



Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 60, 2018, August

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@moh.govt.nz to subscribe.

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

[Cancer](#)

[Health Research & Technology](#)

[Health of Older People](#)

[Child, Youth, & Family Health](#)

[Public Health](#)

[Workforce](#)

[Ethical Issues](#)

[Equity](#)

[Mental Health & Addiction](#)

[Nutrition](#)

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

[Disability & Social Care](#)

Cancer

[Long-Term Survivorship Care After Cancer Treatment: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

"To examine progress in cancer survivorship care since the Lost in Transition report, the National Cancer Policy Forum of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a workshop in July 2017, in Washington, DC. Workshop participants highlighted potential opportunities to improve the planning, management, and delivery of

cancer survivorship care. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Quality of Life in Long-term Cancer Survivors: Implications for Future Health Technology Assessments in Oncology](#)

“In recent critiques of economic models in this area by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), the idea that long-term cancer survivors (LTCS) who have received such treatments could report quality of life (QoL) scores which are similar to, or higher than, those of equivalent general population samples has not been viewed as credible. This literature review examines whether there is evidence to support the assumption that the QoL of LTCS can be similar to that of age-/sex-matched population samples.” *Source: Office of Health Economics (UK)*

[Advancing care, advancing years: improving cancer treatment and care for an ageing population](#)

“This report presents research commissioned by Cancer Research UK (CRUK) and conducted by the University of Birmingham’s Health Services Management Centre and ICF International, which sought to understand the specific needs of older patients, and to explore the process of clinical decision-making for older people with cancer across the UK.” *Source: Cancer Research UK*

[Establishing Effective Patient Navigation Programs in Oncology: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“Delivering high-quality cancer care to all patients presents numerous challenges, including difficulties with care coordination and access. Patient navigation is a community-based service delivery intervention designed to promote access to timely diagnosis and treatment of cancer and other chronic diseases by eliminating barriers to care, and has often been proposed and implemented to address these challenges. However, unresolved questions include where patient navigation programs should be deployed, and which patients should be prioritized to receive navigation services when resources are limited.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Non-alcoholic drinks: Water, tea, coffee, mate and the risk of cancer](#)

“[The World Cancer Research Fund] analyse global research on how consuming non-alcoholic drinks such as arsenic-contaminated water, tea, coffee and mate affects the risk of developing cancer.” *Source: World Cancer Research Fund*

[Back to top](#)

Health of Older People

[A Global and National Perspective on Dementia](#)

“As Wales enters a new phase in tackling dementia this paper outlines examples of innovative work in Wales, the UK and internationally set in the context of the WHO Global Plan of Action on the Public Health Response to Dementia 2017- 2025.” *Source: National Assembly for Wales*

[The 100-year life: the role of housing, planning and design](#)

“The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), Design Council and the Centre for Ageing Better brought together a range of partners across policy, housing and ageing for a day-long workshop to consider some of the biggest challenges that affect housing – and therefore people’s health and wellbeing in later life – and to unlock new ideas and insight.” *Source: Social Care Institute for Excellence*

[Homes that help: a personal and professional perspective on home adaptations](#)

“This report summarises the findings of a primary research project exploring the lived experiences of individuals who use home adaptations, and practitioners who work alongside them.” *Source: Centre for Aging Better*

[Muscle and bone strengthening and balance activities for general health benefits in adults and older adults](#)

“This report summarises a rapid evidence review of muscle and bone strengthening and balance activities (MBSBA) for general health benefits in adults and older adults by a working group advised by a UK Chief Medical Officers’ (CMOs) Expert Committee for muscle strength, bone health and balance. It makes suggestions for actions to implement the findings for the public, practitioners and policy makers.” *Source: Public Health England*

[Beyond barriers: how older people move between health and care in England](#)

“Many older people have complex and long-term care needs that need more than one professional and more than one service. Their experience depends on how well services work together with and for them, their families and carers.” *Source: Care Quality Commission (UK)*

[Good conversations with people with dementia: a key to improvement](#)

“This research analyses the detail about how interactions work, and what that means for practitioners and people with dementia.” *Source: University of Bristol*

[Back to top](#)

Public Health

[Hiding in plain sight: Treating tobacco dependency in the NHS](#)

“Hiding in plain sight: Treating tobacco dependency in the NHS addresses the harms and costs arising from smoking in the patients [doctors] see every day, and argues for a new approach to treating their addiction. [The authors] argue that responsibility for treating smokers lies with the clinician who sees them, and that our NHS should be delivering default, opt-out, systematic interventions for all smokers at the point of service contact.” *Source: Royal College of Physicians (UK)*

[Tobacco reforms literature review: final report](#)

“Deakin Health Economics (DHE) was commissioned by the Minderoo Foundation in early March 2018 to conduct systematic reviews on existing and potential impact of raising the legal age for smoking from 18 to 21 (Tobacco 21), product flavouring, and e-cigarettes on youth smoking rates. This document provides a summary of the full report together with appendices.” *Source: Deakin Health Economics (Australia)*

[**A guide to evaluating interventions related to violence against women**](#)

“[This guide] is designed to help them evaluate interventions related to violence against women (VAW), so they can use the findings to improve services, secure funding and acknowledge the quality of work delivered by practitioners.” *Source: Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety*

[**An economic analysis of flu vaccination**](#)

“This report's critical contribution is to outline findings from a new economic model of the costs and benefits from flu vaccination in England using actual recent efficacy data.” *Source: The International Longevity Centre – UK*

[**Public health approaches to reducing family violence**](#)

“Although there are different ways to reduce violent behaviour, a public health approach is being increasingly discussed, using an evidence-led methodology to reduce and prevent violence in communities.” *Source: Local Government Association (UK)*

[**Making THE \(transport, health and environment\) link**](#)

“Transport plays an essential role in our societies and economies. It provides access to jobs, education, services, amenities and leisure, while contributing to economic growth, jobs and trade. At the same time, it has an impact on the environment and human health. Healthy and sustainable transport policies can make a major contribution to the attainment of many of the Sustainable Development Goals and fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” *Source: WHO*

[Back to top](#)

Ethical Issues

[**Science of mitochondrial donation and related matters**](#)

“This report looks at the science of mitochondrial donation, the safety and efficacy on the technique as well as the ethical considerations of such technology, and evaluates whether the Australian Government should consider making mitochondrial donation available within Australia, and if so, under what kind of regulatory regime.” *Source: Parliament of Australia*

[**Physician-Assisted Death: Scanning the Landscape: Proceedings of a Workshop**](#)

“To discuss what is known and not known empirically about the practice of physician-assisted death, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a 2-day workshop in Washington, DC, on February 12–13, 2018. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Mental Health & Addiction

[**Trauma-informed care literature scan**](#)

“A broad scan of the literature about trauma-informed care was undertaken to better understand evidence-based approaches to trauma-informed service delivery and workforce responsiveness, and factors supporting implementation. This report describes why using a

trauma-informed approach is important, what it involves, and how organisations can implement it.” *Source: Te Pou*

[Report on Student Mental Health in Aotearoa](#)

“Kei Te Pai? provides an overview of the state of tertiary students’ mental health in New Zealand. It scratches beneath the surface on the trials and tribulations of student life, a memorable yet stressful time in many peoples’ lives.” *Source: New Zealand Union of Students’ Associations*

[The New Zealand addictions workforce: Characteristics & wellbeing](#)

“In June 2017, the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA) was commissioned by Network of Alcohol and Other Drugs Agencies (NADA) and Matua Raki to conduct a comprehensive survey of the alcohol and other drugs (AOD) / addictions workforces in New South Wales (NSW) and New Zealand (NZ). This report presents the results from the NZ survey.” *Source: National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction*

[Evidence-scoping review – service transitions for mental health and addiction](#)

“This is a summary of evidence of factors that affect service transitions for those using mental health or addiction services.” *Source: Health Quality & Safety Commission*

[Reducing and eliminating seclusion in mental health inpatient services](#)

“This evidence review was prepared by Te Pou o te Whakaaro Nui (Te Pou) for the Health Quality & Safety Commission. The purpose is to provide information about reducing the use of restrictive practice for the mental health and addiction quality improvement programme.” *Source: Health Quality & Safety Commission*

[Key Findings from RAND Health's Research on Opioid Policy](#)

“Opioid dependence increases the risk of multiple harms, including health problems, car accidents, and overdoses (both fatal and nonfatal). This policy brief highlights key findings from RAND research on opioid-related issues across a spectrum of policy areas including prevention, treatment, quality of care, and supply.” *Source: Rand Corporation*

[No health without mental health: How can pharmacy support people with mental health problems?](#)

“This report makes a number of recommendations where pharmacists should be better utilised as part of the multidisciplinary team to support people with mental health problems.” *Source: Royal Pharmaceutical Society (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[Delivering quality health services: A global imperative for universal health coverage](#)

“As the countries commit to achieving universal health coverage, there is an imperative to deliberate focus on quality of health services. This involves providing effective, safe and people-centred services that are timely, equitable, integrated and efficient. For the first time ever, WHO, OECD and the World Bank joined efforts to produce a document - Delivering

quality health services: A global imperative for universal health coverage – that describes the essential role of quality.” *Source: WHO*

IHI Innovation System

“IHI has focused its innovation efforts on health care delivery: identifying evidence-based better practices for care delivery and developing methods to systematically implement these practices at scale everywhere they are needed. By creating its own innovation system, IHI has not only developed dozens of ideas that are in practice around the world, but also learned how to create and manage an innovation function within an improvement organization.” *Source: Institute for Healthcare Improvement*

Human-Centered Design and Performance Improvement: Better Together

“Performance improvement (PI) has contributed to health care quality and safety gains over the past two decades. Health care organizations pursue excellence by systematically identifying improvement opportunities and implementing initiatives to eliminate defects and enhance existing care processes and pathways. The concepts, principles, tools, and techniques of improvement methodologies have demonstrated value in a wide range of industries, including health care.” *Source: NEJM Catalyst*

Consumer Perspectives on Patient Experience 2018

“Healthcare professionals have taken major steps to understand, measure, and improve the Patient & Family Experience. But do consumers really care about this? How do they see and define a positive patient/family experience? What matters most to them when they think about their own health and using healthcare resources? The full research report from the inaugural study, Consumer Perspectives on Patient Experience 2018 is now available. The first of its kind global research, the study engaged 2,000 respondents across four continents. It shares the perspectives of consumers of healthcare on the patient experience, its importance, the critical factors that impact its success and how it will influence individual choices in healthcare.” *Source: Beryl Institute*

[Back to top](#)

Health Research & Technology

Improving Health Research on Small Populations: Proceedings of a Workshop

“In order to address the issues associated with improving health research of small populations, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a workshop in January 2018. Participants considered ways of addressing the challenges of conducting epidemiological studies or intervention research with small population groups, including alternative study designs, innovative methodologies for data collection, and innovative statistical techniques for analysis.” *Source: National Academies Press*

The Behavioural Insights Unit report: 2018

“The trial results presented in this report demonstrate the fantastic outcomes of innovative thinking and high-level collaboration to deliver real answers to challenging social problems. Each trial provides valuable insights and learnings in its own right, and these results will be directly applied to make meaningful differences in the lives of people in NSW. *Source: Department of Premier and Cabinet (Australia)*

[Going digital to deliver a healthier Australia](#)

“Digital health technology has the potential to transform the way we deliver and receive health and social care. Advances in digital technology provide a tangible opportunity to improve health care quality, consumer outcomes and experience. Developments such as secure data exchange, interoperability of systems, telehealth services, and the use of mobile health technologies including apps and wearables are being implemented on a large scale.”

Source: Consumers Health Forum of Australia

[Improving care for people with MS: the potential of data and technology](#)

“An MS Society-commissioned report mapping out what technology is already available for people with MS, what more could be done with what is available and how data and technology could be better exploited in future to improve MS health care.” *Source: Nuffield Trust (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Child, Youth, & Family Health

[Families and Whānau Status Report 2018](#)

“This is the sixth in a series of reports by Superu in its mandate to report annually about family and whānau in New Zealand.” *Source: Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit*

[Diagnosis in child mental health: Exploring the benefits, risks and alternatives](#)

“Service providers seldom have time to explore the debates, complexities and nuances surrounding the diagnosis of child mental health conditions. This paper is designed to encourage practitioners in the child and family welfare sector to examine their own understanding of diagnostic systems, and to critically reflect on the role that diagnosis plays in their work with children and families.” *Source: Child Family Community Australia*

[A Trauma-informed Health and Care Approach for responding to Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation - Current knowledge report](#)

“The primary aim of this Project was to produce an evidence base on an effective and efficient, non-clinical trauma-informed delivery of recovery services for young people who have experienced sexual abuse and exploitation.” *Source: Chanon Consulting (UK)*

[Place-based collective impact: an Australian response to childhood vulnerability](#)

“The early years provide a critical foundation for lifelong health, development and wellbeing, yet currently more than one in five Australian children begin school developmentally vulnerable. In some communities this extends to one in two – or every second child – placing them at greater risk of poorer social, emotional and economic wellbeing throughout their lives. This Policy Brief outlines a different approach for addressing the complex nature of childhood vulnerability in communities experiencing high levels of disadvantage – a place-based collective impact approach.” *Source: Centre for Community Child Health*

[Health and wellbeing of under-five year olds in the Northern region 2017](#)

“In this report the New Zealand Child and Youth Epidemiology Service (NZCYES) provides data and information to contribute to the effective planning and funding of services to

improve, promote and protect the health and wellbeing of New Zealand children in their earliest years.” *Source: New Zealand Child and Youth Epidemiology Service*

[Antisocial behaviour during the teenage years: understanding developmental risks](#)

“Individuals are far more likely to engage in antisocial behaviour during adolescence than any other period of their life. This paper presents selected results from two studies which used secondary data analysis to provide a theoretically informed picture of youths’ decision-making process in relation to delinquency.” *Source: Australian Institute of Criminology*

[Back to top](#)

Workforce

[The toolkit for a sustainable health workforce in the WHO European Region](#)

“The toolkit is aimed at policy-makers, human resources for health (HRH) planners and professionals, and other stakeholders, such as education institutions and those implementing policy... It is framed around four strategic domains mirroring the themes of the global strategy – education and performance, planning and investment, capacity-building, and analysis and monitoring – and proposes policy options and implementation modalities.”

Source: WHO

[Double or quits: calculating how many more medical students we need](#)

“This policy brief by RCP registrar and president-elect Dr Andrew Goddard outlines new calculations for the number of doctors needed, and sets out key issues facing workforce planning in the UK that affect the current supply, future service demand and predicted losses in the workforce.” *Source: Royal College of Physicians (UK)*

[Every nurse an e-nurse: insights for a consultation on the digital future of nursing](#)

“At the RCN Congress in 2016, it was agreed that the organisation should lobby for every nurse to be an e-nurse, able to use data, information, knowledge and technology to maximum effect for patients, carers and service users. These are no longer specialist issues but affect the whole nursing profession, who need to be supported to practise in new and modern ways.” *Source: Royal College of Nurses (UK)*

[Moving Forward - Physiotherapy for Musculoskeletal Health and Wellbeing](#)

“This review highlights evidence from the NIHR and others on why research in this area matters, assessment and matching patients to treatment, restoring musculoskeletal health and maintaining musculoskeletal wellbeing.” *Source: National Institute for Health Research (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Equity

[Early Childhood Is Critical to Health Equity](#)

“The first few years of life are crucial in establishing a child’s path toward—or away from—health and well-being across the entire lifespan. This report, produced in partnership with the University of California, San Francisco, examines some of the barriers to health equity that

begin early in life, and promising strategies for overcoming them.” *Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

[Stop Smoking Inequalities: A systematic review of socioeconomic inequalities in experiences of smoking cessation interventions in the UK](#)

“The UK had the highest rates of smoking in the world in the post-war period, but the gradual introduction of effective tobacco control measures has resulted in encouraging declines. Today smoking rates in the UK are the second lowest in Europe and the UK is recognised as a global leader in tobacco control. However, this success masks considerable inequalities.” *Source: Cancer Research UK*

[Permanent Supportive Housing: Evaluating the Evidence for Improving Health Outcomes Among People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness](#)

“Although a number of programs have been developed to meet the needs of persons experiencing homelessness, this report focuses on one particular type of intervention: permanent supportive housing (PSH). Permanent Supportive Housing focuses on the impact of PSH on health care outcomes and its cost-effectiveness. The report also addresses policy and program barriers that affect the ability to bring the PSH and other housing models to scale to address housing and health care needs.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Building the Case for Health Literacy: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“To understand the extent to which health literacy has been shown to be effective at contributing to the Quadruple Aim of improving the health of communities, providing better care, providing affordable care, and improving the experience of the health care team, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a public workshop on building the case for health literacy.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Nutrition

[How healthy are New Zealand food environments? A comprehensive assessment 2014-2017](#)

“A major cause of New Zealand’s very high rates of obesity has been mapped in a world-first study from the University of Auckland providing a full picture of the healthiness of New Zealand food environments. The study was funded by the Health Research Council and the Heart Foundation of NZ.” *Source: Informas*

[2018 Health Star Rating \(HSR\) monitoring and evaluation: Report](#)

“HPA commissioned Colmar Brunton to conduct a baseline survey on the HSR in 2015, with two follow-up waves in 2016 and 2018. All three waves monitored awareness, recognition, understanding and correct use of the HSR. The 2016 and 2018 survey waves also measured awareness, perceptions and possible impacts of the HSR campaign. This report presents findings from all three survey waves. Comparisons are made between the 2018 survey and the earlier ones, to help evaluate the impact of the HSR system and the campaign over time.” *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[Hospital vending machines: helping people make healthier choices](#)

“Findings from research into how changes to vending machine product availability and positioning across Leeds Teaching Hospital altered purchasing choices.” *Source: Public Health England*

[Nutrigenomics and the Future of Nutrition: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“On December 5, 2017, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine hosted a public workshop titled Nutrigenomics and the Future of Nutrition in Washington, DC, to review current knowledge in the field of nutrigenomics as it relates to nutrition. Workshop participants explored the influence of genetic and epigenetic expression on nutritional status and the potential impact of personalized nutrition on health maintenance and chronic disease prevention. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Disability & Social Care

[Words matter: personal assistants need to support decisions by people with learning disabilities](#)

“This research analyses the detail of communication between personal assistants and people with learning disabilities.” *Source: University of Bristol*

[The National Disability Insurance Scheme: a chronology](#)

“The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provides support to people with disability, their families and carers. It is jointly governed and funded by the Australian, state and territory governments. It is intended to replace the previous system of disability care and support provided under the National Disability Agreement.” *Source: Parliamentary Library (Australia)*

[Getting things changed: final report](#)

“Final report of a multi-centre programme of research which looked at the barriers and exclusion disabled people in the UK face in different areas of their lives. It highlights how social practices - the everyday things people do in their daily lives - can exclude disabled people and how they can be changed.” *Source: University of Bristol*

[Back to top](#)

The information available on or through this newsletter does not represent Ministry of Health policy. It is intended to provide general information to the health sector and the public, and is not intended to address specific circumstances of any particular individual or entity.