Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 57, 2018, May

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.

Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

Planning, assuring and delivering service change for patients
"This guidance is designed to be used by those considering, and involved in, substantial service change to navigate a clear path from inception to implementation. It will support commissioners and providers to consider how to take forward their proposals, including effective public involvement, enabling them to reach robust decisions on change in the best interests of their patients." *Source: NHS England*

[**Developing new models of care in the PACS vanguard: a new national approach to large-scale change?**](#)
"This independent report was commissioned by NHS England as part of a package of support provided to primary and acute care system (PACS) vanguard sites by The King's Fund. The PACS model is an attempt to bring about closer working between GPs, hospitals, community health professionals, social care and others." *Source: King's Fund*

[**Multimorbidity: a priority for global health research**](#)
"This report was undertaken to summarise the existing research evidence about the burden, determinants, prevention, and treatment of multimorbidity, and to identify areas of weakness in which additional data are required. The report has been informed by an expert international working group, as well as by meetings with researchers and research funders from a range of countries." *Source: Academy of Medical Sciences*

[**Exploring Tax Policy to Advance Population Health, Health Equity, and Economic Prosperity**](#)
"On December 7, 2017, the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement held a 1-day workshop in Oakland, California, at The California Endowment Oakland Regional Office–Healthy Communities Center. The workshop featured presentations, panel discussions, and an exercise about tax policy as both an influence on health outcomes and a possible source of financing for population health activities; ranging from diabetes prevention to universal pre-kindergarten. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

[**Accountability in modern government: what are the issues?**](#)
"This report argues that weak accountability increases the risk of failure of public services – whether through financial mismanagement, chronic underperformance or the collapse of services. At the same time, the report says there is a tendency to overemphasise blame when something goes wrong. Instead of frank conversations about what would be needed to improve the situation, the tendency is to obscure the facts." *Source: Institute for Government*

[**Is the Canada Health Act a Barrier to Reform?**](#)
"Despite spending more on health care than the majority of developed countries with universal-access health-care systems, Canada performs poorly in international comparisons of the performance of health systems. Canada's health policies also differ from those of other nations with universal-access health care—in particular, those that have the developed world's best performing universal systems—in a number of ways. These include policies affecting private involvement in the insurance and delivery of core medical services, patient cost-sharing, dual practice by physicians, and activity-based funding for hospitals. Evidence of how Canada's health-care system underperforms coupled with concerns about its fiscal sustainability in the future suggest the need for policy reform." *Source: Fraser Institute*

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Public & Global Health

[**Housing and health: opportunities for sustainability and transformation partnerships**](#)

"This short report, supported by the National Housing Federation, is intended to help those leading and contributing to sustainability and transformation partnerships and emerging integrated care systems to make the most of the contribution that housing can make to health as they deliver and continue to develop." *Source: King's Fund*

[Building better decisions: Why good evidence is used (and ignored) in the built environment sector](#)

"Evidence-based decision making (EBDM) is a framework that has yielded huge benefits in fields ranging from medicine to social policy. While the concept is becoming popular in the built environment sector and terms such as "evidence-based design" are now widely used, our research has shown that EBDM is not in fact widely practised, and certainly not to its full potential. Valuable opportunities are being lost as a consequence, including opportunities to create better buildings and increase the expertise of the professionals who make pivotal decisions about how buildings are designed and completed." *Source: Low Carbon Living CRC*

[Not Just for Kids: How to Improve Adult Vaccination Uptake in Canada](#)

"In "Not Just for Kids: How to Improve Adult Vaccination Uptake in Canada," author Colin Busby suggests creating formal approaches for improved adult immunization uptake." *Source: C.D. Howe Institute*

[Addressing the Social and Cultural Norms That Underlie the Acceptance of Violence](#)

"To better understand how social and cultural norms are related to violence and violence prevention, the Forum on Global Violence Prevention convened a workshop on October 29–30, 2015, to explore the social and cultural norms that underlie the acceptance of violence, with a focus on violence against women across the lifespan, violence against children, and youth violence. The workshop addressed causes, effects, characteristics, and contextual variations related to social and cultural norms related to violence; what is known about the effectiveness of efforts to alter those norms in order to prevent and mitigate such violence; and the role of multiple sectors and stakeholders in the prevention of this violence. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Increasing the effectiveness of Stopping Violence Dunedin programmes](#)

"Overall, stopping violence programmes seem to be effective in that lower recidivism rates are associated with programme completion. Specifically, participants report reduced anger and violence, better self-control, greater capacity for empathy and improvements in communication associated with social functioning and family relationships. The clinical data obtained from the one-week 'snapshot' suggests elevated levels of distress above population norms. There are questions about alternative interpretations of results, and improved design for further study is suggested." *Source: Community Research*

[Exploring Partnership Governance in Global Health](#)

"To explore the role of governance in PPPs for global health, the Forum on Public–Private Partnerships for Global Health and Safety convened a workshop. Participants explored best practices, common challenges, and lessons learned in the varying approaches to partnership governance. They also highlighted key issues in the governance of PPPs for global health with the goal of increasing their effectiveness in improving health outcomes.

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

Healthy housebuilding
"The design of a home and its community is a key contributor to the health and wellbeing of the people who live there. This includes factors such as daylight, temperature, air quality, internal layout and a wide range of neighbourhood factors such as natural environment, amenities and public transport." *Source: UK GBC*

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Mental Health

Integrating mental health and social care: does it work in practice?
"Kim Woodbridge-Dodd looks at the integration of mental health and social care, the benefits behind this and the challenges faced on the ground." *Source: Centre for Mental Health*

Violence and Mental Health: Opportunities for Prevention and Early Detection: Proceedings of a Workshop
"Participants explored how violence impacts mental health and how mental health influences violence and discussed approaches to improve research and practice in both domains. The workshop rapporteurs have prepared this proceedings as a factual summation of the session discussions at the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

Supporting the emotional and mental health needs of people with cancer
"Through interviews with people with lived experience of using cancer services and cancer support providers working in Scotland, a qualitative research study was undertaken by the Mental Health Foundation to better understand emotional and mental health during cancer. This investigation focused on the negative mental health impacts of cancer, how effective support can be delivered, the barriers to support and the unmet mental health support needs." *Source: Mental Health Foundation Scotland*

Safety Net: Cyberbullying's impact on young people's mental health
"The report of our inquiry with YoungMinds contains recommendations calling on social media companies to take faster and firmer action to stop cyberbullying. The inquiry led by Alex Chalk MP heard from young people, adult industry experts, and social media companies on what more can be done to tackle cyberbullying and promote good mental health." *Source: The Children's Society*

Turning to online peer forums for suicide and self-harm support: "It does help having you guys"
"This report maps the activity and characteristics of individuals who engage with beyondblue's Suicidal thoughts and self-harm forum, one of twelve heavily subscribed forums hosted on the organisation's website. This work provides an evidence base that can be used to maintain, improve and replicate these services to better reach people vulnerable to serious mental health risks." *Source: Swinburne Social Innovation Research Institute*

The Neurocognitive and Psychosocial Impacts of Violence and Trauma

"Childhood experiences, both positive and negative, can affect an individual's health and opportunities as an adult and have far-reaching effects on future violence victimization and perpetration. To better understand the impact of violence and trauma on neurocognitive functions and psychosocial well-being, the Forum on Global Violence Prevention convened a 2-day workshop on July 31– August 1, 2017. The workshop approached childhood experiences, violence, and trauma from a broad range of perspectives and participants heard from survivors of trauma, researchers, and practitioners. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Life on Debt Row](#)
"The Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) has published a new report examining the effect of debt on health and wellbeing. The report includes a league table of credit types according to their impact on people's mental health. Credit unions proved to have the least serious impact on mental wellbeing, while payday loans and unauthorised overdrafts proved to have the worst effect on mental wellbeing." *Source: Royal Society for Public Health*

[Alcohol and mental health: policy and practice in England](#)
"Centre for Mental Health and the Institute of Alcohol Studies have come together to explore the state of provision for people with co-occurring difficulties in order to understand what is happening on the ground at present, to inform policy and to identify research and practice priorities. Both are independent charities that seek to improve policy and practice nationwide in their respective areas of work." *Source: Centre for Mental Health (UK)*

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Disability & Social Care

[Funding supported housing for all: Specialised Supported Housing for people with a learning disability](#)
"This report presents findings from research carried out by Housing LIN into the scope and scale of the Specialised Supported Housing (SSH) sector." *Source: Mencap*

[Health-Care Utilization as a Proxy in Disability Determination](#)
"This report analyzes health care utilizations as they relate to impairment severity and SSA's definition of disability. Health Care Utilization as a Proxy in Disability Determination identifies types of utilizations that might be good proxies for "listing-level" severity; that is, what represents an impairment, or combination of impairments, that are severe enough to prevent a person from doing any gainful activity, regardless of age, education, or work experience." *Source: National Academies Press*

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Health of Older People

[Managing the hospital and social care interface: interventions targeting older adults](#)
"The health and social care sectors are dependent on one another to succeed. But the boundary – or interface – between the two is challenged daily: care received in one of the

sectors has a direct impact on the other. This report focuses on that interface." *Source: Nuffield Trust*

[Cognitive ageing and decline: Insights from recent research](#)
"This research brief explores the impacts of cognitive ageing and decline on individuals, as well as on the wider Australian economy. The brief emphasises how cognitive impairment is a significant barrier to those over sixty staying in the workforce and managing their finances properly. The brief also discusses the current and proposed future ways to diagnose and prevent cognitive impairment before it becomes severe." *Source: ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research*

[My future wishes: Advance Care Planning (ACP) for people with dementia in all care settings](#)
"This document aims to assist practitioners, providers and health and social care commissioners create opportunities for people living with dementia to develop an Advance Care Plan (ACP)." *Source: NHS England*

[Why Call it Care When Nobody Cares?](#)
"This is what older people and their families said they think about the care crisis and how a solution can be found." *Source: Age UK*

[Transforming health care in nursing homes: An evaluation of a dedicated primary care service in outer east London](#)
"The Nuffield Trust was commissioned by the Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge Clinical Commissioning Groups to evaluate a new primary care service that was being piloted in four nursing homes in the London Borough of Havering that had previously had difficulty accessing GP services." *Source: Nuffield Trust*

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Equity

[The Montefiore Health System in New York: integrated care and the fight for social justice](#)
"The Montefiore Health System, a 'safety net' health system in the heart of the Bronx, has found ways of helping even the most deprived, while contributing to the recovery of a struggling community. It has done so, in large part, by stepping beyond the bounds of conventional health services." *Source: King's Fund*

[Cardiovascular health in remote and rural communities](#)
"This report's purpose is to detail the CVD burden on remote and rural Australia, and to propose action to ameliorate CVD impacts. Many CVD events are preventable. Increased investment in, and access to, evidence-based, culturally appropriate prevention and early intervention for people at increased risk of CVD, and those who have experienced a CVD event, is required." *Source: Royal Flying Doctor Service*

[Access to Language Interpretation Services and its Impact on Clinical and Patient Outcomes](#)

"Language barriers are a significant challenge in ensuring equitable access to health care. Ontarians who are not proficient in, or unable to speak an official language (English or French), face inequities in health care settings. Language interpretation services are an intervention to promote language accessibility in health care. To better understand the effectiveness of professional interpretation in health care we conducted a scoping review to examine the impact language interpretation services on patient and clinical outcomes." *Source: Wellesley Institute*

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Technology & Data

Nursing in the digital age: using technology to support patients in the home
"This report is based on a survey of over 500 nurses working in the community. It seeks to determine how far new healthcare information technology has changed and how skills and attitudes within community services have adapted." *Source: Queen's Nursing Institute*

The promise of healthtech: how digital innovators are transforming the NHS
"Technology is changing healthcare in ways that were scarcely imaginable only five years ago. The changes that innovations such as cloud computing, VR, 3D printing, genomics and artificial intelligence are bringing to the NHS cannot come too soon. They represent one of the few ways that the NHS can sustainably relieve the demographic and financial pressures it faces." *Source: Public*

Can government stop losing its mind? How network thinking can help us record, find and use what we need
"This report sets out how the public sector could benefit from a federated, data-driven approach: one that provides greater power to its leaders, benefits its participants and users, and improves performance through better use of, and structured access to, data." *Source: Nesta*

Data for Public Benefit: Balancing the risks and benefits of data sharing
"In a new report, Data for Public Benefit, launched today by Involve, Understanding Patient Data and the Carnegie UK Trust, the tensions between reaping benefits from data sharing and the risks of sharing data are unpacked and explained." *Source: Involve*

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Quality & Safety

Retrospective Review of Surgery for Urogynaecological Prolapse and Stress Urinary Incontinence using Tape or Mesh
"This report has been produced by NHS Digital, to investigate activity, summarised within Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) data, for the NHS, in England, of patients who have had a urogynaecological procedure for the treatment of urogynaecological prolapse or stress urinary incontinence, including those where mesh, tape or their equivalents have been used." *Source: NHS Digital*

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Workforce

Workforce to Care Force: Who Cares?
"The paper explores some questions about the future of the health and social care workforce, and discusses some of the changes in assumptions and practices which may be needed across the UK in the next few years." *Source: Institute of Public Care*

Less waste, more health: a health professional's guide to reducing waste
"The Less waste, more health report explains how health professionals can positively influence societal health and wellbeing by making simple changes to the procurement and disposal of medical supplies." *Source: Royal College of Physicians*

Understanding the wellbeing of consultant physicians
"With the NHS nearing crisis point, Medical Workforce Unit (MWU) director Dr Nigel Trudgill outlines the results of the department's new wellbeing survey and discusses what we can do to improve wellbeing among consultant physicians." *Source: Royal College of Physicians*

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Child, Youth, & Family Health

Children experiencing interparental coercive control
"This summary focuses on evidence of the indirect impact on children from living with the effect of adult to adult coercive control. Overall there is very little research into coercive control without violence, and even less specific research into how children experience coercive controlling behaviours only, when living with domestic violence perpetrated by one caregiver to another. However, we have identified some key publications and sources of knowledge that seek to identify and explain the impact of coercive control on young people, where these effects are described specifically." *Source: Iriss*

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?". It is a brief review of the literature on strategies for recruitment and retention of families in home visiting programmes. The Region of Peel in Ontario, Canada offers the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children (HBHC) programme for high risk families." *Source: Region of Peel*

The wellbeing of New Zealand families and whanau: Demographic underpinnings
"Since the end of the 18th century the world has gone through demographic changes that have affected every aspect of its societies, economies and populations. This 'demographic transition' is arguably the most cataclysmic set of changes to strike humankind since people first evolved. It affects both family life and the population as a whole. Here, we investigate what's known about the family of today and its antecedents, and whether the demographic transition and concomitant family changes have irrevocably altered the way that families perform." *Source: Superu*

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