



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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Public Health

[Future surveillance for epidemic and pandemic diseases](#)

"This report reflects the input and advice on future surveillance of leading experts with different skills, worldviews and experiences who share a commitment to better prepare for future infectious hazards. It charts a course towards future surveillance and collaborative action." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Smart prescribing: harnessing technology in the fight against AMR](#)

"One of the key levers in tackling the growth of AMR lies in prescribing: antibiotics are often misused or prescribed for infections that do not require antibiotic treatment. This paper makes the

compelling case for a smarter, more personalised approach to prescribing enabled by AI and other technologies.” *Source: Reform (UK)*

Equity

[Structural disadvantage and rangatahi Māori mental wellbeing](#)

“Rangatahi Māori experience consistent and compelling inequities across a range of outcomes compared to Pākehā young people, including self-reported health status, health risk behaviours, and forgone healthcare (1). Of particular concern is the increase in the prevalence of clinically significant depressive symptoms amongst Māori secondary school students over time, from 13.8% in 2012 to 27.9% in 2019.” *Source: Growing Up in New Zealand*

[Digital mental health resources for First Nations people](#)

“This paper explores the evidence for digital mental health tools, specifically web-based tools or mobile phone apps, for First Nations people. It highlights benefits of these resources, examples of best practice in their development, alongside barriers and challenges to their use.” *Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare*

Mental Health & Wellbeing

[Understanding the mental health and impact of substance use on infants, children, and youth in Aotearoa New Zealand: Findings from a scoping review](#)

“Te Pou, in partnership with Infant, Child and Youth workforce centre, Whāraurau, commissioned the University of Auckland to undertake this scoping review on measuring the mental health and impact of substance use on infants, children, and youth. The research was made possible with support from Oranga Tamariki. We would like to thank the lead researchers and authors of this report Vartika Sharma, Lovely Dizon and Julia Vajda de Albuquerque at the University of Auckland.” *Source: Te Pou (New Zealand)*

[New Zealanders' views on Mental Health](#)

“This report covers the following: How often New Zealanders think about their mental and physical wellbeing; Perceptions surrounding the importance of mental health and physical health; Treatment of mental health and physical health in our current healthcare system; Factors that affect mental wellbeing” *Source: Ipsos (New Zealand)*

[Integrated Mental Health, Substance Use and Concurrent Disorder Service Delivery](#)

“Summarizes the landscape of operational and implementation guidelines for integrated mental health, substance use and concurrent (mental health and substance use) disorder service provision in Canada and internationally. Explores numerous opportunities for research and knowledge sharing based on the analysis. This report was completed in partnership with the Mental Health Commission of Canada.” *Source: Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction*

[Toward Substance Use Health and Mental Health Service Integration: Findings from a Scoping Review](#)

“Substance use health and mental health (SUHMH) are closely linked, with many people experiencing challenges relating to both at the same time. Polling by the Canadian Centre on

Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) and the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) has found that COVID-19 had significant, persistent, and complex impacts on SUHMH. At the same time, the pandemic also accelerated the evolution of innovative health policy and technology. In response to these findings, CCSA and the MHCC undertook a systematic review of academic literature related to SUHMH service provision published between 2018 and 2021. This review reinforced the need for SUHMH integration and helped isolate some of the themes and key factors influencing the broader uptake of integrated models.” *Source: Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction*

Health of Older People

[One hundred not out: A route map for long lives](#)

“ILC’s report sets out the challenges facing communities in an ageing world and includes a mix of next-step solutions, bolder ideas, and international examples that we believe could work to tackle them. The full One hundred not out report is broken down into 11 chapters, each of which relates to a certain challenge our increasing life span will pose for government, industries, our society and individuals.” *Source: International Longevity Centre (UK)*

[Addressing the Rising Mental Health Needs of an Aging Population](#)

“Existing systems are not prepared to provide the mental health care services needed by the growing population of older adults. The National Academies Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders hosted a public workshop in May 2023 to highlight the current state of mental health care for older adults, outline the challenges they face, and explore potential long-term strategies and solutions for addressing unmet mental health needs. Discussions emphasized information about wellness and prevention, social determinants of health in aging populations, the impact of workforce shortages and gaps, the need for supportive healthy communities, and strategies to promote positive mental health. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussion of the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

Research, Innovation, & Technology

[Understanding What Works Where, When, and Why – And How To Adopt and Adapt Good Ideas](#)

“How should we think about the transferability of ideas and methods? If something works in one place and one time, how do we know if it, or some variant of it, will work in another place or another time? This – the transferability question – is one that many organisations face: businesses, from retailers and taxi firms to restaurants and accountants wanting to expand to other regions or countries; governments wanting to adopt and adapt policies from elsewhere; and professions like doctors, wanting to know whether a kind of surgery, or a smoking cessation programme, will work in another context.” *Source: International Public Policy Observatory*

[Rapid Evidence Assessments: A Guide for Commissioners, Funders, and Policymakers](#)

“Rapid Evidence Assessments (REA) provide high-quality evidence in a timely and cost-effective manner. They are pragmatic and aim to be a tool for getting on top of the available research evidence on a policy issue, as comprehensively as possible, within the constraints of a given timetable.” *Source: International Public Policy Observatory*

[Regulatory considerations on artificial intelligence for health](#)

“The World Health Organization (WHO) has released a new publication listing key regulatory considerations on artificial intelligence (AI) for health. The publication emphasizes the importance of establishing AI systems’ safety and effectiveness, rapidly making appropriate systems available to those who need them, and fostering dialogue among stakeholders, including developers, regulators, manufacturers, health workers, and patients.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Exploring public attitudes towards the use of digital health technologies and data](#)

“The health service is facing workforce shortages and growing backlogs of care, as well as future increases in demand. In response, policymakers and providers are looking to advances in health technologies and data to improve quality and efficiency and reshape services to better meet future needs.” *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[Are we there yet? People’s views on how far we have advanced in providing continuous and coordinated care](#)

“The International Foundation for Integrated Care conducted its second annual survey on integrated care, with a specific emphasis on collecting the experiences of their network regarding how co-ordinated and continuous care is today in different contexts, countries, and from various stakeholder viewpoints. This report provides an overview of the survey findings.” *Source: International Foundation for Integrated Care*

[Transforming health and wellbeing services through population health management](#)

“A rising number of NHS organisations are combining traditional approaches – responding to illness where it occurs – with population health approaches that seek to better understand, target and prevent illness. Our evidence suggests that when these changes are possible, they bring benefits for systems and citizens.” *Source: NHS Confederation (UK)*

[Wall-to-wall support: joining up public services and housing for vulnerable children, young people and families](#)

“This report argues that public services need to be more effectively joined up. It finds that a lack of joined-up public services is costing government up to £4.3 billion every year. These costs are a direct result of additional use of government services, such as housing or health, by young people and families who did not access adequate support or early help when they needed it.” *Source: Demos (UK)*

[Improving health and care at scale: learning from the experience of systems](#)

“NHS England has outlined plans to develop an improvement approach - NHS IMPACT - to support continuous improvement. There are also ambitions for integrated care systems (ICSs) to become ‘self-improving systems’. This report, written and researched by Sir Chris Ham and jointly commissioned by the NHS Confederation, the Health Foundation and the Q community, reviews the experience of a number of ICSs identified as being at the forefront of this work, focusing on the approaches they have taken and the results achieved.” *Source: NHS Confederation (UK)*

[Financing for health system transformation: Spending more or spending better \(or both\)?](#)

The key messages of this policy brief published by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies are as follows: To transform health systems, countries will need to spend more public funds on health, and also use those funds more efficiently and effectively. *Source: European Observatory*

[Trust and transformation: Five policy briefs in support of the Tallinn conference](#)

“The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies has generated evidence to inform each of the Tallinn meetings: evidence on the dynamic relationship between health systems and economic development; on the benefits of health systems strengthening and all-of-government and all-of-society approaches; and on how to include, invest and innovate. For the 2023 conference, it has produced a suite of five policy briefs in support of the key themes of trust and transformation.”

Source: European Observatory

Disability

[A new playground: The digital lives of young people with disability](#)

“eSafety's research explores the online experiences of young people with disability and considers the digital parenting practices of their parents or carers.” *Source: eSafety Commissioner (Australia)*

[Ātea - Disability 101 post workshop evaluation report](#)

“After the pilot of the Ātea disability 101 workshops in June 2022, Te Pou continued to deliver the workshops, testing delivery to groups within organisations, rather than to individuals. The workshop uses a rights-based approach and continued to be guided by the social model of disability. It aims to improve trainees’ awareness, their understanding of disabled people/tāngata whaikaha, and identify steps to reduce barriers to including disabled people. It also sought to help participants be aware of what contributes to ableism, and ways it can be minimised. Each workshop was delivered via two half day virtual (Zoom) sessions. This report covers feedback from people who responded to the post workshop evaluation, during July to December 2022 and those who participated in focus groups and interviews 2 to 4 months after they attended the workshop.” *Source: Te Pou (New Zealand)*

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