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@health.govt.nz to subscribe.

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Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

Health systems resilience during COVID-19: Lessons for building back better
"COVID-19 has created huge challenges. The lessons it has generated on preparing for future pandemics are clear but they are by no means the only learning. All health systems are vulnerable and there are practical steps that all countries can take, not simply to increase the resources available, but to ensure the capacity to mobilize, adapt and use those resources in different shock scenarios. The Health systems resilience during COVID-19: Lessons for building back better study

gathers the evidence of how countries have managed(or not managed) to re-engineer what they do, who does what and how, and draws out the implications for future resilience." *Source: European Observatory*

[Better together: A public health model for mentally healthier integrated care systems](#)
"Better together: A public health model for mentally healthier integrated care systems outlines how integrated care systems can adopt a public health model to use their budgets, powers and influence to support better mental health outcomes for all." *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

[Health at a Glance 2021](#)
"Health at a Glance provides a comprehensive set of indicators on population health and health system performance across OECD members and key emerging economies. These cover health status, risk factors for health, access to and quality of health care, and health resources. Analysis draws from the latest comparable official national statistics and other sources. Alongside indicator-by-indicator analysis, an overview chapter summarises the comparative performance of countries and major trends. This edition also has a special focus on the health impact of COVID-19 in OECD countries, including deaths and illness caused by the virus, adverse effects on access and quality of care, and the growing burden of mental ill-health." *Source: OECD*

[Behavioural insight and regulatory governance](#)
"Governments are created and run by humans, who can experience the same behavioural biases and barriers as individuals in society. Therefore, it makes sense to explore how behavioural insights (BI) can be applied to the governance of regulatory policy making, and not just to the design of regulations themselves. Applying BI can help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the decision-making process, which can, in turn, help improve regulatory decisions. This paper maps the ways in which barriers and biases can affect the institutions, processes and tools of regulatory governance, with a focus on regulatory oversight bodies and regulatory management tools. It concludes with practical ways governments can translate these findings into research and reforms that can help future-proof regulatory policy making and ensure it is agile, responsive and fit for tackling important and complex policy challenges." *Source: OECD*

Equity

[Integrating gender data in health information systems: challenges, opportunities and good practices](#)
"This paper explains the importance of gender data and statistics and how health information systems contribute. It explores the common challenges in producing and using gender and health data and suggests opportunities and examples of good practices. Recommendations to support national health systems improve data quality are provided." *Source: World Health Organization*

[The WHO Prison Health Framework: a framework for assessment of prison health system performance](#)
"Health system frameworks support informed decision-making at the country level by providing a cohesive frame of reference for policy design and implementation. Inspired by existing frameworks devised by WHO and other entities to monitor and measure health-care delivery in a standardized

way, the WHO Prison Health Framework has been developed to fully capture the specificities of prisons and other places of detention. This document describes the conceptualization, development and operationalization of the framework. The WHO Prison Health Framework will improve assessment of prison health system performance and the quality of data collected by the periodic Health In Prisons European Database (HIPED) surveys, which aim to inform progress in achieving equivalence of care for people living in prison." *Source: World Health Organization*

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Public & Preventive Health

Years lost: boosting life expectancy through preventative health interventions
"This report finds a number of trends in life expectancy. Over the past decades, life expectancy has significantly improved across the G20, and across the G20, there has been a shift from cardiovascular disease as the leading cause of death to cancer, which overtook cardiovascular conditions in 2016 due to improvements in prevention, detection and treatment. It also finds that neurological conditions, including dementia, are now the leading cause of death in richer countries, including the US, UK and Saudi Arabia. However, the report also warns that while overall improvements in life expectancy are promising, too many years are still lost due to preventable causes." *Source: International Longevity Centre (UK)*

Building Health Throughout the Life Course. Concepts, Implications, and Application in Public Health
"Building Health Throughout the Life Course elucidates how health develops and changes throughout the life course, and how the use of the life course approach among public health practitioners can ensure that health as a human right is achieved for all individuals. It describes the life course vision of health that focuses not only on diseases and their consequences, but rather on achieving long, healthy, active, and productive lives." *Source: Pan American Health Organization*

Modelling life trajectories of body-mass index
"Body-mass index (BMI) tends to follow a typical trajectory over the life-course of an individual, increasing in early life while decreasing after middle age. To be able to reflect these trends in the OECD Strategic Public Health Planning for Non-Communicable Diseases (SPHeP-NCDs) model, this paper analyses longitudinal BMI data from 22 countries to build a mixed, autoregressive model predicting an individual's BMI based on their sex, age and previous BMI. The resulting model shows how young people are likely to see an increase in BMI year-on-year, even if they already have overweight or obesity. It also shows that that a healthy weight in childhood does not protect against future overweight, as BMI continues to increase well into adulthood even for children who start off with a healthy weight. The results of this analysis will be incorporated in the OECD SPHeP NCDs model, to better simulate the longer-term impact of interventions, in particular interventions targeting childhood obesity." *Source: OECD*

Dialogue About the Workforce for Population Health Improvement
"On March 21, 2019, the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened a 1-day workshop to explore the broad and multidisciplinary nature of the population health workforce. Workshop participants explored

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methods for facilitating a population health orientation/perspective among public health and health care leaders and professionals; framing the work of personnel such as community health workers (CHWs), health navigators, and peer-to-peer chronic disease management educators within the context of population health; and leveraging the competencies of public and private sector workforces, such as education, transportation, and planning, that are working to include a "health in all policies," community livability, or well-being orientation in their activities. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

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Mental Health & Wellbeing

Parenting programs that support children's mental health through family separation
"One of the most effective ways to safeguard children's mental health through separation is to support their parents in the process. Yet many separating parents receive support from health and welfare practitioners who have limited training in working with separating families. Evidence-based programs for separating families can provide practitioners in diverse sectors with information about 'what works'. This paper identifies the common elements of evidence-based parenting programs that support children's (aged 0-12 years) mental health through parental separation to inform the decisions practitioners make in their practice." *Source: Child Family Community Australia*

What works? Collaborative police and health interventions for mental health distress
"This evidence review looks at collaborative interventions which help support people in mental health distress. It aims to outline 'what works' when individuals present in mental health distress to the police. The key objective is to examine interventions that have been utilised internationally and, where evaluations are available, identify what aspects of the approach work well/not so well."
Source: Scottish Government

Rationale and evidence for investing proactively in the mental health of communities
"Aotearoa must move progressively towards sophisticated upstream approaches to mental health as part of the solution to the current mental health crisis. The upstream approach is best informed by evidence from mental health promotion (MHP) and the science of mental wellbeing." *Source: Mental Health Foundation (New Zealand)*

Least restrictive practice evidence update October 2021
"This evidence update is for the mental health and disability workforce. It focuses on the evidence for weighted blankets and recommendations for their use based on international guidelines among adults." *Source: Te Pou*

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Disability

What Makes a Good Life for Disabled Children and Young People?

"This summary report presents some of the key messages heard from disabled children and young people. It is important to note however, that this report is not representative of disability communities as the young people participated as a part of the wider engagement." *Source: New Zealand Children's Commissioner*

[Clearing a path to full inclusion of people with disability in emergency management policy and practice in Australia](#)
"This paper distills six key issues that present barriers to the full inclusion of people with disability in emergency management and 5 practical actions that institutions with responsibility for emergency management and other stakeholders can undertake." *Source: Centre for Disability Research and Policy (Australia)*

['For my safety' : Experiences of technology-facilitated abuse among women with intellectual disability or cognitive disability](#)
"The findings are based on interviews with women with intellectual or cognitive disability and frontline workers who provide support services. This research was commissioned to address major gaps in the evidence about technology-facilitated abuse against women with intellectual or cognitive disability. The report reveals that the tactics used for technology-facilitated abuse of women with intellectual or cognitive disability are like those faced by all women, but there are some unique differences." *Source: eSafety Commissioner*

Violence Related Issues

[Community-led culture-centered prevention of family violence and sexual violence](#)
"This report presents findings from research into the primary prevention needs of diverse communities, (a) older people; (b) disabled people; (c) rainbow communities; and (d) new migrant communities, to address family violence and sexual violence (FVSV)." *Source: Center for Culture-Centred Approach to Research and Education (New Zealand)*

[INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children](#)
"INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children is an evidence-based technical package to support countries in their efforts to prevent and respond to violence against children aged 0-17 years. The package includes the core document describing what the INSPIRE strategies and interventions are; an implementation handbook that provides details on how to implement the interventions, and a set of indicators to measure the uptake of INSPIRE and its impact on levels of violence against children." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Estimate of the total economic costs of sexual violence in New Zealand](#)
"This research is a starting point intended to result in a robust first estimate of the costs of sexual violence and provide a platform for discussion on how to refine the estimate." *Source: berl*

[Primary prevention of sexual violence and harassment against women and girls : combining evidence and practice knowledge. Evidence review and data synthesis](#)

"The aim of the project is to identify effective primary prevention sexual violence and harassment (SVH) interventions at all levels of the ecological model and develop a Theory of Change to guide future research and policy in the primary prevention of SVH." *Source: La Trobe University (Australia)*

Playing our part: a framework for workplace action on domestic and family violence
"Playing Our Part: a Framework for Workplace Action on Domestic and family Violence is the fourth collaborative report to be published by the Champions of Change Coalition over the last 6 years of experimentation and evolution of practices and actions for workplaces to contribute to the prevention and response to domestic and family violence." *Source: Champions of Change Coalition*

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Technology

Fit for the future: What can the NHS learn about digital health care from other European countries?
"The rapid increase in the use of technology during the Covid-19 pandemic shows that digital health technology will be a fundamental part of health system recovery and for preparing for the future. In this report, we examine the approach that five European countries have taken to implementing digital technology and draw out learnings for the NHS." *Source: Nuffield Trust*

Trusted autonomous systems in healthcare: a policy landscape review
"This report draws on both the policy and the academic literature to provide an overview of the issues and challenges identified around the utilisation of autonomous systems in health and care, focusing on issues that are likely to impact the trustworthiness of, and trust in, these systems." *Source: The Policy Institute*

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Misinformation

Mis- and disinformation in Aotearoa New Zealand
"Since 17 August 2021, when Aotearoa New Zealand's Delta outbreak meant a shift into Alert Level 4 across the country, there has been a sharp increase in the popularity and intensity of Covid-19-specific disinformation and other forms of 'dangerous speech' and disinformation, related to far-right ideologies. Over the past twelve weeks, The Disinformation Project monitored this material, observing key trends and analysing impact. This brief working paper introduces some of our key findings so far on the infodemic – around engagement, content, reception to the Covid-19 vaccine, language, approaches employed, and targeted groups." *Source: Te Pūnaha Matatini*

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Vaccination

How to talk about COVID-19 vaccinations: Building trust in vaccination

"This guide is for people in health, science, policy and community roles who want to talk effectively about COVID-19 vaccinations to different groups of people who may be hesitant about getting vaccinated." *Source: The Workshop (New Zealand)*

Understanding vaccine hesitancy through communities of place
"A new UK-US collaborative study examining vaccine engagement highlights the importance of tapping into local knowledge and leadership in efforts to improve Covid-19 vaccine take-up." *Source: Institute for Community Studies*

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Advance Care Planning

The Challenges and Opportunities of Advance Care Planning
"Advance Care Planning(ACP)has long been a staple of caring for people with serious illness. Over its history, it has been defined in different ways. Clinicians, researchers, patients, and the public have developed a variety of perspectives about the many aspects of ACP, ranging from the definition to the timing, goals, outcomes, and value of ACP. To better understand the challenges and opportunities for ACP, acknowledge and highlight divergent viewpoints, and examine what is empirically known and not known about ACP and its outcomes, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness hosted a virtual public workshop, Advance Care Planning: Challenges and Opportunities, on October 26 and November 2, 2020. The workshop explored the paradox of ACP, its evidence base, ways to think differently about ACP, and various approaches to making it more effective. This Proceedings of a Workshop summarizes the presentations and discussions from that workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

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Long-Term Conditions

Sleep problems as a risk factor for chronic conditions
"This report summarises evidence on the prevalence of sleep problems and their relationship with chronic health conditions. It shows that Australian adults commonly report sleep problems, and that getting too much or too little sleep is associated with an increased risk of several conditions, including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, coronary heart disease, and stroke." *Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare*

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