A Collection of Recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government Reports

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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 identify their key areas of interest. Email library@health.govt.nz to subscribe.

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

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

Health for all: transforming economies to deliver what matters: final report of the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All
"The Council – in this report and in its previous work – has recommended policy approaches underpinned by this new economic narrative. The choices made about how to channel and shape public and private investments will determine whether the world continues to struggle with the

consequences of major health challenges, or succeeds in creating a new political economy based on Health for All." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Patients at the centre: integrating primary and community care](#)
"This report highlights the need for a seamlessly integrated, patient-centric health care sector where patients are given the type of care they need, when, where, and how they need it. The report states that the government should focus more on preventive rather than reactive care to tackle the needs of an ageing population, many of whom are coping with complex health issues requiring intricate and continuous care." *Source: House of Lords Integration of Primary and Community Care Committee (UK)*

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Public Health

[International environmental scan of public health surveillance functions](#)
"The National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools (NCCMT), in collaboration with the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP), undertook an international environmental scan of public health surveillance functions for the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). This environmental scan aims to describe characteristics of national public health surveillance functions from countries with comparable contexts to Canada to provide a global perspective on corporate surveillance system coordination functions at a national level." *Source: National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools and National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy*

[Health Risks of Indoor Exposure to Fine Particulate Matter and Practical Mitigation Solutions](#)
"Health Risks of Indoor Exposure to Fine Particulate Matter and Practical Mitigation Solutions explores the state-of the-science on the health risks of exposure to fine particulate matter indoors along with engineering solutions and interventions to reduce risks of exposure to it, including practical mitigation strategies. This report offers recommendations to reduce population exposure to PM2.5, to reduce health impacts on susceptible populations including the elderly, young children, and those with pre-existing conditions, and to address important knowledge gaps." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Moving to healthy homes](#)
"In this long read, [the health foundation sets] out the health case for change, outline the principles to create healthy homes (including through the Decent Homes Standard) and call for a long-term strategy to ensure healthy homes for all." *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

[Evidence and research gaps identified during development of policy guidelines for tuberculosis, 2nd ed](#)
"Achieving the goals and targets of the WHO End TB Strategy requires innovative tools and strategies as well as rapid progress towards universal access. This document serves as an update to a previously released report with an identical title: It summarizes evidence gaps articulated in various WHO TB policy guidance to help steer innovation towards sustainable, desirable, acceptable, and feasible public health interventions required to end TB. It aims to serve as a reference for research

policy-makers, funders, civil society and other relevant actors on the urgent TB research priorities for policy guidance." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Year in Review 2023: Roundtable on Obesity Solutions](#)
"During 2023, the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions remained committed to reducing the prevalence of obesity by working across systems and sectors and maintaining a focus on structural racism, bias and stigma, and health communication. Framing their activities and discussions within these three areas, the roundtable and its five Innovation Collaboratives covered important and timely issues, including exploring the strengths and limitations of body mass index and other measures of body composition and body fat distribution, and strategies for improving communication about body weight. This annual report summarizes the activities of the roundtable in 2023." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Disconnected & Insecure: The intersection between experiences of long COVID and intimate partner violence](#)
"Despite well-established evidence of the increased risk of IPV during the first two years of the pandemic, to date there has been no global research examining how victim-survivors' experiences of long COVID uniquely impact their safety and support needs. Recognising that this critical global issue intersects with public health, women's economics and safety priorities, this project sought to address this significant gap in current knowledge in Australia and internationally." *Source: Monash University (Australia)*

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Equity

[Operational framework for monitoring social determinants of health equity](#)
"This Operational framework for monitoring social determinants of health equity provides countries with critical guidance on monitoring the social determinants of health and actions addressing them, and using data for policy action across sectors to improve health equity. The publication is meant as a resource for national governments and their partners." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Toward Equitable Innovation in Health and Medicine: A Framework](#)
"The committees resulting report describes a governance framework for decisions throughout the innovation life cycle to advance equitable innovation and support an ecosystem that is more responsive to the needs of a broader range of individuals and is better able to recognize and address inequities as they arise." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Closing the Women's Health Gap: A $1 Trillion Opportunity to Improve Lives and Economies](#)
"While longer life expectancies for men and women have been a societal success story, this is not the full picture. Despite living longer than men, women spend 25% more of their lives in poor health. Health burdens have a heavy impact on women's lives, with ripple effects for broader society. To address these issues, the World Economic Forum and the McKinsey Health Institute have released a new insight report as part of the Forum's Women's Health Initiative." *Source: World Economic forum*

[**Doing more for less? A mixed-methods analysis of the experience of primary care networks in socioeconomically deprived areas**](#)
"Reducing inequalities in health care is now a priority for the NHS and general practice, and PCNs have a major role to play in this. Given the scale of health inequalities in England and the inequities facing core general practice, it is important that decisions around how PCNs should evolve are informed by a better understanding of the experience of PCNs in deprived areas." *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

[**Beyond The Average: Making Fairer Decisions For Public Health**](#)
"This research theme develops 'equity-informative' methods of health services research and policy analysis that provide information about the health inequality impacts of organisations and policies. Read a summary of [the] research programme so far." *Source: University of York (UK)*

[**Innovation through robotic-assisted operations to address health inequities**](#)
"The Black Country Provider Collaborative, made up of four Black Country NHS trusts, has procured innovative robotic-assisted capabilities across each of the trusts to enhance the access to high-quality care and improve patient outcomes in a bid to address the health inequities in the region." *Source: NHS Confederation (UK)*

[**Elective surgery waiting time prioritisation to improve population health gains and reduce health inequalities**](#)
"The aim of this scoping study is to explore the feasibility of estimating the health impact of changes in waiting times across elective procedures in the NHS in England. We have previously developed a practical framework and this report presents the application of it via the development of a model applied to eight procedures." *Source: University of York*

[**Health hubs: A community-centred prevention initiative to address health inequalities**](#)
"One community-centred prevention initiative to address health inequalities is the creation of health hubs. This long read explores what health hubs are, how they can improve access for groups facing health inequalities, their broader social and economic benefits, and the role of trust leaders in their development." *Source: NHS Providers (UK)*

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Mental Health & Wellbeing

[**A guide to what works for mental wellbeing: An evidence review of interventions**](#)
"This guide spotlights more than 20 interventions that have strong evidence for improving a person's mental wellbeing. It provides useful explanation of current research to encourage wider use of mental wellbeing interventions." *Source: Beyond Blue (Australia)*

[**Improving the mental health of babies, children and young people: a framework of modifiable factors**](#)
"The mental health of babies, children and young people (BCYP) influences their future mental health, as well as their current and future physical health, affecting their wider life chances and outcomes. The early part of the life course, from birth to young adulthood (0 to 25 years), provides

important opportunities for promoting and protecting mental health. The audience for this document includes organisations that lead and develop strategy, policy and guidance that influences BCYP mental health, and those who plan, manage and provide promotion and prevention approaches." *Source: Department of Health & Social Care (UK)*

[**Dismantling structural stigma in health care: an implementation guide**](#)
"Stigma affects how we see and treat people living with mental health and/or substance use (MHSU) problems or illnesses. When it becomes embedded throughout the health-care system, it creates real barriers and harms for people trying to access quality care. But change is possible once we commit to dismantling such MHSU-related structural stigma and rebuilding our structures and systems to ensure equitable, effective, and quality care for all. The goal of this guide is to share knowledge about the key features of structural change and strategies and the considerations for making it happen — and to provide guidance to those interested in reducing MHSU-related structural stigma in their organizations." *Source: Mental Health Commission of Canada*

[**Co-designing with the mātau ā-wheako CPSLE workforce for meaningful change**](#)
"This guide sets out to demonstrate to people working in health or social service improvement, design, or research how to authentically engage with the mātau ā-wheako consumer, peer support and lived experience (CPSLE) workforce through co-design activity. When working in service, product or idea design, there is a need to plan successful co-design activity that enables people working in mātau ā-wheako CSPLE roles to participate fully and have their contribution recognised." *Source: Te Pou*

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Artificial Intelligence

[**Ethics and governance of artificial intelligence for health: Guidance on large multi-modal models**](#)
"This guidance addresses one type of generative AI, large multi-modal models (LMMs), which can accept one or more type of data input and generate diverse outputs that are not limited to the type of data fed into the algorithm. It has been predicted that LMMs will have wide use and application in health care, scientific research, public health and drug development. LMMs are also known as "general-purpose foundation models", although it is not yet proven whether LMMs can accomplish a wide range of tasks and purposes." *Source: World Health Organization*

[**Collective action for responsible AI in health**](#)
"Artificial intelligence will have profound impacts across health systems, transforming health care, public health, and research. Responsible AI can accelerate efforts toward health systems being more resilient, sustainable, equitable, and person-centred. This paper provides an overview of the background and current state of artificial intelligence in health, perspectives on opportunities, risks, and barriers to success. The paper proposes several areas to be explored for policy makers to advance the future of responsible AI in health that is adaptable to change, respects individuals, champions equity, and achieves better health outcomes for all." *Source: OECD*

[**The Rise of the Machines: AI, digital and data in healthcare**](#)

"It's clear that greater understanding and communication around the role of AI will help those decision makers in healthcare lead the charge in using this tool to its full potential and this report hopefully serves as a starting point to understanding the issues in this specific context." *Source: Healthcare Leader*

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Child, Youth, & Maternal Health

Social Media and Adolescent Health
"Social media has been fully integrated into the lives of most adolescents in the U.S., raising concerns among parents, physicians, public health officials, and others about its effect on mental and physical health. Over the past year, an ad hoc committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examined the research and produced this detailed report exploring that effect and laying out recommendations for policymakers, regulators, industry, and others in an effort to maximize the good and minimize the bad. Focus areas include platform design, transparency and accountability, digital media literacy among young people and adults, online harassment, and supporting researchers." *Source: National Academies Press*

Global breastfeeding scorecard 2023: rates of breastfeeding increase around the world through improved protection and support
"The Global Breastfeeding Scorecard examines national performance on key indicators of the seven policy priorities identified by the Global Breastfeeding Collective. The 2023 Scorecard highlights countries that have made significant progress in increasing rates of exclusive breastfeeding, demonstrating the impact of policies and programmes that protect and support breastfeeding. Details on the indicators used in this Scorecard are available in a separate methodology document." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Workforce

Health practitioner regulation systems
"This large-scale rapid review examines the diversity of regulatory principles, elements, and approaches to developing, implementing, and strengthening HPR. The aim is to identify the evidence base around HPR design and delivery, to help governments, regulators and other stakeholders better achieve health workforce and health system goals. The World Health Organization (WHO) commissioned this review to assist in the preparation of new global guidance on HPR." *Source: Canadian Health Workforce Network*

Rural and Remote Physician Services Coordination in Northern Ontario
"The Rural Coordination Centre of British Columbia (RCCbc)…offers an alternative model that has been proven to ease the pressure on rural and northern health systems by attracting and retaining more physicians and healthcare workers. The organization has improved working conditions for physicians in regions and circumstances similar to Northern Ontario's." *Source: Northern Policy Institute (Canada)*

Research & Innovation

Building public trust in scientific decision making through expert advisory committees: lessons from the FDA
"This new report describes the impact of expert advisory committees on FDA decision making. The research discussed the roles that expert advisors play in this essential public health agency, and the report makes evidence-based recommendations that policy-makers can implement to make advisory committees optimally useful for the FDA. The FDA case serves as a framework for recommendations about how other expert agencies can best engage with expert independent advisory committees."
Source: IBM Center for the Business of Government (US)

Approaches to Spread, Scale-Up, and Sustainability
"Drawing on a focused review of academic and grey literature, the authors outline how spread, scale-up, and sustainability have been defined and operationalised, highlighting areas of ambiguity and contention. Following an overview of relevant frameworks and models, they focus on three specific approaches and unpack their theoretical assumptions and practical implications: the Dynamic Sustainability Framework, the 3S (structure, strategy, supports) infrastructure approach for scale-up, and the NASSS (non-adoption, abandonment, and challenges to scale-up, spread, and sustainability) framework." *Source: Cambridge University Press*

Reimagining the recipe for research and innovation: the secret sauce of social science
"This report emphasises the vitally important yet underdeveloped role of the social sciences in the UK's current research, development and innovation system. Drawing on data which highlights the ways in which social scientists contribute to a diverse ecosystem of talent and impact, it sets out some distinctive flavours of the UK's social sciences, and how they are transforming UK research into a recipe that is genuinely world-leading and future-focused." *Source: Academy of Social Sciences*

Disability

From Data to Dignity: Health and Wellbeing Indicators for New Zealanders with Intellectual Disability
"The report, From Data to Dignity: Health and Wellbeing Indicators for New Zealanders with Intellectual Disability, reveals people with intellectual disabilities are experiencing poor outcomes in most areas of life. This research is a world first, providing comprehensive quantitative data about people with intellectual disability across many different areas." *Source: IHC (New Zealand)*

Health of Older People

Repair and Recovery in Long-Term Care: Restoring Trust in the Aftermath of COVID-19 (2020-2023)

"To achieve genuine transformation, we must meaningfully adopt a human rights framework that applies to older people who live in LTC homes, one in which all older people are viewed and treated as fully human under both the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights." *Source: Royal Society of Canada*

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Occupational Health & Safety

Preventing and addressing violence and harassment in the world of work through occupational safety and health measures
"This report highlights the pervasive issue of violence and harassment (V&H) in workplaces worldwide, affecting more than one in five employed individuals. It underscores the significant impact of V&H on individuals, enterprises and society, exacerbated by evolving work conditions like digitalisation and work-life balance challenges." *Source: International Labour Organization*

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Futures Thinking

Welcome to 2034: What the world could look like in ten years
"Picture a world with competing power centers, an unstable Russia stumbling into its post-Putin era, a nuclear-armed Iran emerging in the midst of an unruly nuclear age, and a United Nations incapable of carrying out its core functions—including convening the world's countries to tackle problems, such as climate change, that no one state can solve and that pose a grave threat to global security and prosperity. That's just a glimpse into the future that leading global strategists and foresight practitioners forecast when the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security surveyed them in November on how they expect the world to change over the next ten years." *Source: Atlantic Council*

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Long-Term Conditions

Determining the Benefits of Improving Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease
"This project identifies the benefits available, in terms of fatal CV [cardiovascular] events avoided, by optimising secondary prevention in those with established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) in seven European countries, including Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom." *Source: London School of Economics and Political Science*

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