Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 55, 2018, March

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.

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

Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity

[**Public health and the food and drinks industry: The governance and ethics of interaction. Lessons from research, policy and practice**](#)
"This Casebook publication is timely and welcome. It complements WHO's work by providing detailed analyses of different types of real-life public-private interactions to improve nutrition, illustrating how conflicts of interest arise, and how these have been addressed and could be tackled under alternative scenarios to improve nutrition. The Casebook also highlights the gaps and outstanding challenges surfacing or arising from this work." *Source: UK Health Forum*

[**Building the foundations: Tackling obesity through planning and development**](#)
"Obesity is a major public health crisis and it is now recognised that the built environment is one of the many complex factors that influence whether or not people are obese or overweight. Given the complexity of the causes of obesity, many professions need to understand the role they can play in helping to prevent and reduce its prevalence. This publication is aimed at anyone whose work influences the built environment." *Source: Local Government Association*

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Health Technology, Information, & Research

[**The future of precision medicine in Australia**](#)
""Recent technological advances have enabled assembly of a wide range of data about an individual's genetic and biochemical makeup, as formed by their genes, environment and lifestyle. While medicine has always had personal and predictive aspects, precision medicine allows health and disease to be viewed at an increasingly fine-grained resolution, attuned to the complexities of both the biology of each individual, and the variation among the population." *Source: Australian Council of Learned Academies*

[**All complications should count: using our data to make hospitals safer**](#)
"This report exposes the flaws in Australian hospitals' safety and quality monitoring regime, and recommends reforms that could result in an extra 250,000 patients leaving hospital each year free of complications." *Source: Grattan Institute*

[**Using digital technology to improve the public's health: a guide for local authorities**](#)
"This report discusses how digital health technologies can deliver value for money and drive efficiencies, as well as benefiting the health of the population. Up and down the country, councils have been working with their partners – both public and private – to innovate and pilot new ways of working. This report reflects a snapshot of what is going on." *Source: Local Government Association (UK)*

[**Online Health Communities: Exploring the emerging online communities of patients, carers, clinicians, researchers, managers and industry**](#)
"This report is based on meetings and discussions with more than 40 people across the field of digital health communities, augmented this with an extensive literature review. Their insights, experience and generosity underpin everything in this report. But the online worlds that they were speaking from are fluid, emergent, confused." *Source: Online Health Communities*

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

Learning from the Vanguards: Spreading and Scaling Up

"This briefing looks at what can be learned from the vanguards' efforts to design, test and deliver a variety of scalable and replicable new care models. It shares the lessons that other organisations and partnerships can take from the vanguards' experiences." *Source: NHS Confederation*

Reimagining community services: making the most of our assets

"The purpose of this research was to understand the current state of community services and to explore how the health and care system needs to change to enable these services to meet the needs of the population now and in the future." *Source: King's Fund*

In and out of hospital

"A new British Red Cross report calls for action to stop an 'endless cycle' of avoidable hospital admissions among vulnerable patients. This could ease pressure on the health and social care systems. The study proposes introducing automatic home assessments and other simple interventions for elderly and vulnerable people who are often admitted to hospital." *Source: British Red Cross*

Disability & Social Care

Mind the gap: the National Disability Insurance Scheme and psychosocial disability

"This report draws on the great wealth of knowledge held by services currently providing community based services for people who experience psychosocial disability across Australia and sets out the gaps and proposed solutions that they have identified. *Source: Centre for Disability Research and Policy*

Approaches to social care funding

"The Health Foundation and The King's Fund are undertaking work exploring options for the future funding of social care." *Source: King's Fund and the Health Foundation*

Indigenous Health & Wellbeing

Bridging Cultural Perspectives

"This report describes the He Awa Whiria – Braided Rivers model of using Western science and mātauranga Māori knowledge side-by-side for research and evaluation in the social sector. The He Awa Whiria – Braided Rivers model aims to address this need by drawing on Western science and mātauranga Māori knowledge to learn about, and improve, family and whānau wellbeing. The model provides different information about what is valued and to what degree it is valued. The report explores the concept in detail and proposes processes

and guidelines for its use in the social sector." *Source: Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit*

Innovative models in addressing violence against Indigenous women: Final report
"This report is based on qualitative research in three sites in Australia: Fitzroy Crossing (Western Australia), Darwin (Northern Territory), and Cherbourg (Queensland). It supports the creation of a network of place-based Indigenous family violence strategies owned and managed by Indigenous people and linked to initiatives around alcohol reduction, inter-generational trauma, social and emotional wellbeing, and alternatives to custody. These initiatives may be constructed differently depending on context, but would ensure that responses to family violence reflect the needs of local women." *Source: ANROWS*

Indigenous Approaches to FASD Prevention: Brief Interventions with Girls and Women
"This report provides a brief introduction to ways of working with Indigenous girls and women to address alcohol, pregnancy, and other related concerns." *Source: Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (Canada)*

Indigenous Approaches to FASD Prevention: Indigenous Mothering
"This report provides a brief introduction to how FASD prevention activities can support the health and well-being of Indigenous mothers and their families." *Source: Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (Canada)*

Indigenous Approaches to FASD Prevention: Reconciliation and Healing
"This report provides a brief introduction to how FASD prevention activities can support reconciliation, social justice and change." *Source: Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (Canada)*

Indigenous Approaches to FASD Prevention: Wellness
"This report provides a brief introduction to activities and interventions that support holistic and cultural approaches to individual and community wellness." *Source: Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (Canada)*

Indigenous Approaches to FASD Prevention: Community Action
"This report provides a brief introduction to Indigenous community-led initiatives that can help to prevent FASD and includes examples from Canada and internationally." *Source: Centre of Excellence for Women's Health (Canada)*

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Health of Older People

Improving access to aged residential respite care
"To address the range of disincentives for providers to offer respite care in their facilities, and to improve flexibility of respite options for carers and people with care needs, Carers Australia believes that a combination of measures will be needed to make respite more readily available." *Source: Carers Australia*

[The ageing process and health](#)
"Biological ageing results from the accumulation of damage within cells, leading to a loss of function and, ultimately, cell death. The underlying mechanisms of ageing are also risk factors in the onset of frailty, disability and long-term diseases. This POST note examines the biological basis of ageing, the potential to manipulate the ageing process and to use such knowledge to promote better health later in life." *Source: Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (UK)*

[The UTOPIA project: using telecare for older people in adult social care](#)
"This report describes how electronic assistive technology and telecare are used by local authorities in England to support older people. The survey on which it is based provides an up-to-date picture of how and why local authorities are using telecare for this group of people, who are by far the largest consumers of care services in the UK." *Source: King's College London*

[Healthy Homes: Accommodating an Ageing Population](#)
"This report argues that creating more modified homes, which encourage older people to keep mentally and physically fit for longer, could help save the NHS and social care system billions of pounds each year. It calls on the government to introduce financial incentives for construction companies to build for older living." *Source: Institution of Mechanical Engineers*

[Elder abuse community action plan for Victoria](#)
"This project aimed to develop an action plan for people and organisations who have a demonstrated commitment to preventing and combating elder abuse." *Source: National Ageing Research Institute*

Drug & Alcohol Use

[Labelling the Point: towards better alcohol health information](#)
"This report assesses the potential of better labelling of off-trade (i.e. retail) alcohol to help raise awareness and moderate alcohol consumption and harm. This includes both better presentation of existing elements, and the addition of new ones such as calorie content and explicit health warnings." *Source: Royal Society for Public Health*

[Supporting nurse mentors to reduce the barriers to implementing alcohol Interventions and Brief Advice (IBA) in primary care](#)
"This project aims to reduce barriers to the implementation of alcohol Identification and Brief Advice (IBA) in primary care by providing expert support to nurse mentors." *Source: Alcohol Research UK*

[2013/14 to 2015/16 Attitudes and Behaviour towards Alcohol Survey: Last drinking occasion analysis](#)
"This report describes behaviours and contexts around the most recent occasion that drinkers consumed at least two alcoholic drinks (the 'last drinking occasion'). Results were from an analysis of the combined 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 Attitudes and Behaviours towards Alcohol Surveys." *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[**Patterns of social supply of alcohol over time in New Zealand**](#)
"In New Zealand, adolescents under the minimum purchase age (18 years) are commonly supplied alcohol via social sources including parents/guardians, friends and others (social supply). This report presents findings from analysis of two national surveys (in 2013 and 2015) undertaken to better understand the patterns of social supply in New Zealand and to assess early impacts of a law change on social supply (through the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012)." *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[**Key results: Adults (Attitudes and Behaviour towards Alcohol Survey 2013/14 to 2015/16)**](#)
"This report presents descriptive results about the alcohol-related behaviours, attitudes and experiences of the 10,441 respondents in the Attitudes and Behaviour towards Alcohol Survey (ABAS) aged 25 years and over (25+ years)." *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[**Strategies to reduce risky alcohol use among underage girls: An evidence review**](#)
"Risk and protective factors for alcohol use among female adolescents are often different from those for males, as are their motivations for drinking. For these reasons it is important to carefully consider which strategies are the most promising for addressing underage girls' problematic alcohol use. An extensive search of the academic and grey literature was performed to identify policies and interventions which addressed risky drinking among underage girls." *Source: McCreary Centre Society*

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Primary Care

[**What is known about the effectiveness of social sector freephone helplines?**](#)
"Telephone helpline services commonly consist of a mix of telephone and web-based services that allow a person to receive prompt advice, triage care and referral via telephone or over the internet. These types of services are well-established in the health and social sectors. This literature review focuses on the effectiveness of freephone helplines and associated digital services within the social sector." *Source: Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit (New Zealand)*

[**Divided we fall: getting the best out of general practice**](#)
"The prevailing narrative about general practice is of an out-of-date cottage industry which needs to be pulled into the 21st century, with its model of repeated face-to-face consultation fundamentally reformed. New models are emerging that split out different services for different groups of patients: easy access schemes like walk-in centres for those who prioritise speed and convenience, and more intensive care for frail patients with many illnesses and complicated needs. This report asks what might be lost as doctors and patients are reallocated to these services, especially those focused on easy access." *Source: Nuffield Trust*

[**Volunteering in general practice: Opportunities and insights**](#)
"Interest is growing in the contribution that volunteering can make in health and social care. This paper builds on previous work, which examined volunteering in hospitals, to explore

ways in which volunteers are involved with, and are contributing to, general practice."
Source: King's Fund

[Quality patient referrals: Right service, right time](#)
"The report, Quality patient referrals: Right service, right time cites a 'dearth of evidence' that referral management centres – used by around a quarter of Clinical Commissioning Groups in England – are cost-effective, stating that they are ultimately more expensive to run than other systems designed to improve and maintain the quality of GP referrals." *Source: Royal College of General Practitioners (UK)*

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Equity & Inequalities

[Intersectionality matters: a guide to engaging immigrant and refugee communities to prevent violence against women](#)
"Australia's National Framework for Prevention, Change the Story, shows that by working together towards gender equality, we can address the key drivers of violence against women. This guide builds on Change the Story, addressing the ways in which the intersections between gendered inequality and other forms of inequality impact on peoples' lives and experiences. The guide outlines how we can all work effectively together, with and as immigrant and refugee communities, to prevent violence against women." *Source: Multicultural Centre for Women's Health*

[Evidence review: Adults with complex needs (with a particular focus on street begging and street sleeping)](#)
"The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the national picture in relation to homelessness and provide insights into the current evidence base to support action in preventing and reducing homelessness, particularly with those who are street sleeping and street begging." *Source: Public Health England*

[Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity](#)
"Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity seeks to delineate the causes of and the solutions to health inequities in the United States. This report focuses on what communities can do to promote health equity, what actions are needed by the many and varied stakeholders that are part of communities or support them, as well as the root causes and structural barriers that need to be overcome." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Public Policy Approaches to Violence Prevention](#)
"The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a workshop on December 1–2, 2016, with the aim of illuminating the ways in which violence prevention practitioners can effectively share their evidenced-based research findings with policy makers in order to positively affect and amplify violence prevention efforts. The workshop explored this topic through three lenses: (1) economics and costing, (2) research and evidence, and (3) effective communications and messaging. This approach underscored the fact that violence prevention is a complex and multi-faceted issue that requires an interdisciplinary approach. This 2-day workshop brought together a diverse group of experts from various domains and backgrounds to foster multi-sectoral dialogues on the topic. This

publication briefly summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop."
Source: National Academies Press

Public Health

HPV vaccination for men who have sex with men: 2016/17 pilot evaluation
"This report outlines the results of the first year of a pilot of the HPV vaccination delivered in GUM and HIV clinics for men who have sex with men. The pilot programme provides evidence to support the delivery of an HPV vaccination programme that can be provided opportunistically and without presenting major disruption to GUM and HIV clinics." *Source: Public Health England*

Suicide Prevention: Policy and Strategy
"This briefing examines suicide prevention policies and strategies throughout the UK. It outlines national and local approaches to prevention policy by considering the strategies of the UK Government, as well as the devolved administrations, through the lens of various policy perspectives." *Source: House of Commons Library (UK)*

Evidence review of e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products 2018
"This report has been commissioned to summarise evidence to underpin policy and regulation of e-cigarettes/vaping devices." *Source: Public Health England*

Effects of Expanding Health Screening on Treatment - What Should We Expect? What Can We Learn?
"Screening interventions can produce very different treatment and health outcomes, depending on the reasons why patients went unscreened in the first place. Economists have paid scant attention to these complexities and their implications for evaluating screening programs. In this paper, [the authors] propose a simple economic framework to guide policy-makers and analysts in designing and evaluating the impact of screening on treatment uptake." *Source: National Bureau for Economic Research*

Advances in Causal Understanding for Human Health Risk-Based Decision-Making
"Scientific tools and capabilities to examine relationships between environmental exposure and health outcomes have advanced and will continue to evolve. Researchers are using various tools, technologies, frameworks, and approaches to enhance our understanding of how data from the latest molecular and bioinformatic approaches can support causal frameworks for regulatory decisions. For this reason, on March 6-7, 2017, the National Academies' Standing Committee on Emerging Science for Environmental Health Decisions, held a 2-day workshop to explore advances in causal understanding for human health risk-based decision-making." *Source: National Academies Press*

New Zealanders' Participation in Gambling: Results from the 2016 Health and Lifestyles Survey
"This report uses data from the 2016 Health and Lifestyles Survey to assess experience, knowledge and opinions about gambling and gambling-related harm among New Zealand

adults, both overall and among different social and population groups. Where relevant, results are compared with those from earlier surveys." *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

Cancer

Incorporating Weight Management and Physical Activity Throughout the Cancer Care Continuum: Proceedings of a Workshop
"The purpose of this workshop was to highlight the current evidence base, gaps in knowledge, and research needs on the associations among obesity, physical activity, weight management, and health outcomes for cancer survivors, as well as to examine the effectiveness of interventions for promoting physical activity and weight management among people living with or beyond cancer. Workshop sessions also reviewed the opportunities and challenges for providing weight management and physical activity interventions to cancer survivors. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

The Drug Development Paradigm in Oncology: Proceedings of a Workshop
"To explore this new landscape in cancer drug development, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine developed a workshop held in December 2016. This workshop convened cancer researchers, patient advocates, and representatives from industry, academia, and government to discuss challenges with traditional approaches to drug development, opportunities to improve the efficiency of drug development, and strategies to enhance the information available about a cancer therapy throughout its life cycle in order to improve its use in clinical practice. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

Child, Youth, & Maternal Health

Enhancing maternity data collection and reporting in Australia: National Maternity Data Development Project Stage 3 and 4
"The National Maternity Data Development Project (NMDDP) was established in response to recommendations of the National Maternity Services Plan (NMSP) around improved maternity data collection and reporting. The primary aim of the NMDDP is the development of nationally consistent maternal and perinatal data collection. This report outlines the progress, led by the AIHW that was made during stages 3 and 4 of the data development project." *Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare*

National comparison of cross-agency practice in investigating and responding to severe child abuse
"The response to severe child abuse (namely abuse requiring police investigation) requires many different workers across agencies and disciplinary backgrounds to work together effectively. This paper reports on the arrangements in place in each state/territory to support a cross-agency response based on characteristics associated with effective cross-agency responses identified in the research literature." *Source: Australian Institute of Family Studies*

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[Physical health and well-being in children and youth: Review of the literature](#)
"This paper provides an overview of trends in physical health outcomes of young people over the last several decades. It makes the argument for the importance of physical health and well-being for the individual and society, including its role in education outcomes. The paper then examines interventions, identifying common factors of effective intervention design to improve physical health among young people. It ends with a discussion of remaining gaps in our knowledge and the implications of this body of research on education, communities and families." *Source: OECD*

[WHO recommendations: intrapartum care for a positive childbirth experience](#)
""This up-to-date, comprehensive and consolidated guideline on essential intrapartum care brings together new and existing WHO recommendations that, when delivered as a package, will ensure good-quality and evidence-based care irrespective of the setting or level of health care." *Source: WHO*

[Exploring Early Childhood Care and Education Levers to Improve Population Health](#)
"Experts from the health and the early childhood care and education (ECE) fields gathered on September 14, 2017, in New York City at a workshop hosted by the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement. The workshop presentations and discussion focused on the evidence base at the intersection of the two fields; on exploring current effective strategies, ways to expand current efforts, and ways to work together in the future; and on the policy levers available to improve early childhood development, health, and learning. This publication briefly summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop."
Source: National Academies Press

[Engaging High Risk Families in Home Visiting Programs : A Rapid Review](#)
This review asked "what strategies engage high risk families in ongoing, active participation in home visiting programs?". *Source: Region of Peel (Canada)*

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Mental Health

[Collaborative Care: An Exploration into Core Tenets, Fidelity, and Policy](#)
"Mental health is a key component of overall health, with illnesses such as depression having one of the largest burdens of disease globally. While treatment for mental illnesses has historically been suboptimal, innovative models of care are being tested. One prominent example is the collaborative care model. Through various implementations across the United States, core tenets ranging from team-based care to measurement-guided treatment have been identified that have contributed to the success of collaborative care. This analysis found that though this model has enjoyed some success in treating depression, further policy changes and research are needed for collaborative care to effectively achieve the Triple Aim of health care" *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

[Waiting times in the emergency department for people with acute mental and behavioural conditions](#)
"The purpose of this brief report is to present findings from ACEM's research exploring mental health presentations in hospital emergency departments (EDs), with the hope of

beginning a binational conversation about how mental illness can be better managed in the acute care context and the broader health system. Using these data, the College's goal is to advocate for a better health system response that addresses discriminatory treatment practices and improves overall health and psychosocial outcomes for this patient group."
Source: Australasian College for Emergency Medicine

[Your attention please: the social and economic impact of ADHD](#)
"At a time when mental health services are under the spotlight, the aim of this Demos report is to shine a light on the socioeconomic impact of undiagnosed and untreated ADHD on individuals, the people around them and wider society." *Source: Demos (UK)*

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Workforce

[Relationship-based practice: emergent themes in social work literature](#)
"This report highlights the importance of interpersonal skills and relationships in social work practice. It reviews the literature to explore the history of relationship-based practice (RBP), and features of RBP, and discusses opportunities and implications for practice." *Source: Iriss*

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