



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.

[Equity](#)

[Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms](#)

[Mental Health & Wellbeing](#)

[Technology & Innovation](#)

[Children & Young People](#)

[Health Futures](#)

[Public Health](#)

[Health of Older People](#)

[Workforce](#)

[Pharmaceuticals](#)

Equity

[Te reo Māori trauma: A literature review for Te Mātāwai](#)

"This report is an exploration and investigation of literature relating to te reo Māori trauma. The literature review is driven by one focus question - What is te reo Māori or Māori language trauma?"
Source: Te Mātāwai.

[Health equity for persons with disabilities: guide for action](#)

“An estimated 1.3 billion people globally experience significant disability. This figure has grown over the last decade and will continue to rise due to demographic and epidemiological changes. In 2022, the World Health Organization launched the Global report on health equity for persons with disabilities. This report demonstrated that many persons with disabilities are still being left behind. Experiencing persistent health inequities, persons with disabilities die earlier, they have poorer health and functioning, and they are more affected by health emergencies than the general population.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Rethinking Race and Ethnicity in Biomedical Research](#)

“The recommendations of Rethinking Race and Ethnicity in Biomedical Research address how to: decide whether to use race and ethnicity in different research contexts; characterize and disclose limitations of datasets that include racial and ethnic information; identify factors to investigate instead of or alongside race and ethnicity; include overlooked populations in analysis; and support sustained community engagement.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[NSW Aboriginal health governance, shared decision making and accountability framework](#)

“This framework seeks to address health inequity for Aboriginal people in NSW through enabling Aboriginal self-determination and strengthening accountability for Aboriginal health in NSW Health. The framework sets out the gold standard for Aboriginal governance, shared decision-making and accountability within NSW Health, ensuring that all decisions and governance structures that impact Aboriginal people include Aboriginal voices and leadership.” *Source: Ministry of Health (NSW)*

[Back to top](#)

Mental Health & Wellbeing

[Leveraging 25 Years of mental health research from the Youth2000 survey series](#)

“This document provides an overview from multiple Youth2000 outputs re youth mental health needs and opportunities for youth mental health gains in Aotearoa.” *Source: Youth19*

[Mauri Tangata: The Importance of Relationships for the Mauri of Tamariki](#)

“Tūpuna Māori understood that tamariki exist within complex layers of whakapapa relationships, connected to their ancestors, whānau, and the world around them. A central part of this connection is through mauri – the life force or energy that resides within all living things. Tamariki are not isolated individuals; they are part of a broader network where the energy and actions of one person can affect the mauri of another. This article explores how mauri tangata strengthens these connections, influencing the balance of mauri within tamariki, and supporting them in their holistic growth.” *Source: Brainwave (New Zealand)*

[Measuring social connectedness in OECD countries: A scoping review](#)

“Social connections refer to the ways that people interact with and relate to one another. Their role in shaping well-being is increasingly recognised by government, alongside an understanding of the role public policy plays in creating the structures that promote or hinder connectedness. To improve the evidence base on this emerging policy priority and lay the groundwork for full measurement recommendations, this paper reviews a selection of official surveys fielded in OECD countries to

understand patterns in data collection, establish priority areas for harmonisation, and create an inventory of available measures.” *Source: OECD*

[Mosaic toolkit to end stigma and discrimination in mental health](#)

“Stigma and discrimination related to mental health conditions are widespread and harmful. Reducing stigma and discrimination can benefit families, societies and economies – it can save lives. The toolkit offers practical guidance on how to achieve this, based on three core evidence-based principles: leadership or co-leadership by people with lived experience, social contact, and inclusive partnerships. These 3 principles can be realized using a four-step process: identify and define aims, plan and prepare, launch and learn and reflect and proceed. Twelve case studies from all across the world are provided to demystify the process. Stigma and discrimination can be ended if each of us acts as one using the principles in this toolkit.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[How's life? 2024 Well-being and resilience in times of crisis](#)

“How’s Life? assesses whether life is getting better for people living in OECD countries and whether progress has been sustainable and inclusive. This sixth edition presents the latest evidence from over 80 indicators covering current well-being outcomes, inequalities, and resources for future well-being. It contrasts medium-term trends in well-being outcomes with developments since 2019 to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis, and to outline warning signs that require policy attention.” *Source: OECD*

[Back to top](#)

Children & Young People

[Risks that matter for young people: Concerns, perceived vulnerabilities and policy preferences](#)

“Despite an improving overall economic outlook in the post-pandemic world, economic, social, and financial concerns persist affecting young people more strongly than older generations. This policy paper provides information on young people’s concerns, perceived vulnerabilities, and policy preferences, based on the results of the OECD Risks That Matter 2022 survey. The paper zooms in on employment prospects and access to housing and explores differences among groups of young people. Young people’s satisfaction with government policies and their social policy preferences are also covered, as well as opinions about the role of government.” *Source: OECD*

[Back to top](#)

Public Health

[Monitoring noncommunicable diseases and injuries: a baseline assessment in 20 cities](#)

“This report presents the experiences of 20 cities who were involved in the development of monitoring guidance to address noncommunicable diseases and injuries. These issues are two major health challenges facing cities around the world. WHO has developed monitoring guidance to support city-led efforts to reduce risk factors, and as part of this a pilot assessment was conducted in 20 cities from different regions and settings. The report summarizes the results, and features city profiles which provide a snapshot of each city’s indicator status across 8 policy areas. It also includes

case studies on local experiences of implementing effective interventions to tackle noncommunicable diseases and injuries.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[What are healthy diets? Joint statement by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization](#)

“Healthy diets promote health, growth and development, support active lifestyles, prevent nutrient deficiencies and excesses, communicable and noncommunicable diseases, foodborne diseases and promote wellbeing. The exact make-up of a diet will vary depending on individual characteristics, preferences and beliefs, cultural context, locally available foods and dietary customs. However, the basic principles of what constitutes healthy diets remain the same. In this document the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) have formulated principles of what constitute healthy diets, underpinned by guidelines and other normative elements developed by the two Organizations. The principles provide the basis for the design of policies aimed at improving diet and for the assessment of the healthiness of diets.”

Source: World Health Organization

[Guidance on global monitoring for diabetes prevention and control: Framework, indicators and application](#)

“The Guidance on global monitoring for diabetes prevention and control by WHO provides a comprehensive framework to support countries in tracking and managing diabetes prevention, care, and outcomes. This document outlines indicators across 4 domains: health system determinants, service delivery, risk factors, and outcomes/impacts. The guidance helps countries align their monitoring efforts with WHO’s global diabetes targets, Global Diabetes Compact, and relevant global NCD targets.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Strengthening influenza vaccination policies and programmes: meeting report, Geneva, Switzerland, 15-17 July 2024](#)

“Seasonal influenza is a major global health threat, causing significant morbidity and mortality annually and placing stress on health systems worldwide. Influenza vaccination programs play a critical role in reducing the burden of influenza epidemics and enhancing pandemic preparedness, including for other respiratory pathogens like COVID-19. In July 2024, WHO convened a 3-day meeting to strengthen seasonal influenza vaccination policies and programs. Sessions focused on the current global landscape, charting high-level actions for global progress, and operational planning for the Global Influenza Strategy. Key takeaways emphasized coordinated global efforts, tailored approaches, improved data and evidence, and public–private collaboration to advance influenza vaccination programs.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Back to top](#)

Workforce

[Retention: Looking after the GPs of today to safeguard the workforce of tomorrow](#)

“General practice is facing a crisis. The current state of the General Practitioner (GP) workforce in England is characterised by growing demand pressures that outweigh limited supply, leading to significant gaps and shortages in our GP workforce... This report delves into the context of these challenges, highlighting the importance of greater GP retention as fundamental for the stability and

effectiveness of healthcare services in England. It underscores the necessity of addressing this issue promptly to prevent further strain on the NHS and maintain the highest possible standards of patient care in general practice.” *Source: Royal College of General Practitioners*

[Back to top](#)

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[Trust: The foundation of health systems](#)

“This study looks at the critical role of trust within health systems, exploring its impact on health care quality, functionality, and health outcomes. Trust is foundational for patients to seek timely help, share information, and adhere to treatment plans. For the public, trust in the health system’s ability to provide care, act in their best interest, and adapt to changing needs is essential.” *Source: European Observatory*

[The Future is Out There: Joining Up Health and Care for the Benefit of All](#)

“The four proposed actions to deliver the shift to community are: 1. Shifting the priorities, culture and delivery towards home-based care. 2. Reshaping care from a traditional medical model to a tech-enabled social model. 3. Growing the scale and quality of home and community-based care. 4. Changing where the money goes and what we measure for success.” *Source: IMPOWER (UK)*

[Unlocking prevention in integrated care systems](#)

“This report establishes: what prevention means to people working within integrated care systems (ICSs); the barriers, enablers and opportunities for prevention within systems; best practice on overcoming those barriers; and the support needed at the national level to progress the prevention agenda through ICSs.” *Source: NHS Confederation (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Technology & Innovation

[Design for Life roadmap](#)

“The Design for Life programme is an initiative of the medical technologies and innovation directorate in DHSC dedicated to delivery of a circular approach to medtech. Circularity in medtech means designing, procuring and processing medical products in a way that enables them to be reused, remanufactured or recycled, preserving their value for as long as possible.” *Source: Department of Health & Social Care (UK)*

[CRISPR Technologies for In Vivo and Ex Vivo Gene Editing](#)

“The first therapeutics based on clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR) technologies are entering the market. These gene-editing technologies have the potential to change treatment paradigms and may be used to treat conditions that cannot be treated or cured with current methods. This report aims to provide an overview of these technologies and their current and potential roles in health care.” *Source: Canada’s Drug Agency*

[Guidance for human genome data collection, access, use and sharing](#)

“The ethical, legal, and equitable sharing of human genomic data is critical to advancing global health research and ensuring fair access to the benefits of genomics. The WHO’s new document outlines a comprehensive set of globally applicable principles designed to guide stakeholders in the responsible collection, use, and sharing of human genome data. This document serves as a key resource to navigate complex issues surrounding data governance, with the aim of fostering transparency, promoting equity, and safeguarding individual and collective rights. These principles are intended to support the implementation of best practices across diverse settings, thereby enhancing the global capacity for genomic research and its translation into health benefits for all.”
Source: World Health Organization

[Digital transformation handbook for health supply chain architecture](#)

“This handbook provides stepwise guidance to countries on how to develop a holistic strategy and plan for implementing a scalable and sustainable digital health supply chain architecture, including approaches they can adapt to their specific context. This handbook uses the framework and methods set forth in the “Digital Implementation Investment Guide (DIIG): Integrating Digital Interventions into Health Programmes” and aligns with WHO SMART Guidelines L1 Narrative layer by providing guidelines for digital transformation of health supply chains.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Digital transformation handbook for primary health care: optimizing person-centred point of service systems](#)

“The “Digital transformation handbook for primary health care: Optimizing person-centred point of service systems” provides stepwise guidance on how to implement and optimize Person-Centered Point of Service Systems (PCPOSS). The handbook supports two key scenarios: transitioning from paper-only systems and enhancing existing digital solutions to create comprehensive, person-centred, interoperable systems. Aimed at health programme managers and their digital transformation teams, this digital transformation handbook outlines essential steps that include requirements gathering, workflow mapping, creating data dictionaries, and documenting decision-support logic. It emphasizes the importance of involving health workers, as end-users of these digital systems, in the development process.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Back to top](#)

Health Futures

[Beyond tomorrow: Health megatrends anticipated to impact NSW and the healthcare workforce to 2040](#)

“The NSW health system stands at the threshold of a profound transformation. There are several forces reshaping our world, from rapid technological advancement to shifting demographics and climate change. These shifts are converging to redefine the very nature of work, the workplace and the workforce. Beyond Tomorrow provides a comprehensive analysis of these transformative trends, detailing their influence on the health sector and workforce in NSW through to 2040. It explores the implications of these changes, aiming to provide decision makers and the workforce with a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. As you read through the report, we invite you to consider these megatrends and their possible implications in your local context.”
Source: NSW Health

[Options for a future public health system in England](#)

“Here, [the Health Foundation] summarise where the current national and regional public health system is working well and explore existing structural challenges, including system fragmentation, a perceived absence of system leadership, and a lack of political independence and cross-government coordination. Finally, we present potential solutions for how these challenges could be overcome.”

Source: Health Foundation (UK)

[Back to top](#)

Health of Older People

[The InterGen Project: Community based approaches to Intergenerational Social Connection](#)

“The InterGen Project was one of the first trials of a community-based model to develop and foster intergenerational social connection between older adults and teens in the eastern metropolitan region of Victoria. This action research project considered three elements in the healthy social connection model: People, places and activities. Working with councils and utilising a co-design approach, the research explored how communities could facilitate healthy social connection between teens and older adults by managing these three elements.” *Source: VicHealth*

[Is care affordable for older people?](#)

“With population ageing, the demand for helping older people with daily activities – so-called 'long-term care' – is set to increase across OECD countries by more than one-third by 2050. This report suggests avenues to improve funding to make long-term care systems better able to meet the demand for their services, and suggests policy options to improve the targeting of benefits and seek efficiency gains to contain the costs of long-term care.” *Source: OECD*

[Exploring how transitional aged care supports older people leaving hospital](#)

“Older Australians are more likely to be admitted to hospital than younger Australians, and leaving hospital can be a particularly vulnerable time. The national Transition Care Programme (transition care) provides funding for short-term specialised support to help older people to regain their functional independence after a hospital stay. This In-focus report provides a snapshot of 20,500 people using transition care within a 1-year period. It explores who uses transition care, how it is used, and how the program fits into the broader aged care system.” *Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare*

[Back to top](#)

Pharmaceuticals

[2024 Horizon scanning forum: medicines of tomorrow](#)

“This report summarises the second annual Horizon Scanning Forum, hosted by Medicines Australia. It explores four key therapeutic areas – novel vaccines for infectious diseases, novel antimicrobials, cell and gene therapies, and digital health – where innovation is rapidly outpacing Australia's regulatory and reimbursement systems.” *Source: Medicines Australia*

[Regulatory Processes for Rare Disease Drugs in the United States and European Union: Flexibilities and Collaborative Opportunities](#)

“Rare diseases, such as sickle cell disease and thalassemia, affect up to 30 million people in the United States and at least 300 million across the globe. Congress called on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to sponsor a National Academies study on processes for evaluating the safety and efficacy of drugs for rare diseases or conditions in the United States and the European Union. The resulting report provides recommendations for enhancing and promoting rare disease drug development by improving engagement with people affected by a rare disease, advancing regulatory science, and fostering collaboration between FDA and the European Medicines Agency.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

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