



TODAY'S NEWS

Tuesday, 19th November 2024

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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports that Labor will remove proposed caps on the number of weekly and annual hours for cleaning and gardening services accessible to residential aged care patients under its new aged care reforms bill in order to receive Coalition support. Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said that the government was "listening to the voices of older Australians," and that the change would offer them "greater flexibility."
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 3) reports that the police officer on trial for the manslaughter of 95-year-old aged care resident Clare Nowland has taken the stand to say that he was "upset and devastated" by her death, but that his use of force against Mrs. Nowland, who was wielding a knife and may have suffered from undiagnosed dementia, was "justified." *Also reported by: [Canberra Times](#), [Sydney Morning Herald](#), [9News](#), [The Guardian](#)*
- **[The Hobart Mercury](#)** (page 1) reports that the Tasmanian Government has launched its Ticket to Wellbeing program which provides seniors with \$200 in vouchers to spend on sport and recreation memberships aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of the growing demographic.
- **[The Adelaide Advertiser](#)** (page 1) reports that South Australian opposition leader Vincent Tarzia has warned his shadow cabinet that Liberal MPs who attempt to re-open the issue of late-term abortions will be excluded from cabinet, after the party's significant defeat in the Black

by-election was blamed on a controversial bill that would have banned abortions after 28 weeks.

- **The Adelaide Advertiser** (page 5) reports that experts have called for South Australia to introduce pill testing as this week's Schoolies attendees are reportedly being sold synthetic compounds marketed as "organic" and "pure" ecstasy, which in fact may contain highly potent nitazenes.
- **Northern Territory News** (page 5) reports that \$18.58 million in federal funding has been allocated to providing remote First Nations communities with new dialysis machines in order to provide "culturally safe, life-saving dialysis treatment" and allow remote patients to remain on country, according to Assistant Indigenous Health Minister Ged Kearney.
- **The Sydney Morning Herald** (page 7) reports that almost half of the specialist psychiatrists working in New South Wales' under-staffed public mental health system have issued their union with resignation letters as they continue to campaign for a 30 per cent pay increase.
- **The Daily Telegraph** (page 8) reports that Australian researchers have successfully modelled the three-dimensional structure of an enzyme known as PLD3, which could be "the first step in developing novel drugs" to successfully treat Alzheimer's disease.
- **The Australian** (page 9) reports that the Australian Medical Association has warned of the growing threat posed by antimicrobial resistance, calling on the government to make the development of a coordinated national response to the issue a top priority for the new Australian Centre for Disease Control. *Also reported by: Sydney Morning Herald*

MINISTER BUTLER

Cost of living blamed for rise in Australians avoiding medications

The Australian, Other, 18/11/2024, Penny Timms

Australians in some of the most disadvantaged parts of the country are delaying or avoiding getting health care because of financial pressures amid the cost of living crisis. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler seized on the finding.

[Read More](#)

Adelaide residents blindsided by decision to store AUKUS nuclear waste at submarine shipyards

ABC Online, Other, 18/11/2024, Angelique Donnellan

The \$368 billion AUKUS pact is promising thousands of jobs and the return of submarine construction to South Australia. [...] The Osborne shipyard is in federal Health Minister Mark Butler's safe Labor electorate of Hindmarsh. [...] Mark Butler says only low-level waste from US and UK submarines which come to Australia will be stored here.

[Read More](#)

Plan to dispose of nuclear waste from Aukus submarines unanimously rejected by Adelaide council

The Guardian, Other, 18/11/2024, Petra Stock

Plans to dispose of low-level nuclear waste from Aukus submarines at an Adelaide naval facility have been unanimously opposed by the local council for the area, who say they weren't consulted. [...] While the type of radioactive waste to be managed at the Osborne shipyard was not detailed in the legislation, the health minister, Mark Butler, the Labor member for Port Adelaide and Hindmarsh, told the ABC that it would be low-level material.

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New agency to boost Australian genomic medicine research

The Mandarin, Other, 18/11/2024, Melissa Coade

The federal government wants to strengthen Australia's genomic medicine muscle in order to deliver better health outcomes, help fight cancers and rare diseases. Health Minister Mark Butler announced

on Friday the establishment of Genomics Australia, a national body to provide leadership and coordination of cutting-edge genomic research and technologies.

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Genomic body forming

Executive Career, Other, 18/11/2024, Tim Hall

The Federal Government has announced the creation of Genomics Australia - a national body for integrating genomic research into healthcare. Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, says the effort could revolutionise treatment for cancers, rare diseases, and other conditions through personalised medicine.

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AdPha honours its own

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/11/2024

Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) hosted its 48th national conference, Medicines Management 2024 (MM2024), in Adelaide over the weekend, welcoming over 1,000 delegates. [...] In his opening remarks, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler also applauded AdPha's efforts over the past year, highlighting the organisation's role in enhancing pharmacy's scope of practice.

[Read More](#)

The next move for pro-aborts

The Catholic Weekly, Other, 18/11/2024, Monica Doumit

The big news in life issues this past week was the pre-election policy announcement from the Australian Greens that it would require all public hospitals in Australia to offer abortions up until birth and would allocate an extra \$100 million of taxpayer funds to ensure this happens.

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Even more patients avoid GP due to costs

The Medical Republic, Other, 18/11/2024, Holly Payne

As more patients opt to delay GP visits, the government is splurging on an ad campaign. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced the incoming campaign last week, noting that twice as many Australians – 7%, to be precise – had delayed or deferred seeing a GP because of cost in 2022-23 as in 2021-22.

[Read More](#)

AI, bioterrorism and the urgent need for Australian action

The Strategist — The Australian Strategic Policy Institute Blog, Other, 18/11/2024, Greg Sadler

Today, you'd have to be a top-notch scientist to create a pathogen. [...] The minister for agriculture, Julie Collins, and the minister for health, Mark Butler, already jointly administer a regime governing the importation of synthetic DNA into Australia.

[Read More](#)

2GB, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Ben Fordham

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says vaping has become a major public health menace. Total nicotine consumption grew last year among Australians aged between 15 and 24 for the first time since the 1990s. Rachael Andersen, Quit director, says the rates of vaping in Australia have tripled and describes it as an 'escalating public health crisis.'

[Play Now](#)

4BC, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Peter Fegan

The Australian Border Force has ramped up its efforts on illegal vapes and has seized 950,000 illegal vapes per month, with over four million seized in 2024 so far. Illegal vaping products have become Australia's second-largest black market, worth over \$2 billion annually. Health Minister Mark Butler

says vaping has become a major public health menace. For the first time since the 1990s, total nicotine consumption grew last year among Australians aged 15 to 24.

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MINISTER WELLS

ALP to remove limits on home care gardening, cleaning

The Australian, General News, 19/11/2024, Sarah Ison, Page 1

Labor has scrapped its proposed caps on gardening and cleaning for elderly Australians with home care packages, in a move to lock in the Coalition's support to pass its landmark aged care bill through parliament in the final sitting fortnight of the year. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells told The Australian that Labor had listened to the concerns raised as part the committee process and would scrap the proposed cap, in a move that would likely raise the cost of the \$5.6bn reform.

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

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Future Brisbane event to discuss 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games legacy priorities

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/11/2024

New Premier David Crisafulli, Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner, Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells and the boss of the Sydney 2000 bid committee will discuss the city's 2032 legacy opportunities at the on November 29. The event at Star Brisbane has already sold out, with more than 400 people set to join leaders of industry and Olympic and Paralympic stars Kaylee McKeown, Curtis McGrath, Alexa Leary and Matt Denny.

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

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Parliament's final fortnight for the year set to make or break Labor's agenda

ABC Online, Other, 18/11/2024, Tom Crowley

Anthony Albanese's political agenda is on the line as his government braces for the last parliamentary session of the year with dozens of signature policies unresolved. [...] Labor has yet to respond to those, but Aged Care Minister Anika Wells revealed on Sunday she would set up a taskforce to help the sector with the changes.

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Government warned of home care waitlist blowouts

Aged Care Insite, Other, 18/11/2024

Older Australians are staring down longer wait times for basic support to help them live independently over the next six months. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said the number of Australians in home care had increased fourfold over the past decade, which was why the Albanese government was investing \$4.3bn in the new Support at Home system.

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Coalition demands dozens of changes to \$5.6 billion health care bill

CathNews, Other, 18/11/2024, Rebecca Comini

Labor is facing a raft of changes to its \$5.6 billion aged care bill in the final sitting fortnight of the year. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells would not be drawn on whether Labor would agree to any of the amendments, saying "the Albanese Government will continue to engage with all parliamentarians to pass urgent generational reform by the end of the year, so older Australians can reap the benefits of improved aged care".

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Six-month home care package wait times challenge Albanese's promise to fix aged care

HelloCare, Other, 18/11/2024, Jakob Neeland

Older Australians are grappling with prolonged delays in accessing essential home care services, as the demand for support continues to outstrip supply. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells defended the government's approach, citing a fourfold increase in the number of Australians accessing home care over the past decade.

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ABC News, News Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Michael Rowland & Bridget Brennan

Interview with Tracey Holmes, host, The Sports Ambassador podcast. Boxing Australia has unexpectedly withdrawn its high-performance program from the Combat AUS model without consulting athletes. Holmes says eight Olympians wrote to Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells nearly three weeks ago, expressing serious concerns about safety and trust in Boxing Australia. She says Minister Anika Wells' office has since confirmed she will contact the athletes. She points out that the changes could affect preparations for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics and the 2032 Brisbane Games.

Interview continues on: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#).

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Radio National, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Sally Sara

Interview with Alex Vallentine, CEO, CombatAUS, on Boxing Australia's decision to withdraw from the high-performance program and implement its own model. Vallentine cites an AIS review recommending the continuation of CombatAUS for the next eight years but says Boxing Australia made its decision without consulting athletes. He says athletes have written to Sports Minister Anika Wells seeking reinstatement of the program but have yet to receive a response. Sara reports the minister's office expects to reply soon, while Boxing Australia has described it as a period of 'exciting change.'

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

The best way to empower pharmacists

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/11/2024, Megan Haggan

The Albanese government will continue to collaborate with the pharmacy sector on scope, says assistant minister "This conference was the first organised by the rebranded AdPha – the name change reflecting that pharmacy care extends beyond the hospital walls," Emma McBride, former hospital pharmacist and assistant health minister, said in a video address...

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Remote dialysis water lacking

Northern Territory News, General News, 19/11/2024, Gera Kazakov, Page 5

Seven remote communities across the country have been earmarked to benefit from the funding in the federal government's Better Renal Services program to help communities access new dialysis machines. In the Territory, Ali Curung, Galiwin'ku, Maningrida, and Yuendumu will be able to get funding, which Assistant Indigenous Health Minister Ged Kearney said aimed to keep dialysis patients on country.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

No relevant coverage

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DEPARTMENT

New agency to boost Australian genomic medicine research

The Mandarin, Other, 18/11/2024, Melissa Coade

The federal government wants to strengthen Australia's genomic medicine muscle in order to deliver better health outcomes, help fight cancers and rare diseases. Health Minister Mark Butler announced on Friday the establishment of Genomics Australia, a national body to provide leadership and coordination of cutting-edge genomic research and technologies.

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Anaesthetists and surgeons accused of fraud by charging patients hidden out-of-pocket fees

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/11/2024, Paul Smith

A whistleblower's allegations of overcharging are being investigated by health insurers. [...] Her letter sent to Department of Health and Aged Care investigators refers to many of the doctors by name and claims the practice she worked had charged most of its patients between \$500 and \$5000 out-of-pocket costs.

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Genomic body forming

Executive Career, Other, 18/11/2024, Tim Hall

The Federal Government has announced the creation of Genomics Australia - a national body for integrating genomic research into healthcare. Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, says the effort could revolutionise treatment for cancers, rare diseases, and other conditions through personalised medicine.

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QI Program progress stalls: Trends revealed in annual report

Helloleaders.com.au, Other, 18/11/2024, Alex Jacobs

Despite early gains in key areas, the Quality Indicator Program 2023/24 annual report shows that some critical outcomes – including the use of physical restraint – have increased over the past 12 months. [...] The annual report's author, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) acknowledged that it is not the primary collector of QI data and that any observations are based on its analysis of data submitted by aged care providers to the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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Helping hand: Gov establishes an Aged Care Transition Taskforce

Helloleaders.com.au, Other, 18/11/2024, Alex Jacobs

The Federal Government has announced that an Aged Care Transition Taskforce will be assembled to help the sector deliver its once-in-a-generation reforms. [...] Fellow members will include consumer advocates, aged care providers, ICT specialists, primary and clinical care experts, and representatives from the Department of Health and Aged Care and Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission.

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Spotlight on tackling antimicrobial resistance

Beef Central, Other, 18/11/2024, Alex Horton

World Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Week 2024 kicks off today, 18 November, in an effort to promote awareness and action on the dangers of this significant threat. [...] Department of Health and Aged Care's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Tony Lawler said tackling AMR requires partnership and action across sectors.

[Read More](#)

ABC Eyre Peninsula and West Coast, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Emma Pedler

A recent audit has found that medical research in Australia is under-represented in rural and regional areas. The Department of Health and Aged Care report links the gap in research and funding to difficulties in attracting and retaining healthcare workers in these regions. Susi Tegen, Chief Executive, National Rural Health Alliance, explains that research based on urban health models often fails to address the unique needs of South Australia's rural populations.

Also reported by: [ABC Eyre Peninsula and West Coast \(Port Lincoln\)](#), [ABC North and West SA \(Port Pirie\)](#), [ABC Eyre Peninsula and West Coast \(Port Lincoln\)](#), [ABC North and West SA \(Port Pirie\)](#), [ABC Eyre Peninsula and West Coast \(Port Lincoln\)](#).

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VACCINES

CSL tumbles as investors fear RFK jnr's vaccine plans

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 19/11/2024, Joshua Peach & Joanne Tran, Page 24

CSL tumbled to a six-month low yesterday as investors fled healthcare stocks after US President-elect Donald Trump named avowed vaccine sceptic Robert F. Kennedy jnr to lead the US Health Department.

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Should you get a COVID booster?

Canberra Times, General News, 19/11/2024, Nathan Bartlett, Page 18

Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has recently approved a new COVID booster. The shot was developed by Pfizer and targets the JN.1 sub-variant of Omicron. This is now the fifth iteration of the COVID vaccines, which have been updated regularly to keep up with the rapidly evolving virus, SARS-CoV-2.

Also reported by: [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#).

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

ALP to remove limits on home care gardening, cleaning

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

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Cop 'devastated' by Taser death

The Australian, General News, 19/11/2024, Adelaide Lang, Page 3

A police officer has claimed he was "justified" in using his service Taser on a great-grandmother in a nursing home, but was "devastated" she subsequently died. Senior Constable Kristian James Samuel White, 34, is on trial in the NSW Supreme Court, pleading not guilty to the manslaughter of Clare Nowland, 95, at Yallambee Lodge nursing home in Cooma, NSW.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#).

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Tasered 95yo an 'imminent threat'

Canberra Times, General News, 19/11/2024, Page 13

An elderly woman who confronted police and paramedics with a knife was an imminent threat but was not expected to die after being tasered, the officer who fired the weapon has told a jury. Senior Constable Kristian White discharged his stun gun at Clare Nowland in a treatment room at Yallambee Lodge aged-care home in the southern NSW town of Cooma during the early hours of May 17, 2023.

Also reported by: [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [Shepparton News \(Shepparton\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Online\)](#), [The Border Mail \(Online\)](#), [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Online\)](#).

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Officer who Tasered Clare Nowland felt action was 'justified', court told

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/11/2024, Sarah McPhee

The police officer who Tasered 95-year-old Clare Nowland as she held a knife in a NSW nursing home has told his trial he believed the great-grandmother intended to strike out and his actions were "justified", but he is "devastated" that she later died. Senior Constable Kristian James Samuel White has pleaded not guilty to the manslaughter of Nowland, who he Tasered as she stood with her walking frame inside the Yallambee Lodge nursing home in Cooma on May 17, 2023.

[Read More](#)

NSW cop who Tasered great-grandma Clare Nowland takes stand at trial

9News, Other, 18/11/2024, Miklos Bolza

A police officer who stands by Tasered a 95-year-old aged-care resident a week before she died has taken the stand at his own manslaughter trial. Senior Constable Kristian White fired his stun gun at Clare Nowland in a treatment room at Yallambee Lodge aged-care home

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Parliament's final fortnight for the year set to make or break Labor's agenda

ABC Online, Other, 18/11/2024, Tom Crowley

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Police officer who tasered Clare Nowland tells court taking knife from her hand came with 'high risk'

The Guardian, Other, 18/11/2024, Ben Doherty & Jordyn Beazley

A police officer who fatally tasered a 95-year-old woman in a nursing home said he tried to give her "every opportunity to drop the knife" she was carrying, but she had "made her intent clear: she was going to use that knife on anyone that got near her". Sen Const Kristian James Samuel White also told the court simply taking the knife out of Clare Nowland's hand came with "risk, high risk".

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BaptistCare merger the latest in a series of buyouts reshaping the sector

Aged Care Insite, Other, 18/11/2024, Stefanie Schultz

Following the successful merger of BaptistCare NSW & ACT and Baptistcare WA in March 2023, the boards of three more of the faith-based care providers have announced their plans to unite. BaptistCare SA and BaptistCare will combine to become one of the nation's largest not-for-profit integrated care and service providers, in a move that will see the new entity's 12,000 staff serve over 38,000 customers across six Australian states and territories.

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Salaam Group launches senior support service

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 18/11/2024, Natasha Egan

Salaam Living will support assist Australian Muslims to navigate and access aged care and disability services. The Salaam Group has launched a new service called Salaam Living to help Australian Muslims navigate the complexities of the aged care and disability services systems.

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Coalition demands dozens of changes to \$5.6 billion health care bill

CathNews, Other, 18/11/2024, Rebecca Comini

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Is 18 hours of gardening support per year enough for seniors to live safely at home?

HelloCare, Other, 18/11/2024, Jakob Neeland

The Australian government's proposed caps on domestic assistance services like gardening and cleaning as part of its new Support at Home Program have sparked significant concern among seniors and aged care advocates. These proposed changes, which aim to streamline resources into clinical services, could have unintended consequences for elderly Australians, particularly those living in larger homes or with more complex needs.

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Six-month home care package wait times challenge Albanese's promise to fix aged care

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POPULATION HEALTH

Here's the skinny on Ozempic and its many mates

Australian Financial Review, General News, 19/11/2024, Michael Smith, Page 32

From Bondi to Broome, an extraordinary number of Australians are injecting themselves with weight-loss medications in what is being hailed as the biggest drug boom in decades.

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

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Why sitting too much makes you age

The Australian, General News, 19/11/2024, Peta Bee, Page 9

We all know we spend far too much time sitting down. Adults spend an average of nine hours a day on their bottoms, according to research by the British health service, which has a damaging effect on our metabolism, affecting our body's ability to regulate blood sugar and blood pressure and to break down body fat.

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Suppliers of vapes in NSW face harsher punishments

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/11/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 12

Suppliers caught selling vapes face being fined more than \$1.5 million or spending seven years in prison as the NSW government attempts to clamp down on retailers flouting a nationwide ban. Under current rules, the maximum penalty NSW authorities can serve individuals selling vapes is \$1650 or six months in prison, but that will dramatically increase if the state parliament passes legislation set to be introduced to the upper house on Tuesday.

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Couch is so bad for your health

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/11/2024, Page 9

More time spent sitting, reclining or lying down during the day may increase the risk of cardiovascular disease. More than roughly 10-and-a-half hours of sedentary behaviour per day was significantly linked with future heart failure and cardiovascular death, even among people meeting recommended levels of exercise.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Perth\)](#).

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Making moves towards a better sleep

Newcastle Herald, General News, 19/11/2024, Damon Cronshaw, Page 8

Links between sleep, exercise and blood sugar will be explored in a University of Newcastle study with a two-pronged approach to boost health. Professor Mitch Duncan, of Hunter Medical Research Institute, leads the Move and Sleep study.

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Victorians found to have healthiest habits in the nation, survey finds

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/11/2024, Euan Kennedy & Angus McIntyre

Victorians have the healthiest habits in the country — except for low vegetable intake and exercise — according to a new study. People from Victoria drink less than any other state or territory, with more than three-quarters of adults not exceeding recommended alcohol guidelines.

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

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Australia's unhealthiest states and territories revealed

9News, Other, 18/11/2024, Josh Hohne

New data has revealed which states and territories are keeping between the health guidelines. From Alcohol intake, to exercise and fruit and veg consumption some parts of Australia are doing better than the rest.

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More families with single incomes seeking food relief, charities say

ABC Online, Other, 18/11/2024, Declan Bowring

Ivy Pasi works part-time with the Department of Immigration and receives a disability pension, but her income is not enough to cover her groceries. The resident of Lalor Park in Sydney's west helps make ends meet by coming to a free meal service run by the charity Carevan Blacktown.

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Ads for 'weight-loss treatments' are everywhere in Australia. Are they promoting prescription drugs?

The Guardian, Other, 18/11/2024, Catie Mcleod

Evie Gardiner tries hard to avoid advertisements for weight-loss injections, but they seem to crop up everywhere. The 28-year-old Sydney PhD student says treatments that include the drugs are "marketed quite aggressively", even if the ads seem "kind of vague".

[Read More](#)

Do pharmacies have to accept used vapes?

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/11/2024, Megan Haggan

What are pharmacists' obligations when it comes to vape disposal – and are there numbers on uptake? Senator Ruston asked a number of questions about the controversial legislation assigning vapes to S3 for smoking cessation, including pharmacy's liability, whether the sector was consulted and what uptake has been like.

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6PR, Drive, 18/11/2024, Oliver Peterson

Research shows that babies and toddlers who are regularly read to from birth are more likely to

recognise letters, words, and use complex sentences by age three. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare estimates that one in six children are not read to or told stories by age two.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Mersey nurse awarded for hospital's stroke service

Burnie Advocate, General News, 19/11/2024, Rodney Woods, Page 5

A clinical nurse educator from the Coast who was involved in the rollout of a service supporting patients with stroke symptoms has been recognised. An enhanced partnership between the Tasmanian Health Service and the Victorian Stroke Telemedicine service was launched at the Mersey Community Hospital in October last year.

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Is your heart feeling your age?

The Australian, Other, 18/11/2024, Stephen Lunn

Could you be at risk of heart disease? The Heart Foundation's Heart Age Calculator works to give you an estimated "heart age" based on your answers to a simple set of questions.

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Vanja was told she'd torn a muscle - but she actually had a deadly cancer

9News, Other, 18/11/2024, Gabriella Rogers

A Sydney mum who has to use her superannuation to access a drug for ovarian cancer says not enough is being done to improve survival rates. "I feel like I have a responsibility to scream and shout loudly about it and say 'hey, this is killing women in Australia'," Vanja Wilson, 39, said.

[Read More](#)

McGowan Foundation donates cuddle beds to help palliative care patients in rural hospitals

ABC Online, Other, 18/11/2024

Bruce McGowan says holding his wife Belinda in his arms as she passed away was one of the greatest privileges of his life. "I wanted the last thing she felt to be my heartbeat as she lost hers," he said.

[Read More](#)

Australia's lung cancer screening program is coming — what GPs are expected to do to save 12,000

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/11/2024, Mohana Basu

AusDoc speaks with Professor Jon Emery. Australia's first new cancer screening program in 20 years is set to start GPs are expected to play a fundamental role in the National Lung Cancer Screening Program.

[Read More](#)

T2DM patients can target remission, says updated diabetes handbook

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/11/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

Type 2 diabetes treatments, such as low-calorie diets and bariatric surgery, can lead to remission for some patients, says new guidance from the RACGP and Diabetes Australia. Last week's update to Management of type 2 diabetes: A handbook for general practice defines remission as HbA1c of less than 6.5%, maintained for at least three months without glucose-lowering medication.

[Read More](#)

Is Ozempic the new 'miracle drug' for patients with osteoporosis-related knee pain?

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/11/2024, Giovanni E. Ferreira & Christina Abdel Shaheed

The drug semaglutide, commonly known by the brand names Ozempic or Wegovy, was originally developed to help people with type 2 diabetes manage their blood sugar levels. However, researchers have discovered it may help with other health issues, too.

[Read More](#)

Cerebral palsy in Australia: optimism and challenges

Medical Journal of Australia, Other, 18/11/2024, Rod W Hunt

In this issue of the MJA, Smithers-Sheedy and colleagues report that rates of cerebral palsy in Australia are declining in a sustained and significant manner, and are among the lowest in the world. During 1995–2016, the overall cerebral palsy incidence rate declined by about 40%.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 18/11/2024, Max Futcher & Sarah Greenhalgh

A groundbreaking treatment for non-Hodgkin lymphoma has shown promising results in a world-first trial led by Monash University. Australian patients battling resistant strains of the cancer were given a combination of immunotherapy and chemotherapy, with two in five patients maintaining long-lasting remission.

Also reported by: [Channel 7 \(Adelaide\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Melbourne\)](#), [Channel 7 \(Sydney\)](#).

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Channel 9, Nine News, 18/11/2024, Peter Overton

Vanja Wilson, a mother diagnosed with stage four ovarian cancer, is on a personal mission to raise awareness of the disease. She now faces a 90% chance that her cancer will return despite undergoing chemotherapy and surgery. Ovarian cancer is often diagnosed too late, with 70% of cases being detected after it has already spread. The push for a breakthrough blood test for early ovarian cancer detection has received a boost, with Professor Carlos Salamon Gallo awarded \$1.4 million in federal funding.

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PRIMARY CARE

Late-term abortion Tarzia edict

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/11/2024, Kathryn Bermingham, Page 1

Opposition Leader Vincent Tarzia will kick out of his shadow cabinet any Liberal MP who puts late-term abortion back on the parliamentary agenda. Mr Tarzia said the Liberals' crushing loss at the Black by-election was a "terrible" result, and the party's campaign had been hindered by the late-term abortion debate that was ignited last month by shadow cabinet member Ben Hood.

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

Regional clinic a haven for mothers

Central Western Daily, General News, 19/11/2024, Ciara Bastow, Page 3

The Wellington Antenatal Clinic, a small yet dedicated healthcare service has been awarded a 'Champion of Medicare', recognising its unwavering commitment to providing essential care to women for over 30 years. What began as a modest clinic run by Doctor Ian Spencer OAM has grown into a community cornerstone, offering much more than basic antenatal services.

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

Patients breathe easier

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 19/11/2024, Nikita Mcquire, Page 5

One of the first patients to be treated in the Townsville University Hospital's new lung cancer clinic, Mackay resident Allan Morrison, says he is keen to wrap up his treatment and get home to his family. [...] Clinical director of medical oncology Dr Abhishek Joshi said the introduction of the lung cancer clinic had seen the wait time between diagnosis and treatment reduce by two weeks.

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

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

Action on hospital scandal

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/11/2024, Will Keech, Page 5

Fresh details have emerged around Colac Area Health's response to a scandal that saw staff pose as patients during a ministerial visit. News broke in May that 10 staff at the Colac Area Health Urgent Care Centre pretended to be patients in a bid to make their clinic busier than it was during a visit by the Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas in August last year.

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

Cost of living blamed for rise in Australians avoiding medications

The Australian, Other, 18/11/2024, Penny Timms

Australians in some of the most disadvantaged parts of the country are delaying or avoiding getting health care because of financial pressures amid the cost of living crisis. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler seized on the finding.

[Read More](#)

Wesley Hospital in Auchenflower lodges plans for two 10-level medical, accommodation towers

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/11/2024, Brendan O'Malley

UnitingCare has applied to the State Government to build a high-rise medical suite linked by a pedestrian bridge to the Wesley Hospital in Auchenflower in one of the biggest ever expansions of the hospital. Forty-year-old Wesley Rotary Lodge, where carers and families of regional patients presently stayed, would be demolished for a new 10-level accommodation tower fronting Lima St.

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

[Read More](#)

AMA wants ban on dentists calling themselves oral surgeons

Australian Doctor, Other, 18/11/2024, Carmel Sparke

The AMA has another "misleading and confusing" professional title in its sights, demanding a ban on dentists calling themselves 'oral surgeons'. There are some 66 dentists currently using the term, and although they have additional qualifications, they are not registered with the Medical Board of Australia.

[Read More](#)

Lower Medicare Safety Net, says RACGP

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/11/2024

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has urged the Federal Government to lower Medicare Safety Net thresholds to help more vulnerable Australians access essential GP care. In a submission to the Department of Health's Medicare Safety Net Reform Working Group, RACGP stated that high thresholds prevent many low-income individuals from benefitting.

[Read More](#)

Surge in working-age people avoiding GP care due to cost

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/11/2024

Jolyon Attwooll 18/11/2024 4:41:54 PM More than one in every seven patients aged 25–34 is now holding off on a visit to their GP, reflecting the cohort's absence from recent bulk-billing incentives. More than 15% of those aged 25–34 delayed GP care due to costs in 2023–24, compared to 10.2% the year before.

[Read More](#)

The next move for pro-aborts

The Catholic Weekly, Other, 18/11/2024, Monica Doumit

The big news in life issues this past week was the pre-election policy announcement from the Australian Greens that it would require all public hospitals in Australia to offer abortions up until birth and would allocate an extra \$100 million of taxpayer funds to ensure this happens.

[Read More](#)

Even more patients avoid GP due to costs

The Medical Republic, Other, 18/11/2024, Holly Payne

As more patients opt to delay GP visits, the government is splurging on an ad campaign. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced the incoming campaign last week, noting that twice as many Australians – 7%, to be precise – had delayed or deferred seeing a GP because of cost in 2022-23 as in 2021-22.

[Read More](#)

Life-saving program launched

Shepparton News Online, Other, 18/11/2024, Georgia Tacey

Nine CFA brigades will soon be able to respond to select medical 000 calls. The joint initiative between CFA and Ambulance Victoria will see CFA brigades dispatched simultaneously to cardiac arrests with the nearest ambulance in the new Fire Medical Response program.

[Read More](#)

SBS, World News Australia, 18/11/2024, Janice Petersen

The Bureau of Statistics says cost is a major barrier to healthcare for disadvantaged Australians, with 11% delaying or going without prescription medication and 27% avoiding dental care due to cost. People in areas of high disadvantage are twice as likely to face these challenges compared to those in wealthier areas. Dr Danielle McMullen, President, AMA, says 60-day prescriptions benefit those with chronic illnesses but argues that more investment in general practice is needed to support those without concession cards.

[Play Now](#)

2CC, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Dr Nicole Higgins, President, RACGP, on calls for the government to lower Medicare safety net thresholds to make GP visits more affordable for vulnerable Australians. Higgins explains this threshold delays access to essential care, particularly for families and those with chronic illnesses. She says reducing the threshold would enable earlier access to preventive healthcare and reduce hospital admissions. She also advocates for increasing Medicare rebates to support bulk billing.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 18/11/2024, Georgia Stynes

Interview with Dr Kerrie Aust, President AMA ACT, on healthcare access in the ACT. Aust says there is significant concern regarding long waiting lists, particularly in specialties like cardiology. She says Canberra's health system is struggling with long wait times for non-urgent services, such as colonoscopies and precancerous polyp treatments, leading many to turn to private care. She points out that transparency in waitlist data is crucial for proper workforce planning and calls for competitive pay packages to retain doctors.

Also reported by: [ABC Radio Canberra \(Canberra\)](#), [ABC Radio Canberra \(Canberra\)](#)

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Toughen up on big tech: inquiry

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 19/11/2024, Jessica Wang, Page 15

Social media giants need to be reined in through tighter laws, with big tech unable to be trusted to "self-regulate in the interests of Australian users", especially children, a landmark parliamentary probe has found. However, the Coalition has argued the measures don't go far enough in holding companies to account, and called for a continued probe into social media, as well as dating apps, gaming platforms and live streaming programs.

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

Three lessons to prevent repeat of Charlotte's tragedy

Daily Telegraph, General News, 19/11/2024, Prof Ian Hickie, Page 13

The tragic death of 12 year-old Charlotte O'Brien, who was reported to have been intensively and persistently bullied at school, has not only precipitated an outpouring of community grief but a much more focused demand for real social and political actions. While we have known for decades that catastrophic outcomes can result from such anti-social behaviour, we have been slow to implement really serious or wellco-ordinated action to stamp it out.

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

Cost crisis ramps up help pleas

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 19/11/2024, Jessica Evensen, Page 2

WA's peak suicide prevention service received a record number of crisis calls last month, as the cost-of-living crisis continues to push people to breaking point. Lifeline WA revealed the number of people seeking help had soared by 15 per cent in October after receiving more than 5251 calls, breaking its previous record of monthly calls set during the COVID-19 pandemic in December 2021.

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

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

Inquest continues into Leading Aircraftman Gary Sargeant's death after being left unsupervised while under the Mental Health Act

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/11/2024, Lucy Rutherford

A nurse expressed concerns about a RAAF serviceman being left unsupervised while under the Mental Health Act just minutes before he left and drowned, believed to be from having committed suicide. An inquest is investigating whether the death of Gary Sargeant, 36, could have been prevented if medical staff had better understanding of procedures to follow.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#).

[Read More](#)

Australian parliamentary inquiry stops short of backing social media ban for under-16s

The Guardian, Other, 18/11/2024, Josh Taylor

A parliamentary committee examining the impact of social media on Australian society has recommended users be given the power to alter, reset or turn off algorithms, as well as be provided with greater privacy protections but has stopped short of recommending a ban on under-16s accessing social media.

[Read More](#)

Teen social media ban might backfire and put young Australians at risk, expert says

Crikey, Other, 18/11/2024, Cam Wilson

One of Australia's leading children's online safety experts says the teen social media ban may backfire by putting more young Australians at risk and by letting tech companies off the hook. With the federal government poised to introduce a law this week that would ban Australians under the age of 16 from social media, opposition to the policy has continued to ring the alarm about what it might entail.

[Read More](#)

Social media safety

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/11/2024

Reachout, Beyond Blue, and Black Dog Institute are supporting the Federal Government's decision to introduce a new duty-of-care regulation holding social media companies accountable for user safety. The regulation mandates that platforms take reasonable steps to prevent foreseeable harms, implement ongoing risk mitigation, and adopt safety-by-design principles.

[Read More](#)

FIVEAA, Afternoons, 18/11/2024, Stacey Lee

Panel discussion with John Mannion, CEO, Breakthrough Mental Health Research Foundation, Marc Ryan, Comedian, and Professor Reg Nixon, Flinders University Institute for Mental Health and Wellbeing, on International Men's Day and the importance of addressing men's mental health. Mannion notes the need to normalise conversations and improve access to support, noting that while 43% of men will face mental health challenges, many will not seek help. Nixon highlights the importance of suicide prevention and improving available mental health services.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Psychiatrists quit as pay talks stall

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 19/11/2024, Kate Aubusson, Page 7

Half the psychiatrists working in the state's understaffed services have submitted their resignations, as the Bondi Junction stabbing inquest throws into stark relief the consequences of a fractured mental health system. Of the state's 295 staff specialist psychiatrists, 145 have sent letters of resignation to their union, the Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation NSW, as pay negotiations with the NSW government falter.

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Overseas-trained registrants surge

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 18/11/2024

Data from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) annual report for 2023/24 shows a significant increase in the number of overseas pharmacists obtaining registration in Australia for the first time.

[Read More](#)

Unprecedented: St Vincent's Private Hospitals nurses and midwives start industrial action for safe staffing

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 18/11/2024

Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Victorian Branch) Almost 1000 nurses and midwives across St Vincent's Private Hospitals' four Melbourne healthcare facilities have started unprecedented protected industrial action from 7am, Monday 18 November. The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Victorian Branch) has been negotiating a new enterprise agreement since June with St Vincent's Private Hospitals management for its hospitals in Fitzroy, East Melbourne, Kew and Werribee.

[Read More](#)

2GB, Drive, 18/11/2024, Chris O'Keefe

Nurses and midwives at St George Private Hospital in NSW will strike for the sixth time, staging a four-hour stoppage that will close operating theatres. Despite 20 months of negotiations, no agreement has been reached between Ramsay Healthcare and the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Strengthening Australia's preparedness against emerging superbugs

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 18/11/2024

Nikolaos Komilionis was 66, and on holiday in Greece, when he was admitted to hospital for minor surgery. [...] As part of an overhaul of the way Australia conducts Health Technology Assessment (HTA) – the system that is used to determine which medicines are publicly funded and in what circumstances, the HTA Policy and Methods Review, recommended the adoption of a subscription model similar to the UK.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Aged care tool wins top prize

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/11/2024

Australia's first digital tool to predict health risks in aged care residents has won the 2024 Digital and Data Health Innovation Award from Research Australia. Developed by RMIT University, Telstra Health, along with the Digital Health Cooperative Research Centre, the tool monitors aged care residents for early signs of deterioration, providing near-real-time predictions for risks like falls, depression, and mortality.

[Read More](#)

Offering telehealth? Ensure you're covered

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/11/2024

With the rise of technologies, have new telehealth guidelines introduced potential implications for medical practitioners' liability? For most doctors, the updated guidelines are straightforward and do not require major changes to practice.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

That's the ticket to good health

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/11/2024, David Killick, Page 1

Older Tasmanians keen to stay active and healthy will be able to access vouchers to help cover the costs under a new scheme launched by the state government yesterday. The Ticket to Wellbeing

program will provide those over 65 with two vouchers worth \$100 each to spend on the cost of sport or recreation memberships from yoga to badminton to pickleball.

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MP wants drivers to become donors

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 18/11/2024, Lewis Nancekivell, Page 5

An upper house member of Parliament for Northern Victoria has urged the State Government to allow people to become organ donors when renewing a licence. The Nationals' Gaelle Broad said a simple change to legislation could give countless people a second lease on life.

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

These are the life-extending capabilities of simply going for a walk

The New Daily, Other, 18/11/2024, John Elder Health

If you're over 40, and spend more time on the couch than not, have you ever wondered what difference it would make to your life if you went for a walk? Australian researchers have asked and answered this question with encouraging results.

[Read More](#)

FIVEAA, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Will Goodings & David Penberthy

Australians are urged to get skin checks during National Skin Cancer Action Week. AMA President Dr Danielle McMullen highlights the importance of spotting changes in moles or spots early, as Australia has the highest skin cancer rates globally.

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SPORT

Business invited to join fun and Games

The Australian, General News, 19/11/2024, Mackenzie Scott, Page 2

The Queensland government must focus on delivering more than a stadium and sports venues if it wants to deliver a true Olympic legacy in Brisbane, says the boss of the capital's city shaping organisation. Committee for Brisbane chief executive Jen Williams said government needed to consider how it could work with private businesses to deliver hard legacy, such as building, transport and digital infrastructure, alongside "soft legacy".

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Brisbane's primary challenge will be to not stuff it up

Courier Mail, General News, 19/11/2024, Robert Craddock, Page 10

The challenge of being the smallest Olympic city in 80 years is that the 2032 Games will define us forever. Even if Paris had choked on its own croissants hosting the Games and it didn't it would not have greatly dented the reputation of an iconic city already known for being the City of Light, the City of Love, the Eiffel Tower and countless other things.

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

We must not ignore Games opportunity

Courier Mail, Editorials, 19/11/2024, Page 22

Despite all the controversies and delays, the reality is there is almost no doubt Brisbane's Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2032 will be fantastic, world-class events. But it is far less certain that our hosting of those events will deliver the right legacy outcomes for our capital city and our state.

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

Supporting female sport

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 19/11/2024, Joanne McNeill, Page 27

Our region has always punched above its weight when it comes to sport. Think the Geelong Cats, the Rip Curl Pro at Bells Beach and any number of sporting stars from John Landy to Gary Ablett Jr.

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

Future Brisbane event to discuss 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games legacy priorities

The Courier Mail, Other, 18/11/2024

New Premier David Crisafulli, Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner, Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells and the boss of the Sydney 2000 bid committee will discuss the city's 2032 legacy opportunities at the on November 29. The event at Star Brisbane has already sold out, with more than 400 people set to join leaders of industry and Olympic and Paralympic stars Kaylee McKeown, Curtis McGrath, Alexa Leary and Matt Denny.

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

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Aussie researchers say there's no 'magic bullet' for Alzheimer's

Daily Telegraph, General News, 19/11/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 8

Finding a treatment for dementia will likely take a combination of therapies rather than one "magic bullet". That's the thinking of a team of Aussie researchers who have, for the first time, revealed the precise three-dimensional structure of an enzyme associated with Alzheimer's disease (AD) called PLD3.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#)

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

Radiopharm pancreatic cancer diagnostic test outperforms

West Australian, Other, 18/11/2024, James Pearson

Following publication of its findings in "Frontiers in Nuclear Medicine" Radiopharm Theranostics revealed a clinical study of its cutting-edge imaging agent, 68Ga-RAD 301 on 44 pancreatic cancer patients - the biggest cohort yet - has delivered strong results. The trial, conducted by Dr. Rehm and colleagues from the Technische Universität Dresden was able to not only identify the primary tumour but also pick up secondary and tertiary metastases in the liver, lymph nodes, peritoneum, lung, bone, spleen, pleural cavity and soft tissues.

[Read More](#)

Medical researchers to test tarantula venom for potential epilepsy treatment

ABC Online, Other, 18/11/2024, Janelle Miles

Kindie Kastrissios keeps a bag packed at her front door ready for the next emergency visit to hospital with daughter Scarlett. [...] Ms Kastrissios has welcomed the federal government's Medical Research Future Fund giving \$4.1 million to University of Queensland (UQ) researchers to test spider venom proteins as potential epilepsy drugs.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Afternoons, 18/11/2024, Joel Rheinberger

Interview with Professor Tom Marwick, cardiology specialist, Menzies Research Institute. The Menzies Research Institute is conducting a heart study using AI-guided echocardiography to detect heart dysfunction in rural and remote areas. Marwick explains that AI technology helps non-experts, like nurses and health workers, take heart images for remote diagnosis. He explains the first study focuses on preventing heart failure, while the second addresses medication adherence for those with the condition.

ABC Radio Sydney, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Craig Reucassel

Australian researchers are using spider venom molecules to develop drugs for severe epilepsy. University of Queensland scientists are creating brain tissue from epilepsy patients' blood to test the venom. Professor Glenn King says it could lead to new medications for genetic forms of epilepsy.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Remote dialysis water lacking

Northern Territory News, General News, 19/11/2024, Gera Kazakov, Page 5

Seven remote communities across the country have been earmarked to benefit from the funding in the federal government's Better Renal Services program to help communities access new dialysis machines. In the Territory, Ali Curung, Galiwin'ku, Maningrida, and Yuendumu will be able to get funding, which Assistant Indigenous Health Minister Ged Kearney said aimed to keep dialysis patients on country.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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

Price: \$18.58m spend on dialysis units for remote communities raises water quality questions

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 18/11/2024, Gera Kazakov

Questions are being levelled around water quality in remote communities as the federal government splashes millions on providing more dialysis units. [...] In the Territory, Ali Curung, Galiwin'ku, Maningrida, and Yuendumu will be able to get the funding, which Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health Ged Kearney said aims to keep dialysis patients on country.

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

[Read More](#)

Diabetes training

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 18/11/2024

Over 500 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers will receive diabetes prevention training under a new partnership between the Bupa Foundation and the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO). The initiative will create a culturally safe diabetes prevention training pathway, incorporating face-to-face training and resources integrated into local Aboriginal health organisations.

[Read More](#)

'There's lots of growth and change that needs to happen'

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 18/11/2024, Michelle Wisbey

What can you expect from the landmark 'National guide to preventive healthcare for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people' update? The National Guide was conceived by NACCHO in 2001, with the first edition released in 2005 in partnership with the RACGP.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

'Silent pandemic' a threat to healthcare system, food safety

Antimicrobial resistance is a "silent global pandemic" that threatens to undermine healthcare systems and food safety supply, and result in millions of deaths, the nation's health peak body has warned. If the danger of drug-resistant superbugs is not addressed there could be a "return to the medical dark ages, where a superficial scratch could be life-threatening and the procedures and treatments we now rely on are considered too risky to perform due to the risk of untreatable infection".

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

Schoolies deadly fake pill warning

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 19/11/2024, Luke Williams, Page 5

Experts have sounded a deadly warning about pills being sold as "organic ecstasy", "natural ecstasy" or just "MDMA" at Schoolies this week, unaware they could contain nitazenes up to 50 times more potent than fentanyl. The threat has renewed a push for legalised pill testing in South Australia.

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

Adelaide residents blindsided by decision to store AUKUS nuclear waste at submarine shipyards

ABC Online, Other, 18/11/2024, Angelique Donnellan

The \$368 billion AUKUS pact is promising thousands of jobs and the return of submarine construction to South Australia. [...] The Osborne shipyard is in federal Health Minister Mark Butler's safe Labor electorate of Hindmarsh. [...] Mark Butler says only low-level waste from US and UK submarines which come to Australia will be stored here.

[Read More](#)

Plan to dispose of nuclear waste from Aukus submarines unanimously rejected by Adelaide council

The Guardian, Other, 18/11/2024, Petra Stock

Plans to dispose of low-level nuclear waste from Aukus submarines at an Adelaide naval facility have been unanimously opposed by the local council for the area, who say they weren't consulted. [...] While the type of radioactive waste to be managed at the Osborne shipyard was not detailed in the legislation, the health minister, Mark Butler, the Labor member for Port Adelaide and Hindmarsh, told the ABC that it would be low-level material.

[Read More](#)

Curbing the spread as mpox cases skyrocket

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 18/11/2024, Chloe Hava

When mpox was first reported in Australia in May 2022, case numbers remained relatively low for the better part of 2 years. However, in 2024 there has been a significant spike in case numbers in several Australian states and territories, with New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia all seeing rising locally acquired notifications.

[Read More](#)

Spotlight on tackling antimicrobial resistance

Beef Central, Other, 18/11/2024, Alex Horton

World Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Week 2024 kicks off today, 18 November, in an effort to promote awareness and action on the dangers of this significant threat. [...] Department of Health and Aged Care's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Tony Lawler said tackling AMR requires partnership and action across sectors.

[Read More](#)

AI, bioterrorism and the urgent need for Australian action

The Strategist — The Australian Strategic Policy Institute Blog, Other, 18/11/2024, Greg Sadler

Today, you'd have to be a top-notch scientist to create a pathogen. [...] The minister for agriculture, Julie Collins, and the minister for health, Mark Butler, already jointly administer a regime governing the importation of synthetic DNA into Australia.

Channel 7, Seven News, 18/11/2024, Rosanna Mangiarelli & Will Goodings

An urgent drug warning has been issued to Year 12 students ahead of this weekend's Schoolies festival at Victor Harbor, with experts expressing concern over laced pills being sold to students. Health professionals warn pills disguised as ecstasy or MDMA could contain dangerous opioid nitazenes that have caused at least seven fatal overdoses in SA over the past two and a half years. There is a renewed call for pill testing to be introduced in SA, with pill testing set to debut at the Gold Coast Schoolies Festival.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 7, Sunrise, 18/11/2024, Monique Wright & Matt Shirvington

Panel discussion with adolescent psychologist Deidre Brander and former Queensland Police commander Jim Keogh. A free pill testing service has been introduced for partygoers to reduce harm from illicit drugs on the Gold Coast. Brander supports pill testing, arguing it educates young people about drug dangers without legitimising its use. Keogh disagrees, citing statistics from Canberra that show 90% of users go on to consume illegal drugs after testing.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 18/11/2024, Brenton Ragless & Kate Collins

With Schoolies celebrations just days away, authorities are urging leavers to be wary of potentially laced drugs. Pills sold as ecstasy or MDMA are often mixed with other unknown substances, making it impossible for users to know their potency. Queensland has introduced pill testing at its Schoolies Festival this year, but the measure is not yet legal in South Australia. The Australian Medical Association supports pill testing, stating it is the most effective way to educate people about the risks of drug use.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

No relevant coverage

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OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

Without a review of drug laws we are moving further from today's reality and perpetuating old problems

Hobart Mercury, General News, 19/11/2024, Dr Jackie Hallam, Page 16

Almost one in two people (47 per cent) have used an illicit drug in their lifetime, the National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2022-23 tells us. More than 21,000 people (aged 14 and over) across Australia participated in the survey that is run every three years.

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

Radio National, Breakfast, 18/11/2024, Sally Sara

Interview with Dr Norman Swan, Radio National's Health Report host, on recent studies on cannabis use. Sara reports a third of Australians have used cannabis at least once, with the medicinal cannabis market growing quickly. Swan says studies show that early maternal cannabis use has no significant impact on child development or autism. He says adolescent cannabis use is associated with lower academic achievement and reduced brain connectivity in older adults, but notes these findings are influenced by factors like mental health.

FOOD STANDARDS

A dietitian's guide to protein-rich food

Sydney Morning Herald, Good Food, 19/11/2024, Page 8

From bread to ice-cream, the range of protein-rich supermarket products is ever growing. The question is, are they any healthier than regular foods? Protein is certainly the buzz word in nutrition.

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Food safety deadline approaches in NSW

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 18/11/2024, Wade Stephens, Page 4

New food safety requirements will come into effect in New South Wales from December 8. The rules apply to businesses that sell or serve ready to eat unpackaged food that needs to be kept hot or cold to stay safe.

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AICIS

Greens call for federal ban on PFAS & single use plastic items

SBS, Other, 18/11/2024

Australia has got big ambitions when it comes to ending plastic pollution, but how to best meet the nation's recycling needs is up for political debate. The Greens say more action is needed to clean up the design of products before they hit the pavement.

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