



Tuesday, 29th August 2023

Minister Butler | Minister Wells | Assistant Minister McBride

| Assistant Minister Kearney. | Assistant Minister McCarthy. | Department

| Coronavirus | Ageing and Aged Care | Population Health

| Cancer, Hearing and Chronic Conditions | Primary Care

| Mental Health and Suicide Prevention | Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office

| Health Workforce | Technology Assessment and Access

| Medicare Benefits and Digital Health | Benefits Integrity.

| Health Systems Strategies | Sport | Health Economics and Research |

Eirst Nations Health | Office of Health Protection and Emergency Management

| Therapeutic Goods Administration | Office for Drug Control | Food Standards

### **LINKS**

Click here to view front pages of today's newspapers

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- <u>Age</u> (page 1) reports that Sports Minister Anika Wells has written to Gold Coast Mayor Tom
  Tate to inform him that the Commonwealth would consider his bid for the Gold Coast to host the
  Commonwealth Games if it is supported by the Queensland government. Mr Tate wishes to put
  Victoria's \$380 million compensation bill for cancelling the Commonwealth Games towards
  hosting the Games in the Gold Coast if his bid is successful. *Also reported by: Courier Mail,*Gold Coast Bulletin
- <u>Canberra Times</u> ( page 1) reports that, in a world first, a roundworm normally found in carpet pythons was pulled from the brain of a 64-year-old woman. Professor Senanayake from ANU states it is becoming more common for humans to develop illnesses from animals as we encroach on their environment. "There have been about 30 new infections in the world in the last 30 years ... 75 per cent are zoonotic," he stated.
- The Australian (page 3) reports that the world's first oral treatment for a previously untreatable form of cholesterol is being trialled as part of research led by Stephen Nicholls, director of the Monash University Victorian Heart Institute. Dr Nicholls, who has been working in collaboration with the non-profit Cleveland Clinic and pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly, said "Lp (a) is

essentially a silent killer with no available treatment...this drug is a game-changer in more ways than one".

- The Herald Sun (page 3) reports that a new cancer treatment that was trialled on Victorian patients has been hailed as a "game-changer" by researchers across the globe. The new once-a-day cancer pill, called divarasib, works by inhibiting the function of a one of the most commonly mutated proteins in cancers which controls how malignant cells divide and survive.
   Also reported by: Adelaide Advertiser, Courier Mail
- <u>The Australian</u> (page 7) reports that immigration expert Abul Rizvi has warned the federal government that international students will exploit changes to the visa system aimed at bring in foreign aged-care workers. He claims the changes will incentives students to switch out of longer courses at universities to gain citizenships, and attract "shonky" educational providers.
- The Australian (page 7) reports that former vicar general Tony Percy has raised concerns about the ACT government's recent decriminalisation of drugs within the territory, and has said that he does not want the proposed voluntary assisted dying laws for the territory to have a similar rollout. ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith recently explained why the decriminalisation was passed through a private member's bill, saying, "If the government had tried to do it, I tell you what it would have taken two years to develop the legislation ... and we would have had to deal with all this risk aversion and complexity." Also reported by: The Australian (Online)
- Herald Sun (page 11) reports that the Royal Australasian College of General Practitioners has
  urged Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews to scrap GP payroll tax, claiming doctors will leave to
  work interstate if it isn't remove. "Victoria is one of the last states to address this issue, and it is
  fast becoming a crisis," stated RACGP president Nicole Higgins.
- <u>ABC Online</u> reports that only 18 per cent of medical graduates are becoming general
  practitioners, leading to shortages in rural and remote areas. The federal government has
  allocated \$163 million to attract health workers to rural and regional Australia, with Health
  Minister Mark Butler stating that "There is no higher priority in health for the Albanese
  Government that rebuilding general practice."
- <u>Daily Mail Australia</u> reports that the federal Assistant Minister for Health, Ged Kearney, has
  said that she was aware of the systemic disadvantages facing women in Australia's health care
  system which she has described with the term "medical misogyny". Ms Kearney is currently
  leading a new National Women's Health Advisory Council to change the way women's health is
  addressed in the Australian healthcare system.

### MINISTER BUTLER

# Simplest infections ravaging the young

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 29/08/2023, Clare Armstrong, Page 14

In remote Australia, two young Indigenous people lose their lives every week to a heart disease all-but eradicated 50 years ago, while others fall blind and deaf due to easily preventable illnesses. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the "yawning gap" in health outcomes showed politicians did not "know best" and must listen to communities for solutions and to better direct funding.

Also reported by: <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Herald Sun (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Hobart Mercury (Hobart)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Darwin)</u>

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### Northampton a case study

Geraldton Guardian, General News, 29/08/2023, Anna Cox, Page 5

Northampton has been used as a prime example of the potentially devastating impact awaiting community chemists under new 60day pharmacy dispensing laws coming into force this week. Jake Ash, a former Horrocks resident, pointed out the Mid West town and its chemist were a good case study highlighting fears over the new prescription regime. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the estimated \$1.2 billion in savings from the measure would be reinvested in community pharmacies.

Also reported by: West Australian (Online), Countryman (Online)

# Is your workplace 'wellness washing'? Here's how to tell

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/08/2023, Katherine Chatfield

It turns out that a monthly lunchtime yoga class and weekly fruit delivery don't necessarily equate to healthy workplace culture and happy employees. [...] "Day to day, a huge part of people's wellness at work comes from autonomy, clarity and empowerment," adds mental health expert, Mark Butler.

Also reported by: <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>Herald Sun (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>

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# Congested QEII site a headache for proposed \$750m specialist cancer centre, with business case months away

Sound Telegraph, Other, 29/08/2023

A business case for WA's first specialist cancer centre is still half a year away as the jam-packed QEII site continues to prove a headache for State Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the Albanese Government was "very determined" to have a network of comprehensive cancer centers around the country.

Also reported by: Geraldton Guardian (Online), Broome Advertiser (Online), Bunbury Herald (Online)

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# Retired Whyalla surgeon questions incentives scheme to attract rural doctors

ABC Online, Other, 28/08/2023, Jodie Hamilton

A retired Whyalla surgeon says a doctor shortage on the Eyre Peninsula is putting lives at risk. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said there were bulk billing incentives for rural and remote locations and the Workforce Incentive Program provided financial incentives of up to \$60,000 a year for doctors working in the regions.

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# Sharon has diabetes. She says this device is 'buying' her more years

SBS, Other, 28/08/2023, Aleisha Orr

There's an alternative to the traditional method of glucose testing through finger pricks and, while expensive, it has additional benefits. [...] Last year, when the federal government expanded access to subsidies to those over 21 years of age with type 1 diabetes, Health Minister Mark Butler said the annual cost of the devices to patients would be reduced from \$5,000 to \$390.

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### Scope of practice review set to 'unleash' nurses

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Journal, Other, 28/08/2023, Robert Fedele

For too long, nurses and other health professionals haven't been able to work to their full scope of practice. [...] Recommended by the government's Strengthening Medicare Taskforce earlier this year, Health Minister Mark Butler said the Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce Review would ensure Australia "optimises its health workforce across a stretched primary care sector" and boosts health access and equity across all communities, particularly regional, rural and remote.

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# Scope of practice review first step towards deeper structural reform

australian.physio, Other, 28/08/2023

The Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) has welcomed the Albanese Government's commitment to undertake a scope of practice review as part of the Strengthening Medicare funded measures. [...] Mark Butler MP, is committed to driving the deeper structural reforms needed, recognising that a model of care that enables health disciplines to operate to their full scope of practice is the best way to deliver health care."

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# Silent killer on the rise, 1.8 million Australians are unaware they have kidney disease

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/08/2023

Kidney disease is on the rise in Australia, with Kidney Health Australia reporting that two million people have kidney disease and 1.8 million are unaware they have the disease. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler said on Wednesday that an Indigenous Voice would help the fight against endemic disease.

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# The common medication involved in killing more Australians than alcohol

Pharmacy ITK, Other, 28/08/2023

Anti-anxiety medications are fast becoming one of the leading contributors to overdoses and are involved in more accidental deaths than alcohol, heroin or cocaine. [...] A spokesperson for Health Minister Mark Butler referred questions to the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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## Could GPs' scope of practice change?

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 28/08/2023

We now know who will lead a Federal Government review, but the full implications and possibilities for general practice are yet to emerge. [...] It aims to help optimise Australia's health workforce across a stretched primary care sector', Federal Health and Aged Care Minister Mark Butler's office has said.

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### ABC Illawarra, Breakfast, 28/08/2023, Melinda James

There are calls for the Government to reintroduce more subsidised psychology sessions to relieve some of the pressure experienced by new parents experiencing perinatal mental illness. The Australian Association of Psychologists has written to Health Minister Mark Butler calling for the number of subsidised psychology sessions to be boosted from 10 to 40 for parents experiencing perinatal mental illness.

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### 2GB, Afternoons, 28/08/2023, Deborah Knight

Knight discusses call for pharmacies to be able to prescribe certain medications. She states Health Minister Mark Butler wants to increase the capacity of our health care workers to take pressure off the GPs. Sj notes it's one way of ensuring that we can take that pressure off is to let the pharmacists prescribe things like pain, like asthma, like diabetes medications.

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### 6PR, 14:00 News, 28/08/2023

A new urgent care facility in Clarkston has opened its doors for patients. It's one of seven bulk billing clinics being set up in Perth and nearly 60 around the nation in a bid to ease pressure on hospitals. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says the model provides people with an alternative form of care.

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## ABC Radio Perth, Afternoons, 28/08/2023, Dustin Skipworth

The Federal Health Minister says the Government is on track to open all seven Medicare urgent care clinics by the end of the year . The clinics were promised as a way to take pressure off hospitals by creating a treatment option between GPs and hospitals. While in WA for a Federal Cabinet meeting today, Health Minister Mark Butler opened the state's third clinic and said the model is working well.

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#### MINISTER WELLS

### Gold Coast wants state's \$380m to host Games

Age, General News, 29/08/2023, Kieran Rooney, Page 1

Gold Coast Mayor Tom Tate wants to put Victoria's \$380 million compensation bill for the Commonwealth Games cancellation towards holding the event in his city, as the federal government leaves the door open for Australia to host in 2026. Speaking at a Senate inquiry yesterday, Tate said he had received a letter from federal Sports Minister Anika Wells informing him the Commonwealth would consider a proposal for the Gold Coast to host the event if it was also supported by the Queensland government.

Also reported by: The Age (Online), Sydney Morning Herald (Online), Brisbane Times (Online)

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### Just one hurdle to Coast Games

Courier Mail, General News, 29/08/2023, Andrew Potts, Page 3

The federal government has opened the door to supporting the Gold Coast's bid to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games, but says the state government need to get behind it first. In a 180-degree turnaround from previous opposition to the idea, federal Sports Minister Anika Wells has agreed to consider supporting Mayor Tom Tate's audacious bid to replace Victoria as the Games host after Premier Daniel Andrews abandoned it in July.

Also reported by: Gold Coast Bulletin (Gold Coast), Gold Coast Bulletin (Online), The Mercury (Online), Cairns Post (Online), Herald Sun (Online), The Courier Mail (Online).

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## Queensland has chance to save Commonwealth Games

Courier Mail, Editorials, 29/08/2023, Page 18

When Victorian Premier Dan Andrews made the shock decision to abandon that state's hosting of the 2026 Commonwealth Games last month, he assumed few would mourn an event that was looking a bit tired and old fashioned (except for the Brilliant Gold Coast event in 2018). [...] And yesterday, that sentiment saw a change of tack from federal Sports Minister Anika Wells, who opened the door in a letter to Mr Tate to supporting the Gold Coast bid if the state government also got on board.

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#### Games on

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 29/08/2023, Page 30

Sometimes the best ideas start small before blossoming. Victoria's decision to cancel its plans to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games in July was a shock that reverberated globally. [...] Federal Sports Minister Anika Wells has written to the Mayor and opened the door to the prospect of a second Gold Coast Games.

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# Consultants stand by Games costings despite big blowout

Inverell Times, Other, 28/08/2023, Callum Godde

A consulting firm paid to run the numbers on Victoria hosting the doomed Commonwealth Games won't review its work, despite estimated costs blowing out by billions of dollars. [...] Mr Tate tabled a letter from federal Sports Minister Anika Wells stating the Albanese government would only consider a Gold Coast proposal if the Queensland government changed its mind.

Also reported by: <u>Glen Innes Examiner (Online)</u>, <u>Wimmera Mail Times (Online)</u>, <u>The Hepburn Advocate (Online)</u>, <u>Katherine Times (Online)</u>. <u>Northern Daily Leader (Online)</u>

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# Channel 10, 10 News First, 28/08/2023, Sandra Sully

Aged Care and Sports Minister Anika Wells has led the launch of Learn to Ride programme, aiming to

get kids back on their bikes. Sports participation is in alarming decline, but Aus Bike hopes to get the wheels turning once again while teaching some lifesaving skills. Wells notes there has been a substantial decline in kids riding to school over the past 40 years from 75% down to 25%.

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### ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

# **Update and thanks for supporting World Hepatitis Day 2023!**

Hepatitis Australia, Other, 28/08/2023, Carrie Fowlie

On #WorldHepatitisDay, 28 July 2023, health and community organisations and governments in Australia joined with the World Hepatitis Alliance (WHA), World Health Organization and a global network of over 300 WHA members in nearly 100 countries in a call to accelerate elimination efforts of viral hepatitis now. [...] Speakers included: Selina Walker, Senior Ngunnawal woman Rebecca Johnson OAM, Community Speaker Senator Louise Pratt, Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Friends Group Senator Dean Smith, Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Friends Group, The Hon Emma McBride MP, Assistant Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention and Assistant Minister Rural and Regional Health Senator the Hon Anne Ruston, Shadow Minister for Health and Aged Care John Didlick, Policy Analyst, Hepatitis Australia Stuart Manoj-Margison, Director, Communicable Diseases, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) John Gobeil, CEO, Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL) Mish Pony, CEO, Scarlet Alliance Lien Tran, Co-founder, Director and Vice Chair, Hepatitis B Voices Australia Carrie Fowlie, CEO, Hepatitis Australia

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### ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

# Medical gaslighting: Women's pain ignored and serious health problems left undiagnosed due to sexist healthcare system

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/08/2023, Brittany Chain

Ged Kearney knew there was a crisis simmering in Australian hospitals and GP clinics after her cousin's tragic death just hours after she was sent home by a doctor with some Panadol. Australia's Assistant Minister for Health was a nurse for 20 years before moving into politics.

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### NT GPs need better conditions: RACGP

The Medical Republic, Other, 28/08/2023

The college hopes a suite of ambitious' measures will start to combat the Top End's GP drought. Tax relief, portable entitlements, Aboriginal health salary support, structured training, reduction of barriers to IMGs and improved remote housing are the keys to solving NT's GP drought, says the RACGP. Last Wednesday, representatives of the Northern Territory's health workforce and health organisations met with Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health Malarndirri McCarthy, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney and Northern Territory Chief Minister and Health Minister Natasha Fyles to formulate a plan of attack to address the NT's health workforce issues, including its GP drought.

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### ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

NT GPs need better conditions: RACGP

The Medical Republic, Other, 28/08/2023

The college hopes a suite of ambitious' measures will start to combat the Top End's GP drought. Tax relief, portable entitlements, Aboriginal health salary support, structured training, reduction of barriers to IMGs and improved remote housing are the keys to solving NT's GP drought, says the RACGP. Last Wednesday, representatives of the Northern Territory's health workforce and health organisations met with Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health Malarndirri McCarthy, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney and Northern Territory Chief Minister and Health Minister Natasha Fyles to formulate a plan of attack to address the NT's health workforce issues, including its GP drought.

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#### DEPARTMENT

### **COVID** measures removed

Cruise Weekly, General News, 28/08/2023, Page 1

The Premier of New South Wales Chris Minns has confirmed the removal of cruise COVID measures, effective immediately, following advice from Australia's Chief Medical Officer Paul Kelly on Fri. The withdrawal of cruisespecific measures was confirmed following a decision by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC).

Also reported by: Cruise Weekly (Online)

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# First Nations person wanted for aged care commissioner role

Community Care Review, Other, 28/08/2023

The Department of Health and Aged Care is seeking a "talented and experienced First Nations person" to become the nation's inaugural aged care commissioner dedicated to fostering and promoting culturally safe aged care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Previously announced in the May budget with \$1.6 million in funding, the interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner role aims to provide a strong and authentic voice to the Australian Government about aged care services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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### Australian states remove all cruise Covid protocols

Cruise Passenger, Other, 28/08/2023, Bernadette Chua

The NSW Premier has removed cruise Covid protocols including vaccine mandates and mask rules on cruise ships as of today.. [...] The withdrawal of cruise-specific measures was confirmed to CLIA today by Australia's Chief Medical Officer Paul Kelly following a decision by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC).

Also reported by: <u>Travel Bulletin (Online)</u>

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### The latest developments in law reform & advocacy: September 2023

Law Society Journal, Other, 28/08/2023

The Elder Law, Capacity and Succession Committee contributed to a letter to the Supreme Court, in relation to the new online process for uncontested probate applications. Our letter raised concerns in relation to the implementation timeline for the new process. [...] 2 The Elder Law, Capacity and Succession Committee contributed to a submission to the Law Council of Australia in response to the Department of Health and Aged Care's Consultation Paper A new model for regulating aged care Consultation No.2 The consultation concerns the design of a new Aged Care Act , as recommended by the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

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# Applications open for 2024 Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarships Scheme

myaustraliannews.com.au, Other, 28/08/2023

The Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarships Scheme (PHMSS) encourages and assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduate students in health-related disciplines to complete their studies and join the health workforce. [... This is the final year that ACN will administer the scholarships on behalf of the Australian Government and the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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## Channel 9, National Nine News, 28/08/2023, Peter Overton

Telehealth psychology appointments have left a Sydney woman battling to wipe her Medicare claims history clean of sessions she says never happened. A health compliance lawyer has told nine News the entire Medicare system is riddled with invisible fraud, hidden on health records and telehealth is only making it worse. [...] The Federal Health Department has conducted just 36 investigations in five years into telehealth medical services, which were claimed but not provided.

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# **CORONAVIRUS**

# Mum's plea after baby catches COVID

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 29/08/2023, Natalie Croxon, Page 4

A woonona mother is calling for health authorities to make masks mandatory in hospitals, especially around sick children, as her 10-week-old baby battles a COVID-19 infection. But NSW Health has confirmed it will lower the COVID alert level at the end of August, which will relax mask requirements in public hospitals.

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# Cruise passengers wave goodbye to COVID restrictions

Canberra Times, Other, 28/08/2023, William Ton

Cruise ship passengers will be able to sail unimpeded around the country as state leaders scrap COVID-19 restrictions for passengers. The NSW government on Monday formally ended COVID-19 restrictions for passengers in the cruising industry following advice from the national government health advisory body.

Also reported by: <u>Daily Liberal (Online)</u>, <u>The Senior (Online)</u>, <u>West Australian (Online)</u>, <u>The New Daily (Online)</u>, <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>The Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>

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### AGEING AND AGED CARE

### Students 'to exploit aged care reforms'

The Australian, General News, 29/08/2023, Jess Malcolm, Page 7

Leading education and migration experts have warned Labor's union-linked reforms designed to bring in foreign aged-care workers will be exploited by international students seeking a fast track to permanent residency. Under the policy, which was first announced in May, people are able to gain access to full work rights after completing a short course in aged care.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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### Take good care in 60s

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 29/08/2023, Page 2

Physical inactivity, smoking, poor diet and sleep disorders between the age of 60 and 64 are linked with more than double the risk of admission to aged care, according to new research. The University of

Sydney study involved more than 125,000 Australians and found those over 60 with the unhealthiest lifestyles were significantly more likely to require admission to aged care than their peers with the healthiest lifestyles.

Also reported by: Townsville Bulletin (Townsville)

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# Hospital charged over aged care resident chair failure

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 28/08/2023

A Victorian hospital has been charged after an aged care resident fractured her rib while sitting on a malfunctioning reclining chair. The 93-year-old resident fell when the back of the chair detached as a staff member tried to move it in October 2021.

Also reported by: Shepparton News Online (Online)

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# Feros Care Byron Bay Village aged care fiasco drags on as resident complains about substandard care

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 28/08/2023, Savannah Pocock

Byron's Mayor has slammed the treatment of Feros Care Byron Bay Village residents as "disgraceful" and "shameful" as council pushes for a shake up. Only nine residents remain at the Marvell St premises, refusing to leave after Feros Care announced in March it was forced to close the doors.

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# Warrigal providing housing for aged care workers amid crisis

Illawarra Mercury, Other, 28/08/2023, Natalie Croxon

Aged care worker Vina Tuitakali says she does not know what she would do if her employer had not set her up with housing. Mrs Tuitakali works as a companion for Warrigal in the Illawarra and rents an Albion Park property from the not-for-profit organisation that is set aside for staff.

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### POPULATION HEALTH

### Hunter's drug death toll

Newcastle Herald, General News, 29/08/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 1

The Hunter Region recorded 241 unintentional overdose deaths in four years, the annual Penington Institute report said while raising alarm about the nation's "overdose crisis".

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# Young Aussies forced to give up medicine and fresh food as cost of living bites hard

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/08/2023, Tileah Dobson

Young Aussies are having to sacrifice basic items like prescription medicine and fresh food as the high cost of living continues. Young Australians are being forced to give up essential items like fresh food and prescription medications as the cost of living has them pinching every penny.

Also reported by: Cairns Post (Online), The Mercury (Online), The Courier Mail (Online)

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### Revealed: Victoria's worst drug overdose hotspots

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/08/2023, Regan Hodge

Fatal drug overdoses have surged in Victoria, with deaths more than doubling in the past 20 years. See the areas worst hit by the scourge.

Also reported by: The Mercury (Online), Northern Territory News (Online), The Courier Mail (Online), The

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# Liberals accuse Health Minister of 'sidelining consultation' on proposed Glenelg drug and rehab centre near school

Adelaide Now, Other, 28/08/2023, George Yankovich

More than 800 people have signed a petition demanding a rehab centre in Glenelg be moved, as the Liberals accuse the Health Minister of "sidelining" consultation. Liberal Morphett MP Stephen Patterson, with resident Grace Mech and local parent Sasha Grosset outside the proposed rehab facility in Glenelg.

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# WA records highest drug overdose death toll in Australia for the past decade, Penington Institute report shows

West Australian, Other, 28/08/2023, Claire Sadler

Western Australia still has the most drug deaths in the country despite the State's COVID hard borders contributing to a drop in overdoses. Penington Institute's latest overdose report said there were 2231 drug-induced deaths reported in Australia in 2021.

Also reported by: Kalgoorlie Miner (Online), 6PR (Online)

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# Alcohol restrictions in Port Augusta reducing head injuries, violence, services say

ABC Online, Other, 28/08/2023, Dixie Sulda & Matt Stephens

The number of serious head injuries and alcohol-related harm in Port Augusta has dramatically reduced since alcohol restrictions were introduced at the start of last year, the liquor commissioner says. Purchasing restrictions on alcohol in the town in SA's Spencer Gulf were first introduced in February 2022.

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### ABC Radio Perth, Breakfast , 28/08/2023, Eddie Williams

There are calls for urgent drug policy reforms and community intervention efforts, as a new report flagged concerns over a nationwide overdose crisis. The Pennington Institute's 2023 annual overdose report indicates there have been more than 37,000 drug induced deaths since 2001. The figures suggest drug overdoses are one of the leading causes of death for Australians under 40, with the incidence of drug related harm spreading across all age brackets. The Institute's chief executive, John Ryan says the taboo of reporting overdose related incidents needs to be dismantled through coordinated policy action.

Also reported by: ABC News (Sydney)

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# CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

# Electric boost for health

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/08/2023, Dom Tripolone & Richard Blackburn, Page 12

Switching from petrol and diesel to electric vehicles could prevent thousands of premature deaths from smog every year, according to a health researcher. Clare Walter, a PhD candidate from the University of Queensland, said internal combustion engines emitted a range of toxic pollutants that led to serious health effects.

Also reported by: <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Courier Mail (Brisbane)</u>, <u>Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide)</u>, <u>Cairns Post (Cairns)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Geelong)</u>, <u>Hobart Mercury (Hobart)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Darwin)</u>

### Diabetes care at one click

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 29/08/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 3

In an Australian first, a unique digital nutrition program has been shown to change the lives of people living with type 2 diabetes. Called the T2Diet, it was developed by nutritionist Dr Jedha Dening at Deakin University's Institute for Physical Activity and Nutrition and investigated in a new randomised study of adults around Australia.

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# Strokes cost the Australian economy billions, but these biotech players could change that

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 28/08/2023, Emma Davies

Strokes cost the Australian economy many billions, and sufferers pay a terrible personal cost. But these ASX stocks are working to change that.

Also reported by: <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>

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# Channel 9, National Nine News, 28/08/2023, Peter Hitchener

Some Victorian cancer patients are being forced to wait up to a month for crucial pathology results. The delays affecting people living in Geelong and on the Surf Coast have been labelled unacceptable by doctors. Doctors have told Nine News patients in the Geelong and Surf Coast areas are waiting weeks for crucial pathology results. The Medical Scientists Association blames Australian Clinical Labs which services Barwon Health. In response, Barwon Health said Our contract with Australian Clinical Labs includes industry standard requirements for turnaround times and we have regular meetings with them to ensure timely patient care is always delivered.

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### PRIMARY CARE

### Live worm pulled from human brain in world first

Canberra Times, General News, 29/08/2023, Steve Evans, Page 1

When surgeons at Canberra Hospital operated on the brain of a 64-year-old woman, they were amazed to pull out a worm - alive and wriggling. The patient had gone into hospital after complaining of pains in her stomach.

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### **Health needs co-operation**

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 29/08/2023, Page 16

If anyone is looking for a case study in the lack of co ordination between the state and federal governments in the delivery of health services, the quiet opening of the Urgent Care Clinic in Hobart is hard to pass by. Promised in the lead-up to the 2022 federal election, the state now has two of the four clinics pledged as a measure to ease the load on emergency departments.

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## Positive VAD feedback

Border Watch, General News, 29/08/2023, Page 2

The second Voluntary Assisted Dying quarterly report has been released with 40 people receiving the permit between May 1 and June 30. The program has received positive feedback from participants and their families, specifically concerning the support and care provided to those applying for the permits.

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# Patient wants better from private model

Newcastle Herald, General News, 29/08/2023, Damon Cronshaw, Page 4

Elermore Vale's Thomas Levick says the private health system needs to "prioritise patient welfare over profit". Mr Levick, a researcher in space and astronomy, spent a month in Ramsay Clinic Lakeside at Warners Bay - a private mental health centre - last November.

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#### Sick children's ward at risk

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 29/08/2023, Amaani Siddeek, Page 7

Alarm has been raised over the mooted closure of a ward for sick children amid unprecedented pressure on Gold Coast hospitals.

Also reported by: <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Geelong Advertiser (Online)</u>, <u>Gold Coast Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>

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# RACGP transgender health group: 'We need to work towards a minimum standard of safe care'

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/08/2023, Rachel Carter

AusDoc speaks to Dr Michelle Dutton about the group's aims and how it hopes to help GPs. This month the RACGP launched its Transgender and Gender-Diverse Healthcare group to provide support and education to GPs who are working with these patients.

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# Canberra doctors Kerrie Aust, Betty Ge warn against ACT government payroll tax move

Canberra Times, Other, 28/08/2023, Steve Evans

The two main bodies representing doctors in the ACT have warned that patients will end up paying for a new tax which the ACT government says GP practices must pay. The Royal Australian College of GPs and the Australian Medical Association said that "GPs will have little option but to pass the additional tax on to patients".

Also reported by: Australian Doctor (Online), Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (Online)

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# RACGP response to RANZCOG Clinical Guideline for Abortion Care in Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 28/08/2023

The RACGP supports the RANZCOG evidence-based clinical guidelines on abortion care. This guideline will be helpful for GPs who support women in the various aspects of reproductive health. [...] The RACGP provided specific feedback on the guideline including: ensuring that information about Australian products is easily accessible; ensure language the encourages patient choice is used throughout; removing ambiguity from recommending antibiotic prophylaxis; the inclusion of caesarean section when considering the method of abortion for women with a scarred uterus; and ensuring that all content and language is inclusive of trans, gender diverse and intersex people.

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### Channel 7, Sunrise, 28/08/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

There's a new push this morning to let pharmacists prescribe medicines for long term illnesses as well as pain and asthma medications. Pharmacies want the ability to prescribe stronger drugs to customers, saying it will help reduce wait times and costs for patients. But the medical profession is pushing back, quoting the decade of training specialists are required to complete.

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### 2CC, Canberra Live, 28/08/2023, Leon Delaney

The Australian Medical Association ACT branch has refused to rule out a legal challenge in the ACT

Supreme Court over the Government's new payroll tax policy. The tax is expected to be debated in the Legislative Assembly this week, with both sides of politics putting suggestions forward.

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# ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 28/08/2023, Lucy Breaden

Interview with Francois Pretorius, Chief Medical Officer, Ochre Health on Tasmania's third urgent care clinic is due to open in Hobart in just over a month. Breaden says Ochre wants to bridge that gap between general practise and EDs, but health unions are saying that these urgent care clinics, the ones that are already open, don't seem to be doing the job. Pretorius says patients were getting detrimental outcomes because of the waiting times. He notes the whole idea behind urgent care clinics is certainly not to defer patients away from an emergency department.

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## ABC Radio Darwin, Territory-wide Drive, 28/08/2023, Rick Hind

Interview with Dr John Coyne, Head, North Australian Strategic Policy Centre. Coyne sasy there should there be more investment in medical infrastructure in northern Australia noting people of northern Australia more generally should have access to the same level of medical care as any other Australian citizen. Hind plays audio of Labor MP Luke Gosling who said he's fighting for continuation of funding for the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre. which is only for the next 12 months. Hind plays an audio of Len Notaras, Executive Director. National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre speaking on the role the centre played in the response to yesterday's crash.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

# ADF destroys and discards its members, says mother

The Australian, General News, 29/08/2023, Tricia Rivera, Page 4

The mother who lobbied the Morrison government for a royal commission after she lost her son to suicide in 2019 has slammed the Australian Defence Force as "a machine" that "destroys and discards" its members. Julie-Ann Finney addressed the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide on Monday with a framed photo of her son, Petty Officer David Finney, and his many prescription medications that made him "a zombie" displayed on a table.

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### Our kids are not okay and that's making us all anxious

Northern Territory News, General News, 29/08/2023, Angela Mollard, Page 34

They were two grandmothers, enjoying a coffee after their morning aquarobics at my local pool. They looked invigorated and, with their good posture and wide smiles, they seemed like women with a shiny attitude to life.

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# **Funding boost**

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 29/08/2023, Page 2

Two Castlemaine-based services have received a combined total of \$31,000 to improve mental health support in the community. The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal - a national foundation targeting the social and economic strength of remote, rural and regional communities - has allocated the funding under its In a Good Place program.

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# Asking the question

Border Watch, General News, 29/08/2023, Page 11

The first stage to looking after a mate is reading the signs and asking if they are okay. Recent data

shows that suicide rates are increased for those living in outer and remote regional areas, as opposed to their metropolitan counterparts.

Also reported by: Border Watch (Mt Gambier)

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# Regional kids' mental health suffers after natural disasters

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 28/08/2023, Millie Costigan

A national survey from the Climate Council and Beyond Blue has shed new light on the mental health impact of Australia's climate disasters. Regional kids are struggling to recover from catastrophic floods that displaced families and interrupted education.

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# ABC News, ABC Nightly News, 28/08/2023, Yvonne Yong

The mother of a Navy veteran who took his own life after he was medically discharged has accused the Defence Force of destroying and discarding its members. Today, the ADF faced calls to urgently address the suicide rate of serving and former personnel as the Royal Commission hearings resumed in Melbourne.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

# Queensland GP providing midwife service amid healthcare crisis

4BC, Other, 28/08/2023, Peter Gleeson

Due to the ongoing healthcare crisis, a Queensland GP has employed an in-house midwife to provide care for women. Nic Cognet is believed to be the first Queensland midwife to operate out of a medical clinic and is offering pre and postnatal care for women.

**Read More** 

# Channel 7, Sunrise, 28/08/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

A recent survey found that midwives in Queensland can be caring for up to 20 patients at once. As a result, 90% of women said that they weren't able to have the same midwife throughout the course of their whole pregnancy and that's what would be considered a gold standard of care.

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### **HEALTH WORKFORCE**

### Doctors ready to skip the state

Herald Sun, Edition Changes, 29/08/2023, Mitch Clarke, Page 11

Victoria's health crisis will worsen and doctors will leave to work interstate unless the government ends its "enormous" tax grabs on them. [...] RACGP president Nicole Higgins said there was evidence that Victorian practices were being hit for retrospective tax collection due to a new application of payroll tax.

Also reported by: <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Townsville Bulletin (Online)</u>, <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>

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### Telehealth wheeled into local aged care homes

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 29/08/2023, Rachel Gray, Page 3

Doctors on wheels are being rolled into some aged care homes in an effort to combat the lack of access to GPs in the New England region. The telehealth carts will be introduced into 19 of the 22

Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution (RFBI) aged care homes across Australia, with the most recent being at Moonbi on August 23.

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# Outback Queensland nurses use virtual reality technology to fill critical skills gaps

ABC Online, Other, 28/08/2023, Julia André

Nurses in remote north-west Queensland are using technology popularly used in video gaming to fill critical skill gaps. They are learning how to prepare expectant mothers for birth with the help of virtual reality (VR) headsets.

**Read More** 

## GP registrars furious after promised \$30,000 cash payment disappears

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/08/2023, Heather Saxena

Trainees lured to general practice by a 2022 election promise have just learnt they may not be eligible, says AMA Victoria. GP registrars who joined the training program in Victoria have been left fuming, after learning they may miss out on an election promise of \$30,000 top-up' payments.

Read More

## Critical GP shortage in NT sign of wider student crisis

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Other, 28/08/2023

Only 14 people have enrolled in GP vocational training in the territory this year, according to the Menzies School of Health Research. Just 13% of students list general practice as their first preference of specialty for future practice, and most would prefer to work in cities.

Read More

# ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 28/08/2023, Lucy Breaden

Interview with Dr John Saul, President, Tas AMA on third urgent care centre in Tas, Saul says Tasmania is short of 100 GPs. He furthers that while Ochre is a good organisation, he worries it might be taking GPS out of rural areas to work in urgent care centres. He states they're going to see a lot of pressure on non-subsidized services who aren't getting the benefit of a government handout to provide bulk billed services.

Also reported by: ABC Radio Hobart (Hobart)

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# TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

#### Tumour stopper a winner

Herald Sun, General News, 29/08/2023, Robyn Riley, Page 3

A new once-a-day cancer pill trialled with Victorian patients is being hailed a "game-changer" by researchers worldwide. [...] "We are playing a leading role in this and that is important because it means a lot of these trials will come our way and until they come on to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme that will be the only way for Australian patients to access them," he said.

Also reported by: Adelaide Advertiser (Adelaide), Courier Mail (Brisbane)

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# Drug maker shakes off initial rejection

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 29/08/2023, Natassia Chrysanthos, Page 9

Diabetes medication Australia has knocked back an application to subsidise diabetes drug Mounjaro, but the manufacturer still wants the much-hyped weight loss medication to be available on local shelves by the end of the year. [...] It said some methods of taking it were superior for short-term weight

loss than semaglutide the active ingredient in Ozempic, which is on the PBS for diabetes but not in every circumstance.

Also reported by: Age (Melbourne)

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# Australias Annual Overdose Report 2023 spotlights unintentional deaths

Canberra Times, Other, 28/08/2023, Anna Mcguinness

Australia is experiencing a significant increase in harm from prescription opioids with three deaths on average every day. One person dies every four hours from drug overdose in Australia, with the crisis gripping regional areas.

Also reported by: <u>Daily Liberal (Online)</u>, <u>The Border Mail (Online)</u>, <u>Ballarat Courier (Online)</u>, <u>Illawarra Mercury</u> (<u>Online</u>), <u>Daily Mail Australia (Online</u>), <u>Retail Pharmacy (Online</u>), <u>Shepparton News Online (Online)</u>

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# So long SABA, says respiratory expert

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 28/08/2023, Debbie Rigby

Ahead of National Asthma Week (17 September 2023), pharmacists should educate patients about the risks of SABA overuse. [...] However, through analysis of PBS data, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reports only one third of people with asthma who were dispensed a preventer under the PBS were dispensed the medicine three or more times within 12 months.

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## 60-day dispensing high on the agenda at Pharmacy Connect

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 28/08/2023

With the Albanese Government's 60-day dispensing policy set to be implemented and take effect on the first day of the Pharmacy Connect conference on Friday 1 September, delegates will not want to miss the heavily featured topic impacting the pharmacy profession. A panel discussion, titled D-Day for 60-day dispensing' and Unveiling the mysteries of 60-day dispensing' are two conference sessions dedicated to the topic, both of which will delve into the impact on community pharmacy, update delegates on the likely patient impacts and explore how pharmacies need to adapt to ensure future viability.

Also reported by: Retail Pharmacy (Online), Retail Pharmacy (Online)

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## Channel 7, Sunrise, 28/08/2023, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview with Dr Hester Wilson, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners about a new report reveals anti-anxiety medications are the second most common drug involved in accidental overdoses. Around 1 in 20 Australians are prescribed drugs like Valium and Xanax. Wilson says about 66% of those deaths involved benzodiazepines. She adds any other medication that's sedating taken in combination with the opioids, with the benzodiazepines and other sedating medications and alcohol massively increase your risk and people don't realise.

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### MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

No relevant coverage

# Doctor who performed home cricothyroidotomy on wife loses suspension appeal

Australian Doctor, Other, 28/08/2023, Paul Smith

Dr Peter Spencer says he is innocent and should be able to return to work, after being suspended following an inquest. A respiratory physician referred to criminal prosecutors for possible manslaughter following the death of his wife has proclaimed his innocence, calling for his medical board suspension to be lifted so he can treat patients.

**Read More** 

# Cathie O'Neill defends sacking of Dhulwa mental health nurse Carol Sandland

Canberra Times, Other, 28/08/2023, Blake Foden

A senior health executive has defended the decision to sack a nurse without waiting for her response to misconduct allegations, saying any explanation would not have changed things. "The breaches were so clear-cut that I don't believe there were going to be mitigating circumstances," Cathie O'Neill, of Canberra Health Services, told the Fair Work Commission on Friday.

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## **HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES**

No relevant coverage

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## **SPORT**

### PwC scandal casts secrecy shadow over Vic Games inquiry

Australian Financial Review, General News, 29/08/2023, Patrick Durkin, Page 9

It only took a couple of minutes to realise that a Senate inquiry into the Victorian government's decision to cancel the 2026 Commonwealth Games would soon descend into a farce of confidentiality and secrecy.

Also reported by: <u>Australian Financial Review (Australia)</u>, <u>The Australian (Australia)</u>, <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Toowoomba Chronicle (Online)</u>, <u>Herald Sun (Melbourne)</u>, <u>Bendigo Advertiser (Bendigo)</u>, <u>Border Mail (Albury-Wodonga)</u>, <u>ABC Online (Online)</u>, <u>The Guardian (Online)</u>

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# Aussies claim record medal haul at Athletics World Championships

SBS, Other, 28/08/2023

Australian Athletics is shining bright with Aussies claiming a record haul of 6 medals at the 2023 World Athletics Championships in Budapest.

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### AFLW needs to aim higher than riding wave of Matildas momentum

The Guardian, Other, 29/08/2023, Danielle Croci

For women's sport to benefit after the World Cup, leagues have to show commitment to the product beyond symbolic gestures. With a successful home Women's World Cup in the rearview mirror there are hopes other women's sports may ride the wave of momentum to increased viewership, attendances, funding and, importantly, respect.

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### HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

## New oral drug to hit 'silent killer'

The Australian, General News, 29/08/2023, James Dowling, Page 3

Trials of the world's first oral drug for a previously untreatable form of cholesterol have been hailed as a "game-changer" in treatment of the condition. Muvalaplin is used to disrupt the body's production of Lipoprotein (a), or Lp (a), a more dangerous cholesterol that affects 20 per cent of people worldwide.

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# Al stethoscope set to diagnose dicky hearts

Hobart Mercury, General News, 29/08/2023, Page 3

A digital stethoscope that can easily detect early signs of heart valve disease (HVD) with sophisticated artificial intelligence algorithms could be available to physicians by the end of this decade, new research says. Funded through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians Foundation, it could be used at home, Dr Abdul Ihdayhid said.

Also reported by: Cairns Post (Cairns)

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### FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

## Innovative program brings support for Indigenous stroke survivors

National Indigenous Times, Other, 28/08/2023

In a groundbreaking initiative, researchers from Western Australia have successfully introduced and tested a program aimed at improving the rehabilitation process for Aboriginal Australians who have experienced a stroke or traumatic brain injury. The Aboriginal Brain Injury Coordinator role was rolled out between 2018 2022, providing support, education, information and advocacy.

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# OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

# Syphilis, monkeypox cases a concern across Wagga, the Murrumbidgee Local Health District

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 28/08/2023, Taylor Dodge

Riverina residents are being urged to keep up to date with their annual STI testing as syphilis cases soar across the Murrumbidgee Local Health District. MLHD clinical nurse consultant Lauren Coelli said health practitioners across the Riverina were particularly concerned around the "huge" jump in syphilis numbers seen in recent months.

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### THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

### ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 28/08/2023, Leon Compton

Interview with Professor Tony Lawler, Head, Therapeutic Goods Administration. Lawler says there are a number of medicine shortages that the TGA, the Therapeutic Goods Administration monitors and works with sponsors and pharmacists to work through. He states they recognise that the oestrogen

hormone replacement therapy is in some shortage at the moment. He notes that the TGA is aware that there is a significant manufacturing issue with respect to hormone replacement therapy such as estrogen and so as the TGA is working with suppliers, health professionals and wholesalers to try and limit the impact of these shortages.

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## ABC Radio Perth, Mornings, 28/08/2023, Nadia Mitsopoulos

Interview with Dr Norman Swan on online fertility tests. Swan says it's completely wrong to say because you've got a low Anti-mullerian hormone or AMH, you are infertile and need to head off to the nearest IVF clinic. He states even the Australian sites were deficient in terms of some of them were deficient in what they were saying. He thinks this is part of the problem is that the Therapeutic Goods Administration doesn't necessarily only follow up on what these sites are saying unless people complain about it, and then they might take regulatory action.

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### OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

## Cleric attacks tactics to decriminalise drugs

The Australian, General News, 29/08/2023, Sarah Ison, Page 7

A former senior member of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn has criticised the ACT government for the way it passed legislation decriminalising some drugs, calling its tactics "appalling" and raising alarm over whether the same "lack of due process" will be applied to its looming voluntary assisted dying laws. Former vicar general Tony Percy - who has gone toe to toe with the ACT government in recent months over its forced acquisition of the Calvary Hospital said he was becoming increasingly concerned over the "total lack of transparency" in how major reforms progressed.

Also reported by: <u>The Australian (Online)</u>, <u>The Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>Cairns Post (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>West Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>

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# Minns holds firm on drugs

Daily Telegraph, General News, 29/08/2023, James O'Doherty, Page 9

NSW Premier Chris Minns' vow not to decriminalise illicit drugs until at least after the next election was a captain's call that has taken his colleagues by surprise. Mr Minns yesterday ruled out decriminalisation, saying his government had "no plans" and "no mandate" to pursue a similar policy to the ACT, which was detailed this week by The Daily Telegraph.

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# Channel 9, Today, 28/08/2023, Karl Stefanovic, Sylvia Jeffreys, Alex Cullen, and Brooke Boney

Interview with Dr Nicole Lee, National Drug Research Institute. Authorities are sounding the alarm this morning over a decision by the ACT Government to decriminalise nearly every single illicit drug, including heroin and ice. We're being warned the relaxed laws will see people from other parts of the country travel to our nation's capital for drug fuelled parties. Lee says 43% of the Australian population have tried an illicit drug in their lifetime and around 10% have used recently so, drugs being illegal doesn't really stop people using them. She argues South Australia, ACT, and the Northern Territory have had decriminalised cannabis use for about 30 years and the sky hasn't fallen in.

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# How dietary guidelines, health star ratings are feeding Australia's diabetes epidemic

Canberra Times, Other, 28/08/2023, Peter Brukner

Professor Peter Brukner is a sports physician, author of the book A Fat Lot of Good and co-founder of Defeat Diabetes. This is an edited extract from his submission to federal parliament's inquiry into diabetes in Australia. [...] The algorithm that is used to decide how many stars a product receives was developed in collaboration with technical and nutrition experts from government (including Food Standards Australia New Zealand), industry, public health and consumer organisations.

Also reported by: <u>Bathurst Western Advocate (Online)</u>, <u>Illawarra Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Wagga Wagga Daily</u> <u>Advertiser (Online)</u>

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# **AICIS**

No relevant coverage

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