



## Ministry of Health Library

Knowledge for health

# Grey Matter: A Collection of Recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government Reports

Issue 18, 2015, January & February

Welcome to Grey Matter, the Ministry of Health Library's Grey Literature Bulletin. In each issue, we provide access to a selection of the most recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government reports that are relevant to the health context. The goal of this newsletter is to facilitate access to material that may be more difficult to locate (in contrast to journal articles and the news media). Information is arranged by topic, allowing readers to quickly hone in on their key areas of interest. Email [library@moh.govt.nz](mailto:library@moh.govt.nz) to subscribe.

Click on any of the bulleted points below to go to a section of interest.

Key areas of interest in our current issue include:

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## Health Systems, Costs & Reforms

### [Improving Care Delivery Through Lean: Implementation Case Studies](#)

"This report presents an introduction to the application of Lean principles in health care settings to improve quality of care, increase efficiency, lower costs, and provide better patient outcomes." *Source: Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality*

### [Examining new options and opportunities for providers of NHS care: The Dalton Review](#)

"The evidence of the Review identified a number of organisational forms which could help providers to make these changes, which should be considered by all boards as part of their strategic planning processes. The Review also identified barriers and improvements to the system architecture surrounding these models, and makes recommendations to provider boards and to national bodies accordingly." *Source: UK Department of Health*

### **[Urgent and Important: The Future for Urgent Care in a 24/7 NHS](#)**

“In 'Urgent and important: the future for urgent care in a 24/7 NHS' the commission – a group of healthcare experts tasked with identifying achievable improvements to services – makes eight recommendations to improve standards and ensure the most efficient use of resources.” *Source: Care UK*

### **[Exploring international acute care models](#)**

The authors’ “aim was to identify whether any international acute services are able to deliver the same or better quality care more efficiently than the NHS. We also aimed to develop case studies of any models used elsewhere that could potentially deliver benefits for NHS patients.” *Source: Monitor*

### **[Patient choice and the effects of hospital market structure on mortality for AMI, hip fracture and stroke patients](#)**

The authors “examine (a) the effect of market structure on the level of mortality for AMI, hip fracture, and stroke between 2002/3 and 2010/11 and (b) whether this effect changed after the introduction of Choice policy in 2006 which gave patients the right to a wider choice of hospital. For AMI and hip fracture, hospitals with more rivals had higher mortality at the beginning of the period but this effect became smaller over the period.” *Site: Centre for Health Economics*

### **[Financing Population Health Improvement](#)**

“A fundamental but often overlooked driver of the imbalance between spending and outcomes is the [United States’] inadequate investment in non-clinical strategies that promote health and prevent disease and injury population-wide, strategies that fall under the rubric of "population health." Given that it is unlikely that government funding for governmental public health agencies, whether at the local, state, or federal levels, will see significant and sustained increases, there is interest in finding creative sources of funding for initiatives to improve population health, both through the work of public health agencies and through the contributions of other sectors, including nonhealth entities.” *Source: Institute of Medicine*

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### **[Compassion in Practice: Two Years On](#)**

“Called Compassion in Practice: Two years on, the report includes a foreword from Jane Cummings and talks how the values of the 6Cs [care, compassion, competence, communication, courage and commitment] are spreading across health and social care and informing the commissioning process, along with the important role Care Makers play in bringing the vision to life.” *Source: NHS*

### **[Perioperative Medicine: The Pathway to Better Surgical Care](#)**

“The Royal College of Anaesthetists is committed to developing a collaborative programme for the delivery of perioperative care across the UK; to deliver more efficient healthcare and better outcomes for patients from contemplation of surgery until full recovery.” *Source: Royal College of Anaesthetists*

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## Social Care & Disability

### [Inquiry into Social Inclusion and Victorians with Disability](#)

“The Committee considered eight key areas relevant to the social inclusion of Victorians with disability: 1. Defining disability and social inclusion; 2. Leading the social inclusion agenda; 3. Aspirations and social inclusion; 4. Sustainable relationships and networks; 5. Foundations to social inclusion; 6. Contributing and participating; 7. Accessibility; and 8. Changing attitudes and behaviours.” *Source: Family & Community Development Committee (VIC)*

### [Inclusive integration: how whole person care can work for adults with disabilities](#)

“This report focusses on the needs of working-age disabled adults. There is a risk that this group will be overlooked in the remodelling of services, despite the fact that they make up a large proportion of health and social care service users. A review of existing research highlights that there is much less evidence and data on integrated care outcomes for working-age disabled adults, and current policy interventions, including the Better Care Fund, tend to focus on outcomes for older people.” *Source: Institute for Public Policy Research*

### [John Kennedy’s Home Care Inquiry](#)

“The final report of a personal inquiry into the crisis in UK care homes for older people. Between May 2013 and May 2014, John Kennedy, the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust’s Director of Care Services, carried out an inquiry to discover how to address the crisis in the UK’s care homes, and to find out what makes a good care home.” *Source: Joseph Rowntree Foundation*

### [Transforming care for people with learning disabilities – Next steps](#)

This report “represents the latest stage in responding to the recommendations of Winterbourne View – Time for Change, an independent report commissioned by NHS England last year.”

### [Supporting children living with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: practice principles](#)

“Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) is a non-diagnostic umbrella term that is used to cover the full range of possible birth defects and developmental issues that can be caused by prenatal exposure to alcohol. This paper describes some of these consequences for children’s development and may be useful for practitioners working with children and families where alcohol consumption is of concern.” *Source: Australian Institute of Family Studies*

### [Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: Current issues in awareness, prevention and intervention](#)

“This paper reviews the research and current policy surrounding prenatal alcohol exposure and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD).” *Source: Australian Institute of Family Studies*

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## Health of Older People

### [Going Home: Counting the cost to older people and the NHS](#)

“The evidence suggests Home from Hospital schemes are a valuable service well regarded by those who use them. Given that many older people who are readmitted to hospital feel they were discharged too early or did not receive enough support, they are likely to play a valuable role. Modelling suggests they could lead to significant cost savings through reductions of readmissions, but their prime purpose is to improve health and wellbeing.” *Source: Royal Voluntary Service*

### [Living and Dying with Dementia in England: Barriers to Care](#)

“This paper explores how we can improve the care and support for people who are living and dying with dementia, as well as their families and carers. And also how we can reach those health and social care professionals who care for and support them. It focuses on what needs to improve in England, but draws on developments and research from across the UK.”  
*Source: Alzheimer’s Society & Marie Curie*

### [Promising approaches to reducing loneliness and isolation in later life](#)

“In bringing together this guide [the authors] wanted to reflect the full range of initiatives being undertaken to tackle loneliness, and which show promise in tackling this serious public health issue. [They] therefore decided to start by listening to the experts – those who, for one reason or another, could be considered to have an overview of what is being done to tackle loneliness in communities up and down the country.” *Source: Age UK*

### [A Practical Guide to Healthy Ageing](#)

“The advice in this booklet will help improve the health and general fitness of people of any age, but it is written to be particularly relevant for people who are about 70 years or older.”  
*Source: Age UK*

### [I’m Still Me... A Narrative for Coordinated Support for Older People](#)

“The set of narrative statements published in this document describes the way older people want high quality coordinated care to support them.” *Source: National Voices*

### [The Bigger Picture: Understanding disability and care in England’s older population](#)

“This report sets out the results of quantitative research into disability and care in England’s older population.” *Source: Strategic Society Centre*

### [Sharing Health Information with Older Adults through Online Resources in Canada](#)

“An assessment of what is known about problems related to online resources, options for addressing these problems, and key implementation considerations. The citizen brief was an input to a citizen panel on the topic of sharing health information with older adults through Online Resources in Canada.” *Source: McMaster Health Forum*

### [Managing the Cost of Healthcare for an Aging Population: How Manitoba Can Confront Its Healthcare Glacier](#)

“Authors William B.P. Robson, Colin Busby and Aaron Jacobs recommend changes to protect young Manitobans from the burden they will otherwise bear as the tax base grows more slowly and healthcare costs rise.” *Source: C.D. Howe Institute*

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## **Nutrition, Physical Activity & Obesity**

### [Tackling the growing obesity epidemic: a general practice perspective](#)

“In this Policy Brief, [the authors] look at the challenge of obesity from a general practice point of view. GPs have contact with the widest range of patients. Most New Zealanders visit a GP during the year, and many form an ongoing relationship with their GP. As such, GPs are in an ideal position to identify and manage patients who are at risk of obesity, including providing tailored advice on available options to treat obesity and prevent associated complications.” *Source: Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners*

### [Planning healthy weight environments](#)

This report “looks at ways in which planning and development of the built environment can contribute to encouraging healthier populations, in particular when bringing forward different development types through the planning process.” *Source: Public Health England and TCPA*

### **[Overcoming obesity: an initial economic analysis](#)**

“This discussion paper brings together a range of case studies and examples of obesity interventions from around the world and presents them with an initial assessment of their cost-effectiveness.” *Source: McKinsey & Company*

### **[Tackling the Causes and Effects of Obesity](#)**

“The transfer of public health responsibilities from the NHS to local government and Public Health England (PHE) represents a unique opportunity to set out a local approach to tackling obesity and change the focus from treatment to prevention.” *Source: UK Local Government Association*

### **[Sugar Overload: Retail Checkout Promotes Obesity](#)**

“Over the last several decades, unhealthy food and beverages at checkout have become the norm. At the same time, obesity rates have skyrocketed. Given the high costs of obesity and other diet-related diseases, it is no longer acceptable for companies to push extra calories on consumers at checkout.” *Center for Science in the Public Interest*

### **[Tomorrow’s Healthy Society: Research Priorities for Foods and Diets](#)**

“The foresight study focuses on the European consumer, considering various factors that influence dietary habits such as lifestyle, working patterns, food supply or economic situation. The aim is to help policymakers formulate and prioritise research needs.” *Source: European Commission*

### **[12 minutes more... The importance of physical activity, sports and exercise, in order to improve health, personal finances and the pressures on the NHS](#)**

“If we could encourage the average male to do an additional 10 minutes of activity each day and the average woman 12 minutes, they should reach the target of 150 minutes of moderate activity a week and each have significantly better health and finances. Additionally, the NHS stands to save millions of pounds.” *Source: Nuffield Health*

### **[Does Density Matter? The role of density in creating walkable neighbourhoods](#)**

“Does Density Matter is a discussion paper for residents, professionals and experts involved in planning and developing neighbourhoods. It highlights that well designed and located, higher density neighbourhoods are desirable and add value to our communities.” *Source: Heart Foundation of Australia*

### **[Improving Lifestyle Habits: Substantial Benefits for Quebec’s Economy and the Health of Its Citizens](#)**

This report “looks at the cost to Quebec of treating the six most prevalent chronic diseases (ischemic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, lung cancer, diabetes, and high blood pressure). It also outlines what can be done to reduce the prevalence of these ailments and the health and economic benefits that Quebec could reap by investing in prevention and the promoting of healthy lifestyle choices.” *Source: Conference Board of Canada*

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### **[State of the Nation's Waistline 2014 - Obesity in the UK: Analysis and expectations](#)**

“The purpose of the State of the Nation’s Waistline report is to audit the state of obesity in the UK, to identify what initiatives and policy exists, and to assess their effectiveness in tackling obesity and weight management issues.” *Source: National Obesity Forum*

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## **Cancer & Palliative Care**

### **[WHO position paper on mammography screening](#)**

“The new WHO position paper examines the balance of benefits and harms in offering mammography screening to women after the age of 40 in a variety of settings.” *Source: WHO*

### **[Analysis of bowel cancer outcomes for the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program](#)**

“This report presents a comparison of the mortality outcomes and cancer characteristics for two populations: those invited to screen in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP) in 2006–2008, and those of a similar age who had not been invited to screen in that time period... These outcomes demonstrate that the NBCSP is contributing to reducing morbidity and mortality from bowel cancer in Australia. The report findings also suggest that the screening test has a high degree of accuracy.” *Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare*

### **[Improving Outcomes: A Strategy for Cancer - Fourth Annual Report](#)**

“Since the publication of Improving Outcomes: A Strategy for Cancer (IOSC), progress has been made. Cancer survival estimates have continued to increase, and mortality rates have continued to fall. Incidence rates have begun – in some cases – to stabilise in recent years. However, cancer is the nation’s biggest killer, and still poses huge challenges for the NHS and Public Health services.” *Source: UK Department of Health*

### **[Health Care for People Approaching the End of Life: An Evidentiary Framework](#)**

“After an initial review of research on end-of-life care, consultation with experts, and presentation to the Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee (OHTAC), the evidentiary framework was produced to focus on quality of care in both the inpatient and the outpatient (community) settings to reflect the reality that the best end-of-life care setting will differ with the circumstances and preferences of each client.” *Source: Health Quality Ontario*

### **[The Rich Picture: People with Cancer](#)**

“The insight within this document will summarise the numbers, needs and experiences of people affected by cancer for Macmillan staff, cancer care professionals, volunteers and other interested parties.” *Site: Macmillan Cancer Support*

### **[Palliative and end of life care Priority Setting Partnership](#)**

“Research questions or evidence uncertainties were identified and prioritised by patients, carers and health and social care professionals to inform the future of palliative and end of life care research.” *Source: Palliative and end of life care Priority Setting Partnership*

### **[Palliative and End of Life Care Alberta Provincial Framework 2014](#)**

“The framework and the action items outlined in the initiatives are relevant to many other health and community services such as senior executives within Alberta Health Services (AHS), the Government of Alberta, Primary Care Providers and Networks, and Family Care Clinics.” *Source: Alberta Health Services*

### **[Clinical Cancer Advances 2015](#)**

“Another big change with this year’s report is that clinical research advances are ordered thematically, rather than by disease area. And within each thematic section, the report not only highlights recent advances, but identifies emerging trends as well.” *Source: American Society of Clinical Oncology*

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## **Child, Youth & Maternal Health**

### **[Intrapartum care: care of healthy women and their babies during childbirth](#)**

“This guideline...offers evidence-based advice on the care of women and their babies during labour and immediately after the birth. It covers healthy women with uncomplicated pregnancies entering labour at low risk of developing intrapartum complications.” *Source: National Institute for Clinical Evidence*

### **[Essentials for Childhood: Steps to Create Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments](#)**

“This document proposes strategies that communities (“communities” refers to any group with shared interests such as neighborhoods, counties, states, and professional groups) can consider to promote the types of relationships and environments that help children grow up to be healthy and productive citizens so that they, in turn, can build stronger and safer families and communities for their children.” *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

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## **Inequalities**

### **[Services and support for families and Whānau in Christchurch](#)**

“Families represented in this study were strongly affected by ongoing housing, accommodation and home insurance issues, nearly four years after the first earthquake in September 2010. Some had had to relocate several times. Overcrowding of whānau homes, although not uncommon pre-quakes, had become a necessity rather than a choice. The lack of control around these issues caused frustration and emotional stress.” *Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit*

### **[The influence of childhood circumstances on adult health](#)**

“The Mitchell Institute commissioned the Victoria Institute of Strategic Economic Studies to conduct a review of the literature to provide an overview of our current understanding of how childhood disadvantage affects health and wellbeing in later life.” *Source: Victoria University Melbourne*

### **[Funding rare disease therapies in Australia: ensuring equitable access to health care for all Australians](#)**

“This report considers current approaches to the funding of rare disease therapies in Australia and internationally, reviews the current and future challenges, and proposes a set of recommendations to guide the future development of rare disease policy in Australia.” *Source: McKell Institute*

### **[Addressing the Social Determinants of Health Inequities Among Gay Men and Other Men Who Have Sex With Men in the United States](#)**

The authors “undertook a literature review and convened a one-day consultation to consider strategies to mitigate the social determinants of health inequities among gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM). Invited participants included research scientists,

lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) health service providers, public policy advocates, and federal officials.” *Source: Trust for America’s Health*

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## Quality & Safety

### [Managing quality in community health care services](#)

“This report presents findings from a small-scale study into how quality is managed in community services. It explores how community care providers define and measure quality and recommends important next steps to support better measurement and management of quality.” *Source: King’s Fund*

### [Complaints Matter](#)

“This report into complaints handling finds that there is wide variation in the way complaints are handled across the NHS, primary care and adult social care services in England, with complainants being met too often with a defensive culture rather than one that listens and is willing to learn.” *Site: Care Quality Commission*

### [Safer Clinical Systems: evaluation findings](#)

“High-risk industries – such as aviation, oil and gas, and mining – are distinguished by their use of proactive methods for detecting hazards and managing risks. Many have achieved exemplary safety performance. In contrast, health care continues to have a high level of harm events. Hence Safer Clinical Systems – a determined effort to improve the functioning of clinical systems through a hybrid of tools, techniques and principles adapted from those used by hazardous industries and quality improvement, and customised for health care.”

*Source: The Health Foundation*

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## Public Health

### [Antimicrobial Resistance: Tackling a crisis for the health and wealth of nations](#)

“The UK Prime Minister announced a Review on Antimicrobial Resistance in July, calling for ideas to bring this growing threat under control. This is the Review team’s first paper, where we demonstrate that there could be profound health and macroeconomic consequences for the world, especially in emerging economies, if antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is not tackled.” *Source: Review on Antimicrobial Resistance*

### [Antimicrobial Resistance \(AMR\) systems map: overview of the factors influencing the development of AMR and the interactions between them](#)

“The aim of producing an AMR systems map is to provide a broad overview of the factors influencing the development of antimicrobial resistance and the interactions between them rather than detailed consideration of individual factors or infectious agents.” *Source: UK Department of Health*

### [Estimating the economic costs of antimicrobial resistance](#)

“The independent Review on AMR led by the economist Jim O’Neill commissioned RAND Europe to conduct a study estimating the global costs of antimicrobial resistance until 2050 in the absence of any progress in tackling the challenge.” *Source: RAND Europe*

### [Outbreaks: Protecting Americans from Infectious Disease 2014](#)

“The Ebola outbreak has been a major wake-up call to the United States — highlighting serious gaps in the country’s ability to manage severe disease outbreaks and contain their spread.” *Source: Healthy Americans*

### [Current trends for teenage births in New Zealand](#)

“The report outlines current trends, as identified through the updated analysis of teenage birth data, along with contextual information on age-related trends, ethnic trends and international comparisons. It then discusses the potential drivers of these trends including direct drivers, such as contraceptive use and sexual activity, as well as underlying or indirect drivers such as socio-economic circumstances, ethnic and cultural differences and family characteristics. The report concludes by discussing the implications of these trends and offers suggestions for further research and action.” *Source: Families Commission*

### [Tackling the Causes and Effects of Alcohol Misuse](#)

“The transfer of public health responsibilities from the NHS to local government and Public Health England (PHE) represents a unique opportunity to set out a local approach to tackling alcohol misuse.” *Source: UK Local Government Association*

### [Alcohol and Society 2014: The Effect of Low Dose Consumption](#)

“This report summarizes and examines the scientific evidence regarding the health effects of “moderate” (i.e., low-dose) alcohol consumption, and discusses the implications of this research for clinical practice, low-risk drinking guidelines, and alcohol policy development.” *Source: IOGT-NTO and The Swedish Society of Medicine*

### [Standardised packaging for tobacco products](#)

“This report is a summary of the recent evidence on the effectiveness of standardised packaging as a tobacco control strategy. The evidence includes new data from the Australia and United Kingdom.” *Source: British Heart Foundation*

### [Protecting children, Empowering all: Labour’s New Approach to Public Health in the 21st Century](#)

“At a policy event, shadow health secretary Andy Burnham announced Labour’s key public health priorities. The policies include setting maximum limits on levels of fat, salt and sugar in food marketed at children, targeting action on high-strength low-cost alcohol, and introducing standardised packaging for tobacco products.” *Source: Labour UK*

### [Start Well, Live Better](#)

“Start Well, Live Better is the culmination of an extensive consultation with our members about the top public health priorities for this government and the next. From children’s health to climate change, Start Well, Live Better sets out 12 important and practical actions for anyone serious about giving our children the best possible chance of a healthy and happy life.” *Source: UK Faculty of Public Health*

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## **Mental Health**

### [Informing the Future: Mental Health Indicators for Canada](#)

“To paint a picture of mental health in Canada, the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) has developed 63 indicators reflecting mental health across the lifespan for children and youth, adults, and seniors. All indicators look at mental health in different settings, and report on aspects of services and supports used by people with mental illness. These indicators help health care professionals, policy makers, and government workers to make informed decisions and to focus their attention on strategies designed to improve the mental health of Canadians.” *Source: Mental Health Commission of Canada*

### [Living Well: A Strategic Plan for Mental Health in NSW 2014-2024](#)

“The Strategic Plan sets out actions and future directions for reform of the mental health system in NSW. It maps a demanding agenda for change that puts people – not processes – at the heart of its thinking. It asks that the NSW Government recommit to completing the process of reform begun with the Inquiry into Health Services for the Psychiatrically Ill and Developmentally Disabled (Richmond Report) in the 1980s in particular by taking two important steps - closing the remaining stand-alone psychiatric institutions and shifting the focus of mental health care from hospitals to the community.” *Source: Mental Health Commission of New South Wales*

### **Men’s Social Connectedness**

“Recognising that men often find it difficult to maintain social connections throughout their middle years, [the researchers] sought to understand how men perceive and experience social connectedness, to identify the trigger points and pathways that lead them to lose social connections and to highlight tools that may help them develop stronger ties.” *Source: beyondblue*

### **Mental Health for Sustainable Development**

“The simple message of this report is that progress in development will not be made without improvements in mental health. The reasons are equally straightforward. Mental illnesses cause more disability than any other health condition; bring enormous pain and suffering to individuals and their families and communities; and can lead to early death, human rights abuses and damage to the economy. Improving mental health is therefore a vital part of a successful development programme. Yet mental health is generally given a very low priority – and often neglected altogether - in both national and international policy.” *Source: Mental Health Innovation Network*

### **Growing up in the unhappy shadow of the economic crisis: Mental health and well-being of the European child and adolescent population**

“This report from the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) highlights existing evidence on the detrimental effect of the ongoing economic crisis and austerity-driven measures on the mental health and well-being outcomes of the European child and adolescent population.” *Source: European Public Health Alliance*

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## **Global Health**

### **Global status report on violence prevention 2014**

“The Global status report on violence prevention 2014, which reflects data from 133 countries, is the first report of its kind to assess national efforts to address interpersonal violence, namely child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder abuse.” *Source: WHO*

### **Global status report on noncommunicable diseases 2014**

This global status report on prevention and control of NCDs (2014), is framed around the nine voluntary global targets. The report provides data on the current situation, identifying bottlenecks as well as opportunities and priority actions for attaining the targets. *Source: WHO*

### **2014 Global Nutrition Report**

“At its core, the Report aims to empower nutrition champions at the national level to better inform policy decisions and to strengthen the case for increased resources. A repository of global and country-level nutrition data and analysis, the Report also provides civil society organisations (CSOs), donors, governments, the business sector, researchers, the media

and engaged citizens with evidence of the current scale of malnutrition, the measures being taken to combat it, as well as highlighting what more needs to be done.” *Source: Global Nutrition Report*

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## **Health Information & Research**

### **[Federal health it strategic plan 2015 – 2020](#)**

“The Federal Health IT Strategic Plan 2015-2020 (Plan) identifies the federal government’s health IT priorities.” *Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services*

### **[Measuring the Risks and Causes of Premature Death](#)**

“The workshop presentations considered the state of the science of measuring the determinants of the causes of premature death, assessed the availability and quality of data sources, and charted future courses of action to improve the understanding of the causes of premature death.” *Source: National Academies Press*

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### **[Development of New Models for Collection and Use of Patient Experience Information in the NHS](#)**

The aims of the project were to “develop a simple, conceptually grounded and unified model for assessing patient experience and to evaluate that model [and] evaluate whether and how pathway and service line focused assessments of patients’ experiences provide added value to standard organisational surveys.” *Source: Picker Institute Europe*

### **[Improving Quality and Efficiency in Health Care through Comparative Effectiveness Analyses: An International Perspective](#)**

“This paper provides an overview of HTA (Health Technology Assessment) activities in Europe, Canada, and Australia and examines the new public investments in CER in the United States. It also seeks to place the new United States federal investments in evidence generation in the context of the rather different investments that are predominantly focused on HTA in other industrialized countries.” *Source: Academy Health*

### **[The Independent Information Governance Oversight Panel’s report to the Secretary of State for Health](#)**

“This is the first annual report of the Independent Information Governance Oversight Panel (IIGOP), a body established at the request of the Secretary of State for Health and announced by the Department of Health on 5th November 2013. The role of IIGOP is to advise, challenge and report on the state of information governance across the health and care system in England.” *Source: Independent Information Governance Oversight Panel*

### **[Contemporary Issues for Protecting Patients in Cancer Research: Workshop Summary](#)**

“Electronic records enable more extensive data collection and mining, but also raise concerns about the potential for inappropriate or unauthorized use of data, bringing patient protections into a new landscape. There are also long-standing concerns about the processes and forms used to obtain informed consent from patients participating in clinical studies. These changes and challenges raise new ethical and practical questions for the oversight of clinical studies, and for protecting patients and their health information in an efficient manner that does not compromise the progress of biomedical research.” *Source: Institute of Medicine*

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## Primary Care

### [Patients and Health Care Teams Forging Effective Partnerships](#)

“In this discussion paper, [the authors] explore how patients view their role in team-based care and explain what is needed to foster effective partnerships of patients and health care providers to create high-functioning teams that meet patients’ needs.” *Source: Institute of Medicine*

### [Primary Health Care and Preventive Care](#)

“Preventive care refers to interventions which aim to prevent progression of a condition. They may be applied at individual or population levels and at various stages of disease development. For the primary health care (PHC) sector, preventive care is a priority and a challenge.” *Source: Primary Health Care Research & Information Service*

### [An External Evaluation of the Family Health Team \(FHT\) Initiative](#)

“In 2005, Ontario began to implement the Family Health Team (FHT) model to address cost and quality issues plaguing the health care system and to advance the role of primary care. A defining element of FHTs is their ability to offer enhanced patient access to interprofessional, team-based care. Based on the results of a five-year evaluation initiative, this final report explores the successes and challenges of the FHT initiative across a series of domains including access, prevention and health promotion, internal and specialist care coordination, patient and family centredness, and support for chronic disease management.” *Source: Conference Board of Canada*

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## Workforce

### [Key to care: report of the Burstow Commission on the future of the home care workforce](#)

“Home care should be about empowering people to live independent lives near the people and places that are important to them. It should be the way that we help people get back on their feet after a health or personal crisis. It should be the way that we save money by avoiding unnecessary hospitalisation and offering an alternative to residential care placements through support in a community setting.” *Source: LGiU Local Democracy Think Tank*

### [Now more than ever: why pharmacy needs to act](#)

“Commissioned by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS), this report sets out our assessment of progress made over the last year in moving pharmacy towards a wider, care-giving role.” *Source: Nuffield Trust*

### [Pharmacists and general practice: A practical and timely part of solving the primary care workload and workforce crisis](#)

“This report looks at pharmacists and the role they could play in general practice. The report contains excerpts from a round table held with GPs, practice pharmacists and members of the public, and explores the current role of pharmacists working within general practice, why

this isn't more widespread, what the barriers might be, and how they might be overcome.”  
*Site: NHS Alliance*

### **[A systematic review informing a radical transformation of health workforce development](#)**

A defining feature of health systems in the 21st century will be the capacity to respond to populations' needs, while at the same time anticipating future scenarios and effectively

planning for evolving requirements. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the health workforce domain: a fundamental mismatch exists between supply and demand in both the

global and national health labour markets, and this is likely to increase due to prevalent demographic, epidemiologic and macroeconomic trends. *Source: WHO*

### **[Improving Care and Support for Unpaid Caregivers in Ontario](#)**

“This brief was prepared to support a discussion by a citizen panel about improving care and support for unpaid caregivers in Ontario. More specifically, it examines the challenges facing unpaid caregivers, as well as what is known about potentially viable solutions to address these challenges.” *Source: McMaster Health Forum*

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