



TODAY'S NEWS

Sunday, 12th May 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The [Sun Herald \(page 5\)](#) reports that Health Minister Mark Butler announced an additional \$227 million investment for an additional 29 urgent care clinics across, as a part of \$8.5 billion in Health spending in the new Federal Budget.
- The [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(page 6\)](#) reports that Health Minister Mark Butler announced a 26 million funding pledge for a mental health program across South Australia, with \$12.3m for a Head to Health kids hub and \$13.8m for suicide prevention support.
- The [Sunday Age \(page 1\)](#) reports that the Victorian state government will fall 33,000 surgeries short of its annual 240,000 elective surgeries pledge, and have put forward a revised goal of 200,000.
- The [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(page 1\)](#) reports that Queensland Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has announced new laws that will see Queensland Health impose conditions and suspend dodgy IVF clinics and create a new registry for donors.
- The [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(page 1\)](#) reports that a review of the Royal Adelaide Hospital by Dr Sophie Davison has found that its emergency department was inadequate for dealing with mental health crises, following the dismissal of a patient who went on to murder a woman.

- The [Sunday Herald Sun \(page 11\)](#) reports that Endometriosis Australia and the Australian College of Nurses will launch a scholarship program to train up to 100 endometriosis nurses for regional and rural Australian areas.

MINISTER BUTLER

More free clinics part of \$8.5b health kick

Sun Herald, General News, 12/05/2024, Rachel Clun, Page 5

Australians will soon have access to an extra 29 urgent care clinics as part of an \$8.5 billion federal investment in health in the coming budget. Health Minister Mark Butler said the 58 existing urgent care clinics were already making a difference for patients needing walk-in medical treatment while taking pressure off busy hospital emergency departments.

Also reported by: [The Age \(Online\)](#), [Brisbane Times \(Online\)](#), [WA Today \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Sunday Age \(Melbourne\)](#).

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\$277m to ease hospital pressure

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 12/05/2024, James Campbell, Page 8

Tuesday's budget will include \$227 million to open another 29 urgent care clinics across Australia and expand their capacity and operating hours in rural and regional areas. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the clinics were already fulfilling their promise by making sure patients can walk in and receive urgent care quickly and for free.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#).

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

Bulk-billing GPs are disappearing fast

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 12/05/2024, Sue Dunlevy, Page 23

Patients are now paying up to \$190 to see a GP and nearly half of all local government areas now have no clinics that bulk-bill adult patients without a concession card. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the measure pushed up the bulk billing rate by 2.7 per cent to 77.7 per cent in March this year.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#).

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\$12m to help our kids get better

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 12/05/2024, Lauren Novak, Page 6

Children under the age of 12 will be able to seek free support at a promised new mental health hub, as part of a \$26m funding pledge. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has announced \$12.3m to open a Head to Health kids hub in South Australia.

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Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announces \$227m cash splash to open 29 more urgent care clinics

The Courier Mail, Other, 11/05/2024, Ellen Ransley

Labor will expand its network of urgent care clinics to help keep bulk-billing alive and alleviate pressure off hospitals. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said existing centres were working as designed, with about one in two presentations reporting they would have gone to an emergency department if they didn't have the option of visiting an urgent care clinic.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Weekly Times Now \(Online\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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Health minister announces \$49.1 million investment for women 'suffering in silence'

Adelaide Now, Other, 11/05/2024, Lexie Cartwright

The federal health minister has announced a massive investment as part of the upcoming budget in a bid to combat "historic discrimination" against women. [...] Mr Butler and Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney will announce the package at a press conference on Friday.

[Read More](#)

Pesutto announces pledge to scrap 'health tax' currently forcing GP closures and hiking fees

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 11/05/2024, Shannon Deery and Mitch Clarke

Opposition Leader John Pesutto has pledged to abolish a "regressive health tax" piling pressure on Victorian GPs if the Libs wins the next election. [...] Federal Labor Health Minister Mark Butler has repeatedly raised concerns about the tax hit on doctors.

[Read More](#)

Three GP clinic closures in a month stoke concerns over emergency department pressure in Hobart

ABC Online, Other, 11/05/2024

One of Hobart's few after-hours general practice clinics will close at the end of May, making it the third clinic across the city in a month to announce it will close its doors. [...] Mr Barnett said he had only been recently informed of the Derwent Park clinic's closure and would write to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler asking for assistance.

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Channel 10, 10 News First (Weekend), 11/05/2024, Chris Bath

The rate of endometrial cancer in Australia has almost doubled in two decades, and the survival rate has alarmingly decreased. But there's some hope for women battling the disease, with a new treatment added to the PBS. Health Minister Mark Butler for advanced patients with a gene mutation, a huge benefit to around 200 women every year.

Similar content in: [Channel 10 \(Perth\)](#).

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Channel 10, 10 News First (Weekend) , 11/05/2024, Chris Bath

News The rate of endometrial cancer in Australia has almost doubled in two decades, and the survival rate has alarmingly decreased. But there's some hope for women battling the disease, with new treatment added to the PBS pushing through the fatigue, Jodie Lanyon still goes on her regular five kilometre walk.

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Seven Tasmania, Nightly News (Saturday), 11/05/2024, Louise Houbaer

Doctors and parents have been pushing for the Federal Government to approve a new drug which could save the lives of Australian children suffering from deadly cancer Neuroblastoma. Oncologists have now written to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, pleading for help, asking for \$15 million to make the drug available here in the interim. Butler says he's happy to look at the story and see how they could move forward with it.

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MINISTER WELLS

Federal Budget: \$250 million upgrade for AIS a 'game changer'

The ACT Government has welcomed a \$250 million upgrade for the 40-year-old Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), as well as \$10 million for planning a wider Bruce precinct where it wants to build a new stadium, housing and other facilities. [...] Federal Sport Minister Anika Wells said the AIS was once a world benchmark for sporting success and the funding would help reach those standards again.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Health minister announces \$49.1 million investment for women 'suffering in silence'

Adelaide Now, Other, 11/05/2024, Lexie Cartwright

The federal health minister has announced a massive investment as part of the upcoming budget in a bid to combat "historic discrimination" against women. [...] Mr Butler and Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney will announce the package at a press conference on Friday.

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CORONAVIRUS

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Villages' fee furore

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 12/05/2024, Paul Ashenden, Page 27

Residents of South Australian retirement villages have urged state and federal governments to crack down on operators' "unconscionable" price gouging they say is costing families hundreds of thousands of dollars. SA Retirement Village Residents Association president Roger Adamson said SA's 26,000

retirement village residents were frustrated by a lack of action in cracking down on practices they described as rorts.

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Specialist dementia support program a regional Victorian first

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/05/2024, Lucy Crock

A new specialist dementia support program is coming to Geelong, marking its first time based in regional Victoria. Dementia patients will be given specialist support up to 12 months to help manage their symptoms before they are returned to their usual aged care residence.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#).

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These Filipino healthcare workers in Gilgandra live away from their children to care for Australia's aging population

ABC Online, Other, 11/05/2024, Richard Mockler

Mae Montecalvo is crying as she finishes a video call with her two young daughters, aged two and five. She is surrounded by toys they have never played with as she sits in a share house, in a New South Wales country town nearly 6,000 kilometres from where they are: in the Philippines with their grandparents.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Cash for carriers Flights subsidy furore

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 12/05/2024, Greg Stolz and Jeremy Pierce, Page 1

The Miles government is under fire following revelations it is subsidising dozens of late night and early morning flights into and out of Brisbane Airport, contributing to controversial aircraft noise. New data has revealed the government is helping bankroll up to 50 flights a week via its \$200m Attracting Aviation Investment Fund.

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Quitline smoked

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 12/05/2024, Andreas Nicola, Page 32

Queensland's primary support service for vaping has received just 19 calls for help from kids under 18 in the past year. Quitline Queensland, run by Queensland Health, expanded into vaping in August 2022.

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

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Nico-teen fight

Sunday Times, STM, 12/05/2024, Adrian Barich, Page 13

If you're a fan of this column, you'll know that not long ago I was railing (and I'm not a big railer) against teenage vaping. I Now, if you're an adult, vaping because that's what your doctor says might help you quit cigarettes, this column isn't about you.

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Women's heart attacks present differently to men's, researcher says, affecting diagnosis and treatment

ABC Online, Other, 11/05/2024, Declan Bowring

Rowena Newman did boot camp twice a week, had good blood pressure and ate well. Being a single mother in a high-pressure marketing job, going to bed exhausted was not unusual.

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Gen Z are really miserable and this is why

NEWS.com.au, Other, 11/05/2024, Caleb Bond

When did young people become so boring? [...] We already know youths are imbibing less – Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data shows a 133 per cent increase in 18-24 year olds being teetotalers in the past two decades.

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

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Risky unflued gas heaters still used in NSW classrooms

Sun Herald, General News, 12/05/2024, Mary Ward, Page 12

Thousands of NSW public school students learn in classrooms heated by systems that are banned in other states due to their respiratory health risks. Unflued gas heaters are still installed in 1402 of the state's 2200 public schools. In a five-year program to upgrade heating and cooling in classrooms by installing reverse-cycle air-conditioning, 4317 individual unflued gas heaters were removed.

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

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Weight fuels cancer risk

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 12/05/2024, Page 12

Obesity can increase the risk of more than 30 different types of cancer, according to a study. Being overweight or obese was found to fuel cancers that account for four in ten of overall cases. The research, presented at the European Congress on Obesity in Venice, involved 4.1 million adults who were tracked over four decades.

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

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Poorest Aussies are taking most meds

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 12/05/2024, Page 27

Aussies living in areas of most disadvantage take more medications than others. About 28.0 per cent of Australians living in areas of most disadvantage got five or more medications in 2022 compared with 16.6 per cent of people living in areas of least disadvantage, according to ABS data.

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Helping people with cancer live happier, fuller lives

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 12/05/2024, Rebecca Whitfield-Baker, Page 9

A new Adelaide-imagined online support tool aiming to guide people through the psychological impact of an advanced breast cancer diagnosis is entering its testing phase. Developed by researchers at Flinders University with support from Breast Cancer Network Australia and Cancer Council SA, Finding My Way Advanced is designed to support people through stage 4, also known as advanced metastatic breast cancer, which is a treatable but currently incurable form of the disease.

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The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia is funding the research into cancer's financial burden

As well as a personal health crisis, prostate cancer can be a financial burden for Tasmanian men. New research is looking at the costs faced by patients and what could be done to help. [...] According to the Cancer Council, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in Tasmania, with around 560 men diagnosed each year.

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

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'I'll be on the edge of my seat for the rest of my life': Adelaide woman's cruel cancer diagnosis

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 11/05/2024, Evangeline Polymeneas

Sophia Noelle Thompson thought her headache was due to stress from her school exams. Instead it was hiding a horror disease that could now claim her life at any time. After being diagnosed with bone cancer as a teenager, Sophia Noelle Thompson is now what doctors class as cancer-free.

[Read More](#)

ABC, Late Night ABC News, 10/05/2024, Jade Barker

The number of asthma deaths in Australia has risen by 30% in a year. It is the biggest number of casualties caused by respiratory illness in a decade. According to Asthma Australia, there were 467 asthma deaths in 2022, with last year's statistics not yet released.

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PRIMARY CARE

How I got breakfast in a hospital bed

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 12/05/2024, Sofia Dmitrieva, Page 7

Caitlin Finne's plans for a relaxing Mother's Day breakfast in bed this time last year were dashed when she went into premature labour putting both her and her unborn baby's lives in danger. With no specialist neonatal care in the outback town of Lightning Ridge where she lives, Ms Finne was terrified when she began experiencing contractions two months before her due date.

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Fall in GP visits is not healthy

Sunday Telegraph, Editorials, 12/05/2024, Page 78

The latest data on bulk billing reveals two worrying trends in the healthcare sector that could have a damaging impact on the wellbeing of this country in the long term. Firstly, and most obviously, the number of GPs offering patients bulk billing continues to slide at an alarming rate.

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Elective surgery promise slashed

Sunday Age, General News, 12/05/2024, Kieran Rooney and Henrietta Cook, Page 1

The Allan government has walked away from a promise to permanently deliver an extra 40,000 elective surgeries annually by 2024, lowering its targets back to pre-pandemic levels. Despite Health Minister MaryAnne Thomas once vowing she wouldn't accept "anything less" than 240,000 surgeries a year, the state has now cut the target before it was ever achieved.

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IVF baby shake-up

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 12/05/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 1

Dodgy ivf clinics will be shut down and every child conceived by a donor in the past 50 years will be

able to find out their genetic origins under sweeping new laws to be introduced into state parliament. Until now, Queensland's fertility industry the largest in the country was not governed by any laws. Under the crackdown, Queensland Health will have the power to suspend or impose conditions on providers.

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ACT govt, Calvary yet to finalise compo

Sunday Canberra Times, General News, 12/05/2024, Lucy Bladen, Page 2

The act government is yet to pay Calvary the full compensation for its forcible acquisition of Bruce hospital, with the two sides still negotiating the final amount payable to the Catholic health care organisation. It's been one year since ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith announced the government would compulsorily acquire Calvary Public Hospital Bruce, which is now called North Canberra Hospital.

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Opting out of operations

Sunday Times, General News, 12/05/2024, Jake Dietsch, Page 7

Eighty surgeries were cancelled in the last three months of 2023 on the day the operation was scheduled because of a shortage of hospital beds. And another 63 surgeries were cancelled the day before operation, with the reason given as "bed unavailable".

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Desperate patients feeling hip-pocket pain as fewer than one in 10 GP clinics in WA fully bulk-bills visits

Sunday Times, General News, 12/05/2024, Claire Sadler, Page 16

A majority of West Australians are still having to open their wallet to see a doctor, with fewer than one-in-10 GP clinics across the State fully bulk-billing. A new data breakdown from online healthcare directory Cleanbill, released today, revealed only 62 out of 658 clinics in WA bulk-bill all patients fewer than 10 per cent.

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Allan government reveals designs for expansion of Northern, Austin hospitals

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/05/2024, Carly Douglas and Pippa Salmon

The Victorian government has revealed new designs for world-class upgrades at two of Melbourne's busiest hospitals after a \$1.7bn state budget pledge to upgrade health facilities statewide. Pippa Salmon and Carly Douglas The Victorian government has revealed new designs for upgrades at two of Melbourne's busiest hospitals, with the artistic renders showing off their increased patient capacity and world-class facilities.

Also reported by: [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#).

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'Don't want her to not live': Girl's harrowing plea to save sister's life

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/05/2024, Brielle Burns

A young girl has made a tearful plea to save her dying sister's life as the three-year-old receives palliative care. A young girl has made a heartbreaking plea to save her dying sister's life in a harrowing video shared on social media.

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

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NDIS plan for dying Armstrong Creek girl increases fourfold

The Mercury, Other, 11/05/2024, Abby Walter

The National Disability Insurance Agency has approved a new plan for a terminally ill Armstrong Creek

girl after her mother said it was like the organisation wanted the child to die. The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has approved a new plan that will see a dying Armstrong Creek girl's support bolstered fourfold, after the Geelong Advertiser revealed the family's plight.

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

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Nearly 150 surgeries cancelled on day of or prior to operation at WA hospitals due to 'bed unavailable'

West Australian, Other, 12/05/2024, Jake Dietsch

Eighty surgeries were cancelled in the last three months of 2023 on the day the operation was scheduled because of a shortage of hospital beds. And another 63 surgeries were cancelled the day before operation, with the reason given as "bed unavailable". The 143 cancellations on the day of or before is up from 101 cancelled due to "bed unavailable" in the same three-month period in 2022.

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GP clinics in WA fully bulk-billing at all time low, according to Cleanbill report

West Australian, Other, 12/05/2024, Claire Sadler

A majority of West Australians are still having to open their wallet to see a doctor with less than one in 10 GP clinics across the State fully bulk-billing. A new data breakdown from online healthcare directory Cleanbill, to be released on Sunday, revealed only 62 out of 658 clinics in WA bulk-bill all patients — less than 10 per cent.

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'She was very content': Woman dies under voluntary assisted dying laws

Newcastle Herald, Other, 11/05/2024, Damon Cronshaw

A Newcastle woman who chose to die using NSW's laws told family she was at peace with her decision. The woman, aged in her 80s, had terminal cancer. "They said she had six months or less to live. Her quality of life was very poor from her perception," a family member said.

[Read More](#)

Design and death: palliative care needs more creativity

Northern Daily Leader, Other, 11/05/2024, Cassandra Morgan

At the Caritas Christi palliative care unit, "homeliness" is sprawling crayon lines and scribbled messages of "get well soon", drawn by children in its arts room. It's the sense of quiet, the soft carpet underfoot, and the ability for patients to simply open a window, or walk outside their rooms and touch a tree or feel the soil.

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

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Dr Viet Tran is drawn to the 'controlled chaos' of emergency medicine, and he's keen to share his insights

ABC Online, Other, 11/05/2024, Loretta Lohberger

Viet Tran wants to take people "behind the curtains" of a busy hospital emergency department (ED), and share insights into the "controlled chaos" he works in. Dr Tran is the deputy director of emergency medicine at the Royal Hobart Hospital.

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RAH failed the test

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 12/05/2024, Riley Walter, Page 1

Royal Adelaide Hospital's emergency ward is unable to provide adequate mental health care, a review into the care of a man who allegedly murdered an Adelaide mother at a suburban real estate office has found. The independent report made six recommendations including reviewing the Central Adelaide Local Health Network emergency care model of care.

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

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Mental health nurses share insights into 'vibrant, exciting' job

Sunday Examiner, General News, 12/05/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 7

What does it take to be a mental health nurse? For some the task may sound daunting, but the staff at Northside Mental Health Clinic at the Launceston General Hospital say it's a rewarding and diverse career. The Northside facility is a 20-bed acute inpatient facility that provides inpatient treatment for anyone who requires 24-hour specialist mental health care.

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Future Townsville: Addressing the city's mental health challenges

The Mercury, Other, 11/05/2024

Townsville is Australia's first mentally healthy city – but there is still work to do. For the past two weeks, the Townsville Bulletin along with its partners the Townsville Hospital and Health Service, Mater Hospital, Townsville TAFE and Cowboys House, has been exploring mental health, Indigenous health and aged care.

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

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WA interpreters for the State's most vulnerable call for greater mental health support after 'horror' cases

West Australian, Other, 12/05/2024, Caitlyn Rintoul

A wa interpreter taken to the bedside of a shark attack victim had no prior warning of the horrific scene she would encounter. Japanese speaker Akiko Kunita is one of hundreds of interpreters and translators calling for greater protection from mentally harmful situations as the industry grapples with a mass exodus.

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Review recommends mental health system improvements after alleged stabbing of Julie Seed and Susan Scardigno

ABC Online, Other, 11/05/2024, Josephine Lim

The emergency department in South Australia's largest public hospital is "not designed or resourced" to deliver effective mental health care, according to a review commissioned after a woman died in an alleged stabbing. In December, Julie Seed died and her colleague Susan Scardigno was seriously injured at the real estate agency they worked at in Adelaide's southern suburbs.

[Read More](#)

We looked at more than 166,000 psychiatric records. Over half showed people were admitted against their will

ABC Online, Other, 11/05/2024, Amy Corderoy

Picture two people, both suffering from a serious mental illness requiring hospital admission. One was born in Australia, the other in Asia. Hopefully, both could be treated on a voluntary basis, taking into account their individual needs, preferences and capacity to consent.

[Read More](#)

I found my teenage son Mac Holdsworth dead in his room after he was caught up in a sextortion scam but I was banned from saying anything to the man responsible for his tragic end - until now

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 11/05/2024, Olivia Day

Wayne Holdsworth has never been the same since the terrible moment he discovered his son hanged in his room just hours after taking his own life. Wayne, a father-of-two and CEO of the Frankston & District Basketball Association, had never suspected his 17-year-old son Mac was struggling.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Birth training plan to assist in emergencies

Sun Herald, General News, 12/05/2024, Mary Ward, Page 21

When paramedic Anna Esposito is on hand to help a mother deliver her child it's because the birth plan has not gone to plan. Her most recent triple-zero call came from a family who knew they wouldn't be able to get themselves to hospital. "We arrived at the house.

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Nurses wage fight grows

Sunraysia Daily, Other, 11/05/2024, Phoebe Doyle

Local nurses and midwives have joined a statewide push for improved wages and working conditions amid stalled enterprise agreement negotiations. Victorian public sector nurses and midwives began protected industrial action at 7am on Tuesday morning in an attempt to secure better wages and allowances from employers and the State Government.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Paid placements a pittance

Sunday Age, Business News, 12/05/2024, Victoria Devine, Page 36

It's been a big week for university students. First, the Albanese government announced it would be wiping roughly \$3 billion off student debt by lowering the HECS/HELP loan indexation rate. In real terms, this change will benefit almost 3 million Australians by saving them an average \$1200 on their higher education debt.

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

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Bold plan to help women

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 12/05/2024, Ellen Ransley, Page 11

One hundred endometriosis nurses will be specially trained and stationed in regional, rural and remote parts of the country to help improve the outcomes for the hundreds of thousands of Australians afflicted with the chronic disease. An estimated one in seven Australian women and girls are affected by endometriosis, a condition where tissue similar to the lining of the womb grows outside the uterus.

Also reported by: [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#), [Sunday Tasmanian \(Hobart\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#)

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Nurses quitting over 'unsafe conditions'

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 12/05/2024, Page 6

Queensland nurses are walking away from the job they say they love because of burnout, understaffing and safety concerns, the state's peak nurses' union claims. As frontline staff today celebrate International Nurses Day, Queensland Nurses and Midwives Union secretary Sarah Beaman has lashed out at the government, saying that the state's health crisis is "worsening".

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We're getting a taste of our own medicine

Sunday Territorian, General News, 12/05/2024, Luke Gosling, Page 18

For too long Territory students who have had the ambition and ability to study medicine locally have been Funable to due to lack of Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs), with some having to move interstate. No longer. This week the Albanese Government delivered on long-term calls for Charles Darwin University to establish and operate a stand-alone medical school.

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An after hours doctor in Derwent Park is owned by Better Health has announced closure

Adelaide Now, Other, 11/05/2024, Blair Richards

The After Hours Doctor in Derwent Park is set to close, leaving a huge hole in health services in Hobart's northern suburbs. The clinic is owned by national company Better Medical, which A Better Medical spokeswoman said the Derwent Park clinic would have its last day of appointments on May 31, and staff and services would be moved to the Rosny Doctors and After Hours.

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

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NSW public sector nursing workforce hits record figure

The Mercury, Other, 12/05/2024, Jessica Wang

Nurses working in public sector hospitals have grown to a record figure in one state, after it lost 12.6 per cent of its staff after the pandemic. NSW's public-sector nursing workforce has surged to a record 52,400, growing by 2100 from May 2024.

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

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Premier and Health Minister announce new plan to deliver GPs to regional SA

The Mercury, Other, 11/05/2024, Isabel McMillan

The Premier and Health Minister have used their regional Country Cabinet trip to announce a major new plan for regional health. Residents in rural South Australia will soon be able to access greater healthcare services after the state government announced a program to quadruple the amount of GPs in regional areas starting next year.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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Territory students will have first dibs at new CDU NT medical school

The Mercury, Other, 11/05/2024, Camden Smith

Territory students will be given priority at Charles Darwin University's new medical school when it begins operating. NT Medical School foundation Dean, Dianne Stephens, said preference would be given to first nation Territorians and NT residents, with First Nations students and remote and rural students from the rest of Australia next in line.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Online\)](#).

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'Significant:' Key workforce hits record figure

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 12/05/2024

NSW's public-sector nursing workforce has surged to a record 52,400, growing by 2100 from May 2024. The state has battled a chronic shortage of public-sector nurses since the Covid-19 pandemic, with NSW Health revealing it lost 12.6 per cent of its workforce in 2021-22.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

'Baby maker' acupuncturist fights claims of 'reused needles', patient relationship claim

The Courier Mail, Other, 11/05/2024, Vanda Carson

A veteran Queensland acupuncturist accused of having an inappropriate relationship with 'one or more of his patients' has failed in his bid to have a disciplinary action against him thrown out. A veteran Queensland acupuncturist who calls himself "the Brisbane baby maker" and claims to be "one of Australia's leading healthcare practitioners" has failed in his bid to have a disciplinary action against him thrown out by the state's highest court.

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

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

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SPORT

Geelong in clear over Cameron's concussion

Sunday Age, Sport, 12/05/2024, Danny Russell, Page 48

Geelong have been cleared of breaching AFL medical protocols, despite the Cats revealing yesterday that key forward Jeremy Cameron had been diagnosed with delayed concussion from a heavy head knock on Friday night. Cameron was allowed to play out the clash against Port Adelaide after landing heavily during a marking contest and slamming his head into the GMHBA Stadium turf.

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Cats cleared on Jezza

Sunday Herald Sun, Sport, 12/05/2024, Glenn McFarlane, Page 86

Geelong has been cleared of any wrongdoing with AFL saying it was "comfortable" with how the club handled the Jeremy Cameron incident on Friday night, despite the star forward going into concussion protocols on Saturday. Cameron will miss Thursday night's clash with Gold Coast after having delayed symptoms from the head knock he suffered against Port Adelaide.

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The question that gets my pulse racing

Sunday Mail Adelaide, General News, 12/05/2024, Cate Campbell, Page 61

Olympic athletes must comply with the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) Code to be allowed to compete, and Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) is responsible for enforcing the code in Australia. This is one of the strictest antidoping codes in the world and I would like to give you a glimpse into what it means to be governed by this code - how rigorous and intrusive it can be.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Sound of science hits the Kimberley

Sunday Times, General News, 12/05/2024, Bethany Hiatt, Page 16

Kids in the Kimberley will be inspired to consider careers in science when Telethon Kids Institute brings a STEM festival to Broome. They will learn about science and medical issues such as ear, lung and skin health when researchers from the institute present interactive displays during National Science Week in August, with the help of a \$20,000 Federal Government grant.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

A First Nations first

Sunday Mail Brisbane, General News, 12/05/2024, Page 19

The first Indigenous woman appointed to the Supreme Court will deliver the Mullenjaiwakka (Lloyd McDermott) Oration in Brisbane this month. ACT Supreme Court Justice Louise Taylor, a Kamilaroi woman, was appointed to the bench last year the second time she made history after becoming the ACT's first Indigenous magistrate in 2018.

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'Little Alice is a ticking time bomb'

ABC Online, Other, 11/05/2024, Charmayne Allison

It's almost midnight as Jeremy McKellar winds his way through the streets of Alice Springs. People spill out of bars, swarming the sidewalks as he passes. Blue and red police lights flash along street corners. Jeremy drives the bus for Drug and Alcohol Services Australia, a local addiction service.

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SNAICC calls for affordable childcare for Indigenous families in upcoming budget

National Indigenous Times, Other, 11/05/2024, Dechlan Brennan

The peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children has called for affordable childcare for Indigenous families in the upcoming federal budget. SNAICC — National Voice for our Children, propose the current government subsidy, which covers 90 per cent of at least 18 hours of childcare a week, be increased to 95 or 100 per cent of 30 hours, as well calling for the federal government to abolish the childcare subsidy activity test.

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INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

'Defects' in nuke plant

Sunday Telegraph, General News, 12/05/2024, Linda Silmalis, Page 11

The lining within the "hot cells" of the new radioactive waste treatment plant at Lucas Heights has literally been peeling off, with secret details about the defect in the ANSTO-designed facility unveiled during a legal dispute. The construction of the \$27 million plant has been at the centre of a protracted legal battle between ANSTO and the contractor, with each blaming the other for the bungle.

Also reported by: [Sunday Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Sunday Mail Brisbane \(Brisbane\)](#)

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Virus jab extended

Sunday Territorian, General News, 12/05/2024, Page 5

More Territorians are now eligible to receive the free Japanese encephalitis virus vaccine, NT Health says. Until October 2024, eligibility for the vaccine has been expanded to ensure people living in high-risk areas are protected. Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) vaccination is recommended for people at highest risk of infection in the NT.

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Sydney woman spends eight days in Bali hospital after catching dengue fever

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 11/05/2024, David Southwell

Aussie catches dengue fever in Indonesia Spent eight gruelling days in Bali hospital An Aussie traveller has opened up about how her tropical getaway to Indonesia turned into a nightmare after she was struck down with dengue fever. Marley, a 24-year-old from Sydney, has only just returned to Australia following eight days in an Indonesian hospital after catching the illness while holidaying on the resort island of Gili Trawangan.

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Top health official's warning as syphilis numbers surge in SA

The Courier Mail, Other, 11/05/2024, Michael McGuire

The state's top health official has issued a dire warning as a potentially fatal sexually transmitted disease surges in SA. A concerning new report from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) indicates a tenfold increase in the number of babies born with syphilis in 2022 compared to a decade ago.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Online\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Online\)](#), [Sunday Mail Adelaide \(Adelaide\)](#)

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Dolphins weed out uniform sponsor

Sunday Times, General News, 12/05/2024, Jacob Shteyman, Page 17

Australia's medical regulator has commended rugby league's Dolphins for agreeing to remove a medicinal marijuana company's logo from their jerseys after concerns were raised that the deal fell foul of advertising laws. The Brisbane-based NRL club has also removed Alternaleaf branding from stadium signage on game days, after coming to an agreement with the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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Wearable tech can now harvest brain data. Here's why Australia needs urgent privacy reforms

SBS, Other, 11/05/2024, Edward Musole

The extent to which tech companies can harvest cognitive and neural data is particularly concerning when that data comes from children. [...] One potential solution would be to update our privacy legislation to work in conjunction with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), which regulates the supply of medical devices in Australia.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

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FOOD STANDARDS

Urgent recall of drink

Sunday Herald Sun, General News, 12/05/2024, Page 20

A popular soft drink mixer sold across the country at Coles, Woolworths and Dan Murphy's is being urgently recalled. Food Standards Australia issued the recall notice for the 540ml bottle of Salted Grapefruit by the Strangelove Beverage Company on Friday.

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

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