are the findings from a report commissioned by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia which surveyed more than 3000 midwives, 300 students and 70 educators.

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

[Read More](#)

Maternity service to end at Gosford Private as demand falls, costs rise

Newcastle Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Damon Cronshaw

Maternity services will end at Gosford Private Hospital in March due to rising costs and falling demand on the Central Coast. Private hospital operator Health Care announced the move on Wednesday, saying "cost of living pressures" were a factor. The rising cost of fees charged by obstetricians has also been raised as an issue.

[Read More](#)

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Work-life balance a bitter pill for St John

West Australian, Business News, 24/10/2024, Sean Smith, Page 36

Doctors and nurses wanting a better work-life balance after the stress of COVID-19 are testing St John of God Health Care as the private hospital sector battles rising healthcare costs and funding pressures. Disclosing a reduced annual loss of \$54.4 million on 7 per cent better revenue of \$2.2 billion, St John of God Care chief executive Bryan Pyne said a big bank of leave applications from caregivers chasing more time with their families was straining how the group met the higher demand for its services through staff rosters and patient bookings.

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

Townsville's worker shortage stands as a key obstacle blocking future prosperity

The Courier Mail, Other, 23/10/2024, Leighton Smith

Townsville Hospital and Health Service chief executive Kieran Keyes said they were continuing to invest in infrastructure and staff to meet increasing healthcare challenges for the region due to a growing population and increased burden of chronic diseases and illnesses. "There is a recognised shortage of healthcare workers across the country, and this is an issue Townsville HHS faces as it looks to fill vacant positions across the region," Mr Keyes said.

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

[Read More](#)

Dr Richard Willis, top anaesthesia specialist at Royal Adelaide Hospital and Flinders Medical Centre dies

Adelaide Now, Other, 23/10/2024, Belinda Willis

It was fitting that Dr Richard John Willis took his last breath in Myrtle Bank at knock off time, just after 5pm on a Friday. The renowned South Australian health leader who rose through the ranks to be national president of the Australia and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) was recognised for having a deep work ethic and staying on hand until the job was done.

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

[Read More](#)

Scholarship arises to break down barriers for students with disabilities

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 23/10/2024, Rachel Chamberlain

A new scholarship opportunity has opened up to break down some of the barriers to study that people with disabilities face. [...] The scholarship is open to people studying at any CSU campus, but there is a preference for Bathurst students, as well as a preference for those studying allied health.

[Read More](#)

Health homes arrive

Shepparton News Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Zoe McMaugh

Pre-fabricated homes for health workers, funded by the NSW Government, are now being installed in Finley. A key step in attracting health professionals to the Southern Riverina has begun with the installation of key worker accommodation units.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Sydney, Evenings, 23/10/2024, Renee Krosch & Sirine Demachkie

Interview with Lauren Kempe, NBN Newcastle. Compere says there are issues with hospitals right across the board, but this is an issue with not enough nurses. Kempe points out that people are struggling with nurse shortages in the Mid North Coast with the NSW Government already bringing in 140 nurses from the UK and Ireland.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

As doctors, we need to start pushing back against medicine shortages

Australian Doctor, Other, 23/10/2024, Ashraf Saleh

These are difficult times. As clinicians, we not only need to know all the medications prescribed within our scope of practice, but to recognise which ones aren't currently available through local pharmacies. [...] There isn't enough objection from clinicians to bring the medication suppliers to account, because we're busy enough as it is to add remonstrating to the jobs already lined up in our day.

[Read More](#)

New Panadol pack sizes to start hitting pharmacy shelves

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 23/10/2024

Haleon, the makers of Panadol, is rolling out new Panadol pack sizes in pharmacy ahead of upcoming legislative changes that aim to minimise the risk of harm from intentional misuse of paracetamol in Australia. The changes are in response to a decision made by the TGA in 2023 to reduce the maximum available pack sizes of paracetamol-containing medicines for general sale and self-selection in pharmacies.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Sunrise, 23/10/2024, Natalie Barr & Matt Shirvington

Panel discussion with Sunrise GP Dr Ginni Mansberg and breast cancer sufferer Naama Carlin. Compere says Australian women with an aggressive form of breast cancer have been given a boost of hope this morning after the results of a worldwide drug trial showed significant improvements for women with high risk, early triple negative breast cancer namely through the drug Keytruda. She mentions that Carlin is working on a crowdfund of more than \$60,000 to be treated with this drug as this was not part of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Carlin mentions that she was pregnant when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Tax time hackers targeting accounts

Canberra Times, General News, 24/10/2024, Brittney Levinson, Page 13

In the 2023-24 financial year, Services Australia, which delivers Centrelink and Medicare, observed and responded to 10,060 unique impersonation scams, more than double the 3936 scams from the year prior. While the Tax Office paid the fraudulent claim into a hacker's account, Robyn Hipkiss said she did not lose any of her own money.

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

Specialist telehealth service for heart patients expanded

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 24/10/2024, Carwyn Monck, Page 5

Esperance and Norseman residents can now access virtual cardiac care from the comfort of their home. The WA Country Health Service announced on Wednesday it had expanded its Heart Health Support Service.

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

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

The Mercury, Other, 23/10/2024, 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.

[Read More](#)

Are you using My Health Record to optimise patient care?

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 23/10/2024, Chloe Hava

More than 23.9 million Australians have My Health Record (MHR), but it is vastly underused in primary care. A new report by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners revealed that 31% out of 3,000 surveyed GPs rarely or never use MHR .

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Knife nurse's threat to kill

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 24/10/2024, Blake Antrobus, Page 10

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.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Doctors' alarm over pill testing

Courier Mail, General News, 24/10/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 4

Doctors have urged the LNP not to forge ahead with plans to scrap pill testing at Schoolies next month, amid warnings a super-potent synthetic opioid has been detected in the state. The LNP previously warned it would scrap a testing tent planned for the Surfers Paradise entertainment precinct but medical experts have warned against the move.

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

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SPORT

Pork-barrelling will not solve the housing crisis

The Australian, Editorials, 24/10/2024, Page 10

The use of the Albanese government's \$1.5bn Housing Support Program to sandbag battleground Labor seats with taxpayers' money is one reason. [...] Past roting of sports grant programs by Labor and the Coalition, and misuse of regional grants through pork-barrelling by the Nationals, is a well-trodden path for both sides of politics. Transparency and accountability are essential.

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

CommGames boss fires up again

Herald Sun, General News, 24/10/2024, Mitch Clarke, Page 7

Commonwealth Games Australia boss Craig Phillips says he won't be holding his breath waiting for an apology from Jacinta Allan about the bungled 2026 event, but concedes anger from athletes is "well placed" towards the Victorian government. As the sporting body prepares to turn its attention to sending 280 Australian athletes to compete in a scaled-down Commonwealth Games in Scotland, Mr Phillips again took aim at the state government.

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

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LNP backing for wand law

Courier Mail, General News, 24/10/2024, Madura McCormack , Page 1

The Queensland LNP has announced a \$250m community sport grant package, with the party sprinkling funding across different electorates in the past month with Labor not far behind, announcing similar, if not slightly more generous, counteroffers. The ball is now squarely in the voters' court, with David Crisafulli to find out if voters have bought his pitch or if they will leave him sitting on the reserve benches.

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

Premier missing point on stadium

Courier Mail, Editorials, 24/10/2024, Page 22

Premier Steven Miles is missing the point when responding to questions about his appalling solution for athletics at the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games by saying only the event more broadly will be "fantastic". The point, Mr Premier, is the stadium debate should not be about the Games themselves.

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

Group's problems with stadium build can be smoothed out, all it will take is a discussion and compromise

Hobart Mercury, General News, 24/10/2024, Russell Hanson, Page 20

I believe there is only one group (Tasmanian Greens) using this day to bring down the new stadium and the dream of a Tasmanian AFL team. Another group (RSL Tasmania), perhaps acting in a little imprudent way, and another (TSO) expressing some issues that need to be addressed.

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

Moving sports to big smoke was an idea

Ballarat Courier, General News, 24/10/2024, Page 4

Victoria could have hosted the same pared-back program as Glasgow for the same cost but the government never considered the option, Commonwealth Games Australia boss Craig Phillips says. Glasgow announced its 2026 program yesterday after it stepped in to host the next event following Victoria's withdrawal last year.

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

Grant paves the way

Local Government Focus, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 12

City of Newcastle is dropping into history to support Paralympian Paul Nunnari activate NSW's first wheelchairaccessible skate bowl as part of a \$20,000 boost for local inclusive sports events. Eight initiatives will share in the pool of funding from City of Newcastle, which was allocated as part of the Inclusive Sports Pitch Night at this year's Count Us In Sport festival.

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

ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 23/10/2024, Craig Zonca & Loretta Ryan

Queensland Premier Steven Miles has defended his government's planning for the 2032 Brisbane Olympics and Paralympics. Miles was asked how he can justify upgrading the ageing Cusack Stadium for the games instead of rebuilding The Gabba or a new venue.

[Play Now](#)

HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Medtech darling Vaxxas launches \$100m raise

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 24/10/2024, Page 16

Home-grown medtech Vaxxas, which wants to disrupt the 170-year-old method of delivering vaccines by needles with a painless patch, has launched a monster \$100 million private round to bankroll clinical trials of its top three products.

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

'I never felt safer at such a scary time'

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 24/10/2024, Alanna Tomazin, Page 8

When Greta's Bryanna Budge found out she was pregnant, she was bursting to tell her loved ones about her bundle of joy. [...] Coinciding with the Australian Society of Medical Research (ASMR) Medical Research Week from October 21 to 28, Ms Budge said being part of HMRI's clinical trial had been a safety net in a difficult time.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Bone-deep in vital study

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 24/10/2024, Anneke De Boer, Page 3

World-first research into Aboriginal bone health will draw data from a medical scanner in Kalgoorlie-Boulder which has been newly painted to make it more welcoming. The bone mineral densitometry scanner largely used to diagnose and manage osteoporosis will be used to collect information for a Monash University study investigating why Indigenous Australians have a higher risk of fractures.

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

Victoria's First Peoples Assembly set to negotiate new public holiday with Allan government

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 23/10/2024, Carly Douglas

Victoria's First Peoples Assembly is expected to bring the idea to the negotiating table as Treaty talks with the state government launch next month. Jacinta Allan on Wednesday refused to say whether she would support the new Victorian public holiday, which has been described as a day to celebrate Aboriginal culture and languages.

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

[Read More](#)

JC inquest: Coroner urged to find adverse findings against police officer who fatally shot the Yamatji woman

West Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Emily Moulton

The WA police officer who fatally shot Yamatji woman JC not only breached police policy when he jumped out of his car and ran towards her but also "mistakenly" believed she lunged towards him when fired his weapon. That is what lawyers told the WA Coroner to find during the final leg of the coronial inquiry into the mother-of-one's death.

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

[Read More](#)

Coroner hears closing submissions in inquest into Indigenous woman's

shooting death

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Rebecca Trigger

The death of a woman fatally shot by police while she was carrying a knife could have been avoided, her family's lawyer says. The 29-year-old Yamatji woman, referred to as JC for cultural reasons, was shot dead by officer Brent Wyndham after she was reported walking down a suburban street holding a knife in September 2019.

[Read More](#)

Saibai Islanders 'risking their lives' as illegal PNG fishers breach Australian border security

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Baz Ruddick & Kirstie Wellauer

Mr Akiba believes poverty and poor living conditions in the treaty villages are making people desperate, and he is worried tensions between PNG fishermen and Saibai locals could escalate.

Recent studies have estimated that the median daily income in the South Fly villages of PNG's Western Province sits at less than \$1.40 per person, putting basic necessities like fuel and staple food items out of reach.

[Read More](#)

New Victorian public holiday celebrating Aboriginal culture to be proposed in treaty negotiations

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Joseph Dunstan

A new public holiday and more oversight over how funds are spent on Indigenous affairs are among the ideas being taken into Victoria's treaty negotiations later this year. The state-based blanket treaty negotiations — the first of their kind in Australia — will take place between the community-elected First Peoples' Assembly and the Victorian government

[Read More](#)

Commemorating Australia's largest single Death-in-Custody site, Wadjemup

National Indigenous Times, Other, 23/10/2024, Rhiannon Clarke

The Wadjemup Wirin Bidi Commemorative Ceremony, set for Saturday, 9 November, offers a profound opportunity for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to gather in the spirit of healing and remembrance. The event will acknowledge the painful history of Wadjemup (Rottneest Island), where more than 4,000 Aboriginal men and boys were incarcerated between 1838 and 1931.

[Read More](#)

Indigenous leaders and experts unite in the name of stopping tobacco

National Indigenous Times, Other, 24/10/2024, Joseph Guenzler

Indigenous leaders and tobacco control experts from across Oceania have gathered on the Gold Coast this week to develop an 'endgame' strategy for tobacco in the region. The event is part of the Oceania Tobacco Control Conference, which began on Tuesday and runs until Friday at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre.

[Read More](#)

10 game-changing Indigenous business leaders

National Indigenous Times, Other, 23/10/2024, Cassandra Baldini, Zak Kirkup &, David Prestipino

Colleen Hayward's appointment as an independent non-executive director at Mineral Resources (MinRes) is more than just a boardroom position, it's a testament to the company's commitment to meaningful Indigenous engagement and leadership. As a highly respected Noongar Elder from Western Australia with extensive experience across health, education, and community development, Hayward brings a unique and invaluable perspective to the operations of Mineral Resources.

[Read More](#)

Paul Constable Calcott: A Wiradjuri Artist Championing Inclusion

SBS, Other, 23/10/2024, Kerri-lee Harding

Paul Constable Calcott, or Uncle Paul, a proud Wiradjuri man and artist, reflects on his life's journey from a childhood impacted by polio to becoming a UN delegate advocating for Indigenous artists with disabilities. Through his involvement in the NuunaRon Art Group, Uncle Paul continues to create safe spaces for storytelling and cultural expression, helping others to find their voices through art.

[Read More](#)

Seven Aboriginal women have been killed in the Northern Territory since June

SBS, Other, 23/10/2024, Rudi Maxwell

Lauren Peric, chair of the NT Aboriginal Advisory Board on Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, said in a statement to NITV that too many families have lost a loved one and are impacted by grief. "The loss is also felt by the broader Aboriginal community in the NT that are saddened by increasing violence, and also have the shared experience of grief and trauma resulting from domestic violence," she said on behalf of the board.

[Read More](#)

Here's how First Nations people have reacted to King Charles' visit

SBS, Other, 23/10/2024, Rudi Maxwell

The Queen met with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Katie Kiss at a domestic and family violence roundtable yesterday. Commissioner Kiss put out a statement saying part of her role is to promote awareness of and respect for Indigenous people's rights.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC National News, 23/10/2024, Joe O'Brien

A new public holiday and more oversight in Indigenous affairs funding are among the ideas that are being taken to Vic's treaty negotiations. Other ideas the Assembly plans to raise in negotiations include the wider use of Aboriginal languages in place names and schools, and earlier access to seniors' cards for elders who face a shorter average life expectancy than non-Indigenous Australians.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Whooping Cough not the deadly killer it once was

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 24/10/2024, Page 15

The causative bacteria, *Bordetella pertussis*, was discovered in 1906 by two French researchers, Bordet and Gengou. It took another 35 years for the acellular pertussis vaccine to be developed and this was released around the world in the 1940s.

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

Doctors trial world's first mRNA vaccine against vomiting bug norovirus

The Guardian, Other, 23/10/2024, Nicola Davis

Doctors have begun trialling the world's first mRNA vaccine against the vomiting bug norovirus in the hope the jab could bring huge health and economic benefits. [...] Called Nova 301, the phase 3 clinical trial is to run for two years, and will enrol 25,000 adults – with a focus on those over the age of 60 – from countries including Japan, Canada and Australia.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Biocurious: Cracking the code on Paradigm's valuation enigma

The Australian, Other, 23/10/2024, Tim Boreham

PPS inhibits cartilage-degrading enzymes – thus preventing further damage – and there's some evidence it may even improve joint quality. About 1400 patients have been administered Zilosul to date, via avenues including the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration's (TGA's) special access scheme and two earlier phase II studies.

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

[Read More](#)

Is your pharmacy prepared for the new paracetamol pack sizes and accessibility changes?

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 23/10/2024, Bob Tran

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) decision on paracetamol scheduling has resulted in changes to the packaging and sale of certain oral, non-prescription paracetamol products, effective 1st February 2025. This change affects all brands containing paracetamol, including Panadol.

[Read More](#)

Raising awareness of RSV vaccine options, midazolam and Wegovy strengths

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 23/10/2024

PDL has some advice on RSV vaccination, and the strengths of midazolam and Wegovy This Practice Alert highlights some recent practice issues reported to PDL Professional Officers. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccines Currently, two Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccines, Arexvy and Abrysvo, have been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

[Read More](#)

Devices at risk

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 23/10/2024

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is warning consumers and healthcare providers that essential medical devices may be impacted by the upcoming 3G network shutdown. From 28 Oct, Telstra and Optus will switch off their third-generation networks, which could affect older devices, including personal medical alarms and pacemakers, that rely exclusively on 3G for data transmission or to make calls.

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Increase in NSW drug driving offences over a decade prompts calls for law reform

ABC Online, Other, 23/10/2024, Emma Rennie

The New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) says there has been an "explosion" in the number of drug driving offences over the past decade. A report released on Wednesday shows 13,815 people were charged or issued infringements by police last year for drug driving, compared to 1,409 people in 2014.

[Read More](#)

Drug driving offences have surged by 836 per cent in one state

9News, Other, 23/10/2024, April Glover

Fresh statistics released by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) have painted a dark picture of drug use in the state. Instances of drug drivers being charged have skyrocketed from 1409 people in 2014 to 13,815 in 2023.

FOOD STANDARDS

How much do I need to eat?

Australian Healthy Food Guide, General News, 01/10/2024, Page 95

Every recipe in HFG is nutritionally analysed so you can devise a daily meal plan that falls within the recommended nutrition intake guidelines. [...] We use 8700kJ (2100cal) as the recommended average daily energy intake because this is the figure prescribed by the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code.

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AICIS

Guidelines urge 'safe' drinking levels in water

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Ben Silvester, Page 4

The Australian government has proposed new safe levels of "forever chemicals" in drinking water supplies. The group of at least seven million PFAS substances are synthetic chemicals that could take centuries to break down and are linked to cancer, bone marrow disorders and multiple organ damage.

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

It's just more landfill when we get it wrong with our waste

Daily Advertiser, General News, 24/10/2024, Emily Anderson, Page 5

For four decades, Wagga's rubbish has been accumulating to form huge hills, a lake full of bin juice, mountains of mattresses and forests of fridges at the Gregadoo Waste Management Centre. [...] Kirsty Vickers said it's a new rule to reduce the levels of PFAS in the environment because these chemicals are unable to be broken down.

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

New 'forever chemical' tests zero in on contamination source

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 23/10/2024, Ben Cubby & Carrie Fellner

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.

[Read More](#)

New water guidelines for PFAS: What GPs need to know

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 23/10/2024, Chelsea Heaney

Concerned patients have been urged to contact GPs with questions, after the NHMRC called for a crackdown on chemicals allowed in drinking water. [...] The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) has recommended tougher rules on the amount of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) allowed in Australia's drinking water.

[Read More](#)

2GB, Afternoons, 23/10/2024, Michael McLaren

Compere discusses the issue pertaining to Blue Mountains drinking water supply in regard to them being contaminated by PFAS. He states that there was a report on the papers this morning that

suggests that the catalyst for some of these high level of forever chemicals in the upper parts of the Blue Mountains may not definitively be from a tanker crash on the Great Western Highway.

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