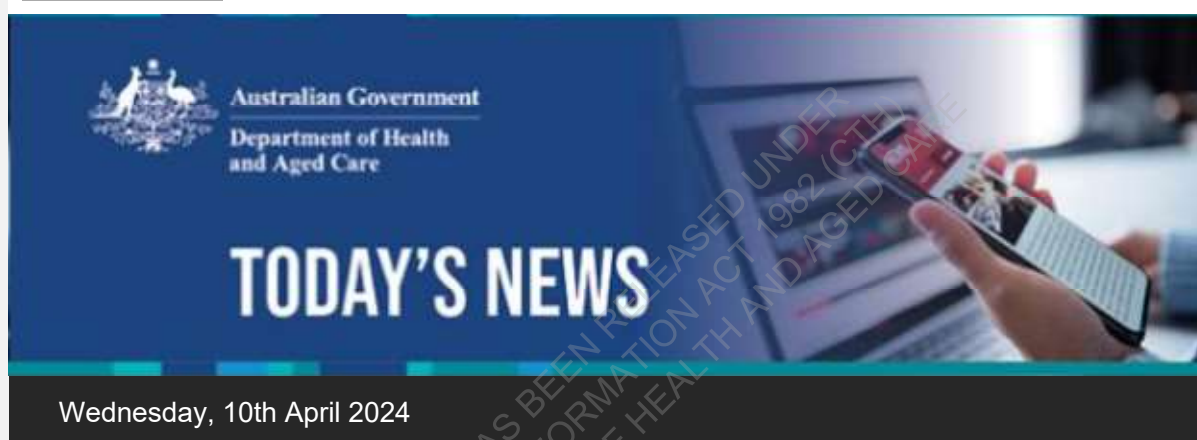


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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Australian** (page 1) reports NDIS Minister Bill Shorten has warned against the service becoming "a dumping ground" for criminals following interventions to remove convicted murderer Wayne Wilmott from the scheme. *Also reported by:* [West Australian](#), [The Nightly](#)

- The **Sydney Morning Herald** (page 1) reports private health insurers are offering a wide range of benefits and incentives to attract new customers, but experts warn they are making it harder to assess if the products offer value for money. *Also reported by: The Age, The Australian*
- The **Canberra Times** (page 1) reports the architect of Canberra's Sirius Building has expressed dismay it may be renamed by a Department of Health staff vote due to concerns over the current name's link to the First Fleet.
- The **Adelaide Advertiser** (page 1) reports colleagues have paid tribute to veteran SA Ambulance clinician Stuart Brand for his service to the community after his tragic death in a shooting incident in Outer Harbor in Adelaide's north. *Also reported by: Daily Mail Australia*
- The **Courier Mail** (page 1) reports staff at Gold Coast University Hospital were sent a list of "extreme" measures to keep the hospital operating during an expected Easter surge, including discharging patients waiting for aged care and the NDIS, postponing procedures and calling in casual staff.
- The **West Australian** (page 1) reports the mother of a 21-year-old suicide victim has called for more mental health resources for WA's Pilbara district, saying the current six-week wait times are leaving locals at severe risk.
- The **West Australian** (page 1) reports the Australian Federal Police Association has called for a feasibility study for a civilian "national guard" able to enforce health restrictions to be mobilised in the event of future pandemics.
- The **Adelaide Advertiser** (page 2) reports Health Minister Mark Butler has called on parliament to pass anti-vaping laws, describing them as a "once-in-a-generation opportunity and responsibility to act to safeguard the health of young Australians". *Also reported by: Daily Telegraph*
- The **Herald Sun** (page 7) reports Health Minister Mark Butler says a feasibility study on ways to limit "unhealthy food marketing" is in progress, following revelations Coca Cola increased the amount of sugar in soft drink product Fanta by 60 per cent. *Also reported by: Daily Telegraph, Adelaide Advertiser, Courier Mail*
- The **Adelaide Advertiser** (page 7) reports almost 20,000 at-risk South Australians are not getting sufficient mental health care, Mental Health Coalition of SA executive director Geoff Harris has warned, while calling for a significant expansion of state services.

MINISTER BUTLER

'Sense of freedom': Printer able to save face for cancer victims

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 10/04/2024, Megan Gorrey, Page 14

Mark Robinson missed biting into an apple after an aggressive skin cancer marching swiftly across his face meant surgeons had to remove his nose and part of his jaw. Robinson, 69, of Jamberoo, says the drastic surgery to banish the squamous cell carcinoma initially robbed him of the ability to eat solid food and left hollows in his face he had to cover with masks. [...] His reconstructed face is a product of the team at Chris O'Brien Lifehouse's Integrated Prosthetics and Reconstruction laboratory, which Federal Health Minister Mark Butler will open today.

Also reported by: Sydney Morning Herald (Online)

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Fanta's a fizzer on sugar pledges

Herald Sun, General News, 10/04/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 7

Teaspoons added back in Coca-Cola has quietly increased Fanta's sugar content by 60 per cent just a few years after reducing it during the fierce sugar tax debate. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said a feasibility study on options to limit "unhealthy food marketing" was under way.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#)

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Schools join program to puff out vaping scourge

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Angira Bharadwaj, Page 2

Australian high schools are signing up in droves for a federal government program aimed at stopping the vaping epidemic of youth. The OurFutures Vaping education program is already full with Education Minister Jason Clare saying teachers were overwhelmingly concerned about vaping. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler called on parliament to vote in favour of Labor's vaping legislation later this year.

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

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The Nationals help pharmacists obtain \$3 billion in 'peace deal' with Labor

Oakey Champion, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 5

The Nationals have successfully helped to obtain an extra \$3 billion in funding for Australian pharmacies, in a deal struck between pharmacists and the Labor Government, following changes to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), which included 60-day dispensing. The Federal Government and Pharmacy Guild of Australia have reached a Heads of Agreement for an 8th Community Pharmacy Agreement (8CPA). [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said the negotiations included concessions to community pharmacies.

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Kennedy promises MRI licence fight

St George & Sutherland Shire Leader, Sutherland Shire Edition, 10/04/2024, Murray Trembath, Page 5

A renewed application by Sutherland Hospital for an MRI licence, allowing for all scans to be covered by Medicare, has been knocked back by the federal government. This means MRI use continues to be free only for hospital inpatients. [...] Comment was sought from the office of federal Health Minister Mark Butler.

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Bulk-billing tax 'threat'

Wyndham Star Weekly, General News, 10/04/2024, Cade Lucas, Page 8

Werribee MP and state treasurer Tim Pallas has been warned that bulk billing within his own electorate will disappear if Victoria's GP payroll tax isn't changed. Last year, Victoria's State Revenue Office ruled that doctors working in GP clinics were employees and therefore liable for payroll tax. [...] Despite a growing campaign from GPs and even the Federal Health Minister Mark Butler expressing concern about the payroll tax, the state government has so far resisted calls to change it, though Treasurer Pallas has previously said he would intervene to prevent GP clinics from closing.

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The chronic pain sufferers living with the impacts of failed spinal cord stimulators and surgery

ABC Online, Other, 09/04/2024, Adele Ferguson and Chris Gillett

A Four Corners investigation has exposed the harms spinal cord stimulators, a treatment for back pain, have caused some people Private Healthcare Australia is calling for the immediate recall and suspension of the stimulators, pending a review by the TGA. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler says he has requested an "urgent update" on the TGA review.

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Mark Butler says 179 listings with additional funding in 22 months

BioPharmaDispatch, Other, 09/04/2024

Health Minister Mark Butler says the Albanese Government has added 179 listings to the PBS since July 2022 involving approving extra funding.

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Calls for further type two diabetes support

In Daily, Other, 09/04/2024

Type two diabetes patients are calling for more support from the federal government, after a glucose monitoring system subsidy for those with type one diabetes was delivered in 2022. Patients with type one diabetes have been able to access subsidised CGM devices since 2022. [...] Allerton said she had contacted federal Health Minister Mark Butler's officer to seek more support for those with type two diabetes, and was told the government would "continue to monitor the operation of the scheme".

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The Water Cooler: comings, goings, grants and consultations

PS News, Other, 09/04/2024, James Day

Canberra-raised Samantha Mostyn named next Governor-General Prominent businesswoman and gender equity advocate Samantha Mostyn, who grew up in Canberra, will be Australia's next Governor-General [...] Professor Christine Kilpatrick appointed as Chair of Safety and Quality in Health Care Commission Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, has confirmed Professor Christine Kilpatrick as Chair of Safety and Quality in the Health Care Commission.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 09/04/2024, Guy Stayner

While medical device companies spruik their products as safe and effective, independent research is far from positive. [...] The federal health minister has asked his department to urgently investigate, saying in a statement I'm deeply concerned about the revelations aired in the Four Corners episode.

Also reported by: [ABC \(Perth\)](#)

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ABC Radio Brisbane, 15:00 News, 09/04/2024

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says he is concerned by issues raised in a Four Corners report into Australians struggling to cope with chronic pain. The Health Department has been asked to urgently investigate. Butler also requested an update on a review by the TGA into spinal cord stimulators.

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MINISTER WELLS

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DEPARTMENT

'You cannot be Sirius': dismay at rename plan

Canberra Times, General News, 10/04/2024, Steve Evans and Miriam Webber, Page 1

Government plans to rename a big departmental headquarters because its current name is associated with the First Fleet have been greeted with dismay. And changing the name of the huge Sirius Building may need approval by the ACT government because the lease specifies the existing name. The Department of Health is giving staff at the Sirius Building a vote on what the new name should be so that it "would be better aligned with the department's purpose".

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CORONAVIRUS

National COVID guard

West Australian, General News, 10/04/2024, Dan Jervis-Bardy, Page 1

Standing up a "national guard" made up of civilians but with powers to enforce health restrictions should be considered to ease the workload on police during the next pandemic, a major union has recommended. The Australian Federal Police Association has called for a feasibility study into the concept in its submission to the Commonwealth's inquiry into COVID-19.

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Belmont mum proud to lead way in Covid compo fight

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Imran Ali, Page 9

A Geelong single mum given the green light to apply for compensation for damage to her immune system from Covid hopes others still impacted by the virus will follow suit. "I am happy to take responsibility and go first to support others that are also suffering from symptoms of Covid," said Angie Shrimpton, of Belmont.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Report offers solutions to better retirement village care

Sydney Morning Herald, Money, 10/04/2024, Rachel Lane, Page 4

Did you know that where you call home can affect what you can spend your home care package funds on? A new report commissioned by the Retirement Living Council, Shared Care, could help iron out some of the unfairness in the system. Residents of retirement villages pay a weekly or monthly service charge that often includes things like home modifications, gardening and transport to medical and social appointments.

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

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Yaraandoo changes for better

Burnie Advocate, General News, 10/04/2024, Jess Flint, Page 7

If you asked Laney Summers last year if she would ever move into Somerset's Yaraandoo aged care facility, she would have been appalled by the thought. More than a year since Ms Summers first raised the alarm about the "neglect" that she witnessed when visiting her brother at Yaraandoo, she said she would now be first in line for a room at the centre.

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Cobram Regional Care receives funding boost for Home Care

Cobram Courier, General News, 10/04/2024, Barb Love, Page 12

Cobram Regional Care has received significant recurrent funding of \$249,000 towards its Home Care program. The funding is available annually, but will have to be applied for each year. This has been made possible by the Federal Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

Also reported by: [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Yarrawonga Chronicle \(Online\)](#), [Cobram Courier \(Online\)](#)

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Robinson supports next generation of carers

Barrier Truth, Other, 09/04/2024, Dylan Stone

Robinson College has continued to create career pathways for a further 10 local students, who last month enrolled for Certificate III in Individual Support (Aged Care and Disability). The 14- week course provides a blended delivery of face to face/classroom, online, and on-the-job learning to students.

[Read More](#)

New CEO for SA aged care provider

Australian Seniors News, Other, 09/04/2024

South Australian not-for-profit aged care services provider, ACH Group has announced the appointment of Linda Feldt as its new Chief Executive Officer. Ms Feldt, who joined the organisation in 2015, has been interim CEO for the past five months.

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Aged care AINs and PCWs secure 23 per cent pay rise

Nursing Review, Other, 09/04/2024, Arshmah Jamal

An increase to award wages for Certificate III aged care workers has "finally" been secured. The Fair Work Commission ordered pay increases of 23 per cent for assistants in nursing (AINs) and personal care workers (PCWs) with a Certificate III qualification.

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ADHA on track for August release of aged care clinical information system standards

Pulse+IT, Other, 09/04/2024, Kate McDonald

The Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA) has completed the first draft of its aged care clinical information system (CIS) standards project and is on track to release a final version by August, along with an implementation roadmap.

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With little retirement living development taking place in NSW, these four people are fighting for change

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/04/2024, Chris Baynes

The Retirement Living Council states there will be a shortfall of 49,000 seniors housing independent living units (ILUs) just to keep up with the current penetration rate by 2030. With only low levels of construction for seniors housing underway, The SOURCE understands that the NSW Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure (DPHI) is continuing to monitor and review the seniors housing provisions of SEPP (Housing) 2021 to ensure it is incentivising seniors housing as intended to increase supply.

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This BlueCare development was approved 14 years ago yet the site sits idle

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/04/2024, Ian Horswill

The agency of UnitingCare Queensland was given approval in 2010 to build a total of 320 dwelling units, including 202 independent living units, 48 serviced apartments and 70 aged care beds on a site in Kawana, a suburb of Rockhampton, in central Queensland. Now the Not For Profit, which posted a "total comprehensive loss" of about \$54 million in 2023 and said last month it was laying off around 350 workers, has received a two-year extension to the long-existing approval.

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Home Care Packages now part of a retirement village's value proposition: DCMI Masterclass

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/04/2024, Ian Horswill

DCM Institute's latest Home Care and Retirement Living Masterclass has heard how the care landscape is continually evolving for Village Managers and head office staff. Kylie Johnson, Home Care Operations Manager at Living Choice, and Bev Smith, Executive General Manager - Self Managed Division, myHomecare Group, told the Masterclass that retirement living operators now ensure residents can access Home Care Packages and Commonwealth Home Support Services (CHSP).

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ARQRV receives \$139,000 to inform prospective clients of retirement villages

The Weekly Source, Other, 09/04/2024, Ian Horswill

Judy Mayfield, President of the Association of Residents of Queensland Retirement Villages (ARQRV), said her organisation has been funded by the Queensland Government to provide advice to prospective clients. "We have a grant for \$139,000 to tell prospective residents about the need to take legal advice on a retirement living or land lease contract," Judy said.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Secret to living a happy, healthy life

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/04/2024, Dr Michael Kelly, Page 17

People with strong relationships live longer and are happier and healthier. In the longest study ever conducted about the key to human happiness, Harvard University scientists concluded, after 85 years of research, that our relationships with other people provide us with our greatest happiness. Healthy relationships based on trust, respect, open communication, care and equality are key to improving physical and mental health.

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Better access something to smile about

Launceston Examiner, General News, 10/04/2024, Luke Cameron, Page 17

Good oral health is so important to our overall health and wellbeing, but for too many Tasmanians, affordable and accessible dental care is becoming out of reach. Tasmania is at a disadvantage when it comes to oral health access. While we are fortunate to have some exceptional dentists practicing in Tasmania, we have fewer dentists than we should - a staggering 25 per cent lower than the national average. Dental clinics tend to be clustered in cities, forcing regional Tasmanians to travel for a check-up.

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Consumers caught out by private health insurance not covering total hip replacement surgery

ABC Online, Other, 09/04/2024, Tegan Taylor

Linda McIver is, objectively, a pretty smart person. She's a computer scientist, an author, has a PhD and runs an organisation that helps gets kids involved in data science. [...] The most recent data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows people waiting an average of around six months for a total hip replacement — which is eight weeks longer than it was five years ago.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Healing down to a fine art

Daily Telegraph, General News, 10/04/2024, Mikaela Wilkes, Page 3

Model Lisa Seiffert is on a mission to bring some art and soul to hospital wards after experiencing the inescapable dreariness of clinical settings during her own cancer battle. The 41-year-old, who is now in remission, was visiting family in Queensland in 2022 when doctors found a 1cm lump in her breast during a routine check-up.

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Another milestone in battle

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 17

Joint Australian of the Year Professor Richard Scolyer's extraordinary battle against his brain cancer using experimental methods he developed to fight melanoma has taken another significant step forward. He posted on social media that he was now up to dose eight of 10 treatments and apart from a sore arm was feeling good.

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Socking it to cancer

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/04/2024, Simon McGuire, Page 1

At recent rowing meets, the Fahan School team has stood out with its bright teal long socks. But there is a purpose behind the vibrant attire. The team wore the socks to raise awareness for gynaecological cancers before selling them to raise money for S.H.E. a support group for those suffering from those conditions. S.H.E. chair Scott Harris said that each year 7000 people were diagnosed with gynaecological cancers, including hundreds of Tasmanians.

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Makeup brush tip for sun lotion

Border Mail, General News, 10/04/2024, Taylor Dodge, Page 9

Riverina woman Shannon Ratahi and her mother Lyn Kirwan - a three-time melanoma survivor - are combating skin cancer one beauty brush at a time. Ms Kirwan, a mother of five who currently lives in Darwin, was diagnosed with her first melanoma in her 30s when Mrs Ratahi was just three years old.

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Opening up on breast cancer

Border Watch, General News, 10/04/2024, Caroline Hammat, Page 6

As the mobile BreastScreen SA van prepares its biannual visit to Millicent two local women have spoken to SA Today encouraging others to book for their scans. In 2022 Karen Duncan had booked in early for her mobile van scan and was one of the first to have her appointment before heading off with her husband Scott for a holiday. [...] During her treatment Ms Werchon and her mum stayed at the Cancer Council' Greenhill Lodge which the MCSG has donated funds to for accommodation upgrades.

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Rehab service on move

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Abby Walter, Page 2

A special clinic that has been helping heart and cancer patients for the past seven years is leaving its base at Kardinia Park as the Cats prepare for an expansion at the ground. Barwon Health's Sunrise Centre was part of the Brownlow Stand built in 2017 during stage four of the GMHBA Stadium redevelopment. The centre, which provides exercise and education programs to cardiac and oncology patients, will move to the McKellar Centre precinct North Geelong later this year. Neither Barwon Health nor the Cats have detailed the reason for the shift, but the Cattery is undergoing a multimillion-dollar refurbishment of its high-performance football department and planning on further expansion of training facilities.

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Love ya, sis

Western Advocate, General News, 10/04/2024, Alise McIntosh, Page 1

While most families spent their long weekend celebrating the arrival of the Easter bunny, Cody Palmer was preparing for two of her children to undergo life-changing surgery. Ms Palmer's middle daughter, Skyla Howarth, will be donating her bone marrow to her 10-year-old sister, Piper Howarth. Piper suffers from Diamond Blackfan Anaemia - a rare blood disorder that only affects approximately 800 people worldwide.

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Menopause may be putting you at risk of heart disease

The Australian, Other, 09/04/2024, Eleanor Hayward

Danger for women accelerates with hormone changes, researchers said. Women's risk of suffering heart attacks and strokes increases rapidly after the menopause and catches up with that of men, research suggests. [...] Professor Vijay Kunadian, of the British Heart Foundation, said: "The menopause can cause changes to a woman's body that increase the risk of developing cardiovascular disease, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and an increase in abdominal fat storage, often through no fault of the woman herself.

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Doctors, nurses and midwives warn of public health risk from Middle Arm development

Northern Territory News, Other, 09/04/2024, Fia Walsh

A group of Territory healthcare workers have gathered at the steps of parliament to protest potential toxic health risks of the Middle Arm gas and green energy development. It comes ahead of public hearings being held in Darwin on Wednesday and Thursday as part of a senate inquiry into the proposed industrial precinct 6km south of the city. Darwin pediatrician Louise Woodward, one of 17 nurses, doctors, and midwives at Tuesday's protest, said the medical community was deeply concerned about the expansion of gas projects and petrochemical manufacturing near people's homes.

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Women across Mid West urged to get checked for breast cancer as mobile clinics return

West Australian, Other, 10/04/2024, Matthew Paddock

Women in the Mid West are being encouraged to check themselves for cancer when BreastScreen WA's mammogram service returns to Geraldton. From Wednesday, May 8, women aged 40 and over who don't display symptoms will be able to have a free screening at the mobile clinic at Geraldton Regional Hospital.

[Read More](#)

Little Juni was crying and lethargic. A deadly condition was the cause

7news.com.au, Other, 09/04/2024, Ailish Delaney and Jackie Quist

'That was the start of the nightmare.' When little Juni Sleight was crying and lethargic, her parents had no idea a deadly cause was lurking. Geelong mum Sarah Hackett-Sleight called for help when she realised the then 23-month-old could not move the right side of her body and was falling down.

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Aldo's sudden heart attack highlights need for mandatory heart checks

The Senior, Other, 09/04/2024

Everyone laughed when Aldo nearly rode his motorcycle into a letterbox, unaware it was a precursor to a fatal heart attack that night. His daughter Marina Speziale, 56, of Cairns, Queensland, shares her family's stories about the need to get a heart check, as the federal government is called upon to help fund a national cardiovascular screening program in the 2024-25 budget. Under the Heart Foundation's proposed program, GPs would formally ask at-risk patients to go in for a heart health check, rather than have people voluntarily ask for one.

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Channel 7, Sunrise, 09/04/2024, Natalie Barr and Matt Shirvington

Interview Prof Jason Kovacic, CEO, Victor Chang Institute, on weight loss drugs like Ozempic that are being hailed as revolutionary new tools to help prevent heart disease. It comes after the US Food and Drug Administration approved the medications for cardiovascular patients. Kovacic says it's a really important development because almost two-thirds of Australian adults are now overweight or obese, and a significant proportion of them will develop heart attack, stroke or cardiovascular disease.

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2GB, Mornings, 09/04/2024, Ray Hadley

Interview with Prof Marion Saville, Executive Director, Australian Centre for Prevention of Cervical Cancer, regarding a huge uptake in the number of women collecting their swabs for cervical cancer screening with the traditional Pap test fast becoming a thing of the past. People who've done the test, which searches for HPV, have said it's a revolution in pain reduction and has the potential to save many lives. About 315,000 women have now carried out self-tests and of those, 33% were testing for the first time, and 40% had not tested for many years. Saville says self-collection is indeed more comfortable, and most typically it's undertaken in a health service setting.

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3AW, 09:00 News, 09/04/2024

New data from the Federal Health Department reveals that 23% of Australian women opt-in to collect their swabs for cervical cancer screening.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Statewide Mornings, 09/04/2024, Leon Compton

Interview with Lalla Mackenzie, CEO, Family Planning Tasmania, regarding endometriosis with figures suggesting that it affects around 1 in 9 women in Australia. More money is being put into raising awareness and also potential treatments for endometriosis. Mackenzie says she agrees that there's greater awareness of endometriosis at the moment because there are so many more people who are talking about it and so many more people who are taking the time to tell their journey and their story as well.

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PRIMARY CARE

Hospital in chaos

Courier Mail, General News, 10/04/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 1

Gold Coast University Hospital is under unprecedented pressure, with staff ordered to find patients who could be discharged - including from acute wards and those waiting for NDIS or aged-care support. The healthcare workers have also been told to use virtual health programs, postpone surgeries and medical procedures, prioritise scans and mobilise casual and weekend staff -and executives are blaming the mayhem on school holidays.

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Wait too long for surgeries

Hobart Mercury, Editorials, 10/04/2024, Page 14

As the backlog of elective surgeries continues, frustrations among Apatients and healthcare providers mount. Delays in these procedures, which are often deemed non-urgent but essential for quality of life, can have profound consequences. Patients experience prolonged pain, decreased mobility and worsening conditions, leading to decreased quality of life and increased healthcare costs in the long term.

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Department claims situation has improved

Launceston Examiner, General News, 10/04/2024, Nick Clark, Page 6

The management of trauma patients has been improved as a result of a Department of Health examination of procedures following the death of 17-year-old Kane Mathew Leary in 2021. Mr Leary died at the Launceston General Hospital on May 30 after a motorcycle crash at Newnham on May 27, 2021. Coroner Robert Webster found that the missing of a carotid artery dissection by an offsite radiology service meant that Mr Leary missed the chance for a lifesaving operation.

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How this place for healing is helping children

The Australian, Other, 10/04/2024

Hospitals United for Sick Kids is helping children in hospitals get home to the things they miss. Waalbiirniy Waabiny Boodja feels a world away from the raised beds, stiff curtains and sterile hallways of a typical hospital ward. And that's the whole point. What was once an exposed patch of grass on the northern end of Perth Children's Hospital is now a space in which staff, patients and families can get much-needed respite.

[Read More](#)

Canberra Health Services spending \$1.5 million on rebranding in bid to attract staff, make services more accessible

ABC Online, Other, 09/04/2024, Harry Frost

Canberra's public health system is getting a makeover with \$1.5 million being spent on rebranding, in a bid to make services more accessible and to bolster staff recruitment efforts. The pandemic, along with a growing, aging population, has put health services in Australia and around the world under increased strain — and they're competing for the same pool of health workers.

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SA ambulance ramping hits near-record levels

Nursing Review, Other, 09/04/2024, Arshimah Jamal

South Australian public hospitals have reached near-record ambulance ramping levels, with the government citing "extreme pressure on the health system". According to figures provided by SA Health, patients spent 4,095 hours on the ramp in March – almost reaching November's 4,285 hours.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 09/04/2024, Catherine Murphy and Lisa Millar

Public health provider Canberra Health Services has embarked on a \$1.5m overhaul of its branding, standardising logos, signage, uniforms and information material across its hospitals and other facilities. The organisation hopes it will not only make it easier for patients to find and access the care they need, and help them bolster recruitment efforts to ease staffing pressures.

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ABC Radio Melbourne, Breakfast, 09/04/2024, Dave O'Neil

Victorian emergency crews have participated in a simulated rescue exercise in the state's north, modelled on recent incidents, including the deadly 2023 Hunter Valley bus crash in NSW. 91st responders from the CFA, SES Ambulance Victoria and Victoria Police took part in the exercise outside Seymour, which was designed to test and improve how crews work during major emergencies.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Call to expand crisis services

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 7

Mental Health Coalition of SA executive director Geoff Harris has called for a significant expansion of services across the state to help people dealing with a mental health crisis. He said almost 20,000 people with complex mental illness needs were not getting appropriate support and called on the government to increase funding and resources.

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NW mental health crisis

West Australian, General News, 10/04/2024, Jake Dietsch, Page 1

A grieving mother whose 21-year-old son took his own life on February 1 is now campaigning for better mental health resources in the Pilbara, believing he would still be alive if he had received the care he needed. Karratha man Machlan Felix was described by loved ones as a popular and outgoing young man who loved music and art and was dedicated to his mechanical fitting trade.

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

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Touching moments

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 9

Physical touch from both humans and animals reduces pain, feelings of depression and anxiety in both adults and children, according to international researchers. Researchers, including a Ruhr University Bochum team in Germany, found strong evidence of health benefits for adults who engaged in touch.

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

'Amazing' build begins

Northern Daily Leader, General News, 10/04/2024, Jonathan Hawes, Page 1

Tamworth carers are thrilled with excitement as main works finally begin on a new mental health unit the community has been demanding for seven years. Long-time carers Di and Don Wyatt from the Tamworth Mental Health Carers' Support Network each let out a big cheer as the first sod was turned on the new Tamworth Mental Health Unit on Tuesday, April 9. The support network pushed hard for the inclusion of an adolescent and children's treatment centre in the new unit, so kids in crisis will no longer be shipped to Newcastle in their time of need.

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

ADF members and veterans need help every four hours

Canberra Times, Other, 09/04/2024, Rachael Ward

One veteran or serving member of the Australian Defence Force has suicide-related contact with police or paramedics every four hours. That's according to new research conducted for the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide by the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

More Australians experiencing mental distress and loneliness in 2024

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 09/04/2024

More Australians are experiencing mental distress and loneliness in 2024 and are having difficulty accessing support services. It has emerged in the latest Mental Health Monitor – which has been tracking Australia's mental health trends – that 40 per cent of Australians have poor or very poor mental health.

[Read More](#)

Veterinary workforce shortage threatens lives and livelihoods

The Mandarin, Other, 09/04/2024, Dan Holmes

A shortage of Australian vets is threatening prosperity and food supplies in regional Australia, a NSW parliamentary inquiry has heard. The veterinary workforce shortage in New South Wales inquiry was kicked off in response to reports that vets were leaving the industry and committing suicide at an alarming rate.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, AM Agenda, 09/04/2024, Laura Jayes

Interview Chris Gambian, Executive Director, Australians for Mental Health, on more Australians experiencing mental distress and loneliness in 2024, as well as difficulty accessing support services. It's a worrying trend and it's emerged in the latest Mental Health Monitor, which does track mental health and wellbeing. Gambian says 40% of people said that their mental health was either very poor or poor and those numbers get much worse when you look at some of the more specific demographic groups.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

Postnatal depression and the struggle to avert its worst tragedies

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/04/2024, Heather Saxena

Dr Ka-Kiu Cheung says GPs are best placed to engage with mothers as well as their partners to detect early warning signs. When a young mother, known only as 'Ms S', reported suicidal ideation, anxiety and insomnia to her GP, she was referred to ED for urgent care. But 10 days later, she was found dead in her home in Brisbane, having taken her own life during a brief 25-minute window when her husband was out of the house.

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Tears for a hero

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Andrew Hough and Emily Olle, Page 1

An emergency services worker has been remembered as a dedicated, highly regarded ambulance officer after his shock death in a shooting incident near a popular Adelaide suburban lookout. Stuart Brand, 48, had been a deeply respected SA Ambulance clinician for the past 16 years before his death at Outer Harbor, in Adelaide's northwest, on Monday night.

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

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

Clinic owner: 'We get abused due to MAFS'

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 10/04/2024, Ashleigh Jansen, Page 3

A Gold Coast business and its staff are copping the brunt of online trolls after Sunday night's episode of Married at First Sight (MAFS). The Coastal Clinic Southport and Varsity Lakes opened in 2022, boasting a string of positive five-star reviews online. Practice owner and plastic surgeon Dr Drew Cronin said all that changed within hours of the MAFS episode airing on channel 9.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#)

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

Workers who care for loved ones struggle to strike balance due to 'cumbersome' leave requirements

ABC Online, Other, 09/04/2024, Nicole Hegarty

Workers employed under awards, who also provide care to loved ones with ongoing conditions, say a "cumbersome and burdensome" leave process has left them struggling to get basic entitlements. Under the awards system of base pay and conditions, employees are required to provide evidence to their employer each time they apply to take one of their 10 days of personal or carer's leave each year.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

'We accept some doctors are not happy with what we've done': Dr Anne Tonkin

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/04/2024, Anne Tonkin

General practice is tough right now. Workforce shortages are biting, and many dedicated, experienced doctors are working longer and harder than they would like in order to provide high-quality care for their patients. In addition, the Medical Board of Australia has made changes to CPD standards that affect all doctors, leaving some GPs really concerned.

[Read More](#)

Evidence for the CPD reforms? Here's the medical board's response

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/04/2024

The changes introduced to CPD last year — those that have caused much angst and frustration for many doctors — are meant to be based on robust evidence. And there is indeed a global academic industry surrounding CPD. Last month, during our interview with the chair of the Medical Board of Australia, Dr Anne Tonkin, we asked for the references to the research underpinning the specific reforms adopted for doctors in Australia.

[Read More](#)

New database to support evolution of pharmacy

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 09/04/2024

As the profession evolves FIP is introducing a new database to support the expansion of pharmacists' scope of practice The International Pharmaceutical Federation's (FIP's) Impact Database was launched on Sunday (7 April) to support member organisations to advocate for the profession to provide a greater range of services.

[Read More](#)

Board issues identity theft warning

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 09/04/2024, Michael Kent

Concerns about websites selling counterfeit certificates of registration are behind calls from the Pharmacy Board of Australia for new pharmacists not to share photos of their registration certificates.

[Read More](#)

Unprecedented ANZCAP demand sees fast-track Foundation Program extended.

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 09/04/2024

The Australian and New Zealand College of Advanced Pharmacy (ANZCAP) has announced an extension to the Foundation Program for Australian pharmacists to the end of June, ensuring equitable access for more practitioners amid unprecedented interest and a rapidly climbing number of recognised pharmacists.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 09/04/2024, Susannah Carr and Rick Ardon

There's new hope tonight for Perth parents who are desperate to get a medical appointment with a specialist for their children. The WA Government is splashing the cash to recruit 100 new staff to take the pressure off its child development service. WA Health Minister Amber-Jade Sanderson says the \$39m investment will uplift the staff by around 100 staff across the service, both in metropolitan and regional areas.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 09/04/2024, Michael Thomson

A hands-on training program has been launched in Perth to better prepare future frontline workers, A first-of-its-kind collaboration between ECU and UWA brings student nurses and doctors together in a specialised simulation ward.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Lengthy use underscores need for early assessment

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 09/04/2024

Discharge from hospital is a common reason for initiating oxycodone, study finds, but a proportion of people were still taking the drug 12 months later.

[Read More](#)

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

NDIS cost shifting criminal: Shorten

The Australian, General News, 10/04/2024, Christine Middap, Ellie Dudley and Stephen Lunn, Page 1

Ndis Minister Bill Shorten has warned the states should not use the disability scheme as a dumping ground to fund support for violent criminals as more cases reveal prisoners with mild intellectual disabilities are accessing the system for housing and help with positive behavioural management. His new hardline stand comes after The Australian on Tuesday revealed one of the country's worst serial sex offenders who was involved in the brutal 1980s abduction, rape and murder of Janine Balding, is set to be released from jail with the help of an NDIS support package.

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

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Beware health insurers bearing 'free' sign-up gifts

Sydney Morning Herald, Money, 10/04/2024, John Collett, Page 1

Health insurers are now offering a raft of sign-up incentives, as well as rewards for meeting fitness goals such as Apple watches, airline points and discounted cinema tickets making it harder for customers to discern if they're receiving real value for money on their cover. While the most popular sign-up incentives continue to be no premiums for the first several weeks and cashbacks, rewards points can be redeemed for a wider range of things.

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

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Practices charging 'membership' fees for bulk billing

The Medical Republic, Other, 09/04/2024, Laura Woodrow

More than 6% of clinics across the country that bulk bill for standard adult consults are charging "membership" fees for these services, a new Cleanbill report finds, despite the law clearly stating that GPs cannot levy additional charges on patients when bulk billing. The new report, one of a series of analyses by Cleanbill on data from general practices across the country, found 98 practices that "bulk bill all of their non-concession adult patients [for a standard consultation], provided these patients pay some sort of membership fee to access the clinic".

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Doctor sorry for treatment of child who later died

Age, General News, 10/04/2024, Erin Pearson, Page 3

A regional doctor who discharged 19-month-old Noah Souvatzis from an understaffed emergency department says he is devastated by Noah's death and wishes he had escalated the toddler's care. Paul Nicholas Bumford told a coroner investigating Noah's death it was his first-ever locum shift at Wangaratta hospital when Noah arrived on December 29, 2021, and he believed the boy had gastro.

Also reported by: [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#)

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Prescription: sex with me

Herald Sun, General News, 10/04/2024, Aneeka Simonis, Page 16

A doctor offered to buy medicinal cannabis for a female patient in exchange for sex, a tribunal has heard. Dr Attila Danko, general practitioner and renowned vaping advocate, had his medical registration suspended following an Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency investigation in 2020.

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

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Rudeness risks lives

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 9

Rudeness and discourtesy between health workers is endangering patients, according to James Cook University research. PhD candidate Benjamin Freedman, who led research analysing 41 global studies, said it revealed nearly one in four hospital healthcare workers experienced workplace incivility.

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

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Guilty of misconduct

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 10/04/2024, Vanda Carson, Page 5

A Townsville doctor who had sex with three patients and threatened to kill one is set to face disciplinary action after he was found guilty of professional misconduct and to be not "fit and proper" to be registered as a doctor. According to a Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal decision handed down on Monday by retired family court judge Peter Murphy, Praveen Kumar was found to be "an unreliable witness" and to have violated multiple boundaries with patients, with the similarities in his misconduct toward women described as "disturbing".

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

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Suspended doctor Deepak Puri charged with raping woman in Braidwood

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 09/04/2024, Blake Foden

Initially charged with sexual touching offences, a suspended doctor is now also accused of raping a woman in country NSW. Blake Foden Canberra Star Prosecutors have upgraded the charges levelled at a suspended doctor, who is now accused of raping a woman in country NSW. [...] The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency general database shows Puri's registration has been suspended and states he cannot currently practise in Australia.

[Read More](#)

Zara Mulheran's health records removed days after her death at Queensland Children's Hospital

7news.com.au, Other, 09/04/2024

A grieving Queensland mother has demanded answers after she lost access to her daughter's medical records days after her death at Queensland Children's Hospital. Twenty-month-old Zara died last Wednesday days after her mother Carly Mulheran invoked Ryan's Rule, which required the hospital to review her treatment and seek a second medical opinion.

[Read More](#)

Anaesthetists hit back after Four Corners and Margaret Faux accuse them of Medicare rorts

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/04/2024, Heather Saxena

The report stated that 87% of anaesthetists claiming a particular MBS item were overcharging. Anaesthetists have accused the ABC of tarnishing their reputation and unnecessarily alarming patients after a Four Corners report alleged that most anaesthetists were exaggerating the time involved in spinal surgeries to milk Medicare.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 09/04/2024, Peter Mitchell

Dr Paul Bumford from Wangaratta Hospital has admitted he should have escalated the case of a sick toddler who died after being discharged. The family of 19-month-old Noah Souvatzis say his death from meningitis could have been prevented if he was given adequate care. Souvatzis' parents are seeking justice, blaming a series of decisions made by staff at Ambulance Victoria, Wangaratta, Myrtleford and the Royal Children's Hospital.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Queensland Health's new guidelines for phone use

The Courier Mail, Other, 09/04/2024, Jackie Sinnerton

Queensland Health will issue a best-practice position statement on clinical use of mobile phones, in the wake of one patient's horror experience. Nikkole Southwell spoke with Sky News Australia on her horrific experience at Ipswich Hospital after having a miscarriage, pointing out the massive maternity crisis in Queensland.

[Read More](#)

Would a government \$8 no-show fine encourage patients to turn up to appointments?

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/04/2024, Carmel Sparke

The French Prime Minister has proposed fining patients who don't turn up, but doctors don't think it will work. Fed up with millions of doctor appointment 'no-shows' a year, the French Government has proposed fining patients who fail to turn up without a good excuse.

[Read More](#)

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SPORT

Free sport broadcasts on the line

The Nightly, General News, 09/04/2024, Sarah Blake, Page 8

Australian TV viewers will be robbed of access to free major sporting events unless the Federal Government overrules recommendations in a Senate report into media laws released on Tuesday. Communications Minister Michelle Rowland is considering changes to anti-siphoning legislation that guarantees free-to-air broadcasters the first option to bid for the rights to events such as the Olympics, the AFL, NRL and cricket tests, ahead of pay-per-view and streaming services.

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The Premier made a mark in successful footy round

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Jeff Kennett, Page 15

Another successful weekend for the AFL but the biggest winner was South Australian Premier Peter Malinauskas. For a few shekels he secured the whole AFL and the media to SA and gave his community a massive confidence boost. No doubt the state will continue building on the event in every passing year.

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

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It's a very sorry state of affairs at the WACA

West Australian, General News, 10/04/2024, Ben Harvey, Page 10

The WA Cricket Association will issue an embarrassing apology to a board member who was suspended after an investigation into his alleged abusive behaviour. The apology to Paul Collins will be issued despite the association banning him from emailing staff; an investigation by Cricket Australia which documented numerous occasions when he had abused workers; and an ongoing WorkSafe inquiry.

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Experts share marathon training tips

Ballarat Courier, General News, 10/04/2024, Melanie Whelan, Page 4

Tapering, along with all the niggles starting to emerge, are the biggest concerns for runners across the city right now, allied health workers say, three weeks out from the inaugural Ballarat Marathon festival. Stawell Women's Gift winners Grace O'Dwyer and Holly Dobbyn fine-tune their games for sprinting, but the principles are similar.

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Finding the next era of Aussie champs

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 10/04/2024, Nat Medhurst, Page 8

A new Diamonds cycle has begun, for (hopefully) a defence of the Commonwealth Games gold medal in 2026 and then the Netball World Cup title on home soil in 2027. We had Nations Cup Tests in January, where young Giants shooter Sophie Dwyer got another chance at international level.

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

'Time to make an example': The damaging history behind Finlayson's ugly homophobic slur

The Australian, Other, 09/04/2024, Thomas Wilson

The AFL has been urged to "make an example" of Port Adelaide forward Jeremy Finlayson and suspend him for the homophobic slur he used against an Essendon player. Power president David Koch has also come under fire for how he compared Finlayson's slur to other instances, while the AFL has also been criticised for "very little evidence of them doing anything meaningful" to stamp out homophobic language at all levels of the game.

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

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\$200 million grant to give women in sport a fair go

Ipswich News Today, Other, 10/04/2024

The \$200 million Play Our Way sports grant program has now opened for applications to support local government, community, not-for-profit and sporting organisations in making sport more equitable for women and girls. Blair MP Shayne Neumann said that for every two men who play sport only one woman does, and would like to see more women and girls feel welcome to participate in sports.

[Read More](#)

Women's soccer clubs are told they'll be punished for 'discrimination' if they forfeit games against Aussie side with five trans players

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 10/04/2024, Shayne Bugden

The furore surrounding a Sydney women's football team featuring five trans players has taken another turn after it was revealed that rival clubs have been told they'll be punished for discrimination if they refuse to play the side. The Flying Bats team took out the Beryl Ackroyd preseason tournament in Sydney on March 24, winning every game they played and running out 4-0 victors in the grand final, with one trans player scoring six goals in a 10-0 romp on their way to the title.

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

[Read More](#)

Burgess quits as WAIS pole vault coach

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 09/04/2024

Reigning pole vault world champ Nina Kennedy faces a major coaching shake-up just three and a half months before the Paris Olympics after her coach Paul Burgess quit his role at the WA Institute of Sport. Burgess - who also coached two-time Commonwealth champ and 2023 world championships bronze medallist Kurtis Marschall - handed in his resignation as WAIS pole vault head coach, effective immediately, on Tuesday.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Salt swap a lifesaver

Herald Sun, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 7

Using a salt substitute could be a simple, effective way to reduce deaths associated with high salt consumption, according to Aussie researchers. Researchers from Bond University, the Australian National University, University of Queensland, University of Sydney, George Institute for Global Health and the University of NSW looked at 16 studies of people using regular table salt or salt substitutes for at least six months.

Also reported by: [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#)

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New test is child's play

Herald Sun, General News, 10/04/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 15

Almost a third of concussed children have a delayed recovery but doctors had no way of knowing whose symptoms will be ongoing until now. New Melbourne research has paved the way for a simple blood test that could detect these at-risk children, after scientists found kids whose concussions lingered for more than two weeks also had a lower level of specific blood protein.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#)

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Fibre fights hypertension

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 12

Dietary fibre plays an undervalued role in managing hypertension and reducing cardiovascular disease, a new study suggests. A review led by Monash University scientists sheds light on the importance of dietary fibre in blood pressure management and calls for the inclusion of fibre in clinical guidelines for hypertension.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#)

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Supporting intersex care

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 10/04/2024, Christine Schindler, Page 6

The journey of learning empowerment through her body has led Bonnie Hart, 45, to become one of the researchers contributing to groundbreaking models of care for people with innate variations in sex characteristics (IVSC) also known as intersex. As an intersex woman, Ms Hart a University of Southern Queensland researcher said she received medical interventions as a child to make her sex characteristics more female and her family did not have the support or the followup care needed.

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

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PHA welcomes back pain investigation

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 09/04/2024, Page 2

Following ABC Four Corners' investigation last week that revealed the fraud within the chronic pain industry, Private Health Australia (PHA) is welcoming an examination of their own health funds. "PHA will immediately ask payment integrity experts within our health funds to investigate allegations of fraud, waste and abuse in spine surgery for back pain," said PHA Chief Executive Officer, Dr Rachel David.

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

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Urine test could cut need for 'dreaded' cystoscopy to check for bladder cancer recurrence

Australian Doctor, Other, 09/04/2024

Only 44% of patients who took the urine test needed a follow-up cystoscopy. A new urine test could spare many bladder cancer survivors a follow up cystoscopy to check for recurrence, researchers report. The test looks for genetic markers of bladder cancer and may more than halve the number of cystoscopies needed to follow up with high-risk patients, the authors report.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 09/04/2024, Sandra Sully

Australian researchers have discovered why it's critically important for premature babies to cuddle with their mother at birth. Skin-to-skin care has long been used as a way for parents to connect with their babies and now a new study has shown that there are far more potentially life-saving benefits.

[Play Now](#)

Channel 9 Darwin, Nine News, 09/04/2024, Paul Murphy

Australian researchers say replacing table salt with a substitute can reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease by about 17%. The Bond University study says reduced sodium and increased potassium substitutes are good alternatives.

[Play Now](#)

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

\$44m to close the gap for children

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 10/04/2024, Rebecca Whitfieldbaker, Page 13

National statistics show Indigenous children are almost 12 times more likely to be placed in out-of-home care or connected to the child protection system. But it's hoped a major new community initiative will help reverse the shocking trend.

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

'I've been patient': teen's tragic plea

West Australian, General News, 10/04/2024, Rebecca Le May, Page 5

The most senior officer on duty when Cleveland Dodd fatally selfharmmed had already been in trouble for spending time on social media and watching movies for hours while on shift. The revelation came on Tuesday as another youth custodial officer, Nina Hayden was grilled on the stand by Steve Penglis, the barrister representing Cleveland's mother Nadene Dodd in the inquest.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#)

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Mum will 'continue to fight' after inquest

Border Mail, General News, 10/04/2024, Ciara Bastow, Page 6

A mother of an Indigenous man who died while in police custody says there will be no change to the system until police are held accountable. After a seven day coronial inquest in November 2023 into the death of Brandon Rich, a recommendation has been made to the NSW Police Force commissioner that police need more domestic violence training.

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Health focus on 1000 days

Townsville Bulletin, General News, 10/04/2024, Chris Burns, Page 2

A new program for First Nations families in the Townsville area is being used to reduce health inequities and improve maternal and child health. The program also aims to help locally based medical personnel within communities such as Palm Island, and plans to offer prenatal and antenatal care, nutrition education, immunisation campaigns and mental health support.

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

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Share what matters most

Surf Coast Times, Other, 10/04/2024, James Taylor

To mark National AdvanceCare Planning Week, Advance Care Planning Australia (ACPA) has urged everyone to share what matters most and communicate their preferences and wishes for future health care. Advance care planning promotes care that is consistent with an individual's values, beliefs and choices.

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

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More than 1100 children charged under new bail laws in Queensland

National Indigenous Times, Other, 09/04/2024, Dechlan Brennan

More than 1100 children and young people have been arrested and charged in Queensland through new youth bail laws, in a revelation that further undermines the state's commitment to closing the gap. In data obtained by National Indigenous Times, the "high visibility" police operation Whiskey Unison, which has been heavily promoted by the Queensland Government as a solution to youth crime, has seen 1,144 children - aged 10-17 - arrested on 8,464 charges between March 22, 2023, and March 11, 2024, for breaches of bail.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Get your flu vaccination now

Northern Territory News, General News, 10/04/2024, Amanda Sheppeard, Page 12

The official start to flu season is still more than a month away, but experts are urging all Australians to roll up their sleeves and get vaccinated now. The number of flu cases has been rising steadily around the country in recent weeks, pointing to an early start to the season, which typically begins in mid-May. Combined with low vaccination rates, this could lead to a tough few months.

Also reported by: [Lilydale Star Mail \(Melbourne\)](#), [News Of The Area \(Online\)](#), [SBS \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News Online \(Online\)](#), [Riverine Herald \(Echuca\)](#)

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Parents warned as whooping cough cases rise in Goldfields

West Australian, Other, 10/04/2024, Tegan Guthrie

Goldfields parents are being urged to ensure their children's whooping cough vaccinations are up to date amid a rise in cases of the highly infectious disease in the region. WA Country Health Service on Tuesday revealed there had been 14 cases of whooping cough recorded in the Goldfields — including two infants — so far this year.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

MoneyTalks: Brokers see risk, rewards and resilience in two health care stocks

The Australian, Other, 09/04/2024, Eddy Sunarto

Taylor Collison has slapped an Outperform rating on Percheron Therapeutics (, with a price target of 15c (versus its 8.9c price on Tuesday morning), noting however that it's a "speculative investment". [...] Key attractions include world-class TGA licensed facilities, proven experience in advanced contract manufacturing/packaging and increased capacity.

[Read More](#)

Imported medicinal cannabis sold without testing for Australian standards, industry warns

ABC Online, Other, 09/04/2024, Tyrone Dalton and Else Kennedy

When Terry Russell faced crippling, chronic back and leg pain he was prescribed a debilitating dosage of opioids. "I was on so much OxyContin at one stage, I couldn't string two thoughts together," he said. [...] But under rules enforced by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), medicinal cannabis products sold to Australian consumers can be grown anywhere in the world.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Antibiotic shortage to continue

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 09/04/2024, wilson tan

Pfizer Australia has advised the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) that stocks of its Bicillin L-A (benzathine benzylpenicillin tetrahydrate) prefilled syringes for injection (600,000 units per syringe and 1.2 million units per syringe) will remain in short supply until "mid-2024".

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Tasmanians agree treatment or education is the best way to address impact of drugs

Hobart Mercury, General News, 10/04/2024, Jackie Hallam, Page 16

It appears that Tasmanians are not as conservative as we are often portrayed, particularly when it comes to illicit drug policies. We already knew from research conducted last year that about 70 per cent of those who responded did not believe that the possession of cannabis or marijuana for personal use should be a criminal offence.

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

Premier grilled after drug injecting room report leak

Canberra Times, Other, 09/04/2024, Callum Godde

There is urgency in preventing drug overdoses in the Melbourne CBD despite the Victorian government sitting on supervised injecting room report for almost a year, Premier Jacinta Allan says. The premier swatted away questions on former Victoria Police boss Ken Lay's report on Tuesday after some of its contents were leaked.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Is drug testing a good or bad idea?

4BC, Other, 09/04/2024, Mike Jeffreys

Mike discusses drug testing with Nicole Lee, Adjunct Professor at Melbourne's National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, following the announcement that the first drug checking pilot in NSW will begin operating Monday. Located at the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) in Kings Cross, the program will run once a week for four months, sampling from 100 registered MSIC users.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, News Breakfast, 09/04/2024, Catherine Murphy and Lisa Millar

The use of medicinal cannabis in Australia continues to grow, with about 1.2 million Australians using it last year. Supplying that boom has helped the medicinal cannabis industry expand to be worth an estimated \$400 million. But 80% of that cannabis is imported, with doctors raising concerns about its origins and quality. Australian Medical Association President Steve Robson says they are certainly hearing stories about quality issues and adverse responses, and it should trigger concern in the community.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Life Matters, 09/04/2024, Hilary Harper and Beverley Wang

The Australian Medical Association says it has great concern about a big growth in patients being prescribed medicinal cannabis. About 1.2 million Australians accessed medicinal cannabis last year, up from 19,000 in 2019. Local medicinal cannabis growers say imported cannabis is putting patients at risk and threatening the tightly regulated local industry. AMA Federal President Steve Robson says doctors don't have enough information on the quality of product coming into Australia, or the rigour of testing.

Also reported by: [ABC Radio Darwin \(Darwin\)](#)

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

FOOD STANDARDS

Brekkie food Pulled

Cairns Post, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 10

A breakfast product has been recalled from a supermarket over an allergy concern. Frisip oats peanut butter 150gm jars were recalled from all Woolworths stores nationally on Monday after it was discovered the packaging lacked a warning that the product contained a milk allergen. [...] Food Standards Australia and New Zealand said consumers who had a milk allergy or intolerance might have a reaction if consumed.

Also reported by: [7news.com.au \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#)

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AICIS

Drinking water safe from PFAS: study

Sunraysia Daily, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 8

The first study to quantify the environmental burdens of 'forever chemicals' has found Australian drinking water remains safe, but the same may not apply globally. Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, which are commonly referred to as PFAS, are man-made chemicals heavily used since the 1940s for their resistance to heat, water, grease and stains.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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

'Forever chemicals' of the modern world that will not go away

The Mandarin, Other, 09/04/2024, Melissa Coade

Scientists are warning that the environmental impact of a group of more than 14,000 human-made chemicals known as Per-and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) has been seriously underestimated and likely surpass the limits for safe human consumption. PFAS are known as 'forever chemicals' because they do not degrade. They have been widely used since the 1950s for common applications where heat resistance or water, grease, and stain resistance is called upon.

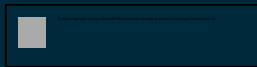
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s22

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2024 5:29 PM
To: s22
Cc: s22; PHILBRICK, Bernard
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Great thanks s22

Jo

From: s22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 4:41 PM
To: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @health.gov.au>; PHILBRICK, Bernard s22 @health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hey Jo

Apologies, as discussed earlier I was not a part of the original process, however, I have carried out a quick search of the WPS TRIM folders and have been able to locate the paperwork relating to the interdepartmental loan to Defence from the Department.

Please find attached original approval minute around both the original loan minute and loan agreement.

Further correspondence on the matter can be found in E18-12455.

Thanks

s22

From: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 3:05 PM
To: s22 @health.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @health.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hey s22

See below in follow up to our convo this morning about Sirius media article.

In s22 absence today I', wondering if you know what happened to the model ship that was loaned by us to Dept of Defence back in 2018?

Thanks

From: PHILBRICK, Bernard s22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 2:35 PM
To: News <news@health.gov.au>; MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn

s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; GRIEVE, Jodie
 s22 @health.gov.au>; BALMANNO, Rachel s22 @health.gov.au>
 Cc: s22 @Health.gov.au>; HICKS, David s22 @health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

No issues on that from me.

Bernard

Please note- I am sending this email now because these working hours work for me. I don't expect that you will read, respond to, or action it outside of your normal business hours.

From: News <news@health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 2:09 PM
To: News <news@health.gov.au>; MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn
 s22 @health.gov.au>; PHILBRICK, Bernard s22 @health.gov.au>; s22
 s22 @Health.gov.au>; GRIEVE, Jodie s22 @health.gov.au>; BALMANNO, Rachel
 s22 @health.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @Health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi all,

Just providing you with the below to assist with the response – or if you would like to leave at this.

s47C

##

s22
 Media Unit, Communication Branch

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group
 Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care
 T: 02 6289 s22 | E: news@health.gov.au
 GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country

From: News <news@health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 1:52 PM
To: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn s22 @health.gov.au>; PHILBRICK, Bernard
 s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; GRIEVE, Jodie
 s22 @health.gov.au>; BALMANNO, Rachel s22 @health.gov.au>
Cc: News <news@health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi all,

Steve has come up with some follow up questions below – I believe this would cross over between NWOW and property to respond to.

I have notified Steve that a response will likely come tomorrow so if we could please have something before 12pm that would be lovely. 😊

Thanks all!

s22

Media Unit, Communication Branch

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group

Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care

T: 02 6289 s22 | E: news@health.gov.au

GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country

From: Steve Evans <steve.evans@canberratimes.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 1:13 PM

To: News <news@health.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you very much for your response.

I'm afraid I'm like a dog with a bone on this. I'd like to ask some more questions:

(1) In 2018, a model of the Sirius was removed from one of the department's buildings with a promise that it would return: (<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6023724/model-ship-of-sirius-removed-from-department-of-health-office-block-ahead-of-australia-day/>). Was it returned? Where is it now? If it wasn't returned, why not?

(2) The architect of the building said that the names of First, Second and Third Fleet ships used to be prominent in the building but had since been removed. As the design brief puts it: "We start at the storey wall with the naming of the ships of the First Fleet with the Sirius Building identified by building signage over the entry (now deleted by DOHA)."

Why was this deletion done?

(3) Are there plans to change or consider chaining the name of Scarborough House?

Thanks again.

Steve Evans

Reporter, The Canberra Times

(02) 6280 2270

Mobile: 0466 285301

On Tue, 9 Apr 2024 at 18:12, News <news@health.gov.au> wrote:

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Hi Steve,

Please attribute to a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care

Can you tell me what the time-frame for the change is?

The new name will be announced in coming months.

How will the new name be chosen? Will it be by ballot of all people who work there? Or how?

A whole of department staff vote has been conducted.

Will future employees be able to change the name to some other name?

The decision to change the name was made by the department's executives, not employees, however employees were consulted on the name change.

Does the department own the copyright to the name?

No

Is the decision to change the names of buildings across the department or specific to the Sirius Building?

Specific to the Sirius building.

s22

Media Unit, Communication Branch

Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care

T: 02 6289 7400 | M: s22 E: news@health.gov.au

Unless stated otherwise, this information is provided on a background basis and should not be attributed.

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

From: Steve Evans <steve.evans@canberratimes.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:36 AM
To: News <news@health.gov.au>
Cc: Miriam Webber <miriam.webber@austcommunitymedia.com.au>
Subject: Sirius

REMINDER: Think before you click! This email originated from outside our organisation. Only click links or open attachments if you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, I hope you can help.

I'm following up on some of Miriam's reporting on the proposal to change the name of the Sirius Building.

Can you tell me what the time-frame for the change is?

How will the new name be chosen? Will it be by ballot of all people who work there? Or how?

Will future employees be able to change the name to some other name?

Does the department own the copyright to the name?

Is the decision to change the names of buildings across the department or specific to the Sirius Building?

Forgive the bombardment.

Best wishes,

Steve Evans.

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s22

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2024 5:28 PM
To: BALMANNO, Rachel
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Have now confirmed the ship was provided to Dept of Defence for 'up to three years' but no correspondence relating to its return so if we want to answer question more directly we can add the following, otherwise leave as media suggest:

The model ship remains on long term loan to the Department of Defence.

Jo

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 5:20 PM
To: BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yes, model ship appears to remain on loan to the Department of Defence. I'll reflect that it response that I'll send to you shortly.

Jo

From: BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 5:17 PM
To: MOND, Jo ^{s22} @health.gov.au>; MOND, Jo ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Are you still looking at this one?

Rachel Balmanno (Ms/she/her)

First Assistant Secretary
 People, Communication and Parliamentary Division

Corporate Operations Group
 Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
 T: 02 6289 ^{s22} | E: ^{s22} @health.gov.au
 Location: Sirius Building 3.N.506
 PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present.

s22

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2024 5:49 PM
To: BALMANNO, Rachel
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yes will do. thanks

From: BALMANNO, Rachel s22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 5:39 PM
To: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

I think replace the sentence about 'no plans for ships' with the ship being on long term loan to Defence. Also don't want to refer to Central Office (pet peeve) – just say Sirius Building.

Rachel Balmanno (Ms/she/her)

First Assistant Secretary
People, Communication and Parliamentary Division

Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
T: 02 6289 s22 | E: s22 @health.gov.au
Location: Sirius Building 3.N.506
PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

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§22

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2024 2:46 PM
To: §22
Subject: FW: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

It keeps coming..

§22

s22

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2024 1:43 PM
To: MOND, Jo
Cc: s22
Subject: RE: Today's News 10 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yes, will do.

Regards,

s22

Director NWOW Change and Delivery – Canberra offices (Sirius and Fairbairn)
 New Ways of Working Program

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group
 Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

T: s22 | E: s22 @health.gov.au

Location: Sirius Level 3, Phillip
 PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Part time: Monday-Thursday

‘Diversity happens, inclusiveness is a choice’.

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

Hybrid working tip 😊



Wipe down your desk

Make sure when you pack your personal items away at the end of the day, to wipe down your workstation so it is clean for your colleagues the next day.

Interested in more hybrid working tips? Visit the [Hybrid Working page](#) on the Intranet

From: MOND, Jo ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 10:18 AM
To: ^{s22} @Health.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Today's News 10 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Can you please prepare a Min brief, incorporating your comments as well as Rachel's below?

Jo

From: BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:36 AM
To: MOND, Jo ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Today's News 10 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yep. We can let them know we have been advised there are unlikely to be any issues. Maybe check interest/availability for the renaming ceremony?

Rachel Balmanno (Ms/she/her)

First Assistant Secretary
People, Communication and Parliamentary Division

Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
T: 02 6289 ^{s22} | E: ^{s22} @health.gov.au
Location: Sirius Building 3.N.506
PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present.

From: MOND, Jo ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 9:01 AM
To: BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} @health.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Today's News 10 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good morning

Sirius renaming front page of CT.

Do you think we need to send info brief to MO now rather than wait until final word from 547F

Jo

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

s22

FOI Request 5077 – Webex and Team Chats – Workplace and Change Branch

Teams chat between §22 and §22 (12.04.2024)

Note: the announcement refers to the Surry Hills meeting room names announcement, not the Sirius Building re-naming.

12/04 3:30 pm
 Happy for you to log off at 4 §22 I'm receiving a bit of feedback from this morning's email flurry so I'll stay a bit longer to make sure I understand it all. BTW - did you hear about the media coverage the Sirius building re-naming is getting? (If not google it). I anticipate this will delay any announcement 🤔

12/04 3:31 pm
 §22 Thanks §22 Did not hear about naming media coverage. I will google it!!!

12/04 4:14 pm
 §22 Wow. That's some significant coverage an divided opinon!

MS Teams chat between §22 and §22 in relation to Sirius renaming media article (10.04.2024)

10/04 2:17 pm
 §47F §22 Did you know the Sirius renaming made it to the Canberra times?

10/04 2:41 pm
 Yep it has been talk of the morning 🤔 1

MS Teams chat between §22 and §22 in relation to Ministerial brief prompted following Sirius renaming media article (10.04 - 11.04.2024)

10/04 1:42 pm
 §22 We will need to do a ministerial brief asap too partic given CT article - so yes let's take out for now. I will start drafting brief today and hand to you tomorrow



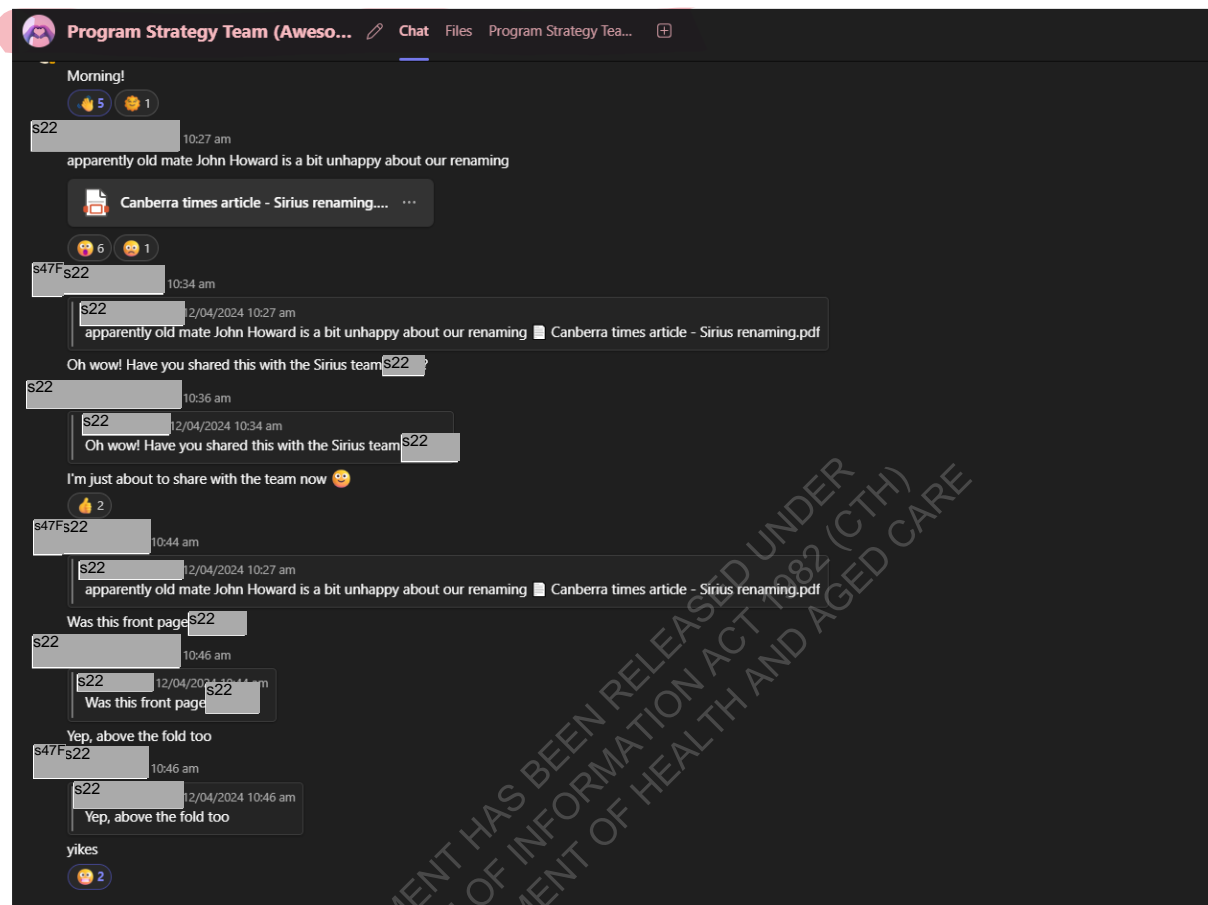
Thursday, 11 April

11/04 11:15 am
 Ministerial brief is with you 😊

FOI Request 5077 – Webex and Team Chats – Workplace and Change Branch

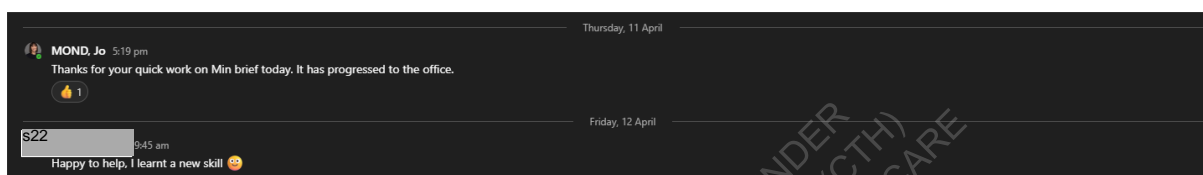
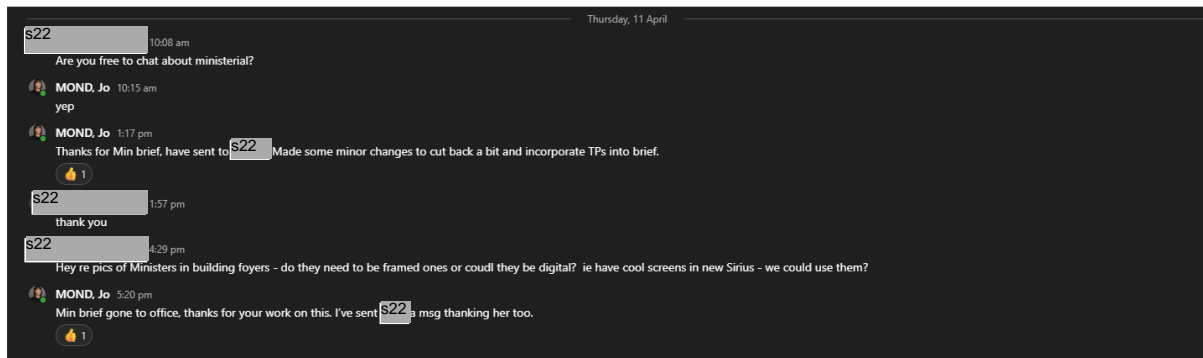
Teams chat between members of the Program Strategy and Design section, 12/4/2024

Note: Discussion is in reference to CT article released on 12th April.

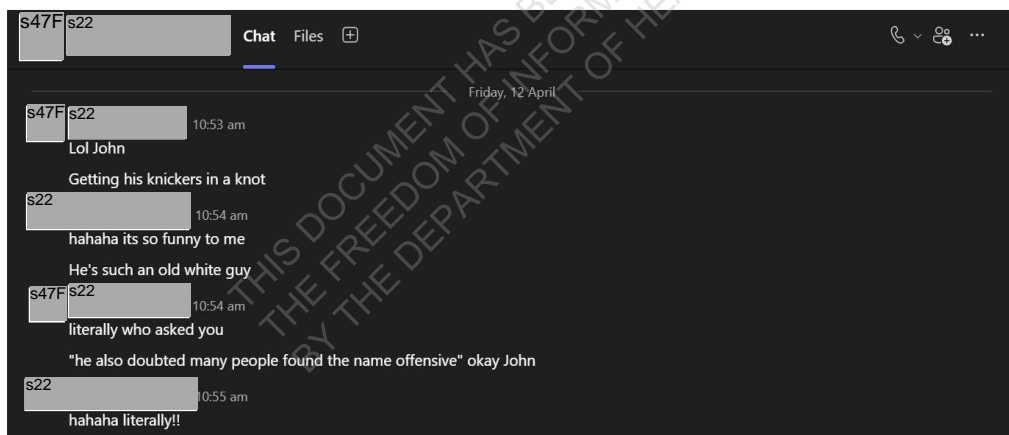


FOI Request 5077 – Webex and Team Chats – Workplace and Change Branch

MS Teams chat between Jo Mond and s22 and Jo Mond and s22 in relation to Ministerial on Sirius renaming media article (11.04 - 12.04.2024)



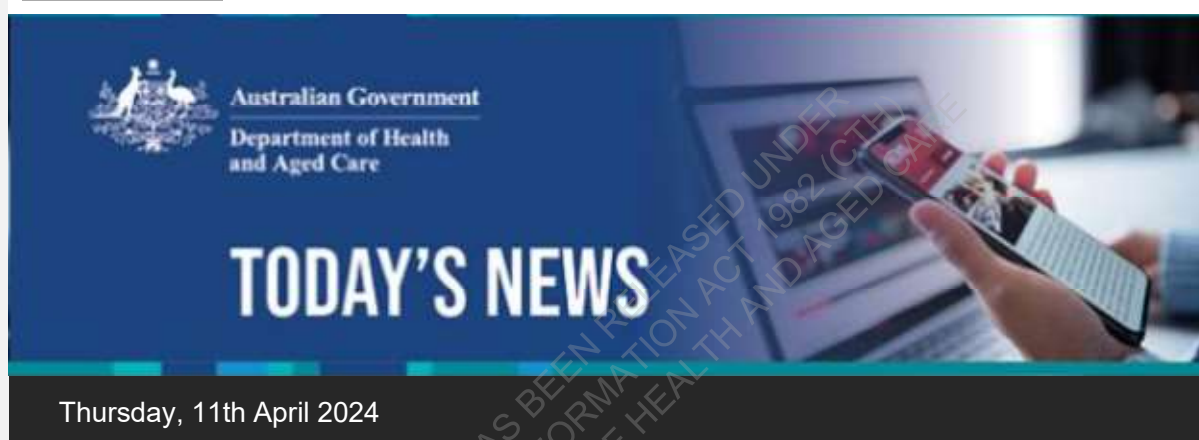
MS Teams chat between s22 and s22 regarding a different article published on 12 April by Canberra Time (titled 'Ship of Fools') on the same topic.



s22

From: Isentia Daily Briefings ^{s47E(d)} @isentia.com>
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2024 5:25 AM
To: isentianewsletters
Subject: Today's News 11 Apr 2024
Attachments: _2024-04-11.pdf

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LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Australian** (page 1) reports a peak psychiatrists body has urged the government to launch an independent inquiry into gender transitioning care following the release of an NHS report questioning UK treatment practices. *Also reported by:* [The Australian](#), [The Australian](#), [The Age](#)

- **The Australian** (page 1) reports Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital says it will investigate how a ten-page list of medicines and medical equipment needed in Gaza came to be in a restricted access area of the hospital.
- The **Canberra Times** (page 1) reports Anne Ruston has criticised plans to rename the Department of Health's Canberra headquarters due to associations of the building's current name with the first fleet.
- **The Australian** (page 3) reports T-cell therapy treatments could soon be expanded to effectively treat 90 per cent of cancer tumours thanks to new research by Melbourne's Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 3) reports AHPRA's new cosmetic surgery watchdog has had "an immediate impact", director Jason McHeyzer says, with nearly one in ten complaints leading to regulatory action since the body was founded 18 months ago.
- The **Canberra Times** (page 4) reports the AMA has called for more support for women tackling menopause and perimenopause and more money to research how to best address the condition and ease socioeconomic inequities in its treatment.
- The **Daily Telegraph** (page 5) reports cricket legend Allan Border has sent a video message to Anthony Albanese and Mark Butler calling for more funds to help health workers treat Parkinson's disease. *Also reported by: Herald Sun, Adelaide Advertiser, Courier Mail, Courier Mail*
- **The Guardian** (online) reports a rising number of doctors are being punished by AHPRA for poor assessment and prescription practices using telehealth, including some instances where AI may have been used to prescribe medication.

MINISTER BUTLER

Pressure for puberty blocker probe

The Australian, General News, 11/04/2024, Jess Malcolm, Page 1

Anthony Albanese is being urged to replicate a landmark British review into interventionist medical treatments that enable young children to change gender, amid increasing concern that puberty blockers may cause serious harm. [...] A spokeswoman for Health Minister Mark Butler said the Cass review was a "significant report in an area where best practice and research is continuing to emerge".

Also reported by: The Australian (Online)

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

UK trans halt puts pressure on policy here

Age, General News, 11/04/2024, Michael Bachelard and Aisha Dow, Page 5

A new policy in the United Kingdom to restrict the medical treatments available to trans and gender-diverse young people has raised fresh questions about Australia's approach in one of the most sensitive areas of medicine, and prompted a fierce defence from LGBTQ advocates. [...] A spokesperson for federal Health Minister Mark Butler said: "Everyone will take the time to consider this review."

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

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Cancer ravaged Mark's nose. He got a new one

Age, General News, 11/04/2024, Megan Gorrey, Page 20

Mark Robinson missed biting into an apple after an aggressive skin cancer marching swiftly across his face meant surgeons had to remove his nose and part of his jaw. Robinson, 69, of Jamberoo, NSW, says the drastic surgery initially robbed him of the ability to eat solid food and left hollows in his face he had to cover with masks. [...] His reconstructed face is a product of the team at Chris O'Brien Lifehouse's Integrated Prosthetics and Reconstruction laboratory, which Federal Health Minister Mark Butler opened yesterday.

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

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

Sirius flak: Opposition slams 'woke' push to strip Fleet name

Canberra Times, General News, 11/04/2024, Karen Barlow and Steve Evans, Page 1

The federal opposition has labelled plans to rename the Health Department's Canberra headquarters over First Fleet associations as "woke" and urged the Health Minister to refocus his department toward measures to improve access to affordable healthcare. [...] "Health Minister Mark Butler must ensure his department's focus is on solving the problems that are most impacting Australians' access to affordable healthcare, not on woke agendas like this."

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

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AB's Parkinson's appeal

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 5

Cricket legend Allan Border has called on Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to "do something" about Parkinson's disease. Diagnosed with the neurodegenerative disorder in 2016, the former Test captain has delivered a powerful video message to the PM and federal Health Minister Mark Butler.

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

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

Fanta's a fizzer on sugar pledges

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/04/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 24

Coca-Cola has quietly increased Fanta's sugar content by 60 per cent just a few years after reducing it during the fierce sugar tax debate. [...] Health Minister Mark Butler said a feasibility study on options to limit "unhealthy food marketing" was under way.

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

Schools weaning kids off vapes

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 11/04/2024, Eleanor Campbell, Page 6

A new federal vaping prevention program has been rolled out in Australian high schools to curb a worrying rise in vaping among teenagers, after data revealed nearly one in 10 people over 14 used e-cigarettes. The OurFutures program, developed by researchers at the University of Sydney's Matilda Centre, is underway in 40 schools across Australia with more than 5000 students participating. [...] Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said more than 560,000 illegal vapes had been seized at the border since disposable vapes were outlawed in January.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Perth Now \(Online\)](#)

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

Bulk-billing tax 'threat'

Star Weekly, Other, 10/04/2024

Werribee MP and state treasurer Tim Pallas has been warned that bulk billing within his own electorate will disappear if Victoria's GP payroll tax isn't changed. Last year, Victoria's State Revenue Office ruled that doctors working in GP clinics were employees and therefore liable for payroll tax. [...] Despite a growing campaign from GPs and even the Federal Health Minister Mark Butler expressing concern about the payroll tax, the state government has so far resisted calls to change it, though Treasurer Pallas has previously said he would intervene to prevent GP clinics from closing.

[Read More](#)

Private health insurers accused over new report

The Medical Republic, Other, 10/04/2024, Cate Swannell

Why did six Australian health funds share billing data with the ABC? Could it be they're out to cut their costs? [...] Dr Faux, the ABC and Nine Newspapers teamed up in 2022 to accuse GPs of rorting the Medicare system to the tune of \$8 billion a year, leading the Health Minister Mark Butler to commission an independent review of MBS compliance, led by health economist Dr Pradeep Philip.

[Read More](#)

Patient-signed PBS prescriptions will not return

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 10/04/2024

The requirement for a patient to provide written acknowledgement (e.g. a signature) of receipt of a pharmaceutical benefit has been permanently repealed from PBS legislation. [...] The removal of the signature requirement follows a pledge to the same effect last year given by the Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler at APP2023.

[Read More](#)

Fleurieu at higher risk of shingles – Sharkie MP.

Power FM SA, Other, 10/04/2024, Jennie Lenman

With up to 1,000 people in the Southern Fleurieu Peninsula waiting for shingles vaccinations, Independent Member for Mayo Rebekha Sharkie is urging the Federal Government to address an apparent lack of supply. [...] Sharkie has asked Health Minister Mark Butler in the Parliament what urgent steps the Federal Government is taking to ensure eligible members of the community can be vaccinated in a timely manner.

Also reported by: [5MU 1125 \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Psychiatrists call for review into gender blockers, cross-sex hormones in wake of NHS review

The Australian, Other, 10/04/2024, Aisling Brennan

Federal and state governments are being urged to reassess how trans kids can access interventionist medical treatments, as new research reveals puberty blockers can have lifelong lasting effects. The National Association of Practising Psychiatrists has called for a national independent investigation into the use of the medical practices, including puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones. [...] A spokeswoman for Health Minister Mark Butler told The Australian the Cass review was a "significant report in an area where best practice and research is continuing to emerge".

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Daily Telegraph \(Sydney\)](#), [Herald Sun \(Melbourne\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 10/04/2024, Tom Connell

The Federal Government is looking at implementing youth Anti-vaping programmes Demand for support is increasing due to large numbers of students vaping. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler believes its crucial for young Australians to understand the dangers.

[Play Now](#)

Triple M Brisbane, 11:00 News , 10/04/2024

Health Minister Mark Butler is again voiced his concerns about vaping, with 1 in 6 high school students recently trying an e-cigarette. 250 schools across the country have signed up for a trial programme aimed at reducing the number of teens picking up a vape. Butler says it's crucial that this age group that they feel empowered to say no, I only have to look at where the stores that are selling these products are setting up.

[Play Now](#)

4BC, 13:00 News, 10/04/2024

The Federal Government is welcoming a school-based program called OurFutures which aims to tackle youth vaping. Over 5000 students are taking part in the trial. Federal Health Minister Mark Butler says vape manufacturers are targeting Australia's young people.

[Play Now](#)

ABC Newcastle, Drive, 10/04/2024, Paul Culliver

Interview with Associate Professor Emily Stockings, University of Sydney's Matilda Centre. Culliver says Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler and Minister for Education Jason Clare gave a press conference today highlighting one programme in particularly namely OurFutures Vaping Preventions Programme, which was developed by the University of Sydney's Matilda Centre that focuses on vaping. Stockings says they have been working for 15 years on the programme and its usually delivered in schools for students around year seven to eight. She states that they have been refining this programme through randomised controlled trials.

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MINISTER WELLS

Retirement Living Council welcomes Act delay

Leader - Barossa Valley, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 28

The Retirement Living Council (RLC) has welcomed the Australian Government's decision to delay the commencement date of the new Aged Care Act. Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells, has also announced that the government is now considering feedback before it finalises its draft legislation.

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

Aged Care Act delay endorsed by RLC

Architecture & Design, Other, 10/04/2024

The Retirement Living Council (RLC) says it hopes the federal government will utilise the time in delaying the new Aged Care Act to ensure they "get it right". Feedback is currently being sought by Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells on the bill before it heads to the lower house.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

No relevant coverage

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

Landmark event focuses on expanding horizons in e-Perinatal Support

The Sector, Other, 10/04/2024, Freya Lucas

The Parent-Infant Research Institute (PIRI), leading the STePPS CRE (Science Translation for e-Psychological Perinatal Supports), hosted a landmark event on March 21st, 2024, bringing together over 60 leading researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and stakeholders in perinatal mental health research. [...] Julie Bignell (Austin Health Board Director) opened the event, followed by video messages from The Hon Ged Kearney MP, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, and The Hon Ingrid Stitt MP, Victorian Minister for Mental Health, emphasising the critical need for perinatal mental health initiatives.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

New mobile clinic boosts health outcomes in remote Indigenous communities

National Indigenous Times, Other, 10/04/2024, Joseph Guenzler

Central Australia's Indigenous communities now have access to improved health services through a new 4WD mobile clinic, aimed at enhancing diabetes treatment, education, and management in remote areas. Assistant Minister and Yanyuwa woman Malarndirri McCarthy joined the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in Alice Springs on Wednesday to unveil the clinic.

[Read More](#)

ABC, ABC News, 10/04/2024, Jessica Harmsen

South Australian police officers flew into Alice Springs today to help with the town's extended youth curfew. Debate continues about a long awaited review into policing in the territory, with ongoing calls for more officers in the central Australian town.

[Play Now](#)

Koori Radio, Blackchat, 10/04/2024, Lola Forester

Forester discusses the coming events that are coming up involving Assistant Minister for Indigenous Australians Malarndirri McCarthy wherein they have launched the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress namely the Mobile Alliance Health Clinic which is delivering special diabetes care and education in remote central Australian communities.

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DEPARTMENT

No relevant coverage

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CORONAVIRUS

Change to Covid rules

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/04/2024, Blair Richards, Page 5

Public health authorities will drop a recommendation that Tasmanians register a positive Covid test, shifting the focus to monitoring for all acute respiratory illnesses. This year's seasonal illness advice from government focused on the three main viruses Covid, influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). The state government's Covid@home call centre service has been rebranded as Care@home, to reflect the support on offer for vulnerable patients at risk from all flu-like illnesses.

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

Military must not be our first resort in a public health crisis

West Australian, General News, 11/04/2024, Donna Bates, Page 48

There's something fundamentally wrong when the Premier of our State defaults to the military option rather than strategically preparing his Government's health system and infrastructure for a future health crisis. Roger Cook's recent comments to a Commonwealth COVID inquiry that he wanted to deploy the army to "patrol and secure" WA's borders, and to turn military bases into quarantine centres in the event of another health crisis like the pandemic, demonstrates a concerning lack of vision, leadership, and planning.

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

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

Work begins on long-awaited Downer village

Canberra Times, General News, 11/04/2024, Brittney Levinson, Page 10

Work will begin soon on more than 100 retirement homes in Canberra's north, nearly a decade after the development was first discussed. Goodwin Village Downer will be built on the corner of Melba and Bradfield streets across four buildings.

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

Robinson supports next generation of carers

Barrier Truth, General News, 10/04/2024, Dylan Stone, Page 11

Robinson College has continued to create career pathways for a further 10 local students, who last month enrolled for Certificate III in Individual Support (Aged Care and Disability). The 14- week course provides a blended delivery of face to face/classroom, online, and on-the-job learning to students.

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Video chat made easy

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 11/04/2024, Giuseppe Tauriello, Page 22

Motivated by the challenges they faced when caring for their late father during the depths of Covid-19, Zachary Bailey and sister Fiona Symons emerged from the pandemic with a mission to transform the way aged-care residents communicate with their loved ones.

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

Time to force wealthy retirees to tap super to pay for aged care

Australian Financial Review, Other, 11/04/2024, Rodney Horin

There is no good reason why today's workers should fund aged care for older Australians who have accumulated generous superannuation savings. There has been much deliberation about the future of the aged care industry in Australia, including the A...

[Read More](#)

Queensland Community Care Network calling for volunteers for aged care homes

Toowoomba Chronicle, Other, 10/04/2024, Jack Dyson Evans

Queensland Community Care Network are seeking volunteers to befriend socially isolated residents at Ningana Retirement Village and Karingal Aged Care. Queensland Community Care Network are seeking caring volunteers to befriend socially isolated residents in care homes in Dalby.

[Read More](#)

'It can be quite stressful': Program designed to aid carers as a life ends

Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser, Other, 10/04/2024, Madilyn McKinley

A free end-of-life workshop for carers in Wagga will be held at the Wagga Rules Club on Monday, April 15, from 1pm. Health and aged care provider HammondCare has put together the Last Days program, to help carers and family members understand Clinical nurse consultant and presenter of the workshop Jon San Martin, said the program was designed to bust myths about death and provide practical resources.

[Read More](#)

Age of retirement for Australians extended by post-COVID flexibility, new data shows

7news.com.au, Other, 10/04/2024, Hayley Taylor

The ageing workforce is remaining in their jobs longer than ever before, according to new retirement data. The Australian retirement age has been "steadily increasing" over the past two decades, but a plateau uncovered in the latest retirement data shows the nation's ageing population have reached their limit for now.

[Read More](#)

Webinars address mental health in aged care

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/04/2024

Not-for-profit provider Uniting AgeWell has partnered with La Trobe University to develop a webinar series that aims improve mental health care for people living in residential aged care. Designed for aged care home staff, facility managers, nurses, allied health professionals and medical practitioners, it's hoped the free educational webinars will help curb the rates of mental health disorders such as anxiety and depression – which affect at least 40 per cent of aged care residents in Australia.

[Read More](#)

CHSP grants available to plug service gaps

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/04/2024

Home care providers are invited to apply for a government growth funding grant to expand entry-level aged care services in Australia. The federal government uses growth funding to respond to the evolving needs of older Australians by providing more funding and services into the Commonwealth Home Support Program.

[Read More](#)

Remote accord network announces new chair

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/04/2024

The Aged Care Workforce Remote Accord has appointed Juniper chief executive officer Russell Bricknell as chair of its leadership group. Mr Bricknell – who took over the helm of Juniper in December 2022 – has an extensive background in the aged care and the community services sector.

[Read More](#)

Final call for feedback

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 10/04/2024

Stakeholders are being reminded there are only a few weeks left to provide feedback on the draft guidance documents for the strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards. Released online in December, the draft guidelines are due to come into play in a just a few months on 1 July.

[Read More](#)

'I don't want other people wiping my bottom': Let people with dementia die with dignity

Australian Doctor, Other, 10/04/2024, Paul Nisselle

It's been suggested that advance care directives and 'dying with dignity' be merged so that people, when competent, can direct what they want to happen if they dement. Many Australians now die of, or with, dementia, but that's largely because more people live long enough to dement.

[Read More](#)

\$1.7m nature-based dementia respite project launched

Australian Seniors News, Other, 10/04/2024

GreenConnect Dementia Respite – a new, trailblazing program in the Loddon-Mallee region that uses the power of nature to help people with dementia – was officially launched in Bendigo today. The program aims to provide innovative respite outside of aged care facilities and addresses the urgent need for better support plans for fatigued carers.

[Read More](#)

Linda Feldt appointed CEO of ACH Group after Interim role

The Weekly Source, Other, 10/04/2024, Caroline Egan

The South Australian Not For Profit operator appointed Linda Feldt Interim CEO in November 2023, after former CEO Frank Weits stepped down from the top job. She joined ACH Group, which offers home care, residential aged care, retirement living and care for people living with dementia, as Group Financial Controller in 2015.

[Read More](#)

ABC Riverland SA, Breakfast, 10/04/2024, Stephanie Nitschke

Compere mentions that according to a spokesperson from the Department of Health and Aged Care, aged care reforms will provide improvements for all people accessing aged care. He confirms that the Government has announced its intention to introduce a new support at home programme next year, which is expected to include fast access to higher cost assistive technology and home modifications to support older people to remain independent, including people with a disability who are not eligible for the NDIS.

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POPULATION HEALTH

How to avoid a kick in the eye

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/04/2024, Nell Geraets, Page 36

Obsessing over clear vision and the right drops could cause more harm than good. Whether it's hay fever, air pollution or hours spent staring at screens, our eyes go through a lot in a day. According to Optometry Australia's 2022 Vision Index Report, which surveyed 1000 Australians, 85 per cent said they experienced dry, irritated or watery eyes an 8 per cent increase from 2020. To tackle this, many people turn to over-the-counter eye drops.

Also reported by: [Age \(Melbourne\)](#)

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

Funding call for menopause sufferers

Canberra Times, General News, 11/04/2024, Steve Evans, Page 4

The country's doctors are calling for more attention to be given to women who are suffering from the symptoms of menopause. The Australian Medical Association said that many women find it difficult to get the support they need both in menopause and during the lead up to it (known as perimenopause).

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Toxic air fear draws protest

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/04/2024, Fia Walsh, Page 6

A group of Territory healthcare workers have gathered at the steps of parliament to protest potential toxic health risks of the Middle Arm gas and green energy development. It comes ahead of public hearings being held in Darwin on Wednesday and Thursday as part of a senate inquiry into the proposed industrial precinct 6km south of the city.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#)

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Food price crisis takes toll on health

The Nightly, General News, 10/04/2024, Jeni O'Dowd, Page 15

When a bag of Doritos is the most affordable after-school snack parents can provide their kids, you know something is seriously amiss like thousands of Australians, this was my typical shopping day yesterday. I drove to my local supermarket, armed with a shopping list and a budget in mind.

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Should you really eat vegies before carbs? Here's what science says

Australian Financial Review, Other, 10/04/2024, Nikki Campo

Research has shown it can indeed benefit blood sugar, especially for those with Type 2 diabetes or pre-diabetes. But how about everyone else?

[Read More](#)

Landmark review rejects puberty blockers for children wanting to change gender

The Australian, Other, 10/04/2024, Eleanor Hayward

An entire field of medicine aimed at enabling children to change gender has been "built on shaky foundations", the chairwoman of an NHS review has concluded. Dr Hilary Cass found that there was no good evidence to support to halt puberty or transition to the opposite sex.

[Read More](#)

Why can't we bring our puppies on all public transport in NSW?

SBS, Other, 10/04/2024, Paulien Roessink

Dr Jennifer Kent is a University of Sydney Urbanist and one of the world's leading experts on pets and public transport. She is the proud owner of dachshund Ollie and cats Rusty and Audrey. The dog is small and cute, and according to Dr. Kent, it is of great value in public spaces.

[Read More](#)

'Oatzempic' is the latest weight loss trend. Experts say it's not worth the risk.

Mamamia, Other, 10/04/2024, Erin Docherty

It's 2024, and we're in an age of weight loss drugs . Slimmed-down Kardashians . Questionable celebrity statements on losing weight . And viral diet trends like TikTok's 'oatzempic' method And while we'd like to think the dieting landscape has changed dramatically, it makes you wonder: Have we really come a long way? Or has diet culture just been somewhat... re-packaged? Because 'oatzempic' feels a lot like the Special K diet , rebranded. Or the infamous ' skinny tea ' craze.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, AM Agenda, 10/04/2024, Laura Jayes

The Federal Government says its vaping education programme has proved successful in Australian high schools. The OurFuture's Vaping programme which aims to reduce the number of students from taking up the habit, has received positive feedback and is now being used by 250 schools across the country. This comes as research reveals one in six high school students have vaped recently.

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4BC, Afternoons, 10/04/2024, Greg Cary

Hundreds of schools across the country are expressing interest in a new programme aimed at kerbing youth vaping.

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ABC Radio Hobart, Breakfast, 10/04/2024, Ryk Goddard

Interview with Helen Burnett, outgoing Hobart Mayor. Burnett points out that she was a Councillor that was heavily interested in public health so that was she prioritised in a smoking ban in the CBD. She recalls that she focused on this after having lunch with a friend with cancer on the CBD who mentioned whether she could do something about smoking outdoor.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Parkinson's takes a toll, but it has not yet won

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 11/04/2024, John Watkins, Page 28

Today is World Parkinson's Day, an opportunity to contemplate the lives of the T estimated 150,000 Australians living with Parkinson's Disease and all those involved in their care and support. Because Parkinson's disease is a condition more common with age, the number of Australians with PD is growing rapidly.

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

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How Sam's little heart beats on

West Australian, General News, 11/04/2024, Lauren Price, Page 1

Samuel Kleehammer's family remember their little boy for the "cheekiest smile" that sparkles in the picture above. But two strangers also remember him. One, for his healthy kidney. And one for his big, beating heart. Two organs Samuel's family agreed to donate after tragedy struck. The four-year-old took his last breath two weeks ago when he was hit by a taxi bus while crossing the road.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Evenings, 10/04/2024, Ashwin Segkar

Interview with Karen Hirschausen, Principal Audiologist, Hearing Australia. Hirschausen discusses that people can withstand up around 85 decibels with conversational speech at around 65 to 75. She states that every three decibels above 85 halves the amount of time that people can be exposed to the noise.

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PRIMARY CARE

Staffing issues 'still plague hospital'

Age, General News, 11/04/2024, Erin Pearson, Page 14

An emergency doctor says he is kept up at night by unacceptable waiting times and a lack of senior staff still affecting patient safety at his hospital in regional Victoria after the death of a toddler. Doug Devereux, a senior medical officer in the Wangaratta hospital emergency department, said chronic understaffing meant patients were often waiting in the emergency department for hours.

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'Throwing everything at it'

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, 11/04/2024, Ashleigh Jansen, Page 8

Health Minister Shannon Fentiman has defended measures to free up hospital beds saying the government was "throwing everything at this" to support frontline staff. Gold Coast Health CEO Ron Calvert wrote to healthcare workers on Tuesday warning of increased patient demand for emergency care amid an Easter holidays surge. The letter outlined a list of strategies to maintain hospital and patient flow to mitigate overwhelming demand.

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RACQ ends agreement on LifeFlight funding

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 3

RACQ has ended its 30-year run as the naming rights sponsor of LifeFlight after the Queensland government stepped in to fund the vital aeromedical service to the tune of \$580m. Since 2010, RACQ has provided more than \$50m in funding but it is understood the new deal will put LifeFlight on a more sustainable financial footing.

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

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Maternity, mental health staff cut as unrest swirls at Northern Beaches Hospital

Sydney Morning Herald, Other, 11/04/2024, Angus Thomson

Northern Beaches Hospital is cutting staff from its mental health and maternity units as it searches for a new chief executive, and the multibillion-dollar company running it restructures about \$1.6 billion in debt owed to overseas investors. The changes to staffing levels come two months after the state government abandoned plans to invest \$7.

[Read More](#)

ABC Radio Hobart, Drive, 10/04/2024, Lucy Breaden

Interview with Nick McKim, Tas Greens leader. McKim discusses that every time someone dies in an ambulance, its involved being ramped because they aren't enough hospital beds. He states that every time someone's elective surgery is delayed, its because of a chronic underfunding of the health system.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Suicide link to military revealed

Age, General News, 11/04/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 15

New research commissioned by the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide estimates a current or former Australian Defence Force member seeks first-time emergency help for suicide every four hours. The study, led by Professor Ed Heffernan and Associate Professor Carla Meurk from the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research, found more than 1600 veterans had suicide-related contact with Queensland Police or paramedics in the three years from 2014 to 2017.

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On the run for mental health

Herald Sun, General News, 11/04/2024, Jackie Epstein, Page 21

Campbell Brown is urging people to "get fit and active" ahead of this year's Run the Tan in support of mental health. The former footy player turned commentator is one of the new faces added to the celebrity race, along with soccer great Archie Thompson, cricketer Peter Siddle and AFLW star Maddie Prespakis.

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Lives are on the line

West Australian, Edition Changes, 11/04/2024, Claire Sadler, Page 10

A man who told Karratha hospital staff he was having suicidal thoughts was sent home from the emergency department with pamphlets for alcohol and drug services but no mandatory safety plan, leaving his wife to fear for his life. It comes after The West Australian revealed on Wednesday a mother's desperate plea for inpatient mental health services in Karratha after her 21-year-old son Machlan Felix took his own life in February.

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Green spaces help kids

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 20

Living near green spaces could help reduce the risk of early anxiety and depression in early childhood, according to US researchers. A University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill team looked at data from 2103 kids and found that living near more green spaces was associated with fewer internalising symptoms in early childhood (age twofive), such as anxiety and depressive symptoms.

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Roger Cook 'frustrated' at slow progress on Karratha Step Up Step Down

West Australian, Other, 10/04/2024, Jake Dietsch

Premier Roger Cook says he is "frustrated" at the achingly slow progress of delivering a community-based residential mental health facility in Karratha amid a mother's campaign for better mental health services after her son died by suicide. Kristie Grabenhofer told The West the lack of an inpatient mental health facility contributed to the death of her 21-year-old son Machlan Felix, who suffered severe depression after gallbladder surgery left him with chronic pain in 2023.

[Read More](#)

Outback residents take TAFE courses in mental health support to help with workforce shortage

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024, Danielle Lancaster and Grace Nakamura

A former miner is taking mental health care into her own hands as outback Queenslanders struggle to access services in the sector. Melinda Haig left the mining industry after 13 years to look after her sick mother in her south-west Queensland home town of Cunnamulla.

[Read More](#)

Years of responding to trauma left this Victorian police officer with 'compassion fatigue', now he's working to help others

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024, Mike Lorigan

Years of absorbing accounts of horrific events from traumatised witnesses has taken its toll on Victorian police detective Peter Romanis. "There is no one moment, it's an accumulation of multiple things," Sergeant Romanis said.

[Read More](#)

Newly detained asylum seekers' desperation in Nauru: 'We are scared'

SBS, Other, 10/04/2024, Amy Hall

A group of asylum seekers who arrived in remote Western Australia by boat earlier this year have reported being distressed and having suicidal thoughts over their experiences in immigration detention. Thirty-nine people from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh were found at Beagle Bay, north of Broome, in February, after travelling to Australia by boat. They were subsequently transferred to Nauru where they are being held in immigration detention while their protection claims are assessed.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Family doc's ailing image

The Nightly, General News, 10/04/2024, Michael Usher, Page 14

General practice was once thought of as a prestigious, noble career. Not anymore, and our health is suffering because of it. For some 20 years I've enjoyed a mostly healthy relationship with my local doctor. On the face of it, he's an old school GP. But talk with him, as I do a few times a year, and there's nothing old school about him.

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Jobs under threat with closure of pharma firm

Border Mail, General News, 11/04/2024, Beau Greenway, Page 3

A Wodonga warehouse responsible for delivering medication to Border and North East hospitals and pharmacies will shut next month. The Symbion distribution centre on the corner of Moorefield Park Drive and Greygown Street will be closed on Friday, May 3 after more than 30 years on the Border.

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RACP president quits, sparking fears of a fresh wave of college turmoil

Australian Doctor, Other, 10/04/2024, Paul Smith

In a statement on her resignation, Dr Jacqueline Small said 'significant governance improvements requiring constitutional changes are required'. The president of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians has quit amid fears the college is witnessing a fresh outbreak of the infighting and internal governance ructions that have plagued the organisation for a decade.

[Read More](#)

Psychiatrist calls for govt funding for trainees in private practice to bolster workforce

Australian Doctor, Other, 10/04/2024, Rachel Carter

Melbourne psychiatrist Professor Richard Harvey said the move would be a 'win-win'. Should government funding be opened up for psychiatry trainees to work in private practice? Currently, about 50% of psychiatry fellows end up in private practice despite most receiving no formal training outside of the public setting.

[Read More](#)

'Runaway success' sees program extended

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 10/04/2024, Megan Haggan

The Australian and New Zealand College of Advanced Pharmacy has announced an extension to the Foundation Program for Australian pharmacists to the end of June. ANZCAP says this will ensure equitable access for more practitioners amid what it calls unprecedented interest and a rapidly climbing number of recognised pharmacists.

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

[Read More](#)

Big opportunities for pharmacies: Dutton

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 10/04/2024

Opposition Leader Peter Dutton says there are big opportunities for pharmacies going into the future. In an exclusive interview with Australasian Pharmacy, Mr Dutton says more can be done with the existing number of community pharmacies.

[Read More](#)

Queensland leads nation on scope

Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Other, 10/04/2024

The Pharmacy Guild's Queensland branch says it's extending its lead in the nation when it comes to pharmacists working to their full scope of practice. It follows the state government's announcement of a new pilot that will make appropriately trained community pharmacists able to prescribe the oral contraceptive pill to Queensland women.

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, A Current Affair, 10/04/2024, Allison Langdon

Interview with Kara Thomas, President, Nurses Professional Association, about the recently received perks for construction workers. Thomas points out that there are nurses in Qld that are working in crisis conditions and have seen patients waiting on the waiting lists. She's also seen emergency wait times blowing out and they can barely get pay rises that are keeping with the inflation and cost of living.

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

Calls for supplement to treat rare metabolic disorder to be relisted on PBS

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024, Shari Hams

Emily Reinig's boys Leo and Darcy love to run around and play outdoors, but doctors say their quality of life is now at risk. They live with a rare metabolic disorder, which can make daily life a challenge. [...] She said having the product available on the PBS had made accessibility easier for the family.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Mum's plea: 'I'm dying but \$7.70 could save my kids'

NEWS.com.au, Other, 10/04/2024, Bek Day and Lana Hallows

A Brisbane mum is pleading for a lifesaving drug to be made available on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) so her kids have a chance of fighting the disease that is slowly killing her. "I've had nearly all the surgeries you can have," says the mother-of-two, who averages about "two major ones per year" and was just eight when she had her first surgery.

[Read More](#)

ABC News, ABC News Day, 10/04/2024

An Adelaide mother says she's worried a decision to remove a supplement from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme has put the quality of life of her two young boys in jeopardy. The Federal Health Department says there are other alternatives available to help manage the boy's disorders, but doctors say the change has put their treatment at risk. They have added that there are two alternatives on the market.

Similar content in: [ABC News \(Sydney\)](#)

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Channel 9, Nine News, 10/04/2024, Andrew Lofthouse and Melissa Downes

Queenslanders will soon be able to get treatment from common ailments like ear infection and vomiting without visiting their GPs. The Australian-first trial will see pharmacists prescribing some medications within weeks. The downside is Medicare rebates and PBS subsidies won't apply.

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Why more GP practices are charging 'legitimate' membership fees in exchange for no-gap consults

Australian Doctor, Other, 10/04/2024, Sarah Simpkins

GP business adviser Riwka Hagen says the business model can foster patient loyalty, but also drive up practice costs. Almost 100 GP practices are now charging membership fees in exchange for no-gap consultations, according to medical fee listing company Cleanbill.

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

Probe into why Gaza medicine wishlist was in secure area of Melbourne hospital

The Australian, General News, 11/04/2024, John Ferguson, Page 1

A confidential document detailing a \$7.7m wishlist of medicines and medical equipment for Gaza is being investigated by Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital after being found in an operating theatre precinct. The document states that it relates to the October 7 invasion of Israel and refers in Arabic to "urgent need for hospitals in emergency situations", listing in detail demands to provide supplies for the Palestinian Ministry of Health.

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Patients anger is far from cosmetic

Herald Sun, General News, 11/04/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 3

"Long and highly complex" watchdog investigations are underway into 15 cosmetic healthcare workers, the Herald Sun can reveal, after they were subject to a staggering 180 complaints combined. The investigations described as some of the largest ever by the watchdog span practitioners from multiple states with all either unable to work or banned from performing specific procedures such as liposuction or breast surgery pending an outcome. Some of the workers were the subject of "serious" and "numerous" complaints, an Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency statement said.

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Apology after disabled kids 'restrained'

Herald Sun, General News, 11/04/2024, Jade Gailberger, Page 9

A Victorian autism service that restrained kids with intellectual disabilities is facing further regulatory action, as a scathing report calls for programs to be carefully assessed to ensure their safety and effectiveness. A probe into Irabina Autism Services in Bayswater has found the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission failed to deal with complaints about the service in a timely way.

Also reported by: [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#)

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Cosmetic nurse's ban extended until 2025

Canberra Times, Other, 10/04/2024, Holly Hales

A cosmetic nurse who continued to treat patients while under suspension has been hit with a further 12-month ban in a Victorian tribunal decision. Tanya Bechara was fined \$5000 and ordered to pay compensation of \$2650 in 2021 after travelling from NSW to Victoria to practise despite her registration having been suspended.

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

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Qld GP accused of choking is hit with limits on work by watchdog

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/04/2024, Vanda Carson

A Queensland doctor who is facing choking charges has been slapped with restrictions on where and how he can see patients at his clinic west of Brisbane. [...] According to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency Dr Aggarwal graduated from medicine at the Indira Gandhi Medical College in India in 2000, and gained his AMC Certificate from the Australian Medical Council in 2010.

[Read More](#)

Former Nambour Hospital nurse applied to reopen court battle with Qld health

Sunshine Coast Daily, Other, 10/04/2024, Chloe Grimshaw

A former Sunshine Coast nurse has claimed he abandoned his previous case with Queensland Health "under duress" as he seeks to have the matter reopened. A former Sunshine Coast nurse has sought to recommence legal proceedings against Queensland Health alleging a psychiatrist's report presented new evidence while arguing he was forced to abandon earlier proceedings "under duress".

[Read More](#)

Nursing executives stood down pending investigation of 'potential financial irregularities'

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024, Mary Lloyd and Penny Timms

The boss of a peak national nursing body is one of three executives stood down pending an independent investigation of "potential financial irregularities" within the organisation. The Australian College of Nursing's board would not comment on specific allegations.

[Read More](#)

'What we're seeing is not telehealth': alarm over doctors using AI and prescribing without seeing patients

The Guardian, Other, 11/04/2024, Melissa Davey

Australia's health regulator is fielding complaints about the use of artificial intelligence during telehealth prescribing, and patients being issued with prescriptions without ever speaking with a doctor. A spokesperson for the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) told Guardian Australia the agency had received 550 notifications about telehealth consults and prescribing across health professions since July 2020. Of those, 30% related to complaints about a practitioner not adequately assessing a patient, they said.

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

No relevant coverage

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SPORT

Security the main priority at Olympics

The Australian, General News, 11/04/2024, Jacquelin Magnay, Page 3

Paris Olympic Games organisers have warned their Brisbane 2032 colleagues that security is "nonnegotiable" and needs to be their No. 1 priority. Paris 2024 chief executive Tony Estanguet told The Australian this week in Birmingham that Games organisers started with a blank sheet of paper with the plan to make the French Games secure at the very top. He expects Brisbane organisers will have taken a similar approach.

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

Finlayson had to go; so did Clarkson

The Australian, Sport, 11/04/2024, Mark Robinson, Page 22

If you believed Alastair Clarkson escaped lightly - and that boat is chockers - the AFL has righted the ship. The next man - or woman who uses homophobic language will be suspended for six weeks. And it will be 12 weeks after that. Jeremy Finlayson's threeweek suspension is a considerable penalty. Port Adelaide wanted a two-week ban, with four weeks suspended, plus a fine. The AFL said no.

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

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Boss of White Ribbon blasts Roosters coach

Daily Telegraph, General News, 11/04/2024, Brent Read and Pamela Whaley, Page 9

The boss of Australia's leading anti-domestic violence organisation has labelled Sydney Roosters coach Trent Robinson's comments in defence of centre Michael Jennings as "outrageous and appalling" ahead of the NRL player's 300th game tonight. Jennings was handed a lifeline by the Roosters this season after serving a three-year drug ban from the game. During his time out of the sport, he was also ordered to pay his ex-wife Kirra Wilden almost \$500,000 in damages over claims of abuse.

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

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All Australians deserve access to free-to-air sport

The Nightly, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 2

It's part of the very fabric of our culture. It's the great leveller which cuts across social classes and tax brackets. For decades, the incredible importance of sport to Australia's social cohesion has been recognised through our country's anti-siphoning rules. Those rules protect by law the rights of Australians to watch culturally significant sporting events live and free, by guaranteeing free-to-air broadcasters the first option to bid for such events, ahead of pay-per-view and streaming services.

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Netball to remain pro-transgender

The Nightly, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 32

Australia's governing body for netball has no plans to follow the lead of World Netball and ban transgender players from elite competition. The global governing body announced on Monday that transgender players were banned from international competition, effective immediately.

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

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Council finger-pointing

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 11/04/2024, Luke Griffiths, Page 6

City Hall insiders are torn on whether the ongoing sports funding saga was the catalyst for the state government to bring back monitors to keep a close eye on Geelong council. There has been finger pointing aplenty since Local Government Minister Melissa Horne announced the appointment of monitors Peter Dorling and Mark Davies on Tuesday. It came little more than two months after the previous monitors Mr Dorling and Prue Digby finished their year-long term.

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

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Paris Olympics to feature prize money for track and field gold medallists, paid by athletics governing body

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024

Track and field will be the first sport to introduce prize money at the Olympics, with World Athletics saying it will pay \$50,000 to gold medallists in Paris. The governing body of athletics said it was setting aside \$2.4 million to pay the gold medallists across the 48 events on the track and field program for this year's Paris Olympics.

[Read More](#)

Giant of Australian cricket dies after revolutionising the game down under with the Big Bash League

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 10/04/2024, Ollie Lewis

Former Cricket Australia chairman Jack Clarke has died at the age of 70. Clarke was a hugely influential figure Down Under and served on the Cricket Australia board from 1999 until 2011. He was the chair for the final three years of his tenure. He was a key player in launching the Big Bash League as chairman and he also commissioned the Argus review into the performance of the men's team following their embarrassing defeat by England in the 2010-11 Ashes series.

[Read More](#)

Have cost of living pressures impacted sports participation in Australia?

The Mandarin, Other, 10/04/2024, Vaughan Cruickshank

Many Australians have in recent years been impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, but what about sport participation? While many Australians, and their children, enjoy participating in sports, it can be a costly passion, hitting the hip pocket with costs such as equipment, registration, coaching and accident insurance.

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 10/04/2024, Rosanna Mangiarelli and Will Goodings

Port Adelaide star Jeremy Finlayson has been slapped with a three-game ban for his homophobic sledge aimed at an Essendon player. A survey of gay youths found 80% had heard homophobic slurs in sport in the past month.

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Sky News Live, Afternoon Agenda, 10/04/2024, Tom Connell

The AFL has had Port Adelaide's Jeremy Finlayson a three game ban for a homophobic slur directed at an Essendon player. Finlayson made the comment during last Friday's win over the bombers. The AFL says without the full and frank admissions, apologies and contrition from Finlayson, the suspension would have been longer.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Breakfast, 10/04/2024, Loretta Ryan and Joel Spreadborough

Spreadborough points out that there are certain news about Brisbane 2032, particularly, regarding John Coates who has refused an invitation to appear before a Senate inquiry to explain his stance on the Brisbane 2032 Olympic stadium decision.

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ABC Radio Canberra, Mornings, 10/04/2024, Georgia Stynes

Interview with Jemima McCalman, Vice-captain, Brumbies. McCalman admits that she accidentally gave herself a concussion because she tackled somebody too high. She mentions that the experience was rather scary and its the only concussion that she has experienced in the sport so far.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 10/04/2024, Sally Sara and Patricia Karvelas

Sara is joined by Warwick Hadfield, ABC sports commentator. Sara says AFL officials are still considering which penalties to impose on Port Adelaide's Jeremy Finlayson after his homophobic slur during last Friday's game against Essendon. Hadfield says Finlayson was interviewed by the AFL's integrity Unit yesterday as the calls for a heavily penalty continued to come from within and also outside the game.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

Cancer therapy offers hope for more

The Australian, General News, 11/04/2024, Noah Yim, Page 3

A wider range of cancer patients could in future be eligible for an effective and less invasive treatment due to findings by the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. The research, which was to be published in Nature overnight, could boost the efficacy of a kind of immunotherapy - Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell therapy - to treat solid tumours, which account for 90 per cent of all tumours.

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

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Sardine swap lifesaver

Herald Sun, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 7

Swapping red meat for "forage fish", such as sardines, herring and anchovies, could save up to 750,000 lives a year in 2050 and significantly reduce the prevalence of disability from diet-related disease, new research suggests. Red meat consumption has been linked to heart disease, stroke, diabetes and bowel cancer, while foraging fish are rich in omega 3s, which may help prevent coronary heart disease.

Also reported by: [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Darwin\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [Gold Coast Bulletin \(Gold Coast\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Toowoomba Chronicle \(Toowoomba\)](#)

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Death by junk food

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/04/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 26

Junk food is blamed for all sorts of health ills - now South Australian research shows it is a villain in respiratory diseases. New research by the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute and the University of Adelaide has shown a diet high in ultra-processed foods (UPF) significantly increases the risk of death from chronic respiratory diseases.

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

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New hope for cancer 'assassin'

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 11/04/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 28

A new treatment for a deadly cancer that strikes in the prime of life is being developed by Australian researchers using mRNA technology. The team from the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) Alliance hopes the same technology that helped defend against Covid can now stop primary liver cancer.

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Tasmanians have chance to help research towards understanding and conquering Parkinson's disease

Hobart Mercury, General News, 11/04/2024, John Stubley, Page 28

World Parkinson's Day offers the chance to reflect on the challenges of those with this degenerative disease, writes John Stubley On World Parkinson's Day, April 11, our attention turns to a condition that is not only the fastest growing degenerative brain disorder globally but also a significant challenge right here in Tasmania. With more than 219,000 Australians living with Parkinson's and 3000 Tasmanians directly battling Parkinson's disease, the urgency for innovative research and early detection methods has never been more important.

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Six-hour exercise window linked to better health

Newcastle Herald, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 15

There's mounting evidence that exercising for short bouts during the evening is linked to better health. A University of Sydney study has found obese people who exercise between 6pm and midnight have a lower risk of death from cardiovascular disease and premature death. The findings relate to vigorous physical activity in multiple stints lasting about three minutes, which the researchers believe is more important than overall physical activity.

Also reported by: [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Shepparton News \(Shepparton\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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Radiopharmaceutical hottest space in biotech; here's what that means for Clarity Pharma

The Australian, Other, 10/04/2024, Eddy Sunarto

Radiopharmaceutical medicine has emerged as the hottest space in the biotech sector. Perhaps a word of explanation before we go any further. This sector of medical science involves the use of drugs containing radioactive forms of chemical elements, called radioisotopes, to diagnose or treat medical conditions.

[Read More](#)

The Newcastle researcher making exercise easy

Newcastle Herald, Other, 10/04/2024, Jessica Belzycki

University of Newcastle's Rachel Sutherland is putting research into action, and the world is watching. Dr Sutherland, who has completed her PhD on effective school-based physical activity programs, has been recognised in the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) 15th edition of its '10 of the best' publication.

[Read More](#)

Blood protein found that could predict which children struggle to recover from concussions

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024, Judd Boaz and Mikaela Ortolan

Karen Payne says she'll never forget the sight of her daughter Mackenzie lying unconscious on the netball court. "It was terrifying," she said. A stray blow from another player caused her to fall and hit her head, leaving 16-year-old Mackenzie out cold for a minute "When I woke up, I couldn't see out of my eye and I was lying in a pool of my own blood. I felt dizzy, confused and everything became a blur," Mackenzie said.

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

[Read More](#)

Channel 9, Nine News, 10/04/2024, Brenton Ragless and Kate Collins

Researchers have developed an extraordinary concussion blood test. It will be able to identify which victims will be affected by long-term symptoms, and with early intervention could potentially minimise suffering.

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6PR, Mornings, 10/04/2024, Sean Cowan

Interview with Ella Swaney, Researcher and PhD candidate, Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Cowan discusses a major concern about concussion on kid's sport. Swaney says what their research has found is that in a relatively small cohort of 80 children, there is a blood marker or a protein in the blood that could help them identify which children might take longer to recover from concussions versus those that will take less than two weeks to recover.

[Play Now](#)

Radio National, Breakfast, 10/04/2024, Sally Sara and Patricia Karvelas

Interview with Ella Swaney, Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Sara points out that there's an ongoing concern over concussion in elite sports has left many parents with big decision that they wrestle with, in kid's sport. She states that a new discovery from the Murdoch Children's Research Institute in Melbourne is looking to assist parents in identifying if their child is more susceptible to long-term concussion symptoms. Swaney explains that in a relatively small group of 80 children, they have seen a blood marker that was decreased in those that went on to experience delayed recovery from concussions.

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Health care roles unfilled

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/04/2024, Alex Treacy, Page 13

The number of full-time equivalent staff vacancies at First Nations-specific primary health care providers in the Northern Territory has more than doubled in the space of four years, with one former employee sharing her experiences of working in what was effectively a skeleton crew. Earlier this year, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare released its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific primary health care report.

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Guard says Unit 18 was 'inhumane'

West Australian, Edition Changes, 11/04/2024, Rebecca Le May, Page 9

The nurse on duty the night Cleveland Dodd fatally selfharmd was so affected by what she'd seen at the notorious Unit 18 that she kept a diary for her "own mental health", testifying the facility was "inhumane". At the 16-year-old's expedited inquest into his October death, Steven Penglis, the barrister for Cleveland's mother Nadene Dodd, suggested to Fiona Bain that the diary read as if written by someone "completely overwhelmed" and she agreed.

Also reported by: [Bendigo Advertiser \(Bendigo\)](#), [Border Mail \(Albury-Wodonga\)](#), [Ballarat Courier \(Ballarat\)](#), [Launceston Examiner \(Launceston\)](#), [Newcastle Herald \(Newcastle\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#), [ABC Online \(Online\)](#), [National Indigenous Times \(Online\)](#), [Sydney Morning Herald \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#)

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Hearing the needs of aged care

Koori Mail, General News, 10/04/2024, Christine Howes, Page 28

Link-up (Qld) was one of several Brisbane hosts last week for a consultation that will form the basis of a proposal for a permanent First Nations Aged Care Commissioner as a result of the recent Royal Commission into Aged Care. Interim Commissioner Andrea Kelly said it was important to hear the voices of the stolen generations as part of the aged care cohort.

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ABC News, News Breakfast, 10/04/2024, Lisa Millar and Catherine Murphy

The youth curfew that has been ordered at Alice Springs is looking to keep heads off the streets and the Central business districts between 6PM and 6AM, which is expected to continue for the remainder of the NT's school holidays. Federal Member for Lingiari Marion Scrymgour says there are private liquor outlets that would readily walk away from the sale of alcohol from their stores and she believes that this would lessen the impact on health harm that alcohol is doing to Aboriginal people.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

NT influenza cases on rise

Northern Territory News, General News, 11/04/2024, Bethany Griffiths, Page 12

The Northern Territory's influenza numbers are climbing as cooler temperatures associated with the dry season arrive. There have already been 200 cases this year, including 31 hospitalisations. This is down from at a similar time last year when four lives had been lost and more than 700 cases recorded. Most of the 2024 cases have been recorded in the Top End and East Arnhem regions.

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Fast approaching flu season

Latrobe Valley Express, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 10

Australia's flu season has been creeping forward in recent years, prompting a fast-tracked warning for Australians to get their vaccinations before the season arrives. Bupa Health Services Medical Director, Dr Tony MacDermott said historically low uptake of flu vaccinations could expose Australians to potentially avoidable harm.

Also reported by: [Bungendore Weekly \(Bungendore\)](#), [Port Stephens News of the Area \(Port Stephens\)](#), [Myall Coast News \(Myall Coast\)](#), [Western Advocate \(Bathurst\)](#)

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Winter health warning issued

Launceston Examiner, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 7

The state's Health Department has urged Tasmanians to prepare for a sharp increase in respiratory illnesses heading into winter and to protect themselves with up-to-date vaccinations. Specialist medical adviser Shannon Melody said everyone aged six months and older should get an annual flu vaccine and all adults were adults are eligible for a COVID-19 booster at least every 12 months.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#), [Hobart Mercury \(Hobart\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#)

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Flu, RSV, and COVID triple whammy of viruses join whooping cough surge as doctors' urge to vaccinate

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024, Kirra Grimes

Queenslanders are being urged to act now to reduce mounting pressure on health services ahead of the traditional start to flu season. More than 300 people were hospitalised with COVID-19, influenza, or respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) across the state last week, with case numbers expected to increase in the coming colder months.

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Whooping cough outbreak in Australia

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024

Australia's in the midst of a whooping cough outbreak with at least 3,000 cases recorded this year, with Queensland and New South Wales seeing the bulk of infections.

[Read More](#)

Tips for curbing measles spread as Australian cases explode

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 10/04/2024, Chloe Hava

Measles cases are skyrocketing worldwide. Despite being declared 'measles free' since 2014, more than 28 cases of measles have been recorded in Australia this year, including recent alerts in Sydney and South Australia This is more than the number of cases recorded in 2023 all together.

[Read More](#)

Channel 10, 10 News First, 10/04/2024, Natalie Forrest

Parents are being urged to vaccinate their children amid a whooping cough outbreak. WA has recorded 68 cases of the deadly virus in the first few months of this year, compared to just 77 for all of last year.

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ABC Radio Brisbane, Mornings, 10/04/2024, Steve Austin

Queenslanders are being urged to ensure their whooping cough vaccinations are up to date amid a spike in cases. More than 1300 cases of the disease have been recorded across the state in the first three months of this year.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Midwives, nurses to give abortion medication

Canberra Times, General News, 11/04/2024, Lucy Bladen, Page 11

Nurse practitioners and midwives would be able to prescribe abortion medication under proposed laws introduced in the ACT Legislative Assembly. Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith introduced the bill, which follows a decision by the Therapeutic Goods Administration to remove restrictions on who can prescribe medication.

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

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A million scripts for medicinal cannabis but do doctors know what they are actually prescribing?

Australian Doctor, Other, 10/04/2024, Carmel Sparke

President Professor Steve Robson wants a more robust regulatory framework. Doctors have flagged concerns over the quality and efficacy of medicinal cannabis products, alleging most suppliers are "bypassing" the TGA.

[Read More](#)

Not as easy as ABCD or X

Australian Pharmacist, Other, 10/04/2024, Tamara Lebedevs and Nabeelah Mukadam

Elli, 25 years old and 18 weeks pregnant, presents to your pharmacy asking if there is anything she can safely use in pregnancy for hay fever. Elli's main symptom is significant daily nasal congestion, and she used beclomethasone nasal spray prior to pregnancy with good effect. [...] Introduction The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) uses a categorisation system for prescribing medicines in pregnancy that was developed based on the available evidence of the risks associated with taking prescription and over-the-counter medicines during pregnancy.

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OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL

Call for better illicit drug policies

Launceston Examiner, General News, 11/04/2024, Jackie Hallam, Page 23

It appears that Tasmanians are not as conservative as we are often portrayed, particularly when it comes to illicit drug policies. We already knew from research conducted last year that nearly 70 per cent of those who responded did not believe that the possession of cannabis or marijuana for personal use should be a criminal offence.

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FOOD STANDARDS

Should restaurants put calorie counts on menus?

The Courier Mail, Other, 10/04/2024, Alison Turner

The shift towards calorie transparency in restaurants is designed to promote healthier decision-making, but experts warn it could have the opposite effect on many people. Nothing turns you off dessert like knowing just how many calories you're eating. Menu-labelling schemes are now in place in most Australian states.

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Sugar increase in Fanta and Sprite prompts calls for new tax on Australia's food and drinks industry

The Guardian, Other, 10/04/2024, Melissa Davey

An increase in sugar in two popular soft drink brands has prompted health experts to renew calls for laws to cut the sugar in beverages, and to tackle "appalling" behaviour from the food industry. In July 2020, the government began rolling out the "partnership reformulation program" to encourage food companies to gradually reduce sugar, sodium and saturated fats in their products. The program is entirely voluntary.

Also reported by: [3AW \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Channel 7, Seven News, 10/04/2024, Sharyn Ghidella and Max Fitcher

One of the country's top doctors has slammed Coca-Cola after the sugar content in Fanta was increased by 60%. In a standard 600 millilitre bottle. The president of the Australian Medical Association is renewing calls for a sugar tax, claiming the industry has pledged to voluntarily take action, as things aren't working.

Similar content in: [Channel 7 \(Melbourne\)](#)

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3AW, Drive, 10/04/2024, Heidi Murphy

Interview with Dr Danielle McMullen, Vice President, AMA. Murphy says Fanta tops the list showing a 60% increase in sugar, as it saw four teaspoons level of sugar compared to what it had a years ago. She states that this is the argument that the industry has made for every time a sugar tax is put forward by interested individuals including the AMA. McMullen points out that they know from evidence that adding a sugar tax on sweetened beverages does change consumption which is good for people's health.

[Play Now](#)

6PR, Afternoons, 10/04/2024, Chrissy Morrissy

Interview with Cameron Scadding, Source Certain International. Morrissy points out that Source Certain introduced a system wherein a DNA footprint is seen on food, precious metals, and resource to determine where they say they have been cropped or made. Scadding explains that the products bought in supermarkets have a unique combination of elements of molecules which are representative of where it comes from.

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AICIS

Stakes too high to drag our feet on asbestos

Age, General News, 11/04/2024, Tess Dickie, Page 29

As Victorian parents juggle work, life and school holidays, a once fail-safe option for keeping the kids entertained has become a risk too great for some to take the local playground. Over the past week, Victoria has been rattled by the identification of at least six asbestos-contaminated sites.

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Toxic 'forever chemicals' found in water world-wide

ABC Online, Other, 10/04/2024

PFAS are chemicals that are widely used in everyday products because they are resistant to heat, water and grease. But they don't break down and an international study has found they now exist in many water sources around the world.

[Read More](#)

5AA, Afternoons, 10/04/2024, Stacey Lee

Interview with Dr Matthias Salomon, University of Adelaide. Salomon points out that they have recently started a new research project trying to look into the concentration of PFAS chemicals in people's backyard gardening. He explains that PFAS have been used since the 1940s for a lot of different applications such as water repellant coatings or anti-stick coatings.

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Radio National, Breakfast, 10/04/2024, Sally Sara and Patricia Karvelas

Interview with Professor Denis O'Carroll, Faculty of Engineering, University of NSW. Sara says food packaging, cosmetics, non-stick pots and pans to some of the everyday products that work because of chemicals called PFAS. O'Carroll says people have been using PFAS in their daily lives for decades now particularly in cookware and stain-resistance carpets, while also being used for firefighting training. He explains that PFAS' chemical stays in a person's body for a considerable amount of years and they accumulate and around 98% of the world's population would have some level of detectable level of PFAS in their body.

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 PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Hybrid working tip 😊



Wipe down your desk

Make sure when you pack your personal items away at the end of the day, to wipe down your workstation so it is clean for your colleagues the next day.

Interested in more hybrid working tips? Visit the NWOW Community Hub - [Hybrid Working Tips \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com)

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

From: s47E(d) @health.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 8:34 AM
To: s22 @Health.gov.au>
Subject: MB24-000880 - Request for creation of Ministerial Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s22

Registered under MB24-000880 in PDMS. I will assign the PDR to you shortly.

Thanks

s22

s22

Assistant Director – Ministerial Coordination Team

Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Branch | People, Communication and Parliamentary Division
 Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care
 Hotline: 02 6289 4400 (option 1)

From: s22 @Health.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 8:28 AM
To: s47E(d) @health.gov.au>
Subject: Request for creation of Ministerial Brief [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Team

Thanks for your assistance with this request.

Following the Canberra Times coverage, we have been asked to provide a brief to Minister Butler regarding the renaming of the Sirius Building. Jo Mond has requested that we provide it today (11/4/2024).

Regarding the title, I would suggest Sirius Building Renaming. Please let me know if this is not appropriate.

Many thanks

s22

s22

Communication and Change Manager – Sirius and Fairbairn
New Ways of Working Program

People, Parliamentary and Communication Division | Corporate Operations Group

Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care

E: s22 @health.gov.au

Location: Sirius Building 3.N

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Hybrid working tip 😊



Wipe down your desk

Make sure when you pack your personal items away at the end of the day, to wipe down your workstation so it is clean for your colleagues the next day.

Interested in more hybrid working tips? Visit the NWOW Community Hub - [Hybrid Working Tips \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com)

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

s22

From: s22
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2024 8:29 AM
To: s22
Subject: RE: Today's News 11 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Confirming I have spoken with the MAPS team and they are creating a brief template for us now to complete. Will share as soon as it is created.

Cheers

s22

s22

Communication and Change Manager – Sirius and Fairbairn
 New Ways of Working Program

People, Parliamentary and Communication Division | Corporate Operations Group

Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care

E: s22@health.gov.au

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From: s22@Health.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 7:48 AM
To: s22@Health.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Today's News 11 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Importance: High

Hi s22

As mentioned y'day we need to get a min brief up asap re Sirius building re-naming particularly with media coverage – including a follow-up article this morning.

Can you please engage with MAPS or s22 on format/process asap. Draft here for us to work on and progress to get up today  [April 2024 Min brief Sirius re-naming.docx](#).

I'm also getting a copy from the Events team of the Fairbairn one – though it was an event brief so may not be as relevant anyway.

Will call you when I get to the office – meanwhile if you can get the ball rolling.

Regards,

s22

Director NWOW Change and Delivery – Canberra offices (Sirius and Fairbairn)
New Ways of Working Program

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

T: s22 | E: s22 @health.gov.au

Location: Sirius Level 3, Phillip

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Part time: Monday-Thursday

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From: s22

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 7:24 AM

To: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Today's News 11 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

Hi Jo

Super rough but made a start here: [April 2024 Min brief Sirius re-naming.docx](#)

We will need to talk with MAPS to get template etc

Regards,

s22

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From: MOND, Jo ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 6:59 AM
To: ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:s22@Health.gov.au)>
Subject: RE: Today's News 11 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks, I'm mtg free this morning til 11.

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

On 11 April 2024 at 6:57:38 AM AEST, ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:s22@Health.gov.au)> wrote:

Good morning

Will get ^{s22} and I working on it. Making a start now.

Regards,

^{s22}

Director NWOW Change and Delivery – Canberra offices (Sirius and Fairbairn)
New Ways of Working Program

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Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

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From: MOND, Jo ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mon@health.gov.au)>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 6:53 AM
To: ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mon@Health.gov.au)>
Subject: Fwd: Today's News 11 Apr 2024 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Importance: High

Good morning

I can see you are also online early. See follow up CT article. We need to send Min brief up asap this morning.

Thanks, Jo

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

s22

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2024 7:36 AM
To: News; WHITE, Robyn; PHILBRICK, Bernard; s22; GRIEVE, Jodie; BALMANNO, Rachel
Cc: s22
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi

Some minor tweaks, FAS cleared:

The Department is creating a modern work environment, including refitting the Sirius building.

The ground floor and surrounds are currently being significantly updated, with the signage updated too.

The model ship is on long term loan to the Department of Defence.

There are no further plans to change building names.

Regards, Jo

RELEASED UNDER
ACT 1982 (CTH)
AND AGED CARE

s22

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2024 11:18 AM
To: News; BALMANNO, Rachel; WHITE, Robyn; PHILBRICK, Bernard; s22
 GRIEVE, Jodie
Cc: s22
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

I agree it is fine as is, there is some minor external signage the building owner will be responsible for updating.

Jo

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

On 11 April 2024 at 11:10:15 AM AEST, News <news@health.gov.au> wrote:

Thank you Jo. I think I misread the query initially and was more referring to the signage/frosted glass etc. It looks like some is now clear. Is that being updated or happened a while ago? We could include that under the banner of signage – surprised he hasn't asked about that yet, mustn't have come out to the building.

Thanks, s22

Unless stated otherwise, this information is provided on a background basis and should not be attributed.

From: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 10:59 AM
To: BALMANNO, Rachel s22 @health.gov.au>; News <news@health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn s22 @health.gov.au>; PHILBRICK, Bernard s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; GRIEVE, Jodie s22 @health.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @Health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s22 - s22 has confirmed with Cap Works that there is no Sirius building signage being updated as part of the Level 1 works so we will need to remove this from response below if we choose to provide.

Jo

From: BALMANNO, Rachel s22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 10:38 AM
To: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>; News <news@health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn s22 @health.gov.au>; PHILBRICK, Bernard s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; GRIEVE, Jodie s22 @health.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @Health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s22 – happy to take your advice as to whether we provide this

Rachel Balmanno (Ms/she/her)

First Assistant Secretary
 People, Communication and Parliamentary Division
 Corporate Operations Group

Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
T: 02 6289 s22 | E: s22 @health.gov.au
Location: Sirius Building 3.N.506
PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

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HAS BEEN RELEASED UNDER
INFORMATION ACT 1989 (Cth)
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

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To: s22
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 New Ways of Working Program

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group
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Thanks, Jo

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

s22

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 10:44 AM
To: s22
 s22
Subject: RE: Canberra Times article on Sirius renaming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks s22 – appreciate you sharing the article.

Cheers

s22

s22

Communication and Change Manager – Sirius and Fairbairn
 New Ways of Working Program

People, Parliamentary and Communication Division | Corporate Operations Group

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From: s22 @Health.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 10:39 AM
To: s22 @Health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>; s22 @health.gov.au>
Subject: Canberra Times article on Sirius renaming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hey Sirius team,

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Cheers 😊

s22

Communications Officer
 New Ways of Working

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group
 Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

Location: Sirius Building – Level 3

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

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Shared Spaces Tip 😊



**Meeting
room
etiquette**

Check your recurring bookings

It's a good practice any recurring meeting room bookings regularly to ensure the space you've booked is still fit for purpose. If it's no longer required, please cancel the booking to make the space available for colleagues.

Interested in more hybrid working tips? Visit the [Hybrid Working page](#) on the Intranet

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RELEASED UNDER
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (CTH)
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 10:39 AM
To: s22
Subject: Canberra Times article on Sirius renaming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: Canberra times article - Sirius renaming.pdf

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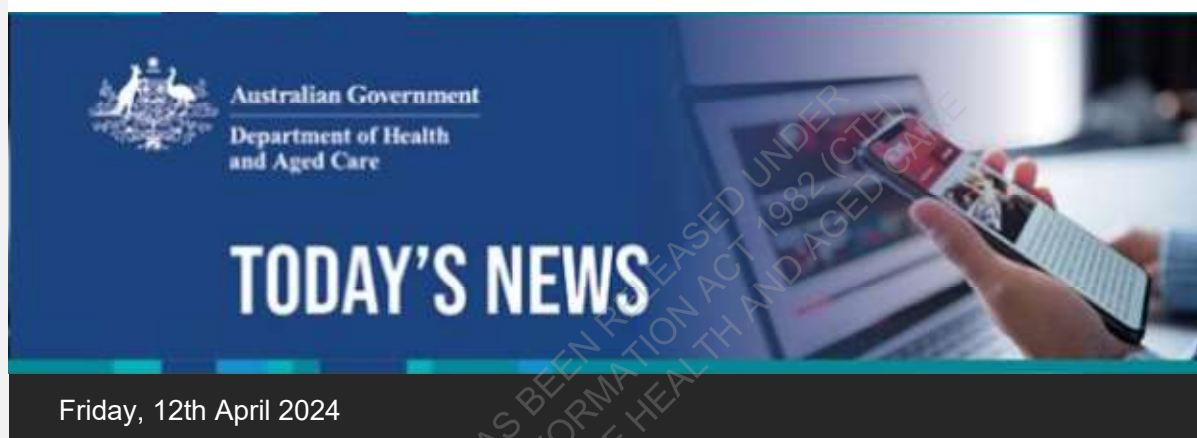
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s22

From: Isentia Daily Briefings ^{s47E(d)} @isentia.com>
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 5:25 AM
To: isentianewsletters
Subject: Today's News 12 Apr 2024
Attachments: _2024-04-12.pdf

REMINDER: Think before you click! This email originated from outside our organisation. Only click links or open attachments if you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.



[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](#) | [Office of Health Protection and Emergency Management](#) | [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) | [Office for Drug Control](#) | [Food Standards](#) | [AICIS](#)

LINKS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **[The Australian](#)** (page 1) reports James Cook University academic Andrew Amos has called for an overhaul of Australia's gender services in line with the UK Cass Review's findings of inadequate research.

- The **Sydney Morning Herald** (page 1) reports PFAS chemicals are allowed in Australian tapwater at concentrations 140 times greater than the US since the Biden administration reviewed safe limits. The Department of Health and Aged Care has previously said the chemicals are unlikely to cause "important" health outcomes.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 1) reports over ninety percent of junior doctors reported burnout and fatigue in the past year, with nearly all fearful of making a clinical error as a result, in a survey by the Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation.
- The **Herald Sun** (page 1) reports the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre Alliance is developing mRNA technology of the kind used to fight COVID-19 to target hepatitis-B virus-infected liver cells before they can cause cancer.
- **The Australian** (page 3) reports that the aged-care industry is calling for private health insurers to cover in-home care to improve patient outcomes and reduce stays in hospital.
- The **Sydney Morning Herald** (page 7) reports Northern Beaches Hospital has told staff that it will cut workers from its mental health and maternity units as it looks to restructure \$1.6 billion in debt.

MINISTER BUTLER

AB goes into bat for help

Newcastle Herald, General News, 12/04/2024, Fraser Barton, Page 8

Allan Border recalls the first time he witnessed the effects of Parkinson's disease when Muhammad Ali lit the Olympic torch at the 1996 Atlanta Games. "I just thought people suffer from a tremor," he said. [...] Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has indicated he will speak with Health Minister Mark Butler about what more the government can do.

Also reported by: [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [The Senior \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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

AB in pitch to Albo

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 12/04/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 38

Cricket great Allan Border has called on Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to "do something" about Parkinson's disease. Diagnosed with the neurodegenerative disorder in 2016, the former captain of the Australian cricket team has delivered a powerful video message to the Prime Minister and federal health minister Mark Butler urging them to do more.

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

Cricket legend Allan Border calls on Anthony Albanese to better support people living with Parkinson's

NEWS.com.au, Other, 11/04/2024, Eleanor Campbell

Former Australian cricket captain Allan Border has urged Anthony Albanese to pour more federal support to better assist people living with Parkinson's disease. The legendary batsman was first diagnosed with the neurodegenerative disorder, which affects the nervous system and the parts of the body controlled by the nerves, back in 2016. [...] "Our heart goes out to him," Mr Albanese said on Thursday. "I will have a word with the Health Minister about what more we can do."

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Sunrise's Nat and Shirvo pay heartfelt tribute to cricketer Allan Border as he speaks about his battle with Parkinson's disease

7news.com.au, Other, 11/04/2024, Caleb Taylor

The legendary former Australian cricket captain is appealing for new funding to help people living with the crippling condition. Sunrise hosts Matt Shirvington and Nat Barr have paid a heartfelt tribute to legendary cricketer Allan Border amid his brave battle against Parkinson's disease. Border, 68, marked World Parkinson's Day on Thursday by fronting a new campaign urging Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Health Minister Mark Butler to do more to combat the degenerative disease.

[Read More](#)

Cricket legend Allan Border reveals the shocking toll incurable brain disease has taken on him and his family as he makes a passionate plea

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 11/04/2024, Andrew Prentice

Australian cricket great Allan Border has revealed just how much being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease has affected his life. Border, 68, was given the grim news he had the incurable brain disease in 2016 - and only told his immediate family and close friend and fellow cricket legend Dean Jones. [...] In a video released ahead of World Parkinson's Day on Thursday, Border called on the PM and federal health minister Mark Butler to be pro-active in regards to funding.

[Read More](#)

SBS, World News Australia (Late), 11/04/2024

Former Australian cricket captain Allan Border has called for greater federal support for the group Parkinson's Australia to shine a light on a disease affecting over 150,000 Australians, or 1 in 173 people. A new report, coinciding with World Parkinson's Day, highlights more than 19,000 new cases annually. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese says he will take the request to Health Minister Mark Butler.

[Play Now](#)

2SM, Breakfast, 11/04/2024, Richard King

[...] He's released a video message, Allan Border, calling on Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and our health minister Mark Butler to do something about Parkinson's disease. He's 68, Allan Border, and was diagnosed with the neurodegenerative disease back in 2016 and says it's robbed him of the ability and confidence to work in TV and impacted relationships with family, friends and teammates.

[Play Now](#)

Cook candidate Simon Kennedy calls on government to allow outpatients to use Sutherland Hospital MRI machine

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/04/2024, Ashleigh Tullis

The man hoping to follow in the footsteps of former Prime Minister Scott Morrison is calling on the federal government to cut the "bureaucracy" and allow outpatients to use a new MRI machine in Sutherland Hospital. A \$7m MRI machine was installed at Sutherland Hospital in 2023 but the federal health department has not granted a license to allow residents in the community to use it for scans and be bulk billed under Medicare. [...] Mr Kennedy has called on Health Minister Mark Butler to "step up" for the residents of Cook and fund an MRI machine license.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Butler to open MM2024

Pharmacy Daily, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 2

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler will open Australia's largest scientific pharmacy conference, Medicines Management 2024 (MM2024), the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) has announced. Butler will deliver a Ministerial Address at the Opening Plenary for the conference, which takes place 14-16 Nov in Adelaide.

Also reported by: [Pharmacy Daily \(Online\)](#), [Australian Journal of Pharmacy \(Online\)](#)

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

Is the govt's scope of practice review already set on pharmacist prescribing?

Australian Doctor, Other, 11/04/2024, Heather Saxena

In just a few days, the Federal Government's Scope of Practice Review will start showing its hand. When Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler launched the review last year, he christened it 'Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce'.

[Read More](#)

Workforce lever a 'blunt instrument': ACCRM

The Medical Republic, Other, 11/04/2024, Laura Woodrow

After a push to return Distribution Priority Area status to MMM3-7 areas, ACCRM is raising concerns over the other workforce classification system and the rural workforce's reliance on overseas doctors. The rurally focused college says the District of Workforce Shortage system encourages subspecialising over generalism by the way it defines shortage. Last November, federal Health Minister Mark Butler announced a review into the national maldistribution of doctors and other health workers with the aim to improve access in "outer suburbs of major cities and in regional, rural and remote Australia".

[Read More](#)

New program aims to smoke out vaping in Australia's schools

The Educator Australia, Other, 12/04/2024

Studies show an alarming one in six high school students have vaped recently and that vaping has become the number one behavioural issue in many schools. Worryingly, research has also shown that nine out of 10 vape shops are within walking distance of schools. [...] Minister for Health and Aged Care, Mark Butler, said vapes were initially intended as a "therapeutic good", sold to governments and communities around the world to help adults quit smoking.

[Read More](#)

2CC, 07:30 News, 11/04/2024

The federal government is welcoming a school-based programme aimed at tackling youth vaping. Around 5000 students are taking part in a trial of the Our Futures programme. It aims to teach children about the harms of e-cigarettes and give them the tools to reject their use. Health Minister Mark Butler says vape manufacturers are targeting Australia's young people. [audio: Minister Butler]

[Play Now](#)

[Back to Top](#)

MINISTER WELLS**Date change to allow for more input into new Aged Care Act**

Warren Star, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 6

Recent delay to allow for more input into new legislation to regulate the care of our elderly in aged care facilities has been welcomed by advocates in the field. Confirmation that the commencement date for the new Aged Care Act has been put back, has been supported by the national peak body for sector providers, the Aged and Community Care Providers Association (ACCPA). The new legislation was due to take effect from July 1, however, the Minister for Aged Care, Anika Wells, announced last week that the Federal Government will consider the extensive feedback from the sector and community to refine and finalise the draft legislation before it goes to Parliament.

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

New Quality Standards will come into effect with new Aged Care Act: Department confirms

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Egan

The Department of Health and Aged Care has confirmed that the strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards will be rolled out at the same time as the new Aged Care Act. "The strengthened Standards have been finalised and will come into effect in line with the commencement of the new Aged Care Act," a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care told The SOURCE. [...] After the Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells last week confirmed the commencement date for legislation will be updated before the laws are introduced to parliament, it now appears that both the strengthened Quality Standards and the new Aged Care Act will not commence on 1 July 2024, as they had been scheduled to do.

[Read More](#)

Just under a half of homes miss care minutes target

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 11/04/2024, Christopher Kelly

Almost a third of aged care homes are more than 10 minutes off the mandated care minutes target, according to government statistics released Thursday. Since 1 October 2023, aged care homes have been required to provide an average of 200 minutes of direct care per resident per day – including 40 minutes from a registered nurse. However, Department of Health and Aged Care data crunched from the October to December 2023 quarter shows that 703 residential aged care services (30.68 per cent) missed the target by more than 10 minutes. [...] In the same statement, the Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said: "These results show we have delivered historically high levels of care.

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68% of aged care homes falling short on care minute targets

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Egan

Data for the October-December 2023 quarter, released this morning, reveals that only 805 aged care homes (32% of total homes) met both the mandatory 200 care minute target and the 40 Registered Nurses (RN) care minute target. [...] The Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells welcomed the data. [...] From 1 October 2024, the Department of Health and Aged care will increase to a sector-wide average of 215 care minutes per resident per day, including 44 minutes of direct care by an RN.

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Shadow Aged Care Minister's Federal Budget 2024 wish: fix workforce shortages

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Egan

The Shadow Minister for Aged Care Anne Ruston is calling on the Government to use the upcoming Federal Budget to do more to plug the 6,000 gap in Registered Nurses that must be filled to meet mandatory care requirements from 1 October 2024. [...] The residential aged care sector was achieving care minutes of 193.99 per resident per day as of 1 October 2023, the day that 200 direct care minutes became mandatory, the Minister for Aged Care and Sport Anika Wells said in a statement.

[Read More](#)

Opinion: what could be on the table for aged care on Budget night?

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Lauren Broomham

With just over four weeks until the 2024-25 Federal Budget is announced on 14 May, anticipation is building for Treasurer Jim Chalmers to restore some much-needed certainty to the aged care sector. [...] Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells has yet to reveal whether the Government will take up the recommendations of the Final Report – released last month – with the media speculating that the Minister is now hammering out a deal for bipartisan support for its measures – including Plan B, increased consumer contributions for aged care accommodation and daily living expenses.

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCBRIDE

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ASSISTANT MINISTER KEARNEY

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ASSISTANT MINISTER MCCARTHY

Don't let the name-changers get Sirius

Canberra Times, Other, 11/04/2024, Steve Evans

It does seem all very Soviet. New regime: new names.

[Read More](#)

NITV, NITV News, 11/04/2024, Natalie Ahmat

A new mobile clinic offering treatment and support for people with diabetes has taken to the roads in central Australia. The four wheel drive clinic is run by the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress and will offer preventative care, wound treatment, foot cheques and education services in eight remote communities. The clinic has been funded by a \$456,000 grant from the federal government's Aboriginal Benefits Account. [video: Assistant Minister McCarthy]

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DEPARTMENT

Forever chemical in tap water

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 12/04/2024, Carrie Fellner, Page 1

A forever chemical declared carcinogenic is allowed in Australia's tap water at 140 times the maximum level the US now considers safe after the Biden administration lowered its safe limits for drinking water. [...] The Australian government's Department of Health was contacted for comment about the vast discrepancy. It has previously argued that PFAS are unlikely to cause "important" health outcomes.

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Ship of fools

Canberra Times, General News, 12/04/2024, Steve Evans, Page 1

Former prime minister John Howard has made a blistering attack on the decision to change the name of the Department of Health's headquarters from the "Sirius Building". "I hold in contempt this petulant, juvenile piece of anti-colonialism. It's just pointless petulance," Mr Howard told The Canberra Times.

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

Health is a serious business, but for some there are more Sirius matters

RiotACT, Other, 11/04/2024, Chris Johnson

On the 25th of January 2007, John Howard began what would turn out to be his last year as prime minister delivering a National Press Club address in the Great Hall of Parliament House to mark Australia Day, which was the next day. His speech didn't go much to the actual commemoration of the national day at all – he had policy to announce. [...] That little episode in Australian political history sprung to mind this week with news that the Federal Health Department is seeking staff views on what the new name for its Sirius building in Woden should be.

[Read More](#)

Dragons finally feel love

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 12/04/2024, Luke Griffiths, Page 3

Geelong council has voted in favour of putting Hamlyn Park forward for a federal funding opportunity. Councillors voted unanimously for the recommendation that will see the home of Bell Park Football Netball Club seek funding via the federal government's Play Our Way program. [...] Applications will be assessed via an impartial process led by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

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

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Pilot program to grow the Lived Experience workforce

Latrobe Valley Express, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 17

Gippsland Primary Health Network has made a commitment to grow the Lived Experience workforce in the region, and is one of only five Australian Primary Health Networks to have a dedicated Lived Experience role on staff. A person with Lived Experience has first-hand or personal knowledge of mental distress or ill health, substance abuse or suicide. [...] In 2018, the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care commissioned Brisbane North PHN to chair and project manage the National PHN Mental Health Lived Experience Engagement Network.

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

Time for Aussies to shoot flu

Alexandra Eildon Marysville Standard, General News, 10/04/2024, Page 13

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia is urging all eligible Australians to get their flu shot following an alarming number of flu cases across the country. In the first quarter of 2024 there were 26,836 influenza cases reported by the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS). [...] Further information will be available from the Department of Health and Aged Care when NIP-funded influenza vaccines become available.

Also reported by: [Yea Chronicle \(Yea\)](#), [South Burnett Today \(Kingaroy\)](#), [Shepparton News \(Shepparton\)](#), [Narromine Star \(Narromine\)](#)

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Cook candidate Simon Kennedy calls on government to allow outpatients to use Sutherland Hospital MRI machine

Daily Telegraph Australia, Other, 11/04/2024, Ashleigh Tullis

The man hoping to follow in the footsteps of former Prime Minister Scott Morrison is calling on the federal government to cut the "bureaucracy" and allow outpatients to use a new MRI machine in Sutherland Hospital. A \$7m MRI machine was installed at Sutherland Hospital in 2023 but the federal health department has not granted a license to allow residents in the community to use it for scans and be bulk billed under Medicare. [...] Mr Kennedy has called on Health Minister Mark Butler to "step up" for the residents of Cook and fund an MRI machine license.

Also reported by: [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#)

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Just under a half of homes miss care minutes target

Australian Ageing Agenda, Other, 11/04/2024, Christopher Kelly

Almost a third of aged care homes are more than 10 minutes off the mandated care minutes target, according to government statistics released Thursday. Since 1 October 2023, aged care homes have been required to provide an average of 200 minutes of direct care per resident per day – including 40 minutes from a registered nurse. However, Department of Health and Aged Care data crunched from the October to December 2023 quarter shows that 703 residential aged care services (30.68 per cent) missed the target by more than 10 minutes. [...] In the same statement, the Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells said: "These results show we have delivered historically high levels of care.

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New Quality Standards will come into effect with new Aged Care Act: Department confirms

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Egan

The Department of Health and Aged Care has confirmed that the strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards will be rolled out at the same time as the new Aged Care Act. "The strengthened Standards have been finalised and will come into effect in line with the commencement of the new Aged Care Act," a spokesperson for the Department of Health and Aged Care told The SOURCE. [...] After the Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells last week confirmed the commencement date for legislation will be updated before the laws are introduced to parliament, it now appears that both the strengthened Quality Standards and the new Aged Care Act will not commence on 1 July 2024, as they had been scheduled to do.

[Read More](#)

Australia has weathered the COVID-19 storm

Cosmos Magazine, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Zielinski

For the first time in years Australia recorded no deaths associated with COVID-19 for at least a week, and the number of admissions to hospitals is the lowest since January 2022. The Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care data reporting site shows that the number of deaths fell to zero in March.

[Read More](#)

Are we heading for a physician associate moment?

The Medical Republic, Other, 11/04/2024, Holly Payne

The AMA and GP colleges have warned that scope-of-practice reforms could result in the kind of implosion seen in the UK health system. The UK and Canada are valuable case studies for allied health scope of practice – but not for the reason that the scope of practice review commissioners seem to think, the RACGP says. Commissioned by the Department of Health and Aged Care last year, the Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce scope of practice review is set to release its second issues paper in the coming weeks.

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Aged care occupancy higher than pre-COVID levels as reform uncertainty stalls development

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Egan

Residential aged care occupancy rates have returned to pre-COVID levels and are trending higher and will continue to do so as demand for residential aged care is buoyed by the ageing population. [...] Data from aged care accountants StewartBrown (based on available beds rather than approved beds, the metric used by the Department of Health and Aged Care) shows occupancy for the six months to 31 December 2023 averaged 92.8% - the highest since 2020 and up from 90.8% at the same time the previous year.

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CORONAVIRUS

Aussies urged to speak to GP about Covid-19 plan if they are at higher risk of symptoms

NEWS.com.au, Other, 12/04/2024, Aisling Brennan

Most Australians at a higher risk of becoming seriously ill from Covid-19 don't have a plan in place with their GP if they get sick, according to new research. The research from Pfizer shows that of those people at higher risk, 74 per cent remain without a plan on how they'll combat the long-lasting effects if they test positive for Covid-19.

Also reported by: [The Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Yahoo! News Australia \(Online\)](#), [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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Donna Bates: Military must not be our first resort in a public health crisis involving COVID

West Australian, Other, 11/04/2024, Donna Bates

There's something fundamentally wrong when the Premier of our State defaults to the military option rather than strategically preparing his Government's health system and infrastructure for a future health crisis. Roger Cook's recent comments to a Commonwealth COVID inquiry that he wanted to deploy the army to "patrol and secure" WA's borders, and to turn military bases into quarantine centres in the event of another health crisis like the pandemic, demonstrates a concerning lack of vision, leadership, and planning.

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AGEING AND AGED CARE

New Qld program upskills workers to reduce emergency admissions

Aged Care Insite, Other, 11/04/2024, Arshmah Jamal

Developed by Central Queensland University (CQU) and funded by the Queensland government, the Early Recognition and Response to Deterioration in the Older Adult (EDDIE) program is free, and teaches aged care workers additional skills and knowledge to assist them in reducing resident hospitalisations. EDDIE was designed by mother-daughter duo Sam Matthews, a nurse on Bundaberg's Geriatric Emergency Department Intervention Team, and Joy Matthews, a nursing lecturer at CQU.

[Read More](#)

Depression, falls and antidepressants

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/04/2024, Megan Haggan

Antidepressants are often first-line therapy for patients in residential aged care – but a leading consultant pharmacist says credentialed pharmacists could support other approaches. Commonly, people living in residential aged care facilities demonstrate substantial signs of depression, according to a new study which examined whether psychological therapies could be of use in managing the condition.

[Read More](#)

Australians living longer, but not ageing well

Retail Pharmacy, Other, 11/04/2024

Despite Australians living longer, our prolonged lifespan is overshadowed by poor health and dissatisfaction as 75 per cent of the population fail to meet physical activity and recommendations. Exercise & Sports Science Australia (ESSA) has emphasised the urgent need for Australians to ramp up their physical activity, as opposed to squandering a staggering \$2.4 billion on managing diseases resulting from sedentary, inactive lifestyles.

[Read More](#)

35% increase in people waiting for Home Care Packages - 40,000 new Packages needed in FY25

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Egan

As of 31 December 2023, there were 51,044 older Australians waiting for a Home Care Package at their assessed level of need, a 35% increase - or 13,150 more people - than at the same time a year prior. The new data, revealed in the Home Care Packages Program Data Report Q2 2023-24, also showed that wait times have remained at 12 months.

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Is this the future of aged care? Tanunda Lutheran Home employs 10th robot with Chat GPT-enabled companion robot trial

The Weekly Source, Other, 11/04/2024, Caroline Egan

South Australian aged care provider Tanunda Lutheran Home (TLH) is trialling its 10th robot - a Chat GPT-enabled companion robot which has been developed by US-based Andromeda Robotics. The 'Abi Robot' will arrive at the 120-bed TLH, in the Barossa Valley, 70km northeast of Adelaide, in late April 2024 for a trial that will last for up to two years.

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POPULATION HEALTH

Open door policy needed for women

Burnie Advocate, General News, 12/04/2024, Isabel Bird, Page 4

Menopause is a topic that employers need to be informed about, says the state's health department, as it raises awareness of a common workforce problem affecting women in midlife. A national senate inquiry is looking at the multitude of issues affecting women in menopause and perimenopause, which is a time that marks final periods and the end of the reproductive years.

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'Revolting': Anthony Albanese says he has never smoked a cigarette or vape

9News, Other, 11/04/2024, Lucy Slade

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has said he has never smoked a cigarette or vaped. Albanese told the surprising fact to Dr Karl Kruszelnicki on ABC Brisbane's afternoons during a conversation about vapes yesterday.

Similar coverage: [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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'Forgotten cousin' of heart disease

Medical Forum, Other, 11/04/2024

More awareness is needed among GPs and their patients about the need to listen to the heart to detect heart valve disease, according to WA experts. It follows local expertise in managing HVD being showcased at the American College of Cardiology Congress by consultant cardiologist and head of cardiology at the University of Notre Dame, Professor David Playford, who presented new data from an extensive Australian population survey.

[Read More](#)

AMA calls for sugar tax on soft drinks

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 11/04/2024

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) is calling for a tax on sugary drinks, as consumers have been sold a "fantasy" when opting for beverages advertised with reduced sugar. It comes off the back of media reports this week that revealed that the sugar content in some of these drinks has in fact increased.

[Read More](#)

Sky News Live, The Kenny Report, 11/04/2024, Chris Kenny

A Sky News investigation has uncovered a disturbing rise in complaints of cyber bullying targeting women. Anti-violence advocates are calling on social media platforms Facebook and Instagram to do more to tackle the abuse and remove graphic and obscene videos, including horrific footage which shows women being stoned to death. [...] The latest data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare shows suicide rates are climbing in 2022.

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CANCER, HEARING AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

The cost of cancer: Sarah's diagnosis came with a financial blow that caught her off guard

9News, Other, 11/04/2024, Emily McPherson

When Sarah Occhino was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer at the age of 28, she was left stunned. "It's been a massive blow in a million ways," the Melbourne live sound engineer told 9news.com.au. [...] Cancer Council Australia director of cancer control policy Megan Varlow said the financial burden of cancer often came as a surprise to patients who assumed everything would be covered under the public health system.

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PRIMARY CARE

'Cover health services at home'

The Australian, General News, 12/04/2024, Jess Malcolm, Page 3

Australia's largest not-for-profit provider of hospitals and agedcare services is calling on private health insurers to fund care at home, saying millions of Australians are missing out on crucial services while insurers make record profits. In a pre-budget submission to Treasury, Catholic Health Australia has urged the federal government to force insurers to offer rebates to people who receive treatments at home.

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

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Unrest at hospital as staff cut

Sydney Morning Herald, General News, 12/04/2024, Angus Thomson, Page 7

Northern Beaches Hospital is cutting staff from its mental health and maternity units as it searches for a chief executive, and the multibillion-dollar company running it restructures about \$1.6 billion in debt owed to investors. The changes to staffing levels come two months after the state government abandoned plans to invest \$7.5 million in mental health services at the hospital, saying the previous government had promised the funding without guaranteeing the hospital could deliver the promised youth mental health beds.

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Burnt-out docs' fear

Herald Sun, General News, 12/04/2024, Sarah Booth, Page 1

More than nine in 10 junior Victorian doctors fear "making a clinical error due to burn-out and fatigue", a survey has found, amid a multimilliondollar fight over unpaid overtime and patient safety. Burntout, overworked clinicians have suicided, while other junior doctors are leaving the state or the profession altogether the Australian Salaried Medical Officers' Federation Victorian branch says.

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Mum warns against maternity site move

West Australian, General News, 12/04/2024, Josh Zimmerman, Page 11

The mother of a baby born at just 25 weeks has urged the State Government to reconsider its decision to shift a new \$1.8 billion maternity hospital from Nedlands to Murdoch, saying the move risked the wellbeing of premature babies. Liberal leader Libby Mettam has also used the one-year anniversary of the bombshell announcement to label as "absolute rubbish" the list of reasons provided for the change of plan.

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

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Channel 9, Nine News, 11/04/2024, Michael Thomson

The mother of a premature baby is pleading with the government to reconsider the location of the new maternity hospital, set to be built 20km from Perth Children's Hospital. Political parties are still at loggerheads over the decision.

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Prisoner forced to medicate

Northern Territory News, General News, 12/04/2024, Zizi Averill, Page 18

An Alice Springs man jailed for endangering serious harm for throwing a three-year-old girl head first into the pavement near a taxi rank, was injected with antipsychotic medication against his will after a Supreme Court rejected an emergency attempt to block the mandatory medication order. Justice Meredith Huntingford earlier this month dismissed an emergency injunction which would have allowed the 31-year-old to stop taking his prescribed depot paliperidone injections.

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How Vicki stayed in a hotel after birth of Jimmy

Burnie Advocate, General News, 12/04/2024, Jess Flint, Page 2

The birth of Devonport mum Vicki Macdonald's third child was a bit different thanks to a postnatal hotel care service. The service, offered by St Lukes, gives new mums the opportunity to choose between hotel care or home care for mums, their babies, and a support person.

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Wagga paramedic banned from work over 'shameful' DUIs

Daily Advertiser, General News, 12/04/2024, Andrew Mangelsdorf, Page 3

A former Wagga paramedic has been banned from returning to the service after he was caught DUI and admitted to driving an ambulance while his licence was suspended. Ex-Wagga ambulance officer Christopher Roshan Richards, 34, has been handed a two-year ban from returning to the ambulance profession in the NSW civil and administrative tribunal after he was convicted of multiple DUIs.

Also reported by: [Wagga Wagga Daily Advertiser \(Online\)](#)

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\$31.5m Sarina Hospital opens

Daily Mercury, General News, 12/04/2024, Zoe Devenport, Page 15

Sarina's new "state-of-the-art" hospital has been officially opened by the minister as further funding was promised to keep improving rural healthcare. Health Minister Shannon Fentiman was in town to celebrate the long-awaited \$31.5m Sarina Hospital at its new location on 47 Brewers Rd.

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Liberals' key 'ramping ban' policy in doubt

Launceston Examiner, General News, 12/04/2024, Benjamin Seeder, Page 7

The Liberals' flagship 'ramping ban' policy has failed before it started after the Department of Health bowed to pressure from hospital staff to withdraw 'mandatory' ambulance offload from the protocol. The protocol mandating that emergency departments take over care of ambulance patients within 60 minutes of arrival was unveiled in February.

Also reported by: [Burnie Advocate \(Burnie\)](#)

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Tasmanian Liberals' plan to 'ban' ambulance ramping at hospital emergency departments scrapped two months in

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, Isabella Podwinski

The Tasmanian Liberals' plan to effectively "ban" ambulance ramping has been scrapped just over two months after being first announced — with Premier Jeremy Rockliff saying the government was still committed to the plan, despite it being jettisoned by the Health Department. In February, the Liberals announced patients in ambulances waiting to be admitted to Tasmanian public hospitals would need to be transferred into emergency departments (EDs) within 60 minutes, under a new "transfer of care procedure" to limit ambulance ramping.

[Read More](#)

More must be done to halt family violence

Sunraysia Daily, Letters, 12/04/2024, Dr Anita Munoz, Page 8

Victorian GPs are encouraged to boost their skills and expertise helping people experiencing family violence. The Royal Australian College of GPs has re-launched its Family Violence GP Education Program, which is available to all Victorian GPs.

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Mums signing up for home birth funding

Sunshine Coast Daily, General News, 12/04/2024, Madeline Grace, Page 29

Queensland's first publicly funded program giving women the opportunity to have babies in their own homes safely with the support of a medical team will be offered on the Sunshine Coast. A team of obstetricians, midwives, medical staff and maternity patients is preparing for the start of the new service in the region.

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'He'd still be alive'

Toowoomba Chronicle, General News, 12/04/2024, Michael Nolan, Page 1

The widow of a Toowoomba man who died two days after he walked in to the Toowoomba Hospital with shortness of breath and back pain is suing the Darling Downs Health, claiming it failed to provide a reasonable standard of care. In a Statement of Claim filed in the Toowoomba Supreme Court, Margaret Priest alleges her husband Tony Priest was admitted to Toowoomba Hospital's Emergency Department on April 4, 2021 and discharged after being diagnosed with a respiratory tract infection.

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Metro North Hospital and Health: 10-strong board takes reins

The Courier Mail, Other, 11/04/2024, Jackie Sinnerton

A newly appointed board has taken control of the Metro North Hospital and Health, with a new chair and five new members. Bernard Curran, a former chair of The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation, takes the helm and replaces Jim McGowan who was the chair from May 2020.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#)

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Calls to improve 'archaic' medical record transfer system between cross-border hospitals

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, James Tugwell

When south coast NSW resident John Wilkinson was transferred between hospitals after being treated for heart failure, he did not realise his medical history would not come with him. The 82-year-old Batemans Bay man, who has a rare immune disease and reduced lung capacity, was a patient at Canberra Hospital. His scans and X-rays were left there when he was moved to Moruya Hospital on the NSW far south coast.

[Read More](#)

Scope expansion gathers momentum

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/04/2024, Leopold Hamulczyk

Pharmacists in South Australia and parts of Queensland will be able to provide more services to patients in the coming weeks as state governments expand the profession's scope of practice. South Australian Health Minister, Chris Picton, today ...

[Read More](#)

SA pharmacists now eligible to offer Pill

Pharmacy Daily, Other, 11/04/2024

Trained South Australian pharmacists are now able to resupply certain oral contraceptives to women aged 17 to 50, the state's Health Minister Chris Picton announced today. The Community Pharmacy Oral Contraceptive Pill (OCP) Resupply Services Scheme will kick in from 06 May 2024 and covers low and standard dose estrogen and progestogen only contraceptive pills.

[Read More](#)

Don't ditch the doctor yet...

Medical Forum, Other, 11/04/2024

The more prompts given to the artificial intelligence tool ChatGPT, the less reliable it becomes, according to an Australian study. A world-first study by the CSIRO and University of Queensland found that when ChatGPT is asked a health-related question, giving it more details reduced the accuracy of its responses to as low as 28%.

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MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

'Review our gender hijacking'

The Australian, General News, 12/04/2024, Mackenzie Scott, Page 1

A senior Australian psychiatrist has called for a complete overhaul of gender services to prevent Australia from replicating the British systems, which were found to have "let down" young people who were questioning their identities. Andrew Amos, an academic at James Cook University, believes the treatment of people under 18 who are reporting gender dysmorphia is not being put under the same scrutiny as other medical practices, putting them at risk of overtreatment and detrimental, long-lasting health outcomes.

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Properly funding mental health helps us all

Canberra Times, General News, 12/04/2024, Dr Erin Stewart, Page 62

The building blocks to wellbeing include a roof over your head, nutritious food, an environment that is neither too hot nor too cold, and a sense of security. The cost-of-living crisis - which is jeopardising these basics - constitutes a public health issue.

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Devices can cause issues

West Australian, General News, 12/04/2024, Page 18

Children addicted to smartphones, iPads and video games are more likely to suffer psychotic episodes later in life. Scientists found that digital devices and social media use in adolescence were linked to paranoia, hallucinations and "bizarre ideas" by the time a person reaches 23.

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Body of woman found in mental health unit

Geelong Advertiser, General News, 12/04/2024, Mark Murray, Page 2

A coronial probe has been launched after a woman's body was found inside a Geelong psychiatric ward. Police are preparing a report for the coroner after the 54-year-old patient's body was discovered at the Swanston Centre acute psychiatric admissions unit on Tuesday.

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Victorian woman calls to improve mental health emergency support after partner's death by suicide

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, Callum Marshall

For Sara Hoffmann, the pain of losing her 39-year-old partner Shane to suicide was compounded by watching paramedics standing by, unable to enter their property until police arrived. Ms Hoffman, who lives in the central Victorian town of Numurkah, describes her late fiancée as an "amazing, kind" and "well loved" man, who struggled with mental illness for years.

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CHIEF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY OFFICE

No relevant coverage

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HEALTH WORKFORCE

Old motel to get new lease on life, but it won't be for tourists

Daily Liberal, General News, 12/04/2024, Allison Hore, Page 3

An old hotel is set to get a new lease on life, but it won't be accommodating tourists. The former Endeavour Court Motor Inn on Bourke Street has been purchased by the Western NSW Local Health District (WNSWLHD) to provide accommodation for staff servicing Dubbo Health Service.

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More funding needed for GV Health

Shepparton News, Letters, 12/04/2024, Kim O'Keeffe MP, Page 13

The recent announcement of \$10 million for health workers' accommodation at GV Health needs to be supported by a commitment to completing the hospital's redevelopment. The Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas has turned her back on finishing the redevelopment, with stage two yet to be funded.

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Rural medical schools and regional placements helping address doctor shortages in country Australia

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, Bill Ormonde

Maggie-Kate Minogue was seven when she realised she wanted to be a doctor. Complications with her sister's birth were the catalyst for an early interest in health and helping people. But growing up in a country town of 80 people meant after high school she had to move hundreds of kilometres to Sydney, to study medicine at the University of New South Wales (UNSW).

[Read More](#)

Dentists warn oral health deteriorating further in outback towns, residents call for urgent action

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, Emily Dobson and Meghan Dansie

Trekking a 3,400-kilometre round trip for a dental appointment may seem outlandish, but for outback residents like Joe Bakhsh it is a grim reality. The 72-year-old said he was among many who were forced to travel extreme distances from the country to the coast to access dental services.

[Read More](#)

Locum rates forecast to flatten

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/04/2024, Leopold Hamulczyk

After five years of significant pay increases, locums are likely to see their hourly rates flatten in 2024, Heidi Dariz the general manager of Raven's Recruitment believes. Speaking during a webinar hosted by the ...

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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND ACCESS

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MEDICARE BENEFITS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

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BENEFITS INTEGRITY

35 Aussies busted: Cosmetic docs banned, new breast, lipo limits

Daily Telegraph, General News, 12/04/2024, Sue Dunlevy, Page 22

More than 35 cosmetic surgery practitioners have been disciplined under an unprecedented crackdown on the controversial industry by the nation's health watchdog. Seven were suspended or not currently practising and four were banned from undertaking cosmetic surgery. [...] After reports about dangerous and controversial practices in the industry in 2021, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) set up a complaints hotline.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Advertiser \(Adelaide\)](#), [Courier Mail \(Brisbane\)](#), [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#), [Townsville Bulletin \(Townsville\)](#), [Geelong Advertiser \(Geelong\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#). *Similar coverage:* [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [Daily Mail Australia \(Online\)](#)

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'This is a case of corruption'

Herald Sun, General News, 12/04/2024, Athos Sirianos, Page 22

A suspended doctor who waited three hours to call an ambulance after slicing his wife's throat in an attempt to save her life has accused the national medical board of "absolute corruption" in his fight to return to work. In a fiery VCAT hearing on Thursday, sleep and respiratory physician Dr Peter Spencer appealed to temporarily lift a suspension imposed on him by the Medical Board of Australia, allowing him to return to work until a tribunal decision on the board's final investigation was made.

Also reported by: [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [The Mercury \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#). *Similar coverage:* [Canberra Times \(Online\)](#), [West Australian \(Online\)](#), [9News \(Online\)](#)

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Adelaide surgeon James Ian Spark handed suspended sentence over \$50k fraud

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, Sophie Holder

An Adelaide surgeon who made more than \$52,000 in fraudulent claims — some of which related to an "entirely fictitious" patient — has avoided jail but been ordered to pay the money back. James Ian Spark previously pleaded guilty to seven deception charges and a charge of attempting to deceive, committed in 2017 and 2018.

[Read More](#)

Notifications no need for panic

Australian Journal of Pharmacy, Other, 11/04/2024, Leopold Hamulczyk

Data from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) shows that 1.1% of all notifications made against health professionals result in their registration being suspended, cancelled or disqualified. Speaking during a webinar hosted by the AJP, ...

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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRATEGIES

Full-circle moment

Cairns Post, General News, 12/04/2024, Samuel Davis, Page 1

Maddi Sivyver drew plenty of chuckles during her short stand-up career but the Cairns comic's last act was her most meaningful. Thanks to the late 25-year-old's donation of her eyes, two people have had their sight restored. [...] Mad for Life aims to raise money for the Make a Wish Foundation and awareness for Donate Life, a national initiative to increase organ and tissue donation in Australia.

Also reported by: [Cairns Post \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#). Editorial: [Cairns Post \(Cairns\)](#)

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SPORT

Sports fans at risk of losing free viewing access to big events

West Australian, General News, 12/04/2024, James Warburton, Page 54

In theory, the current media reform legislation before Federal Parliament will modernise Australians' access to free-to-air TV services. In practice, in its current form, it will force Australians to pay for sport on streaming services that they have traditionally enjoyed for free.

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Designs detail precinct plans

Ballarat Courier, General News, 12/04/2024, Nieve Walton, Page 1

New designs for the upgraded Eureka Stadium and athletics track on Creswick Road have been revealed, but questions about money remain. The state government unveiled new renders for the sporting precinct on Thursday, April 11 - projects which were promised to the city despite the cancellation of the Commonwealth Games.

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Enhancing female sport

Coast Community Pelican Post, General News, 11/04/2024, Page 30

Federal MPs Gordon Reid (Robertson) and Emma McBride (Dobell) are encouraging eligible organisations to apply for grants under The Federal Labor Government's \$200M Play Our Way Program. The program supports local governments and community, not-for-profit and sporting organisations deliver initiatives that make sport more welcoming and equitable for women and girls.

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Why Labor MP changed tune on stadium spend

Daily Mercury, General News, 12/04/2024, Mitch Bourke, Page 37

After previously stating a proposed \$2.7bn Gabba rebuild "has to be done", Member for Mackay Julieanne Gilbert has altered her tune dramatically, insisting there are more pressing issues that the government should be spending on. In comments supplied to the Daily Mercury in December, 2023, Ms Gilbert stated that the Gabba "needs to be rebuilt" as "it is already missing big events because it is not suitable".

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

It helped launch Matildas stars. Now, this football club is on the verge of collapse

SBS, Other, 11/04/2024, Jessica Bahr

In many ways, women's football in Australia has never been bigger. The 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup broke viewing records, sold out stadiums, and motivated women and girls across the country to join their local teams. But despite the surge in support for the sport, one team with an impressive history is on the verge of collapse.

[Read More](#)

ABC, 7:30, 11/04/2024, Sarah Ferguson

It's been nearly three years since Queensland clinched the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, but very little has been built so far. As Peter McCutcheon reports, that should come as no surprise.

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HEALTH ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH

'Assassin' hits cancer

Herald Sun, General News, 12/04/2024, Robyn Riley, Page 1

A new treatment for a deadly cancer that strikes in the prime of life is being developed by Melbourne researchers using mRNA technology. The team from the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) Alliance hopes the same technology that helped defend against Covid-19 can now stop primary liver cancer in its tracks.

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

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Solid cancer discovery

Herald Sun, General News, 12/04/2024, Page 21

Australian researchers have overcome a major barrier that could lead to a revolutionary immunotherapy treatment becoming successful on patients with solid cancer types. Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre researchers have focused on finding a way for chimeric antigen receptor Tcell therapy to successfully treat solid tumours, which account for 90 per cent of all cancers.

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Grant a boon for clinical trials

Army News, General News, 11/04/2024, Cpl Jacob Joseph, Page 8

ADF medical researchers are leading a world-first study to better understand when critically ill patients need a platelet transfusion. The team recently secured a \$1.8 million grant from the Medical Research Future Fund to conduct Australian clinical trials in partnership with the UK's University of Oxford.

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

Channel 7, The Latest: Seven News, 11/04/2024, Jerrie Demasi

At some time in their lives, an astounding 1 in 3 Australians will suffer from liver disease. Tonight, we can report Brisbane scientists have made a world-first discovery, and that could mean new treatment for millions of people.

[Play Now](#)

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FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

Cameras roll at hospital

Cairns Post, General News, 12/04/2024, Samuel Davis, Page 6

Details of a mystery documentary filmed at Cairns Hospital have finally been revealed despite tight-lipped TV executives' reluctance to share the subject matter of their new six-part medical series. [...] But a Screen Australia announcement accidentally spilled the beans on the secret show on Wednesday, more than a week after the first media request for comment. In SA's statement, Head of First Nations, Angela Bates said an NITV series, called Our Medicine, would document health workers' journeys to achieve better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

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New Alukura birthing service opens in Mparntwe/Alice Springs

National Indigenous Times, Other, 11/04/2024, Dechlan Brennan

The Central Australian Aboriginal Congress has opened the Alukura Midwifery Group Practice, which will allow women to keep the same midwife all the way through their pregnancy and birth. On Wednesday, the new program was officially opened in Mparntwe/Alice Springs, which will allow women to have their congress midwife alongside them during their birth at Alice Springs Hospital.

[Read More](#)

Community Wellbeing Centre centre a game changer for Indigenous locals

National Indigenous Times, Other, 11/04/2024, David Prestipino

A first-of-its kind community wellness centre in southern Queensland opened its doors on Wednesday. The official opening of the St George Community Wellbeing Centre is a major milestone and promises to be a gamechanger for local First Nations people, providing them more than 40 health and wellbeing programs.

[Read More](#)

SBS, World News Australia, 11/04/2024, Janice Petersen

Tobacco smoking in Indigenous communities is an issue that health authorities around the country have long been battling. Support workers say addiction comes from a range of deeper issues, including lower standards of housing and education. The problem has been found to be more acute as communities become more remote, but an anti-smoking campaign is now trying to reach those areas with the aim of providing resources for addicted smokers to help them quit. One of those is the Far North Queensland town of Yarrabah, just an hour outside of Cairns. Our reporter Tys Occhiuzzi travelled there to file this report.

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OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Blame game hides truth of asbestos mulch saga

Age, General News, 12/04/2024, Annika Smethurst, Page 22

The most remarkable aspect of asbestos-contaminated mulch being discovered in Melbourne is that it took just one parent to identify a problem that was apparently missed by suppliers, regulators, contractors and two levels of governments. A little over a week ago, Yarraville dad Jason Murphy noticed crunched-up building material later found to include asbestos in tanbark near a playground in Spotswood.

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Watchdog rubbishes call for asbestos task force

Shepparton News, General News, 12/04/2024, Page 26

Victoria's environment regulator is tamping down a council push to establish an asbestos task force to combat the growing crisis. The Environment Protection Authority has confirmed or suspects asbestos contamination of nine parks and reserves across Melbourne.

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Asbestos fears at five more parks as businesses cleared

Canberra Times, Other, 11/04/2024, Cassandra Morgan and Callum Godde

Five more Melbourne parks are feared to be contaminated with asbestos as the environment regulator gives two mulch companies the all clear. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on Thursday said suspected asbestos was found at five more parks in Melbourne's southwest: three at Altona Meadows, one at Altona and one at Newport.

[Read More](#)

Docs under the weather

Courier Mail, General News, 12/04/2024, Jackie Sinnerton, Page 11

Doctors are catching RSV, Covid and influenza in hospitals in rising numbers, sparking the state's peak medical body to call for urgent action to better protect medics in an already struggling healthcare workforce. The plea for action comes as new data obtained by The Courier-Mail shows one quarter of all Queensland Health employees were granted special Covid leave last year.

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

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

SA measles cases grow

Adelaide Advertiser, General News, 12/04/2024, Brad Crouch, Page 7

Two more South Australian measles cases have been identified as a small outbreak triggered by an infant grows. But both were household contacts of the case reported on April 4 and there are no new exposure sites to add to the earlier list.

Also reported by: [Adelaide Now \(Online\)](#), [NEWS.com.au \(Online\)](#), [Daily Telegraph Australia \(Online\)](#), [The Courier Mail \(Online\)](#), [Northern Territory News \(Online\)](#)

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Extreme heat trouble spots mapped to find health risks

Canberra Times, General News, 12/04/2024, Karen Barlow, Page 15

The large tract of East Canberra which takes in Symonston, Beard, the HMAS Harman naval base, the Mugga Lane tip, and expansive grasslands has been rated as the highest health risk to people in the ACT under extreme heat conditions. The sparsely populated area was rated the highest risk in Canberra's region on a newly released "stark" national Heat-Health Risk Index to help residents and decision makers adapt to climate change effects by better preparing and responding to extreme heat events.

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

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Mercury rising: new tool to help Australians cool off

Yahoo! News Australia, Other, 12/04/2024, Kat Wong

Australians are feeling the burn as the impacts of climate change radiate across the nation but a new tool could take some of the heat off local communities. Extremely high temperatures leads to more deaths and hospital admissions than any other hazard in Australia through risks such as heat exhaustion or stroke and thousands die every year around the world in heat waves.

[Read More](#)

Jabs urged as cases of whooping cough soar

Kalgoorlie Miner, General News, 11/04/2024, Tegan Guthrie, Page 3

Goldfields parents are being urged to ensure their children's whooping cough vaccinations are up to date amid a rise in cases of the highly infectious disease in the region. WA Country Health Service on Tuesday revealed there had been 14 cases of whooping cough recorded in the Goldfields including two infants so far this year.

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Hope for a slowdown of mesothelioma

Medical Forum, Other, 11/04/2024, Cathy O'Leary

For 60 years, every case of mesothelioma – the rare and aggressive cancer caused by exposure to asbestos – has been dutifully recorded in a WA database, dating back to the start of the epidemic in the 1960s. Initially, the high-risk group was the workers who mined asbestos in the Wittenoom Gorge, but they were soon followed by a second wave of cases in people such as carpenters who had used asbestos as part of their trade.

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THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION

Steph Claire Smith rips toxic Oatzempic Challenge to shreds

NEWS.com.au, Other, 11/04/2024, Claudia Poposki

A "quick fix" weight loss fad is being praised all over social media – but experts are warning those wanting to lose weight to stay far away from it. Oatzempic is a homemade meal replacement shake made up of half a cup of oats, water, lemon and lime juice — and is claiming to help people lose as much as 18 kilograms in two months. It's been touted as an alternative to Ozempic, a diabetes drug prescribed off-label that is constantly in short supply that has not been approved as a weight loss drug in Australia by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

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

[Read More](#)

Five words after surgeon's shocking error revealed

NEWS.com.au, Other, 11/04/2024, Claudia Poposki

The five words said by a doctor while standing over a woman's hospital bed following surgery changed her life forever. Teresa Burberry, from Brisbane, had undergone a minor surgery in September 2021 after a bike accident left her in chronic pain. [...] The Therapeutic Goods Administration, which approves devices and medications for use in Australia, said it had received 2000 reports of adverse impacts of the devices since 2012, and launched a post-market review in 2022.

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

[Read More](#)

The ACT has decriminalised many illicit drugs, but has some of the strictest penalties for possessing nicotine vapes

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, Courtney Barrett Peters

If you're caught with an unprescribed nicotine vape in the nation's capital, the law states you can be fined 320 times more than if you were possession of a gram of heroin. Under current legislation, law enforcement theoretically has the power to penalise individuals up to \$32,000 and place them in jail for two years if they're found to have liquid nicotine without a prescription. [...] Liquid nicotine is classed as a scheduled poison by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

[Read More](#)

Oral spray vaccine for UTIs shows potential for preventing 'warrior's disease'

ABC Online, Other, 11/04/2024, Paige Cockburn

"I'm losing a lonely battle with the medical community as these UTIs won't go away." "I find that this affects every aspect of my life." These are the experiences of real women who suffer from frequent urinary tract infections (UTIs). [...] There is currently no application before the Therapeutic Goods Administration to approve MV140.

Similar coverage: [Body+Soul \(Online\)](#)

[Read More](#)

Aussies battling debilitating headaches can no longer access a key medication that alleviates symptoms

7news.com.au, Other, 11/04/2024, Rebeka Petroska and Sarah Keszler

Sufferers of a blinding type of headache say pharmaceutical companies are putting profits before pain relief. Joshua Lee Spencer is one of thousands of people affected by debilitating headaches. "You really want to die... because the pain is so bad," Lee Spencer said. [...] Lee Spencer said Sumatriptan nasal spray works best for him, but it has been discontinued due to commercial viability.

[Read More](#)

Big Brother's Tilly Whitfeld says 'it feels good to look like a boy' as she shares intimate details about breast implant removal following five-hour surgery

Daily Mail Australia, Other, 11/04/2024

Former Big Brother star Tilly Whitfeld is out of hospital and well on the way to recovery after undergoing surgery to remove breast implants. The 23-year-old blonde beauty spilled explicit details of the procedure in the latest episode of the Trainwreck with Tilly and Marley podcast. [...] According to the Australian Government's Therapeutic Goods Administration, a post-surgery rash can sometimes develop due to the body adjusting to the implants.

[Read More](#)

Tougher merger laws will boost competition and improve performance and productivity

In Daily, Other, 11/04/2024, Rod Sims

Treasurer Jim Chalmers' proposed changes to Australia's merger laws represent important public policy reform. This is because a market economy, based on companies and individuals pursuing their own interests, only works if those companies and individuals face sufficient competition. [...] Imagine new drugs coming onto the market and the Therapeutics Goods Administration (TGA) having to go to court to prevent this if it felt the drugs were not appropriate; the TGA is the decision-maker, as it should be.

[Read More](#)

The business of sleep

Medical Forum, Other, 11/04/2024, Cathy O'Leary

It occupies about one-third of our lives and is considered a natural bodily function like breathing. But for something that should happen with minimal effort, sleeping (or the lack of it) has become big business, with a recent explosion in self-help books, tracking apps and TV documentaries. [...] "One of the factors here could be the dose, because all the studies are looking at a dose of 150mg per day, which is what is approved by the TGA to be available over the counter as Schedule 3 (no prescription), and the companies want to capitalise on that opportunity so that's what they've been using.

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s22

From: Isentia <noreply@isentia.com>
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 7:08 AM
To: s22
Subject: Isentia Report

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Isentia Report (1 media item)

Friday, 12 April 2024, 7:00 AM

NWOW (1 media item)

SHIP OF FOOLS

Canberra Times • Steve Evans • Newspaper • 12 Apr 2024, 12:00 am

HOWARD BLASTS POINTLESS PETULANCE' OF SIRIUS RENAMING Former prime minister John Howard has fired a broadside at the Health Department over its decision to rename the Sirius Building because of its First F...

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s22

From: MOND, Jo
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 5:40 PM
To: s22
Subject: RE: Connecting media teams re: Sirius Building, ACT [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks s22

I see we also have some min corro on the subject.

Jo

From: s22 @Health.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 4:02 PM
To: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Connecting media teams re: Sirius Building, ACT [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Jo

For your awareness – the building owners, Mirvac, have been in touch to connect media teams. I have provided them with the contact details for the media team.

Thanks s22

s22

A/g Director NWOW Change and Delivery – Canberra offices (Sirius and Fairbairn)
 New Ways of Working Program

People, Parliamentary and Communication Division | Corporate Operations Group
 Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care
 E: s22 @health.gov.au
 Location: Sirius Building 3.N
 PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Hybrid working tip 😊



Wipe down your desk

Make sure when you pack your personal items away at the end of the day, to wipe down your workstation so it is clean for your colleagues the next day.

Interested in more hybrid working tips? Visit the NWOW Community Hub - [Hybrid Working Tips \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com)

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

From: s47F @mirvac.com>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 3:59 PM
To: s22 @Health.gov.au>; s47F @mirvac.com>; s47F
 s47F @mirvac.com>
Cc: s47F @mirvac.com>; s47F @mirvac.com>; News
 <news@health.gov.au>; s22 @health.gov.au>; s22

s22 @Health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Connecting media teams re: Sirius Building, ACT [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks s22

s47F

Senior Manager, Corporate Media Relations
Stakeholder Relations & Customer

T: s47F

M: s47F

Level 28, 200 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

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Mirvac acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of Australia, and we offer our respect to their Elders.

From: s22 @Health.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 3:58 PM

To: s47F @mirvac.com>; s47F @mirvac.com>; s47F @mirvac.com>

Cc: s47F @mirvac.com>; s47F @mirvac.com>; News <news@health.gov.au>; s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Connecting media teams re: Sirius Building, ACT [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks for the introduction s47F and Hello s47F and s47F

The department's Media and Events team are currently monitoring the media discussion regarding the renaming of the Sirius Building. They will be best placed to assist you and can be reached via email news@health.gov.au or phone 02 6289 7400.

I would suggest that there is no urgent need to progress a holding statement today, however our Media team will be able to advise further.

Kind Regards

s22

s22

A/g Director NWOW Change and Delivery – Canberra offices (Sirius and Fairbairn)
New Ways of Working Program

People, Parliamentary and Communication Division | Corporate Operations Group

Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care

E: s22 @health.gov.au

Location: Sirius Building 3.N

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

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From: s47F <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 1:52 PM

To: s22 <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>; s22 <[redacted]> @Health.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]>

s22 <[redacted]> @Health.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]> @health.gov.au>

Cc: s47F <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>; s47F <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>; s47F <[redacted]>

s47F <[redacted]> mirvac.com>

Subject: RE: Connecting media teams re: Sirius Building, ACT

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Thanks s22 – great to meet you all. Happy to discuss this afternoon if we feel there is a need to create holding statements urgently, otherwise s47F is back on Monday and will pick this up as I am on leave for the week.

Thanks

s47F

s47F

Senior Manager, Corporate Media Relations
Stakeholder Relations & Customer

T: s47F **M:** s47F
Level 28, 200 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

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Mirvac acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of Australia, and we offer our respect to their Elders.

From: s47F <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 12:42 PM

To: s22 <[redacted]> @Health.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]> @Health.gov.au>; s22 <[redacted]>

s22 <[redacted]> @health.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>; s47F <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>; s47F <[redacted]>

s47F <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>; s47F <[redacted]> @mirvac.com>

Subject: Connecting media teams re: Sirius Building, ACT

Hi s22 and s22

Thanks again for including Mirvac in a conversation with ^{s22} earlier in the week.

As raised in the meeting the Canberra Times ran an article about the proposed name change and subsequent articles have since come out. I think it's ideal timing to connect our media teams so that we can stay close on any further coverage/movement.

Can I please e-intro ^{s47F} and ^{s47F} (away until Monday) from Mirvac's Stakeholder Relationships & Customer team who will support this- if there are key media team members from the Dept that need to be looped in, please forward.

I dare say that team are monitoring media already, if collated articles can be sent through to us that would be fantastic, if not, no issue we can monitor from our end too.

Many thanks everyone,

^{s47F}

^{s47F}

Social Sustainability Manager
Culture & Capability

M: ^{s47F}

Level 8, 1 Southbank Blvd VIC 3006

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AFR Boss

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§22

From: BALMANNO, Rachel
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 4:42 PM
To: GRIEVE, Jodie; WHITE, Robyn; MOND, Jo; §22; News; PHILBRICK, Bernard; §22
Cc: §22
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Yes, I agree. I'll let Charles and Blair know we're not answering additional questions.

Rachel Balmanno (Ms/she/her)

First Assistant Secretary
 People, Communication and Parliamentary Division

Corporate Operations Group
 Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
 T: 02 6289 §22 | E: §22 [@health.gov.au](mailto:§22@health.gov.au)
 Location: Sirius Building 3.N.506
 PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present.

From: GRIEVE, Jodie §22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 3:33 PM
To: WHITE, Robyn §22 @health.gov.au>; MOND, Jo §22 @health.gov.au>; TULLEY, §22 @health.gov.au>; News <news@health.gov.au>; BALMANNO, Rachel §22 @health.gov.au>; PHILBRICK, Bernard §22 @health.gov.au>; §22 @Health.gov.au>
Cc: §22 @Health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

I support not responding also. Unlikely it will have a positive impact on story.

From: WHITE, Robyn ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:robyn.white@health.gov.au)>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 3:27 PM

To: MOND, Jo ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>; ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>; News <news@health.gov.au>; BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:rachel.balmano@health.gov.au)>; PHILBRICK, Bernard ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:bernard.philbrick@health.gov.au)>; ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:bernard.philbrick@health.gov.au)>; GRIEVE, Jodie ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:jodie.grieve@health.gov.au)>

Cc: ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>

Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47E(c)

From: MOND, Jo ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 3:24 PM

To: ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>; News <news@health.gov.au>; BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:rachel.balmano@health.gov.au)>; WHITE, Robyn ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:robyn.white@health.gov.au)>; PHILBRICK, Bernard ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:bernard.philbrick@health.gov.au)>; ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:bernard.philbrick@health.gov.au)>; GRIEVE, Jodie ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jodie.grieve@health.gov.au)>

Cc: ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>

Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi ^{s22} - I'm happy with the words you've drafted.

Rach – what do you think, do we respond?

Thanks, Jo

From: ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 3:14 PM

To: News <news@health.gov.au>; MOND, Jo ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>; BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:rachel.balmano@health.gov.au)>; WHITE, Robyn ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:robyn.white@health.gov.au)>; PHILBRICK, Bernard ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:bernard.philbrick@health.gov.au)>; ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:bernard.philbrick@health.gov.au)>; GRIEVE, Jodie ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jodie.grieve@health.gov.au)>

Cc: ^{s22} [@Health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)>

Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Jo, we've got another query on this... not sure whether we want to engage much given it's becoming political. I don't mind either way but maybe suggest something like this as to who we're listening to on the issue. Happy for your thoughts/edits please before it going to Rachel.

The Department has put concerns from staff first and decided to change the name of the building.

Employees were consulted on the name change with a decision in coming months.

Query

My name is ^{s47F} [REDACTED]

I'm getting in touch because I'm writing a story about the Sirius building changing its name.

John Howard has criticised this decision today, I wanted to see if there was anything to add from the Department of Health.

It's for tomorrow's paper so anything you could shoot through in the next hour or so would be great.

Thanks, ^{s22} [REDACTED]

Unless stated otherwise, this information is provided on a background basis and should not be attributed.

From: News

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 11:10 AM

To: MOND, Jo ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au); BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au); News <news@health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au); PHILBRICK, Bernard ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au); ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@Health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@Health.gov.au); GRIEVE, Jodie ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au)

Cc: ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@Health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@Health.gov.au)

Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you Jo. I think I misread the query initially and was more referring to the signage/frosted glass etc. It looks like some is now clear. Is that being updated or happened a while ago? We could include that under the banner of signage – surprised he hasn't asked about that yet, mustn't have come out to the building.

Thanks, ^{s22} [REDACTED]

Unless stated otherwise, this information is provided on a background basis and should not be attributed.

From: MOND, Jo ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au)

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 10:59 AM

To: BALMANNO, Rachel ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au); News <news@health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au); PHILBRICK, Bernard ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au); ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@Health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@Health.gov.au); GRIEVE, Jodie ^{s22} [REDACTED] [@health.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@health.gov.au)

Cc: §22 @Health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

§22 - §22 has confirmed with Cap Works that there is no Sirius building signage being updated as part of the Level 1 works so we will need to remove this from response below if we choose to provide.

Jo

From: BALMANNO, Rachel §22 @health.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 10:38 AM

To: MOND, Jo §22 @health.gov.au>; News <news@health.gov.au>; WHITE, Robyn §22 @health.gov.au>; PHILBRICK, Bernard

§22 @health.gov.au>; §22 @Health.gov.au>; GRIEVE, Jodie §22 @health.gov.au>

Cc: §22 @Health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

§22 – happy to take your advice as to whether we provide this

Rachel Balmanno (Ms/she/her)

First Assistant Secretary

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division

Corporate Operations Group

Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

T: 02 6289 §22 | E: §22 @health.gov.au

Location: Sirius Building 3.N.506

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present.

§22

s22

From: s22
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 3:55 PM
To: GRIEVE, Jodie; WHITE, Robyn; MOND, Jo; News; BALMANNO, Rachel; PHILBRICK, Bernard; s22
Cc: s22
Subject: RE: Sirius [SEC=OFFICIAL]

No worries, happy not to. Story will run regardless but at this stage I can't imagine there will be too many more angles/people left to weigh in.

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

On 12 April 2024 at 3:33:09 PM AEST, s22 @health.gov.au> wrote:

I support not responding also. Unlikely it will have a positive impact on story.

s22

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NEW WAYS OF WORKING (NWOW) – SIRIUS OFFICE CONSTRUCTION, FUNDING AND RENAMING

Date of Meeting: 10 October 2023

Agenda Item No.: 6

Branch/Division: FBSB, FMD

Sponsor: Charles Wann

OUTCOME

s22

- AGREE the Department conduct a staff nomination and voting process to rename the Sirius Building.

ISSUES

s22

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

s22



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

s22

SIRIUS RENAMING

Feedback from the department's staff networks has identified strong appetite to rename the Sirius building, given its reference to a First Fleet ship and associated trauma for First Nations people. The renaming of Sirius could contribute to creating a more accessible and inclusive workplace and support the department's reputation as an employer of choice.

After informal consultation with precinct tenants and the builder owner, there is no existing forum to drive a precinct-wide approach. The building owner Mirvac is supportive and IP Australia has indicated interest and is keen to follow the lead of Health and Aged Care.

It is proposed we take the same approach as the staff consultation process undertaken to name the Fairbairn buildings which was well received. This involved an all-staff nomination process, EC review and shortlist, followed by a staff vote. Pending the outcome of the preferred building name, due diligence checks would also be undertaken including appropriate external stakeholder consultation. A formal naming ceremony would likely be late 2024.

Attachments

- A – High Level Sirius Financing Approach – September 2023
- B – NWOW Sirius Full Program 1 September 2023

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (CTH)
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday 10 October 2023



ATTENDANCE

Committee Member: Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair) Nick Henderson – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Paul Kelly – Chief Medical Officer Matthew Williams – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Amy Laffan – A/g Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Celia Street – A/g Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport	In attendance: Note takers: s22 Observers: s22 Presenters: s22 (Item 4) Rachel Balmanno, Jo Mond, Bernard Philbrick and David Hicks (Item 6) Rachel Balmanno, Robyn White and s22 (Item 7)
Apologies:	

MEETING OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND DECISION
1. s22	
2.	
3.	
4.	

5.	<div>s22</div>
6.	<div><div>s22</div><div>s22</div><div>The Committee agreed to proceed with renaming the Sirius Building, replicating the process undertaken to name the new Fairbairn buildings.</div></div>
7.	<div>s22</div>
8	

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BY THE DEPARTMENT



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Tuesday 24 October 2023 | 9.00 – 10.30am

Executive Boardroom, Level 6 - Sirius North / Webex Videoconference

Paper Verbal Discussion

s22



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

OPENING OF MEETING

Welcome and Apologies

24 October 2023

<p>Committee Members:</p> <p>Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair) Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Paul Kelly – Chief Medical Officer Penny Shakepeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe A/g – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Celia Street A/g – Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport</p>	<p>Notetakers:</p> <p>Emma Wood s22 [REDACTED]</p> <p>Observers:</p> <p>s22 [REDACTED]</p>
	<p>Presenters:</p> <p>Leonie Clemson (Item 4)</p> <p>Greg Pugh and Greg Keen (Item 5)</p> <p>s22 [REDACTED] and Narelle Smith (Item 6)</p> <p>Rachel Balmanno, Robyn White, Trish Garrett and Megan Lancaster (Item 7)</p> <p>Kris Arnold and David Hicks (Item 8)</p>

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday 10 October 2023**

ATTENDANCE

Committee Member: Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair) Nick Henderson – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Paul Kelly – Chief Medical Officer Matthew Williams – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Amy Laffan – A/g Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Celia Street – A/g Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport	In attendance: Note takers: s22 [REDACTED] Observers: s22 [REDACTED] Presenters: Leonie Clemson (Item 4) Rachel Balmanno, Jo Mond, Bernard Philbrick and David Hicks (Item 6) Rachel Balmanno, Robyn White and s22 [REDACTED] (Item 7)
Apologies:	

MEETING OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND DECISION
1.	s22 [REDACTED]
2.	[REDACTED]
3.	[REDACTED]

4.	s22	
5.		
6.	s22	<div>s22</div> <div>The Committee agreed to proceed with renaming the Sirius Building, replicating the process undertaken to name the new Fairbairn buildings.</div>
7.	s22	
8		

s22

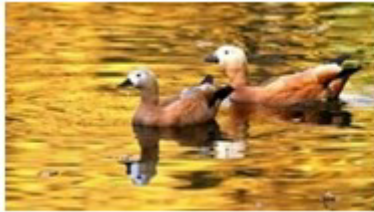
From: s22
Sent: Tuesday, 6 February 2024 5:45 PM
To: s47E(d)@health.gov.au
Cc: s22; BALMANNO, Rachel; MOND, Jo
Subject: EC paper: Sirius building re-naming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: NWOW – Sirius– February 2024 – Building Renaming – Executive Committee Agenda Paper - Sirius Building Name Nominations.docx; NWOW – Sirius – February 2024 – Building Renaming – EC paper 13 Feb 2024 - Attachment A_shortlist for review.xlsx

Hi team

EC paper on Sirius renaming for 13 Feb.

Cheers

s22



s22

(she/her)

Executive Officer | Corporate Operations Group
Department of Health and Aged Care
Central Office | Sirius Building
Phone: (02) 6289 s22 Mobile: s22

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday 13 February 2024



ATTENDANCE

Committee Member: Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair) Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products regulation Genevieve Quilty – A/g Deputy Secretary, Australian Centre for Disease Control Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe - A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport Elizabeth Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care	In attendance: Note takers: Emma Wood (Items 1 – 7) s22 (Items 1 – 7) Observer: Emma Phelan Presenters: Stephen Bouwhuis (Item 6) Rachel Balmanno, Jo Mond, s22 (Item 7)
Apologies:	

MEETING OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND DECISION
1. s22	
2.	
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s22		
5.		
6.		
7.	Renaming Sirius Building	<p>The Committee was updated on the whole-of-Health and Aged Care staff consultation process undertaken to seek nominations to re-name the Sirius Building to better align with the department’s purpose.</p> <p>The Committee discussed a shortlist of names that had been nominated by staff via this process. Members considered the connection of each nomination to the</p>

		department's purpose and activity. Members agreed a shortlist to be put forward for an all-staff vote and were updated on the process and timing to finalise the chosen name.
8.	s22	
9.		

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BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Tuesday 13 February 2024 | 11.00 – 12:30pm
Executive Boardroom, Level 6 - Sirius North / Webex Videoconference

Paper Verbal Discussion

S22



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

OPENING OF MEETING

Welcome and Apologies

13 February 2024

<p>Committee Members:</p> <p>Blair Comley – Secretary (chair) Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products regulation Paul Kelly - Deputy Secretary, Chief Medical Officer Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe A/g – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care</p>	<p>Notetakers:</p> <p>Emma Wood s22 [REDACTED]</p> <p>Observers:</p> <p>s22 [REDACTED]</p>
<p>Apologies</p>	<p>Presenters:</p> <p>Stef Janiec, Craig Chalmers (Item 5)</p> <p>Stephen Bouwhuis, Genevieve Quilty (Item 6)</p> <p>Rachel Balmanno, Jo Mond (Item 7)</p>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday 30 January 2024

ATTENDANCE

Committee Member: Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair) Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products regulation Paul Kelly - Chief Medical Officer Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport Elizabeth Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care	In attendance: Note takers: Emma Wood s22 Observer: s22 Presenters: David Hicks, Kris Arnold (Item 4) Mary Wood, s22 (Item 5) Helen Grinbergs, Jacob Madden (Item 7)
Apologies: Daniel McCabe – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing	

MEETING OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND DECISION
1. s22	
2.	
3.	
4.	



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Renaming Sirius building name nominations

Date of Meeting: 13 February 2024

Branch/Division: PCPD

Agenda Item No.: 7

Sponsor: Charles Wann

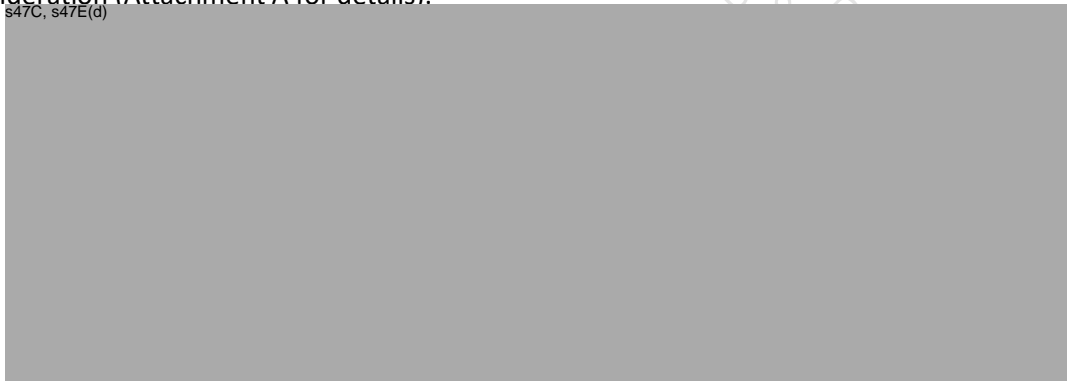
OUTCOME

- **AGREE** a shortlist of 5-6 nominated Sirius building names to put to a staff vote.
- **NOTE** the results from the staff vote will be provided to EC and the building owner for final decision.

ISSUE

- As agreed at 10 October EC meeting, a whole-of-Health and Aged Care staff consultation process has been undertaken to seek nominations for re-naming the Sirius building to better align to the department's purpose.
- The association of the current name with the First Fleet has been raised by staff as a concern. Along with all staff communication, departmental staff networks were invited to participate in the nomination process.
- 165 staff nominations were received.
- PCPD has undertaken a preliminary review of all nominations received and identified a shortlist for EC consideration (Attachment A for details).

s47C, s47E(d)



- These names were shortlisted following an assessment of all nominations and their alignment to the department's purpose and activity, any potential stakeholder sensitivities, other uses of each name, and the goal of identifying aspirational names now and for the future.
- EC views are sought to further shortlist nominations to proceed to staff vote. It is recommended around 6 building names are selected.
- The outcome of the staff vote will be brought back to EC, and to the builder owner, for final decision on the name. In the event a Health pioneer is chosen, whether their full name or just surname is used, the word House or Building will be added to complete the building name.
- The building owner, Mirvac, is supportive of a name change. Mirvac has confirmed they will lead consultation with ACT Government as required, noting they have reviewed their documentation and confirmed there is no lease requirement for ACT Government approval.

RISKS

- Political sensitivities: all political figures have been excluded from the shortlist for consideration, due to potential sensitivities.
- Perceived bias: current and recent Department of Health and Aged Care employees / representatives have been excluded from the shortlist to avoid any perception of bias.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Indigenous languages: Suggestions of names in other languages other than Ngunnawal have been excluded. Following staff vote, NWOW will liaise with NATSISN and the Ngunnawal Elders to confirm correct use and application of terminology.

NEXT STEPS

Following endorsement of a shortlist by EC, next steps and indicative timing are:

- Late February 2024: Conduct staff vote to identify the most popular names.
- March 2024: Report to EC and the builder owner on outcome of staff vote and to seek final decision; advise Ministers of the recommended name.
- March-April 2024: Consult with the Ngunnawal Elders Council, Family Trust or Individual on their involvement in a naming ceremony for the building.
- April 2024: Consultation with the building owner on signage changes and involvement in a formal renaming event.
- April 2024: Notification of the new building name throughout the department and relevant authorities.
- May 2024: Building renaming event in consultation with the building owner.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment A – Renaming Sirius building – recommended nomination shortlist



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Renaming Sirius building name nominations

Date of Meeting: 13 February 2024

Branch/Division: PCPD

Agenda Item No.: [Agenda item number]

Sponsor: Charles Wann

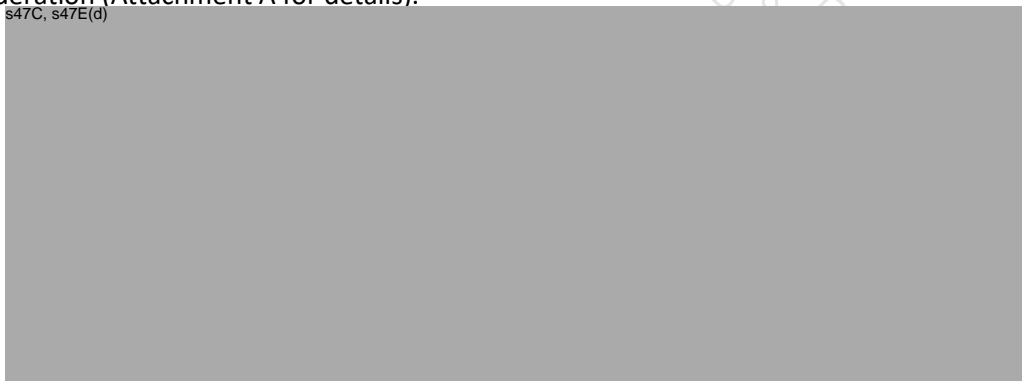
OUTCOME

- **AGREE** a shortlist of 5-6 nominated Sirius building names to put to a staff vote.
- **NOTE** the results from the staff vote will be provided to EC and the building owner for final decision.

ISSUE

- As agreed at 10 October EC meeting, a whole-of-Health and Aged Care staff consultation process has been undertaken to seek nominations for re-naming the Sirius building to better align to the department's purpose.
- The association of the current name with the First Fleet has been raised by staff as a concern. Along with all staff communication, departmental staff networks were invited to participate in the nomination process.
- 165 staff nominations were received.
- PCPD has undertaken a preliminary review of all nominations received and identified a shortlist for EC consideration (Attachment A for details).

s47C, s47E(d)



- These names were shortlisted following an assessment of all nominations and their alignment to the department's purpose and activity, any potential stakeholder sensitivities, other uses of each name, and the goal of identifying aspirational names now and for the future.
- EC views are sought to further shortlist nominations to proceed to staff vote. It is recommended around 6 building names are selected.
- The outcome of the staff vote will be brought back to EC, and to the builder owner, for final decision on the name. In the event a Health pioneer is chosen, whether their full name or just surname is used, the word House or Building will be added to complete the building name.
- The building owner, Mirvac, is supportive of a name change. Mirvac has confirmed they will lead consultation with ACT Government as required, noting they have reviewed their documentation and confirmed there is no lease requirement for ACT Government approval.

RISKS

- Political sensitivities: all political figures have been excluded from the shortlist for consideration, due to potential sensitivities.
- Perceived bias: current and recent Department of Health and Aged Care employees / representatives have been excluded from the shortlist to avoid any perception of bias.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Indigenous languages: Suggestions of names in other languages other than Ngunnawal have been excluded. Following staff vote, NWOW will liaise with NATSISN and the Ngunnawal Elders to confirm correct use and application of terminology.

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Following endorsement of a shortlist by EC, next steps and indicative timing are:

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- March-April 2024: Consult with the Ngunnawal Elders Council, Family Trust or Individual on their involvement in a naming ceremony for the building.
- April 2024: Consultation with the building owner on signage changes and involvement in a formal renaming event.
- April 2024: Notification of the new building name throughout the department and relevant authorities.
- May 2024: Building renaming event in consultation with the building owner.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment A – Renaming Sirius building – recommended nomination shortlist



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Tuesday 27 February 2024 | 10.00 – 11.30am
Executive Boardroom, Level 6 - Sirius North / Webex Videoconference

Paper Verbal Discussion

s22



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

OPENING OF MEETING

Welcome and Apologies

27 February 2024

<p>Committee Members:</p> <p>Blair Comley – Secretary (chair) Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products regulation Paul Kelly - Deputy Secretary, Chief Medical Officer Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe A/g – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care</p>	<p>Notetakers:</p> <p>Emma Wood s22 [REDACTED]</p> <p>Observers:</p> <p>s22 [REDACTED]</p>
<p>Apologies</p>	<p>Presenters:</p> <p>Ross Hawkins, s22 [REDACTED], Rebecca Richardson, s22 [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED]</p> <p>David Hicks, Kris Arnold (Item 6)</p> <p>Rachel Balmanno, Robyn White s22 [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED] (Item 7)</p> <p>Miriam Moore, Narelle Smith, s22 [REDACTED] s22 [REDACTED] (Item 8)</p> <p>Narelle Smith (Item 9)</p>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday 13 February 2024

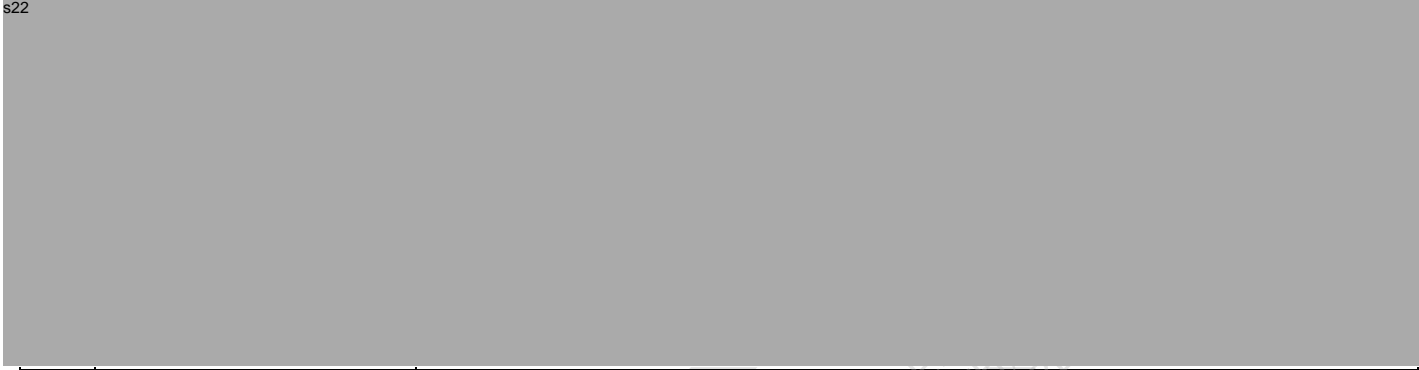
ATTENDANCE

Committee Member: Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair) Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products regulation Genevieve Quilty – A/g Deputy Secretary, Australian Centre for Disease Control Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe - A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport Elizabeth Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care	In attendance: Note takers: Emma Wood (Items 1 – 7) s22 (Items 1 – 7) Observer: s22 Presenters: Stephen Bouwhuis (Item 6) Rachel Balmanno, Jo Mond, s22 (Item 7)
Apologies:	

MEETING OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND DECISION
1. s22	
2.	
3.	
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7.	Renaming Sirius Building	<p>The Committee was updated on the whole-of-Health and Aged Care staff consultation process undertaken to seek nominations to re-name the Sirius Building to better align with the department’s purpose.</p> <p>The Committee discussed a shortlist of names that had been nominated by staff via this process. Members considered the connection of each nomination to the department’s purpose and activity. Members agreed a shortlist to be put forward for an all-staff vote and were updated on the process and timing to finalise the chosen name.</p>
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DRAFT

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BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

s22

From: WANN, Charles
Sent: Tuesday, 19 March 2024 7:57 AM
To: COMLEY, Blair
Subject: FW: Sirius re-naming staff vote outcome [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

FYI

Charles Wann
Chief Operating Officer

Corporate Operations Group
 Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care
 T: 02 6289 s22 E: s22 @health.gov.au
 Location: Sirius Building, Level 6 – 6.N.1829
 GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present

From: MOND, Jo s22 @health.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 9:57 AM
To: WANN, Charles s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @health.gov.au>
Cc: BALMANNO, Rachel s22 @health.gov.au>; s22 @Health.gov.au>
Subject: Sirius re-naming staff vote outcome [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Charles and s22

A quick email to outline next steps on the Sirius renaming.

2,276 staff votes were received:

s47C, s47E(d)

We are engaging with s47F and the building owners to confirm their support for the top two voted names and expect a response in the coming fortnight.

We will bring a paper to EC (aiming for 9 April noting this is dependent on s47F response) to seek their final decision on the building name, taking into account the staff vote and engagement with Nggunawal elders and the building owner.

All going well we will have the opportunity to align building renaming with Reconciliation Week in late May, when Level 1 will also be complete.

I verbally advised Michael Lye of the outcome of the staff vote on Friday, ahead of our engagement with ^{s47F} so you may want to provide the Secretary with an update at your next catch up.

Regards, Jo

Jo Mond
Assistant Secretary
New Ways of Working Branch

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care

T: ^{s22} | E: ^{s22} [@health.gov.au](mailto:jo.mond@health.gov.au)

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BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Renaming Sirius building – staff vote outcome

Date of Meeting: 9 April 2024

Branch/Division: PCPD

Agenda Item No.: [Agenda item number]

Sponsor: Charles Wann

OUTCOME

- **AGREE** the preferred name for the Sirius Building.

RECOMMENDATION

- **APPROVE** s47C, s47E(d) as the new name for the Sirius building, the top voted name by staff s47C, s47E(d)
- **NOTE** Indigenous stakeholder engagement is underway to seek final endorsement of the building name.

ISSUE

- On 10 October 2023, EC endorsed a whole-of-Health and Aged Care staff consultation process to seek nominations to re-name the Sirius building to better align to the department's purpose.
- On 13 February 2024, EC endorsed a shortlist of 5 names from the list of 165 staff nominated names.
- From 19 February to 1 March 2024, staff were invited to vote on the shortlist. 2276 votes were received:

s47C, s47E(d)

s47C, s47E(d)

s47C, s47F

- The building owner, Mirvac, has confirmed their support for the new name. They will lead consultation with ACT Government as required, noting there is no lease requirement for ACT Government approval.

RISKS

Media: It is reasonable to expect media interest and coverage of the naming. This will be managed in consultation with the Executive and Minister's Office.

Indigenous languages: Ngunnawal terms were checked through Thunderstone Aboriginal Cultural Services Pty Ltd to ensure correct use of terminology and pronunciation.

NEXT STEPS

Planned timing for next steps are:

- Early April 2024: Confirm traditional custodians' endorsement of preferred building name.
- Late April 2024: Advise Ministers of the recommended name; propose date for a renaming ceremony.
- May 2024: Consult with the building owner on signage changes and involvement in a formal renaming event.
- May/June 2024: Launch the new building name with an event, in consultation with Indigenous stakeholders, Ministers and the building owner to align with Reconciliation Week if possible.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Tuesday 9 April 2024 | 10.00 – 11.30am
Executive Boardroom, Level 6 - Sirius North / Webex Videoconference

Paper Verbal Discussion

s22

Items for update

s22

7. Sirius Renaming – Outcome of staff vote

Jo Mond
Rachel Balmanno
(Sponsor: Charles Wann)

11.15 – 11.20am
5 mins



s22



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

OPENING OF MEETING

Welcome and Apologies

9 April 2024

<p>Committee Members:</p> <p>Blair Comley – Secretary (chair) Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Paul Kelly – Chief Medical Officer and Head, Interim Australian Centre for Disease Control Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Daniel McCabe A/g – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care</p>	<p>Notetakers:</p> <p>Emma Wood <small>s22</small></p> <p>Observers:</p> <p><small>s22</small></p>
<p>Apologies</p>	<p>Presenters:</p> <p>Robyn Kruk, <small>s22</small> <small>s22</small>, Ross Hawkins (Item 4)</p> <p><small>s22</small>, Narelle Smith (Item 5)</p> <p>David Hicks, Narelle Smith, Kris Arnold (Item 6)</p> <p>Jo Mond, Rachel Balmanno (Item 7)</p> <p>David Hicks, Craig Chalmers (Item 8)</p>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday 26 March 2024

ATTENDANCE

Committee Member: Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair) Robyn Langham obo Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation Paul Kelly – Chief Medical Officer and Head, Interim Australian Centre for Disease Control Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing (Items 1-4) Daniel McCabe – A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport Liz Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care	In attendance: Note takers: Emma Wood §22 Observer: §22 Presenters: Rachel Balmanno, Robyn White and §22 (Items 5 and 6) David Hicks, Kris Arnold (Item 7) David Hicks, Stefanie Janiec (Item 8)
Apologies:	

MEETING OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND DECISION
1. §22	
2.	
3.	



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Renaming Sirius building – staff vote outcome

Date of Meeting: 9 April 2024

Branch/Division: PCPD

Agenda Item No.: 7

Sponsor: Charles Wann

OUTCOME

- **AGREE** the preferred name for the Sirius Building.

RECOMMENDATION

- **APPROVE** s47C, s47E(d) as the new name for the Sirius building, the top voted name by staff s47C, s47E(d)
- **NOTE** Indigenous stakeholder engagement is underway to seek final endorsement of the building name.

ISSUE

- On 10 October 2023, EC endorsed a whole-of-Health and Aged Care staff consultation process to seek nominations to re-name the Sirius building to better align to the department's purpose.
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s47C, s47E(d)

s47C, s47E(d)

s47C, s47F

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RISKS

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NEXT STEPS

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday 9 April 2024

ATTENDANCE

<p>Committee Member:</p> <p>Blair Comley – Secretary (Chair)</p> <p>Tony Lawler – Deputy Secretary, Health Products Regulation</p> <p>Paul Kelly – Chief Medical Officer and Head, Interim Australian Centre for Disease Control</p> <p>Penny Shakespeare – Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing</p> <p>Daniel McCabe– A/g Deputy Secretary, Health Resourcing</p> <p>Michael Lye – Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care</p> <p>Charles Wann – Chief Operating Officer</p> <p>Blair Exell – Deputy Secretary, Health Strategy, First Nations and Sport</p> <p>Liz Develin - Deputy Secretary, Primary and Community Care</p>	<p>In attendance:</p> <p>Note takers:</p> <p>Emma Wood</p> <p>s22</p> <p>Observers:</p> <p>s22</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Robyn Kruk AO - COVID-19 Inquiry Panel Chair;</p> <p>Prof. Catherine Bennett - COVID-19 Inquiry Panel Member; Pauline Sullivan - First Assistant Secretary, COVID-19 Inquiry Taskforce Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; Lauren Le Cerf – Assistant Secretary, COVID-19 Inquiry Taskforce PM&C; Ross Hawkins (Item 4)</p> <p>s22 – ARC Chair, Narelle Smith (Item 5)</p>
<p>Apologies:</p>	

MEETING OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND DECISION
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

	<div>s22</div>	
6.		
7.	Sirius Renaming – Outcome of staff vote	The Committee noted outcomes of the recent all-staff vote to re-name the Sirius Building and Members agreed to the preferred name voted by staff.
8.	<div>s22</div>	
9.		
10.		

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