



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

Issue 96, 2022, February

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.

Click on any of the bulleted points below to go to a section of interest.

[Indigenous Health & Wellbeing](#)

[Child/Youth Health & Wellbeing](#)

[Equity](#)

[Long-Term Conditions](#)

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

[Quality and Safety](#)

[Mental Health & Drug Use](#)

[COVID-19](#)

[Workforce](#)

[Primary Care](#)

[Nutrition](#)

[End of Life Care](#)

[Health of Older People](#)

[Disability](#)

[Public & Global Health](#)

[Health Data](#)

Indigenous Health & Wellbeing

[Indigenous research in the arts; wellbeing and identity through relationships](#)

“This digest focuses on indigenous leaders’, researchers’, and artists’ discussions of the connections between art, wellbeing and identity through the lenses of decolonisation and cultural knowledge. In contrast to research on indigenous communities, which often looks for problems to be solved, this research is by indigenous communities, using methods which focus on strengths and allow a holistic understanding of wellbeing and arts practice. There is groundbreaking indigenous arts and wellbeing research happening around the world. This short digest includes just four recent studies from Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, and Canada, selected to illustrate the intersections of research methodologies, arts practice, and identity and their relationship to wellbeing.” *Source: Te Ora Auaha Creative Wellbeing Alliance Aotearoa*

[Visioning the Future: First Nations, Inuit, & Métis Population and Public Health](#)

“The report reveals the current inequities Indigenous Peoples experience every day but illuminates a path toward equity and wellness that acknowledges Indigenous peoples’ multiple systems for public health and ensures that Indigenous peoples’ knowledge(s) permeate the Canadian public health system. It lays out an achievable public health vision for a future characterized by equity, free of infectious diseases, and free of discrimination and racism.” *Source: National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health (Canada)*

[The treaty right to health: A sacred obligation](#)

“The authors examine the Treaty right to health in the context of promises made by the federal government (both written and verbal) to First Nations peoples in relation to the historic numbered Treaties in Canada, including the “medicine chest clause.” A brief review of the concept of the Treaty right to health situates First Nations health in relation to wellness and well-being. Three critically important dimensions of the Treaty right to health are discussed including: promises made as part of the treaties, the constitutional protection of Treaty and Aboriginal Rights to health, and the ongoing denial of the Treaty right to health. Following this, the importance of the Treaty right to health and the implementation of Treaty promises for reconciliation, the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous self-determination, and the Nation-to-Nation relationship are each outlined.” *Source: National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health (Canada)*

[Back to top](#)

Equity

[Inclusive economies and healthy futures: Supporting place-based action to reduce health inequalities](#)

“This guide will provide inspiration to everyone seeking to build a more inclusive, healthy and prosperous economy in their local area.” *Source: Local Government Association (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[Integrating health and social care: A comparison of policy and progress across the four countries of the UK](#)

“The integration of health and social care has been a long-standing policy priority in each country of the UK. However, there is limited evidence these policies are delivering the results expected of them. This report looks at the impact of integration across the four countries and compares the policies and approaches each one has trialled to deliver their goals.” *Source: Nuffield Trust (UK)*

[How does the health and care system hear from people and communities?](#)

“The health and care system can listen and learn from the people and communities it serves in a variety of different ways. From local Healthwatch teams to large scale national patient surveys, to citizen assemblies run by local government and service user stories, there is a wealth of insight and data already being collected across both the NHS and local government. The explainer is intended as an introduction for those working in the health and care system who want to understand more about this area of work. It looks at some of the terminology used in this area and outlines the different ways and methods that the NHS and local government can hear from people and communities at both a national and local level. It asks what the introduction of integrated care systems (ICSs) means for this work and how partners in these new systems can listen together to people and communities.” *Source: King’s Fund (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Mental Health & Drug Use

[Lived experience and clinical co-facilitation of a mental health literacy programme](#)

“Findings indicate the positive impact of incorporating people’s lived experience into the design and delivery of mental health literacy programmes. Findings highlight key facilitator characteristics and support needs when recruiting facilitators to deliver programmes. This includes good facilitation skills alongside personal experiences.” *Source: Te Pou (New Zealand)*

[Establishing standards for assessing patient-reported outcomes and experiences of mental health care in OECD countries](#)

“Patient-reported measures are a critical tool for improving policy and practice in mental health care. However, to date, the use of patient-reported measures in mental health care is limited to a small number of countries and settings—and there is a pressing need, both within and across countries, to consistently and effectively measure the effects and impact of care for patients who use mental health care services. The PaRIS pilot data collection on mental health included 15 data sources from 12 countries, collected over the course of 2021. While the scope of included data varied, the results demonstrate increased adoption of national and subnational efforts to capture patient-reported information in mental health care systems. Analysis of data collected through the PaRIS mental health pilot documents, in general, positive patient-reported experiences of mental health care. The results also suggest improvement in patient-reported outcomes for those receiving mental health care services.” *Source: OECD*

[Towards Better Mental and Physical Health: Preventing and Managing Concurrent Mental and Physical Conditions – A Scoping and Rapid Realist Review](#)

“This report provides a synthesis of current international knowledge about physical and mental health co-morbidities, including information, where available, about how they intersect with sex/gender and how their characteristics may vary across priority and equity-seeking populations

such as immigrant, refugee, ethnocultural and racialized (IRER) communities, First Nations, Inuit and Métis, the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and linguistic minorities. The non-communicable diseases (NCDs) discussed in this report include arthritis, cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory diseases, dementia, diabetes mellitus, epilepsy, frailty, Huntington’s disease, inflammatory bowel disorders, kidney disease, metabolic syndrome, obesity, and Parkinson’s disease.” *Source: Mental Health Commission of Canada*

[Considerations for Using Telemental Health Services for Children & Youth](#)

Delivering mental services remotely did not begin during the COVID-19 pandemic, though its use has greatly expanded during this time. Looking ahead, there are questions about how those services for children and youth may continue as the pandemic recedes. To consider these questions, the National Academies of Sciences' Forum for Children's Well-Being held a 3-day workshop in October 2021 on the use of telemental health services both before and during the pandemic. This Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief provides a high-level summary of the topics addressed in the workshop. *Source: National Academies Press*

[Supporting Telehealth and Technology-assisted Services for People Who Use Drugs: A Resource Guide](#)

“During the pandemic, many organizations that provide care to people who use drugs (PWUD) quickly transitioned from in-person care to telehealth and technology-assisted services. To better support organizations that provide care to PWUD, the National Council, with support from the CDC, developed this resource guide organized by five strategies to address implementation challenges and leverage these advances to improve the health and wellness of PWUD.” *Source: National Council for Mental Wellbeing (US)*

[Back to top](#)

Workforce

[Caring for those who care: guide for the development and implementation of occupational health and safety programmes for health workers: executive summary](#)

“Occupational health and safety programmes aim to prevent diseases and injuries arising out of, linked with or occurring in the course of work, while improving the quality and safety of care, safeguarding the health workforce and promoting environmental sustainability in the health sector. This guide provides an overview of the key elements of occupational health and safety programmes for health workers at national, subnational and facility levels, as well as advice for the development and implementation of such programmes.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Sustain and Retain in 2022 and Beyond](#)

“The report... provides a blueprint for what needs to be done at the national and international level to guide nursing workforce planning globally.” *Source: International Council of Nurses*

[Putting Continuity in Continuing Care: Reimagining the Role of Immigration in the Recruitment and Retention of Healthcare Workers in Nova Scotia](#)

“Staffing shortages in Nova Scotia’s healthcare care system have become a full-fledged crisis. In particular, the need for continuing care assistants is urgent. Several recruitment strategies have

been put in motion, including immigration streams to entice foreign healthcare workers and refugees already living in the province into these positions. This paper critically examines the province's recruitment plans and the growing reliance on newcomers to address staff shortages.”

Source: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

[Back to top](#)

Nutrition

[Food marketing exposure and power and their associations with food-related attitudes, beliefs and behaviours: a narrative review](#)

“This report presents the outcomes of a narrative review conducted to update an earlier descriptive review published by WHO in 2009 on the extent, nature and effects of food marketing... This review extends the findings of the 2009 WHO review by adding evidence and perspectives on more contemporary types of marketing, reflecting the growth in internet use and food marketing via digital and social media over the last decade. It confirms that marketing of foods that contribute to unhealthy diets remains pervasive and persuasive and provides evidence that strengthens the rationale for action to restrict food marketing to which children are exposed.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[How the marketing of formula milk influences our decisions on infant feeding](#)

“This report summarizes the findings of a multicountry study examining the impact of breast milk marketing on infant feeding decisions and practices, which was commissioned by WHO and UNICEF. The research study – the largest of its kind to date – draws on the experiences of over 8500 women and more than 300 health professionals across eight countries (Bangladesh, China, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, the United Kingdom and Viet Nam).” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Report of the technical consultation on measuring healthy diets: concepts, methods and metrics](#)

“Food systems and diets are changing everywhere and monitoring the healthfulness of diets at global and national levels is becoming increasingly important. Better measurement and monitoring are needed to support governments in establishing policies and programmes to promote healthy diets and assess the effectiveness of these actions... In order to promote increased communication, coordination, and collaboration to accelerate progress toward identifying or developing a parsimonious set of metrics for global monitoring of healthy diets, a technical consultation was organized by the WHO-UNICEF Technical Expert Advisory Group on Nutrition Monitoring (TEAM) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with technical and logistical support from USAID Advancing Nutrition.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Back to top](#)

Health of Older People

[Ageism in artificial intelligence for health](#)

“The WHO policy brief Ageism in artificial intelligence for health examines the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in medicine and public health for older people, including the conditions in which AI

can exacerbate or introduce new forms of ageism. The brief presents legal, non-legal and technical measures that can be used to minimize the risk of ageism in AI and maximize AI's benefits for older people as these technologies become more commonly used across the world." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Our ageing population: How ageing affects health and care need in England](#)

"The report includes five key insights for policymakers and system leaders, and highlights the complexities involved in predicting future demand for health and social care based on demographic changes." *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Public & Global Health

[Pandemic influenza preparedness framework for the sharing of influenza viruses and access to vaccines and other benefits, 2nd ed](#)

"The objective of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework is to improve pandemic influenza preparedness and response, and strengthen the protection against the pandemic influenza by improving and strengthening the WHO global influenza surveillance and response system ("WHO GISRS"), with the objective of a fair, transparent, equitable, efficient, effective system." *Source: World Health Organization*

[Antimicrobial resistance in long-term care facilities](#)

"Countries seeking to improve antimicrobial consumption, and minimise the threat of AMR, in LTCFs can: set up routine surveillance systems dedicated to collecting and reporting data on antimicrobial use and resistance in LTCFs; design, implement and enforce multifaceted antimicrobial stewardship programmes that comprehensively address multiple determinants of inappropriate antimicrobial prescribing and use; and adopt IPC programmes tailored to the specific needs and risks of LTCFs." *Source: OECD*

[Global Women's Health Index: pathways to a health future for women](#)

"The Hologic Global Women's Health Index — a multiyear, globally comparative survey of women's health — strives to fill the critical gap in what the world knows about the health and well-being of the world's women and girls. But more than that, it aims to identify the keys to help them live longer, safer and healthier lives." *Source Hologic*

[Health of Canadians in a Changing Climate: Advancing our Knowledge for Action](#)

"This assessment, Health of Canadians in a Changing Climate: Advancing our Knowledge for Action, is the first comprehensive study of current and projected risks from climate change to the health of Canadians since 2008. It was developed by a team of more than 80 subject matter experts from regional and federal health authorities and academic institutions across Canada. It addresses the evolving knowledge needs of government decision makers, civil society organizations, and individual Canadians by providing evidence based and, where possible, quantitative information to help people understand how Canada's climate is changing, and the effects on health and health systems, including implications for those most at risk in society." *Source: Health Canada*

[Back to top](#)

Child/Youth Health & Wellbeing

[Working for a brighter, healthier future](#)

“This is the first in a future series of biennial reports that describes WHO’s efforts to elevate adolescent health through collaboration and by coordinating new initiatives, expanding the scope of work and establishing ambitious objectives with its development partners and adolescents.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Everyday magic: How BBC Children in Need's A Million & Me projects are supporting 8-13 year olds' mental health](#)

“A Million & Me is a three-year programme funded by BBC Children in Need. The programme has adopted a partnership approach to identifying and scaling up support which builds “scaffolding” around children, enhancing their mental wellbeing and resilience.” *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

[Back to top](#)

Long-Term Conditions

[Improving diabetes outcomes for all, a hundred years on from the discovery of insulin](#)

“The Global Diabetes Summit, co-hosted by the World Health Organization and the Government of Canada, with the support of the University of Toronto, brought together governments, donors, nongovernmental organizations and people with lived experience of diabetes. The goals of the event, held on 14 April 2021, were to raise awareness of diabetes as a global health issue and to address the need to scale-up prevention and treatment as part of primary health care and universal health coverage. WHO's Global Diabetes Compact, an initiative aiming to reduce the risk of diabetes and to ensure that all people who are diagnosed with diabetes have access to equitable, comprehensive, affordable and quality management, was launched during the event. This report summarizes the main topics covered and includes the programme of the event.” *Source: World Health Organization*

[Back to top](#)

Quality and Safety

[Developing international benchmarks of patient safety culture in hospital care](#)

“Improving patient safety culture (PSC) is a significant priority for OECD countries as they work to improve healthcare quality and safety—a goal that has increased in importance as countries have faced new safety concerns connected to the COVID-19 pandemic... International benchmarking is a feasible and useful addition to exiting measurement initiatives on safety culture and may help accelerate necessary improvements in patient safety outcomes.” *Source: OECD*

[Back to top](#)

COVID-19

[Rising from the COVID-19 crisis: Policy responses in the long-term care sector](#)

“COVID-19 hit the long-term care sector hard. This brief looks at mortality rates in care homes, as well as the policy responses undertaken during the pandemic. The brief assesses the emergency preparedness of the sector and highlights the lessons learned, including policies to reduce isolation, testing strategies, care workforce and co-ordination with the health care sector.” *Source: OECD*

[Addressing vaccine hesitancy in different ethnic communities](#)

“Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership used insight gained from a four-stage programme to understand the impact that COVID 19 was having on ethnic minority communities, and work with the different communities to understand the causes of the hesitancy. This programme of work, which entailed partnership working between multiple agencies as well as with the various communities, led to a significant increase in vaccine uptake in just four months.” *Site: NHS Confederation (UK)*

[A snapshot of Life in Lockdown: Children’s Health, Wellbeing, and Education](#)

“Growing Up in New Zealand’s two Life in Lockdown reports provide a snapshot of life for New Zealand children during Covid-19 restrictions. This information can help guide the development of appropriate strategies and support for children and their whānau, both during and post-pandemic.” *Source: Growing Up in New Zealand*

[Family, domestic and sexual violence service responses in the time of COVID-19](#)

“This report brings together data from a range of national sources to show how service responses to family, domestic and sexual violence changed at the onset, and during, the COVID-19 pandemic.” *Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare*

[Strengthening our health communication systems: pandemic lessons for Melbourne’s west](#)

“The purpose of this project was to identify the core elements of coordinated health communication approaches, and subsequently inform more responsive and effective communication in Melbourne’s West, particularly with culturally and linguistically diverse communities. A scoping review was undertaken to identify evidence on health communication systems and best practice in communication and community engagement in the context of pandemics and other health emergencies.” *Source: HealthWest Partnership (Australia)*

[Back to top](#)

Primary Care

[Integrating Serious Illness Care into Primary Care Delivery](#)

“To better understand the challenges and opportunities for integrating serious illness care into primary care settings, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Quality Care for People with Serious Illness hosted a virtual workshop on June 10 and 17, 2021. The workshop, titled Integrating Serious Illness Care into Primary Care Delivery, explored the shared principles of primary and serious illness care, the interdisciplinary teams that power both disciplines,

the policy issues that can act as barriers to or incentives for integration, and best practices for integrating primary care and serious illness care. This Proceedings of a Workshop summarizes the presentations and discussions that occurred during the workshop.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Back to top](#)

End of Life Care

[Health and social care near the end of life: can policies reduce costs and improve outcomes?](#)

“Some end of life needs can be reduced with more active public health measures and active rehabilitation, much of which can be very cost-effective. More active assessment of care needs can also significantly improve the experiences of patients and families, reduce unnecessary tests and interventions, will not shorten survival, and can help to limit the growth in costs.” *Source: European Health Observatory*

[Back to top](#)

Disability

[Home and living options for people with disabilities](#)

“The aim of this review was to understand the interventions and strategies that are being used to help people transition out of institutional care into more individualised home and living options.” *Source: Centre for Disability Studies (Australia)*

[Back to top](#)

Health Data

[Using Administrative Data to Predict Near-Future Critical Illness](#)

“This study aimed to identify adult Manitobans with a high probability of developing critical illness in the near future. The research team applied advanced statistical methods to the data in the Manitoba Population Research Data Repository at the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy. The results showed that instead of the stated goal of identifying people with at least a 1 in 3 chance of developing critical illness, the team was only able to identify people with at least a 1 in 20 chance. However, additional study may be warranted to assess the value of alerting primary care providers to such individuals on their patient rosters. Also, the finding that frail people are much more likely to develop critical illness suggests that it might be valuable to have physicians routinely measure frailty in the people they care for.” *Source: Manitoba Centre for Health Policy (Canada)*

[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.