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# **TODAY'S NEWS**

### Saturday, 6th July 2024

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 |

First Nations Health | Interim Australian CDC | Therapeutic Goods Administration

| Office for Drug Control | Food Standards | AICIS

# LINKS

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- <u>The Weekend Australian (page 1)</u> reports that following new data revealing half of Australia's 2600 nursing homes are running at a loss, members of Labor's aged-care taskforce are concerned there is not enough time in this term of parliament to ensure the sector is financially sustainable. Aged-Care Minister Anika Wells said "We are working with the opposition to advance these reforms so older Australians and their loved ones have high quality care now and into the future".
- <u>The Weekend Australian (page 5)</u> reports that 10 SA Health employees have been suspended over allegations they inappropriately accessed the medical records of Charlie Stevens, the son of the SA Police Commissioner.
- <u>The Weekend Australian (page 7)</u> reports that private health insurer NIB has reassured its members that "There are no immediate changes to cover that would affect our members," after a breakdown in negotiations with St Vincent's Health Australia. NIB CEO Mark Fitzgibbon said "NIB has a long-term relationship with St Vincent's and hopes negotiations resume".
- <u>The Saturday Age (page 1)</u> reports that state government hospital budgets and cost cutting measures have caused Victorian doctors to warn against cutting elective surgery as it could reverse the work done to get waiting lists to the lowest level since 2019-20.

- <u>The Daily Telegraph (page 9)</u> reports that Aged Care Justice has received six requests from families in the last year for legal advice over the deaths of their loved ones in aged care due to alleged neglect or mismanagement.
- <u>The Adelaide Advertiser (page 1)</u> reports that the number of security guards at the Royal Adelaide Hospital emergency department has been doubled in a bid to protect staff following a series of assaults.
- <u>The West Australian (page 2)</u> reports that Ramsay Health Care will engage an independent expert to review the care provided to expectant mother Suzan Al Hulow at Joondalup Health Campus, after her baby died inside the womb following Ms Al Hulow being left unmonitored for four hours after being induced.

## MINISTER BUTLER

#### Putting a price on cancer patients' lives

The Nightly, General News, 05/07/2024, Michael Usher, Page 22

A \$12,000 a month miracle drug could give Amelia and others like her their lives back. [...] And that hope is in the hands of Health Minister Mark Butler to support this push, and the PBS review team, which we think will start assessing the merits next week.

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#### Hospital message is taken to Canberra

Border Mail, General News, 06/07/2024, Anthony Bunn, Page 9

Border mayors have discussed a new Albury-Wodonga hospital with a federal minister in Canberra. [...] She said the expectation was that Ms McBride would report the meeting to federal Health Minister Mark Butler with hope of federal intervention given the NSW and Victorian governments' unwillingness to consider a new hospital site.

Also reported by: The Border Mail (Online).

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# Community-led innovation, aims to revolutionise bush healthcare access

Narromine Star, General News, 04/07/2024, Page 2

An innovative new project in far north Queensland that if successful could revolutionise healthcare delivery throughout rural Australia is part of a \$16 million injection for healthcare strategies aimed at improving care for isolated Australians. The National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) was delighted the Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, when he announced funding for 11 innovative healthcare projects in rural and remote Australia.

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#### "World-leading" vape legislation passes: what it means for pharmacies

Narromine Star, General News, 04/07/2024, Sharon Bonthuys, Page 3

New federal legislation on the controversial issue of "vaping" took effect on July 1, which federal Health Minister Mark Butler described as "world leading." The recent passing of the Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Act 2024 bans the domestic manufacture, supply, commercial possession, and advertisement of disposable and non-therapeutic vapes.

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#### Vaping consultations continue: Minister

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/07/2024, Chris Brooker

Government talks with pharmacists over new vape provision legislation are continuing says Health Minister Mark Butler, highlighting the role of one organisation in particular The federal government is engaged in ongoing discussions with pharmacists over the controversial new vaping legislations, says Federal Health Minister Mark Butler.

# Thousands of patients face massive cost hikes as St Vincent's pull plug on NIB

CathNews, Other, 05/07/2024, Rebecca Comini

Thousands of patients face massive rises in out-of-pocket costs at St Vincent's private hospitals after funding negotiations with major health insurer NIB collapsed amid a deepening crisis in the \$22 billion private hospital industry. [...] In June, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler launched a rapid review into the private hospital sector amid skyrocketing costs and intense financial pressure threatening its viability.

### Read More

# A healthy Australia

Open Forum, Other, 05/07/2024

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's (AIHW) biennial flagship report card of Australians' health has been launched by the Hon. Mark Butler, Minister for Health and Aged Care. The last time we released an Australia's health report, it was mid-2022 and Australia was in the middle of the Omicron wave of the pandemic,' AIHW Deputy Chief Executive Officer Matthew James said.

#### Read More

# 'Ask a question rather than five': Anthony Albanese issues blunt response to reporter's barrage of questions about Fatima Payman defection

Sky News Australia, Other, 05/07/2024, Laura Grassby

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has given a blunt response to a barrage of questions about Fatima Payman's decision to quit Labor and sit on the crossbench. Anthony Albanese was speaking alongside Health Minister Mark Butler about urgent care clinics in Queanbeyan, NSW, when discussion quickly turned to Ms Payman's defection.

#### Read More

# Triple J, Hack, 05/07/2024, Dave Marchese

Marchese points out that according to Federal Health Minister Mark Butler, who was interviewed on Hack last night, there will be new laws that mention that pharmacies are the only legal place to get vapes and would require people to have a prescription.

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# MINISTER WELLS

#### Fears of time running out for aged-care reform

Weekend Australian, General News, 06/07/2024, Stephen Lunn, Page 1

Members of Labor's hand-picked aged-care taskforce are warning time is running out in this term of parliament to put the sector on a financially sustainable footing, as new data reveals half the nation's 2600 nursing homes are running at a loss. [...] Aged-Care Minister Anika Wells said the taskforce reforms were "once in a generation (and) we are working every day to ensure we get it right".

Also reported by: The Australian (Online).

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### Whiddon defends low vax rates

Temora Independent, General News, 04/07/2024, Camillo Malacari, Page 1

[...] The Federal Department of Health and Aged Care reported that over the last 12 months, fewer than 10% of residents in a number of aged care homes around Australia, including Temora's Greenstone and Narraburra homes, had been vaccinated for COVID-19 in the last 12 months. [...]

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# Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said people with loved ones in aged care should talk to them and their care team about getting COVID-19 and flu vaccines now.

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# These five ACT projects will cost \$1.8b (at least). Which should be first?

Canberra Times, Other, 05/07/2024, Caden Helmers and Chris Dutton

This week we ask if the AIS Arena reopening is the start of something grand and some interesting Big Bash developments. [...] Gallagher, Sport Minister Anika Wells and federal member for the Canberra seat of Fenner Andrew Leigh got a guided tour of the new-look AIS Arena this week.

#### Read More

# MIX 106.3 FM, Breakfast, 05/07/2024, Kristen and Nige

Interview with Kieren Perkins, Australian Sports Commission. Perkins recalls having Finance Minister Katy Gallagher and Sports Minister Anika Wells in the State, who came to open up a new facility on Wednesday. He states that both Gallagher and Wells were impressed by how much they were able to get done for the money that was provided.

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# ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

# Hospital message is taken to Canberra

Border Mail, General News, 06/07/2024, Anthony Bunn, Page 9

Border mayors have discussed a new Albury-Wodonga hospital with a federal minister in Canberra. [...] She said the expectation was that Ms McBride would report the meeting to federal Health Minister Mark Butler with hope of federal intervention given the NSW and Victorian governments' unwillingness to consider a new hospital site.

Also reported by: The Border Mail (Online).

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# Our cost of living support measures

Central Coast Sun, General News, 01/07/2024, Page 12

The Albanese Government will establish a Commonwealth Prac Payment to support students undertaking mandatory work placements required for university and vocational education and training qualifications. [...] Emma McBride said: "The Albanese Labor Government is addressing the risks of placement poverty for teaching, nursing and social work students.

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# Labor is listening to pharmacy: McBride

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/07/2024, Fang Liu

Labor is working with pharmacists and pharmacy bodies to support the profession to "have a positive impact", Emma McBride the Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health says.

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# ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

No relevant coverage

# enrolments in health worker traineeship program National Indigenous Times, Other, 05/07/2024, Dechlan Brennan

Self-determination in healthcare closer to a reality with over 300

More than 300 people have enrolled in a First Nations Health Worker Traineeship Program, the federal government announced on Friday during a Joint Council on Closing the Gap meeting on Kaurna Country. [...] Speaking at the meeting, Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians, Malarndirri McCarthy, said they were "incredibly pleased" to see the enrolment numbers in a short period of time.

#### Read More

# Government pledges \$100 million towards Indigenous health infrastructure

National Indigenous Times, Other, 05/07/2024, Dechlan Brennan

The federal government is set to announce \$100 million worth of support for 33 Indigenous health infrastructure projects across the country. [...] Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health, Malarndirri McCarthy, said the government was committed to strengthening the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector.

### Read More

# Koori Radio, Blackchat, 05/07/2024, Lola Forester

Forester mentions some news from the desk of Minister for Indigenous Australians Linda Burney and Malarndirri McCarthy, that there will be \$100m to be provided to improve health infrastructure in First Nations communities, particularly 33 health infrastructure projects across the country.

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# DEPARTMENT

# Living care

The Saturday Paper, General News, 06/07/2024, Naomi Stead, Page 22

As the designs for the Reimagining Where We Live competition show, residential care for the elderly can encompass a lot more than warehousing people until they die. [...] Things might be starting to change, though with the Reimagining Where We Live: Design Ideas competition, run by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

Also reported by: The Saturday Paper (Online)

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# Homes 'let them die'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/07/2024, Julie Cross and James Dowling, Page 30

Nearly 200 cases where loved ones may have been saved At least six families are currently seeking legal advice over the deaths of their loved ones in aged care. [...] The Department of Health and Aged Care said in the 2023 to 2024 financial year a quarter of the residential aged care workforce were registered and enrolled nurses and 75 per cent were personal care workers.

Also reported by: Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin and widely syndicated across regional publications

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# Notes on a council meeting

Gilgandra Weekly, General News, 02/07/2024, Nicholas Croker, Page 7

Gilgandra Shire Council held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 25. [...] The Commonwealth government, through the department of health and aged care, made \$135 million of funding available across four streams of infrastructure.

# ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

#### Indifference to our MND rates shows rural lives don't matter

Lake News, General News, 05/07/2024, Riverina, Page 3

If a fatal illness impacted Sydneysiders at seven times the rate of the national average, the NSW Government would be doing everything in its power to investigate and address this issue. [...] The Federal Department of Health and Aged Care told Region state governments would need to act first before MND would be added to the federal government list of nationally notifiable diseases it maintains.

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#### Whiddon defends low vax rates

Temora Independent, General News, 04/07/2024, Camillo Malacari, Page 1

[...] The Federal Department of Health and Aged Care reported that over the last 12 months, fewer than 10% of residents in a number of aged care homes around Australia, including Temora's Greenstone and Narraburra homes, had been vaccinated for COVID-19 in the last 12 months. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells said people with loved ones in aged care should talk to them and their care team about getting COVID-19 and flu vaccines now.

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# Former Border footballer on drug deal charges, vape stores closed in police blitz

The Border Mail, Other, 05/07/2024

Former footballer Jarrah Michael Maksymowwas one of the people charged during Strike Force Cecum, which involved raids starting on Wednesday, July 3. [...] "Those involved in illegal activity, and if that is the sale of illicit tobacco and vapes, expect to see the police and Health Department on your doorstep."

#### Read More

# Thousands of patients face massive cost hikes as St Vincent's pull plug on NIB

#### CathNews, Other, 05/07/2024, Rebecca Comini

Thousands of patients face massive rises in out-of-pocket costs at St Vincent's private hospitals after funding negotiations with major health insurer NIB collapsed amid a deepening crisis in the \$22 billion private hospital industry. [...] In June, Federal Health Minister Mark Butler launched a rapid review into the private hospital sector amid skyrocketing costs and intense financial pressure threatening its viability.

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#### Salesforce staff evaded ethics office to shower govt gifts

#### InnovationAus, Other, 05/07/2024, Joseph Brookes

A Salesforce ethics office set up to approve the software giants' gifts to government officials cleared only three of the 112 gifts showered on the disability insurance agency around a tender for its customer relationship management system. [...] The US firm's biggest publicly disclosed federal contract is with the Department of Health and Aged Care for its aged care provider management system.

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# CORONAVIRUS

#### New dominant COVID-19 variant FLuQE taking over as strain of concern

7news.com.au, Other, 05/07/2024, Sarah Keszler

A new dominant strain of COVID-19 has now displaced the previous strain that had contributed to a recent surge in cases. FLuQE has been named as the new mutation from sub-variant FLiRT, which

Also reported by: Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin and widely syndicated across regional publications

# New Covid-19 strain FLuQE is contributing to a 'sicker than normal' winter season in Australia

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/07/2024, Padraig Collins

Australians have been warned that a new Covid-19 strain is contributing to a 'sicker than normal' winter season. KP.3, also known as FLuQE, is a subvariant of the previously most dominant strain FLiRT and contains a new mutation that makes it more infectious.

### Channel 9, Today, 05/07/2024, Karl Stefanovic and Sarah Abo

A wave of COVID-19 mutations is expected to spread through Queensland this winter. Experts are warning that three subvariants are already in the State.

#### 4BC, Afternoons, 05/07/2024, Michelle Tapper

Queensland's Chief Health Officer John Gerrard is warning of a new wave of COVID cases in the Sunshine State. Last week alone, there were more than 2000 cases in Queensland.

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# AGEING AND AGED CARE

#### Luxury aged care is here but at premium prices

Weekend Australian, Business News, 06/07/2024, James Gerrard, Page 32

The term luxury is often overused. Essential items such as a simple bar of soap can be produced and marketed as a luxury item.

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#### We should be in a golden age of care

Daily Telegraph, Editorials, 06/07/2024, Page 74

When families place their loved ones in aged care they are literally putting that loved one's life in someone else's hands. The decision alone is often a harrowing and reluctant one, committed to as a last resort because of the high-intensity and complex care needs of the very elderly and frail.

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#### Elderly want to design their own futures

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/07/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 30

New care and business models are needed to deal with the surging wave of new retirees, an international conference on aged care in Adelaide has heard. Hosted by Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA), the conference examined issues including the shortfall of aged care workers and the need for specialist skills to manage complex needs as people choose to age at home.

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#### 'I demanded hospital care'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/07/2024, Julie Cross, Page 30

Patricia Shea may not be here if it weren't for her son's efforts to persuade paramedics to take her to hospital. When the 80-year-old was suffering from a serious chest infection last December, staff at Sydney's Newmarch House called an ambulance and notified her son, Anthony Bowe.

experts say is more contagious and responsible for increasing the number of cases and hospitalisation.

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# CVD drugs could prevent falls, say researchers

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/07/2024, Christopher Kelly

Aged care residents who are taking medication for cardiovascular disease may be at lesser risk of falls, according to research. The finding was discovered when researchers from Macquarie University's Australian Institute of Health Innovation began investigating the long-term pattern of use of psychotropic and CVD drugs in residential aged care, and their association with falls.

#### Read More

# New chair for Southern Cross Care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 05/07/2024

Aged care provider Southern Cross Care NSW & ACT has appointed Mike Christensen as its new chair. A member of SCC's board since 2021, Mr Christensen brings to the role extensive experience in finance, property, and governance.

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# Barrabill House unveils \$3.17M upgrade, enhancing resident care

Shepparton News Online, Other, 05/07/2024, Faith MacAle

The Barrabill House in Seymour opened its new and improved facilities on Wednesday, July 3. The aged care service unveiled the \$3.17 million upgrade that includes 10 new single rooms with ensuites and refurbished kitchen, dining, and lounge areas.

#### Read More

# Multidisciplinary teams: the future for aged care and health care?

The Weekly Source, Other, 05/07/2024, Lauren Broomham

Is it time to accept that Australia will not have the GPs required to meet the demands of the ageing population and look to a multidisciplinary approach? Research shows that patients with the same care team have better health outcomes – but this approach is difficult to implement.

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# POPULATION HEALTH

# Are you overweight or obese? Depends on where you carry your fat

AFR Weekend, General News, 06/07/2024, Jill Margo, Page 6

European experts have declared the traditional method of defining obesity inadequate and have designed a new framework that will include more people in the obese category.

Also reported by: Australian Financial Review (Online)

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# Attack on childless Swift is simply inconceivable

Herald Sun, General News, 06/07/2024, Susie O'Brien, Page 65

Travis Kelce, Taylor Swift's boyfriend, is a bad role model for young boys. [...] The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reports that one-quarter of Australian women will never have children, and by 2031 the number of couples without kids will overtake those who do.

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

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# Are energy efficient homesmaking us sick?

Burnie Advocate, General News, 06/07/2024, Isabel Bird, Page 5

A Tasmanian building expert warns that house mould is the new asbestos, as new research raises an urgent need for home-owners of energy efficient houses to become aware of the potential dangers. The issue of mould in Tasmanian homes is seen as a "matter of serious concern", with high indoor humidity levels contributing to harmful mould growth in homes built over the last ten years.

Also reported by: Launceston Examiner (Launceston).

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#### Exercise is key to healthy ageing

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 06/07/2024, Patrick Reid, Page 26

Sport can bring so much joy to people's lives, whether participating or watching. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), 57 percent of adults aged 65 and over do not meet these guidelines, and 84 percent do not do enough muscle-strengthening activities.

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# How does getting the traditional eight hours of sleep benefit your health?

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 06/07/2024, Dr Yaqoot Fatima, Page 53

Many people consider sleep merely a leisure activity. However, a good night's sleep is far more than that it is essential for the repair, restoration, growth, and proper functioning of cardiometabolic processes critical for a healthy life.

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# Poor policy practice steers Labor's prohibition fantasy on vapes

The Australian, Other, 05/07/2024

The Albanese government wanted clear air to bed down its tax cuts and a raft of budget goodies. Senator Payman's defection to the cross bench has denied the government the opportunity to get on the front foot. Meanwhile, one measure that was introduced on July 1 has slipped into law quietly and with little attention.

#### Read More

#### Australia's cardiac arrest rates targeted through CPR campaign

ABC Online, Other, 05/07/2024, James Taylor and Lucy Loram

Against a picturesque backdrop of K'gari and a golden sunrise, Greg Messer's freestyle stroke powers through Hervey Bay's glassy, autumnal waters. A few strokes away, partner Nicola Wellings makes "sure that he's never actually alone", regularly checking on the 75-year-old with the bright orange buoy in tow.

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# Abolished cashless debit card still divides, two years after Labor ordered its demise

#### The Guardian, Other, 05/07/2024, Josh Butler

The majority of past cashless debit card users have said the ending of the program was a positive step that reduced stigmatisation and discrimination but some reported it led to "poor decision making" and financial coercion once the controversial scheme was abolished, a review has found. [...] The review by the University of Adelaide found reports of alcohol use and gambling had increased in most of the areas where the card was formerly used.

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#### 'Top five': Shocking Covid stat as cases soar

#### NEWS.com.au, Other, 05/07/2024

A chief health officer says three new varients of Covid are spreading in Australia, as new statistics about the disease come to light. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), with 9,859 deaths attributed to the virus, Covid-19 trailed only coronary heart disease and dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, as a leading cause of death.

Also reported by: Adelaide Now (Online), Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)

#### Uni moves to improve SA regional healthcare

In Daily, Other, 05/07/2024

Flinders University has set up South Australia's first rural-based medical program in a bid to boost the number of healthcare workers in regional areas. [...] Data compiled by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare indicated in 2022 there were 1938 full-time equivalent medical practitioners per 100,000 people in remote areas around Australia.

#### Read More

#### Ambulance ramping is getting worse. Here's what we can do about it

Your Life Choices, Other, 05/07/2024

We've seen countless media reports in recent days, weeks and months about the ramping of ambulances at hospital emergency departments (EDs) around Australia. [...] Between the financial years 2018–19 and 2022–23 (the latest period for which figures are available), Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data show the numbers of more serious presentations (triage categories 1 to 3) increased by almost 700,000 across Australia.

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# CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

#### Injury risk of diabetes

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/07/2024, Page 28

People with diabetes who are treated with insulin have more than a 60 per cent increased risk of being hospitalised for injuries such as head and neck trauma and burns, a new Australian study says. The Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute says the high risk of injury in people with type 1 diabetes and those with insulin-treated type 2 diabetes could be due to hypoglycaemic falls when blood sugar levels dip, poorer eyesight and neuropathy - nerve damage that makes them less aware of burns.

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

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#### Parkinson's breakthrough

Courier Mail, General News, 06/07/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 30

A Queensland hospital is the first public facility in the country to provide innovative brain "surgery" for conditions like Parkinson's disease that requires no invasive incision or anaesthetic and drastically improves symptoms within hours. The procedure uses ultrasound energy to target and ablate areas of the brain that trigger symptoms of movement disorders such as uncontrollable tremors.

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

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#### Now, to a tax that's a sweet waste of time

Hobart Mercury, General News, 06/07/2024, Caleb Bond, Page 37

Isn't it convenient that the best way to stop you from doing things the government doesn't like always seems to be a tax? Smokers pay through the nose for the pleasure of lighting up their tax contribution far exceeds the cost to the health system as a result of their habit.

Also reported by: Northern Territory News (Darwin).

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#### Men's health should be a focus all year

Burnie Advocate, General News, 06/07/2024, Alison Lai, Page 62

Every year, there is a Men's Health Week. The aim is to raise awareness of how we can help the men

and boys in our lives to be healthier. [...] Cancer Council has comprehensive information available on all cancers and talking about cancer is important, but it's not the easiest conversation to start.

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# All in his stride

Central Western Daily, General News, 06/07/2024, William Davis, Page 1

When Liam Stibbard became overly thirsty during a softball match, he had no idea it was the beginning of a new health journey for the 12-year-old and his family. Liam's unquenchable thirst was actually a sign of type 1 diabetes but his subsequent diagnosis hasn't kept him off the diamond.

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### Avoid prolonged scope intervals post-CRC resection: Aussie doctors

Australian Doctor, Other, 05/07/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

Prolonged intervals between surveillance colonoscopies following colorectal cancer resection should be avoided to minimise the risk of missing advanced neoplasia, Australian doctors say. The Flinders University-led team report a detection rate of 11% for advanced adenomas and 2% for adenocarcinomas during follow-up scopes performed one, four and seven years after surgery.

#### Read More

# Thousands of high-risk cancer genes identified in landmark study... could could YOU be carrying one without knowing?

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/07/2024, Emily Stearn

Scientists may be one step closer to new effective cancer treatments after discovering thousands of high-risk genes. Until now, experts were unsure exactly which specific genetic changes to look out for in the 'tumour protection' gene BAP1 that cause it to malfunction and fuel cancer growth.

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### AMA "100 percent behind" sugar tax

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/07/2024

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) has heaped praise on a parliamentary inquiry which has recommended a sugar tax on all soft drinks. The association says the inquiry has grasped an opportunity to act on ballooning national obesity and diabetes rates, with the tax raising funds to direct towards tackling chronic diseases.

#### Read More

#### AMA welcomes push on sugar tax reform

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 05/07/2024

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) has praised a federal parliamentary probe into diabetes which has recommended a sugar tax on all soft drinks to help address the nation's obesity and diabetes rates. The AMA says the parliamentary inquiry into diabetes grasped an opportunity to recommend a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, which could help prevent obesity and raise crucial funds to tackle chronic disease.

#### Read More

#### ABC Radio Perth, Breakfast , 05/07/2024, Mark Gibson

Hearing Australia says First Nations children living in remote areas face a serious threat of permanent hearing damage. Since 2019, the organisation has assessed 36,000 children under six and found that 47% either had an undiagnosed ear disease or hearing loss. Hearing Australia Cultural Leader Kirralee Cross says regular cheques are critical to addressing the problem.

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### No need to panic, health fund says

Weekend Australian, General News, 06/07/2024, Jack Quail, Page 7

Private health insurance giant NIB has moved to reassure its 1.3 million members following a breakdown in negotiation with St Vincent's Health Australia, threatening to render its coverage at Australia's largest not-forprofit hospital provider useless. Speaking on Friday after St Vincent's advised NIB it would walk away from negotiations due to a pricing dispute, NIB boss Mark Fitzgibbon advised members they would remain covered at least until the contract lapsed in October, as it attempted to revive the pricing agreement.

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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#### The mercy dash

Weekend Australian, Magazine, 06/07/2024, Kirsten Due, Page 14

Dr Kirsten Due knew all too well the desperate state of remote area health services. And the efforts to save one little boy brought it all into sharp focus...

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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#### Big hospitals to delay or cut back elective surgery

The Saturday Age, General News, 06/07/2024, Jewel Topsfield, Page 1

Victorian doctors have warned that cutting elective surgery to meet state government hospital budgets could reverse the hard work done to get waiting lists to the lowest level since the pandemic began. In 2022 the state government announced a \$1.5 billion elective surgery blitz and last October released a plan to further reduce waiting lists, including highintensity theatre (HIT) lists that focused on single procedures such as cataract surgery or hip replacements, and "Super Saturdays".

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#### Hospital surgery jeopardy

Herald Sun, General News, 06/07/2024, Shannon Deery and Mitch Clarke, Page 3

Major hospitals could be forced to extend their Christmas shutdown periods, stop weekend surgeries and close operating theatres to meet tough new budget expectations. Hospitals across the state have been asked to find savings that some sources estimate at more than \$1bn in total.

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#### Parents' shock: 'Our little girl can't walk'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/07/2024, Evangeline Polymeneas, Page 27

A mysterious illness plagued eight-year-old Eliyana Salmanzadeh, with doctors turning her away despite her screaming in pain. Her parents were desperate to discover what was happening to their little girl, continuing to take her to professionals but they weren't getting any answers.

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#### Stave off health services mergers

Bendigo Advertiser, Letters, 06/07/2024, Emma Kealy MP, Page 17

Hiring freezes, reduced elective surgeries and "turn the lights off" directives. Just when you thought you'd heard it all, Victoria's health system continues to buckle under the stress of budget cuts and mooted mergers.

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### **GP** price hike fears

Border Watch, General News, 05/07/2024, Charlotte Varcoe, Page 1

Doctors at the region's only Urgent Care Clinic (UCC) are worried about further pressure put on its system with the general practitioner payroll tax coming into effect. While the Mount Gambier Urgent Care Clinic itself is exempt, operator Doctor Richard Try is concerned that the tax will see clinics increase their fees, sending more people to their door.

#### Healthcare facing 'very significant challenges': Minister

Central Western Daily, General News, 06/07/2024, William Davis, Page 2

"Very significant challenges" are facing regional healthcare - and chronic staffshortages are at the top of the list. That's according to NSW Minister for Health Ryan Park, who visited Orange and Central West this week to talk to key workers across the sector.

Also reported by: Daily Liberal (Dubbo)

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#### Forced smiles: Crescent Capital, Genesis get their fangs out

Australian Financial Review, Other, 05/07/2024, Kanika Sood, Sarah Thompson and Emma Rapaport

Time is ticking on an outcome of a colourful bunfight between private equiteers at Crescent Capital and their erstwhile colleagues who set up shop at Genesis Capital. At the centre of the stoush is Pacific Smiles, the ASX-listed dental group both buyout...

Read More

# Insurer NIB reassures member coverage amid talks with St Vincent's private hospitals

#### West Australian, Other, 05/07/2024, Cheyanne Enciso

Major health insurer NIB has moved to reassure members of their coverage while it works through contract negotiations with the country's largest not-for-profit health and aged care provider, St Vincent's — which operates 10 private hospitals in NSW, Victoria and Queensland — on Thursday threatened to terminate its contract with NIB within the next 65 days unless a "new fairer" funding was reached.

#### Read More

# Hospital development in Busselton delayed as St John of God tries to manage its finances in a 'responsible way'

ABC Online, Other, 05/07/2024, Pip Waller

St John of God will delay the development of a new private hospital in Vasse that included plans for an oncology unit. 77-year-old Howard George says he'll have to continue driving between Vasse and Bunbury every two weeks to receive chemotherapy.

#### Read More

# What does it mean for patients if St Vincent's and NIB fail to reach a funding deal?

The Guardian, Other, 06/07/2024, Natasha May

The hospital network says it will walk away from its contract with the private health insurer in three months if a fairer agreement can't be reached. Has this situation happened before?

#### Read More

# Govt plan to open nurse clinic 'on same street as four practices' angers GPs

Australian Doctor, Other, 05/07/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

Dr Cathyrn Hester says the Queensland Government clinic is a 'misguided use of taxpayer money'. The Queensland Government will open a nurse clinic to provide GP-style care in central Brisbane, which the RACGP says will harm nearby GP practices and waste taxpayers' money.

#### Read More

#### 'We've reached peak hospital'

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/07/2024

Advanced pharmacy could be key to delivering healthcare in new settings, SHPA president tells careers summit Health systems are changing and "the bedside that the pharmacist provides care at

# Guild's 8CPA calculator

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/07/2024

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia, in collaboration with NostraData, has unveiled a new calculator to help pharmacies understand changes to their dispensary remuneration under the recently announced eighth Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA). This tool enables pharmacies to grasp the evolving remuneration landscape by providing data specific to their operations under the 8CPA, building on the success of a similar calculator for 60-day dispensing remuneration.

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#### Shepparton News Online, Other, 05/07/2024, Andy Wilson

Alexandra residents have opposed the Victorian Government's plans to downsize their hospital. Streamlining the management of regional hospitals has raised serious concerns for Alexandra residents after a town hall meeting on Saturday, June 29.

#### Read More

#### 'Taking pressure off': Centre on the move but service here to stay

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 05/07/2024, Katrina Lovell

It's helped more than 10,000 Warrnambool people since it opened a year ago and, despite fears Priority Primary Care Centres were earmarked for the chop, the state government says it's not going anywhere. On Thursday, Melbourne media reported V ictoria's priority primary care clinics were bracing for funding cuts and slashed opening hours which would put more pressure on swamped hospitals.

#### Read More

### 2CC, Breakfast, 05/07/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

The Canberra Liberals have slammed a failed proposal by the ACT Government to have general practitioners join five walk-in centres here in Canberra. Freedom of information documents obtained by the Canberra Liberals show the government proposed to include GPs across the clinic as part of the Commonwealth's urgent care clinic rollout. Dr Kerrie Aust, ACT Branch President, Australian Medical Association, says governments are focusing on the wrong things.

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### 4BC, Afternoons, 05/07/2024, Michelle Tapper

Tapper discusses that another \$46 million towards nurse-only health clinics in the city, a move slammed by the Australian Medical Association of Queensland, which says the CBD already has numerous GP clinics and the money would be better spent elsewhere. She believes that there needs to be more consultation with the Australian Medical Association of Queensland regarding this because they're the ones that are talking to doctors on the frontline.

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### ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 05/07/2024, Emma Bickley

The Australian Medical Association says government support for GPs remains insufficient, and doctors are continuing to do several hours of unpaid work. Around 53% of GP consultations in the territory were bulk billed in December last year.

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#### might not be in a hospital anymore", Tom Simpson, Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) president says.

Fears for town's hospital

### The silent epidemic

Weekend Australian, Magazine, 06/07/2024, Phillip Adams, Page 50

The most famous intro in music? The eight notes that begin Beethoven's 5th. Da-da-de-dum, da-da-dedum. The most famous words in drama? The six short ones that begin Hamlet's soliloquy. "To be or not to be?"

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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#### Extremists prey on the autistic kid

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/07/2024, Madeline Crittenden, Page 32

Teens with mental health issues and disorders such as autism are increasingly falling victim to online extremists, who are exploiting young minds that are desperate to make connections and fit in. Mental health challenges, neurodiversity factors like autism, and behavioural issues have emerged as repeated traits in a recent spate of terror incidents in NSW, with cops looking to experts for ways to support vulnerable children.

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#### Personal experience message behind support

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 06/07/2024, Phil Kettle, Page 12

It can be easy to feel isolated if you have depression. Due to stigma, many people still don't talk about mental health issues which can lead friends or loved ones to feel even more alone.

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# CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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# HEALTH WORKFORCE

#### **Code black guards**

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/07/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 1

Security has been doubled at the Royal Adelaide Hospital's embattled ED after a series of frightening assaults which left clinicians needing treatment. It comes as the health system faces huge strain, with even the new ED at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital full beyond capacity just two days after opening.

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

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#### 8CPA makes community pharmacy more rewarding: Twomey

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/07/2024

Students and early career pharmacists are being urged to pursue careers in community pharmacy, with Guild president spruiking the sector as the most financially rewarding.

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# TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

#### ABC Radio Canberra, Breakfast, 05/07/2024, Adam Shirley

A total of 200 Australians who are living with Von Hippel-Lindau Disease [VHL] are anxiously waiting to see if a \$ 12,000-a-month drug will be included in the PBS in July.

Similar content in: ABC Radio Sydney (Sydney)

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# MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### 2CC, Breakfast, 05/07/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Cenatiempo argues that the Australian Digital Health Agency is going to pay consultants \$500,000 to tell them how to not use consultants. He clarified that the agency is expected to pay around \$550,000 to develop an insourcing strategy in direct response to new rules requiring the Federal public service to slash spending on external labour.

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# **BENEFITS INTEGRITY**

#### Medical staff stood aside over cop's son

Weekend Australian, General News, 06/07/2024, Tess McCracken, Page 5

SA Health has suspended 10 staff members and multiple others remain under investigation over allegations they inappropriately accessed the medical records of the Police Commissioner's son, who died in a tragic Schoolies incident last year. Charlie Stevens, 18, was struck in a hit-run crash at Goolwa Beach in November last.

Also reported by: <u>Adelaide Now (Online)</u>, <u>The Australian (Online)</u>, <u>Northern Territory News (Online)</u>, <u>The</u> <u>Mercury (Online)</u>, <u>Daily Telegraph Australia (Online)</u>, <u>The Courier Mail (Online)</u>, <u>NEWS.com.au (Online)</u>, <u>West</u> <u>Australian (Online)</u>

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#### Deaths in aged care spur legal bid

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/07/2024, Julie Cross and James Dowling, Page 9

At least six families are currently seeking legal advice over the deaths of their loved ones in aged care. They believe their deaths could have been prevented if they had received guicker or better healthcare.

Also reported by: Hobart Mercury (Hobart)

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#### **Baby Amir probe**

The West Australian (Saturday edition), General News, 06/07/2024, Josh Zimmerman, Page 2

Ramsay Health Care will engage an independent expert to review the care provided to an expectant mum whose baby died inside her womb at Joondalup Health Campus. However, the under-siege hospital will not direct that expert to meet Amir Al-Khafaji's devastated parents as part of the new probe.

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# Sunshine Coast University Hospital senior leader Jason Gibson found guilty of misconduct

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 05/07/2024, Vanda Carson

A senior leader at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital has failed in his bid to overturn his demotion after he was found guilty of misconduct for approving a staffer to skip the standard intake process to use an echocardiogram on her spouse several times. On February 26 Industrial Commissioner

Samantha Pidgeon ruled that the one classification level demotion and change of duties metered out to Jason Gibson was proportionate disciplinary action for a finding of misconduct given "his senior leadership position".

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

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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### SPORT

#### Tech giant dons a bib for Sydney Marathon

Weekend Australian, Business News, 06/07/2024, Page 27

Sydney has secured the backing of Indian tech titan Tata Consultancy Services to catapult its marathon to the same status as New York and London's races. In return, TCS will be able to showcase its technology, which includes replicating a digital version of someone's heart to help treat a range of conditions, to more Australians.

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#### Khawaja takes long handle to Dutton, but who'll back down?

Sydney Morning Herald, Sport, 06/07/2024, Page 59

Stand by, sports fans, and political observers. It's all happening. Last month when the ABC's Laura Tingle, in quiet conversation at the Sydney Writers Festival, opined that Australia is "a racist country" and accused Opposition Leader Peter Dutton's announced plans to cut migration as "so much dog whistling...it doesn't make rational sense", all hell broke loose.

#### Read Plain Text Read More

#### Terror threat at new high

Daily Telegraph, General News, 06/07/2024, Josh Hanrahan, Page 38

As tensions are rising across Europe and the Middle East, the risk of a terror attack at the Paris Olympics is significant, according to experts... but French security forces are confident they are at the top of their game. [...] In addition to the athletes, coaches and support staff, an observer delegation of Australians from the Brisbane 2032 planning committee will be in Paris to watch and learn first hand.

Also reported by: Courier Mail (Brisbane)

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#### Aussies' sweetest Mel-ody

Daily Telegraph, Sport, 06/07/2024, Julian Linden, Page 93

Poms will lose super coach Swimming Australia has pulled off a major coup by enticing British super coach Mel Marshall to Queensland, all but ensuring the Dolphins will soon have a female trainer on the pool deck at major events. SA's forward-thinking new CEO Rob Woodhouse has delivered on his pledge to recruit a high-profile international female coach to help fast-track the development of Aussie women coaches.

Also reported by: Herald Sun (Melbourne)

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#### Kimia tells the world her brave Paris secret

Courier Mail, General News, 06/07/2024, Neil Cordy, Page 9

As athletes around Australia and the world have celebrated their selection for the Paris Olympics, sprinter Kimia Yousofi couldn't tell a soul. The Sydney-based Yousofi has, for three weeks, been keeping her inclusion in the Afghanistan team quiet for fear of alerting the Taliban.

#### Read Plain Text Read More

#### Enormous cost of sporting glory

Canberra Times, General News, 06/07/2024, Garry Linnell, Page 47

It truly is the greatest show on earth. It only arrives every four years but the battle for gold is well worth the wait. How it warms the soul to observe our amateurs competing on the world stage. Such dedication. Such commitment. No wonder they leave us breathless.

Canberra Times (Online) and widely syndicated across regional publications

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#### Net losses for Aussie sport fans

The Nightly, General News, 04/07/2024, Ellen Ransley, Page 10

The Albanese Government has been accused of doing the "dirty work" of giant streaming corporations such as Amazon and Netflix and leaving behind scores of Australians after anti-siphoning laws cleared Parliament. The Greens, who have been fighting to ensure sport was free for all to watch whether it be on aerial broadcast television, or on smart devices and TVs, said it was a death knell for sports viewers because there was still a loophole open that meant some events would remain behind a paywall.

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#### Sports rights at risk for Sunraysia viewers

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 06/07/2024, Michael Difabrizio, Page 11

Sunraysia TV viewers could be forced to pay for sporting events the rest of the country enjoys for free as a result of Channel 10's signal ending and new legislation passed this week. Locals have been encouraged, including by Federal Communications Minister Michelle Rowland, to use the 10Play app to stream broadcasts of 10 and its multi-channels.

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### Gaming more than just a youthful armchair pastime, esports is gearing up for a massive Olympics future

Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 06/07/2024, Alan Patching and James Birt, Page 76

Millions of online gamers around the world could be battling it out for Olympic medals sooner than you think. International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach told Xinhua, the Chinese state-operated news agency, that the first edition of the Olympic Esports Games would take place as early as next year and by no later than 2026.

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# 'It's bull\*\*\*\*': Matildas alumni criticise Football Australia's recognition of 1975 team

#### ABC Online, Other, 05/07/2024, Samantha Lewis

More than 50 former Matildas are expected to sign a letter to Football Australia criticising the recent decision to formally recognise a team from 1975 as the "first Matildas," saying the governing body has devalued the meaning of their caps and damaged their trust in the organisation.

#### Read More

# South Australian surfers on a costly road to compete at the highest level from the bottom of the world

ABC Online, Other, 05/07/2024, Malcolm Sutton

Drive over the headland on a day the swell's up and chances are you'll see a flash of white as a surfer launches an arc of sea spray into the sky. Park and walk to where a jagged cliff gives way to the Southern Ocean and you may see another surfer backdoor his way into a barrel, before drawing off the bottom and hitting the lip with a crack

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# HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

#### Drug result drives share surge

Weekend Australian, Business News, 06/07/2024, Valerina Changarathil, Page 27

Shares in Clinuvel Pharma bolted higher on Friday after positive results from a study involving one of its key drug treatments. The stock was the best performer on the All Ordinaries, rallying 14.6 per cent to \$17.38.

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### **Objection on record**

The Saturday Paper, Letters, 06/07/2024, Ed Husic, Page 16

The Saturday Paper plays a vital role in Australia's media landscape, trusted by its readers for its independence and ability to drill into the complexity of issues. It's difficult for me to write to express my disappointment in two recent articles. Each misconstrued important facts and misled readers through omission. The first, "CSIRO dismantles clinical research units" (June 2228), led readers to believe the government had "cut" CSIRO funding by \$100 million.

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# FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

# Equine program for First Nations youths heals trauma and improves wellbeing in the Kimberley

ABC Online, Other, 05/07/2024, Dunja Karagic

High school student Athena Perkusich takes a step forward in a dusty paddock on the outskirts of Broome, 2,000 kilometres north of Perth in Western Australia's remote Kimberley. Behind her, a horse quietly follows.

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# Deadly Runners - creating long term change and health benefits within communities

SBS, Other, 05/07/2024, Lowanna Grant

Kuku Yalanji woman, Georgia Weir attributes running to helping her to turn her life around. "Running had a profound impact on myself and completely changed the trajectory of my life.

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# INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

#### Backyard chicken found with bird flu

Canberra Times, General News, 06/07/2024, Lanie Tindale and Lucy Bladen, Page 3

Backyard chickens in a residential area in Canberra's north have tested positive for avian flu, the government has confirmed. It is the second confirmed case of bird flu in the ACT since a NSW outbreak.

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### Whooping cases spike

Hobart Mercury, General News, 06/07/2024, Sue Bailey, Page 3

The number of Tasmanians with whooping cough has surged, with 72 cases so far this year prompting a warning on vaccinations. Pertussis, known as whooping cough, can be fatal in babies. It is a highly infectious respiratory disease that affects people of all ages.

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

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#### **Riverina bird shows cancelled**

Border Mail, General News, 06/07/2024, Finn Coleman, Page 22

Birds flu's creep towards the Riverina has opened the door to a familiar scene of cancelled events. Following a confirmed case of the virus in the ACT on June 27, various poultry events around the Riverina have been postponed, including Wagga Poultry Club's annual show and Tumut's Ray Smith Testimonial Show, which was scheduled for Saturday.

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# New State Government immunisation campaign to drive up Capes low vaccination rates for public health

West Australian, Other, 05/07/2024, Warren Hatelyer

Alarm about declining vaccinations rates — a hot issue in the Capes region — has triggered the State Government to unveil a new public health campaign. The Times reported in May the latest worrying data showing townships from Augusta to Busselton had some of the lowest vaccination rates in the country, particularly in crucial early childhood categories.

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#### Qantas flight death: Manpreet Kaur's final act

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 05/07/2024, Brett Lackey and Fred Pawle

A young woman who died in her plane seat as her flight prepared to take off from Melbourne spent her last moments looking at a photograph of her parents on her phone. Aspiring chef Manpreet Kaur, 24, was flying back to Delhi in India on June 20 for a visit to see her parents for the first time in four years after relocating to Australia.

#### Read More

#### Influenza activity increasing

Shepparton News Online, Other, 05/07/2024

Last week we reported on the surge of influenza A, COVID-19 and RSV in the Deniliquin and wider Murrumbidgee health region. District wide reports on the outbreak are being updated each Friday.

#### Read More

# Backyard chickens in the ACT have tested positive to bird flu making it the second site where the virus has been detected

NEWS.com.au, Other, 05/07/2024, Emma Kirk

Chickens at a home in the ACT have tested positive to bird flu, making it the second property were the virus has been detected in the nation's capital. The chickens were located at a home within a quarantine area that was established after the virus was first detected at a commercial egg farm on June 27.

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

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#### ABC Radio Perth, Statewide Mornings, 05/07/2024, Michelle Stanley

Interview with Chris Donovan, National Director, Australian Workers Union, about mine workers suffering from silica dust throughout their time working. Donovan admits that one of the many problems is that it's hard to encourage a worker to speak to the media for fear of retribution in regard to these concerns. He admits that there's a shocking culture in the Pilbara, particularly in mining companies,

that if a person is working there and they are raising an issue about workplace health and public safety, then they get fired.

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# THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

#### AI aids early diagnosis of dementia

The Saturday Age, General News, 06/07/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 10

An artificial intelligence tool trained partially on an Australian bank of dementia cases is set to be trialled in hospitals across the United States after a study found the advanced model could predict 10 different causes of the regressive illness. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration on Thursday approved the technology for clinical use, days after the federal government invested \$20 million in the technology.

Also reported by: Sydney Morning Herald (Online)

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#### Tough policy on vapes goes up in smoke

The Saturday Age, Editorials, 06/07/2024, Page 36

Nobody said it would be easy. Vapes and e-cigarettes have hit cities the world over like an unstoppable avalanche. [...] As law and justice editor Chris Vedelago has reported this week, the Therapeutic Goods Administration has not issued a single fine or charge to any retailers or distributors in Victoria in the days since the federal government's ban came into effect on July 1.

#### Read Plain Text Read More

#### Mineral supplement recall

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 06/07/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 27

A national recall of a potassium iodide supplement is under way after SA Health discovered the labelled weight of the active content did not match the tablets. The Therapeutic Goods Administration has agreed to a hospital-level recall of the supplement following a notification from SA Health.

#### Read Plain Text Read More

#### Vapes easy to access

Daily Advertiser, General News, 06/07/2024, Cai Holroyd, Page 4

From July 1, new laws mean vapes can only be sold in pharmacies to those with a prescription - but ACM found it still took less than 10 minutes to purchase one in Griffith. [...] Pharmacist Sean Dodd said some in the industry were uncomfortable with selling vapes, particularly considering the lack of TGA approval or enough proven data on the effects of vaping.

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#### **Compound issues**

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 05/07/2024, Chris Brooker

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has issued a warning that it has received reports of serious side effects in infants given compounded wind and colic products containing Atropa belladonna (belladonna).

#### Read More

#### 2San illegal supply

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 05/07/2024

Healthcare manufacturer 2San Pty Ltd has begun a two-year court enforceable undertaking for unlawfully importing bacterial vaginosis tests and pregnancy tests not approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). The ruling means 2San must provide an annual written audit to the TGA,

hire a compliance consultant to advise on regulatory procedures, recall the unregistered goods and pay costs for the undertaking.

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# 5AA, Afternoons, 05/07/2024, Stacey Lee

Lee mentions news that was recently released from the Department of Health & Wellbeing with the TGA agreeing to a hospital-level recall of potassium iodide, which is a supplement that's in concern right now due to product labelling. She states that the brand Vitamatic Potassium lodide initiated and recalled the tablets last year.

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# OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

No relevant coverage

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# FOOD STANDARDS

#### Frat on charges

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 06/07/2024, Nadine Morton, Page 1

Fairy Meadow's Fraternity Club will face court on seven charges after two women, including NSW Health Minister Ryan Park's wife, Kara Lamond, allegedly drank contaminated cocktails at the club, causing burns which landed them in hospital. The charges were laid after a months long investigation by the NSW Food Authority.

Also reported by: Illawarra Mercury (Online)

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# AICIS

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