



Ministry of Health Library

# Grey Matter

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

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Issue 80, 2020, 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](mailto:library@moh.govt.nz) to subscribe.

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### Equity

#### [He Pikinga Waiora: making health interventions work for Māori communities](#)

“He Pikinga Waiora aimed to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes, heart disease and obesity by finding an effective way of creating, implementing and evaluating health interventions for Indigenous communities.” *Source: Healthier Lives (New Zealand)*

### [Living in poverty was bad for your health before COVID-19](#)

“This long read looks at the link between health and income. It explores the nature of the economic shocks experienced in recent years, including those stemming from COVID-19, and the consequences these might have on people’s health. It then considers how we might use the current crisis to build a fairer and healthier society.” *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

### [A spatial approach to working with marginalised communities](#)

“Ambition for Ageing have published two documents looking at a new spatial model of working with marginalised communities. The model considers the size and geographical distribution of different communities as a way of engaging them in group activities. Involving marginalised older people in group activities is key to achieving equality.” *Source: Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation (UK)*

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## **Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms**

### [How to enhance the integration of primary care and public health? Approaches, facilitating factors and policy options](#)

“There are many calls for improved integration between public health and primary care, but it is less clear how this can be achieved. This policy brief describes the types of initiatives that have been undertaken; provides examples of such initiatives in Europe and beyond; and summarizes the factors that can help to enhance or hinder the integration of primary care and public health.” *Source: European Observatory*

### [Being a Patient](#)

“So, what might a new approach to patient experience involve? There is much work still to do in order to figure this out, but the report identifies some promising avenues for exploration. [The authors] found that patients reported different experiences depending on the extent of the impact of their illness on their day-to-day lives, which challenges the traditional view that generic approaches are the way to go in capturing patient experience. The patient-doctor relationship also might merit more focus – it’s present in the literature around patient experience, but tends not to be prominent among measures used in practice, even though patients told us it made a big difference to whether their experience was good or bad.” *Source: The Patients Association (UK)*

### [The Henry Fords of healthcare: lessons the West can learn from the East](#)

How can health services in the UK and Europe be improved? And can costs be reduced at the same time? What’s needed, author Nima Sanandaji argues, is a completely new approach - one which embraces disruptive innovations from a new breed of entrepreneurs. In *The Henry Fords of Healthcare* Sanandaji outlines the lessons the West can now learn from the East.” *Source: Institute of Economic Affairs (UK)*

### [Commissioning out of hospital care services to reduce delays](#)

“The paper offers a structured approach to understanding demand, supply and impact of our out of hospital care systems through a data collection template and proposition for a ‘model’ for describing the service elements which make up ‘intermediate care services’. It looks in detail at the services that are most likely needed in order to build an effective set of

intermediate care services and the quantity of that service that may vary from place to place.” *Source: Oxford Brookes University (UK)*

### **Strategic health authorities and regions: lessons from history**

“With NHS England and NHS Improvement now a single entity, having seven regional teams to carry out work on the ground, what can be learned from previous incarnations of the NHS that relied on regional bodies? A new report by Nigel Edwards and Helen Buckingham asks the people who were there to provide some much-needed lessons from recent history to apply to the present day.” *Source: Nuffield Trust (UK)*

### **Reimagining the future of health and social care: how to learn the lessons from the Covid-19 crisis for a next generation health and care system**

“This short stimulus report outlines the fruits of work carried out in the lead up to the Covid-19 crisis alongside an ‘in-the-moment’ sense of what we have learned about the UK’s health and social care system through the Covid-19 crisis, and how this might translate to profound change within the system. Based on consultations with those in the sector, we explore three feasible scenarios for change: system stasis, pandemic NHS, and care horizon. The purpose of these scenarios is to inform the possible direction and necessary pace of change for the health and social care system going forward.” *Source: Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (UK)*

### **All together: a new future for commissioning human services in New South Wales**

“Since the late 1990s, the term ‘commissioning’ as a concept and practice has steadily gained ground. What can good commissioning look like in NSW? And what can government agencies, service providers and peak bodies do to bring this to life? These are the key questions this report seeks to answer.” *Sydney Policy Lab*

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## **Public Health**

### **Evidence-Based Practice for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response**

“When communities face complex public health emergencies, state local, tribal, and territorial public health agencies must make difficult decisions regarding how to effectively respond. The public health emergency preparedness and response (PHEPR) system, with its multifaceted mission to prevent, protect against, quickly respond to, and recover from public health emergencies, is inherently complex and encompasses policies, organizations, and programs.” *Source: National Academies Press (US)*

### **Employees who use domestic and family violence: a workplace response**

“Workplaces are a key part of our community and can play a critical role in responding to domestic and family violence through supporting those affected by domestic and family violence and supporting employees who use domestic and family violence to take responsibility for their behaviour and seek help to stop using violence and abuse. Workplaces are also a critical setting for contributing to the prevention of domestic and family violence by promoting and reinforcing cultures and values of respect and gender equality, and by building understanding and awareness of domestic and family violence and respectful relationships.” *Source: Male Champions of Change (Australia)*

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## **Health Technology & Research**

### [The Dr Will Zoom You Now: getting the most out of the virtual health and care experience](#)

“The Doctor Will Zoom You Now was a rapid, qualitative research study designed to understand the patient experience of remote and virtual consultations.” *Source: Healthwatch England (UK)*

### [A New Era of Digital Leadership](#)

“The NHS response to COVID-19 has accelerated digital transformation everywhere, underlining the importance of every trust having a strong understanding of the topic. This guide is designed to help boards build on this momentum.” *Source: NHS Providers (UK)*

### [The effectiveness of Virtual Hospital models of care](#)

“This Rapid Evidence Scan examined the effectiveness of virtual hospital models of care. While no reviews evaluated a complete model, tele-healthcare only and tele-healthcare with remote telemonitoring interventions demonstrated similar or significantly better clinical or health system outcomes including reduced hospitalisations, readmissions, emergency department visits and length of stay, compared to usual care, including those delivered without home visits or face-to-face care.” *Source: Sax Institute (Australia)*

### [Virtual care: Recommendations for scaling up virtual medical services](#)

“This report from the Virtual Care Task Force, a joint project between the CMA, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the College of Family Physicians of Canada, outlines 19 recommendations to enable and expand the implementation of virtual care in Canada.” *Source: Canadian Medical Association*

### [Exploring Novel Clinical Trial Designs for Gene-Based Therapies](#)

“Recognizing the potential design complexities and ethical issues associated with clinical trials for gene therapies, the Forum on Regenerative Medicine of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a 1-day workshop in Washington, DC, on November 13, 2019. Speakers at the workshop discussed patient recruitment and selection for gene-based clinical trials, explored how the safety of new therapies is assessed, reviewed the challenges involving dose escalation, and spoke about ethical issues such as informed consent and the role of clinicians in recommending trials as options to their patients. This publication summarizes the presentation and discussion of the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press (US)*

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## **Mental Health & Wellbeing**

### [Post-lockdown survey - the impact on health risk behaviours](#)

“This survey looks at changes in health risk behaviours post-lockdown (Alert Level 1). This survey includes information on alcohol, tobacco, gambling and mental wellbeing.” *Source: Health Promotion Agency (New Zealand)*

### [\*\*Mental health and primary care networks: understanding the opportunities\*\*](#)

“The establishment of primary care networks (PCNs) is one of the most important reforms to primary care in England in recent years. This report, published jointly by The King’s Fund and the Centre for Mental Health, explores the opportunities the emergence of these new networks creates for improving the support and treatment provided to people with mental health needs in primary care.” *Source: King’s Fund (UK)*

### [\*\*The Psychology of Loneliness: Why it matters and what we can do\*\*](#)

“This report aims to address the current gap in our understanding of the psychological and emotional aspects of loneliness. We cover the role these play in our ability to form meaningful connections and how this knowledge can inform and improve the support for those experiencing loneliness, particularly chronic and severe loneliness.” *Source: Campaign to End Loneliness*

### [\*\*The role of the voluntary sector in mental health crisis\*\*](#)

“This study explored in detail the value of the approach of the voluntary sector in responding flexibly and with compassion and kindness to people experiencing a mental health crisis.” *Source: National Institute for Health Research (UK)*

### [\*\*Community ties: understanding what attaches people to the place where they live\*\*](#)

The authors “wanted to learn more about what attaches people to the places they live, measured both sentiment (how they feel about the place) and behavior (ways they might exhibit their sense of attachment). These insights could shed light on why people choose to stay in a place or to leave, and could inform efforts by cities to boost attachment in their local communities.” *Source: Knight Foundation (US)*

### [\*\*Support for those bereaved by suicide: A Qualitative Research Study\*\*](#)

“To assist in the development of robust, evidence-based support interventions for those people bereaved by suicide in Scotland, initial exploratory research was required to investigate existing models of intervention in this area.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation Scotland*

### [\*\*Policy brief: Women’s mental health in the context of COVID 19 and recommendations for action\*\*](#)

“This policy brief summarises the evidence for the impact of COVID-19 on women’s mental health, and makes recommendations for government actions to better support women’s mental health during the COVID-19 response and recovery.” *Source: Women’s Mental Health Alliance (Australia)*

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## **Cancer**

### [\*\*Cancer patient experience survey 2020: the impact of Covid-19 on cancer patients in the UK\*\*](#)

“In response to “the COVID-19” crisis, Cancer Research UK (CRUK) conducted a survey aiming to understand the impact of COVID-19 on cancer patients’ testing, treatment and

care, day-to-day lives and wellbeing, and support for government policies.” *Source: Cancer Research UK*

### [Cancer x Coronavirus: The impact on young people](#)

“Data were collected using an online survey, via an anonymous link on the Teenage Cancer Trust website, asking young people about the impact of COVID-19 on their life, wellbeing and cancer care.” *Source: Teenage Cancer Trust (UK)*

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## **Health of Older People**

### [Capturing beneficial change from the COVID-19 pandemic: Response from the British Geriatrics Society](#)

“This report has been written in response to a request from NHS England and NHS Improvement for examples of beneficial innovations across the NHS that have been implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic and should be retained as the NHS starts to resume business as usual.” *Source: British Geriatrics Society*

### [They look after you, you look after them: community attitudes to ageing and aged care](#)

“Prepared for the Royal Commission by Ipsos, this paper is the result of 35 focus groups and 30 in-depth interviews conducted during July-September 2019 about attitudes to ageing and aged care.” *Source: Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (Australia)*

### [The experience of people approaching later life in lockdown](#)

“In collaboration with Ipsos MORI, this report takes a look at the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the lives of those aged 50-70 in England.” *Source: Centre for Ageing Better (UK)*

### [Financing aged care](#)

“The consultation paper examines how aged care is funded in Australia and overseas, and considers a range of options that have the potential to transform the way aged care is funded and delivered in Australia.” *Source: Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (Australia)*

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## **Overweight & Obesity**

### [Excess weight and Covid-19: insights from new evidence](#)

“This report provides evidence-based insights on the relationship between excess weight and COVID-19. Evidence has been brought together from UK and international studies published during the pandemic. These have been identified using a pragmatic methodology; the report is not a systematic review. Findings have been contextualised with information on the prevalence, causes, and risks of excess weight. Information on food and drink purchases and physical activity during lockdown is also included.” *Source: Public Health England*

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## Health Workforce

### [The future of pharmacy in a sustainable NHS: key principles for transformation and growth](#)

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society “have identified some solid principles to drive further development of the profession and pharmaceutical services.” *Source: Royal Pharmaceutical Society (UK)*

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## Child, Youth, & Maternal Health

### [Delivering evidence based services for all vulnerable families](#)

“The paper provides a summary on the role of family services in promoting child well-being, and then reviews the policy issues at all levels of the family service delivery systems. At the government level, the paper emphasizes the need to fostering collaboration between different government bodies, and to ensure adequate funding for early intervention and preventative services. At service delivery level, the main identified issues include getting a better integration between delivery organisations, building capacities to adapt evidence based interventions, sharing tools to facilitate service implementation, training practitioners with the necessary.” *Source: OECD*

### [Young carer research project: summary of findings](#)

“This report shares insights from young carers across a range of themes, including education, employment, service provision and relationships, embedding the young carer voice throughout. These insights will help to inform ongoing and future service provision, research and systemic advocacy conducted by Carers NSW and our partners and stakeholders.” *Source: Carers NSW (Australia)*

### [Out of routine: A review of sudden unexpected death in infancy \(SUDI \) in families where the children are considered at risk of significant harm](#)

“This national review set out to answer the following question: In families with children considered to be at high risk of significant harm through child abuse or neglect, how can professionals best support the parents to ensure that safer sleep advice can be heard and embedded in parenting practice so as to reduce the risks of SUDI?” *Source: The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (UK)*

### [Rapid Evidence and Policy Brief: COVID-19 Youth Recovery Plan 2020-2022](#)

“Young people in Aotearoa New Zealand reported feeling isolated, stressed, anxious and depressed during Alert Level 4. For some cohorts of young people, the COVID-19 lockdown period has further amplified distress and inequities that existed prior to the pandemic. This report details the key issues likely to affect young people in the post-COVID-19 recovery period (2020-2022).” *Health Promotion Agency (New Zealand)*

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## Drug & Alcohol Use

### [Taeao Malama - Alcohol use among Pacific peoples](#)

“This report provides an updated overview of alcohol use in Pacific peoples and looks at drinking patterns and attitudes in various Pacific subpopulations.” *Source: Health Promotion Agency (New Zealand)*

### ["Don't judge, and listen": Experiences of stigma and discrimination related to problematic alcohol and other drug use](#)

“The Queensland Mental Health Commission’s Don’t Judge, and Listen report is the outcome of research into the effect of stigma and discrimination on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a lived experience of alcohol and other drug use. It considers the negative stereotypes that affect the social and emotional wellbeing of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, irrespective of whether they engage in alcohol and/or other drug use.” *Source: Queensland Mental Health Commission (Australia)*

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