



# TODAY'S NEWS

Tuesday, 31st December 2024

*Today's News* will not be sent on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, or New Year's Day. Prominent media items captured during this period will be reported in the following day's summary. Access to Isentia's Mediportal will be available during this period and any recurring reports set up in the platform will be delivered as normal.

Please contact [writing.support@health.gov.au](mailto:writing.support@health.gov.au) if you have any questions.

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

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Hobart Mercury](#)** (page 3) reports increasing demand for medical imaging in Tasmania's south cannot be met by current capacity, with a lack of equipment and suitable rooms cited in a report that recommended "significant investment in facilities, equipment and workforce".
- **[The West Australian](#)** (page 3) reports men and women lose 17 and 22 minutes of their life respectively for each cigarette smoked, according to new analysis from University College London.
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 4) reports a blood test for endometriosis could mean quicker and less-invasive diagnoses for patients in as soon as six months, pending further clinical trials, according to the managing director of the company behind the test.
- **[The Herald Sun](#)** (page 5) reports Pfizer could face a class action lawsuit in Australia after links between Depo-Provera contraception injections and brain tumours were alleged by lawyers in

the US following the publication of a study discovering the correlation. Also reported by: [Courier Mail](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [ABC Online](#), [Geelong Advertiser](#)

- [The Australian](#) (page 5) reports Victorian police are increasingly suffering from mental health injuries, with 80 per cent of the more than 200,000 lost shifts this past year attributed to mental health.
- [The Courier Mail](#) (page 6) reports the LNP government has confirmed it will seek private public partnerships to fund infrastructure for the 2032 Olympics to avoid going over the allocated \$7.1 billion budget.

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## MINISTER BUTLER

### Must improve, has a big year ahead

Daily Telegraph, General News, 31/12/2024, Page 10

The Prime Minister barely gets a pass mark and several ministers receive a big fat F for 2024, as Clare Armstrong gives the government its end of year report before big exams at next year's election. [...] Mark Butler Health and Aged Care Minister: A historic aged care agreement will rein in the cost of the sector in the future, and despite complaints the urgent care clinics model ultimately costs taxpayers more than properly funding GPs, Labor seems to be on to a political winner.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).

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### Poor results as struggling Albanese government struggles to connect with voters

Adelaide Now, Other, 30/12/2024, Clare Armstrong

Cost of living issues dominated 2024 and despite the Albanese Government's efforts to address soaring prices, Labor has consistently struggled to connect with voters and has slumped in the polls. [...] Mark Butler, Health and Aged Care Minister: B+ A historic aged care agreement will rein in the cost of the sector in the future, and despite complaints the urgent care clinics model ultimately costs taxpayers more than properly funding GPs, Labor seems to be on to a political winner.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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## MINISTER WELLS

### Older renters never have and never will own their home

Canberra Times, General News, 31/12/2024, Anna Howe, Page 16

The housing crisis in the ACT and nationally is widely presented as a divide between young people struggling to get a foot on the home ownership ladder and older people with substantial assets in the house they own and possibly investment property as well. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells has often reiterated government policy of supporting older people in their own homes for as long as possible.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Wollongong\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#).

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER THWAITES

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## DEPARTMENT

### **Toy shop in Melbourne allegedly selling vapes and e-cigarettes**

7news.com.au, Other, 30/12/2024, Sarah Jane Bell & Sarah Keszler

A Melbourne toy store has come under fire for allegedly selling vapes amid continued e-cigarettes crackdowns. [...] Moonee Valley City Council says reports about the unlawful sale of e-cigarettes are referred to Victoria Police, however police say the Federal Health Department is the head agency and do not comment on investigations.

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

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### **Melbourne's low- and no-cost mental health services**

CBD News, Other, 30/12/2024

If you're going through a difficult circumstance, or consistently feel that your mood is down and your mental health isn't in its best shape, it can often feel like you're alone, or that it would be too hard or too expensive to access professional help. [...] Headspace Headspace is an initiative funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care and is focussed specifically on providing mental health services for young people between the ages of 12 and 25.

[Read More](#)

### **Seven Tasmania, Nightly News, 30/12/2024, Kim Millar**

A Melbourne toy store has sparked controversy for displaying vapes and tobacco alongside children's toys. Despite being reported to authorities in 2023, the store continues to sell these products, raising concerns among locals. The local council says reports about the unlawful sale of e-cigarettes are referred to Victoria Police. Victoria Police say the Federal Health Department is the lead agency, but they do not comment on investigations.

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## VACCINES

No relevant coverage

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

## Importance of connection as we grow older

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 31/12/2024, Jenni Hutchins, Page 19

As we age, it's no secret that the list of things we need to keep track of - doctor's appointments, medications, check-ups - grows longer. The aches and pains become more noticeable, and the routine visits to our GPs become more frequent.

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## Intergenerational music and play boosts mental health, learning outcomes

ABC Online, Other, 30/12/2024, Olivia-Sanders

Ninety-year-old Beryl Bradford spends all week looking forward to Tuesday mornings. When it finally arrives, she picks out a special outfit, takes extra care getting ready, and heads over to the lunch room at her aged care home in Warrnambool.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Good years go up in smoke

West Australian, General News, 31/12/2024, Page 3

Stunning analysis of the dangers of smoking has revealed men lose 17 minutes of life for every cigarette they smoke, while a woman's life is cut short by 22 minutes. This is an increase on previous estimates, which suggested each cigarette shortens a smoker's life by 11 minutes.

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### Preventative wellness could be the key to beating burnout this year

Adelaide Now, Other, 30/12/2024, Hannah Vanderheide

Are you in your 'preventative wellness' era? Well, according to the experts, it may be time to consider the approach heading into the new year. Usually when you get sick, you have a few choices.

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

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### Let's aim for a world where older people are known, loved and connected

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 30/12/2024, Jenni Hutchins & Warrigal Ceo

As we age, it's no secret that the list of things we need to keep track of - doctor's appointments, medications, check-ups - grows longer. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), one in three Australians aged 65 and over experience loneliness at least some of the time.

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### Shop accused of illegally selling vapes alongside children's toys in Melbourne

9News, Other, 30/12/2024, Sarah Swain

A Melbourne variety shop has been accused of illegally selling vapes alongside children's toys. It's highlighted the lack of enforcement of the new anti-vaping laws. Locals say the banned items have become a staple at Moonee Ponds Toyland in recent months.

[Read More](#)

### Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 30/12/2024, Jaynie Seal

Interview with Diane Young, trauma psychologist and psychotherapist, South Pacific Private. New research from Flinders University shows relaxed parental attitudes towards alcohol increase the risk of underage drinking. Seal reports alcohol is a leading cause of death and disability among 15 to 24-year-

olds. Young cites Lifeline statistics showing that one in five suicides between the ages of 25 to 44 are linked to alcohol use. She advises parents to set clear boundaries for their children and make sure they are equipped with safety resources,

*Interview continues on: [Sky News Live \(Sydney\)](#), [Sky News Live \(Sydney\)](#).*

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## CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

### 'Endo' test gives hope to women

The Australian, General News, 31/12/2024, James Dowling, Page 4

An Australian blood test for endometriosis raises the prospect of a quicker diagnosis of one of the most common causes of infertility and chronic pain for women, with clinicians heralding attention for the much-overlooked condition. Endometriosis saddles victims with a seven-year path to diagnosis on average, which is often complicated by its complexity and under-representation in medical research.

*Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#).*

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### No smoke without concern

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 30/12/2024, John Conroy

Poor air quality caused by bushfires is a concern for a majority of Australians, a survey has found, and an increasing danger for people with asthma. An Asthma Australia survey found 81 per cent of Australians are stressed about the impact of air pollution on their health heading into the bushfire season.

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### 'I broke four ribs using a handbrake. I never could have imagined the cause.'

Mamamia, Other, 30/12/2024, Laura Aubusson

Mandy Isaacs has spent more than half her life without a mum At just 23, she said a painful goodbye to her mother following a "devastatingly short" battle with pancreatic cancer. Now at age 55, Mandy is facing her own mortality — for the third time.

[Read More](#)

### ABC News, News Breakfast, 30/12/2024, Emma Rebellato & Stephanie March

Concerns are rising about a potential link between the contraceptive injection Depo-Provera and brain tumours. A large-scale study of 100,000 French women found a fivefold increased risk of developing slow-growing meningiomas in users of the synthetic progesterone, with similar results from studies in Indonesia and the U.S. Since 1992, 3.6 million Depo-Provera shots have been administered in Australia, prompting legal action from Shine Lawyers against Pfizer. Pfizer says Depo-Provera has been a safe and effective drug for 30 years.

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### Channel 7, Sunrise, 30/12/2024, Teegan Dolling

The Cancer Council is warning about a social media trend where young Australians intentionally sunburn themselves to create noticeable tan lines, often flaunted on platforms like TikTok. The council says there is no safe way to tan and warns against promoting such risky behaviour, with over one million Australians visiting their GP to have skin cancers removed yearly.

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### 2GB, Mornings, 30/12/2024, Mark Levy

Interview with Professor Georgina Long, Melanoma Institute, on the new tanning trend among young Australians. Long notes the danger of this trend, stressing that tanning can lead to skin cancer, eye diseases, and premature aging. She calls on social media influencers and platforms to take responsibility. She says Australia has the highest incidence of melanoma in the world, with the disease being the most common cancer in Australians aged 20 to 39.

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### **3AW, Mornings, 30/12/2024, Tony Jones**

Interview with Craig Sinclair, Head of Prevention, Cancer Council of Victoria, on the dangers of a TikTok sunburn trend. Sinclair says despite decades of awareness around UV risks, the influence of social media platforms like TikTok continues to promote harmful tanning behaviours among young people. He cites statistics showing that 15,000 melanomas are detected each year in Australia, which has one of the highest rates of melanoma in the world.

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### **FIVEAA, Mornings, 30/12/2024, Matthew Pantelis**

Interview with Dr Richard Lipscomb, Proteomics International, on a new endometriosis blood test. Lipscomb says endometriosis requires invasive surgery, often leaving women waiting several years for a proper diagnosis. He says the test aims to identify the condition more easily and earlier, potentially ruling out endometriosis or confirming its presence before proceeding with surgery.

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### **Radio National, Life Matters, 30/12/2024, Hilary Harper & Beverley Wang**

Concerns are rising about the link between the contraceptive Depo-Provera and an increased risk of a common brain tumour. Since its introduction 30 years ago, more than 3.5 million Depo-Provera shots have been prescribed to Australian women. A recent study of 100,000 French women, published in the British Medical Journal, revealed a five-fold increase in the risk of developing the benign brain tumour meningioma. Australian gynaecologists say that the overall risk remains low and advise women to discuss any concerns with their doctors.

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## **PRIMARY CARE**

### **Report's warning for RHH**

Hobart Mercury, General News, 31/12/2024, David Killick, Page 3

The Department of Health was warned more than a year ago that medical imaging services in the state's south are insufficient to meet current demand and will need significant investment to cope with an increasing and ageing population. The 2023 KPH report into Clinical Service Planning for the Department of Medical Imaging Hospitals South has been released under Right to Information laws.

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### **Secret reports and numbers over care**

Newcastle Herald, General News, 31/12/2024, Page 12

The revelations surrounding the downgrading of surgical urgency categories at John Hunter Hospital have sparked deep concern, not just for patients awaiting vital procedures, but for the integrity of the health system itself. On Monday's front page, we revealed an official report confirms what many senior clinicians have voiced for years: internal pressures to meet key performance indicators (KPIs) have, at times, outweighed clinical judgment, leading to compromised patient care.

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### **'Fudged' waitlists: resource constraints and non-patient factors**

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 30/12/2024, Gabriel Fowler

An official report kept under wraps supports John Hunter Hospital surgeons' claims they were being pressured internally to re-categorise the urgency of surgeries to meet NSW Health targets. It says that "resourcing constraints" resulted in the downgrading of clinical urgency categories, and that there were "internal perceived pressures" to avoid "breaches".

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## Goodbye 2024: Australians prepare to ring in a new year

Daily Liberal, Other, 31/12/2024, William Ton

Another year is coming to an end and Australians are set to farewell 2024 with their usual style and fanfare. But as festivities fire up and the alcohol flows, doctors are urging revellers not to start the new year in an emergency room.

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

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

### 200,000 lost shifts from cop trauma

The Australian, General News, 31/12/2024, Damon Johnston, Page 5

Spiralling mental health problems among police are driving a surging injury toll that has stripped more than 200,000 shifts from Victoria's thin blue line. Victoria Police has confirmed mental health injuries, including those resulting from attending traumatic events, are mostly behind a 12 per cent spike in lost shifts over the past year.

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

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### Why are toddlers anxious?

West Australian, General News, 31/12/2024, Kelsie Prabawasear, Page 34

Children's mental health is a rather terrifying topic for parents. It feels like mental health challenges are a dark cloud that could come over our kids at any time. The discussion surrounding it can leave us feeling anxious and powerless, like there's little we can do to protect our kids.

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### Bots new weapon against scourge

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 31/12/2024, Toby Crockford, Page 7

A groundbreaking depression treatment co-pioneered by Queensland researchers using a new form of brain stimulation will begin government-funded clinical trials next year. In what is described as an Australian-first and also believed to be a one-of-a-kind in the Southern Hemisphere, robotic analysis and targeted brain stimulation helps to change how active parts of the patient's brain are and how they communicate with each other.

Also reported by: [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#).

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### How Keith and Mel are changing attitudes to mental health, one outfit at a time

SBS, Other, 30/12/2024, Sandra Fulloon & Edwina Guinan

Mel knows what it is like to have to walk away from home with little more than the clothes on her back. She recently left a relationship where she felt unsafe, after experiencing mental illness for much of her life.

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## ABC News, News Breakfast, 30/12/2024, Emma Rebellato and Stephanie March

At Mercy Place in Warrnambool, music sessions bring together young children and elderly residents every Tuesday. These learning programs improve mental health for older adults and boost socio-emotional skills for children, with studies showing they can bridge intergenerational divides.

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## Channel 9, Today , 30/12/2024, Nick Coatsworth & Lara Vella

American, Canadian and British citizens will be able to join Australia's Defence Force by the end of the week, as the government reveals 400 New Zealand residents have applied to join the ADF since July. It comes as the Australian Defence Forces launches a phone app to help potential recruits track their fitness levels and access mental health support.

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## 3AW, Breakfast, 30/12/2024, Ross Stevenson & Russel Howcroft

Interview with Neil James, Executive Director, Australian Defence Association, on a new app to support Defence Force members' fitness and mental health. James says the app aims to reach young people, who make up a significant portion of the Defence Force. He says the app is already partially launched for serving personnel and will expand to the public soon.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### More help on the way, says Jim

Courier Mail, General News, 31/12/2024, Joseph Olbrycht-Palmer, Page 12

A tranche of cost-of-living measures are set to kick in from January 1, providing a bit more help to struggling Australians, says Treasurer Jim Chalmers. Among the measures is an indexation freeze Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme co-payments.

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

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### New year, new rules

West Australian, General News, 31/12/2024, Katina Curtis & Claire Sadler, Page 10

A raft of changes come into effect with the new year, including boosts to welfare, emissions standards for new cars and criminalising wage theft. [...] Frozen medicine fees: The Albanese Government has frozen the indexation on what patients pay for medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, meaning the cost of prescriptions won't rise for the first time in more than 25 years.



## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### Medicare: ALP coughs it up again

The Australian, General News, 31/12/2024, Sarah Ison, Page 1

Jim Chalmers has paved the way for a new year Medicare campaign, declaring Peter Dutton would undermine the national health insurance scheme and push down wages, as the Treasurer spruiked \$5bn of Labor welfare and wage increases coming into force on January 1. Ahead of an election set to be dominated by the cost of living and which could be called in a matter of weeks, the Opposition Leader declared in his new year message that the Coalition would aim to "restore our national confidence" if it won power.

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

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### Cost-of-living relief to kick off new year

Adelaide Advertiser, Edition Changes, 31/12/2024, Joseph Olbrychtpalmer, Page 2

A tranche of cost-of-living measures will kick in from January 1 in what Treasurer Jim Chalmers says will deliver a bit more help to struggling Australians. Among the measures is an indexation freeze on Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) co-payments.

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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## SPORT

### Surf contest bans equality advocate

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 31/12/2024, Frances Howe, Page 10

On Christmas Eve, longboarder and gender equality advocate Lucy Small received an email from John Finlay, chairman of the Noosa Festival of Surfing, a competition that Small had been competing in, on and off, for 13 years. In the email, Finlay wrote: "Thank you for your interest in competing in the 2025 Noosa Festival of Surfing."

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### State to tap private sector for Games funds

Courier Mail, General News, 31/12/2024, Taylah Fellows, Page 6

The LNP government will seek private partnerships for Olympic infrastructure, including for the main stadium, with Acting Premier Jarrod Bleijie conceding the \$7.1bn budget will not be enough to deliver the 2032 Games. A 100-day review into Olympic Games infrastructure will be handed to government

by mid-March outlining the top projects for 2032, including a recommendation on whether Queensland should invest in a new stadium in Brisbane.

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## Radio National, Breakfast, 30/12/2024, Sally Sara

Interview with Justin Scarr, CEO of Royal Life Saving Australia, on the rise in drowning deaths during the summer. Scarr explains that the increase is mostly due to unfamiliarity with local conditions and a lack of water safety knowledge among migrants. He says the organisation is working to address these issues through targeted campaigns but calls for a more coordinated, national approach to water safety.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

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## FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### No rest for the chemists in music festival pill-test tent

Age, General News, 31/12/2024, Rachael Dexter, Page 2

It's 10 minutes until the drugtesting tent at Beyond The Valley music festival is due to close at 7pm, but the small army of health workers and chemists are preparing to stick around for overtime. The sun is sinking, but the festival is just reaching its peak.

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### Drug-trafficking charges at music festival

Herald Sun, General News, 31/12/2024, Mark Buttler, Page 3

A South Yarra man has been arrested for allegedly dealing cocaine and MDMA at the Beyond the Valley music festival. The 28-year-old was charged after being intercepted at 1.45pm on Monday during the event at Barunah Plains, west of Geelong.

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

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### Drug OD at regional festival

Cairns Post, General News, 31/12/2024, Alexandra Feiam, Page 8

A man has been hospitalised in an apparent drug overdose at the Beyond the Valley music festival in regional Victoria, only days into the state's pilltesting trial. A reveller reported feeling unwell at about 5pm on Saturday at the multi-day festival, which is held in Barunah Plains, about 45km west of Geelong.

*Also reported by:* [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Kalgoorlie Miner \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au](#)

[\(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#)

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## Channel 9, Nine News, 30/12/2024, Brett Mcleod

Organisers of the Beyond the Valley Music Festival maintain confidence in its drug testing trial, despite a young man overdosing during the event. The man, in his 20s, was hospitalised after a suspected overdose of synthetic opioids, though he was later discharged. Doctors have not confirmed whether he tested his pills. The festival is part of an 18-month pill testing trial in Victoria, aimed at enhancing safety and awareness for festival-goers.

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

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## Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 30/12/2024, Jaynie Seal

Interview with Professor Anthony Cunningham, Director, Centre for Virus Research, on an increase in hospital admissions in QLD due to COVID-19, with a new strain spreading in the state. Cunningham says that older individuals, especially those over 60, are at the highest risk for severe illness and recommends re-immunisation for people over 75 every six months.

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## ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 30/12/2024, Emma Bickley

Interview with Dr Kerrie Aust, President, Australian Medical Association ACT, on the spike in whooping cough cases and bowel cancer testing. Aust highlights that whooping cough is primarily affecting vulnerable groups such as infants and the elderly. She notes the importance of booster vaccinations, especially for those over 50 or who are in close contact with infants. She addresses the growing demand for bowel cancer screenings, recommending that individuals aged 45-49 take part in the national bowel cancer screening program.

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## THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### Contraceptive injection link to tumour

Herald Sun, General News, 31/12/2024, Blair Jackson, Page 5

Australian class action lawyers are investigating whether a female contraception injection is linked to brain tumours. In March, the British Medical Journal published a study finding women who used contraceptives like Depo-Provera for more than a year had a five-to six-fold increased chance of developing a type of brain tumour compared to women who did not use the contraceptive.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#).

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## OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL

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