Business Day reported on November 12, that the Treasury and the Department of Transport have no comment on the surprise decision by Parliament to put a stop to reform of the Road Accident Fund (RAF). Treasury has repeatedly flagged the RAF - a social security fund that provides compensation for the loss of earnings, along with general damages, and medical and

NHI will impact particularly on GPs, Dr Crisp's presentation aimed to explain the plan's

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funeral costs to victims of road accidents - as one of the top risks to the country's public finances. Reforms proposed to the RAF have been strongly opposed by lawyers, who

have benefited enormously from litigation and from claiming a percentage of large lumpsum pay-outs. The DA also opposed the Road Accident Benefit Scheme (RABS), arguing

withdrew support for the bill, arguing that it would be too costly for consumers, who would need to contribute to funding both the old scheme's liabilities and the new one. Treasury said it was not "mandated" to speak on the bill, while Cosatu wants the government to re-

It is the first such test able to identify so many types of cancer and diagnose in which tissue the cancer originated, which it did with 93% accuracy overall.

It will now be piloted on 165,000 patients in mid-2021. The test works by looking for cell-

launches mobile HIV

In August Aviro Health, a

start-up supported by the

TuksNovation, launched a

chatbot-based platform that

offers people access to HIV

The platform, called Ithaka,

also supplies patients with

the information they need

to seek treatment and

manage their condition.

University of Pretoria's

self-testing resources.

Aviro Health

test at home

New UK blood test

detect more than

50 types of cancer

SA's new COVID-19

app may save lives

The DoH launched a new smartphone app, called

Covid-Alert SA, in a bid to

resurge of the virus. The

app makes it possible to

notify non-known contacts -

like people you are in touch

with at a supermarket or in

a taxi – that you have been

COVID-19 or that they have

Covid-19 advanced

innovation

previously thought

CVS COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES

exposed through them to

been exposed to you.

tracing and prevent a

improve COVID-19 contact

against the no-fault system, the ending of lump-sum payments and the capping of

In August, the ANC contingent of the portfolio committee on transport suddenly

vision, particularly in relation to private practitioners.

GENERAL NEWS

benefits.

table the bill in Parliament.

The Genetics of

Clinic start-up

tackles deadly

A nurse-led private clinic,

based on a distinct digital

platform, aims to tackle

bridge the SA healthcare

Alma Clinics, founded by

Manganyi Rath and data/IT

Consumers retain right

70 of 2020

71 of 2020

SAICA Medical Schemes

Accounting Guide published

Standard guidelines on the format of business plans submitted to the CMS

entrepreneur Sibongile

specialist Marcello Di

Maulo, focus on

sector's socioeconomic

chronic diseases and

diseases

gap.

'Silence on sudden death of

Road Accident Bill'

The pharmaceutical company GRAIL, in commercial partnership with the UK government, will start trials in 2021 on a new early detection blood test that can detect more than 50 types of cancer, often before symptoms show. According to a recent article in the medical newsletter *MedTech Dive*, studies suggested the Galleri test can identify many types of cancer that are difficult to diagnose early, such as head and neck, ovarian, pancreatic and oesophageal. Research found that more than 99% of positive results were accurate in a trial using samples from more than 1,200 people.

free DNA, which leaks from tumours into the bloodstream.

Ithaka is design-focused empowering patients and According to experts the and uses digital tools to nurses through user's privacy will be improve the experience of preventative medicine that protected. healthcare, allowing the uses technology to improve Covid-Alert SA is available potential to shift the way in efficiencies and remove on Google Play and iStore which public health is human error. A userand developers are working delivered, including the way friendly two-sided app, on making it available on in which HIV testing is Abeocare, acts as the their platforms. offered. clinical support platform upon which the clinic functions. 96% of C-19 victims had co-morbidities According to the latest data (September), produced by the

SA Medical Research Council, 96% of individuals killed in SA by C-19 had co-morbidities. The experts studied clinical information on 2 457 fatalities provided by provinces, looking into patterns of C-19 deaths across gender, age, co-morbidities and provinces. For individuals where information was available, at least one co-morbidity was reported for 95.8% of the individuals who died. 58.6% of the deaths occurred in individuals with two or more co-morbidities. Hypertension and diabetes were the most common co-morbidities; however, HIV and tuberculosis (TB) patients did not emerge as a highmortality risk group.

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73 of 2020

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