



Ministry of Health Library

# Grey Matter

## 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@moh.govt.nz](mailto:library@moh.govt.nz) to subscribe.

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## **Physical Activity, Nutrition, & Obesity**

### **[Guidelines on physical activity, sedentary behaviour and sleep for children under 5 years of age](#)**

“The overall goals of these guidelines are to provide recommendations on the amount of time in a 24-hour day that young children, under 5 years of age, should spend being physically active or sleeping for their health and wellbeing, and the maximum recommended time these children should spend on screen-based sedentary activities or time restrained.”

*Source: WHO*

### **[Guiding principles and framework manual for front-of-pack labelling for promoting healthy diet](#)**

“Front-of-pack labelling (FOPL) is an important policy tool for countries to help consumers to make healthier food choices. This document – WHO guiding principles and framework manual for front-of pack labelling for promoting healthy diets – has been developed to support countries to develop, implement, and monitor and evaluate an appropriate FOPL system.” *Source: WHO*

### **[The social impact of participation in culture and sport](#)**

“Cultural and sporting opportunities have intrinsic value, and can inspire personal success, but to view them only this narrowly would be to fail to understand their true value.

Organisations working in these fields are doing so much more. Our inquiry showcases some of the evidence that we received, demonstrating the impact of culture and sport on positive outcomes in health, education, criminal justice and urban regeneration.” *Source: House of Commons (UK)*

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## **Public Health & Population Health**

### **[Prevention before cure: Prioritising population health](#)**

“The BMA has a well-established record of making the case for preventing physical and mental ill-health and investing in evidence-based population measures. [They] are now setting out our framework for a cross-government approach to prioritising population health.”

*Source: British Medical Association*

### **[Mass media to communicate public health messages in six health topic areas: a systematic review and other reviews of the evidence](#)**

“Mass media, including television, radio, social media, newspapers and other media, can be used to communicate health messages. This study reviewed the literature on media campaigns about alcohol, diet, illegal drugs, physical activity, sexual health and tobacco use. Reviews were carried out that were informed by a logic model (a framework for understanding how change can take place) of how mass media might improve health. The study aimed to provide evidence on how best to communicate public health messages through mass media. The approach and findings were discussed with members of the public and others interested in this topic.” *Source: National Institute for Health Research (UK)*

### **[No Time to Wait: Securing the future from drug-resistant infections](#)**

“This report presents the IACG’s (Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on Antimicrobial Resistance) response to the request from Member States in the 2016 political declaration and makes recommendations for urgent action for consideration by the Secretary-General, Member States and other stakeholders in the global response to antimicrobial resistance.”  
*Source: WHO*

#### **[Intimate partner sexual violence: research synthesis](#)**

“This paper provides a synthesis of the evidence on IPSV, examining its characteristics, current service responses and prevention activities. It includes recommendations for policy and practice.” *Source: Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety*

#### **[Climate Change Toolkit for Health Professionals](#)**

“This toolkit consists of eight modules which have been prepared as stand-alone documents that can be read by themselves, but they have also been prepared to complement one another. It has been designed as a tool for health professionals and students in the health care and public health sectors who want to engage more directly on the issue of climate change as educators with their patients, peers and communities, and/or as advocates for the policies, programs and practices needed to mitigate climate change and/or prepare for climate change in their workplaces and communities.” *Source: Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment*

#### **[Independent review of national cancer screening programmes in England: interim report of emerging findings](#)**

“Professor Sir Mike Richards is leading a major overhaul of national cancer screening programmes as part of a renewed drive to improve care and save lives. This interim report calls for practical measures to be used across the NHS to make screening more convenient and reverse the longstanding decline in the proportion of people being tested.” *Source: NHS England*

#### **[Investing in quality: The contribution of large charities to shaping future health and care](#)**

“Commissioned by the National Garden Scheme, this report explores how the work of the National Garden Scheme and its beneficiaries fits within the context of the future of policy development in health and care.” *Source: King's Fund (UK)*

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## **Workforce**

#### **[Understanding Management Competencies For Managing Bullying And Fostering Healthy Work In Nursing](#)**

“Considering the prevalence of bullying in the New Zealand nursing profession and internationally, ensuring that managers hold and demonstrate the competencies to foster healthy teams and effectively manage bullying is of prime importance. This research aimed to identify the management competencies required to foster healthy work environments and manage bullying within the nursing profession in New Zealand.” *Source: College of Nurses Aotearoa New Zealand*

### [The future of the medical workforce](#)

“The aim of this report is to examine the current trends likely to influence the future of the medical practitioner workforce. The report focuses on the implications of the increase in the number of doctors and changes in workforce composition for several key areas: the extent and nature of competition in the medical sector; doctors’ earnings; the role of the private sector; and technological change, data and information.” *Source: Melbourne Institute*

### [Exploring Lessons Learned from a Century of Outbreaks](#)

“In November 2018, an ad hoc planning committee at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine planned two sister workshops held in Washington, DC, to examine the lessons from influenza pandemics and other major outbreaks, understand the extent to which the lessons have been learned, and discuss how they could be applied further to ensure that countries are sufficiently ready for future pandemics. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from both workshops.” *Source: National Academies Press*

### [Staffing on Wards](#)

The nature of patient needs and ward activity is changing. Inpatients tend to be more ill than they used to be, many with complex needs often arising from multiple long-term conditions. At the same time, hospitals face the challenges of a shortage and high turnover of registered nurses. This review presents recent evidence from National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)-funded research, including studies on the number of staff needed, the support workforce and the organisation of care on the wards. While few research studies have explored the similar pressures that occur in community and social care, the learning from hospitals may be useful to decision makers in these areas. *Source: National Institute for Health Research (UK)*

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## **Mental Health & Suicide**

### [Engaging with Complexity: Providing effective trauma-informed care for women](#)

“Engaging with complexity offers public services a brief guide to the principles of trauma informed care and how to put it into practice. Looking at the concept of trauma (including causes, impact and prevalence), the report explores the model of trauma-informed care, and UK organisations currently employing such approaches.” *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

### [Trajectories: the interplay between mental health and housing pathways](#)

“The evidence clearly identifies a complex bi-directional relationship between mental health, housing and homelessness. However, our understanding remains incomplete in how major life events and a person’s circumstances (e.g. mental health status, employment, income, mental health and housing system engagement, support from family and carers) interact and affect their long-term trajectories for housing and mental health and their ability to access the services and supports they require.” *Source: Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute*

### [Investing in primary care for effective suicide prevention](#)

“This research highlights the potential primary care services have in helping people at risk of suicide before they reach crisis point – if such services are given the right support.” *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

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## **Health of Older People**

### **Under the skin: listening to the voices of older people in influenza immunisation**

“Rates of influenza immunisation remain good among older adults, however, in recent years, they have begun to stagnate. In this report, the authors explore the attitudes of older adults to influenza immunisation, a significant gap in previous research.” *Source: International Longevity Centre UK*

### **Restrictive practices in residential aged care in Australia**

“The use of restrictive practices in residential aged care in Australia is contentious. There is significant public interest in the issue of restraint and ways to reduce or avoid it. Numerous media reports and inquiries have highlighted accounts of the misuse or overuse of physical restraint and psychotropic medication. This includes personal accounts from members of the public about residents being physically restrained frequently, or for long periods of time, or restrained without consent.” *Source: Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (Australia)*

### **Medium- and long-term pressures on the system: the changing demographics and dynamics of aged care**

“Ageing affects every person throughout their lifespan at different rates and in different ways as every individual is unique. It is inescapable, normal and not necessarily an indication of frailty. Normal ageing slows functionality, but age-related physical, emotional and social changes can be anticipated and managed by understanding the ageing process, adopting a healthy approach to ageing throughout life, and adapting to specific changes. Care available from within the community can support adaptation. However, chronic conditions such as obesity, dementia, and arthritis can diminish functionality. Supportive environments and integrated care systems can help ensure that older people whose capacity has diminished live with dignity and grow personally.” *Source: Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (Australia)*

### **Designing a Dementia Fund**

“This report, commissioned by the Alzheimer's Society, sets out how a Dementia Fund could be set up to cover the additional social care costs faced by people living with dementia. This additional amount paid by an individual with dementia compared to other users is the "dementia penalty". The report draws on an analysis of how social care and dementia services are commissioned, as well as of similar Funds to make recommendations for how the Dementia Fund should be commissioned.” *Source: Social Market Foundation (UK)*

### **Risk Reduction of Cognitive Decline And Dementia: WHO Guidelines**

“These new WHO guidelines provide the knowledge base for health care providers, governments, policy-makers and other stakeholders to reduce the risks of cognitive decline and dementia through a public health approach. As many of the risk factors for dementia are

shared with those of non-communicable diseases, the key recommendations can be effectively integrated into programmes for tobacco cessation, cardiovascular disease risk reduction and nutrition.” *Source: WHO*

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## **End of Life Care**

### **"Conversation Ready": A Framework for Improving End-of-Life Care (Second Edition)**

“This white paper presents IHI’s “Conversation Ready” approach to help health care organizations and clinicians provide respectful end-of-life care that is concordant with patients’ stated goals, values, and preferences.” *Source: Institute for Healthcare Improvement (United States)*

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## **Technology**

### **WHO Guideline: recommendations on digital interventions for health system strengthening**

“The key aim of this guideline is to present recommendations based on a critical evaluation of the evidence on emerging digital health interventions that are contributing to health system improvements, based on an assessment of the benefits, harms, acceptability, feasibility, resource use and equity considerations.” *Source: WHO*

### **Putting patients at the heart of artificial intelligence**

“This report brings together the views of patients, policy makers, healthcare professionals, parliamentarians and the health tech industry to highlight the need to engage with patients early and to better consider patient perspectives on AI. It presents a case for actively engaging patients and the public during the development and adoption of these data-driven technologies, to ensure they do not fall victim to the kinds of crises of public confidence that have hindered or derailed previous scientific advances. As Dr Eric Topol has highlighted in his recent report on preparing the workforce to deliver the digital future, patient benefit must remain the driving criterion for AI design and use.” *Source: All-Party Parliamentary Group on Heart and Circulatory Diseases (UK)*

### **Clicks and mortar: Technology and the NHS estate**

“[This] new report, supported by NHS Property Services, outlines the findings of research on the impact of technology on the NHS estate. The purpose of our work was to understand how technological developments in the NHS are affecting the estate currently, and to identify opportunities for planning technology and the estate together in future.” *Source: King’s Fund*

### **Untapped potential: Investing in health and care data analytics**

“The Health Foundation’s new report, Untapped potential: Investing in health and care data analytics, highlights nine key reasons why there should be more investment in analytical capability. Clinicians can use the insights generated by skilled analysts to improve diagnosis and disease management.” *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

### **[A data-driven public sector: Enabling the strategic use of data for productive, inclusive and trustworthy governance](#)**

“A data-driven public sector (DDPS) recognises that data are an asset, integral to policy making, service delivery, organisational management and innovation. The strategic approach governments take to building a DDPS can have a positive impact on the results they deliver by promoting evidence-led policy making and data-backed service design as well as embedding good governance values of integrity, openness and fairness in the policy cycle.” *Source: OECD*

### **[National health servers: delivering digital health for all](#)**

“The report’s structure tracks the patient journey, from prevention and diagnosis in the community, into primary and secondary care, through into management of long-term conditions. As well as improving the care experience in primary and secondary care, the report argues that there are huge opportunities to keep patients out of the NHS: prevention of disease can reduce the likelihood of people having to enter hospital care in the first place; better digital management of long-term conditions can help avoid unnecessary readmissions into hospital. It concludes with six policy recommendations to drive improvements across the care pathway.” *Source: Social Market Foundation (UK)*

### **[Artificial Intelligence Applications for Older Adults and People with Disabilities: Balancing Safety and Autonomy: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief](#)**

“On October 24, 2018, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a workshop titled Artificial Intelligence Applications for Older Adults and People with Disabilities: Balancing Safety and Autonomy. This workshop examined the state of the art and knowledge about artificial intelligence and explored its potential to foster a balance of safety and autonomy for older adults and people with disabilities who strive to live as independently as possible. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

### **[At the crossroads: A need for a digital rebalance](#)**

“Digital technology is ubiquitous, and within a relatively short time it has become embedded in our social fabric. Whether at home or at work, we’re surrounded by it. The speed with which it is developing means that the absorption of the technology into our day-to-day lives has occurred rapidly but without the research into its impact that precedes the introduction of clinical interventions. As a consequence, its wider effects are only now becoming apparent, especially with regard to its impact on us – physically, psychologically and in terms of our overall wellbeing.” *Source: Wellbeing Pulse*

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## **Quality & Safety**

### **[Assessing the value of accreditation to health systems and organisations](#)**

“Accreditation is a process of external peer review to assess the performance of a healthcare facility in relation to agreed healthcare accreditation standards. Although there are numerous accreditation reviews that health services are required to achieve including pre-vocational medical training accreditation, the focus of this brief is health service accreditation against healthcare standards.” *Source: Deeble Institute (Australia)*

### [The improvement journey: Why organisation-wide improvement in health care matters, and how to get started](#)

“This report is a practical guide to developing an organisation-wide approach to improvement. It summarises the benefits of such an approach and outlines the key elements and steps that NHS trust leaders should adopt when pursuing this agenda. The report draws on the learning and insights that the Health Foundation has generated over the past 15 years from funding and evaluating improvement at team, organisation and system level.”

*Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

### [A New Way to Capture the Patient Experience](#)

“Martino and his research partners have developed a more effective and reliable way for patients to provide narrative feedback about the care they receive. They were inspired by consumer websites like Amazon, where people post comments by the thousands on everything from books to blenders. Done right, they realized, short but detailed reviews could help health care providers better understand the patient experience, the good and the bad, in the patient's own words.” *Source: RAND*

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## **Primary Care**

### [Fit for the future: a vision for general practice](#)

“The College is setting out its vision for the future of the profession because we believe that, with the right tools, skills and investment, general practice can continue to deliver world class patient care and being a GP can be the best job in the world.” *Source: Royal College of General Practitioners (UK)*

### [Evaluation of Babylon GP at hand: final evaluation report](#)

“BGPaH [Babylon GP at hand] is a primary care practice that incorporated a ‘digital-first’ service model into an existing practice in 2017. The practice operates in North West London, commissioned through a General Medical Services (GMS) contract through NHS Hammersmith and Fulham CCG. The practice now offers a ‘digital-first’ model of primary care, primarily through use of a mobile app and video consultations provided by their subcontractor, Babylon.” *Source: Ipsos MORI*

### [The impact of primary care incentive schemes on care home placements for people with dementia](#)

“The interface between primary care and long-term care is complex. In the case of dementia, this interface may be influenced by incentives offered to GPs as part of the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) to provide an annual review for patients with dementia. The hypothesis is that the annual reviews reduce the likelihood of admission to a care home by supporting the patient to live independently and by addressing carers’ needs for support.”

*Source: Centre for Health Economics (UK)*

### [Overview of the Environmental Scan of Primary Care-Based Effort To Reduce Readmissions](#)

“This environmental scan examines what is currently known about reducing readmissions from the primary care perspective by analyzing the findings of 42 peer-reviewed articles and



30 items from the gray literature.” *Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (United States)*

### **All Systems GP (Manifesto)**

“GPs have always been at the forefront of adopting new technology in the NHS. Recent developments in genomics, AI, digital medicine and robotics all present opportunities to potentially revolutionise patient care. General practice is ready to embrace these opportunities, but needs wider system change to ensure opportunities are embraced safely and sustainably. GPs and their teams must be at the heart of this system change. General practice needs technology which enables safe patient care fit for the 21st century, makes the lives of GPs and their teams easier.” *Source: Royal College of General Practitioners (UK)*

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## **Drug & Alcohol Use**

### **Drinking cultures of Rainbow New Zealanders**

“This qualitative research project investigated social, cultural and political influences on alcohol consumption among Rainbow New Zealanders. The project had a particular focus on how practices common in everyday culture and community norms and expectations impact on drinking.” *Source: Health Promotion Agency (New Zealand)*

### **Pain Management for People with Serious Illness in the Context of the Opioid Use Disorder Epidemic: Proceedings of a Workshop**

“Increased public and clinician scrutiny of opioid use has resulted in patients with serious illness facing stigma and other challenges when filling prescriptions for their pain medications or obtaining the prescription in the first place. Thus clinicians, patients, and their families are caught between the responses to the opioid use disorder epidemic and the need to manage pain related to serious illness. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine sponsored a workshop on November 29, 2018, to examine these unintended consequences of the responses to the opioid use disorder epidemic for patients, families, communities, and clinicians, and to consider potential policy opportunities to address them. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

### **The Role of Nonpharmacological Approaches to Pain Management**

“The magnitude and urgency of the twin problems of chronic pain and opioid addiction, combined with the changing landscape of pain management, prompted the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to convene a workshop on December 4–5, 2018, in Washington, DC. The workshop brought together a diverse group of stakeholders to discuss the current status of nonpharmacological approaches to pain management, gaps, and future directions. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

### **Blazing the Trail: What the Legalization of Cannabis Means for Canadian Employers**

“The report explores the landscape of legalization, and sets the stage for further research into the workplace implications of cannabis use in Canada. In particular, this report discusses the challenge of establishing criteria for cannabis impairment, concerns around

workplace alcohol and drug (A&D) policies, problematic cannabis use and dependence, and steps for prevention in the workplace and education related to use. It also integrates recent Conference Board survey research on organizational concerns surrounding the legalization of recreational cannabis, and offers some considerations for employers looking to ensure they are prepared for what is to come.” *Source: Conference Board of Canada*

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## **Equity**

### **[Māori women's perspectives and experiences with smoking and vaping](#)**

“HPA commissioned a qualitative research project to explore young Māori women’s attitudes towards vaping, their vaping behaviour, and the relationship between smoking and vaping. The report below is a summary of the key findings. Here is a presentation from Mara Andrews from Kahui Consulting presenting her research on Māori women's perspectives and experiences with smoking and vaping.” *Source: Health Promotion Agency (New Zealand)*

### **[Quantifying Māori spend on tobacco, alcohol & gambling](#)**

“NZIER were asked to quantify annual expenditure by New Zealanders as a whole, Māori as a population specifically, and all non-Māori, on the following categories: tobacco; alcohol; and gambling.” *Source: New Zealand Institute of Economic Research*

### **[Improving access to housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander renal patients with complex care needs](#)**

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote Northern Territory communities experience extremely high rates of end stage kidney disease. As renal services are limited in remote areas, most patients must relocate permanently to urban areas for treatment. However, as a consequence of social housing shortages in urban areas, patients experience housing exclusion and risk of homelessness. The Issues Brief recommends that the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments should consider an integrated care package that addresses the broader care needs of renal patients, including housing needs.” *Source: Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research*

### **[Health and wellbeing of people with intersex variations: information and resource paper](#)**

“This information and resource paper provides the context for a suite of materials targeted to a diverse range of people involved in the treatment, care and support of people with intersex variations. The Victorian government commissioned this paper to support the development and implementation of evidence-based policies, programs and services, and to further understanding of the needs and interests of people with intersex variations in Victoria.”

*Source: Victoria State Government*

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## **Disability & Social Care**

### **[The National Disability Insurance Scheme: a quick guide - May 2019 update](#)**

“The main component of the NDIS is individualised packages of support to eligible people with disability. When the NDIS is fully implemented, it is expected that around 475,000 Australians will receive individualised supports. This guide provides a current overview of the scheme and its implementation.” *Source: Parliamentary Library (Australia)*

### [\*\*Above and Beyond: How voluntary sector providers of disability support add value to communities\*\*](#)

“The report outlines the voluntary care sector’s key impacts, including: engaging local partners and harnessing the potential of community resources; helping people meet their aspirations and live the lives they want; reducing social isolation and promoting inclusion; creating wider social and community benefits by supporting the needs of individuals; and changing perceptions of disability.” *Source: Voluntary Organisations Disability Group (UK)*

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## **Person-Centred Care**

### [\*\*Building Community Capacity: Economic Case Studies\*\*](#)

“The National Development Team for Inclusion with support from TLAP have produced a review of economic evaluations and studies conducted on seven approaches to building community capacity.” *Source: Think Local, Act Personal (UK)*

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## **Child & Youth Wellbeing**

### [\*\*The first thousand days: a case for investment\*\*](#)

“This paper, and the work of the Strong Foundations: Getting it Right in the First Thousand Days Partnership in general, is designed to bring a new level of rigour to policy setting and investments in Australia’s children and young people, most particularly, by focusing not just on effectiveness for the child, but value for the community as a whole.” *Source: Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth*

### [\*\*The Promise of Adolescence: Realizing Opportunity for All Youth\*\*](#)

“This report examines the neurobiological and socio-behavioral science of adolescent development and outlines how this knowledge can be applied, both to promote adolescent well-being, resilience, and development, and to rectify structural barriers and inequalities in opportunity, enabling all adolescents to flourish.” *Source: National Academies Press*

### [\*\*Young people as agents of change in preventing violence against women\*\*](#)

“R4Respect is a violence prevention program in which young people challenge harmful and violence supportive attitudes among young people to promote respectful relationships.” *Source: Australia’s National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety*

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