



Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 49, 2017, September

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 links below to go to a section of interest.

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

[Workforce](#)

[Trends & Innovations](#)

[Health of Older People](#)

[Integration](#)

[Cancer](#)

[Health Research, Technology, & Information](#)

[Disability & Social Care](#)

[Public Health](#)

[Inequalities](#)

[Mental Health & Addiction](#)

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[Developing accountable care systems: Lessons from Canterbury, New Zealand](#)

"One of the biggest challenges currently facing the NHS is how to slow increasing demand for acute hospital care. In New Zealand, the transformation of the Canterbury health system provides an example of how this has been done, and indicates that expanding hospital

capacity is not inevitable if investment is made in alternative models of provision and community-based services.” *Source: King’s Fund*

[Primary Care Home: Evaluating a new model of primary care](#)

“This is an evaluation report for the Primary Care Home (PCH) model – a way of organising care for groups of 30,000 to 50,000 patients. It was developed by the National Association of Primary Care (NAPC), which commissioned this report. Established last year, the model seeks to link staff from general practice, community-based services, hospitals, mental health services, social care and voluntary organisations to deliver joined-up care.” *Source: Nuffield Trust*

[Private Health Insurance: a quick guide](#)

“The financing arrangements for health care in Australia are complex, reflecting both historical developments unique to Australia and its federal system of government. Australia's health system is a mix of public and private health care. Broadly, publicly-financed health care primarily refers to services funded through government programs such as Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, as well as public hospital services that are jointly funded by the Commonwealth and the states and territories. In addition, some health services are funded through private health insurance, individual out-of-pocket payments, and third party insurers such as motor vehicle insurers.” *Source: Parliamentary Library of Australia*

[Back to top](#)

Trends & Innovations

[Flipping the narrative: Essays on transformation from the sector’s boldest voices](#)

“NPC have published 16 essays from innovative leaders in the social sector. They’re thinking about, and putting into action, new ways of achieving social change for the causes and beneficiaries their organisations exist to serve.” *Source: NPC (UK)*

[NHS top managers, knowledge exchange and leadership: The early development of Academic Health Science Networks - A mixed-methods study](#)

“This study responded to a call for research on how innovations and new knowledge could be spread more effectively in the NHS. It explored the emerging strategies and practices of the AHSNs as they tried to do this.” *Source: National Institute for Health Research*

[Disruptive Innovation in Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation](#)

“This brief, a product of the Complex Care Innovation Lab made possible by Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit, outlines the current state of Medicaid NEMT services, its challenges, and opportunities for improvement. It explores alternative transportation models piloted by states and health plans across the country, including the use of transportation network companies, such as Uber and Lyft, to augment NEMT services.” *Source: Center for Health Care Strategies, Inc*

[Back to top](#)

Integration

[**A Playbook for Fostering Hospital-Community Partnerships to Build a Culture of Health**](#)

“With support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Health Research & Educational Trust has developed a playbook of effective methods, tools and strategies to create new partnerships and sustain successful existing ones. The playbook also incorporates lessons learned from HRET’s Learning in Collaborative Communities cohort, communities from across the U.S. with strong, successful hospital-community partnerships. Site visits to these communities yielded insights on how to manage, strengthen and accelerate collaborations effectively.” *Source: American Hospital Association*

[**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](#)

Health Research, Technology, & Information

[**Issues to consider when implementing pharmacy access to local electronic health records \(EHRs\)**](#)

“This PSNC Briefing provides a list of issues to be considered by Local Pharmaceutical Committees (LPCs) and community pharmacy contractors when pharmacy access to local EHR systems is being planned.” *Source: Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (UK)*

[**Enhancing the use of scientific evidence to judge the potential benefits and harms of medicines**](#)

“The Academy of Medical Sciences has been undertaking a project to examine how the generation, trustworthiness and communication of scientific evidence can be enhanced to strengthen its role in decisions by patients, carers, healthcare professionals and others about the benefits and harms of medicines.” *Source: Academy of Medical Sciences*

[**Developing a Methodological Research Program for Longitudinal Studies: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief**](#)

“One of the strategic objectives of the National Institute on Aging (NIA) is to “support the development of population-based data sets, especially from longitudinal studies, suitable for analysis of biological, behavioral, and social factors affecting health, well-being, and functional status through the life course.” To contribute to that objective and to inform the development of a methodological research program for longitudinal studies, the Committee on National Statistics held a public workshop in June 2017. The discussion focused on challenges that are specific to the types of longitudinal studies supported by NIA and aimed to identify areas of methodological research that could be pursued in order to benefit from emerging methods, new techniques, or other opportunities to enhance the data and increase data collection efficiency.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Decommissioning health care: Identifying best practice through primary and secondary research - A prospective mixed-methods study](#)

“Making the most of NHS resources requires investment in new services as well as stopping services that do not give the best benefits to patients. However, reducing, replacing or removing health care (referred to here as decommissioning) is difficult to achieve. [The researchers] aimed to provide evidence-based advice on this topic.” *Source: National Institute for Health Research*

[Digital health in Australia: what works, and future directions](#)

“This report provides an overview of the outcomes of a stakeholder workshop exploring the potential of Digital Health Technologies.” *Source: University of Canberra*

[Using Evidence: What Works? A Discussion Paper](#)

“Using Evidence: What Works?’ is an introduction to and discussion of the findings from the research project The Science of Using Science. The aim of the project was to uncover the evidence on what works to enable decision-makers’ research use. We all have our favourite methods of knowledge exchange, but do we have rigorous evidence that these methods do actually change people’s use of research (and/or motivation, capacity or opportunity to do so)?” *Source: Alliance for Useful Evidence*

[Back to top](#)

Public Health

[Financial case for action on liver disease: Escalating costs of alcohol misuse, obesity and viral hepatitis](#)

“Worsening liver disease health outcomes could be reversed through concerted preventive action to tackle its main causes: alcohol misuse, obesity and viral hepatitis. Voluntary agreements with the food and drinks and alcohol industries have proved ineffective. Through this paper, the Foundation for Liver Research seeks to make the financial case for public health action in these areas and urges the implementation of targeted measures recommended by the independent Lancet Commission on Liver Disease. This paper summarises the escalating financial costs to the health and care system as well as the wider societal costs related to the three lifestyle-related risk factors.” *Source: Foundation for Liver Research*

[Guiding Principles for Developing Dietary Reference Intakes Based on Chronic Disease](#)

“In 2015, a multidisciplinary working group sponsored by the Canadian and U.S. government DRI steering committees convened to identify key scientific challenges encountered in the use of chronic disease endpoints to establish DRI values. Their report, Options for Basing Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs) on Chronic Disease: Report from a Joint US-/Canadian-Sponsored Working Group, outlined and proposed ways to address conceptual and methodological challenges related to the work of future DRI Committees. This report assesses the options presented in the previous report and determines guiding principles for including chronic disease endpoints for food substances that will be used by future National Academies committees in establishing DRIs.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Asleep on the job: costs of inadequate sleep in Australia](#)

“This report looks at the estimated costs of inadequate sleep in Australia for the financial year 2017.” *Source: Deloitte*

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

“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. It offers a research agenda to generate the information needed so that stakeholders with an interest in understanding the impacts of built environments will be able to make more informed decisions.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Preparing for the Future of Disaster Health Volunteerism: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief](#)

“On April 26, 2017, the Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Disasters and Emergencies convened a workshop during a 4-hour session of the 2017 Preparedness Summit. Participants discussed potential characteristics of society in the year 2042 and the key resources, tools, and opportunities necessary to support the development of a robust, scalable, and regularly engaged disaster health volunteer workforce prepared for such a future. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Ten minutes brisk walking each day in mid-life for health benefits and towards achieving physical activity recommendations: evidence summary](#)

“This evidence review finds that 41 per cent of adults aged 40 to 60 in England walk less than ten minutes continuously each month at a brisk pace. The review was released to coincide with the launch of the One You physical activity campaign which aims to encourage adults to build ten minutes continuous brisk walking into their day as a simple way to improve their health.” *Source: Public Health England*

[Tobacco-free generations - Protecting children from tobacco in the WHO European Region](#)

“Several Member States in the WHO European Region are moving towards becoming tobacco-free: a smoking prevalence of 5% or less. Emphasis, in particular, is on protecting younger generations from smoking initiation and other tobacco-related harm.” *Source: WHO*

[Back to top](#)

Workforce

[Workforce planning and development: Ensuring the workforce is best able to deliver future services](#)

“Te Pou has developed the Getting it right workforce planning and development framework which describes how health policy, strategy, and population health needs are translated into a workforce that is best able to meet future service needs. The Getting it right series of resources support organisations to undertake future-focused, people-centred workforce planning and development activities. These resources will support services to make effective

workforce decisions so they are well placed to deliver on health strategy and policy intentions or directions.” *Source: Te Pou*

[Improving the working environment for safe surgical care](#)

“In this discussion paper, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) reports on what a cross-section of the UK surgical workforce believes is most needed to improve the delivery of safe surgical care within their working environment. The report uses these results, and other evidence from across the profession, to make a series of recommendations for such improvements.” *Source: Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh*

[Back to top](#)

Health of Older People

[Dementia in older age: barriers to primary prevention and factors](#)

“To promote primary prevention of dementia, it is important to understand both the barriers to primary prevention and factors which facilitate primary prevention.” *Source: Public Health England*

[Future reform: an integrated care at home program to support older Australians - discussion paper](#)

“The paper canvasses a range of policy options for future care at home reform that could be progressively implemented over the next few years.” *Source: Department of Health (Australia)*

[Engage Your Brain: GCBH Recommendations on Cognitively Stimulating Activities](#)

“Cognitively stimulating activities are mentally engaging activities or exercises that challenge a person’s ability to think. Many people wonder if you can maintain your thinking abilities as you age by stimulating your brain through various intellectual activities. On March 19-21st, 2017, members of the GCBH met in Washington, DC to examine the impact of cognitively stimulating activities on brain health for adults age 50 and older. Throughout the discussion, experts examined the evidence on whether engaging in cognitively stimulating activities has been shown to: (1) influence people’s brains in a positive way, (2) help maintain or improve people’s cognition, or (3) help people function better in everyday life.” *Source: Global Council for Brain Health*

[Back to top](#)

Cancer

[The Drug Development Paradigm in Oncology: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“To explore this new landscape in cancer drug development, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine developed a workshop held in December 2016. This workshop convened cancer researchers, patient advocates, and representatives from industry, academia, and government to discuss challenges with traditional approaches to drug development, opportunities to improve the efficiency of drug development, and strategies to enhance the information available about a cancer therapy throughout its life

cycle in order to improve its use in clinical practice. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

Disability & Social Care

[The Promise of Assistive Technology to Enhance Activity and Work Participation](#)

“The Promise of Assistive Technology to Enhance Activity and Work Participation provides an analysis of selected assistive products and technologies, including wheeled and seated mobility devices, upper-extremity prostheses, and products and technologies selected by the committee that pertain to hearing and to communication and speech in adults.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[An evidence rating scale for New Zealand: Understanding the effectiveness of interventions in the social sector](#)

“Government agencies and the service providers they invest in undertake a substantial amount of research and evaluation. Such evidence, when of the right quality, is a crucial part of decision making around whether or not the programmes or services they develop, invest in or deliver make a positive difference to vulnerable New Zealanders. This rating scale provides a standard against which the evidence for effectiveness of social sector interventions can be assessed.” *Source: Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit*

[The social and economic cost of hearing loss in Australia](#)

“The Hearing Care Industry Association (HCIA) commissioned Deloitte Access Economics to prepare this report, with the intention of raising awareness of the economic cost of hearing impairment in Australia and to inform policy making.” *Source: Deloitte*

["Someone cares if I'm not there": addressing loneliness in disabled people](#)

“This report, produced for the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness, explores why loneliness affects so many people with disabilities. It looks at some of the barriers to making social connections for disabled people living with sensory impairments, learning disability, autism, physical and mobility impairment, mental health problems, dementia, head and brain injury, neurological conditions, cancer and HIV.” *Source: SENSE*

[Back to top](#)

Inequalities

[The comparative wellbeing of the New Zealand Maori and Indigenous Australian populations since 2000](#)

“This paper argues that Indigenous economic wellbeing can be partly improved by addressing broader macroeconomic factors.” *Source: Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research*

[Health Matters: The health needs of homeless people in Wales](#)

“This report highlights how health problems can be both a cause and consequence of homelessness.” *Source: Cymorth Cymru*

[Back to top](#)

Mental Health & Addiction

[Mental Health Workforce Plan](#)

“Stepping Forward to 2020/21: Mental Health Workforce Plan for England is a fully-researched and considered response to the commitments made in both the Five Year Forward View for Mental Health and Future in Mind.” *Source: Health Education England*

[We are family: stories of family and whānau affected by someone else's use of alcohol or other drugs](#)

“Problematic use of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) affects people across all walks of life and at all stages of life. Being affected by someone else's problematic use of AOD can be challenging, shameful and lonely. Silence divides us and diminishes our strength. These are stories of courage and hope, people sharing their journey with us and providing an antidote to the shame and stigma that keeps people isolated.” *Source: Matua Raki*

[Building thriving communities through social connection](#)

“In 2016, the National Mental Health Commission provided funding for SANE Australia to pilot a fully integrated awareness campaign promoting the benefits of online peer support to enhance meaningful social connection for Australians affected by complex mental illness.” *Source: SANE Australia*

[Provision of services under the NDIS for people with psychosocial disabilities related to a mental health condition](#)

“The NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) eligibility criteria for people with mental illness is a central concern for all stakeholders. This report found that whilst the current eligibility criteria could be improved to provide greater clarity, the apparent reliance on diagnosis, rather than functional needs, is likely to result in inconsistent eligibility outcomes for applicants.” *Source: Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme*

[Effectiveness of alcohol and other drug interventions in at-risk Aboriginal youth](#)

“This review was conducted to identify the most effective interventions to reduce the risk of alcohol and other drug (AOD) related harm among at-risk Aboriginal youth.” *Source: Sax Institute*

[2015 New Zealand Mental Health Monitor: Indicators of Mental Health and Wellbeing of Adults](#)

“This report presents data from the 2015 New Zealand Mental Health Monitor (NZMHM) to provide a high-level summary of the mental health and wellbeing of New Zealand adults. The NZMHM was developed by HPA in 2015, and is designed to be nationally representative.” *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[2015 New Zealand Mental Health Monitor: Attitudes of adults towards people with experience of mental distress](#)

“This report provides an initial overview of the current self-reported knowledge, attitudes and intended behaviour of adults in New Zealand towards people with experience of mental

distress. The report uses data from the 2015 New Zealand Mental Health Monitor (NZMHM), a nationally representative monitor managed by the Health Promotion Agency (HPA). As 2015 was the first time this monitor was in the field it provides a baseline from which to compare future monitors.” *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[Back to top](#)

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