



# TODAY'S NEWS

Thursday, 4th July 2024

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## LINKS

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports healthcare services need to focus on preventative measures to stop diabetes becoming entrenched in Australia's most disadvantaged communities, a parliamentary health committee has found. *Also reported by: [The Australian](#)*
- **[The Age](#)** (page 1) reports Victoria's priority primary care clinics are expecting to lose up to 25 per cent of their funding, while mental health services are preparing for redundancies amidst ongoing state government cost cuts. *Also reported by: [The Age](#)*
- The **[Adelaide Advertiser](#)** (page 1) reports South Australia's Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation has called for an immediate security upgrade for the Royal Adelaide Hospital after healthcare workers were injured in the third alleged violent attack in a week. *Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [7news.com.au](#)*
- **[The Australian](#)** (page 3) reports the new COVID FLuQE subvariant is expected to hit Australia in "just a few weeks" prompting a spike in case numbers. *Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Hobart Mercury](#)*
- The **[Canberra Times](#)** (page 3) reports Australia's Digital Health Agency is seeking tender for a new insourcing strategy as it responds to new federal rules requiring the public service to slash spending on external workers.

- The [Daily Telegraph](#) (page 5) reports the start of a mental health decline in young people coincides with the popularisation of Instagram and Snapchat in 2010, with women hardest hit, new research by e61 Institute has found. *Also reported by:* [Australian Financial Review](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Hobart Mercury](#)
- The [Daily Telegraph](#) (page 5) reports the federal opposition has refused to support a parliamentary committee's calls for a "sugar tax" on soft drinks to help address rising obesity rates. *Also reported by:* [The Australian](#), [Herald Sun](#), [Adelaide Advertiser](#), [Hobart Mercury](#)
- [The Nightly](#) (page 5) reports the mother of a woman killed during the Bondi Junction stabbing attack has called for governments to improve and standardise mental healthcare services across states and territories. *Also reported by:* [The Australian](#), [Canberra Times](#), [ABC Online](#), [SBS](#)

## MINISTER BUTLER

### Mother of Bondi stabbing victim pleads for mental health fix

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 04/07/2024, Page 12

Elizabeth Young lost her daughter Jade during the horrific stabbing spree in Bondi and is using her grief to call for more mental health support to stop such a tragedy happening again. The mass attack at the Bondi Junction shopping centre in Sydney's east in April left six people dead. [...] Hearing from people like Ms Young alongside carers and people with relevant experience was integral to making improvements in the sector, Health Minister Mark Butler said.

*Also reported by:* [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [The New Daily \(Online\)](#), [Central Western Daily \(Orange\)](#), [Daily Advertiser \(Wagga Wagga\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#).

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### Community-led Innovation to Revolutionize Healthcare Access in Rural Australia

Northern Rivers Times, General News, 04/07/2024, Page 47

The National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) is delighted to announce that the Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Mark Butler, has allocated \$16 million for innovative healthcare delivery trials through 11 projects in rural and remote Australia. Among these projects is a groundbreaking initiative to transform healthcare delivery in rural Australia, specifically in Mareeba, far north Queensland, with a population of approximately 12,000 people, in collaboration with Mareeba Community's Family Healthcare (MCFHC).

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### Ulladulla based pharmacist will look to assist people reduce vape usage

Milton Ulladulla Times, Other, 03/07/2024, Damian McGill

An Ulladulla-based pharmacist believes chemists can play a positive part in trying to reduce and control vape usage. Login or signup to continue reading His thoughts come after changes passed in Federal Parliament recently which mean vapes will only be able to be sold at pharmacies. [...] "Almost every month, we are gathering new evidence about the harms that vaping is causing to young lungs, the harms, particularly that nicotine addiction is causing to the mental health of young Australians," Federal Health Minister Mark Butler recently said.

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### Timboon residents 'need answers on future of health service', says MP

Warrnambool Standard, Other, 03/07/2024, Monique Patterson

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler has been asked to allay fears about funding cuts and a loss of local representation at Timboon and District Healthcare Service (TDHS). Member for Wannon Dan Tehan has written to Mr Butler, along with Minister for Aged Care Annika Wills, after Timboon and

district residents said they were "very scared" the needs of their small, rural community would be lost if they were "swallowed up" in a hospital merger.

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## **Mother of Bondi Junction victim calls on federal government to improve mental health support**

Sky News Australia, Other, 03/07/2024, Oscar Godsell

The mother of a Bondi Junction stabbing victim has called on the government to address critical gaps in Australia's mental health system. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler has said health and mental health ministers have scheduled to meet in the coming weeks.

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## **'Horror health budget': Peter Dutton tried to 'jack up' the price of medicines**

Sky News Australia, Other, 03/07/2024

Health Minister Mark Butler has fired shots at Opposition Leader Peter Dutton for delivering a "horror health budget" during the latter's time as health minister. "He actually tried to make medicines more expensive," Mr Butler said during parliamentary Question Time on Wednesday.

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## **Funding for six digital health tech companies**

Hospital and Healthcare, Other, 03/07/2024

Six digital health technology companies are set to receive non-dilutive funding through the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) as part of the ANDHealth+ program. [...] The funding announcement follows the launch of the Economic Impact Assessment of Digital Health by Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney.

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## **'I was in constant pain, but doctors kept ignoring me'**

Kidspot Australia, Other, 03/07/2024, Jasmine Kazlauskas

"I thought maybe I don't have it anymore, because he told me a lot of women who go through pregnancy, they find it goes into remission. I was gaslit to the point where I didn't know whether it was in my head." [...] "I was deeply moved by the women who spoke about their experience with endometriosis during the About Bloody Time campaign," Health Minister Mark Butler said.

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## **Channel 10, 10 News First, 03/07/2024**

The mother of one of the victims killed in the Bondi Junction stabbing attack is begging for better mental health support across the nation. Mark Butler, Health Minister, says they have heard the message loud and clear and that's why they have determined to come together for a full day next month and start to work on these issues.

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## **ABC News, Mornings, 03/07/2024, Chris Mitchell**

Doctors say some patients have been left behind by the federal government's bulk billing scheme. Minister Mark Butler has described the initiative as making Medicare stronger. Dr Nicole Higgins, RACGP, says there are gaps in the system.

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## Aged care insurance fees jump on jail threat

Australian Financial Review, General News, 04/07/2024, John Kehoe, Page 4

Insurance fees for aged care directors and officers have almost doubled, due to potential big fines and jail time for breaching the Albanese government's proposed tougher laws for the sector. Aged care providers, their advisers and the federal opposition ...

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

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## Critic's view

Age, Green Guide, 04/07/2024, Ben Pobjie, Page 9

Along with many Australians, Maggie Beer was shocked and dismayed by the findings of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety. Its final report, published in 2021, revealed, among other problems afflicting the sector, that 68 per cent of those living in residential aged care now about 200,000 people are either malnourished or at risk of malnutrition. [...] It's a visit by the Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells, who will assess the changes to determine if they're suitable for broader application.

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## 'The phones have melted': Arena gets a fresh start

Canberra Times, Sport, 04/07/2024, Chris Dutton, Page 34

Australian Sports Commission boss Kieren Perkins says the "phone has absolutely melted" with requests to book the refurbished AIS Arena after launching a new era for Canberra's biggest indoor venue. [...] Federal Finance Minister and ACT Senator Katy Gallagher and Sports Minister Anika Wells were given the honour of unveiling the new plaque at the upstairs entry on Wednesday.

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## AIS Arena to reopen

canberradaily.com.au, Other, 03/07/2024

Closed for four years, since the start of the pandemic, the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Arena will soon re-open, following a \$15 million refurbishment, the federal government announced today. [...] The refurbishment includes new seats, lighting, and air-conditioning, and a new floor so games can be played all year round, sports minister Anika Wells said.

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## Deaf Ears: Anika Wells Pleads Ignorance To Aged Care's Most Glaring Issue

HelloCare, Other, 03/07/2024, Jakob Neeland

The Australian aged care sector, led by Aged Care Minister Anika Wells, continues to implement stringent care minute mandates without adequately considering the detrimental impact on lifestyle services and, consequently, the well-being of aged care residents. Despite mounting evidence from within the sector, both quantitative data and anecdotal accounts highlight the adverse effects these policies are having, the government appears reluctant to acknowledge and address the issues.

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## Aged care sector warns of exodus over proposed criminal penalties

Inside Ageing, Other, 03/07/2024, Amy Clarke

As reported by The Australian, Aged-care operators are warning that the Labor government's plan to impose criminal penalties on directors, executives, and nursing managers could lead to an exodus of key personnel. The proposed legislation aims to hold "dodgy aged care providers" accountable with penalties, including up to five years in jail. [...] Aged Care Minister Anika Wells, who has been criticised for slow reform actions, stated that the new Act would include statutory duties to ensure accountability for the health and safety of older people.

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## Modern AIS Arena in demand after \$15 million upgrade

RiotACT, Other, 03/07/2024, Ian Bushnell

The AIS Arena is back. The \$15 million upgrade is complete and the doors are ready to be thrown open so the 4000-seat multi-use facility at Bruce can once again be a fixture in the sporting, entertainment and social life of the national capital. [...] On Wednesday (3 July), Australian Sports Commission CEO Kieren Perkins led Sports Minister Anika Wells, Finance Minister and ACT Senator Katy Gallagher, Member for Fenner Andrew Leigh and media on a tour of the new-look Arena after an official opening ceremony.

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### **ABC, ABC News, 03/07/2024, Jade Toomey**

More than four years after it closed for refurbishment, the AIS Arena will soon reopen having received a \$15m Federally-funded facelift. Sports Minister Anika Wells says there's already a full schedule that includes the Junior Pan PAC Swimming Championships opening ceremony in August. The Australian Sports Commission is also in talks with the Canberra Capitals along with other event organisers

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### **2CC, Canberra Live, 03/07/2024, Leon Delaney**

Pre-recorded panel discussion with Australian Sports Commission CEO Kieren Perkins, Minister for Sports Anika Wells, and Finance Minister Katy Gallagher, about the recent announcement for the AIS Arena. Perkins points out that they will be receiving \$15m to enable them to do the rectification works at the arena. Gallagher points out that the arena has been idle for three to four years and has been a missing piece of Canberra community life.

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### **2GB, Breakfast, 03/07/2024, Mark Levy**

Levy points out that the Federal Government is expected to introduce the legislation to introduce criminal penalties on dodgy operators in August and if it's passed, the laws will come into effect in July 2025. He states that Aged Care Minister Anika Wells mentioned that aged care advocates strongly support criminal penalties in the aged care sector, and still, it doesn't look like industry providers are on board.

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### **4BC, Mornings, 03/07/2024, Bill McDonald**

McDonald says that aged care providers are raising the alarm today and they have delivered a stern warning to the Federal Government. He adds that this comes as Labor plans to introduce new criminal penalties for dodgy operators, which was part of PM Anthony Albanese's pre-election promise. McDonald notes that according to Aged Care Minister Anika Wells, aged care advocates were strongly in support of criminal penalties.

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### **ABC Radio Canberra, Breakfast, 03/07/2024, Adam Shirley**

ACT Senator Katy Gallagher says she's hopeful the Canberra Capitals will return to the AIS arena for the upcoming WNBA season. Gallagher and Sports Minister Anika Wells will unveil the upgraded arena this morning, after a \$15 million refurbishment.

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## **ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE**

### **New govt bodies**

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 03/07/2024, Page 2

Two new independent peak bodies have been set up by the Federal govt to represent people with lived experience of mental illness so that they are included in decision making at a national level. The two new groups include the National Mental Health Consumer Alliance and the National Mental Health

Careers, Family and Kin peak body. [...] Pharmacist and Assistant Mental Health Minister Emma McBride said, "the two organisations selected, led by people with lived experience, to establish the new peak bodies, will embed their leadership and perspectives through the mental health system".

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

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## Grieving mother of Bondi Junction victim calls for urgent mental health support overhaul

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Stephanie Smail

The grieving mother of a victim of the Bondi Junction stabbing tragedy has joined doctors and other experts in Canberra today to call for urgent improvements to the nation's mental health services.

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## ABC, ABC News, 03/07/2024, Jessica Van Vonderen

The mother of a woman who was killed in Sydney's Bondi Junction stabbings is pleading for national action to address disparities in mental health care across the country. Emma McBride, Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health, says they are looking at the increasing distress in society, which is why they will need the whole of the Government to approach it. It comes as next month, Mental Health Ministers from every State and Territory will meet with the Commonwealth to discuss on the matter.

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## Hope 103.2, 14:00 News, 03/07/2024

The Federal Government insists work is underway to improve mental health support across the nation. It comes as the mother of one the women killed in April's Bondi Junction stabbings is calling for greater cooperation between the Commonwealth and the States. Assistant Mental Health Minister Emma McBride says the government is working on the issue.

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## 3AW, 12:00 News, 03/07/2024

There are calls for the Commonwealth and state governments to look closely at mental health in the wake of the Westfield Bondi stabbings. Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride says the Federal Government is considering support improvement.

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## ABC Radio Canberra, PM, 03/07/2024, Samantha Donovan

Grieving mother Elizabeth Young, whose daughter was a victim in the Bondi Junction stabbing attack, has joined doctors and other experts who have been called in Canberra today to call for urgent improvements to the nation's mental health service. Federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride says the meeting of Mental Health Ministers will happen in just over a month in August and its in addition to the regular and ongoing dialogue that they have with the relevant ministers.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

### GPs say women's health issues must be a priority

Numurkah Leader, General News, 03/07/2024, Page 2

Australian GPs are calling for greater action to better address women's health issues. It comes following the release of the Royal Australian College of GPs (RACGP) Guidelines for preventive activities in general practice (10th edition). [...] As I've discussed with Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney, female GPs are more likely to conduct longer consults covering complex issues including post-natal depression and other mental health issues, domestic violence, and childhood behavioural problems.

## Funding for six digital health tech companies

Hospital and Healthcare, Other, 03/07/2024

Six digital health technology companies are set to receive non-dilutive funding through the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) as part of the ANDHealth+ program. [...] The funding announcement follows the launch of the Economic Impact Assessment of Digital Health by Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney.

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## Farewell, pen-and-paper bulk billing

The Medical Republic, Other, 03/07/2024, Holly Payne

Changes to the Health Insurance Act 1973 have dragged it, kicking and screaming, into the computer age. In a rare turn of events, the government has followed through on a promise to make GPs' lives easier – but it might not be time to celebrate yet. [...] "In response to industry feedback, amendments under this bill streamline bulk billing and simplified billing processes," Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney told parliament.

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## ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

### Koori Radio, Blackchat, 03/07/2024, Lola Forester

Forester points out that according to Malarndirri McCarthy, Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians', office, the \$5.9m investment for First Nation cancer scholarship programme in partnership with the Albanese Government and the Aurora Education Foundation is calling for applications for growing, breaking new scholarships programme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, health professionals and researchers in the field of cancer.

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## DEPARTMENT

No relevant coverage

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## CORONAVIRUS

### Covid variant wave set to take off

The Australian, General News, 04/07/2024, Duncan Evans, Page 3

A highly transmissible Covid subvariant is "taking off" in Australia and will likely produce a bulge in new cases, disease experts warn. The FLuQE subvariant is ripping through the US, and University of South Australia biostatistician Adrian Esterman said the mutation would hit Australians in just a few weeks.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#).

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### The youngest person to die from COVID-19 in a year died last week

Canberra Times, Other, 03/07/2024, Bageshri Savyasachi



A person in their 40s who died after testing positive for COVID-19 is believed to be youngest fatality from the infection this year. It is not known whether the patient was immunocompromised or already vulnerable due to any chronic conditions.

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## AGEING AND AGED CARE

### **Maggie Beer's mission to spice things up in our aged-care homes**

Canberra Times, Other, 03/07/2024, Karen Hardy

Maggie Beer is telling me all about the meal she cooked on the weekend. She roasted lamb necks, with quinces and bay leaves, and a good dash of cinnamon; it's been sitting in the fridge, settling, and tonight she'll take the fat off the top and slowly bring it back to heat. "And that will be dinner tonight," she says. At 79, Beer is as youthful as ever. Her eyes sparkle, she laughs readily, her voice is kind, but her resolve is firm. Maggie Beer is one person you'd find it very hard to get cross with.

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### **Filipino workers make Gilgandra home as they fill staff vacancies**

Daily Liberal, Other, 03/07/2024, Ciara Bastow

A wave of Filipino workers are breathing life into struggling regional towns, while helping older Australians stay and age in their own communities. An enthusiastic team of almost 500 Filipino healthcare professionals are now working in 25 regional and remote Australian towns filling critical workforce gaps. In Gilgandra, the council-run aged care facility, Cooee Lodge, faced challenges attracting new staff to the area.

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### **Pay rise welcome, but frustration in delay**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 03/07/2024, Christopher Kelly

The provider peak acknowledges that aged care workers will be disappointed at hearing that their pay rise will be on-hold until next year. On Thursday, determining the Stage 3 aged care decision, independent workplace tribunal the Fair Work Commission announced that aged care workers won't be receiving their pay upgrades until 1 January 2025.

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### **HammondCare to transform Sydney site**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 03/07/2024

Dementia care specialists HammondCare is embarking on a major rebuild of its residential community in Sydney's southwest. The 12-hectare site in the Liverpool suburb of Hammondville will be transformed with the construction of two multi-storey aged care homes. Costing \$64 million and designed according to international best practice to support people living with dementia, the homes will turn the Hammondville precinct into a contemporary, integrated village.

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### **Providers pledge support for culturally appropriate services**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 03/07/2024

Not-for-profit Western Australian aged care provider Juniper has joined with other operators to formally commit to improving culturally appropriate services for Aboriginal clients. Juniper – alongside providers MercyCare, Bethanie and Hall & Prior – has signed a memorandum of understanding with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation and Stolen Generations advocacy organisation Yokai to promote reconciliation and provide strengthened support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

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### **Silverchain buys KinCare**

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 03/07/2024, Christopher Kelly



In-home care provider Silverchain has acquired KinCare. The acquisition – effective from 1 July – provides an opportunity for the Silverchain Group to expand its operations on the east coast. "We welcome our new colleagues from KinCare and look forward to supporting them as they continue to deliver safe and effective care for their clients," said Silverchain group chief executive Dale Fisher.

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## Nursing home's bid for emergency guardian for violent resident denied

HelloCare, Other, 03/07/2024, Jakob Neeland

A Tasmanian nursing home has been denied its bid to have an emergency guardian appointed for an 80-year-old resident, UI, who is reportedly becoming "increasingly physically violent." UI has been accused of multiple aggressive actions towards fellow residents, including pushing a woman who later "died from a fracture sustained in the push," according to the facility.

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## Collaboration and innovation the key to reform of aged care

In Daily, Other, 03/07/2024

With more than one in six Australians now aged over 65 years and an ever-growing percentage living well into their 80s, how we deliver services that nurture the health and wellbeing of individuals as they age is an issue of the utmost importance. Since the damning findings of the 2021 Royal Commission into Aged Care and Safety, Australians are now uncertain how adequate care can be provided in their old age. Winning back trust could be one of the biggest hurdles we face.

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## POPULATION HEALTH

### Chinese in illicit tobacco boast

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/07/2024, Regan Hodge, Page 7

Illicit tobacco manufacturers in China are boasting on social media about how easily they can ship their products into Australia's ports. Videos posted to Facebook show the blatant attempts to hide thousands of cheap cigarettes in packages disguised as toothpicks and fried noodles. One page continues to promote the shipments of illicit Manchester and Chinesebrand Hongtashan tobacco products, asking users to "contact me if you need it".

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

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### Young Men's drinking patterns proven risky

Circular Head Chronicle, General News, 03/07/2024, Page 6

A new report by the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) has uncovered concerning trends in young adult men's alcohol consumption, with nearly half (48 per cent) of those aged 18-29 consistently drinking at risky levels. This includes consuming more than four standard drinks on a typical occasion, exceeding national alcohol guidelines.

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### Aged care problem plaguing hospitals

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 04/07/2024, Kate Mcilwain, Page 5

Nearly 10,000 extra patients could have been accommodated in Illawarra hospital wards in the past year if it wasn't for the hundreds of older people who have been stuck in hospital with nowhere to go. [...] In May, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare published data showing that more than 549,000 people aged over 65 entered hospital each year across Australia.

Also reported by: [Illawarra Mercury \(Online\)](#).

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## Is it just the winter blues or depression?

Illawarra Mercury, General News, 04/07/2024, Nadine Morton, Page 7

Short days, long, cold nights and, lately it seems, like endless rain - winter can be a time when people struggle more with their mental health. A number of recent suicide deaths in the Illawarra have left people reeling, suicide prevention project manager Clare Leslie said. She said data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare show an average winter does not result in a spike in deaths by suicide, but that the season can be quite negative for many people.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#).

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## Aussies dying sooner

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 04/07/2024, Imogen Bailey, Page 30

Life expectancy has decreased for the first time since the mid-1990s, a new report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) has revealed. According to the biennial report, life expectancy in Australia decreased by 0.1 years for males and females from 2019/2021 to 2020/2022.

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## A pathway to better mental health

Australian Educator, General News, 01/07/2024, Page 15

An estimated one in seven children and adolescents experienced a mental illness in the last 12 months, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, showing the lingering impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on wellbeing. Close to half of all mental conditions emerge by the age of 14 years, according to a report by the national education initiative, Be You.

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## Could delaying menopause help women live longer?

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/07/2024, Dana Smith and Alisha Haridasani Gupta

In March, first lady Jill Biden announced a new White House women's health initiative that highlighted a seemingly obscure research question: what if you could delay menopause and all the health risks associated with it? The question comes from a field of research that has started to draw attention over the past few years, as scientists who study longevity and women's health have come to realise that the female reproductive system is far more than just a baby-maker.

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## Jam lost her legs to disease. Three years later, she walked the runway for fashion week

SBS, Other, 03/07/2024, Chayada Powell

Jutima (Jam) Shinasri has become an advocate for people with disabilities after losing her legs and fingers to meningococcal disease. Key Points Jutima (Jam) Shinasri lost her legs and fingers after contracting meningococcal disease in 2018. [...] According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 18 per cent of Australians live with a disability, underscoring the need for enhanced accessibility and representation.

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## The number of Australians with dementia is expected to double by 2058

Aged Care Guide, Other, 03/07/2024, Georgie Waters

A health report released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare highlighted concerning trends about the number of Australians with dementia Posted by Georgie Waters Key points: Recent estimates suggest that more than 849,300 Australians will be living with dementia by 2058, as per the

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## Over 8.5 million Aussies could be impacted by tomorrow's Federal Parliament meeting

Disability Support Guide, Other, 03/07/2024

Approximately 8.5 million Australians have experienced a mental disorder at least once, according to

the latest data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Royal Australian College of General Practitioners President Nicole Higgins commented that "general practitioners must be included in mental health policy development" Representatives from the Department of Health and Aged Care will meet at the Australian Parliament House on July 4, 2024, to discuss essential matters including service gaps in mental health care.

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## Dementia tops disease list

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 03/07/2024

Dementia has emerged as the second leading cause of death overall, and the primary cause of death among women. Highlighted in the just-released Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's (AIHW) Australia's Health 2024 report, dementia is also the top disease burden for people aged 65 and older.

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## 2CC, Breakfast, 03/07/2024, Stephen Cenatiempo

Interview with Matthew James, Deputy CEO, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, about life expectancy. James discusses the life expectancy of Australian males and females, as he mentioned that boys who are born between 2000 to 2022 could expect a life expectancy of 81 years and for females, 85 years. He states that this is a decrease of 0.1 from the previous findings, which is quite small.

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# CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

## Epidemic to lower life-span forecasts

The Australian, General News, 04/07/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 1

The escalating diabetes epidemic threatens to plunge Australia's life expectancy rate into reverse and push health systems to the brink of collapse, with the chronic metabolic condition fast becoming entrenched as a multi-generational disease in the most disadvantaged pockets of the nation. That's the assessment of a parliamentary health committee that examined the nationwide sweep of type 2 diabetes.

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

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## We can't save our own skin

Herald Sun, General News, 04/07/2024, Page 7

Australians are unable to recognise malignant melanomas on their own skin, calling into question the effectiveness of national selfdetection guidelines. A Southern Cross University study showed only a small percentage of participants could identify in situ (on the surface) or invasive (below the skin) malignant melanomas (MM) as a lesion of concern.

Also reported by: [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Science Media Exchange \(Scimex\) \(Online\)](#).

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## Young lungs ruined by vaping epidemic

West Australian, General News, 04/07/2024, Claire Sadler, Page 6

Children as young as 10 have telltale signs of emphysema after taking up vaping in primary school. And Asthma WA is seeing increasing lung damage due to the trend. On its 60th anniversary on Thursday, the organisation will officially become Respiratory Care WA in a bid to make the public aware it can help with free diagnosis and treatment of emphysema, also known as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

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

## Clinic highlights importance of winter skin protection

Launceston Examiner, General News, 04/07/2024, Duncan Bailey, Page 7

Winter is here - but that doesn't mean you should stop looking after your skin. It's the message Sarah Anthony, a GP with a special interest in skin cancer and dermatology wants to drive home, through her new skin and wellness clinic located in Yorktown Square.

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

## Geelong family "got their dad back" after Aaron Alsop's kidney transplant

Geelong Advertiser, Other, 03/07/2024, Lucy Crock

A Geelong family "got their dad back" after his kidney transplant, thanks to an anonymous donor and their family, who gifted the organ in their darkest hour. At 13 Aaron Alsop, now 47, was diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease, an inherited condition causing the kidneys to enlarge and eventually stop working. Mr Alsop said he had fought to keep fit for as long as possible, playing cricket, football and running and walking.

[Read More](#)

## Tackling high rates of skin cancer in rural Australia

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Lisa Needham

Australia has some of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world with 2 in 3 Australians being diagnosed with skin cancer in their lifetime. Men are also more at risk of developing and dying from skin cancer than women.

[Read More](#)

## ECMO machine that keeps cardiac arrest patients alive trialled in Sydney by NSW Ambulance

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Declan Bowring

An ECMO device pumps blood into the brain and vital organs to keep patients alive while doctors can address a cardiac arrest. NSW Health says the device can increase survival rates from less than five per cent to 30 per cent.

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## PRIMARY CARE

### Rampage at RAH

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 04/07/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 1

A patient allegedly knocked out a security guard, belted a doctor who needed stitches, assaulted a nurse who suffered a shoulder injury and terrorised staff and other patients before being subdued in the Royal Adelaide Hospital emergency department on Tuesday night. It is understood the doctor had an ear torn to the point of requiring plastic surgery and the security guard suffered facial lacerations, while three computers and printers were damaged.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#).

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

### Urgent care clinics brace for cuts in health crisis

Age, General News, 04/07/2024, Rachel Eddie and Kieran Rooney, Page 1

Victoria's priority primary care clinics are bracing for state government funding cuts that operators have warned will slash opening hours or make the model unsustainable, putting more pressure on swamped hospitals. The Royal Children's Hospital is also making up to 15 staff redundant in mental health.

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

## **ACT pitched to have GPs join nurse-led walk-in centres**

Canberra Times, General News, 04/07/2024, Lucy Bladen, Page 5

General practitioners were set to join the ACT's walk-in health centres under a proposal the territory made to the federal government that was ultimately abandoned. The ACT proposed to include GPs and consultant medical officers across the five walk-in clinics as part of the Commonwealth's urgent care clinic rollout.

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

## **Farraway lashes Bathurst council over medical centre loss**

Central Western Daily, General News, 04/07/2024, Matt Watson, Page 2

Likely Calare candidate Sam Farraway has accused Bathurst Regional Council of being complacent and of taking "the easy way out" as the fallout continues over the end of a proposed multi-storey integrated medical centre in the CBD. He has also warned that the centre of Bathurst "can only now be described as a dying CBD".

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

## **Community batteries to help households and hospitals**

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/07/2024, Jennifer Dudley-Nicholson, Page 10

As many as 100,000 households could be powered by batteries after a \$143 million investment in shared renewable energy storage. The investment from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency is expected to support the installation of 370 devices across all states and the Northern Territory in the first round of Community Battery scheme.

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

## **Ramping in SA hospitals falls to 3798 in June figures**

Adelaide Now, Other, 03/07/2024, Brad Crouch

More than 1000 hours were wiped off the ramping figures last month, the health minister says. @BradCrouch 2 min read Drone footage of Modbury Hospital where \$117m will be spent delivering 44 new mental health beds, a new cancer clinic and five-storey car park with 300 spaces.

[Read More](#)

## **'Seeking new partners and sites': next steps for private hospital revealed**

Bathurst Western Advocate, Other, 03/07/2024, Rachel Chamberlain

Following the loss of the proposed integrated medical centre, Bathurst Private Hospital will look for other ways to relocate from its current site in Gormans Hill. Login or signup to continue reading The private hospital was set to be one of the tenants of the Bathurst Integrated Medical Centre (BIMC), a move that would have enabled staff and patients to have access to state-of-the-art medical facilities in a central location.

[Read More](#)

## **Ambulance ramped hours more than double at Geraldton Health Campus, but hospital says ramping remains low**

Kalgoorlie Miner, Other, 03/07/2024, Matthew Paddick

Geraldton Health Campus says ambulance ramping hours remain low at its facility despite a significant surge last month resulting in an almost two-year high. According to St John WA, 26.2 hours of ramping were recorded at Geraldton Health Campus in June, a jump from 112 recorded in May.

[Read More](#)

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## Mental health crisis for girls dates to 2012: research

Australian Financial Review, General News, 04/07/2024, Julie Hare, Page 9

Evidence of a powerful link between smartphones, social media and depression, anxiety and self-harm among teenagers, especially girls, is growing, as new Australian research names 2012 as the year that ushered in a mental health crisis. The study of longi...

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

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## Social media harms youth

Daily Telegraph, Edition Changes, 04/07/2024, Page 5

The steady decline of mental health in young Aussies coincides with the launch and growth of Instagram and Snapchat in the 2010s, according to new research. The e61 Institute study found the average mental health score of females aged 15 to 24 declined by 11 per cent between 2011 and 2022, and declined 7 per cent for men.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Perth\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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## MP calls for emergency cash for services

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/07/2024, Stephanie Dalton, Page 8

As disability advocacy organisations Autism Tasmania and Disability Voices Tasmania faced the abrupt cessation of federal funding last week, Independent MP Meg Webb is calling on the state government to use emergency reserves to keep the organisations open while a long-term solution is developed. Ms Webb said the 2023-24 State Budget allocated \$50m to the Treasurer's Reserve, which is intended to meet unexpected costs that could not be reasonably foreseen at the time of developing the budget.

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

## Cutting compo complexity will help reduce veteran suicide

West Australian, General News, 04/07/2024, Matt Keogh, Page 34

The rate of veteran suicide is a national tragedy. It's why we called for a royal commission. Since 2021, the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has been investigating the factors that have contributed to such an appalling loss of life. The first recommendation made by the royal commission in its interim report was for urgent action to simplify and harmonise veteran compensation and rehabilitation legislation.

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## Bondi stabbing victim's mum pleads for mental health support

The Nightly, General News, 03/07/2024, Page 5

Elizabeth Young lost her daughter Jade during the horrific stabbing spree in Bondi and is using her grief to call for more mental health support to stop such a tragedy from happening again. The mass attack at the Bondi Junction shopping centre in April left six people dead.

Also reported by: [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#)

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## Could you be an adult with ADHD?

The Nightly, General News, 03/07/2024, Meike Leonard, Page 30

Older adults with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder are "slipping through the cracks of the healthcare system" leaving many isolated, depressed or even misdiagnosed with dementia, experts have warned. The condition, which causes problems with concentration, constant fidgeting and impulsive behaviour among many symptoms, is mainly associated with disruptive children.

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## Students face long wait for psychologist

Wait times for public school students to see a school psychologist are worsening. Tasmanian students are waiting an average of 250 days to see a school psychologist for an initial assessment, compared to 168 days this time last year. In response to the long wait times, the state government announced 20 additional scholarships for psychology and speech pathology students to address the shortage.

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## Sexual strangulation 'common' and deadly

Newcastle Herald, General News, 04/07/2024, Cassandra Morgan, Page 14

Sexual strangulation is common among young people, with some fearful of being labelled "vanilla" and others ignorant of its lethal danger. A large university study has exposed the practice as strikingly common among young Australians, with 57 per cent of adults aged 35 and under having engaged in strangulation during sex at least once.

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

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## Mental health programs in firing line of hospital budget cuts

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 03/07/2024, Kieran Rooney

Mental health programs are being hit with redundancies and hiring freezes as hospitals search for savings to bring them in line with budgets proposed by the Allan government. Health services across the state are looking for savings to meet model budgets put forward by the Department of Health, as the state government tries to bring spending under control due to spiralling state debt.

[Read More](#)

## ACT Greens promise Safe Haven expansion

Canberra Times, Other, 03/07/2024, Lucy Bladen

The ACT Greens have made an election promise to expand a service designed to help people experiencing mental health distress in a non-clinical setting. The party has promised to build an extra four Safe Haven hubs, which is an early intervention service designed to reach people before they hit a crisis point.

[Read More](#)

## Victim-survivor speaks out on 'insidious' impacts of coercive control

Newcastle Herald, Other, 03/07/2024, Alanna Tomazin

Mental abuse, panic, depression and anxiety are just some of the traumas Jessica\* lives with today. The 31-year-old is a victim-survivor of coercive control, family abuse and sexual violence. For 18 months she was abused by the insidious nature of coercive control. Her intimate partner at the time attacked her emotionally and tracked her movements through technology-facilitated abuse.

[Read More](#)

## International students receive poor mental health support

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024

There are over 900,000 international students studying in Australia and providing them an education is big business. But a critical report claims universities aren't doing enough to help these students when they need mental health support.

[Read More](#)

## Australia's 'missing middle' in mental health care

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Luke Bowden

Australia's leading mental health organisations will meet for a roundtable today and are calling for long term funding and reform - so the state-territory and federal governments work better together for people with complex mental health needs.

[Read More](#)



## 'Falling through the chasms in mental health support': Critical gaps revealed

SBS, Other, 03/07/2024, Rania Yallop

The mother of a Bondi Junction stabbing victim is calling for better mental health support, after some family members were unable to access care for months after the attack. Elizabeth Young joined mental health consumer and care advocates to call for the government to address critical gaps in the mental health system.

[Read More](#)

## Should GP remuneration for mental health care be based on patient outcomes?

Australian Doctor, Other, 03/07/2024, Henry Cutler and Jonas Fookien

Australia's mental health care system is struggling to cope with the demand. But more money won't necessarily mean everyone gets the care they need. As we outline in research out this week, we need to incentivise health providers to improve outcomes rather than paying them to do more of the same. The research, which was funded by the Federal Government's National Mental Health Commission, outlines why such reform is needed and how it might work.

[Read More](#)

## 'I was prescribed opioids after back surgery. Within a few years, I was addicted to heroin.'

Mamamia, Other, 03/07/2024, Kirsten Moore

As a teenager, while my friends were getting into smoking cigarettes and pot, I resisted. I craved acceptance, but I passed on offers of getting high because my singing voice was precious to me. So, when at 27 I found myself so deep into addiction that snorting oxycontin in public bathrooms was a regular occurrence, no one was more surprised than me.

[Read More](#)

## ABC News, ABC Evening News, 03/07/2024, Joe O'Brien

The mother of a young woman killed in the Bondi Junction stabbing attack has called on the government to take a national approach to mental health support. Jade Young's mother, says it would help address critical gaps between state and federal services, which left family members outside New South Wales lacking vital support.

[Play Now](#)

## Channel 10, 10 News First, 03/07/2024, Sandra Sully

The mother of one the Westfield Bondi Junction stabbing victims is begging for better mental health support right across the nation. Elizabeth Young says that her grieving family is the collateral damage of the horrific incident, and in their trauma, they have received vastly different levels of help.

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## CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

### University dropout rates 'all about cost', survey reveals

The Australian, Other, 03/07/2024, Natasha Bitar

The university with the highest dropout rate in Australia has pinned the blame on cost-of-living pressures. Half the students who enrolled at Charles Sturt University in regional NSW dropped out over a nine-year period – the lowest completion rate of any university in the country. [...] Professor Brown said 40 per cent of CSU's domestic students were studying to become teachers, nurses, social workers or paramedics.

[Read More](#)

## ANMF expresses disappointment over delayed pay increase for nurses

HelloCare, Other, 03/07/2024, Jakob Neeland

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) has voiced its frustration over the continued uncertainty surrounding pay increases for nurses in aged care, despite recent decisions by the Fair Work Commission (FWC) that have provided some clarity for other aged care workers.

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## HEALTH WORKFORCE

### Take us seriously: Ambos

Bendigo Advertiser, General News, 04/07/2024, Jonathon Magrath, Page 1

On a morning when demand for ambulances was so high staff were asked to work on their day off, fed up paramedics gathered out the front of Premier Jacinta Allan's Bendigo office calling for an end to "unsustainable" conditions. The protest on Wednesday was sparked by an incident in Hume where a fatigued Myrtleford paramedic allegedly rolled his ambulance about 1.30am on Thursday, June 27 - 18 hours after his shift began.

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

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

### Residency wrangle stuns doctor

Border Mail, General News, 04/07/2024, Layton Holley, Page 3

Tessa de Speville has lived in Australia for almost 10 years, has two degrees from Melbourne and Wollongong, is married to an Aussie, and works as an emergency department doctor at Albury Wodonga Health. Despite this, her efforts to become a permanent resident of Australia have so far proved futile.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#)

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### TAFE boost to local health

Cairns Post, General News, 04/07/2024, Annabel Bowles, Page 4

A \$3.5m upgrade to Australia's northernmost TAFE campus is expected to support hundreds of students through free health studies. Construction has started on the Thursday Island campus to upgrade the facility's health hub, which will offer training in nursing, healthcare, aged care and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care and support services.

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

### A bitter pill to swallow

Warrnambool Standard, General News, 04/07/2024, Monique Patterson, Page 1

A shortage of general practitioners is leaving some long-term patients out in the cold. The Standard has spoken to a number of south-west residents who have been advised they are no longer a client of the clinic they had regularly attended because there had been a long period of time between visits.

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### Creating hospice help at home

Border Watch, Other, 03/07/2024

Working to help country people for most of her life, an interesting journey led Sandi Elliot to creating In Home Hospice Care Mount Gambier. Picture: Jeff Huddleston  
Working to help country people for most of her life, an interesting journey led Sandi Elliot to creating In Home Hospice Care Mount Gambier.

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'Placement poverty' burning out medical students amid cost of living,

## housing crises pressure

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Amelia Walters

A lack of funding for medical students and unpaid placements are being blamed for the healthcare crisis and doctor shortage. Fifth-year medical student Tulani White regularly feels burnt out trying to working two jobs while studying and undertaking unpaid placement.

[Read More](#)

## Ditching the RACGP for cheaper CPD homes is bad for general practice

Australian Doctor, Other, 03/07/2024, Corinne Glenn

It is that time of the year again, when all our professional expenses seem to be due at once. Medical indemnity insurance is always expensive, and then there are college fees as well. For GPs with an income over \$150,000, RACGP membership is \$1643. The RACGP is one of the cheaper colleges. ACRRM is the cheapest at \$1375.

[Read More](#)

## PSA opens new credentials

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 03/07/2024

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) has launched new credentials, including pathways for experienced consultant pharmacists and those seeking to expand their practice. Enrolment is now open for the credentials - Aged Care Onsite Pharmacist and Medication Management Review (MMR).

[Read More](#)

## ABC News, ABC Evening News, 03/07/2024, Joe O'Brien

Medical students say it's getting extremely difficult to sustain their training without the support of a family or benefactor. Across the country, about 18,000 medical students are on unpaid placements for third-year students. The prospect of deferring her medical studies has become a real possibility. Dr Nicole Higgins, RACGP, says there has been no increase in the Commonwealth-supported placements over the last 10 years.

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## TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

### Arsenic ampoules on the PBS — this was health policy in 1951

Australian Doctor, Other, 03/07/2024, Rachel Fieldhouse

The arsenic-based options may have been safer than the PBS-funded 5mg ampoules of picrotoxin. Arsenicals and deadly picrotoxin were among almost 200 medications subsidised on the 1951 PBS schedule, according to historical papers published this year.

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## MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

### Health agency's 'insourcing' contract

Canberra Times, General News, 04/07/2024, Miriam Webber, Page 3

Australia's Digital Health Agency will pay consultants up to \$550,000 to develop "an insourcing strategy", in a direct response to new rules requiring the federal public service to slash spending on external labour. [...] "The agency is reshaping and evolving the national digital health infrastructure, including which aspects of this complex information technology services portfolio may be best configured and delivered in-house," a spokesperson for the Australian Digital Health Agency said.

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

## Health advice online

Courier Mail, General News, 04/07/2024, Madura McCormack , Page 8

Ill Queenslanders will soon be able to visit an online hospital that redirects them to the most appropriate health channels based on their symptoms. The state government has pumped \$27m into expanding existing government-funded virtual care and telehealth services.

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## Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research at the centre of major cyberattack by Medusa ransomware group

West Australian, Other, 03/07/2024, Tim Clarke

One of Perth's most storied medical centres — the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research — is at the centre of a major cyberattack, with hackers claiming to have stolen more than four terabytes of internal CCTV footage. The notorious Medusa ransomware group posted on their dark web blog that they had successfully infiltrated the institute's servers and "4.

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## BENEFITS INTEGRITY

### Wrong surgery fiasco in hospital

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 04/07/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 11

A hospital patient underwent the wrong surgery in a South Australian public hospital resulting in "serious harm or death," SA Health records show. It was one of five catastrophes in SA Health's system in 2022-23, with four disastrous medication errors also resulting in "serious harm or death" of the patients.

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

### Perth cosmetic dentist Dr Tanya Kat suspended for nine months for practising while unregistered

West Australian, Other, 03/07/2024, Emily Moulton

A cosmetic dentist who was fined \$10,000 for performing dental procedures while unregistered has been sanctioned again — at the request of the industry's governing body. [...] The agency emailed Dr Kat in January 2020 asking if she had performed any procedures during that year, and on the same day she applied to AHPRA seeking renewal.

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## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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## SPORT

### Para CEO in shock decision to quit

Daily Telegraph, General News, 04/07/2024, Iwan Jones, Page 15

The chief executive of Paralympics Australia has resigned just one day after the official team launch, in Canberra, for the Paris Olympics. After 2 years in the job, Catherine Clark gave no reason for her shock decision. "I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone for their support during my time at PA," Ms Clark said on Wednesday. "The stage is well and truly set for Paris.

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## Uni merger has soccer club off-side

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 04/07/2024, Shashi Baltutis, Page 18

Members of an eastern suburbs soccer club fear its future is under threat by the merger between University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide. The future of UniSA FC is uncertain as members say the Magill campus oval, used by about 200 junior members to play matches, can be subject to redevelopment with only months' notice.

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

## Sporting mecca 'cred'

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 04/07/2024, Andrew Potts, Page 4

The Gold Coast's tourism boss says the city has the potential to become the "epicentre" of sports in the South Pacific region. Experience Gold Coast CEO John Warn said the region was on the verge of being a leading city by every metric and that it needed to sell itself around lifestyle in the lead-up to the 2032 Olympic Games. "The opportunity for the city is being more focused on being the epicentre of sport full stop rather than just the 2032 Olympics," he said.

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## AIS Arena reopens for first time after \$15 million upgrade

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024

More than four years after it closed for refurbishment, the AIS Arena will soon reopen having received a \$15 million federally funded facelift.

[Read More](#)

## Proposed changes to anti-siphoning laws could prevent millions of viewers from watching 'key sports' for free, Greens say

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Peter Lusted

There are concerns proposed changes to federal laws could see people who stream sport locked out from watching major events like the AFL and NRL grand finals. Streaming is growing in popularity, with about 1 million people watching the Matildas WC semifinal against England via the internet.

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## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

### Alzheimer's drug approved

Australian Financial Review, Companies and Markets, 04/07/2024, Madison Muller and Robert Langreth, Page 18

Eli Lilly's Alzheimer's treatment was cleared in the US as the second drug to slow progression of the disease that afflicts 6 million Americans. It's a big win for Lilly and its investors, who have been anticipating the drug since promising clinical trial...

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### Hypnotherapy benefit for patients

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/07/2024, Page 5

Hypnotherapy could offer a host of benefits to cancer patients, according to Australian research. "Hypnotherapy in a clinical setting looks entirely different than when done for an audience as entertainment. For clinical use, hypnotherapy is a very mental process that entails a hypnotherapist speaking to a patient. It is really very similar to meditation," Edith Cowan University CU PhD student Malwina Szmaglinska said.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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## Cancer link found in genes

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/07/2024, Page 5

International researchers have found a link between men who have a genetic risk for prostate cancer and dying early from the disease. Researchers in Sweden say those with a higher genetic risk were three times more likely to die a prostate cancer-related death.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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## Brilliant minds come together for summit

Hobart Mercury, General News, 04/07/2024, Duncan Abey, Page 11

UTAS health scientists join forces at medical research symposium More than 250 University of Tasmania scientists including those investigating initiatives to prevent smoking, new ways of living with Parkinson's disease, and the fitness benefits of using public transport have gathered for the inaugural College of Health and Medicine research showcase. Associate Dean of research performance, Professor Graeme Zosky, said the daylong symposium was designed to highlight new developments and insights in health across UTAS, through presentations delivered by 50 individual staff members.

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## AI tool for patients

Northern Territory News, General News, 04/07/2024, Page 7

A new artificial intelligence (AI) tool that can help to select the most suitable treatment for cancer patients has been developed by researchers at The Australian National University (ANU). DeepPT, developed in collaboration with scientists at the National Cancer Institute in the US and pharmaceutical company Pangea Biomed, works by predicting a patient's messenger RNA (mRNA) profile.

Also reported by: [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#).

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## Progress in development of a new high-tech kidney disease urine test

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 03/07/2024

Development of a new way to accurately measure human serum albumin (HSA) levels in people with chronic kidney disease has progressed in recent testing by Flinders University and Japanese researchers. The research project combines fluorescent (FL) biosensors with an aggregation induced emissions (AIE) feature with further engineering of a novel metasurface platform to improve readings of HSA in urine tests.

[Read More](#)

## Australian researchers uncover potential cancer drivers hidden in 'junk' DNA

SBS, Other, 03/07/2024, Sam Dover

New cancer treatment methods that target a patient's genetic profile have been saving the lives of Australians and paving the way for groundbreaking new research. Among new findings is the link between 12 different cancers inside the human genome that researchers hope will explain some of the key drivers of the disease.

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## Indigenous kids 'suffering in silence' with ear disease

Canberra Times, Other, 03/07/2024, Keira Jenkins

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children suffer some of the highest rates of middle ear infections in the world. The disease is going undetected among 26 per cent of First Nations children, while one-in-five live with undiagnosed hearing loss, according to clinical data from Hearing Australia.

Also reported by: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

## Indigenous homelessness centre to open in Melbourne CBD

Canberra Times, Other, 03/07/2024, Rachael Ward

Specialist homelessness services for Indigenous Victorians will soon be available in the heart of Melbourne, with many seeking help from the increasingly unaffordable private rental market. The housing support and outreach service centre will be at 227 Bourke Street, a City of Melbourne building located close to the busy Swanston Street intersection and tram stops.

Also reported by: [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#)

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## INTERIM AUSTRALIAN CDC

### \$264m bird flu fix

West Australian, International News, 04/07/2024, Page 20

The US Government has awarded \$US176 million (\$264 million) to Moderna to advance development of its bird flu vaccine as concerns rise over a multi-State outbreak of H5N1 virus in dairy cows and infections of three dairy workers since March. Funds from the US Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority will be used to complete late-stage development and testing of a pre-pandemic mRNA-based vaccine against H5N1 avian

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Nightly \(None\)](#)

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### District influenza surge

Shepparton News Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Zoe McMaugh

There is a surge of influenza cases in the local area, prompting a widespread health warning. While Murrumbidgee Local Health District has confirmed there has been an increase in influenza and other respiratory conditions like COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), it has been unable to provide statistics specific to individual hospitals.

[Read More](#)

### Victorian health department issues measles warning as infectious person visits McDonalds, grocers, toy store

The Australian, Other, 03/07/2024, Blair Jackson

An urgent health warning has been issued after a traveller with measles landed in Melbourne, visiting a busy McDonalds and multiple high-traffic shops along the Great Ocean Road. The returning traveller was infectious and arrived from overseas on Tuesday June 25, before visiting a McDonalds near the airport, toy shops and grocery stores in the southwest of Victoria.

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

[Read More](#)

### ASX Health Stocks: Island to tackle deadly Ebola virus

The Australian, Other, 03/07/2024, Nadine Mcgrath

Island Pharmaceuticals inks deal to develop a treatment for potentially deadly viruses like Ebola Amplia recruits key 26th patient in Phase 2a trial of new treatment for advanced pancreatic cancer Melodiol Global Health records unaudited revenue of \$4.8m in Q2 CY24, a 9% increase on Q1



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## **ABC News, News Breakfast, 03/07/2024, Michael Rowland and Lisa Millar**

A South Australian pigeon club has cancelled its annual championship as the nation grapples with bird flu outbreaks. The Mount Gambier Poultry and Pigeon Club has cancelled its annual championships amid concerns of disease outbreaks. Trevor Kuhl, President, Mount Gambier Poultry and Pigeon Club, says about 80% of the 600 participants come from across the border in Victoria and because of the quarantine requirements and those concerns, they've decided to cancel the show.

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## **Channel 7, Sunrise, 03/07/2024, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington**

Interview with Sunrise GP Ginni Mansberg, about the spiking of whopping cough. Mansberg points out that whopping cough numbers have gone up around the world and not just in Australia, particularly around China, the US, and Europe. She believes that there could be several students who've missed their whopping cough vaccines during the COVID-19 and they are experiencing vaccine fatigue.

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## **5AA, Breakfast, 03/07/2024, Will Goodings and David Penberthy**

Interview with Dr Louise Flood, Deputy Director, SA Communicable Disease Control Branch, about the rise of Dengue Fever in Australia. Flood describes how people with Dengue fever feel and how they might feel rotten. She adds that it might result in a fever that could last for a week, headaches, and even intense pain in the eyes.

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## **THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION**

### **Redland Bay pharmacist slams selling vapes in community chemist shops**

Gold Coast Bulletin, Other, 03/07/2024, Judith Kerr

A bayside chemist has condemned new vape laws which force the sale of the products into pharmacies, fearing it will not stop black market sales and undermine her role as a health professional. Judith Kerr Digital reporter and editor Redlands Community News [...] "Many pharmacists are concerned at being expected to supply substances that could potentially cause long-term harm and that is contrary to my role dispensing medicines that have proven therapeutic benefits and have Therapeutic Goods Administration approval."

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### **Antibiotic shortage, Hunter GPs urged to reconsider need**

Newcastle Weekly, Other, 03/07/2024, Rebecca Riddle

Hunter GPs are being warned of an antibiotic shortage that could affect patient prescriptions. Concerns have been raised after NSW Health issued an alert requesting all NSW General Practitioners limit prescriptions of two antibiotic oral liquids currently in short supply. [...] The TGA then approved the importation and supply of registered alternatives, with warnings that dosage, precautions and side effects would be different to to antibiotics Australia had previously been prescribing.

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## **OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL**

## Stronger than fentanyl and heroin: Nitazenes are causing fear amongst health and medical authorities

ABC Online, Other, 03/07/2024, Richard Mockler and Elise Worthington

On the Tuesday after the Easter long weekend, peer support worker Bec arrived at the Penrith needle and syringe exchange to see an unusual sight. A line-up around the corner of people waiting for the service to open. They were there to get take-home naloxone, a medication that rapidly reverses the effects of opioid overdose. "At first I was kind of, you know ... mucking around with them. I said, 'You have a big weekend, guys?'" she said.

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## FOOD STANDARDS

### Time to treat sugar the same way we do tobacco

The Australian, General News, 04/07/2024, Natasha Robinson, Page 5

From the Grim Reaper to our success fighting the scourge of tobacco smoking, Australia has been a world leader in public health campaigns. But the modern health menace comes not in the form of a virus or a cigarette. Diabetes and obesity are far more challenging to combat, let alone target. They're multifactorial phenomena, not just about food and exercise. These are diseases with far-reaching social determinants that stretch from economics to housing to town planning. They affect everybody, but they are far worse among the poor.

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

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### Coalition sour on sugar tax

Daily Telegraph, Edition Changes, 04/07/2024, Jade Gailberger and Angira Bharadwaj, Page 5

A sugar tax would be slapped on Australians' favourite fizzy drinks under a controversial proposal to tackle obesity and diabetes, sparking fears of further hip-pocket pain for struggling families. A federal parliamentary probe is also calling for tough new restrictions on junk food advertising to kids online.

Also reported by: [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#).

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