



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@moh.govt.nz to subscribe.

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Equity

[Disrupting the Impacts of Implicit Bias: Implications for Law and Policy](#)

"Implicit bias has been commonly defined as any unconscious or unacknowledged preferences that can affect a person's beliefs or behaviors, and in particular, an unconscious favoritism toward or prejudice against people of a certain race, gender, or group that influences one's own actions or perceptions. The methods for identifying the presence and degree of an individual's implicit bias, the presence of implicit bias throughout society, and the successes or failures of attempts to mitigate

implicit bias are topics of much scientific inquiry, with ramifications for law and policy as well as a multitude of organizational settings.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[The Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Charting a Path to Achieve Health Equity](#)

“The Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Charting a Path to Achieve Health Equity explores how nurses can work to reduce health disparities and promote equity, while keeping costs at bay, utilizing technology, and maintaining patient and family-focused care into 2030.” *Source: National Academies Press*

[Making the extra years count: Inequalities in disability and dependency with increasing longevity](#)

“This report, which draws on research led by Newcastle University and funded by The Dunhill Medical Trust, investigates the trends in longevity, disability, and dependence between 1991 and 2011. The research also explores how these trends relate to long-term conditions and socioeconomic inequalities.” *Source: International Longevity Centre UK*

[On Digital Inequalities](#)

“On Digital Inequalities provides thought leadership and expert analysis on how to address the inequalities we are seeing in the digital space.” *Source: University of Manchester (UK)*

[Targeted suicide prevention for LGBTIQ+ communities](#)

“A new report released by the Black Dog Institute shares insights from two PHN trial sites for implementing suicide prevention strategies for LGBTIQ+ communities.” *Source: Black Dog Institute*

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Mental Health, Substance Use, & Wellbeing

[Intergenerational disadvantage: why maternal mental health matters](#)

“This paper analyses and synthesises new research linking a mother’s prenatal mental health to the child’s brain development, and shows how this ties into the problem of intergenerational disadvantage in New Zealand. Children whose mothers experienced depression/anxiety during pregnancy are more likely to have impaired brain (‘executive’) function, with lifelong consequences. This suggests that there is a biological contribution to intergenerational disadvantage, in addition to environmental factors, and that interventions focusing on maternal mental wellbeing to promote children’s brain function could have significant impact.” *Source: Koi Tū: The Centre for Informed Futures 2021*

[Tackling the mental health impact of the COVID-19 crisis: An integrated, whole-of-society response](#)

“The COVID-19 crisis has heightened the risk factors generally associated with poor mental health – financial insecurity, unemployment, fear – while protective factors – social connection, employment and educational engagement, access to physical exercise, daily routine, access to health services – fell dramatically. This has led to a significant and unprecedented worsening of population mental health. Across countries, the mental health of unemployed people and those experiencing financial insecurity was worse than that of the general population – a trend that pre-dates the pandemic, but seems to have accelerated in some cases. OECD countries have responded with decisive efforts to scale-up mental health services, and put into place measures to protect jobs and incomes, thereby

reducing mental distress for some. However, the scale of mental distress since the start of the pandemic requires more integrated, whole-of-society mental health support if it is not to lead to permanent scarring.” *Source: OECD*

[The 15 practices of rural community co-produced mental health initiatives: advice from people who are doing them](#)

“This paper highlights key advice about things to do and things to think about when establishing and operating rural community co-produced initiatives. The authors hope this can be useful to community members, practitioners and policy-makers who seek to work with communities to coproduce supports for community mental health and wellbeing.” *Source: Social Innovation Research Institute (Australia)*

[Preventing Harmful Alcohol Use](#)

“One in three adults has engaged in binge drinking at least once in the previous month, and one in five teenagers has experienced drunkenness by age 15. Harmful patterns of alcohol consumption have far-reaching consequences for individuals, society and the economy. Using microsimulation modelling, this book analyses the cost of alcohol consumption in 52 countries (including OECD, European Union and G20 countries), showing how alcohol-related diseases reduce life expectancy, increase health care costs, decrease workers’ productivity and lower GDP. While recognising the importance of the alcohol industry in many countries, the report makes a strong economic case for enhancing policies to tackle harmful alcohol consumption.” *Source: OECD*

[The effect of COVID-19 on alcohol consumption, and policy responses to prevent harmful alcohol consumption](#)

“The COVID-19 pandemic and its associated government measures to limit mobility impacted patterns and places of alcohol consumption. While the path to recovery remains long and difficult, this crisis also increases the risk that individuals engage in harmful drinking to cope with stress. During the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been an increase in domestic violence, for which harmful alcohol consumption is a risk factor. Harmful alcohol consumption damages health, causes diseases and injuries, weakens response to COVID-19, and leads to significant economic and societal costs. Comprehensive policy packages built on a PPPP approach including Pricing policies, Policing to counter drink-driving, Primary care-based counselling for heavy drinkers, and regulating alcohol Promotion activities, improve health, and support a stronger economic and social recovery in the aftermath of the pandemic.” *Source: OECD*

[Double trouble: Exploring the labour market and mental health impact of Covid-19 on young people](#)

“This report marks the beginning of a three-year programme of Resolution Foundation research, supported by the Health Foundation and exploring the interaction between young people’s labour market and mental health outcomes.” *Source: The Health Foundation and the Resolution Foundation (UK)*

[All the lonely people: Education and loneliness](#)

“Everyone feels lonely some of the time. However, chronic loneliness can impair learning, affect physical and mental health, and is even linked to early death. Loneliness is thus not only a personal

matter; it is a public health concern. Schools provide spaces and opportunities for friendships. By bringing together students from different backgrounds, education can help forge connections across social groups, strengthen social skills and provide access to activities that are meaningful over a lifetime. It can also build skills needed to prevent or break the negative thought processes associated with chronic loneliness.” *Source: OECD*

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Smoking Cessation

[Make Smoking History: Getting back on track to eliminate smoking after the pandemic](#)

“This report is the first of two that Future Health is undertaking into how to eliminate smoking in England over the next decade.” *Source: Future Health (UK)*

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Vaccines

[How to Build Trust in Vaccines: Understanding the drivers of vaccine confidence](#)

“Low vaccine confidence is one of the world's most pressing public health problems. While it has been a challenge since the first vaccines were invented, in the 21st century, the public discourse about vaccines has moved online bringing new challenges and opportunities. This paper explores online communication about vaccines in the last six months, offering insights into how positive, and negative, messages spread. The data analysis was conducted by NetBase Quid, an analytics platform, with additional input from the Vaccine Confidence Project at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.” *Source: World Economic Forum*

[Enhancing public trust in COVID-19 vaccination: The role of governments](#)

“While the rapid development of vaccines against COVID-19 is an extraordinary achievement, successfully vaccinating the global population presents many challenges, from production to distribution, deployment, and importantly, acceptance. Trust in the vaccines is vital, and is critically dependant on the ability of governments to communicate the benefits of vaccination, and to deliver the vaccines safely and effectively. This brief addresses the role of governments in promoting confidence in the effectiveness and safety through effective communication, as well as trust in their ability to procure and distribute them efficiently and equitably.” *Source: OECD*

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Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[10 practical lessons for implementing digital innovations - learning from the Care City test bed](#)

“Digital health innovations are often seen as 'ready made' solutions to challenges facing health and care systems but despite their potential, implementing these technologies can be complex. This summary highlights ten lessons for those working to integrate technology into health and social care services. The findings are based on a large-scale evaluation of digital technologies being implemented in health and social care in East London.” *Source: Nuffield Trust (UK)*

[A future for personalised care: a discussion paper on reform and the quality of social care](#)

“This discussion paper starts a conversation on what social care reform needs to deliver in order to meet the needs of people with dementia. The paper considers evidence from legislation, guidance, standards and frameworks that define quality care or drive improvement, from leading bodies across the social care sector. It also examines evidence from research hubs such as the Alzheimer’s Society Centres of Excellence, to understand the hallmarks of quality care, and how social care can best be delivered. It looks at personalised care, what ‘living well’ means for people with dementia, and the importance of social connections. It also considers how the social care system needs to be built to enable personalised care.” *Source: Alzheimer’s Society (UK)*

[National Stroke Service Model: Integrated Stroke Delivery Networks](#)

“This document outlines best practice stroke care; from prevention initiatives aimed addressing health inequalities, more efficient diagnosis through improved imaging services, cutting-edge treatments and innovative rehabilitation and life after stroke services.” *Source: NHS (UK)*

[Transforming the health system for sustainability: environmental leadership through a value-based health care strategy](#)

“Transforming the health system for sustainability requires consideration of the systemic and complex nature of climate change as a determinant of health, for today’s and future generations. This will require attention to both patient level processes and different framework requirements at each level of the health system. The strategic framework for value-based health care transformation provides a guide for supporting the consideration of climate change and its impacts on health and health care.” *Source: Deeble Institute (Australia)*

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Violence & Domestic Abuse

[How does domestic violence escalate over time?](#)

“A narrative review of the literature identified two primary definitions of escalation: a pattern of increasingly frequent and/or severe violent incidents, or the occurrence of specific violent acts (ie outcomes). Escalation appears to be limited to serious or prolific offenders rather than characterising all abusive relationships. However, disparities in prevalence estimates between those provided by victim–survivors and recorded incident data highlight the difficulty of measuring this aspect of abusive relationships.” *Source: Australian Institute of Criminology*

[Experiencing violence](#)

“This publication emerges from a series of workshops held at the British Academy to examine different understandings and facets of violence as a social phenomenon, as well as the effects of those understandings on its representation and its reproduction in various contexts. It therefore presents a number of short papers that explore problems of identification, questions of recognition, and the narratives, languages, images, myths and mediation that recur in the context of violence.” *Source: British Academy*

[The role of healthcare services in addressing domestic abuse](#)

“This briefing considers the role of the NHS and healthcare professionals in addressing domestic abuse. It looks at the use of healthcare services by victims and perpetrators, alongside initiatives such as health-based Independent Domestic Violence Advisers.” *Source: House of Commons Library (UK)*

[Climate change and gender-based violence : what are the links?](#)

“The learning brief focuses on the links between GBV and climate change.” *Source: GBV AoR Helpdesk.*

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Telehealth

[The use of telepractice in the family and relationship services sector](#)

“The use of telepractice as a service delivery method has increased in Australia since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This paper reviews the evidence for telepractice as a service delivery method in the family and relationship services sector. It describes the acceptability of telepractice as a service delivery option for both clients and practitioners, the enablers and barriers to uptake and implementation, and the current evidence on client outcomes. Evidence-informed implications of implementing telepractice for practice in this sector are also presented at the end of the paper.” *Source: Child Family Community Australia and Australian Institute of Family Studies*

[Navigating telehealth: the patients' perspective](#)

“This report highlights how critically important the consumer voice is in the design and implementation of the telehealth system moving forward. Patients, clinicians and system administrators, must partner and combine their strengths and expertise to effectively prioritise, design and implement innovative, safe and quality health services for the benefit all.” *Source: Health Consumers NSW (Australia)*

[Telehealth coaching in oral healthcare](#)

“A team-based care initiative, using an initial intake and orientation program for patients, focussed on engagement and education, can help patients better understand oral disease, the implications of improved self-management and the available treatment options. Furthermore, this orientation program also enables the clinicians to better understand the needs, wants and motivations of the patient. Deploying trained dental assistants improves cost effectiveness with low-cost service delivery. This approach is also well-suited to delivery by telehealth and in both individual and group format – further reducing service delivery cost.” *Source: Deeble Institute (Australia)*

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Child Health & Wellbeing

[Adverse Childhood Experiences: Understanding their effects](#)

“In the 1990s a large US study found associations between adverse experiences in childhood and poor adult outcomes in physical, emotional and mental health. This article explores some of the key findings from the seminal Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) studies, in conjunction with other

research into the potential effects of adversity on tamariki and rangatahi. It is intended for those working with tamariki and rangatahi, or their whānau, to aid understanding about the possible impacts of adversity on those they support.” *Source: Brainwave (New Zealand)*

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COVID-19

COVID-19: make it the last pandemic

“The Panel has examined the state of pandemic preparedness prior to COVID-19, the circumstances of the identification of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and the disease it causes, coronavirus disease (COVID-19), and responses globally, regionally and nationally, particularly in the pandemic’s early months. It has also analysed the wide-ranging impact of the pandemic and the ongoing social and economic crisis that it has precipitated. This report presents the Panel’s findings on what happened, the lessons to be learned from that, and our recommendations for strategic action now to end this pandemic and to ensure that any future infectious disease outbreak does not become a catastrophic pandemic.” *Source: Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response*

How will COVID-19 reshape science, technology and innovation?

“This policy brief discusses the effects that the COVID-19 crisis could have on the future of science, technology and innovation (STI) and its policies. Factors shaping the future of STI include the unequal effects of the crisis on research and development (R&D) across sectors, the accelerated adoption of digital tools and techniques, and changes in the openness, inclusiveness and agility of research and innovation ecosystems. STI policy could see fundamental changes as resilience, environmental sustainability and inclusiveness become more prominent objectives on policy agendas. The crisis could also spur experimentation with new tools, policy approaches and governance models.” *Source: OECD*

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