



Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 58, 2018, June

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.

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

[Nutrition, Obesity, & Physical Activity](#)

[Workforce](#)

[Public Health](#)

[Cancer](#)

[Mental Health & Addiction](#)

[Technology, Innovation, & Research](#)

[Primary Care](#)

[Health of Older People](#)

[Child, Youth, & Family](#)

[Equity & Inequalities](#)

[Emergency Department](#)

[Disability & Social Care](#)

[Drugs & Alcohol](#)

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[Transformational change in health and care: reports from the field](#)

"Two key messages emerged. First, there are groups who work tirelessly to achieve great things – the stories are a tribute to their determination, bravery and resilience. Second, there

are key considerations for health and care leaders working to achieve transformational change.” *Source: King’s Fund*

[Securing the future: funding health and social care to the 2030s](#)

“This report is a collaboration between the Institute for Fiscal Studies and the Health Foundation, in association with NHS Confederation. It discusses how and why spending on health and social care has risen over time, where the money is spent, how costs are likely to develop in the future, and how these costs might be met.” *Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies (UK)*

[Modernizing Canada’s Healthcare System through the Virtualization of Services](#)

“Virtual care is a natural next step in technological innovation for healthcare, according to a new report published by the C.D. Howe Institute. In “Modernizing Canada’s Healthcare System through the Virtualization of Services” authors Dr. R. Sacha Bhatia and William Falk argue that virtual models of care have the potential to improve both quality of life for patients, and access to care in remote areas, all while increasing the healthcare system’s efficiency.” *Source: C.D. Howe Institute*

[Back to top](#)

Workforce

[Improving Health Professional Education and Practice Through Technology](#)

“A pressing challenge in the modern health care system is the gap between education and clinical practice. Emerging technologies have the potential to bridge this gap by creating the kind of team-based learning environments and clinical approaches that are increasingly necessary in the modern health care system both in the United States and around the world.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Tackling workforce supply challenges through local collaboration](#)

“This report looks at how NHS organisations have collaborated and worked co-operatively to tackle workforce supply challenges. It explores key ways of developing collaborative relationships and showcases organisations that have already taken steps to address local supply challenges through partnership working.” *Source: NHS Employers*

[Back to top](#)

Cancer

[Diet, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Cancer: a Global Perspective](#)

“Diet, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Cancer: a Global Perspective, assesses the past decade of cancer prevention research and the links between diet, nutrition, physical activity and cancer.” *Source: World Cancer Research Fund*

[Long-Term Survivorship Care After Cancer Treatment](#)

“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*

[Missed opportunities: advance care planning report](#)

“This report warns that reluctance to talk honestly about death is preventing people with cancer from dying ‘well’. It calls for Governments across the UK to honour their commitments to ensuring Advance Care Planning is used as an important part of a person-centred health service, so that people approaching the end of their lives receive the best care possible and their wishes for death and dying are fulfilled.” *Source: Macmillan Cancer Support*

[Establishing Effective Patient Navigation Programs in Oncology](#)

“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*

[Back to top](#)

Technology, Innovation, & Research

[Confronting Dr Robot: Creating a people-powered future for AI in health](#)

“Artificial Intelligence could become part of the front door to healthcare. It could make the health system simpler, more accessible, more responsive, more sustainable, and put patients more in control. But there’s a risk that the public could experience it more as a barrier than an open door, blocking access to care, offering opaque advice and dehumanising healthcare in every sense. We’re now at a crucial moment when decisions are being made which will determine whether the technology develops into People Powered AI.” *Source: Nesta*

[Briefing: Sharing to improve: four case studies of data sharing in general practice](#)

“This briefing has been written to introduce leaders of GP organisations to approaches to data sharing that enable quality improvement, and to engage clinicians in collaborative learning and improvement efforts. By identifying case studies from a range of scaled up or networked organisations, this briefing aims to demonstrate the potential of data sharing in different contexts to drive improvements across general practice.” *Source: Health Foundation*

[Data for public benefit: balancing the risks and benefits of data sharing](#)

“‘Data for Public Benefit’ is a joint initiative with Involve and Understanding Patient Data. The report presents new research from across six local authority areas in England and has found that there are big differences in how public services currently define and weigh up public benefits and risks of data sharing.” *Source: Carnegie UK Trust*

Using Technology to Advance Global Health

“To explore how the use of technology can facilitate progress toward globally recognized health priorities, the Forum on Public–Private Partnerships for Global Health and Safety organized a public workshop. Participants identified and explored the major challenges and opportunities for developing and implementing digital health strategies within the global, country, and local context, and framed the case for cross-sector and cross-industry collaboration, engagement, and investment in digital health strategies. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

Issues in neurotechnology governance

“This report provides a summary of the main discussion points emerging from the Expert Consultation on “Neurotechnology and Society”, held on 14-15 September 2017, in Washington D.C., United States. Meeting participants acknowledged the increasingly international enterprise of neurotechnological innovation. Recommendations for addressing pressing ethical, legal, social, economic and cultural challenges may be beneficial to ensure responsible advancement of emerging neurotechnologies. Consideration of these issues should span laboratory, clinical, and industry settings.” *Source: OECD*

Gene editing for advanced therapies

“The purpose of the Expert Meeting (6-7 July 2017, Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Berlin, Germany) was to explore the core scientific, legal, regulatory and societal challenges facing the responsible development and use of gene editing in somatic cells for advanced therapies. Experts noted that the trajectory of gene editing in research and development and the uptake of future therapies in the clinical setting remain unclear due to uncertainties in the scientific, regulatory, and economic landscapes. Many policy issues are also raised in the context of other emerging technologies. Governance must cope with a moving technical frontier and some level of uncertainty around risks and benefits.” *Source: OECD*

Implementing and Evaluating Genomic Screening Programs in Health Care Systems

“Genomic applications are being integrated into a broad range of clinical and research activities at health care systems across the United States... The goals of these genomics-based programs may be to identify individuals with clinically actionable variants as a way of preventing disease, providing diagnoses for patients with rare diseases, and advancing research on genetic contributions to health and disease. Of particular interest are genomics-based screening programs, which will, in this publication, be clinical screening programs that examine genes or variants in unselected populations in order to identify individuals who are at an increased risk for a particular health concern (e.g., diseases, adverse drug outcomes) and who might benefit from clinical interventions.” *Source: National Academies Press*

Improving Health Research on Small Populations

“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*

[Experimenta: Building the next generation of Chile's public innovators](#)

“Three years ago, the Chilean government launched Laboratorio de Gobierno with a strategic priority to build innovation capacity and enable innovation in Chile's public sector. As part of this, the lab developed a practice-based capacity building programme called Experimenta. In this report, the authors review the outcomes of the programme to identify its unique value, reflect on its design to capture and codify the principles, core elements and structures, and recommend how the programme can be improved and taken to the next level.” *Source: Nesta*

[Back to top](#)

Health of Older People

[From plan to impact: progress towards targets of the global action plan on dementia](#)

“As a first publication following the adoption of the Global plan, this report provides a limited view of the current policy landscape, based on the included definition of a dementia plan. Where possible, efforts have been made to broadly consider those governments that have made a significant inclusion of dementia in plans under the other areas of ageing, neurology or mental health.” *Source: Alzheimer's Disease International*

[Rural Housing for an Ageing Population: Preserving Independence \(HAPPI 4\)](#)

“Following the Inquiry by the APPG for Housing and Care for Older People, this report makes a number of 'rural proofing' recommendations to increase the quality, supply and range of more appropriate age-friendly housing. It suggested an adaptation of the HAPPI principles when designing new homes for older people in rural areas, noting that new housing could preserve independence for older people and save NHS and social care funds.” *Source: Housing LIN*

[A better offer for older people: Making extra care housing work for your community](#)

This report looks at how extra care housing can contribute to meeting the needs of the country's older population. It examines the potential and challenges of extra care housing and includes insights from residents. *Source: Mears (UK)*

[Health warning for employers: Supporting older workers with health conditions](#)

“As the number of working age people with long-term health conditions rises, Government and employers need to improve workplaces and support systems to help people to manage their health conditions and continue to work.” *Source: Centre for Ageing Better*

[Hidden in plain sight: dementia and learning disability](#)

“This report highlights how more than a million of people with learning disabilities have become invisible in national dementia policy. People with a learning disability are three times more likely to develop dementia than the rest of the population. But a review of current government strategy has revealed that their needs are barely mentioned.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation (UK)*

[Rethinking Respite for People Affected by Dementia](#)

“While 'traditional' forms of respite in day services and care homes are important options of choice for some people, meaningful occupation, quality and flexibility are fundamental for

these to be genuine options. Rethinking respite means moving beyond ‘care’ and ‘sitting’ services to ensure that the wellbeing outcomes of everyone affected by dementia are given meaningful consideration. When this happens, people affected by dementia are supported to maintain physical, mental and psychosocial wellbeing in ways that are meaningful to them.”

Source: Older People’s Commissioner for Wales

[Patient-centred care for older people with complex needs: Evaluation of a new care model in outer east London](#)

“This study evaluates a ‘one-stop’ primary care service within three London boroughs for older people with complex health care needs.” *Source: Nuffield Trust*

[What can England learn from the long-term care system in Japan?](#)

“While pressures in social care are not a new problem, there is widespread recognition that it is an increasingly pressing priority. A forthcoming green paper is expected to lay the foundations for developing a new system of funding and provision. It is in this context that the Nuffield Trust went to Japan, to consider what lessons may be drawn from the introduction of its comprehensive long-term care system.” *Source: Nuffield Trust*

[The state of play: Arts and Older People programme](#)

“Summary of findings about the impact of the ACNI Arts and Older People Programme, jointly funded by ACNI, the Baring Foundation and the Public Health Agency.” *Source: Baring Foundation*

[Evaluation of the Homeshare pilots: final report](#)

“The final evaluation report of Homeshare pilots programme (HSP), which looks at what works to develop a sustainable Homeshare scheme. Homeshare schemes bring together older people who need support to stay in their homes, with young people who provide companionship and low level support in return for an affordable place to live.” *Source: Lloyds Bank Foundation*

[Dementia – the true cost: Fixing the care crisis](#)

“An investigation by the Alzheimer’s Society has discovered that each year tens of thousands of people with dementia are being admitted to hospital via accident and emergency because inadequate social care is leaving them unprotected from falls and infections. This report urges the government to improve access to integrated care and support, provide quality training for health and care staff and cover additional care charges for people with dementia.” *Source: Alzheimer’s Society (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Equity & Inequalities

[All Right? An investigation into Māori Resilience](#)

“A series of major earthquakes hit Christchurch over 2010 and 2011. The most devastating was the February earthquake, which occurred in 2011. This study was commissioned by All Right? and undertaken by Ihi Research & Development. The research had two major aims. Firstly, to investigate how Māori in Christchurch identified resources and processes which enabled the development of individual and community recovery after the Christchurch

earthquakes. Secondly, to understand whether a connection to Māori cultural values played a part in how whānau responded to the earthquakes.” *Source: Ihi Research & Development*

Deficit discourse and strengths-based approaches: Changing the narrative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing

“This report builds on Deficit Discourse and Indigenous Health by reviewing and analysing a growing body of work from Australia and overseas that proposes ways to displace deficit discourse in health, or that provides examples of attempts to do so. The most widely accepted approaches to achieving this come under the umbrella term ‘strengths-based’, which seek to move away from the traditional problem-based paradigm and offer a different language and set of solutions to overcoming an issue.” *Source: The Lowitja Institute*

Deficit discourse and Indigenous health: How narrative framings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are reproduced in policy

“‘Deficit discourse’ refers to discourse that represents people or groups in terms of deficiency – absence, lack or failure. It particularly denotes discourse that narrowly situates responsibility for problems with the affected individuals or communities, overlooking the larger socio-economic structures in which they are embedded. Understanding how deficit discourses are produced and reproduced is essential to challenging them. Thus, this report examines various aspects of deficit discourse in policy, but in particular considers deficit metrics: the ways in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians are homogenised and statistically compared to non-Indigenous Australians.” *Source: The Lowitja Institute*

Measuring wellbeing inequality: what are appropriate indicators of wellbeing inequality?

“Policy makers and academics are increasingly interested in wellbeing inequality. The vast majority of academic studies into wellbeing inequality currently use standard deviation of personal wellbeing measures such as self-reported life satisfaction or happiness. However, there has so far only been limited debate on whether standard deviation is the most appropriate measure, and its choice is rarely justified.” *Source: The Economics Foundation*

Health inequalities manifesto 2018

“This manifesto presents the individual and local actions that can be applied to address mental health inequalities in England. We advocate particular approaches and interventions to reduce the risk factors underpinning inequalities and applying these proportionately across the social gradient.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation UK*

Exploring Equity in Multisector Community Health Partnerships

“Building on previous National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine workshops that explored how safe and healthy communities are a necessary component of health equity and efforts to improve population health, the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement wanted to explore how a variety of community-based organizations came together to achieve population health. To do so, the roundtable hosted a workshop in Oakland, California, on December 8, 2016, to explore multisector health partnerships that engage residents, reduce health disparities, and improve health and well-being. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Housing for Vulnerable People: What Works](#)

“This is an evidence review that looks at what works when it comes to interventions for housing-vulnerable people.” *Source: What Works Wellbeing (UK)*

[Community-Based Health Literacy Interventions](#)

“To get a better understanding of the state of community-based health literacy interventions, the Roundtable on Health Literacy hosted a workshop on July 19, 2017 on community-based health literacy interventions. It featured examples of community-based health literacy programs, discussions on how to evaluate such programs, and the actions the field can take to embrace this larger view of health literacy. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Disability & Social Care

[Evaluation of the NDIS: final report](#)

“The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has been one of the most important social policy innovations to have been developed and implemented in Australian history... The main objective of the evaluation of the NDIS has been to offer a well-informed and independent assessment of the many impacts of the NDIS trial.” *Source: Department of Social Services (Australia)*

[Opportunities for Improving Programs and Services for Children with Disabilities](#)

“Opportunities for Improving Programs and Services for Children with Disabilities provides a comprehensive analysis of health outcomes for school-aged children with disabilities. This report reviews and assesses programs, services, and supports available to these children and their families. It also describes overarching program, service, and treatment goals; examines outreach efforts and utilization rates; identifies what outcomes are measured and how they are reported; and describes what is known about the effectiveness of these programs and services.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Nutrition, Obesity, & Physical Activity

[Tackling obesity: what the UK can learn from other countries](#)

“Tackling obesity - What the UK can learn from other countries (Matt James, Dr Aaron Parkhurst and Jon Paxman) examines topical obesity intervention strategies from around the world to frame the question: can the UK learn from policy abroad?” *Source: 2020health*

[Revaluing parks and green spaces: measuring their economic and wellbeing value to individuals](#)

“This report provides a robust economic valuation of parks and green spaces in the UK as well as valuing improvements in health and wellbeing associated with their frequent use. This is the first research study on parks and green spaces to use welfare weighting methodology, allowing for more informed evidence-based policy decisions.” *Source: Fields in Trust (UK)*

[Going the distance: exercise professionals in the wider public health workforce](#)

“This report seeks to gain an enhanced understanding of the opportunities and barriers for this enhanced public health role through parallel research with the gym-going public and the EPW (Exercise Professional Workforce) itself.” *Source: Royal Society for Public Health*

[How Can Neighborhood Parks Be Used to Increase Physical Activity?](#)

“Many communities and organizations have tried to encourage park use and park-based physical activity by building new facilities or adding activity centers. However, until recently, there has been little research to understand whether these or other investments are increasing the use of parks for physical activity. RAND Corporation researchers have conducted multiple studies to examine park use and assess parks' role in promoting physical activity. They found that whether residents visit their local parks and how they decide to use them can be related to a wide range of factors, including individual characteristics, such as potential park users' ages and genders; neighborhood and environmental factors, including community poverty level and residents' perceptions of park safety; and park factors, including the numbers and types of facilities and the availability of organized activities.”

Source: Rand

[The current landscape of obesity services : a report from the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Obesity](#)

“The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Obesity launches its report into the current landscape of obesity services.” *Source: All-Parliamentary Group on Obesity (UK)*

[HEPP case study: Amsterdam Healthy Weight Programme](#)

“The European Commission Health Equity Pilot Project delivered by the UK Health Forum has produced and agreed a case study on the Amsterdam Healthy Weight Programme. The programme was established in 2013 by the Amsterdam Municipality. It is significant because it has begun to show improvements in childhood obesity levels in the city. Preliminary results suggest that the programme has had a greater impact to date on lower socio-economic population, though causality cannot be proven at this point.” *Source: European Commission*

[Back to top](#)

Public Health

[Saving lives, spending less: a strategic response to noncommunicable diseases](#)

“Saving lives, spending less: a strategic response to noncommunicable diseases reveals, for the first time, the financing needs and returns on investment of the WHO cost-effective and feasible “Best Buy” policies to protect people from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), the world’s leading causes of ill health and death.” *Source: WHO*

[Protecting the Health and Well-Being of Communities in a Changing Climate: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“On March 13, 2017, the Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine and the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement jointly convened a 1-day public workshop in Washington, DC, to explore potential strategies for public health, environmental health, health care, and related stakeholders to help communities and regions

to address and mitigate the health effects of climate change... This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Organization and financing of public health services in Europe](#)

“The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies has released a new study comparing the experience of 9 European countries in organizing, financing and staffing public health services. It serves as a source of inspiration for policy-makers in Europe and elsewhere in their efforts to strengthen public health capacities and services.” *Source: European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies*

[Public Health Consequences of E-Cigarettes](#)

“Public Health Consequences of E-Cigarettes reviews and critically assesses the state of the emerging evidence about e-cigarettes and health. This report makes recommendations for the improvement of this research and highlights gaps that are a priority for future research.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Mental Health & Addiction

[Promising Practices : 12 Case Studies in Supportive Housing for People with Mental Health and Addiction Issues](#)

“To showcase the expertise in the sector, and to help support implementation of new supportive housing, Addictions and Mental Health Ontario (AMHO), Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario (CMHA Ontario) and the Wellesley Institute (WI) partnered to develop this resource guide. The 12 case studies share replicable, scalable and adaptable examples of how providers have overcome implementation challenges to meet the needs of their clients and communities.” *Source: CMHA Ontario and the Wellesley Institute*

[Creative Practice as Mutual Recovery: Research Programme Final Report](#)

“This highly collaborative study aims to examine how creative practice in the arts and humanities can promote the kinds of connectedness and reciprocity that support ‘mutual recovery’ in terms of mental health and well-being.” *Source: University of Nottingham*

[Stress: are we coping?](#)

“This report looks at the prevalence of stress in the UK and its implications. It also focuses on what we can do to manage and reduce stress and our recommendations for the government in creating a stress-free UK.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation (UK)*

[Turning to online peer forums for suicide and self-harm support: “It does help having you guys”](#)

“This report maps the activity and characteristics of individuals who engage with beyondblue’s Suicidal thoughts and self-harm forum, one of twelve heavily subscribed forums hosted on the organisation’s website. This work provides an evidence base that can be used to maintain, improve and replicate these services to better reach people vulnerable to serious mental health risks.” *Source: Swinburne Social Innovation Research Institute*

[Investing to save: the economic benefits for Australia of investment in mental health reform](#)

“This report presents the economic case for continued mental health reform. It highlights opportunities for governments and employers to generate more significant returns on their investment in mental health, focusing on a small number of targeted, practical interventions where the evidence base on 'what works' is strong.” *Source: Mental Health Australia*

[Women's Mental Health across the Life Course through a Sex-Gender Lens](#)

“The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a workshop on March 7, 2018, to help inform research, programs, and policies to better meet the mental health needs of women in the United States. Participants examined trends in mental health as well as risk and protective factors for diverse populations of women, and they considered the research needed for a better understanding of women’s mental health.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Primary Care

[Primary care home: community pharmacy integration and innovation](#)

“The guide is designed to strengthen relationships between community pharmacy and general practice, and to demonstrate some of the opportunities that exist for greater integration and improved health outcomes.” *Source: National Association of Primary Care*

[Spotlight on the 10 High Impact Actions](#)

“This report is the result of research on the effectiveness of NHS England's Time for Care Programme, specifically its 10 High Impact Actions: a range of initiatives that were introduced with the aim of increasing capacity in general practice and reducing GP workload which were introduced two years ago.” *Source: Royal College of General Practitioners (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Child, Youth, & Family

[Young people, internet use and wellbeing; A report series screen time](#)

“The South West Grid for Learning Trust (SWGfL), has published a report looking at screentime and its role on young people's wellbeing. Among other things, it shows that many young people said “Fear of Missing Out” is one of the main reasons they will spend “too much” time online.” *Source: South West Grid for Learning Trust (UK)*

[Too soon for the tooth fairy: The implications of child poverty for oral health](#)

“Poverty is a key factor contributing to preventable childhood health problems and diseases, and as such it is a key factor contributing to poor oral health amongst children. Indeed, poor oral health is a marker of poverty. Māori and Pasifika children are also at especially high risk. This paper summarises current knowledge about the size of the problem, its causes and potential solutions.” *Source: Child Poverty Action Group*

[Back to top](#)

Emergency Department

[Under pressure: safely managing increased demand in emergency departments](#)

“This report aims to contribute to the discussion about how those working in health and social care can come together in a more systemised way to encourage early and effective planning for not only winter pressures but for all periods of peak demand. All need to develop a shared understanding of what an effective escalation strategy looks like – and longer-term, how health and care providers and commissioners collaborate to meet the needs of their local populations, with a stronger focus on keeping people well and helping them stay out of hospital.” *Source: Care Quality Commission (UK)*

[Emergency hospital admissions in England: which may be avoidable and how?](#)

“A clear understanding of the nature and drivers of demand for emergency admissions is needed now more than ever. This briefing aims to provide an overview of trends in emergency admissions over the past decade, and a summary of the best evidence behind some of the interventions being deployed to stem what might look like to many, an inexorably rising trend.” *Source: Health Foundation*

[Back to top](#)

Drugs & Alcohol

[Cannabis and driving: questions and answers for policymaking](#)

“With cannabis use and policy evolving internationally, drug-impaired driving has become an increasingly relevant policy issue. This briefing aims to provide those concerned with policy developments in the field of cannabis with a brief overview of current knowledge and the latest developments in the area of driving.” *Source: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction*

[Back to top](#)

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