



Australian Government
Department of Health
and Aged Care

TODAY'S NEWS

Saturday, 9th November 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Australian** (page 2) reports a spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler has said the department is “ensuring patients get access to life-changing medications and treatments as quickly as possible” following Senate Estimate questions over the delay of medication assessments by PBAC amid unprecedented submissions to the body. It was revealed in Estimates that additional meetings were held last month to triage which submissions would be deferred, with Deputy Secretary of the Health Resourcing Group Penny Shakespeare noting there are “practical limitations to what can actually be considered by our external contracted evaluators”.
- **The Australian** (page 2) reports Australia remains among the top four countries for long life-expectancy, despite numbers falling for the second year in a row due to the high number of Covid deaths in the period measured between 2021-2023. *Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle](#), [ABC](#)*
- **The Adelaide Advertiser** (page 3) leads widespread coverage reporting an unprecedented spike in pertussis infections has led to the largest epidemic of the disease since vaccines were introduced, with 41,000 cases recorded this year and one in four adolescents turning 13 reportedly un-boosted. *[Courier Mail](#), [Herald Sun](#), [West Australian](#), [Hobart Mercury](#), [ABC](#)*

- [ABC Online](#) reports pregnant women, people with co-morbidities and the elderly are among those at risk from a heatwave spreading across the north of the country, with health officials warning people to stay inside and be mindful of dehydration symptoms.
- [ABC Online](#) reports a public hospital in Orange that previously provided non-medical abortions has reportedly issued a direction to staff stating that patients with “no identified pregnancy complications” must be refused care and referred to a GP or Family Planning NSW, despite the conscientious objection clause only applying to individuals working within the hospital, not hospital executives.
- [The Hobart Mercury](#) (page 3) reports ADHD diagnosis assessments for children are being delayed by up to two years, an ADHD inquiry in Tasmania has heard, with an average 600 new referrals every month leading to increased waitlists.
- [The Age](#) (page 3) reports fitness programs to combat cardiotoxicity stemming from some cancer treatments are being prescribed to patients in hospitals, following research demonstrating even small amounts of physical activity can help aid the 7 – 10 per cent of patients who experience heart failure.

MINISTER BUTLER

Butler lashed over PBS subsidies 'cap'

Weekend Australian, General News, 09/11/2024, James Dowling, Page 2

Fears of ongoing delays to critical new medicine subsidies have been stoked by a Health Department admission that its independent drug assessor will continue to place a “maximum number” on submissions considered at meetings, despite Health Minister Mark Butler calling an emergency meeting over the decision to indefinitely delay 45 medications. [...] Health resourcing deputy secretary Penny Shakespeare said in estimates there were “practical limitations to what can actually be considered by our external contracted evaluators in future”, while economist Blair Comley called the measure a “way we can practically work through this unprecedented spike”.

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

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PSA Annual Report FY 2023-24 released

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 08/11/2024

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has released its 2023/24 Annual Report, marking a significant period of growth for both the organisation and the broader profession. [...] Mark Butler MP in August.

[Read More](#)

Will the electorate reward or punish government's big healthcare spend?

The Medical Republic, Other, 08/11/2024, Jeremy Knibbs

Who'd want to be an incumbent government after this week's US election result? [...] It all might make the federal health minister Mark Butler one of the most important salespeople on the government's front bench going into next year's election, depending, of course, on how the government wants to position and sell its significant healthcare spend.

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2GB, Drive, 08/11/2024, Chris O'Keefe

Compere mentions that Health Minister Mark Butler has issued a statement wherein they mentioned that their Government is working closely with States and Territories to develop a new oral health plan for the next 10 years.

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MINISTER WELLS

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

Boost for mental health

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/11/2024, Page 25

The Mid North has a new free, walk-in mental health support hub with the opening of the Port Pirie Medicare Mental Health Centre on Ellen St. [...] Federal Assistant Mental Health Minister Emma McBride said: "We want every Australian, no matter where they live, to have access to quality mental health care."

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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DEPARTMENT

Butler lashed over PBS subsidies 'cap'

Weekend Australian, General News, 09/11/2024, James Dowling, Page 2

Fears of ongoing delays to critical new medicine subsidies have been stoked by a Health Department admission that its independent drug assessor will continue to place a "maximum number" on submissions considered at meetings, despite Health Minister Mark Butler calling an emergency meeting over the decision to indefinitely delay 45 medications. [...] Health resourcing deputy secretary Penny Shakespeare said in estimates there were "practical limitations to what can actually be considered by our external contracted evaluators in future", while economist Blair Comley called the measure a "way we can practically work through this unprecedented spike".

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

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Climate change and chemicals on your skin put you at greater risk of getting bitten by a mosquito

ABC Online, Other, 08/11/2024, Joshua Boscaini

Climate change and extreme weather have the potential to increase cases of mosquito-borne diseases and push the insects into new areas of Australia, according to medical and research science experts. [...] Australia's acting chief medical officer declared the outbreak a Communicable Disease Incident of National Significance, according to Australia's Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Read More](#)

'Heartbreaking': How poor communication erodes faith in aged care system

Newcastle Herald, Other, 08/11/2024, Anthony Caggiano

Poor communication, a lack of information from providers, and a lack of choice and control are among the issues that people receiving aged care services struggle with. [...] Ian Yates is the Acting Inspector-General of Aged Care at the federal Department of Health & Aged Care. During the launch, he responded to a question about how the Aged Care Act would improve older people's rights to choice and decision-making.

Also reported by: [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Tasmanian Examiner \(Online\)](#), [The Advocate \(Burnie\) \(Online\)](#), [Moree Champion \(Online\)](#), [Mandurah Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Hepburn Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Gloucester Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Inner East Review \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Port Stephens Examiner \(Online\)](#).

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Will the Ombudsman's star rating critique lead to change?

Helloleaders.com.au, Other, 08/11/2024, Alex Jacobs

The Commonwealth Ombudsman's latest statement that he would have commenced a formal investigation into the aged care star ratings system if the Department of Health and Aged Care had not already started its own is another red flag for the measurement tool. In early October, the Acting Commonwealth Ombudsman Penny McKay voiced her concerns over the star ratings in a submission related to the Aged Care Bill.

[Read More](#)

DoHAC blames fall in GP visits on expanded scope

The Medical Republic, Other, 08/11/2024, Holly Payne

Department officials say patients may be turning away from traditional general practice, as it records a decline in the proportion of Australians accessing the MBS. The Department of Health and Aged Care failed in its goal to deliver Medicare services to more than 90% of Australians this year, pointing the finger at expanded scope of practice and telehealth.

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Will the electorate reward or punish government's big healthcare spend?

The Medical Republic, Other, 08/11/2024, Jeremy Knibbs

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VACCINES

Covid-19 deaths push life expectancy lower

Weekend Australian, General News, 09/11/2024, Stephen Lunn, Page 2

Deaths from Covid-19 have seen Australia's life expectancy fall for the second year in a row, but it's likely a blip rather than us having reached "peak age". Despite the decline, Australia remains among the top four longest-living developed countries, new Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows.

Also reported by: [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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Aussie life expectancy

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 09/11/2024, Page 7

Health Life expectancy in Australia has fallen slightly for the second straight year, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. "A boy born today is expected to live to 81.1 years and a girl to 85.1 years," ABS head of demography Beidar Cho said.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Age discrimination endemic at work

The Saturday Age, Business News, 09/11/2024, Emily Chantiri, Page 9

In 2018, Alex Gutierrez was celebrating his birthday at work with colleagues when his manager asked him about his intentions to retire. He was 68 years old. He was informed the company's policy was that employees retire at 65 years old.

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Retirees do like to be beside the sea

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/11/2024, Tom Bowden, Page 16

Cashed-up Baby Boomers could be set to turn a handful of SA retiree havens into property price boom hotspots. With the entire Boomer generation able to access their super from next year, retirement moves have been tipped for an increase in 2025.

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Business all set for another expansion

Daily Liberal, General News, 09/11/2024, Nick McGrath, Page 6

One of Dubbo's biggest family businesses looks set to grow even more. Journalist Tom Barber this week reported a development application and a modified application have both been approved by Dubbo Regional Council for a second Village Bakehouse location in town.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Everything you need to know about menopause

Hobart Mercury, Weekend, 09/11/2024, Page 9

Menopause is when a woman's menstrual periods stop because her ovaries are no longer producing eggs. In Australia, the average age of menopause is about 51 years of age and it's 12 months after your final menstrual period.

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Holes fluoride debate

Weekend Post, General News, 09/11/2024, Page 42

Once again the CRC is under pressure to add fluoride to our drinking water. The science is clear on the benefits to the teeth, but the delivery is very poor at best. What amount of the water flowing out of our taps, toilets and garden hoses will be ingested by the kids?

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Experts urge people to stay indoors and hydrated as heatwave rolls across north and north-east Australia

ABC Online, Other, 08/11/2024, Stephen Clarke

With a heatwave rolling over much of the top half of Australia, experts are calling for the public not to become complacent. Large parts of Queensland, the Northern Territory and northern Western Australia remain under heatwave warnings today as hot conditions linger

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Nib backs weight-loss 'wonder drugs'

Newcastle Herald, General News, 09/11/2024, Jamieson Murphy, Page 19

Health Insurer tipping that millions will take the medication for obesity and other issues NIB has backed weight-loss drugs like Ozempic, as the next "wonder drug", saying millions of people will be taking them alongside multivitamins in the near future. The Hunter-based health insurer is so enamoured with the drugs, it highlighted them in the company's annual general meeting on Tuesday.

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Incense carcinogen risk exposed in study

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/11/2024, Mia Erickson, Page 25

For adults and children living with asthma or other chronic respiratory conditions, recognising environmental and behavioural triggers is crucial to avoiding attacks and long-term risks. As a result, asthmatics and allergy-prone individuals tend to be hyperaware of their health, relying on medications and proactive measures to ensure they are not at risk in their surroundings.

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Cancer hub's SOS

Weekend Post, General News, 09/11/2024, Jennifer Spilsbury, Page 1

A beloved Far North haven for cancer battlers is facing a financial cliff. COUCH Wellness Centre's federal funding will be cut off within five months, a situation which has caused widespread concern throughout the cancer-impacted community.

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'Exciting' new lupus treatment could end need for lifelong medication

The Guardian, Other, 08/11/2024, Andrew Gregory

Doctors are hailing a "groundbreaking" new treatment for lupus that genetically modifies a patient's cells to fight the autoimmune disease and could end the need for lifelong medication. Lupus can range from mild to severe, with symptoms including joint pain, skin problems, fatigue and inflammation of major organs.

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

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Early skin cancer detection is the key

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 08/11/2024, Allan Murphy

Loddon Mallee residents have been urged to check their skin and see a GP if they notice any changes following the release of data that shows almost half of Australians aren't using adequate sun protection. Mildura has one of the highest average daily sunshine hours behind Perth and Brisbane with about 132 clear days per year.

[Read More](#)

Got hayfever? Here's why you're in for a really rough summer

The Mercury, Other, 07/11/2024, Sarah Perillo

Melburnians are being told to brace for "dangerous" pollen levels this month, warning the dreaded hay fever season is now becoming longer and more intense. [...] Victoria's dry winter, followed by the

predicted above-median rainfall between October and December, creates ideal conditions for rapid grass growth, the National Asthma Council of Australia warned last month.

[Read More](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 08/11/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Professor Tanya Buchanan, CEO, Dementia Australia. Compere mentions that research from Dementia Australia has found that more than half of Australians feel that there's insufficient support for them living with dementia and it's going to get worse over the Christmas and New Year period. Buchanan says Dementia Australia has a good helpline for anyone who needs support when it comes to assisting anyone with dementia or their carers.

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PRIMARY CARE

Can at-home test predict fertility?

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 09/11/2024, Lauren Ironmonger, Page 31

Last year, Claire Kennett and her husband started trying for a baby. After six months with no success, her GP suggested she take an AMH blood test, which measures the ovarian reserve.

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Chief calls time on top job

Courier Mail, General News, 09/11/2024, Taylah Fellows, Page 19

Chief health officer Dr John Gerrard has resigned from his government position after three years in the top job and will return to clinical duties at the Gold Coast University Hospital. Premier David Crisafulli on Friday revealed Dr Gerrard had chosen not to renew his contract for a second term and tendered his resignation on October 13 during caretaker mode.

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

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Improved regional hospital wait times among state's worst

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 09/11/2024, Ben Silvester, Page 6

Regional Victoria's biggest hospitals have all claimed unwanted records, despite emergency and surgical wait times declining in the latest state government data. The statistics - which run to September 2024 - showed every major regional hospital lagging the statewide average for emergency department wait times over the past year.

Also reported by: [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#).

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More than 150 rush to emergency department

Border Mail, General News, 09/11/2024, Ted Howes, Page 2

The Border's grass pollen count crisis worsened on Wednesday night, with reports of close to 200 people with respiratory problems flocking to Albury hospital's emergency department. It came after warnings of "extreme levels" of grass pollen particles in the air from Albury-Wodonga through to Wagga.

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Lack of communication escalates fears

Border Mail, General News, 09/11/2024, Anthony Bunn, Page 14

Six months after surgery was halted at Corowa hospital, the Rural Doctors' Association of NSW is seeking a commitment operations will resume. The Murrumbidgee Local Health District, which

administers the Guy Street campus, stated in May surgery "has been paused temporarily" for maintenance.

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Construction starts on \$5.1 million centre to free up critical space at LGH

Burnie Advocate, General News, 09/11/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 12

Construction on the redevelopment of the Northern Integrated Care Service (NICS) building part of the government's 10-year Launceston General Hospital (LGH) masterplan has commenced. The \$5.1 million project, jointly funded by the state and federal governments, will establish the LGH as a national centre of research excellence supported by the Clifford Craig Foundation (CCF).

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

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WA Country Health Service stands firm on psychiatric nurse role at Margaret River despite local calls

West Australian, Other, 08/11/2024, Warren Hatley

The WA Country Health Service is standing firm in the face of mounting pressure to provide a specialist psychiatric nurse at Margaret River Hospital. The Shire of Augusta-Margaret River has cited community mental health as a "real priority" in its recent lobbying efforts which have included a direct plea for help to Premier Roger Cook.

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Abortion services at Orange Hospital to be reinstated after ban on terminations for non-medical reasons

ABC Online, Other, 08/11/2024, Lucy Barbour & Lucy Sweeney

A public hospital in regional New South Wales is restoring abortion services after an ABC investigation revealed the executive had banned staff from providing terminations to patients for non-medical reasons. A leaked document obtained by the ABC revealed that staff at Orange Health Service in Central West NSW could no longer provide abortions for patients with "no identified pregnancy complications".

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'Nobody was willing to help': women share alarming accounts of medical neglect

The Border Mail, Other, 08/11/2024, Layton Holley

Three weeks after her hysterectomy, Claudia Warburton knew her worsening pain and relentless bleeding was a red flag, but her GP disagreed - a decision that would have near-fatal consequences. For Ms Warburton, an Albury-based biomedicine student with dreams of becoming a doctor, the experience was as baffling as it was dangerous.

[Read More](#)

Belgian Gardens Health Hub returns better than ever after post-cyclone fire

The Mercury, Other, 08/11/2024, Leighton Smith

It was a tough slog, but the \$8 million Belgian Gardens Health Hub is back on its feet and better than ever after recovering from devastating post-cyclone fire earlier this year. First opened at 23 Bundock St in August 2023, the modern hub employed a total of 70 staff through its Belgian Gardens Medical Centre, Sullivan Nicolaidis Pathology, and Amcal Pharmacy.

[Read More](#)

A NSW hospital tried to ban non-medical abortions.

Mamamia, Other, 08/11/2024, Ailish Delaney

A NSW hospital has backflipped on a decision to ban abortion services for non-medical procedures. Orange Health Service came under fire on Friday over its decision to stop providing non-medical

terminations for patients.

[Read More](#)

Payroll tax abolishment moves forward

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 08/11/2024

Queensland is on track to become the first state to scrap payroll tax on GPs permanently, with its new Government this week instructing Treasury to start work on the change. It comes as the recently elected State Liberal National Party Government follows through on its election commitment to abolish the tax within its first week in office.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Agreement on social media age limit

The Saturday Age, General News, 09/11/2024, David Crowe, Page 10

Children will be blocked from tech platforms ranging from Instagram to Facebook and TikTok under a national deal to limit the exemptions from a federal regime that seeks to ban social media for everyone under the age of 16. The agreement throws state support behind the federal government's bid to impose the restrictions on as many social media platforms as possible, as well as YouTube.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Sydney\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#).

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How would kicking kids off platforms work?

The Saturday Age, General News, 09/11/2024, Paul Sakkal, David Swan & Tim Biggs, Page 10

Planned new Australian laws would block children from social media to guard them from the mental and social harm linked to apps such as Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat and Discord. With almost a quarter of children aged eight to 10 using social media at least once a week, and half of 13-year-olds doing the same, the government is responding to parental discomfort about the technology that has spread from apps like Facebook to games like Roblox.

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Bullied almost to death

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/11/2024, Luke Williams, Page 1

A former public high school student says she told teachers about being bullied and self-harming but they told her "to ignore it" and gave her Band-Aids before sending her back to class. Leah Manders, 15, says she was again sent back to class when she revealed suicidal thoughts.

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

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Desperate for ADHD help

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/11/2024, Eleanor de Jong, Page 3

Desperate Tasmanian children are waiting up to two years to see a specialist for a diagnosis of ADHD, with hundreds of new children being added to the waitlist each month. A House of Assembly Inquiry into the assessment and treatment of ADHD held its second public hearing on Friday, with further hearings scheduled into 2025.

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About Quiz money stress

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 09/11/2024, Lewis Nancekivell, Page 11

A new online quiz has been created to combat financial stress and improve mental health, which has

seemingly become more prevalent due to the increased cost of living says members of a prominent wellbeing organisation. Created by Beyond Blue, the online tool asks users questions regarding how they are doing monetarily and then provides mental health advice based on the answers.

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Free mental health service for new parents finds new home in Wendouree

Ballarat Courier, Other, 08/11/2024, Michelle Smith

A Ballarat service providing mental health support for expectant and new parents is moving less than 12 months after its launch to a new location to cater for growing demand. Gidget Foundation opened its Gidget House at Parent Place in Sturt Street just under a year ago, and will move to Stockland Wendouree next week, where it will have the ability to grow to a five-day-a-week support service.

[Read More](#)

Climate change taking a toll on men's health

Townsville Bulletin, Other, 07/11/2024, Mandeep Singh

One in five Aussie men feel "very worried" about climate change and extreme weather events according to recent data. This worry – often referred to as 'eco-anxiety' – is a chronic fear of environmental doom that is becoming increasingly common.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Adelaide, Evenings, 08/11/2024, Jason Chong

The Tasmanian Government has expressed concern about the age at which a social media ban will kick in. National cabinet has endorsed 16 as the minimum age to use social media, but Deputy Premier Guy Barnett says Tasmania would have preferred 14 as the minimum age.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

NSW braces for big strikes

Canberra Times, General News, 09/11/2024, Page 13

Chris Minns is "deeply sorry" to anyone affected by escalating industrial action in NSW, as frontline workers continue their push for major pay increases. The NSW premier has not yet reached an agreement with nurses and midwives, who plan to stop work for 24 hours on Wednesday after four weeks of failed intensive pay talks.

Also reported by: [Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Warrnambool Standard \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Biosimilars Week

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 08/11/2024

Australia's Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association (GBMA) is using Global Biosimilars Week, running from 11-15 Nov, to emphasise the benefits of biosimilar medicines for patients and the economy. Although biosimilars have improved treatment options for chronic conditions worldwide, Australia's adoption rates lag behind other OECD nations, according to GBMA's independent Chair, Prof Jane Halton.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Aged Care Nurse Loses Registration Over Doll Therapy Incident

HelloCare, Other, 08/11/2024, Jakob Neeland

Doll therapy, a widely used non-pharmacological intervention in dementia care, provides a way for residents to engage in nurturing behaviours that can help reduce anxiety and bring comfort. However, in a recent case, an aged care nurse in New South Wales faced serious consequences for misusing this therapy.

[Read More](#)

CPMC warns AHPRA's plan won't fix doctor shortages in regional areas and key specialties

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 08/11/2024

Following the release of the Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce Report, the Council of Presidents of Medical Colleges (CPMC) has again warned that fast-tracking International Medical Graduate registration alone will not solve Australia's rural healthcare challenges. [...] CPMC reaffirms its commitment to working constructively with AHPRA, the Medical Board of Australia, Minister Butler, and state and territory ministers on international medical registration and broader workforce reforms.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Men's shed plans for community health day

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 09/11/2024, Wade Stephens, Page 11

The Dareton Men in a Shed are planning an event in February next year to engage local seniors and get them to focus on their wellbeing. Based off a Spanner in the Works event held in collaboration with the Australian Men's Shed Association and Men's Health Australia six years ago, Dareton members have submitted a grant application to the New South Wales Government's Connecting Seniors program.

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SPORT

We can fix cost spikes: Bleijie

Courier Mail, General News, 09/11/2024, Taylah Fellows, Page 9

Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie insists the government can reverse Olympic cost blowouts plaguing three venues, as speculation over the potential for the Victoria Park stadium project resurfaces. It comes after the costs of the Chandler and Sunshine Coast indoor sport centres and Sunshine Coast Stadium were found to have gone over budget by \$181m.

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ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 08/11/2024, Andrea Nierhoff

Queensland cricket's boss has urged the state's new Premier to consider a new stadium for Brisbane when he launches his 100 day review into Olympic Games infrastructure. The state's new Olympics minister was hosted at a lunch at the Gabba Stadium.

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Sky News Live, News Night, 08/11/2024, Rhiannon Elston

Queensland's new LNP government has begun assembling a committee to review plans for the 2032 Olympics and come up with a venue for the games. Meanwhile, labor has announced its new shadow cabinet.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Leg-up for new mums

Northern Territory News, General News, 09/11/2024, Page 5

New mums who get at least 80 minutes of exercise a week in the months after having their baby are less likely to have post-partum depression symptoms. University of Alberta researchers in Canada compared data from 35 trials of exercise programs for new mums and found women who were doing at least 80 minutes a week of exercise, no matter the type, were likely to have less severe symptoms.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#).

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Swap milk for yoghurt

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 09/11/2024, Page 6

Drinking more than a glass and a half of non-fermented milk is associated with a higher risk of heart problems in women, according to a Scandinavian study that found fermented milk products such as yoghurt did not have the same effect. An Uppsala University team says 1.5 glasses of nonfermented milk a day was linked to both heart disease and heart attacks in women but not men, and this link was stronger the more milk the women consumed.

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Clinical research trials open at Cairns Hospital

Weekend Post, General News, 09/11/2024, Leena Singh, Page 43

When you are diagnosed with a condition that is chronic, painful, lifechanging or life-threatening, it can be an incredibly scary experience. We have fantastic clinicians working in Cairns Hospital and our wider health service who will do everything they can to treat and support you, but there are some conditions that have no effective long-term treatment.

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Sydney cancer researchers harness artificial intelligence for 'cutting

edge' treatment

Adelaide Now, Other, 08/11/2024, Eilidh Sproul-Mellis

Ground breaking cancer research is being carried out in Sydney that could save patients from being exposed to unnecessary toxic radiation – and artificial intelligence is at the heart of the revolutionary technology. University of Sydney researcher and biomedical physicist Dr David Waddington can count on one hand the number of "state-of-the-art" MRI-guided linear accelerators being used to treat cancer patients in Australia – there are only two in NSW.

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Imugene launches first Aussie lymphoma cancer trial

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 08/11/2024, Doug Bright

In an Australian first, clinical cancer researcher and developer Imugene will launch its first "azer-cel" clinical trial against a difficult-to-treat form of non-Hodgkins lymphoma at Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Azer-cel is Imugene's "allogeneic off-the-shelf CAR T-cell therapy" which targets a specific protein, CD19, often found on the surface of B-cells, including the cancerous cells in B-cell lymphomas.

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Meal timing crucial for night shift worker health

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 08/11/2024, Natalie Dragon

South Australian researchers found blood glucose levels skyrocketed in study participants who either snacked or ate full meals at night putting their health at increased risk. Led by researchers from the University of South Australia, University of Adelaide and SAHMRI, the research involved a six-day trial with 55 adults in the healthy BMI range who don't usually work night shifts.

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GPs face 'uncertainty' in making long COVID diagnosis: Aussie study

Australian Doctor, Other, 08/11/2024, Carmel Sparke

A study using data from seven million GP patient records has revealed women, those in middle age and those living in high socioeconomic areas are most likely to be diagnosed with long COVID. But the findings "almost certainly" under-represent the prevalence of the condition in Australia, the authors wrote.

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Broaden focus

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 08/11/2024

A Monash University-led global study has revealed gaps in antimicrobial education among pharmacy, medicine, nursing, dentistry, and veterinary students, urging broader interdisciplinary training. The study found that currently education focuses mainly on misuse, underscoring the need for comprehensive skills to address the mounting threat of antimicrobial resistance to planetary health.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Feds invest \$70.4 million in early childhood care and education for First Nations families

National Indigenous Times, Other, 09/11/2024, Giovanni Torre

Early childhood activities for First Nations children and families will receive a significant boost from a \$70.4 million, two-year investment by the federal government's Indigenous Advancement Strategy, it was announced Saturday morning. The investment will extend funding for 188 activities across the country, ensuring 173 organisations can continue to support First Nations children in their early years, encouraging good health and school readiness.

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Study finds significant gaps in culturally safe kidney care

National Indigenous Times, Other, 08/11/2024, Joseph Guenzler

A University of Adelaide review of more than three decades of kidney care literature has revealed significant gaps in culturally safe practices for Indigenous communities. The study published in Nursing Inquiry and led by Senior Lecturer Melissa Arnold-Ujvari with Elizabeth Rix and Professor Janet Kelly identifies both progress and persistent challenges.

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Racism, colonialism 'driving Indigenous self-harm'

National Indigenous Times, Other, 08/11/2024, Aaron Bunch

Australia's dark colonial past and ongoing racism are driving self-harm in Indigenous communities, a respected Aboriginal psychologist says. There were 3214 deaths due to suicide in Australia in 2023... Excellence recognised at Indigenous Governance Awards

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

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Australia's first Indigenous neurologist warns of the increased stroke risk faced by First Nations people

National Indigenous Times, Other, 08/11/2024, Jarred Cross

Amy Thompson was under 40, didn't smoke or drink and walked five kilometres a day when she suffered a stroke. It was during her shift in the early hours of the morning when, mid-way through delivery procedures, she became the main attention of doctors at Macksville Hospital on the NSW mid-north coast in 2022.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

Managing \$1.3bn white elephants

Weekend Australian, Editorials, 09/11/2024, Page 14

Despite the homelessness crisis and a shortage of domestic violence shelters, Melbourne's Centre for National Resilience an expensive testament to bad planning during the Covid pandemic response is a ghost town near the Hume Highway on the city's northern fringe far from public transport. The Orwellian-sounding centre, which has about 1000 beds and 500 security cameras, is all but deserted and maintained by a skeleton staff at public expense while the Albanese government struggles to decide what to do with it, apart from ensuring such waste is never replicated.

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

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Surge in deadly disease

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 09/11/2024, Brad Crouch & Nathan Schmidt, Page 3

Australia is in the grip of the largest whooping cough epidemic since the introduction of vaccines against the potentially fatal lung disease with SA recording 1018 cases so far this year, compared to 142 for all of 2023. Cases in SA have doubled in just two months, and the surge in the dangerous disease compares to just 40 cases in 2022, 33 in 2021, 290 in 2020 and 309 in 2019.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [Bathurst Western Advocate \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Retail Pharmacy \(Online\)](#), [Royal Australian College of General Practitioners \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory](#)

[News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#).

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Killer cough in record numbers

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/11/2024, Emily Macdonald, Page 18

Australia has broken a grim record with 45,000 whooping cough cases expected by the end of the year the highest number since the introduction of the vaccine with two states hit hard. The nation recorded an average of 130 new whooping cough cases daily this year, with NSW and Queenslanders particularly vulnerable to the deadly virus.

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

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Whooping cough epidemic

The West Australian (Saturday edition), Edition Changes, 09/11/2024, Hannah Cross, Page 4

Western Australia is battling its largest whooping cough epidemic in more than a decade with an alarming tenfold increase in cases since last year. The Immunisation Foundation of Australia whooping cough report card, released on Friday, revealed Australia had recorded the highest number of whooping cough cases on record at more than 41,000.

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Common kitchen item lands 48-year-old on his death bed

Adelaide Now, Other, 09/11/2024, Claudia Poposki

A 48-year-old is on his deathbed because of the "next asbestos" outbreak impacting labourers. Marek Marzec is receiving end of life care in hospital after the London man was diagnosed with silicosis in April.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 08/11/2024, James Glenday & Catherine Murphy

Australia is grappling with its worst recorded epidemic of whooping cough, with cases hitting a record high as health authorities urge parents to make sure that their vaccinations are up to date, as they are now more than 41,000 cases of whooping cough.

Similar content in: [Channel 9 \(Adelaide\)](#), [Channel 10 \(Perth\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Sydney\)](#).

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 08/11/2024, Michael Thomson

Doctors say Australia is entering the worst month for pertussis infections, often referred to as the 100-day cough. The nation is sitting on 41,000 infections, with 128 confirmed on average every day. New data shows child vaccination rates have dropped for the third year in a row. 1 in 4 who are turning 13 years of age aren't protected against whooping cough.

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ABC Radio Perth, Mornings, 08/11/2024, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Health experts say Australia is in the midst of a whooping cough epidemic, which is expected to continue into summer. There have been more than 41,000 recorded cases of the illness this year, making it the highest on record.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 08/11/2024, Sally Sara & Patricia Karvelas

Health researchers say Australia is in the midst of a whooping cough epidemic, which is expected to continue into summer. There have been more than 41,000 recorded cases of the respiratory illness this year, making it the highest on record.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Exercise prescribed to beat cancer treatment risk

The Saturday Age, General News, 09/11/2024, Henrietta Cook, Page 3

Hospitals are rolling out fitness classes and prescribing exercise to patients to prevent a potentially deadly side-effect of cancer treatment on their hearts. Associate professor Erin Howden from the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute said heart damage or "cardiotoxicity" was a serious and unintended risk of some cancer treatments, including chemotherapy drugs containing anthracycline, targeted therapies, radiation to the chest and bonemarrow transplants.

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Mounjaro wrecked my health, I wish I'd never taken it - patients reveal disastrous side effects of jab as UK reports first death from weight loss drugs

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 08/11/2024, Emily Stearn & Lewis Pennock

Tirzepatide, available as Mounjaro, has been hailed as the 'King Kong' of slimming jabs and a breakthrough in the war on obesity — more effective for shifting the pounds than similar drugs like Ozempic. But there have been growing concerns about misleading statements on the medications' safety and risk of severe injuries, including stomach paralysis and gallbladder issues.

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Calls for online register to raise drug reaction reporting

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 08/11/2024

With adverse reactions going under-reported by patients, researchers say a new digital tool could be key to tracking the scale of the problem. [...] A team of researchers from the University of South Australia (UniSA) believe so, launching a study exploring patient and healthcare professionals' views on the development of a tool to improve patient ADR reporting to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

ICIC Wastewater Report finds meth, fentanyl and cannabis in SA

The Mercury, Other, 07/11/2024, Tara Miko

A new national report, which gives a glimpse of illicit substance use across the country, has revealed some surprising results for Adelaide and South Australia. Meth use is rife in Adelaide while cannabis is most common in regional South Australia, according to the latest national wastewater report.

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FOOD STANDARDS

No relevant coverage

AICIS

Fears pollutants running free in drinking water

Hobart Mercury, General News, 09/11/2024, Dr Frank Nicklason & Dr Fiona Beer, Page 29

Safe water for drinking and irrigation is an absolute human right. TasWater's recent survey underscored the value our community places on this. Safe water was the number one concern expressed.

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Joint effort aims to protect Australians from PFAS hazards

National Indigenous Times, Other, 08/11/2024, Joseph Guenzler

Indigenous-owned Fire and Test Australasia has partnered with STAR Water, a leading Sydney-based environmental technology company, to address the escalating crisis of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination across Australia. Robert Lancaster of Fire and Test Australasia (FTA), a 100 per cent Indigenous-owned and operated aggregator of technology solutions, explained the capabilities of the new technology.

[Read More](#)

Cooking oil, faeces, soap scum and vet drugs: Scientists reveal gross truth behind mysterious Sydney 'tar balls'

The Mercury, Other, 07/11/2024, Blake Antrobus

Scientists have revealed the "disgusting" truth behind the origin of the mysterious "tar balls" that washed up on Sydney beaches and sparked a health panic. A multidisciplinary team of scientists at the University of NSW have spent weeks analysing the mysterious balls – first spotted on the shores of Coogee Beach last month.

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