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.

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Equity

Social and emotional wellbeing: a review
"The report introduces the social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB) model and provides an overview of its key features, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander selfhood, SEWB domains, determinants of health, and expressions and experiences of SEWB. It presents the challenges in effective implementation and provides recommended best practice approaches." *Source: Lowitja Institute*

[Blueprint to Close the Women's Health Gap: How to Improve Lives and Economies for All](#)
"The World Economic Forum, in collaboration with the McKinsey Health Institute, presents a distinctive report that underscores the economic and societal potential of closing the women's health gap and tracks the progress towards doing so using novel metrics and insights. Focused on nine key conditions – breast cancer, cervical cancer, menopause, endometriosis, premenstrual syndrome, post-partum haemorrhage, maternal hypertensive disorder, migraine and ischaemic heart disease – that drive a third of the women's health gap, the report outlines actionable solutions to address disparities in treatment, care delivery, data and funding. Closing this gap could add almost 27 million disability-adjusted life years annually (equating to 2.5 additional healthy days per woman) and $400 billion to global GDP by 2040, and improve the quality of life for women worldwide." *Source: World Economic Forum*

[A global health strategy for 2025-2028: advancing equity and resilience in a turbulent world: fourteenth General Programme of Work](#)
"A bold agenda to advance health equity and build resilience in a turbulent world. This new strategy for global health, WHO's Fourteenth General Programme of Work, 2025–2028 (GPW 14), sets a bold agenda to get the world back on track to achieve the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while advancing health equity and building health systems resilience in our increasingly turbulent world. Anchored in WHO's mission to promote, provide and protect health and well-being for all, and WHO's constitutional commitment to gender equality, universality and human rights, the new strategy has six strategic objectives that respond to the major health challenges and crises of our time: tackling health risks associated with our rapidly changing climate; preventing disease through joint action on the determinants of health; advancing primary health care (PHC) and essential health system capacities in order to accelerate efforts to achieve common goals and progress towards universal health coverage (UHC); improving health service coverage and financial protection; and strengthening prevention of, preparedness for and response to health emergencies." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Health Systems, Costs, & Transformation

[Social capital 2025: reinforcing the bedrock of the nation's health](#)
"This report examines the evidence that social capital has profound consequences for a nation's health, from building resilience and emotional health to preventing the decline into physical health problems. It makes the case that government should increase activities that strengthen social capital and networks to support people to live healthier lives." *Source: Demos*

[Health Systems in Action: United Kingdom: 2024 edition](#)
"The Health Systems in Action Insights series supports Member States in the WHO European Region that are not in the European Union.
The Insights for each country are intended to:
• provide core information and data on health systems succinctly and accessibly;
• outline the country health system context in which WHO Europe's Programme of Work is set;
• flag key concerns, progress and challenges; and
• build a baseline for comparisons, so that Member States can see how their health systems develop over time and in relation to other countries." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Does Healthcare Deliver? Results from the Patient-Reported Indicator Surveys (PaRIS)](#)
"For far too long, we have lacked meaningful insights into people's experiences of healthcare and their health outcomes. The Patient-Reported Indicator Surveys (PaRIS) is a groundbreaking OECD

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initiative that captures health outcomes and experiences from over 107 000 patients aged 45 years and older across more than 1 800 primary care practices in 19 countries. Traditionally, health system performance indicators have focused on inputs and processes as well as clinical indicators rather than on how healthcare delivers care from patients' perspectives and how it influences their lives. PaRIS fills this gap. It offers a unique set of indicators revealing how people with chronic conditions experience healthcare and how it affects their lives. By highlighting what matters most to patients, PaRIS provides valuable insights into how healthcare models perform in delivering meaningful and people-centred care and what can be done to improve outcomes and experiences of care for people with chronic conditions." *Source: OECD*

Our insights into five health regulatory authorities
"There are 18 authorities in New Zealand responsible for registering health practitioners and certifying that those practitioners remain competent to practise. They also carry out other functions, such as setting clinical and cultural competence standards for practitioners and managing complaints about their conduct and competence. Together, health regulatory authorities (responsible authorities) oversee a workforce of about 140,000 registered practitioners. This report focuses on five of the larger responsible authorities." *Source: Office of the Auditor General (New Zealand)*

Inclusion of private family physicians in mixed health systems
"Primary care is foundational to health service delivery and a primary health care (PHC) approach. It is the core of the service-fronting component of PHC and refers to essential health and social services that meet most of people's health needs, delivered close to home." *Source: World Health Organization*

Shaping the vision: strategic hospital transformation within WHO European Region health system
"This document highlights the imperative for hospitals to evolve in response to demographic shifts, technological progress and changing public expectations. This vision for future hospitals stresses the importance of patient-centered care and advocates for a greater integration with primary health care, long-term care, and various health service providers to enhance health outcomes for communities. It highlights the need for hospitals to leverage digital solutions to improve health management, adopt environmentally sustainable practices, and build resilience against external shocks, such as pandemics and climate change. The document also outlines the critical role of quality leadership and governance in driving these changes, emphasizing that effective management is key to realizing the vision. Strategic priorities include improving care coordination, harnessing digital technologies for health management and ensuring that hospitals contribute positively to both the health and economic well-being of the communities they serve. Furthermore, the vision calls for transforming hospitals into desirable workplaces to help mitigate the global health workforce crisis, and for constructing facilities that are environmentally sustainable. This vision serves as a guide for policy-makers, health authorities and hospital administrators within the WHO European Region, offering strategic direction for the transformation of the hospital sector towards a more integrated, efficient and patient-focused health-care system." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Mental Health & Wellbeing

National suicide prevention strategy 2025–2035
"Drawing on the latest research, evidence and insights from people with lived and living experience of suicide, the strategy outlines a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention. It aims to unify the efforts of governments, communities and service providers to improve suicide prevention outcomes." *Source: National Mental Health Commission (Australia)*

[National Roadmap to Improve the Health and Mental Health of Autistic People 2025–2035](#)
"The National Roadmap to Improve the Health and Mental Health of Autistic People 2025–2035 (the Autism Health Roadmap) affirms that Autistic people, their families and carers deserve access to high-quality health and mental health care to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. The Autism Health Roadmap sets out concrete steps that recognise what will make the Australian health and mental health care better for Autistic people. The Autism Health Roadmap sets out six focus areas with specific outcomes and actions. The actions aim to make Australia a country where Autistic people are able to be better understood by health professionals and more comfortable in health care settings." *Source: Department of Health and Aged Care (Australia)*

[Principles for using digital technologies in mental health inpatient treatment and care](#)
"The principles for digital technologies help clinicians consider whether use of a digital technology is the most appropriate, effective and least restrictive method of caring for or treating a patient in inpatient mental health settings. They are founded upon a human-rights approach and have been created in view of the coproduced Culture of Care standards for mental health inpatient services, which describe 12 core commitments to improve the culture of care on inpatient wards. The 8 principles guide decision-making on procurement, implementation and use of digital technologies in mental health inpatient settings. They also offer practical recommendations on areas including data protection, policy, staff training and recording in patient care and treatment plans." *Source: NHS England*

[Strengthening mental health in the WHO European Region in 2024: a year in review](#)
"The year 2024 saw the Mental Health Flagship, under the Division of Country Health Policies and Systems at the WHO Regional Office for Europe, make inroads in more sustainable and accessible mental health systems through four key areas: policy, services, data collection and stigma reduction. It marked the third year of the pan-European Mental Health Coalition and second year of the Addressing mental health challenges in the European Union (EU), Iceland and Norway project, funded by the European Union. Through these initiatives, the Flagship cemented important partnerships and built country capacity in implementing evidence-based policy, protecting the human rights of people with lived experience of mental health conditions, and supporting the mental health of health and care workers. This report provides a snapshot of the Flagship's activities for 2024." *Source: World Health Organization*

Research, Technology, & Innovation

[Virtual care project: final report](#)
"This report explores practical recommendations to inform the improved integration of virtual care into the broader Australian health system. It outlines the current challenges in capturing virtual care activity and cost data, and provides a roadmap for future action, identifying five key recommendations." *Source: Nous Group*

[Navigating genomics and education: insights, opportunities and challenges](#)
"This scoping report is the first publication from a joint project between the Nuffield Foundation and the Nuffield Council on Bioethics. It outlines key findings and emerging directions in educational genomic research, and what is understood about the processes linking genetic differences to variation in phenotypes (measurable characteristics) related to education. This report examines how these findings are shaping the direction of further research and how close they are to being applied in real-world contexts, highlighting the scientific and practical challenges, and touching on some of

the ethical issues that arise. This report therefore provides a foundation for further exploration of the ethical and policy implications of applying genomic insights to education, as well as the research gaps identified." *Source: Nuffield Council on Bioethics*

[Blueprint for Intelligent Economies – AI Competitiveness through Regional Collaboration](#)
"Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly acknowledged as a transformative enabler, fundamentally changing industries, economies and societies worldwide. However, various unique challenges in the AI maturity journey are preventing nations from fully leveraging its benefits. Securing the substantial investment required to advance AI innovation and address significant gaps in digital infrastructure is further intensifying the existing digital divide. Building resilient national AI ecosystems and promoting widespread adoption requires multistakeholder action and political will. The AI Governance Alliance launched the Inclusive AI for Growth and Development Initiative to promote the development and implementation of holistic and tailored approaches to advancing safe and inclusive innovation, deployment and adoption of AI by all. This white paper provides guidance for nations to achieve a successful AI revolution, irrespective of their level of digital and AI maturity.*" Source: World Economic Forum*

[Better Together: Building a Global Health Network Economy through Data Collaboration](#)
"This white paper presents a vision for a global health data network economy, offering a transformative approach to address healthcare challenges through collaboration and innovation. It explores the critical enablers for health data collaboration and the success stories and strategies needed to create impactful, scalable solutions in healthcare." *Source: World Economic Forum*

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Health of Older People

[Transforming aged care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)
"The aged care system has failed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, according to this report, which calls for critical and urgent reform. It finds many aged care services are culturally unsafe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, in particular Stolen Generations survivors and concludes an equity-based approach is needed to achieve equal access and outcomes." *Source: Department of Health and Aged Care (Australia)*

[Public expenditure in the last year of life](#)
"Supporting people at the end of life is a crucially important element of public spending, yet there is remarkably little evidence available on how much money is being spent on it, and what that money goes on. The Nuffield Trust and the Health Economics Unit were commissioned by Marie Curie to estimate the range of public expenditure that supports the care of people in their last year, to help inform national and local funding decisions to improve services for people at the end of life." *Source: Nuffield Trust*

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Workforce

[Te Awa Tārai – A career development guide for Allied Health - Hauora Haumi.](#)
"Te Awa Tārai acts as a guide through which individual professionals, educators, industries and organisations can recognise, value and invest in necessary skills for current and emerging hauora haumi – allied health career opportunities. This purposefully includes acknowledgement of cultural intelligence and expertise, lived experiences and mātauranga Māori, to safeguard the delivery of

equitable, effective, safe and sustainable health services in Aotearoa. This guidance document describes six broad development streams and identifies progressive development stages – riverbanks – for each stream. It accommodates the numerous existing career pathways available allied health professionals while allowing for emerging careers and pathways to be developed."
Source: Ministry of Health (New Zealand)

In the balance: Lessons for changing the mix of professions in NHS services
"The NHS workforce has gone through shifts and rebalances of roles since the service began, driven by changing needs as much as financial constraints and staff shortages. In recent years there has been a rebalancing through expanding roles like nursing associates, advanced practitioners, physician associates and clinical pharmacists, and further growth of these roles is planned. This report, commissioned by NHS Employers, reviews the evidence around introducing these new roles and offers a set of lessons for how emerging roles could be better implemented and integrated."
Source: Nuffield Trust

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Cancer

EU Country Cancer Profiles Synthesis Report 2025
"This synthesis report highlights key messages from the 2025 EU Country Cancer Profiles. The 29 profiles identify strengths, challenges and specific areas of action for each of the 27 EU Member States, Iceland and Norway, to guide investment and interventions at the EU, national and regional levels under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan. Each Country Cancer Profile provides a short synthesis of the cancer burden in the country; modifiable risk factors for cancer; early detection programmes; and cancer care performance, focusing on accessibility, care quality, costs and quality of life. The 2025 edition of the synthesis report consists of two parts. Part 1 presents: a selection of overarching observations based on the analysis of the 2025 Country Cancer Profiles. Part 2 presents: performance indicators for each country across several domains within cancer, from cancer prevention, early detection, cancer care capacity to cancer care outcomes." *Source: OECD*

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Public Health

National FASD program: social return on investment
"The Every Moment Matters advocacy campaign aims to support alcohol-free pregnancies and safe breastfeeding practices across Australia. This report quantifies the social, economic, and health outcomes achieved through the campaign. The findings reveal that every dollar invested in the campaign yields substantial benefits delivering an economic return of $9." *Source: Impact Economics and Policy*

Prolonged Symptoms Attributable to Infection with COVID-19
"Fatigue, poor concentration/memory, shortness of breath and loss of taste or smell are the most prevalent symptoms following COVID-19 infection in adults when compared with non-COVID-19 infected controls (either population controls or those with infective symptoms but testing negative for COVID-19). Children and adolescents present with similar symptoms to adults, but may also include cough and headache. While a precise measurement of symptom prevalence remains a challenge, the knowledge that a narrower subset of symptoms can be confidently attributed to infection with COVID-19 has important implications. In the absence of definitive diagnostic criteria, this subset can inform a refined, iterative definition of long COVID-19, both internationally and in

New Zealand. The finding that four symptoms appear to be attributable to infection with COVID-19 will enable focused attention on these symptoms. This will facilitate accurate surveillance and targeted resourcing for clinical and wellbeing support where it is most needed." *Source: Ministry of Health*

Global research agenda for antimicrobial resistance in human health
"Designed to guide policymakers, researchers, funders and other stakeholders, the agenda aims to catalyse research and investment aligned with the identified priorities. It emphasizes the need to translate research priorities into actionable, implementable studies to ultimately inform Antimicrobial resistance policies and interventions—especially in resource-limited settings." *Source: World Health Organization*

Alcohol health warning labels: a public health perspective for Europe
"In the European Union the per capita alcohol consumption among adults (15+ years) in 2019 was twice the world average, with one in 19 adults dying from alcohol-attributable causes, and three out of every 10 alcohol-attributable deaths due to cancers. WHO endorses alcohol labelling as a policy option to reduce alcohol-related harm. This can involve providing information on packaging about alcohol content, ingredients, nutritional information and health warnings. This report situates health warning labels within the broader context of alcohol policy, highlighting their roles in raising risk awareness, increasing support for other alcohol policies, and decreasing product appeal. The impact of these warnings will, however, depend on their content and design. The research summarised in this report shows that awareness of the link between alcohol and cancer among Europeans needs to be improved and that it could be significantly enhanced by use of a health warning giving information about alcohol as a cause of breast and colon cancer. Compared to other topics, cancer-specific warnings are more relevant and likely to prompt discussions about alcohol risks and encourage reconsideration of alcohol consumption. The report also addresses digital information provision, concluding that it cannot replace on-label information without losing message reach." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Environment and Health

Climate change and health: embedding ethics into policy and decision making
"This report explores the importance of integrating ethics into measures that address anthropogenic climate change. It aims to inform policy development and decision-making in the UK, highlighting the need to address the intersections between climate change and health." *Source: Nuffield Council on Bioethics*

Children face unique vulnerabilities to environmental hazards at every stage of life
"Children today face a new set of challenges that were unimaginable just a generation ago. Across the world, climate change and environmental degradation are threatening child survival, health and well-being. Given children's unique metabolism, physiology and developmental needs, no group is more vulnerable to environmental harm. Exposure can impact children early and have a lifelong effect. This brief examines the growing body of research on the unique vulnerabilities of children: in utero and at birth, during infancy and childhood and throughout adolescence. Its purpose is to enable evidence-based advocacy and action on children's environmental health." *Source: United Nations Children's Fund*

Global Water Monitor 2024 Summary Report

"The Global Water Monitor 2024 Summary Report provides a comprehensive assessment of global water resources and their variability throughout the year. This third annual report documents significant hydrological trends, extreme events, and the impacts of climate change on water systems. It integrates satellite and ground-based data to analyse key metrics, including precipitation, river flows, soil moisture, and vegetation conditions. The findings underscore intensifying water challenges such as record-breaking heat, extreme rainfall, prolonged droughts, and declining water storage. Major hydrological disasters in 2024 caused significant human, economic, and ecological impacts, highlighting the urgent need for sustainable water management. The report also offers a global outlook for 2025, with potential risks of droughts and floods in key regions. By providing timely and open access to data through the Global Water Monitor platform, the report aims to support informed decision-making to mitigate risks and enhance resilience." *Source: Global Water Monitor*

Healthcare in a Changing Climate: Investing in Resilient Solutions
"Climate change will have a profound impact on people and economies – causing an estimated additional 14.5 million deaths and $12.5 trillion in economic costs between today and 2050. However, through investments in enhanced prevention, improved diagnostics and novel treatments, 6.5 million lives could be saved, economic losses reduced by $5.8 trillion and 1 billion fewer disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) accrued. The report analyses preventable human and economic impacts of climate change across 11 diseases and conditions: malaria, dengue fever, cholera, generalized anxiety disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, stunting, hypertension, ischemic heart disease, fatalities and injuries, heat-related diseases and asthma." *Source: World Economic Forum*

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