



Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 51, 2017, November

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 hone in on 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.

[Mental Health & Addiction](#)

[Family Violence](#)

[Health of Older People](#)

[Long-Term Conditions](#)

[Workforce](#)

[Cancer](#)

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

[Person-centred Care](#)

[Public Health](#)

[Inequalities](#)

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

[Social Care & Disability](#)

[Nutrition](#)

[Health Technology](#)

Mental Health & Addiction

[Understanding effective approaches to promoting mental health and preventing mental illness](#)

“The health, social and economic consequences of poor mental health are substantial. More attention is focusing now on the development of actions to promote better mental health and wellbeing and prevent mental ill-health. This paper provides an overview of the development of approaches to promoting mental wellbeing and preventing mental ill-health in OECD countries, together with an assessment of what is known on their effectiveness and cost effectiveness. The paper finds that there is a sound and quite extensive evidence base for effective and cost effective actions which can promote mental wellbeing and prevent mental ill-health. However, the existence of actions and programmes in mental health promotion and prevention is uneven both between countries, and across different points of the life course.” *Source: OECD*

Mental Health Service Models for Young People

“In 2015, the Government committed 5 years of extra funding for Children and Young People’s Mental Health Services (CYPMHS). All areas of England were required to submit plans outlining how they will improve their services by 2020. This POSTnote describes some of the new models of CYPMHS and examines the challenges to their effective implementation.” *Source: House of Parliament (UK)*

Making individual placement and support work

“This is a report of an evaluation to explore the critical success factors for the implementation and sustainability of Individual Placement and Support (IPS), an evidence-based approach to supporting people using mental health services with employment.” *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

Pain Management and the Opioid Epidemic: Balancing Societal and Individual Benefits and Risks of Prescription Opioid Use

“Drug overdose, driven largely by overdose related to the use of opioids, is now the leading cause of unintentional injury death in the United States. The ongoing opioid crisis lies at the intersection of two public health challenges: reducing the burden of suffering from pain and containing the rising toll of the harms that can arise from the use of opioid medications.” *Source: National Academies Press*

The health and wellbeing impacts of volunteering with The Wildlife Trusts

“This report represents Phase 3 of a three-phased programme of research conducted by the University of Essex aiming to establish The Wildlife Trusts’ contribution to human wellbeing. Considered together with the findings of Phase 1, Phase 2 concluded that the extensive range of activities run by The Wildlife Trusts provide a range of benefits for both the health and wellbeing of the general population and those with diagnosed therapeutic needs.” *Source: University of Essex*

Evidence Check: Inpatient care for children and adolescents with mental disorders

“This Evidence Check review examined evidence about when inpatient care is the most effective and appropriate form of care for children and adolescents with moderate to severe mental disorders.” *Source: Sax Institute*

Lamb Street to the Pod - The Journey from 'Service User' to Citizen

“This report challenges national assumptions around what and how social care can deliver. It describes how the award winning pod, formerly known as the Lamb Street Day Centre, uses

social brokerage as a means to support and radically transform the lives of people with severe mental illness whilst also benefitting the wider community with its cutting edge and ambitious programming.” *Source: Think Local, Act Personal (UK)*

Mental health in prisons

“Most research suggests that people in prison are more likely to suffer from mental health problems than people in the community. Complex social and personal issues such as history of unemployment, substance misuse or trauma are more common among the prison population, and being in prison can exacerbate poor mental health and well-being. Prisoners are less able to manage their mental health because most aspects of their day-to-day life are controlled by the prison.” *Source: National Audit Office (UK)*

Briefing: Children’s Mental Healthcare in England

“In a report sent to all MPs today (Monday), ahead of World Mental Health day on Tuesday, the Children’s Commissioner for England, Anne Longfield, has set out the shockingly poor support children with mental health services are receiving from the NHS.” *Site: Children’s Commissioner (England)*

The fifth national mental health and suicide prevention plan

“This strategy document outlines how Australians who experience a mental health condition will benefit from a strengthened mental health system.” *Source: Department of Health (Australia)*

The role of nurses in alcohol and drug treatment services

“This resource is to assist commissioners and providers of specialist adult alcohol and drug treatment services to identify the right workforce to meet the needs of their local populations. It does not address the wider role of nurses across other areas of health and social care, such as midwives, who make a significant contribution to the care of people who misuse alcohol and drugs, and their families.” *Source: Public Health England*

How to...Support Mental Health at Work

“Good mental health at work and good management go hand in hand and there is strong evidence that workplaces with high levels of mental wellbeing are more productive.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Health of Older People

Understanding Pathways to Successful Aging: Behavioral and Social Factors Related to Alzheimer’s Disease: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief

“A strong body of research demonstrates associations between the incidence of Alzheimer’s disease and individuals’ personality characteristics, level of social engagement, and educational attainment. To advance understanding of the causal pathways leading to Alzheimer’s, the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences convened a workshop in June 2017. This workshop was designed to build on a 2015 workshop that focused on the importance of delineating causal relationships underlying associations between behavioral, social, and biological factors and long-term health. This publication

briefly summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Dementia friendly communities: global developments](#)

“An overview of progress in creating dementia friendly communities around the world, with details of some of the initiatives. It includes examples from Africa, the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East.” *Source: Alzheimer’s Disease International*

[Understanding elder abuse: a scoping study](#)

“This review begins with a broad discussion of elder abuse by considering the definition of the term and the prevalence of the behaviour, the impact elder abuse has on older people and the wider population, and the family context within which elder abuse most often occurs. It then considers the different ways elder abuse is conceptualised, and how it intersects with a range of other issues including ageism, family violence and conflict, caregiving, gender and sexuality, and culture and suggests that an applied ecological approach (which considers the individual and their place within their community and society) is the most comprehensive way of conceptualising elder abuse. Finally, interventions that show some evidence or promise, and which should be further and more rigorously researched and evaluated are described.” *Source: Melbourne Social Equity Institute and the National Ageing Research Institute*

[Evaluation of the effectiveness of the 8 Pillars model of home-based support: Final report](#)

“The model recognises the importance of community support to provide an integrated approach to improving the resilience and independence of people with dementia and their carers, enabling them to live in the community for as long as possible.” *Source: Scottish Government*

[WHO Guidelines on Integrated Care for Older People](#)

“The provision of integrated care is key for older people. The WHO Guidelines on Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) propose evidence-based recommendations for health care professionals to prevent, slow or reverse declines in the physical and mental capacities of older people. These recommendations require countries to place the needs and preferences of older adults at the centre and to coordinate care. The ICOPE Guidelines will allow countries to improve the health and well-being of their older populations, and to move closer to the achievement of universal health coverage for all at all ages.” *Source: WHO*

[Making the economic case for investing in actions to prevent and/or tackle loneliness: a systematic review](#)

“There are substantial costs to families, the public purse and society of loneliness; some of these costs potentially are avoidable. A systematic review was undertaken, firstly to better understand what is known about the cost effectiveness of interventions to prevent and/or tackle loneliness experienced by older people, and secondly to understand what types of methods and approaches have been used to cost and /or value impacts of interventions on loneliness.” *Source: London School of Economics and Political Science*

[Review of National Aged Care Quality Regulatory Processes: report](#)

“The review examined why regulatory processes did not adequately identify the systemic and longstanding failures of care at the Makk and McLeay wards documented in the Oakden Report. The Review identified improvements to the regulatory system that will increase the likelihood of immediate detection, and swift remediation by providers.” *Source: Department of Health (Australia)*

[Living well in an aged care home](#)

“Aged care homes are places where our most frail and vulnerable older people live. How do we ensure the highest possible standards of care in aged care homes?” *Source: Research Matters*

[Back to top](#)

Workforce

[Safe and effective staffing: nursing against the odds](#)

“The findings provide a strong voice from nursing staff, clearly describing the impact that poor staffing has on both patient care and their own wellbeing. Some of the experiences and stories shared via the survey have been included throughout the report.” *Source: Royal College of Nursing*

[Research, development and evaluation strategies for pharmaceutical education and the workforce: A global report](#)

“This document is intended for all members of the pharmaceutical workforce, pharmacy leaders, governments and other stakeholders to catalyse needs-based planning, priority setting and forward action towards implementing the global vision. The report is also intended as a tool for member organisations to help prioritise and facilitate the adoption of the Pharmaceutical Workforce Development Goals in the context of their national strategies on health and workforce development.” *Source: International Pharmaceutical Federation*

[Back to top](#)

Child, Youth, & Maternal Health

[The first thousand days: an evidence paper](#)

“This paper takes a comprehensive look at the latest evidence regarding the significance of the first 1000 days, and the biological, global, environmental and social factors that influence children’s outcomes during this critical period of development (and beyond). The paper revealed that there are multiple influences on children’s development, starting from pre-conception, and at the level of the individual child, the family, the community, and broader society. One of the key discoveries was how the foetus uses ‘cues’ provided by their mother’s physical and mental states to ‘predict’ the kind of world they will be born into, and adapts accordingly.” *Source: Centre for Community Child Health*

[Does paid maternity leave help mothers' health and wellbeing?](#)

“It has been widely recognised that maternity leave is important to the health of mothers. But what difference does paid maternity leave make? And does paid maternity leave help to reduce health inequalities?” *Source: University of Melbourne Policy Lab*

[The Best Start: The Future of Children’s Health](#)

“School nurses and health visitors are at the forefront of providing care to children and young people. But this report shows that there has been a significant decline in school nurses and an emerging trend of reductions in the health visiting workforce. It outlines the context to the changes being made to these essential services, and to a workforce vital to the delivery of healthy life chances for all children and families.” *Source: Royal College of Nursing (UK)*

[Multiagency Investigation & Support Team \(MIST\) Pilot: Evaluation Report](#)

“This report summarises the findings of the evaluation of the Multiagency Investigation and Support Team (MIST), a pilot response developed by WA Police (Child Abuse Squad); Department for Child Protection & Family Support (Child First, Armadale & Cannington Districts); WA Department of Health (Princess Margaret Hospital); Department of the Attorney General (Child Witness Service); and Parkerville Children and Youth Care Inc.”
Source: Australian Centre for Child Protection

[Back to top](#)

Public Health

[Thriving in the City: What does it cost?](#)

“The ability to thrive involves more than just physical health. Social and economic needs are important facets of health and well-being that are often overlooked in current policy approaches. Connecting with ones’ community and family, investing in education and employment, and building financial security are essential for achieving good health across the life course. The cost of thriving provides a way to understand the gap between the current environment and one that allows everyone to thrive, and can be a starting point for a broader conversation about what is really needed to improve health and health equity.”

Source: Wellesley Institute

[Microbiomes of the Built Environment: A Research Agenda for Indoor Microbiology, Human Health, and Buildings](#)

“The characteristics of “healthy” indoor environments cannot yet be defined, nor do microbial, clinical, and building researchers yet understand how to modify features of indoor environments—such as building ventilation systems and the chemistry of building materials—in ways that would have predictable impacts on microbial communities to promote health and prevent disease. The factors that affect the environments within buildings, the ways in which building characteristics influence the composition and function of indoor microbial communities, and the ways in which these microbial communities relate to human health and well-being are extraordinarily complex and can be explored only as a dynamic, interconnected ecosystem by engaging the fields of microbial biology and ecology, chemistry, building science, and human physiology. This report reviews what is known about the intersection of these disciplines, and how new tools may facilitate advances in understanding the ecosystem of built environments, indoor microbiomes, and effects on human health and well-being.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[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. Participants discussed the perspectives of civic, government, business, and health-sector leaders, and existing research, best practices, and examples that inform stakeholders and practitioners on approaches to support mitigation of and adaptation to climate change and its effects on population health. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Opportunities for Organ Donor Intervention Research: Saving Lives by Improving the Quality and Quantity of Organs for Transplantation](#)

“This report provides recommendations for how to conduct organ donor intervention research in a manner that maintains high ethical standards, that ensures dignity and respect for deceased organ donors and their families, that provides transparency and information for transplant candidates who might receive a research organ, and that supports and sustains the public’s trust in the process of organ donation and transplantation.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Tobacco control policy overview](#)

“This briefing paper provides a summary on the tobacco control plan, tobacco control policies and smoking cessation services.” *Source: House of Commons Library (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Health Systems, Costs, & Reform

[Partnerships for improvement: ingredients for success](#)

The idea of partnerships and collaboration across organisational boundaries is at the heart of NHS reforms in England. Although we have helped to develop the evidence base for how networks of people can improve quality of care, less is known about what makes for successful partnerships between providers at an organisational level. *Source: Health Foundation*

[Making the case for quality improvement: lessons for NHS boards and leaders](#)

“In this briefing, [the authors] outline 10 lessons for NHS leaders. These provide a starting point for leaders seeking to embed quality improvement in their work.” *Source: King’s Fund*

[Understanding Health-Systems’ Use of and Need for Evidence To Inform Decisionmaking](#)

“The information in this report is intended to help understand health-systems need and use of evidence to inform their decisionmaking.” *Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality*

[Towards an effective NHS payment system: eight principles](#)

“How funding flows through the NHS is one of the levers through which policymakers can effect change across the system. Evidence from the UK and further afield suggests that the

way health care providers are paid can influence the quality and efficiency of services, although this influence may be smaller than anticipated. The payment system for NHS care defines how, and how much, providers are paid for providing services.” *Source: Health Foundation*

[Process guide for identifying issues and fostering dialogue to align public financial management and health financing systems](#)

“This guide lays out an illustrative process for health and finance authorities to engage in productive dialogue, assess the current situation in terms of how aligned the PFM system and health financing system are, and work towards a joint policy roadmap to improve alignment.” *Source: WHO*

[Back to top](#)

Nutrition

[Strategies to Limit Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Consumption in Young Children: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief](#)

“On June 21–22, 2017, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Food and Nutrition Board convened a workshop in Washington, DC, to explore the range of policies and programs that exist at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels to limit sugar-sweetened beverage consumption in children birth to 5 years of age. Topics examined over the course of the 1.5-day workshop included prevalence and trends in beverage intake among young children; beverage intake guidelines applicable to the age range of interest; challenges and opportunities of influencing beverage consumption; the role of industry in beverage intake; and knowledge gaps and research needs. This publication highlights key points made by individual speakers during the presentations and discussions.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Serving up inequality: how sex and gender impact women's relationship with food](#)

“Though biological factors of sex and life-stage affect women’s nutritional needs, women’s food choices and dietary practices are strongly influenced by structural, social and economic factors. This paper explores various aspects of women’s health relating to food.” *Source: Women’s Health Victoria*

[Back to top](#)

Family Violence

[Prevention of child abuse and neglect](#)

“This resource provides an overview of prevention of child abuse and neglect, with a focus on primary prevention.” *Source: Child Family Community Australia*

[Seeking help for domestic and family violence: Exploring regional, rural and remote women’s coping experiences: final report](#)

“This report presents the results of a qualitative study examining the experiences of women seeking help for domestic and family violence who live in regional, rural, and remote areas in Australia. The study contributes to the limited evidence on how geographical and social

isolation shapes women's coping with, and decisions to seek assistance for, domestic and family violence, and their efforts to live safely." *Source: Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety*

[Back to top](#)

Long-Term Conditions

[Struggling to Stay on Track: Participants share benefits and barriers to completing the National Diabetes Prevention Program](#)

"In an effort to prevent the disease and manage its severity, the National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) operates with 435 organizations, offering a lifestyle modification, diabetes prevention program to nearly 36,000 adults. This report shares the experiences, challenges, and recommendations of NDPP program participants who found it difficult to complete the NDPP program." *Source: New York Academy of Medicine*

[A Community Health Worker Model to Address Childhood Asthma: Perspectives of Program Participants](#)

"This report, from the Academy and Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service, focuses on an innovative Community Health Worker program which assists low-income families in addressing conditions that exacerbate childhood asthma. It describes program services and their impact from the perspective of participants, who note the importance of education, skill-building and advocacy for addressing unhealthy housing conditions. The findings and recommendations offer useful insights for modeling similar programs in cities nationwide." *Source: New York Academy of Medicine*

[Literature review: the economic costs of lung disease and the cost effectiveness of policy and service interventions](#)

"This report describes the conduct and results of a literature review of the available evidence on the economic costs of lung disease and the cost effectiveness of policy and service interventions." *Source: British Lung Foundation*

[Back to top](#)

Cancer

['Am I meant to be okay now?': stories of life after treatment](#)

"The stories in this report show us just some of the ways that cancer can affect people's lives once they have finished their treatment. But they also tell us that there is more that can be done to make sure that everyone with cancer gets the best possible support in the future." *Source: MacMillan Cancer Support*

[Radiation risk with digital mammography in breast screening](#)

"This review estimates the risks and benefits of breast screening in terms of number of deaths due to radiation-induced cancers and the number of lives saved due to digital breast screening in the NHS Breast Screening Programme (NHSBSP) in England." *Source: Public Health England*

[Back to top](#)

Person-centred Care

[Integrating the Patient and Caregiver Voice into Serious Illness Care: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“This workshop was the first in a series planned by the roundtable, and was designed specifically to bring together diverse personal perspectives and experiences about priorities and values that are important to patients and families coping with serious illness, and to consider solutions that support integration of these priorities and values in practice. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Personalised health and care 2020: patient, carers and service user vision](#)

“This Patient, Carers and Service User Vision aims to say briefly, in plain English, what the Government’s and national health and care organisations’ current portfolio of programmes will enable health and social care services to deliver for people in England through improved use of information technology. It describes what will be different as the national health and care organisations support local services to introduce the changes planned by the National Information Board.” *Source: National Information Board (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Inequalities

[The impact of homelessness on health: a guide for local authorities](#)

“Homelessness is bad for all our health, and wealth. Homelessness is a measure of our collective success, or otherwise, in reducing inequalities. The information and ideas in this briefing aim to support local authorities in protecting and improving their population’s health and wellbeing, and reducing health inequalities, by tackling homelessness and its causes.” *Source: Local Government Authority*

[The heart of inequality](#)

“This report highlights [the] collective work in investigating heart health disparities among disadvantaged individuals and communities. It also highlights [the] ongoing efforts to develop and apply innovative strategies that will reduce key inequalities in the “heart health” of vulnerable individuals/communities.” *Source: Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research (Australia)*

[Health Literacy: A Summary for Clinicians](#)

“Taking steps to ensure patients understand and can act on the information and services you provide can help reduce the risk of harm to patients.” *Source: Australian Commission on Quality and Safety in Health Care*

[Psychosocial pathways and health outcomes](#)

“This report highlights the current evidence that exists about the relationships between social determinants, psychosocial factors and health outcomes. It also provides a conceptual framework that focuses on the psychosocial pathways between factors associated with social, economic and environmental conditions, psychological and psychobiological

processes, health behaviours and mental and physical health outcomes.” *Source: Public Health England*

[Back to top](#)

Social Care & Disability

[National Disability Insurance Scheme \(NDIS\) costs: study report](#)

“The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a new scheme designed to change the way that support and care are provided to people with permanent and significant disability. This study is a review of NDIS costs.” *Source: Productivity Commission (Australia)*

[Back to top](#)

Health Technology

[The impacts of eHealth upon hospital practice: synthesis of the current literature](#)

“The aim of this brief is to provide, for policy-makers, an analysis of current literature relating to the effects to be expected from hospital implementation of eHealth technologies.” *Source: Deeble Institute (Australia)*

[Enabling Precision Medicine: The Role of Genetics in Clinical Drug Development: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“On March 8, 2017, the Forum on Drug Discovery, Development, and Translation and the Roundtable on Genomics and Precision Health of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine hosted the workshop Enabling Precision Medicine: The Role of Genetics in Clinical Drug Development. Participants examined successes, challenges, and possible best practices for effectively using genetic information in the design and implementation of clinical trials to support the development of precision medicines, including exploring the potential advantages and disadvantages of such trials across a variety of disease areas. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

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