Ministry of Health Library

Grey Matter

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

Issue 73, 2019, September

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.

Equity

Health inequalities: place-based approaches to reduce inequalities
"The context and causes of health inequalities highlights the multiple causes of health inequalities which are complex, interactive and simultaneous in their combined actions, with

their roots in the wider determinants of health. A joined-up approach that treats the 'place', and not just individual problems or issues, is therefore necessary if we are to measurably reduce inequalities in health and wellbeing." *Source: Public Health England*

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Cancer

Guiding Cancer Control: A Path to Transformation
"Guiding Cancer Control defines the key principles, attributes, methods, and tools needed to achieve the goal of implementing an effective national cancer control plan. This report describes the current structure of cancer control from a local to global scale, identifies necessary goals for the system, and formulates the path towards integrated disease control systems and a cancer-free future. This framework is a crucial step in establishing an effective, efficient, and accountable system for controlling cancer and other diseases." *Source: National Academies Press*

Non-melanoma skin cancer deaths
"This factsheet presents an indicator of deaths from non-melanoma skin cancer in New Zealand in 2015. Skin cancer occurrence is a persisting issue due to higher than average UV levels in New Zealand, compared to other countries at similar latitudes." *Source: Environmental Health Indicators New Zealand*

Melanoma Deaths
"This factsheet presents information on deaths from melanoma in New Zealand. Most melanoma (80–96%) is caused by UV exposure (WHO 2006)." *Source: Environmental Health Indicators New Zealand*

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Screening

Generation genome and the opportunities for screening programmes
"The report briefly defines genome sequencing and how, by improving our understanding of genetic activity, we can determine how best to use genetics in screening." *Source: Public Health England*

Cancer screening in Australia: future directions in melanoma, Lynch syndrome, and liver, lung and prostate cancers
"While Australia now has well-established national screening programs for breast, bowel and cervical cancers, research continues into the feasibility of developing systematic screening programs for a number of other cancers. In this paper, experts in their fields provide perspectives on the current state of play and future directions for screening and surveillance for melanoma, Lynch syndrome, and liver, lung and prostate cancers in Australia." *Source: Sax Institute (Australia)*

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Public Health

[The use of evidence in decision making during public health emergencies](#)
"This report is based upon a workshop (expert consultation). The workshop sought to identify and address the links between scientific evidence and decision-making in public health emergencies, and to address the key challenges faced by public health experts when advising decision makers." *Source: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control*

[Toward Understanding the Interplay of Environmental Stressors, Infectious Diseases, and Human Health](#)
"Infectious diseases are among the top five leading causes of death worldwide. Scientists have long known that the environment plays a defining role in the emergence and spread of infectious diseases. However, the relationships among human exposures to environmental pollution; rapid environmental change; and the emergence, spread, and persistence of infectious diseases are not yet well understood." *Source: National Academies Press*

[WHO report on the global tobacco epidemic 2019: offer help to quit tobacco use](#)
"The World Health Organization (WHO) published the seventh WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic last week, which this year focuses on the progress that countries around the world have made to help tobacco users quit. The report analyses national efforts to implement the most effective measures from the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control that are proven to reduce demand for tobacco." *Source: WHO*

[Tobacco Endgame Simulation Modelling: Assessing the Impact of Policy Changes on Smoking Prevalence in 2035](#)
"In October 2016, a Tobacco Endgame for Canada Summit was convened with over 80 experts, researchers, government officials, advocates, and health professionals in attendance to discuss possible interventions to reach the target goal "less than 5 by '35". In this report, [the authors] describe the findings from simulation models that assessed the impact in Ontario of five of the potential Tobacco Endgame interventions discussed at the Summit." *Source: Ontario Tobacco Research Unit*

[Intimate partner sexual violence : research synthesis](#)
"This paper provides a synthesis of the evidence on intimate partner sexual violence, examining its characteristics, current service responses and prevention activities. It includes a case study and recommendations for policy and practice." *Source: ANROWS (Australia)*

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Long-Term Conditions

[Improving brain and body health: linking dementia and chronic disease prevention](#)
"Despite much research into the causes of dementia, many unanswered questions remain. The current evidence demonstrates that multiple factors, including age, genes, environment and lifestyle factors, contribute to whether a person develops dementia." *Source: Mitchell Institute (Australia)*

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Health of Older People

[Going the Extra Step: A compendium of best practice in dementia care](#)
"The Housing Learning and Improvement Network used this year's Dementia Action Week 2019 to gather and share examples of extra care schemes and other housing related community services supporting people with dementia to develop meaningful relationships."
Source: Housing LIN (UK)

[Tackling loneliness](#)
"The Government's Loneliness Strategy was published in October 2018. It set out a wide variety of cross-departmental measures that the Government would take to provide 'national leadership' to tackle loneliness in England. As well as explaining the Strategy and the steps taken so far by the Government, this paper also looks at research into the causes and impact of loneliness and possible interventions." *Source: House of Commons Library (UK)*

[Elder abuse: Key issues and emerging evidence](#)
This paper "discusses key issues involved in how elder abuse is defined and examines its prevalence, impact and associated risk factors, with a focus on implications of recent research for policy and practice." *Source: Australian Institute of Family Studies*

[An evidence summary of health inequalities in older populations in coastal and rural areas](#)
The aim of this review is to "to provide an evidence summary on the health inequalities experienced by older populations in coastal and rural areas, together with a summary of key considerations in taking an asset-based approach in reducing inequalities and promoting productive healthy ageing in these areas." *Source: Public Health England*

[Empowering Caregivers to Deliver Home-based Restorative Care](#)
"Canada, like most high-income countries, is experiencing an aging population, with those over 65 being on track to represent 25% of the Canadian population by 2050. This shift in population demographics is requiring significant changes in the delivery of health and social services including an increased focus on helping individuals to age well at home. However, despite provincial investments in home and community care, the transition away from acute care and towards the community has been relatively slow." *Source: McMaster Forum*

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Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms

[Shaping Health Futures: Preparing for tomorrow's possibilities today](#)
"This report outlines some of the major trends and changes in the population, society, technology, politics, the environment, and other areas, that will impact the future of health and social care. The report is an initial exploration of some of the approaches used to plan and prepare for the future, drawing on examples from other countries and sectors, as well as in the UK government." *Source: Health Foundation*

[Health, care and the 100-year life](#)
"A child born today has a one in three chance of living to 100. Increased longevity should be celebrated. However, it will bring a range of challenges for society. Increasing longevity

raises a series of questions about the future of the health, care and medicine systems"
Source: Social Market Foundation (UK)

[Implementing health in all policies](#)
"'Health in all policies' is an established approach to improving health and health equity through concerted cross-sector action on the wider determinants of health. This collection of case studies illustrates practical attempts to do this around the world, from Australia to Canada. Some show national initiatives, while others focus on action taken in regional or local authorities. Each project achieved different successes and demonstrated various challenges, and all offer valuable insights into implementing health in all policies for the UK and beyond. The collection is not designed to be prescriptive, but aims to stimulate ideas, generate discussion, and share knowledge and experience from around the world." *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

[Building healthier communities: the role of the NHS as an anchor institution](#)
"Anchor institutions are large, public sector organisations that are unlikely to relocate and have a significant stake in a geographical area… This report showcases where NHS organisations are already implementing anchor practices, and outlines how decision makers across the health care system can maximise the contribution the NHS makes to the social, economic and environmental conditions that shape good health." *Source: Health Foundation (UK)*

[Health Teams and Primary Care Reform in Ontario: Staying the Course](#)
"In "Health Teams and Primary Care Reform in Ontario: Staying the Course," authors Åke Blomqvist and Rosalie Wyonch examine Ontario's experiment with capitation-based payment methods, in which doctors are paid in part on the basis of a patient head count, not purely via fee-for-service. They conclude that the relatively limited effects of the new payment methods in terms of improving access or saving costs are due to the weak incentives and loopholes in the partial capitation options that doctors have been offered." *Source: C.D. Howe Institute (Canada)*

[Integrating Oral and General Health Through Health Literacy Practices: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)
"Oral health care and medical health care both seek to maintain and enhance human health and well-being. Yet, dentistry and primary care in the United States are largely separated and isolated from each other. Each has its own siloed systems for education, service delivery, financing, and policy oversight. The result has been duplication of effort, a cultural gap between the two professions, and lost opportunities for productive collaboration and better health." *Source: National Academies Press*

[Investing in Interventions That Address Non-Medical, Health-Related Social Needs: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)
"To explore the potential effect of addressing non-medical health-related social needs on improving population health and reducing health care spending in a value-driven health care delivery system, [a] workshop [explored] effective practices and the supporting evidence base for addressing the non-medical health-related social needs of individuals, such as housing and food insecurities; review assessments of return on investment (ROI) for payers, healthy systems, and communities; and identify gaps and opportunities for research and

steps that could help to further the understanding of the ROI on addressing non-medical health-related social needs. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop." *Source: National Academies Press*

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Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity

Saturated fats and health
"This report considers the relationship between saturated fats, health outcomes and risk factors for non-communicable diseases in the general UK population." *Source: Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (UK)*

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Technology

Digital Megatrends: A perspective on the coming decade of digital disruption
"This report explores plausible futures using methods of strategic foresight pioneered at CSIRO's Data61. [The authors] explore the coming decade of digital disruption through the lens of six interlinked megatrends using a Venn diagram to emphasise their interconnectedness. A megatrend is a significant shift in environmental, economic and social conditions that will play out over the coming decades." *Source: CSIRO Data61*

The impact of technological advancements on health spending: A literature review
"This paper presents a comprehensive literature review of the impact of technological advances on health expenditure growth, the 'cost' side of the equation." *Source: OECD*

Modelling the possible returns to the NHS from private sector use of the 100K genomes database
"The development of publicly-owned genomics databases linked to health records challenges the standard model of drug development. The usual assumptions of transferring intellectual property (IP) or other knowledge from the public to the private sector do not hold. This article models the possible returns such a database as that developed through the 100K Genomes project might return to the UK healthcare system." *Source: Bennett Institute (UK)*

Digital inclusion for health and social care
"A guide to help healthcare providers, commissioners, and designers ensure that services delivered digitally are as inclusive as possible, meeting the needs of all sections of the population." *Source: NHS Digital*

iHuman: Blurring lines between mind and machine
The Royal Society expects that neural interface technologies will continue to raise profound ethical, political, social and commercial questions that should be addressed as soon as possible to create mechanisms to approve, regulate or control the technologies as they develop, as well as managing the impact they may have on society. *Source: Royal Society (UK)*

Workforce

How doctors in senior leadership roles establish and maintain a positive patient-centred culture
"This independent research set out to explore the lived experiences of doctors in senior leadership roles, their leadership journeys, the everyday challenges, and what they see as their role in shaping their organisation's culture. It asked what positive culture means to senior leaders and how they recognise when a positive culture is present or absent. It also examines what they try to do to build or sustain a positive culture, or where they identify a negative culture is in place, how they try to change this." *Source: General Medical Council (UK)*

Pharmacists in 2023: Roles and Remuneration
"This document describes existing pharmacists' roles, and how they will evolve by 2023, including within new and emerging settings. It describes how advanced practice can provide a structure to recognise and remunerate the contribution of pharmacists to the health system." *Source: Pharmaceutical Society of Australia*

Exploring Models for Health Workforce Planning
"Planning for and managing health human resources requires consideration of the effects of a complex array of factors. There is no single way to allocate health human resources, as many different combinations of providers can deliver needed services. However, using different combinations of providers may require trade-offs between accessibility, efficiency and effectiveness." *Source: McMaster Forum (Canada)*

Strengthening the Connection Between Health Professions Education and Practice: Proceedings of a Joint Workshop
"The workshop participants explored the intersection of health professions education and practice. Both sectors are working toward the same goal of improving the health of patients and populations, without compromising the mental stability and wellbeing of the workforce or its learners. However, while education and practice have the same goal, there is a need for greater alignment between the sectors to more fully realize these desired outcomes." *Source: National Academies Press*

Child & Youth Wellbeing

Investigating the rates and spatial distribution of childhood ambulatory sensitive hospitalisations in New Zealand
This report will "help policymakers understand the distribution of childhood ambulatory sensitive hospitalisations (ASHs) within New Zealand. This report supports actions 6 and 8 of the New Zealand Health Strategy: ensuring the right services are delivered at the right location in an equitable, clinically and financially sustainable way, and increasing the effort on prevention, early intervention, rehabilitation and wellbeing." *Source: GeoHealth Laboratory*

[**Close to home: young people and the impact of alcohol and drug use by family and peers**](#)
"This report considers the responses of young people who agreed that alcohol and/or drugs are a problem for my family/peers in Youth Survey 2018, compared with those who answered neither/ disagree. It provides a better understanding of their individual concerns, aspirations and wellbeing, and points to support needed for this group of young people." *Source: Mission Australia*

[**Better together: supporting perinatal and infant mental health services**](#)
"The well-being and social emotional development of infants, young children and their caregivers is critical to the future social fabric of society. To be effective the system of services supporting infants and young children in their families and communities must be integrated across levels of service delivery as well as across sectors. It must also be dynamic and responsive to the changing individual, family, community and environmental contexts." *Source: Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre*

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Disability

[**Preventing falls in people with learning disabilities: making reasonable adjustments**](#)
"People with learning disabilities have a similar risk of falls throughout their lives as older people in the general population. Around one-third of falls by people with learning disabilities result in injury and the rate of fractures is higher than in the rest of the population. This may be due to increased risk of osteoporosis. Falls and injuries are avoidable causes of frailty and reduced wellbeing, in addition to significant costs caused to health and social care." *Source: Public Health England*

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Drug & Alcohol Use

[**Diminished inclusivity in public space: How alcohol reduces people's use and enjoyment of public places**](#)
"This literature review explores what is known about the ways local supply and use of alcohol affects the pleasantness or attractiveness of a place (amenity); and the extent to which people are willing to enter, use or live in a locality (inclusivity of public space). This review supports a study of such impacts in New Zealand neighbourhoods and in the licensing process." *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[**Impacts of local alcohol policies – Analysis of changes in spending at venues selling alcohol**](#)
"This report describes changes in spending patterns at venues licensed to sell alcohol associated with the introduction of local alcohol policies for two areas; Waimakariri and a joint local alcohol policy in Tauranga and Western Bay of Plenty. The analysis found no evidence for a reduction in total spending at on-licences in the areas examined." *Source: Health Promotion Agency*

[**The Future of Fentanyl and Other Synthetic Opioids**](#)
"This book offers a systematic assessment of the past, present, and possible futures of synthetic opioids in the United States. It is rooted in secondary data analysis, literature reviews, international case studies, and key informant interviews. The goal is to provide decisionmakers, researchers, media outlets, and the public with insights intended to improve their understanding of the synthetic opioid problem and how to respond to it." *Source: RAND Corporation*

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Mental Health

[**Supporting Aotearoa's rainbow people: A practical guide for mental health professionals**](#)
"This guide is for anyone who provides mental health support in Aotearoa, including (but not limited to) counsellors, psychologists, psychiatrists, psychotherapists, tohunga (Māori healers), social workers, mental health nurses, and GPs. It will also be helpful for youth workers, group facilitators, and peer supporters. Wherever you work in mental health, you work with rainbow people. Rainbow people in New Zealand face a range of complex issues, and mental health professionals don't always receive specific training about their needs and experiences." *Source: RainbowYOUTH*

[**Developing sustainable interprofessional practice in mental health and addiction services - A brief literature review**](#)
"This literature review was undertaken to provide information about how interprofessional practice is currently being implemented nationally and internationally for the purpose of informing the sustainable development of this approach in New Zealand mental health and addiction services." *Source: Te Pou*

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