Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 53, 2017, December

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.

Health IT

Investigation: WannaCry cyber attack and the NHS
"This report outlines the findings of an investigation into the impact of the WannaCry ransomware attack on the NHS and its patients; why some parts of the NHS were affected;

and how the Department of Health and NHS national bodies responded to the attack."
Source: National Audit Office (UK)

[**The Growing Value of Digital Health in the United Kingdom: Evidence and Impact on Human Health and the Healthcare System**](#)
"This report on Digital Health examines trends in three areas — innovation, evidence and adoption — to assess whether these new tools are positioned to have a fundamental impact on patient care specific to the U.K. healthcare system." *Source: IQVIA Institute*

[**The future of public service identity: blockchain**](#)
"This report explores how blockchain technology could be used for public services identity management, shifting the ownership of personal data from government to citizens. It argues that the current government identity management model is inefficient and inconvenient."
Source: Reform

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Health of Older People

[**Moving More, Ageing Well**](#)
"Maintaining an active lifestyle is vital to both living and ageing well. While taking part in any amount of physical activity, at any stage in life, can have a powerful positive impact on an individual's health - amongst older people, it is key to maintaining a healthy, independent life for longer, and it is crucial in preventing the onset of many lifestyle- and age-related long-term health conditions." *Source: ukactive*

[**Evidence Check: Specialist dementia care units**](#)
"This Evidence Check review examined the international evidence regarding effective management and care of people with severe and extreme behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia. The review looked at what specialist dementia care units have been shown to be effective in managing symptoms of dementia, with a focus on identifying common elements and critical success factors." *Source: Sax Institute*

[**Calling time: addressing ageism and age discrimination in alcohol policy, practice and research**](#)
"Through consideration of case studies and research on older people and drinking, and some approaches to policy on prevention and services, Drink Wise, Age Well has drawn up guidance and recommendations for a swathe of organisations and professions, providing a vital tool in promoting health, happiness and a productive retirement for a growing generation." *Source: Drink Wise Age Well*

[**Ageing and homelessness: solutions to a growing problem**](#)
"With an ageing population and growing levels of housing stress and homelessness across Australia, there is an urgent need to better understand the challenges faced by older people that may place them at risk of homelessness. It is also important to understand what more can be done to prevent and address homelessness and ensure older people are housed in a way that accords them the dignity and respect they deserve." *Source: Mission Australia*

[The Future of Home and Community Care: Proceedings From The Centre for the Future of Health Meeting](#)

"This briefing presents the highlights of the Centre for the Future of Health's November 2016 meeting on the future of home and community care and how design, delivery, and support could evolve to suit Canadians' changing needs." *Source: Conference Board of Canada *sign up for free account to download*

[Exercising Choice in Long-Term Residential Care](#)

"Our research indicates that strategies intended to support choices for long-term care residents must be based on the understanding that care is a relationship involving residents, their families and workers. It also means understanding that appropriate conditions of work are central to care as a relationship that allows residents and their families to exercise choices. Included in those conditions are provisions that allow staff to know residents and families, that give them the time they need to devote to resident care and that encourage staff to use their judgement in responding to the preferences of residents and families. Although what makes up appropriate conditions varies from place to place, we have identified some that are essential to supporting choices." *Source: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives*

[Connecting People, Connecting Support](#)

"Developed through collaborative working with the Scottish Government, the allied health professional community and the experiences of people living with dementia, 'Connecting People, Connecting Support' framework features as one of the key commitments outlined in Scotland's third national dementia strategy (2017-2020)." *Source: Alzheimer Scotland*

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Disability & Social Care

[LGBTQI+ disabled people and self-directed social care support](#)

"LGBTQI+ Disabled People who use self-directed support reported many positives from having more choice, control and power. Concerns included: coming out to social care staff jeopardising support; difficulties in recruiting and retaining good PAs; difficulties in securing support for `social hours' leading to social isolation; and reactions of other people." *Source: School for Social Care Research (UK)*

[Acknowledging Ability: Overcoming the Barriers to Employment for People Living with Disability](#)

"People who are living with a disability are vastly overrepresented in New Zealand's poverty figures, and 74 percent of those who are not in work want to be working. This research shows a pressing need to break down the barriers to employment for these New Zealanders, to allow them to access this key pathway to belonging and participation in society." *Source: Maxim Institute*

[Let's talk. Improving conversations about disability at work](#)

"Scope's Let's Talk report, looks at disabled people's experiences of talking about their impairment or condition at work. Scope's research found that many disabled people struggle to share information about their impairment or condition in the workplace. This can make it

harder for disabled people to access the support and adjustments they need to carry out their job." *Source: Scope UK*

[Rehabilitation and disability in the Western Pacific](#)
"In 2015, the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific conducted a survey on the status of rehabilitation and disability in the Western Pacific Region. It is the first survey of its kind in the Region, intending to provide information on the status of national capacity to provide disability inclusive health care, rehabilitation, assistive technology, community-based rehabilitation and disability data in the Western Pacific Region." *Source: WHO*

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Public & Global Health

[The regulation of e-cigarettes](#)
"The new European Union Tobacco Products Directive (TPD) entered into force on 19 May 2014. It introduced new regulatory controls on electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), as well as setting out requirements on tobacco products. The UK Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016 implemented the TPD in full. This Commons Library Briefing Paper outlines the new product requirements for e-cigarettes and identifies where national regulations have gone beyond what is in the TPD." *Source: House of Commons Library (UK)*

[Healthy people, healthy planet](#)
"This report was produced to inform the 2017 meeting of the G7 ministers of health. It provides a broad overview of the main policy actions that G7 countries can take to improve population health and to decrease the human footprint on the environment." *Source: OECD*

[Impact of Air and Water Pollution on the Environment and Public Health](#)
"This Lords Library Briefing was prepared for f the debate which took place in the House of Lords on 26 October 2017 on the impact of air and water pollution on the environment and public health." *Source: House of Lords Library*

[Health matters: preventing infections and reducing antimicrobial resistance](#)
"This professional resource outlines the importance of infection prevention and control and how it can contribute to reducing antimicrobial resistance." *Source: Public Health England*

[Using Technology to Advance Global Health: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)
"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*

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Child, Youth, & Maternal Health

[Getting it Right: The Children's Convention in Aotearoa](#)
"When the New Zealand Government ratified the Children's Convention, it agreed to promote, protect, respect and fulfil the rights of all children. The Government made a promise to New Zealand children to put the rights guaranteed in the Children's Convention in our laws, policies and practices. The Government also agreed to share publicly what they are doing to ensure children are safe, healthy and thriving and to report their progress to the United Nations every five years." *Source: Children's Commissioner (New Zealand)*

[Protecting, promoting and supporting breastfeeding in facilities providing maternity and newborn services: Guideline](#)
""This guideline provides global, evidence-informed recommendations on protection, promotion and support of optimal breastfeeding in facilities providing maternity and newborn services, as a public health intervention." *Source: WHO*

[Concepts of community: Young people's concerns, views and experiences – findings from the Youth Survey 2016](#)
"This report makes comparisons between the responses of young people from different socio-economic areas across a range of issues and questions, with a specific focus on the issues identified as the most important by respondents. The main purpose of this report is to compare the results in terms of young people's concerns about alcohol and other drug use in their communities; their feelings of trust and safety within their local community; their experiences as a target or witness of discrimination; their participation in community life and social activities; and their most common sources of social support in a crisis." *Source: Mission Australia*

[Childhood injury prevention: strategic directions for coordination in New South Wales](#)
"This report builds on the earlier work by addressing a number of critical questions about effective approaches to coordination of injury prevention initiatives. Drawing on comparable systems nationally and internationally, as well as expert stakeholder interviews throughout 2016, the report identifies strategic directions for coordination of initiatives in NSW. Key themes identified are the need for effective policy leadership; strong data and information systems; research and knowledge translation networks; and coalitions, collaborations and partnerships." *Source: Centre for Health Service Development*

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Cancer & Palliative Care

[Models and Strategies to Integrate Palliative Care Principles into Care for People with Serious Illness: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)
"To better understand how the principles of palliative care can be integrated into the overall provision of care and services to those facing serious illness, the Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness held a public workshop in April 2017. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Life before death: improving palliative care for older Australians](#)
"The notion that the problems associated with modern death and dying can be solved simply by allowing more Australians to die at home is an oversimplification. Moreover, the myth that most people want to die at home, but don't, has also unhelpfully reinforced the popular fear that grim, distressing, painful and undignified "natural death" in hospital should be avoided at all costs. These myths undermine the broader benefits that good palliative care can provide for patients." *Source: Centre for Independent Studies*

[Cancer biomarkers in Australia](#)
"This report reviews the evidence for the efficacy of biomarkers and examines overseas precedents for their regulation and the Australian context. It also reports on the opinions of the end-users of biomarkers who are ultimately responsible for their measurement being translated into improved patient care and outcomes." *Source: Sansom Institute for Health Research*

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Mental Health & Addiction

[Of primary importance: commissioning mental health services in primary care](#)
"This report showcases programmes that are embedding mental health services in primary care and draws out advice from the commissioners and practitioners involved in their development and delivery." *Source: NHS Clinical Commissioners*

[Improving mental health support for our children and young people](#)
"The Expert Working Group gathered evidence from a review of literature about what the mental health needs of looked after children were, and held a Call for Evidence of good practice. The group also considered what a good system to support the health and wellbeing of looked after children would look like, and described its key features." *Source: Social Care Institute for Excellence*

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Community Engagement

[Public engagement: a practical guide](#)
"This is a practical guide for researchers on involving the public in working out how to communicate findings - from the earliest stages of projects, and on the most challenging of subjects." *Source: Sense About Science*

[Public Deliberation: What is it and why do it?](#)
"This new Academy report explores the process and value of engaging community members in discussions about health-related decisions being considered in their neighborhood. The authors explain how public deliberation gives a broad range of people in a community an opportunity to articulate their values, attitudes and perceptions related to the topic in question, with an emphasis on including everyone, but especially those who can bring the perspectives of medically underserved populations." *Source: New York Academy of Medicine*

[The Added Value of Patient Organisations](#)

"The objective of the report is to emphasise the contribution of patient organisations in representing and voicing the situation of a specific population that would otherwise not be represented." *Source: European Patients Forum*

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Health Research & Information

[Complexity Science in Healthcare: A White Paper](#)

"The complexity science approach to understanding, acting on, and researching health systems is becoming increasingly popular. It is therefore timely to release an analysis of complexity and its characteristics, and apply them to healthcare. This is the objective of this White Paper." *Source: Australian Institute of Health Innovation*

[Strengthening safety statistics: How to make hospital safety data more useful](#)

"This report looks at data on patient outcomes: routine data, clinical quality registry data, death audit data, incident reporting and investigation data, patient-reported experience measures, and patient-reported outcome measures. This report makes specific recommendations for each data set, and two overarching recommendations: that the links between data sets should be stronger, and that data should be presented more clearly." *Source: Grattan Institute*

[Health Technology Assessment in Canada: Opportunities for Optimization and Redesign](#)

"Health Technology Assessment in Canada: Opportunities for Optimization and Redesign discusses the HTA landscape in Canada, assesses two international approaches and learnings for Canada (the United Kingdom and Germany), and identifies opportunities for HTA redesign to ensure value for dollars. One of the important challenges to be addressed in HTA is how it is used from a policy and practice perspective—that is, does HTA adequately influence decisions and does it support an efficient and effective health care system?" *Source: Conference Board of Canada *sign up for free account to download*

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Health Systems, Costs, & Reform

[Some Assembly Required: Implementing New Models of Care](#)

"While the design and technical aspects of the new care models have been discussed by others, this report seeks to shine more light on how the sites have made changes. Based on first-hand accounts from clinicians and managers who developed and implemented new care models, this report describes an approach to change that emphasises local co-creation and testing of care models as an alternative to the traditional top-down structural approach to change in the NHS." *Source: Health Foundation*

[Embedding a culture of quality improvement](#)

"The report draws on a roundtable event, semi-structured interviews with senior NHS leaders and stakeholders involved in quality improvement initiatives, and a literature review. It

identifies relevant learning from organisations that have already adopted quality improvement approaches, and focuses on how senior leaders can create the right conditions for quality improvement to emerge and flourish." *Source: King's Fund*

[Behavioural design teams: the next frontier in clinical delivery innovation?](#)
"A deep understanding of human behavior is critical to designing effective health care delivery models, tools, and processes. Currently, however, few mechanisms exist to systematically apply insights about human behavior to improve health outcomes. Behavioral design teams (BDTs) are a successful model for applying behavioral insights within an organization. Already operational within government, this model can be adapted to function in a health care setting." *Source: Commonwealth Fund*

[Does hospital competition improve efficiency? The effect of the patient choice reform in England](#)
"This paper investigates the effect of hospital competition on dimensions of efficiency including indicators of resource management and costs. Findings suggest that increased competition had mixed effects on efficiency." *Source: Centre for Health Economics (UK)*

[Wellness Initiatives: Trends in Organizational Health Management](#)
"Wellness Initiatives: Trends in Organizational Health Management highlights why investing in employee well-being makes good business sense. The report examines how Canadian employers are approaching their corporate wellness strategies and demonstrates employers' ongoing commitment to employee health promotion and wellness initiatives." *Source: Conference Board of Canada *sign up for free account to download*

[After Pneumonia: The Post-Discharge Patient Pathway](#)
"This briefing aims to establish if there is a relationship between pneumonia hospitalization in the elderly population and measures of quality of life that have financial implications for the Canadian health care system, such as alternate level of care days, re-hospitalization, and discharge to home or residential care. This briefing also aims to estimate the difference in resource utilization and costs associated with pneumonia hospitalization compared with non-pneumonia patients." *Source: Conference Board of Canada *sign up for free account to download*

[Examining the Effects of Value-based: Physician Payment Models](#)
"Healthcare provider remuneration mechanisms are one of the key policy levers that decision-makers can harness to influence health-system performance. While value-based payment models have been proposed as a mechanism to address changing population needs and health-system priorities, little is known about the effects of these types of payment approaches." *Source: McMaster Health Forum*

[How's Life in New Zealand?](#)
"On average, New Zealand performs well across the different well-being indicators and dimensions relative to other OECD countries. It has higher employment and lower long-term unemployment than the OECD average, and benefits from lower-than-average levels of labour market insecurity and job strain. Reported social support is also one of the highest in the OECD. While New Zealand's environmental quality is high, its performance is mixed in terms of personal security and housing conditions." *Source: OECD*

Community & Primary Care

Flow in providers of community health services: good practice guidance
"Good patient flow across health and social care systems is crucial for the NHS to run an effective and sustainable service. This report sets out nine measures that would help improve patient flow, which will lead to better clinical outcomes and increased capacity during the winter period." *Source: NHS Improvement*

Heartbeats on the high street: how community pharmacy can transform Britain's health, wealth and wellbeing
"This report highlights the unique role and "social capital" of community pharmacy. It argues that by putting pharmacies at the heart of public health, they can become vital institutions of localism, care and social reform. The report makes the case for community pharmacy as a transformative solution for health and wellbeing." *Source: Respublica*

Five key interventions to facilitate patients to better self-care, improve their health and wellbeing and reduce demand on general practice if implemented systematically across primary care
"This report presents 5 key public health interventions for primary care, with the aim of improving patient health, well-being and service experience, whilst reducing long term costs and pressures on the NHS." *Source: Public Health England*

Inequalities & Equity

Keeping us well: how non-health charities address the social determinants of health
"This report aims to support non-health charities to better understand and use the evidence about the social factors that impact on people's health and well-being." *Source: The Health Foundation*

Facilitating Health Communication with Immigrant, Refugee, and Migrant Populations Through the Use of Health Literacy and Community Engagement Strategies
"To better understand how the public health and health care communities can meet the challenges of serving an increasingly diverse population, the Roundtable on Health Literacy conducted a public workshop on facilitating health communication with immigrant, refugee, and migrant populations through the use of health literate approaches. The goal of the workshop was to identify approaches that will enable organizations that serve these ethnically and culturally diverse populations in a manner that allows all members of these communities to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and the services needed to make appropriate health and personal decisions. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

Review of the national Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) ageing and aged care strategy: final report

"The National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Ageing and Aged Care Strategy (the LGBTI Strategy) was released by the Australian government in December 2012, as part of a wider aged care reform process designed to increase sector accountability and consumer information, choice and control. This report reviews the actions undertaken to implement the principles and goals of the LGBTI Strategy and considers the success of the LGBTI Strategy – and opportunities for improvement – from the perspectives of stakeholders." *Source: Department of Health (Australia)*

[Supporting vulnerable households to achieve their housing goals: the role of impact investment](#)

"This report is part of an AHURI Inquiry into social impact investment for housing and homelessness outcomes and addresses the question: What are the actual, potential and perceived opportunities and risks of social impact investment (SII) for housing and homelessness policy in Australia? It examines different SII finance options and uses financial modelling and case studies to address this question with a focus on access to housing and support for vulnerable households." *Source: Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute*

[Bystander research snapshot report](#)

"The survey showed that all respondents think it is common for females to be treated unfairly and/or without respect in a range of settings, indicating that sexism, gender discrimination and gender inequality are widespread problems in Australia. The survey also highlighted that a worrying number of respondents still have problematic attitudes around gender stereotypes, women's roles and gender equality. But the good news is that a large majority of respondents think incidences of sexism, gender discrimination and gender equality are concerning and people want advice about how to speak up against these types of situations." *Source: Kantar Research*

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Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity

[Towards more physical activity: Transforming public spaces to promote physical activity](#)

"This publication focuses on physical activity and how it can be supported through urban planning. The focus on physical activity is explained by the fact that inactivity today accounts for an increasing proportion of deaths and disability worldwide and is associated with significant health care costs and productivity losses." *Source: WHO*

[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*

Health Workforce

Training the Future Child Health Care Workforce to Improve the Behavioral Health of Children, Youth, and Families
"To examine the need for workforce development across the range of health care professions working with children and families, as well as to identify innovative training models and levers to enhance training, the Forum on Promoting Children's Cognitive, Affective, and Behavioral Health held a workshop in November 2016. Workshop panelists and participants discussed the needs for workforce development across the range of health care professions working with children, youth, and families, and identified innovative training models and levers for change to enhance training. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

Nurses in advanced roles in primary care: Policy levers for implementation
"Many OECD countries have undergone reforms over the past decade to introduce advanced roles for nurses in primary care to improve access to care, quality of care and/or to reduce costs. This working paper provides an analysis of these nurse role developments and reforms in 37 OECD and EU countries." *Source: OECD*

A Health Policy and Systems Research Reader on Human Resources for Health
"A Health Policy and Systems Research Reader on Human Resources for Health - The idea for this Reader emerged from the need for guidance on and examples of excellent and innovative Human Resources for Health (HRH) research, embracing health workers as creative and dynamic agents who work alongside patients, community members, managers and policy-makers to address contemporary health system complexities." *Source: Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research*

Funding Models for Physician Assistants: Canadian and International Experiences
"As population health needs become more complex and the demand for services increases, optimizing health care workforce configurations, service delivery approaches, and funding models becomes increasingly important. Physician assistants (PAs) are an existing and largely untapped health provider group that could be better leveraged to narrow health care service gaps in Canada." *Source: Conference Board of Canada *sign up for free account to download*

Women on the move: Migration, care work and health
"A global paradox is emerging in which care workers - who are largely migrant women, often working in informal home settings - make a considerable contribution to public health in many countries but are themselves exposed to health risks, face barriers to accessing care, and enjoy few labour and social protections. WHO has produced a new report on this population group, collating evidence across sectors. This report breaks new ground in casting a wide net across disciplines – health, labour, employment, social protection, social services, law, immigration, cross-border movement and citizenship." *Source: WHO*