# 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.

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## Public & Global Health

**Systems thinking for noncommunicable disease prevention policy: guidance to bring systems approaches into practice**
"Systems thinking is a comparatively novel but rapidly developing area of knowledge that can offer a number of approaches to address complex public health problems such as the prevention of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). The use of systems approaches can potentially contribute to the development of effective evidence-informed policies, encourage stakeholder involvement in the

decision-making process and improve the coherence of policy implementation. This guidance provides a comprehensive overview of the systems approaches that can be applied to the different stages of the policy cycle." *Source: World Health Organization*

## [Global atlas of medical devices 2022](#)
The focus of the 2022 edition of the Global Atlas is to point out how the status of medical device topics supports or hinders the accomplishment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and supports the increased access to priority medical devices (including in vitro diagnostics) for emergencies, wellbeing, and universal health coverage (UCH). The country profiles incorporate facts indicating the national status of medical devices in areas such as: medical device policies, regulations, incorporation, lists, inventories, nomenclature, health technology assessment, management, and biomedical engineering resources. *Source: World Health Organization*

## [Global oral health status report](#)
"The WHO Global oral health status report reviews the most recent data on major oral diseases, risk factors, health system challenges and opportunities for reform." *Source: World Health Organization*

# Equity

## [The Adhikaar Report](#)
"Earlier this year, Adhikaar Aotearoa embarked on a first of its kind, community consultation, that sought to understand the unique experiences that LGBT+ South Asians face in Aotearoa. As a culmination of these community consultations, we drafted a document that speaks to the stories that our community shared with us. A document that will provide an original contribution. A document that will be a catalyst of change. That document is the Adhikaar Report.  It speaks to the experiences that our community have had, through three themes: self and society, ethnic families and communities, and mainstream LGBT+ communities." *Source: Adhikaar Aotearoa*

## [Harnessing the Value of Co-Creating and Stewarding Places for Health, Equity, and Well-Being](#)
"The Roundtable on Population Health Improvement of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a workshop at Hunter College in New York City, New York on February 6, 2020, to explore the value of co-creating and keeping inclusive healthy spaces. The workshop was designed to understand and highlight the economics of inclusive placemaking and to explore its value in improving health, equity, and well-being. Placemaking (the work of creating livable, vibrant, or quality places, especially public places) draws on various traditions of community development, arts and culture, regional planning, and civic engagement, combining different disciplinary perspectives into a creative way of shaping public spaces, land use, commerce, transportation, housing, and social fabric." *Source: National Academies Press (UK)*

## [Strengthening primary health care to tackle racial discrimination, promote intercultural services and reduce health inequities](#)
"Primary health care (PHC) is the essential strategy for reorientating health systems and societies to become healthier, equitable, effective and sustainable. In 2018, on the 40th anniversary of the Declaration of Alma-Ata, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's

Fund (UNICEF) renewed the emphasis on PHC with their strategy, WHO outlines 14 strategic and operational levers for policy-makers to strengthen PHC. Within each lever, there are multiple potential entry points for targeted actions to address racial discrimination, foster intercultural care, and reduce health inequities experienced by indigenous peoples as well as people of African descent, Roma and other ethnic minorities." *Source: World Health Organization*

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## Data & Evidence

**How big data can be a force for good**
"Over the last decade, Stats NZ has developed a powerful tool for policymakers and researchers alike. Known as the Integrated Data Infrastructure or IDI, it draws upon data from across the government and contains de-identified information for people living in New Zealand. Since its development, 735 projects have used micro-level data from the IDI to monitor trends in our society, conduct research, identify inequality and make funding decisions. In this Insight, [the authors] investigate how the IDI helps us to do better research and make better decisions." *Source: New Zealand Institute for Economic Research*

**Evidence as a catalyst for policy and societal change: towards more equitable, resilient and sustainable global health**
"From 15 to 17 November 2021, the WHO Global Evidence-to-Policy (E2P) Summit – organized by WHO at global, regional and country levels – convened political leaders and experts in health, policy and knowledge translation from across the world. Four main themes emerged during the E2P Summit, which are reflected in the structure of this report: (1) mobilizing evidence during the COVID-19 pandemic (in order to "build back better"); (2) institutionalizing evidence-informed decision-making; (3) collaborating across the evidence ecosystem; and (4) strengthening legitimacy and trust." *Source: World Health Organization*

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## Mental Health & Wellbeing

**Least restrictive practice evidence update November 2022**
"This evidence update is for the mental health and addiction workforce. It focuses on eliminating the seclusion (solitary confinement) of tāngata whai ora Māori." *Source: Te Pou*

**What can international information tell us about mental health and substance use in the Aotearoa New Zealand population?**
"The aims of this work are to help people to understand: international prevalence estimates, if international estimates are similar to past and present data we have in Aotearoa New Zealand, [and] what international data tells us about what might be happening in Aotearoa New Zealand now." *Source: Te Pou*

**Suicide Prevention in Indigenous Communities**

"The Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders and the Forum for Children's Well-Being at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a three-part virtual public workshop on April 26, 2022, May 13, 2022, and June 10, 2022, to examine suicide risk and protective factors in Indigenous populations, discuss culturally appropriate and effective suicide prevention policies and programs, explore existing data systems and how data can be used for tracking suicide rates, and consider opportunities for action. This Proceedings highlights presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

**Turning the tide on depression:  A vision that starts with Australia's youth**
"[The authors] look at how childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood have changed over the past two decades, and how social factors may be increasing young people's risks for depression. [They] also examine the unique experiences of depression in young First Nations people." *Source: Black Dog Institute (Australia)*

**Bereavement is everyone's business**
"With 8 Principles for Change, and clear, detailed recommendations, the findings from Bereavement is everyone's business are offered below in a variety of formats to ensure that everyone understands how bereavement affects their particular community, and how to support change for all bereaved people." *Source: The UK Commission on Bereavement*

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## Behavioural Sciences

**Good practice principles for ethical behavioural science in public policy**
"For the past decade, behavioural science has been influencing public policy by applying principles of psychology, cognitive and social sciences, neuroscience and economics, to put individuals at the forefront of policy goals, and with an accurate rather than imagined understanding of human behaviour. Like any policy-making tool, the use of behavioural insights must be subject to ethical considerations that can arise at any point from scoping to policy scaling. This good practice guide offers practitioners and policy makers step-by-step guidance to prompt deliberations into how to use behavioural science ethically for public policy. It is designed to be a practical resource to promote the responsible use of behavioural science in the public sector." *Source: OECD*

**Misinformation and disinformation: an international effort using behavioural science to tackle the spread of misinformation**
"This study tested the impact of two behaviourally-informed interventions on intentions to share true and false news headlines about COVID-19 on social media, an attention accuracy prompt, and a set of digital media literacy tips. The policy paper outlines key behavioural insights gained to help improve policy responses and stop the spread of mis- and dis-information." *Source: OECD*

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## Nutrition & Obesity

**Childhood obesity: is where you live important?**

"This new Nuffield Trust analysis looks at the association that neighbourhoods, communities and their characteristics have with obesity in children." *Source: Nuffield Trust (UK)*

### A Systems Approach to Improving Children's Diets
"This document explores the daily lives of three children from different contexts. In their own words, these children show us how the foods they eat are powerfully influenced by the environments and systems in which they live." *Source: UNICEF*

### Engaging Communities in Addressing Structural Drivers of Obesity
"Engaging Communities in Addressing Structural Drivers of Obesity, focused on community engagement in obesity solutions. It explored barriers and opportunities for community engagement and highlighted examples of community initiatives that emphasize the intersection of obesity with structural racism, bias and stigma, and health communication to address needs identified by communities and foster changes to support health and wellness. This Proceedings of a Workshop-In Brief summarizes the discussions held during the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

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## Workforce

### Towards a thriving healthcare workforce
"The Perspectives Brief 'Towards a thriving healthcare workforce' examines the complex issue of health workforce wellbeing and outlines solutions on how we can best promote the development of a sustainable healthcare workforce." *Source: Deeble Institute (Australia)*

### Job crafting and flexible working in general practice
"This study has explored how six GP practices across the UK have approached the challenges of designing and implementing flexible work designs and job crafting to meet the increase in patient demands and ensuring that individual staff needs, and the wider practice can be balanced." *Source: Institute for Employment Studies (UK)*

### Supporting doctors through the menopause
"The aim of this paper is to raise awareness of the impact menopause is having on the workforce, as well as to issue recommendations and help healthcare organisations, managers, and employers to better support health care workers so that they do not leave the workforce or suffer in silence if they struggle with managing menopause symptoms." *Source: Medical Protection Society (UK)*

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## Health & Wellbeing of Children & Youth

### The coldest year of the rest of their lives
"The climate crisis is rapidly accelerating and with it, heatwaves are becoming longer, stronger, more widespread and more frequent. Already, around 559 million children are exposed to high heatwave frequency and around 624 million children are exposed to one of three other high heat measures -

high heatwave duration, high heatwave severity or extreme high temperatures. This report provides yet more evidence that children are on the front lines of the climate crisis." *Source: UNICEF*

**[The health effects of universal early childhood interventions: evidence from Sure Start](#)**
"Early Childhood Interventions (ECI) offering disadvantaged children preschool and family support services in the US show long-lasting health impacts. Can these benefits hold when these programs are offered to all children in contexts with universal healthcare? We evaluate the short- and medium-term health impacts of Sure Start, a universal integrated ECI in England, exploiting its 11-year rollout and administrative hospitalizations data. One additional Sure Start centre per thousand age-eligible children increases hospitalizations by 10% at age 1, but reduces them by 8-9% across ages 11-15. Impacts are concentrated in disadvantaged areas and likely driven by both health and non-health services." *Source: IFS (UK)*

**[The power of the ordinary: Evaluating BBC Children in Need's A Million & Me programme](#)**
"In 2019, A Million & Me set out to construct and scale up a system or 'scaffolding' around children, developing people and resources that would promote their mental wellbeing. The programme set out to explore how ordinary, trusted relationships can help children who are beginning to struggle with their mental wellbeing. The programme took place against a backdrop of rising mental distress in children, and widespread concerns about the impact of high levels of inequality, trauma and stress affecting millions of children." *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

**[Family-Focused Interventions to Prevent Substance Use Disorders in Adolescence: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)**
"Adolescence is a crucial period of life for the prevention of substance use disorders. Research has shown that early intervention can significantly reduce rates of substance use disorder in adulthood. To learn more about effective family-focused interventions in primary care settings for preventing substance use disorder, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine hosted a workshop on May 5-6, 2022. The proceedings from that workshop explores existing efforts to incorporate family-focused interventions into state health care policies. It also examines barriers to implementing such interventions as well as lessons learned from successful efforts to scale up these interventions." *Source: National Academies Press*

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## Health of Older People

**[Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity](#)**
"With unprecedented global aging, societies must undertake all-of-society efforts to maximize the benefits and minimize the burdens of aging populations. The Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity (Global Roadmap) describes a realistic vision of healthy longevity that could be achieved by 2050. The vision includes full inclusion of people of all ages, regardless of health or functional status, in all aspects of society and societies characterized by social cohesion and equity." *Source: National Academies Press*

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# COVID-19

**Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Outbreak: Preventing and Managing Future Pandemics**
"This volume contains a collection of essays that explores topics of critical importance toward that aim and identifies actions that can be taken to not only improve pandemic preparedness but also help prevent the occurrence of future pandemics." *Source: RAND Corporation (US)*

**The #Data4COVID19 Review: assessing the use of non-traditional data during a pandemic crisis**
"Decision makers around the world have undertaken varied approaches to minimize the spread of the virus and consequences of the pandemic. Many of these efforts were driven by data, including data from non-traditional sources–i.e. data that is "digitally captured (e.g. mobile phone records and financial data), mediated (e.g. social media and online data) or observed (e.g. satellite imagery)," using new instrumentation mechanisms (e.g. mobile applications and websites). COVID-19 is claimed to have been a "watershed moment" in accessing and re-using non-traditional data. However, there has been little research into how non-traditional data initiatives were designed or what impacts they had on COVID-19 responses." *Source: GovLab (US)*

**The Role of Science in the Swiss Policy Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**
"What role did science play in managing the Covid-19 pandemic from January to December 2020? In what way did the Swiss experience differ from selected other countries? Where is there a need for action in the future?" *Source: Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences*

**UNPRECEDENTED AND UNFINISHED: COVID-19 and Implications for National and Global Policy**
"The object of this report is, firstly, to inform policy-makers and the public about the wide-ranging, long-term impacts on the entire global community from COVID-19, and to help elucidate the key decisions and actions that could shift the evolution of the pandemic towards more positive and equitable outcomes across societies. Secondly, it should inform planning and responses to other existential crises, whether pandemics, natural disasters, or the impacts of climate change." *Source: International Science Council*

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# Health Systems, Costs, & Reform

**Place-based partnerships explained**
"Place-based partnerships are collaborative arrangements between organisations responsible for arranging and delivering health and care services and others with a role in improving health and wellbeing. They are a key building block of the integrated care systems (ICSs) recently established across England and play an important role in co-ordinating local services and driving improvements in population health." *Source: King's Fund (UK)*

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