



Alert 128

Selected resources published in September/ October 2024

Contents

	Managing Data, Knowledge and Information10
Patient Experience and Safety.....2	Service Design and Commissioning.....10
Managing and Leading People3	Quality Improvement and Innovation.....12
Education and Professional Practice6	Climate Change and Sustainability15
Finance and Procurement.....8	Public Health15

Digital Downsides: Patient-centred Care in the Digital Age



As healthcare systems strive to make the most of their resources, the emphasis on the role of digital technology is almost exclusively on the benefits it has to offer.

This discussion examines potential drawbacks and risks of digital technology in health and care services from the perspective of person-centred care. It reviews what, if anything, is lost from the more 'human elements' of care when digital technologies are introduced.

The aim of this article is not to deny the benefits associated with digital technologies, or label them as implicitly good or bad, but to stimulate discussion, inform decision making, and guide further research about where technology can be used optimally to support good patient care.

The discussion draws on interviews with 15 experts, chosen for their expertise and breadth of perspectives. These include policy and practice, health and social care, philosophical and operational concerns, and industry and government. They were asked to consider patient-centred care in relation to digital technologies as a whole, rather than specific tools, which is a limitation. However, the purpose is to identify specific themes as the basis for future work.

Four aspects of care were identified where technologies may either support or subvert person-centred care:

Transactional; The efficient design and management of processes (e.g. scheduling appointments, or ordering repeat prescriptions)

Technical; The reliable application of technical equipment and/or specialised knowledge (e.g. summarising the likely effectiveness of specific treatments, for example)

Contextual; Understanding the wider circumstances of the person needing care and what might help in a broader context (realistic goals, barriers, resources and capabilities)

Relational; Interpersonal relations between the person accessing care and the people providing it (mutual trust and respect, or a felt sense of being cared for)

In many cited examples, digital technologies boost the transactional and technical elements of care, but at the expense of the contextual and relational elements. If true, there will be distributional consequences. Technologies would tend to benefit people with single problems but who are generally otherwise well, but not people with complex needs who require more relational modes of care.

In the final analysis, the authors conclude that there can be no 'either/or'. Health and care services require technological development, but they also require human input and rapport, and the ability to apply technologies in pursuit of well-rounded goals. Both perspectives are required when making effective choices about the direction of services and policy. **Read ['Digital Downsides': A Discussion Document \(The Strategy Unit, October 2024\)](#)**

Patient Experience and Safety

Guideline / Policy

Patient Safety Principles.

Patient Safety Commissioner; 2024.

<https://www.patientsafetycommissioner.org.uk/principles/>

[The Patient Safety Principles have been developed as one of the Commissioner's statutory duties following a public consultation which received over 800 responses.]

Primary care patient safety strategy.

NHS England; 2024.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/primary-care-patient-safety-strategy/>

[This strategy outlines the primary care implementation of the NHS Patient Safety Strategy, and is for all areas of primary care, though with some improvements implemented first in general practice to enable the successes and learning to be used in the rollout to community pharmacy, optometry and dental services.]

Review of patient safety across the health and care landscape: terms of reference.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-patient-safety-across-the-health-and-care-landscape-terms-of-reference>

[Terms of reference for the government's review of the safety of the health and care landscape.]

Safeguarding Policy.

Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC); 2024.

<https://www.hcpc-uk.org/resources/policy/safeguarding-policy/>

[The purpose of the safeguarding policy is to outline our safeguarding responsibilities, so that our staff and partners are aware of their safeguarding obligations, and to ensure that any safeguarding concerns are dealt with and escalated appropriately.]

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

An integrative systematic review on interventions to improve layperson's ability to identify trustworthy digital health information.

Mohamed H. *PLOS Digital Health* 2024;:doi.org/10.1371/journal.pdig.0000638.

[Searching and evaluating online health information poses a real challenge for many health consumers. This review explored the approaches to improve laypeople's online health literacy, finding that approaches focusing on teaching online health literacy skills are the most common. In addition, learning computer/internet skills alongside with media literacy is an effective technique, commonly used amongst older people.]

Improving adverse drug event reporting by healthcare professionals. [Abstract]

Shalviri G. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2024;10:CD012594.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Adverse drug events, encompassing both adverse drug reactions and medication errors, pose a significant threat to health, leading to illness and, in severe cases, death. Timely and voluntary reporting of adverse drug events by healthcare professionals plays a crucial role in mitigating the morbidity and mortality linked to unexpected reactions and improper medication usage.]

Patient and public involvement in healthcare: a systematic mapping review of systematic reviews - identification of current research and possible directions for future research. [Abstract]

Bergholtz J. *BMJ Open* 2024;14(9):e083215.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[This mapping review sheds light on the evolving landscape of patient and public involvement (PPI) in healthcare. To advance the field, future research should prioritise rigorous study designs, cost-effectiveness assessments and consensus-building efforts to create a more unified and impactful approach for PPI in healthcare.]

Report

Workforce and patient safety: temporary staff – integration into health care providers.

Health Services Safety Investigations Body; 2024.

<https://www.hssib.org.uk/patient-safety-investigations/workforce-and-patient-safety/third-investigation-report/>

[The NHS regularly uses temporary staff to fill gaps in its workforce. This investigation report reveals there is widespread discrimination against temporary staff in the NHS, and this creates a culture of fear that stops them

speaking up about patient safety.]

Patient Experience in England 2024.

Patient Experience Library; 2024.

https://www.patientlibrary.net/cgi-bin/library.cgi?page=Services_Publications

[An annual overview of people's experiences in healthcare across the English NHS.]

Evidence-Based Summary

The expectations of informal carers. [\[Abstract\]](#)

While A. *British Journal of Community Nursing* 2024;29(9):416-418.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[While families can be an important resource for those in need of care, it is important that statutory services including health services respect the perspective of carers who may see their role as mainly comprising emotional and social support of a relative rather than an adjunct to the health service. There is a risk that the quest to minimise hospital admissions exploits informal carers so that they become so overburdened that they and the person for whom they care require in-patient care.]

How to make remote consultations safer.

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR); 2024.

<https://evidence.nihr.ac.uk/alert/how-to-make-remote-consultations-safer/>

[Remote consultations by telephone or video have become common in primary care. Researchers assessed the safety of remote consultations (including NHS 111); they found 95 safety incidents across the UK between 2015 and 2023.]

Generative artificial intelligence, patient safety and healthcare quality: a review. [\[Abstract\]](#)

Howell MD. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2024;33(11):748-754.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Quality and safety professionals should anticipate ongoing, very rapid development in the field. We have seen truly remarkable progress already in just a single year, and it looks as if it will continue. Things that were impossible 2 years ago are now routinely available for software developers. This degree of exponential progress makes the medium-term future difficult to predict and means that quality and safety professionals will have to think creatively.]

The problem with 'never events'. [\[Abstract\]](#)

Zaslow J. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2024;33(9):613-616.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[There are multiple challenges to reducing the prevalence of NEs. The term is currently used with varying definitions and characteristics, which limits collaboration. Patient safety/healthcare groups should identify the necessary conditions/characteristics for NEs]

The impact of risk management on recovery in psychiatric hospitals: a patient-centred study

The Mental Elf; 2024.

<https://www.nationalelfservice.net/populations-and-settings/secondary-care/the-impact-of-risk-management-on-recovery-in-psychiatric-hospitals-a-patient-centred-study/>

[Sahar Seidl summarises a qualitative study on the ontological insecurity of inattentiveness, which looks at how risk management processes in acute psychiatric care can have a negative impact on patient recovery.]

Managing and Leading People

Guideline / Policy

How HR can look after their own mental health: Guide for people professionals.

Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD); 2024.

<https://www.cipd.org/en/knowledge/guides/hr-mental-health/>

[Although HR is often seen as playing an important role in ensuring the wellbeing of employees within an organisation, the complexity and demands of the HR role requires people professionals to also take care of their own mental health. This guide provides information on how to manage your own wellbeing when working in HR.]

Guidance for and to support neurodivergent SLTs in their careers.

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT); 2024.

<https://www.rcslt.org/news/new-guidance-to-support-neurodivergent-slts/>

[Written by neurodivergent speech and language therapists, the guidance focuses on how all SLTs can be allies

and support neurodivergent SLTs in the workforce, with the aim of promoting inclusion and belonging, improving workforce retention and recognising the strengths and lived experience of the neurodivergent workforce.]

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

Coaching to develop leadership of healthcare managers: a mixed-methods systematic review. [\[Abstract\]](#)

Hu S. *BMC Medical Education* 2024;24(1):1083.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Coaching is commonly used to facilitate leadership development among healthcare managers. However, there is limited knowledge of the components of coaching interventions and their impacts on healthcare managers' leadership development. This mixed-methods systematic review aimed to synthesize evidence of coaching to develop leadership among healthcare managers.]

Do worksite health promotion programs (WHPP) influence presenteeism among employees? A systematic review.

Pernille G Støren. *Work (Reading, Mass.)* 2024;77(1):85-102 .

[Increased telework opportunities due to COVID-19 has affected working conditions worldwide, for better and worse, requiring adaptations at employee, management, organisational and socio-cultural levels. Our results showed high program diversity, several adaptable to future needs (e.g., digital solutions), however hampered by narrow focus on individual health. Future research should focus on theory-based high quality multilevel WHPP comprising contextual, work, and organisational factors.]

Why do acute healthcare staff behave unprofessionally towards each other and how can these behaviours be reduced? A realist review.

Aunger JA. *Health and Social Care Delivery Research* 2024;12(25):PAMV3758.

[Workplace disempowerment and organisational barriers are primary contributors to unprofessional behaviour. However, interventions predominantly focus on individual education or training without addressing systemic, organisational issues. Effectiveness of interventions to improve staff well-being or patient safety is uncertain. We provide 12 key dynamics and 15 implementation principles to guide organisations.]

Report

Embedding research in the NHS.

Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC); 2024.

<https://www.amrc.org.uk/embedding-research-in-the-nhs>

[Clinical research is good for patients, the NHS and the economy. But in a health service under pressure, it's often seen as important but not urgent. This briefing outlines why embedding clinical research is fundamental to transforming the NHS.]

Practical evidence-based strategies for nurse retention allow front-line leaders to meet the needs of nurses on their units. [\[Abstract\]](#)

Woodward KF. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2024;27(4):141.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[This study addresses nursing workforce turnover, emphasizing practical strategies to improve nurse retention without costly programs. It highlights job intentions as part of the turnover process which can be influenced by specific workplace factors. A front-line localized approach is advocated focusing on supporting leadership and fostering communication with nursing staff. The study's person-centred strategies aim to enhance retention, promote positive workplaces and improve patient outcomes.]

Greater than the sum of its parts?: Sharing board leadership between NHS trusts.

NHS Confederation; 2024.

<https://www.nhsconfed.org/publications/greater-sum-parts-shared-board-leadership>

[Exploring the learning from shared leadership models in provider trusts in England.]

Addressing Workplace Violence Starts with Data.

Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI); 2024.

<https://www.ihl.org/insights/addressing-workplace-violence-starts-data>

[The prevalence of workplace violence in health care settings has been steadily increasing, with significant impacts on the safety and well-being of health care workers and the quality of patient care. The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Innovation team recently completed a 90-day research cycle to draft a framework that health systems might use to create reliable prediction and response systems to reduce physical violence and improve safety of the health care workforce.]

Demographics, professions and concerns: patterns in Practitioner Performance Advice cases with a focus on IMGs.

NHS Resolution; 2024.

<https://resolution.nhs.uk/learning-resources/demographics-professions-and-concerns-patterns-in-practitioner-performance-advice-cases-with-a-focus-on-international-medical-graduates-imgs/>

[This annual practitioner characteristics paper finds that international medical graduates (IMGs), those from an ethnic minority background, and practitioners who are older or male continue to be over-represented in concerns reported to NHS Resolution by employers and contracting bodies.]

How employers are tackling bullying and harassment at work.

Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD); 2024.

<https://www.cipd.org/uk/knowledge/reports/bullying-harassment/>

[Are employers doing enough to prevent and manage bullying and harassment in the workplace? This research found a clear gap between employers' confidence in having the policies and procedures to handle conflict and employees' confidence to take forward a complaint and seek resolution. Almost half (47%) of employees experiencing conflict at work reported that they 'just let it go' while less than a third (29%) discussed it with their manager and/or HR.]

Listening to the silence: Freedom to Speak Up in the NHS Staff Survey 2023.

National Guardian's Office; 2024.

<https://nationalguardian.org.uk/2024/07/24/analysis-of-the-2023-nhs-staff-survey/>

[In this report, the National Guardian's Office analyses questions relating to speaking up that were asked in the 2023 NHS Staff Survey. It highlights that while workers' confidence in speaking up about anything which concerns them showed signs of improvement, the survey revealed a five-year low in the number of respondents who feel secure raising concerns about unsafe clinical practice.]

Policy Exchange Just about managing: the role of effective management and leadership in improving NHS performance and productivity.

Policy Exchange; 2024.

<https://policyexchange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Just-About-Managing-2.pdf>

[This report considers the role that management and leadership can play in enhancing NHS performance and productivity. It argues that a greater focus on the competencies, permissions and placement of management is required, noting that a weak and anecdotal evidence base has often defined the public debate. The report sets out sixteen recommendations to improve NHS management.]

Public health and population health: leading together.

The King's Fund; 2024.

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/insight-and-analysis/reports/public-population-health-leading-together>

[This report examines the experience of public health leaders following the advent of integrated care systems, and the impact of institutional reform in national public health policy. During 2023-24, researchers ran a series of roundtables with professional groups, conducted interviews with leaders, and explored case study sites around England to gauge how change is happening in practice. They set out recommendations to support further leadership development.]

Resourcing and talent planning report 2024.

Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD); 2024.

<https://www.cipd.org/en/knowledge/reports/resourcing-surveys/>

[This annual report examines employer practices to offer insights and recommendations to guide talent management and investment decisions. Now in its 24th edition, the report includes for the first time, details of the impact of UK migration rule changes, the role of AI in hiring and the increasing prevalence of flexible and hybrid work options.]

The management mission: how better leaders improve public services.

Social Market Foundation (SMF); 2024.

https://www.smf.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/cmi-tl-report_smf-the-management-mission.pdf

[This report brings together the highlights of detailed studies into the value of leadership and management in the UK's health care, education system, and local government. It concludes that investing in managers, both current and future, will ensure they have the basic set of skills required to navigate stretched budgets, but also the tools needed to manage the change that comes with new technologies, changing demographics and evolving demands of the workforce.]

The state of the adult social care sector and workforce in England 2024.

Skills For Care; 2024.

<https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Adult-Social-Care-Workforce-Data/Workforce-intelligence/documents/State-of-the-adult-social-care-sector/The-state-of-the-adult-social-care-sector-and-workforce-in-England-2024.pdf>

[This report finds that international recruitment drove improvements in the adult social care workforce in the year to March 2024. It shows that the workforce grew (to 1.71 million filled posts) and vacancies fell (to 131,000 on any given day) for the second successive year. However, the sector faces ongoing domestic recruitment and retention challenges.]

What community health providers are doing to recruit and keep the staff they need.

NHS Providers; 2024.

<https://nhsproviders.org/community-network-people-first>

[This briefing showcases the work of four community providers that are innovating to improve recruitment and retention at a local level.]

Evidence-Based Summary

From frontline to forefront: paramedics as healthcare leaders within the NHS.

Phillips JS. *Journal of Paramedic Practice* 2024;16(9):370–378.

[This article aims to critically analyse the potential of paramedics to be healthcare leaders within the NHS. By examining recent literature, leadership theories and case studies, it will highlight the key attributes that make paramedics suitable for leadership roles and discuss the potential benefits of increasing their involvement in healthcare leadership.]

How do support workers experience working in the NHS?

Griffin. *British Journal of Healthcare Assistants* 2024;18(9):361–366.

[The Cavendish Review (2013) highlighted the array of constraints, issues, barriers and obstacles that healthcare assistants (HCAs) face in the workplace. Approximately 10 years after the initial report was published, Griffin et al (2024) conducted a follow-up study to examine whether the situation had changed or developed. This article briefly explores their wider findings and discusses the implications for the HCA workforce.]

What drives unprofessional behaviour in healthcare?

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR); 2024.

<https://evidence.nihr.ac.uk/alert/what-drives-unprofessional-behaviour-in-healthcare/>

[Researchers found that unprofessional behaviour such as rudeness or bullying may become embedded in the workplace when staff are disempowered, teams lack cohesion, and managers are unaware of the behaviour.]

Education and Professional Practice

Guideline / Policy

Preparing for Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) in Health Professions Education: AMEE Guide No. 172.

Masters K. *Medical Teacher* 2024;46(10):1258-1271.

[This Guide outlines Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) features, such as multi-modality, generality, adaptability, autonomy, and learning ability. It examines AGI's effects on students, institutions, and healthcare. Issues like employment, social risks, and costs are raised, and the Guide suggests steps for HPE institutions to prepare for AGI's future impact.]

Physician associates in general practice: scope of practice.

Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP); 2024.

<https://www.rcgp.org.uk/representing-you/policy-areas/physician-associates-scope>

[This guidance is for GP practices that employ physician associates (PAs). Its purpose is to describe the scope of practice for all PAs working in UK general practice. It should be read in conjunction with the College's policy position on PAs, as well as related RCGP guidance (on Supervision and Induction and preceptorship).]

Achieving good medical practice: guidance for medical students.

General Medical Council (GMC); 2024.

<https://www.gmc-uk.org/education/standards-guidance-and-curricula/guidance/student-professionalism-and-ftp/achieving-good-medical-practice>

[The guidance was updated in 2024 to bring it in line with the latest version of Good Medical Practice.]

Guidance on conduct and ethics for students.

Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC); 2024.

<https://www.hcpc-uk.org/resources/guidance/guidance-on-conduct-and-ethics-for-students/>

[This document gives students on approved programmes information about HCPC's standards of conduct, performance and ethics]

Position Statement: Education and training of diagnostic radiographers working in Magnetic Resonance Imaging.

Society of Radiographers; 2024.

<https://www.sor.org/learning-advice/professional-body-guidance-and-publications/documents-and-publications/policy-guidance-document-library/position-statement-education-and-training-of-diagn>

[This statement sets out the position of the the Society of Radiographers (SoR) in relation to the training and education of radiographers working in MRI.]

Supervision guidance for psychologists.

British Psychological Society (BPS); 2024.

https://explore.bps.org.uk/content/report-guideline/bpsrep_2024.rep178

[The guidance has been written to include all areas of psychological practice outlining supervision/consultation principles, theories and models to allow informed choice, rather than mandating strict practitioner rules and requirements.]

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

Resilience in nursing medication administration practice: a systematic review with narrative synthesis.

[Abstract]

Kellett PL. *BMJ Open Quality* 2024;13(4):e002711.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Nurses' resilience practices were found to be responses to identified triggers that threaten safety and productivity. These were often short term, real-time proactive adaptations to preserve safety, compensating for and responding to complexities in the modern healthcare setting.]

Clinical assessor's experiences of assessing undergraduate nursing and midwifery students who underperform on clinical placement: A qualitative systematic review and meta-summary.

Gillian O Sullivan. *Nurse Education Today* 2024;141:106316.

[The management of underperformance on clinical placement by undergraduate nursing and midwifery students presents a challenge for those nurses and midwives, working on the frontline of patient care, who also take on the role of clinical assessor. Addressing these challenges is essential to support the assessor and the student. Sharing of the decision making with a colleague when there is evidence of underperformance could address many of the difficulties experienced by the clinical assessor.]

A systematic review of medical practitioners' retention and application of basic sciences to clinical practice. [Abstract]

Albert FA. *BMC Medical Education* 2024;24(1):997.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Medical education offers the foundational base for future healthcare professionals, with basic sciences playing a pivotal role in providing essential knowledge and skills for clinical practice. However, the long-term retention and application of this knowledge in clinical practice remain a significant challenge. This systematic review synthesised global evidence from diverse studies on the short / long-term retention and clinical application of basic sciences among medical doctors.]

Effects of educational methods using extended reality on pre-registration nursing students' knowledge, skill, confidence, and satisfaction: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Yuma Ota. *Nurse Education Today* 2024;141:106313.

[XR may be a viable teaching strategy for improving knowledge, skills, and satisfaction acquisition. In particular, immersive VR improves knowledge, skills, and satisfaction. XR could not be a direct replacement for traditional methods but can complement pre-registration nursing students' traditional education methods.]

Spaced Digital Education for Health Professionals: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

Martinengo L. *Journal of Medical Internet Research* 2024;26:e57760.

[This review assessed the effectiveness of spaced digital education for health care professionals, comparing it with nonspaced or traditional methods. Analysing 23 studies, spaced digital education showed improvements in knowledge, skills, and clinical behaviour, particularly in surgical skills and behaviour change. Though many studies had bias, findings suggest spaced digital education effectively enhances knowledge retention and professional confidence.]

Should I stay or should I go? Nursing and midwifery academics intention to stay in or leave academia: A scoping review.

Marion Tower. *Nurse Education Today* 2024;142:106352.

[Given the predicted workforce shortages it is imperative for nursing education providers to develop strategies to promote healthy work environments and career pathways, and identify how to develop strong leadership in an ageing nursing and midwifery academic workforce. Importantly, the lack of research related to the Indigenous academic workforce is concerning and must be a priority area for focus.]

The influence of near-peer teaching on undergraduate health professional students' self-efficacy beliefs: A systematic integrative review.

Beth Pierce. *Nurse Education Today* 2024;143:106377.

[Few high-quality studies with a focus on near-peer teaching's influence on health professional students' self-efficacy beliefs were found. Available evidence suggests that near-peer teaching may positively impact health professional students' self-efficacy beliefs across several domains. More rigorous, multi-perspective investigations are needed from various health disciplines to build upon this evidence.]

Report

Physicians' experiences of clinical research: findings from the three Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK 2023 census of consultant physicians.

Royal College of Physicians (RCP); 2024.

<https://www.rcp.ac.uk/policy-and-campaigns/policy-documents/physicians-experiences-of-clinical-research-findings-from-the-three-royal-colleges-of-physicians-of-the-uk-2023-census-of-consultant-physicians/>

[In 2023, 41% of consultant physician respondents said they undertake research. However, a further 36% were interested in undertaking research. The top three reasons why UK consultant physicians choose to undertake research were: it improves care for patients, makes them a better doctor, and improves their job satisfaction. A lack of time in job plans was the main barrier to UK consultant physicians taking part in research.]

Regular evaluation of clinical learning environments can assist in bridging the gap between theoretical teaching and clinical practice. [Abstract]

Padilha JM. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2024;27(4):137.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Nursing education systems are being challenged by the rapid advancements in healthcare technology, sociodemographic changes in modern societies and the expectations of young healthcare students. To guarantee that students learn and develop their theoretical knowledge, attitudes, and skills in a friendly and safe clinical environment, we must evaluate clinical learning environments to systematically identify improvement opportunities.]

RePAIRing the student nurse journey: empowering interrupted students through innovative support strategies. [Abstract]

Hill B. *British Journal of Nursing* 2024;33(18):884-889.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[This article reports on a study that evaluated an innovative 6-week summer returners' programme, part of the Health Education England RePAIR project, designed to support nursing students who have interrupted their studies. Held from May to July 2022, the programme addressed diverse needs through academic guidance, mental health and resilience workshops, creative arts, professional identity development, and practical nursing skills training.]

KnowledgeShare Team

William Harvey Library, GETEC, George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust, College St, Nuneaton, CV10 7DJ. email: library@geh.nhs.uk
Education Centre Library, Warwick Hospital, LakIn Road, Warwick, CV34 5BW. Email: library@swft.nhs.uk

Finance and Procurement

Guideline / Policy

[A guide to business cases for digital projects.](https://www.hfma.org.uk/system/files/2024-10/a-guide-to-business-cases-for-digital-projects-8145.pdf)

Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA); 2024.

<https://www.hfma.org.uk/system/files/2024-10/a-guide-to-business-cases-for-digital-projects-8145.pdf>

[As part of the NHS governance structure, a robust, well-evidenced business case demonstrates the potential of a new idea to deliver real value across the whole health and care system, giving a digital tech innovation the best chance of being adopted by the NHS. This briefing looks at the structure of a good business case for digital investment projects.]

[Primary Dental Services Statement of Financial Entitlements \(Amendment\) Directions 2024.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/primary-dental-services-statement-of-financial-entitlements-amendment-directions-2024)

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/primary-dental-services-statement-of-financial-entitlements-amendment-directions-2024>

[Implements changes to the payments made by NHS England to contractors under a dental service contract with effect from 1 April 2024.]

Report

[Briefing on the financial challenges facing NHS trusts.](https://nhsproviders.org/resources/briefings/briefing-on-the-financial-challenges-facing-nhs-trusts)

NHS Providers; 2024.

<https://nhsproviders.org/resources/briefings/briefing-on-the-financial-challenges-facing-nhs-trusts>

[In May 2024, we surveyed trust chief executives and finance directors, asking for their views on a variety of financial and operational challenges in 2024/25. We received responses from 114 different trusts, accounting for over half (55%) of the provider sector (209 trusts), from all regions and trust type in England.]

[Improving accountability in government procurement.](https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-09/Improving-accountability-government-procurement_0.pdf)

Institute for Government; 2024.

https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-09/Improving-accountability-government-procurement_0.pdf

[The UK government spends up to £400 billion each year on buying in goods and services. The PPE and Horizon scandals show that governments have not always spent this public money well. This report looks at public procurement in the UK, and opportunities for insourcing in IT and management consultancy. It explores how accountability in public procurement works, how this will change under the Procurement Act, and sets out opportunities for the new government to improve practice.]

[Paving a new pathway to prevention: leveraging increased returns on our collective investment.](https://www.nhsconfed.org/publications/paving-new-pathway-prevention)

NHS Confederation; 2024.

<https://www.nhsconfed.org/publications/paving-new-pathway-prevention>

[This fourth report in the Value in Health series explores the impact on prevention of selecting interventions with the highest returns on investment.]

[Protecting patients and the NHS through full transparency in industry–NHS collaborations.](https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/protecting-patients-and-the-nhs-through-full-transparency-in-industry-nhs-collaborations/attachments/protecting-patients-and-the-nhs-through-full-transparency-in-industry-nhs-collaborations.pdf)

Institute for Policy Research; 2024.

<https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/protecting-patients-and-the-nhs-through-full-transparency-in-industry-nhs-collaborations/attachments/protecting-patients-and-the-nhs-through-full-transparency-in-industry-nhs-collaborations.pdf>

[This policy brief, written by a team of international academic researchers and UK-based patient advocates, recommends key legislative reforms to enhance financial transparency in industry–NHS collaborations. It recommends legislative changes in three key areas and argues that these reforms will promote transparency and will support the government's core missions to strengthen the NHS and drive investment in life sciences.]

[Public health funding briefing 2024.](https://www.adph.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/ADPH-Public-Health-Funding-Briefing-Final-1-1.pdf)

Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH); 2024.

<https://www.adph.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/ADPH-Public-Health-Funding-Briefing-Final-1-1.pdf>

[This briefing presents the public health funding landscape across the UK, including ADPH's recommendations for how public health funding can be reformed to ensure people can live healthier, happier and more productive lives.]

[A new fiscal model to deliver prevention.](#)

Tony Blair Institute for Global Change; 2024.

<https://institute.global/insights/public-services/preparing-the-nhs-for-the-ai-era-a-new-fiscal-model-to-deliver-prevention>

[This paper argues for the introduction of a national health insurance model in the UK to support a mission-led approach to growth and health, provide stability and predictability to health budgets, and fix a system that has been funded by short-sighted investments to plug short-term gaps. It argues that accounting for the value of prevention and population health, the government can use its finite resources more effectively to help UK citizens live healthier, more productive lives.]

Managing Data, Knowledge and Information

Guideline / Policy

[Data \(Use and Access\) Bill.](#)

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/data-use-and-access-bill>

[Information and supporting documents relating to the Data (Use and Access) Bill which was introduced to Parliament on 23 October 2024.]

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

[Can a replication revolution resolve the duplication crisis in systematic reviews? \[Abstract\]](#)

Karunanathan S. *BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine* 2024;29(5):285-288.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[While systematic reviews hold a key position in evidence-based medicine, the value of purposively replicating them (while avowing unnecessary duplication) has been largely overlooked. Creating a culture of replication within the world of systematic reviews will take time and commitment from institutions, journals, funders and authors. Efforts are currently underway to increase the added value of appropriate systematic review replications.]

[How Communities of Practice Generate Knowledge Translation Outcomes to Support Public Health Issues: A Realist Synthesis.](#)

Elbrink SH. *Health and Social Care in the Community* 2024;:1960806.

[Communities of practice members in health settings can go beyond knowledge sharing within their community of practice and support knowledge translation outside that community of practice by bringing knowledge into a parent organisation, triggering changes in daily practice and improving health outcomes through systemic changes. Several contexts and mechanisms can support achieving these outcomes.]

Service Design and Commissioning

Guideline / Policy

Community diagnostic centres – guidance for planning, design and implementation.

NHS England; 2024. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/community-diagnostic-centres/>

[The national Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) Programme is now in its third year and has approved 170 CDC sites across England. This guidance sets out next steps and best practice for systems on developing CDCs, including sections on commissioning, governance, engagement, regulatory and accreditation requirements, digital connectivity, workforce and pathway development.]

Same day emergency care – service specification.

NHS England; 2024.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/same-day-emergency-care-service-specification>

[Same day emergency care allows specialists, where appropriate, to assess, diagnose and treat patients on the same day of arrival who would otherwise have been admitted to hospital. This specification defines what should be delivered as part of the SDEC service. It includes links to reference documents and metrics for measurement (the desired outcomes and outputs) so that safe, effective same day services are delivered across health care systems to deliver urgent and emergency care services.]

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

Interventions to minimise hospital winter pressures related to discharge planning and integrated care: a rapid mapping review of UK evidence.

Cantrell A. *Health and Social Care Delivery Research* 2024;12(31):KRWH4301.

[Few initiatives identified were specifically identified as a response to winter pressures. Discharge to assess and hospital at home interventions are heavily used and well supported by the evidence but other responses, while also heavily used, were based on limited evidence. There is a lack of studies considering patient, family and provider needs. Additionally, there is a shortage of studies that measure the longer-term impact of interventions.]

Access systems in general practice: a systematic scoping review. [Abstract]

Eccles A. *British Journal of General Practice* 2024;74(747):e674-e682.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[This synthesis provides a useful tool in understanding access systems' aims, design, and implementation. With focus on alleviating demand, patient-focused outcomes appear to be underinvestigated and potentially overlooked during design and implementation. More recently, digital services have been promoted as offering patient choice and convenience. But a context where demand outweighs resources challenges the premise that extending choice is possible.]

Signposting services for people with health and care needs: a rapid realist review.

Cantrell A. *Health and Social Care Delivery Research* 2024;12(26):GART5103.

[Signposting services need greater clarity of roles and service expectations to facilitate evaluation. Users with complex health and social care needs require intensive, repeat support from specialist services equipped with specific knowledge and situational understanding. A tension persists between efficient (transactional) service provision with brief referral and effective (relational) service provision, underpinned by competing narratives.]

Report

Evidencing the outsourcing of social care provision in England.

Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford; 2024.

<https://www.spi.ox.ac.uk/evidencing-the-outsourcing-of-social-care-provision-in-england>

[The report highlights the outsourcing trends and quality concerns in adult and children's social care in England. The growing reliance on private for-profit providers, particularly in residential settings like care homes and children's homes, raises important questions about whether current policies deliver sufficient quality and access across the country.]

Adult social care in England: what next?

Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS); 2024.

<https://ifs.org.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/Adult-Social-Care-in-England-IFS-Green-Budget-2024-R338.pdf>

[This report sets out the major challenges facing the adult social care system in England and explores potential future developments for the sector.]

Balancing supply and demand in primary care: how will the 'family doctor' evolve to meet growing demand?

Frontier Economics; 2024.

https://www.frontier-economics.com/media/0hohvq2y/balancing-supply-and-demand-in-primary-care_frontier-economics_october-2024.pdf

[This research identifies that demand for GP services is likely to rise by about 33% by 2034, compared to a baseline in 2015 when GP statistics were first made publicly available. Planned increases to GP numbers alone will not be sufficient to close this gap, highlighting the critical importance of supplementing GP numbers with a range of other trained staff. A visit to the family doctor will look different for many. One test of the new long term plan will be its ability to meet these challenges.]

Effective virtual wards for people with frailty

NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC); 2024.

<https://arc-w.nihr.ac.uk/news/rapid-realist-review-reveals-how-to-achieve-effective-virtual-wards-for-people-with-frailty/>

[Proactive care, a whole-system approach and a 'team-of-teams' are important elements in achieving effective virtual wards for people with frailty, according to the first rapid realist review of the evidence. The findings of the National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR) funded review, published in Age and Ageing, also apply to multidisciplinary virtual wards for other complex conditions. Review included extensive consultation with stakeholders including patients, carers & clinicians.]

From left behind to leading the way: a blueprint for transforming child health services in England.

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH); 2024.

https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2024-09/rcpch_child_health_blueprint_2024.pdf

[This report finds that children are waiting longer than adults to access health care, paediatric services are not recovering at the same rates as adult services, and there is a growing gap between demand and capacity. This has coincided with an unprecedented increased demand for children's health services, which is forecast to grow further due to both preventable and non-preventable increases in childhood illness.]

How to build an anchor network: learning from the West Midlands.

Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES); 2024.

<https://cles.org.uk/publications/how-to-build-an-anchor-network/>

[This guide uses the West Midlands anchor institution network as a case study to bring together some of their 'lessons learned' to act as inspiration and guide to those who would like to build their own network. From starting up a network to maximising its impact, from big city to satellite town, from local authority-led networks to those that have engaged the private sector, the guide provides an overview of the different types of networks and their advantages (and disadvantages).]

Partnering for progress: a data-driven analysis of NHS–industry partnerships.

Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry; 2024.

https://www.abpi.org.uk/media/ffcncgju/abpi_cf_strat_partners_publication.pdf

[This report aims to systematically measure how NHS–industry partnerships support improved patient outcomes using data from across the NHS. The research found that hospitals engaging in industry partnerships are up to 2.5 times more likely to follow NICE recommendations for prescribing clinically and cost-effective medicines more closely, compared to hospitals that do not.]

The future is out there: joining up health and care for the benefit of all.

IMPOWER; 2024.

https://www.impower.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/The_future_is_out_there_161024.pdf

[In May 2024 the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, supported by IMPOWER, convened a group of senior leaders from across all parts of health and social care to explore why the shift to more home and community-based care has not yet been delivered. This paper explores what the new government might do to break the cycle and to fully enable this transformational shift.]

Quality Improvement and Innovation

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

Addressing fairness issues in deep learning-based medical image analysis: a systematic review.

Xu Z. *npj Digital Medicine* 2024;7:286.

[Deep learning algorithms have demonstrated remarkable efficacy in various medical image analysis (MedIA) applications. However, recent research highlights a performance disparity in these algorithms when applied to

specific subgroups. In this survey, we thoroughly examine the current advancements in addressing fairness issues in MedIA, focusing on methodological approaches.]

Clinical effectiveness of robotic versus laparoscopic and open surgery: an overview of systematic reviews. [\[Abstract\]](#)

Lai T.J. *BMJ Open* 2024;14(9):e076750.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Robotic surgery has a strong clinical effectiveness evidence base to support the expanded use of robotic-assisted surgery in six common intracavity procedures, which may provide an opportunity to increase the proportion of minimally invasive surgeries. Given the high incremental cost of robotic-assisted surgery and longer operative time, future economic studies are required to determine the optimal use of robotic-assisted surgery capacity.]

[Effects of artificial intelligence implementation on efficiency in medical imaging: a systematic literature review and meta-analysis.](#)

Wenderott K. *npj Digital Medicine* 2024;7:265.

[This systematic review and meta-analysis represents an assessment of the efficiency improvements offered by AI applications in real-world clinical imaging, predominantly revealing enhancements across the studies. However, considerable heterogeneity in available studies renders robust inferences regarding overall effectiveness in imaging tasks.]

[Electronic health record nudges and health care quality and outcomes in primary care: A systematic review.](#)

Nguyen OT. *JAMA Network Open* 2024;7(9):e2432760.

[This systematic review found low- and moderate-quality evidence that suggested that EHR nudges were associated with improved descriptive measures (eg, documentation patterns). Meanwhile, it was unclear whether EHR nudges were associated with improvements in other areas of health care quality, such as effectiveness and patient safety outcomes. Future research is needed using longer evaluation periods, a broader range of primary care conditions, and in deimplementation contexts.]

Impact of visualising healthcare quality performance: a systematic review. [\[Abstract\]](#)

Yang Z. *BMJ Open* 2024;14(11):e083620.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Performance visualisation tools have the potential to improve clinical performance indicators. More studies with standardised outcome measures and integrating qualitative methods are needed to understand the contextual factors that influence the effectiveness of these interventions.]

Scoping review of the effectiveness of 10 high-impact initiatives (HIIs) for recovering urgent and emergency care services. [\[Abstract\]](#)

Carroll C. *BMJ Open Quality* 2024;13(3):e002906.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Prolonged ambulance response times and unacceptable emergency department (ED) wait times are significant challenges in urgent and emergency care systems associated with patient harm. This scoping review aimed to evaluate the evidence base for 10 urgent and emergency care high-impact initiatives identified by the National Health Service (NHS) England]

Report

[Digital health systems may not fully incorporate the nursing process thus posing a risk to effective clinical decision-making.](#) [\[Abstract\]](#)

Williams V. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2024;27(4):129.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Digital health systems are now widely used in healthcare to facilitate communication, collect more complete patient information in electronic form and improve access to documentation. Digital health systems are designed to be used by the multidisciplinary health team with nurses being one of the key professionals interacting with digital patient data. Yet it's unclear if such systems allow the capture of the different aspects of the nursing process, in particular clinical decision-making.]

[Review into the operational effectiveness of the Care Quality Commission: full report.](#)

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-into-the-operational-effectiveness-of-the-care-quality-commission-full-report>

[Final findings and recommendations of the review into the operational effectiveness of the Care Quality Commission (CQC).]

Independent investigation of the NHS in England.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-investigation-of-the-nhs-in-england>

[In July 2024, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care commissioned Lord Darzi to conduct an immediate and independent investigation of the NHS, providing an expert understanding of the current performance of the NHS across England and the challenges facing the healthcare system. In line with the terms of reference of the investigation, Lord Darzi has only considered the state of the NHS in England. UK-wide analysis is occasionally used when making international comparisons.]

Neonatal audit–Summary report on 2023 data (NNAP).

Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP); 2024.

<https://www.hqip.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Ref.-498-NNAP-Summary-report-on-2023-data-FINAL.pdf>

[The National Neonatal Audit Programme (NNAP) has published a Summary report on 2023 data. Key findings show that outcomes of neonatal care for babies born at less than 32 weeks is not improving. This report also contains key messages and recommendations in relation to optimal perinatal care, parental partnership in care, neonatal nurse staffing and care processes.]

Pulse of the sector: 2024 business survey.

Association of British HealthTech Industries (ABHI); 2024.

<https://www.abhi.org.uk/media/fvhmxcqbi/2024-pulse-of-healthtech-survey.pdf>

[The results of this survey indicate that whilst the health technology sector continues to provide critical life-enhancing technologies and significant employment across the country, it faces persistent regulatory challenges and NHS barriers that hinder innovation.]

Quality of care in the NHS.

NHS Providers; 2024.

<https://nhsproviders.org/resources/briefings/quality-of-care-in-the-nhs>

[This briefing provides an overview of quality of care in the NHS, including how it is defined, the way in which quality is managed and overseen, and how to engage with trusts on quality of care.]

Review of CQC's single assessment framework and its implementation.

Care Quality Commission (CQC); 2024.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications/review-cqcs-single-assessment-framework-and-its-implementation>

[This review has been commissioned by the board of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to complement the report by Dr Penny Dash, by looking at changes that CQC made following the publication of its new strategy in 2021 and their impact. Importantly, this review makes recommendations on solutions to CQC's current problems.]

The state of health care and adult social care in England 2023/24.

Care Quality Commission (CQC); 2024.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications/major-report/state-care/2023-2024>

[The CQC's annual assessment of health care and social care in England. The report looks at the trends, shares examples of good and outstanding care, and highlights where care needs to improve.]

'Digital downsides': a discussion document.

The Strategy Unit; 2024.

https://www.strategyunitwm.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/Strategy_Unit-Digital_Downsides%201.pdf

[Although this report acknowledges the benefits of digital technologies in health and care services, it focuses on the risks and challenges such technologies can bring. Some of the downsides identified include: making care more transactional; digital exclusion; 'blaming' individuals; making evidence-based medicine harder; and the cost, which may take away from spending on physical infrastructure.]

Toolkit

Safer Dx Checklist: 10 High-Priority Practices for Diagnostic Excellence.

Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI); 2024.

<https://www.ihl.org/resources/tools/safer-dx-checklist-10-high-priority-practices-diagnostic-excellence>

[Organizations can use this self-assessment tool with 10 recommended practices for diagnostic excellence to understand current diagnostic practices, identify areas to improve, and track progress toward diagnostic safety and excellence over time.]

Climate Change and Sustainability

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

[Clinician and health service interventions to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions generated by healthcare: a systematic review. \[Abstract\]](#)

Pickles K. *BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine* 2024;29(5):300-312.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Interventions designed to improve the delivery of healthcare that reduces GHG emissions may reduce GHG emissions and costs, reduce anaesthesia use, waste and unnecessary testing, be acceptable to staff and have little to no effect on energy use or unintended harms, but the evidence is very uncertain. Rigorous studies that measure GHG emissions using gold-standard life cycle assessment are needed as well as studies in more diverse areas of healthcare.]

[Strategies and tactics to reduce the impact of healthcare on climate change: systematic review](#)

Braithwaite. *The BMJ* 2024;387:e081284.

[Objective To review the international literature and assess the ways healthcare systems are mitigating and can mitigate their carbon footprint, which is currently estimated to be more than 4.4% of global emissions. This study provides a framework to support the decarbonisation of healthcare systems.]

Report

[A just energy transition for the good of health: a policy report from the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change.](#)

UK Health Alliance on Climate Change; 2024.

<https://s41874.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/Energy-Transition-for-Health-Report-1.pdf>

[The UK is currently poised on a transformational opportunity to develop our energy system and the way in which we use energy, which has the potential to deliver a better, fairer and healthier society. This policy report highlights six recommendations to establish the UK as a global leader in the green energy revolution that will define this generation and provide UK citizens with healthier environments in which to live and work.]

[Health-related climate adaptation: How to innovate and scale global action for local needs.](#)

McKinsey Health Institute; 2024.

<https://www.mckinsey.com/mhi/our-insights/health-related-climate-adaptation-how-to-innovate-and-scale-global-action-for-local-needs>

[Managing the threats posed by climate change to human health requires a rapid upscaling of adaptation interventions. This article highlights three areas of opportunity for innovation and the scaling of solutions that specifically target climate-related health challenges, including development of medical products and technologies that seek to reduce the burden of climate change on health.]

Public Health

Guideline / Policy

[Preventing drug and alcohol deaths: partnership review process.](#)

Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID); 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-drug-and-alcohol-deaths-partnership-review-process>

[Guidance for local partnerships on how to review adult drug and alcohol related deaths and near-fatal overdoses to prevent future deaths. It will be of particular interest to people who commission and plan the strategic response to drugs and alcohol, including: directors of public health; combating drugs partnerships senior responsible officers; and partners in the commissioning and delivery of services for people who use drugs and alcohol, including voluntary and NHS services.]

[Tackling Mental Health Inequalities for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller People.](#)

Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT); 2024.

<https://nspa.org.uk/resource/tackling-mental-health-inequalities-for-roma-gypsy-and-traveller-people/>

[Guidance for professionals supporting people in Roma, Gypsy and Traveller communities. This report aims to: improve knowledge of GRT inequalities around accessing mental health services; improve understanding of how to approach mental health within Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities from a healthcare perspective; and provide suggestions on how to ensure Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people are included in the planning and provision of mental health services.]

Planning for healthy places: a practical guide for local authorities on embedding health in local plans and planning policies in England.

Town and Country Planning Association; 2024.

<https://www.tcpa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Planning-for-healthy-places-Accessible.pdf>

[Local plans are key documents through which local authorities can plan, design and influence environments to create and maintain health, and yet they are often weak and inconsistent on how exactly this can be achieved. This guide, developed in collaboration with the TRUUD research programme and local authorities, provides practical evidence, guidance and inspiration to help local authorities create healthier places for everyone.]

Systematic Review / Meta-Analysis

Food environments and association with household food insecurity: a systematic review.

M S Bezerra. *Public Health* 2024;235:42-48.

[This review revealed that household food insecurity was associated with the food environment, highlighting the importance of policies to promote healthy diets, especially in vulnerable communities. Few studies were found in the Global South, demonstrating the gap in this knowledge in these locations.]

Health impact of urban green spaces: a systematic review of heat-related morbidity and mortality.

[Abstract]

Nazish A. *BMJ Open* 2024;14(9):e081632.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Urban green spaces play a vital role in mitigating heat-related health risks, offering a potential strategy for urban planning to address climate change and enhance public health. Additional research is required to thoroughly comprehend the magnitude of urban greenery's impact on heat-related morbidity and mortality, as well as its interplay with other variables, including air pollution, socioeconomic status, among others.]

Impact of urban farming on health: a systematic review. [Abstract]

Cano-Verdugo G. *Journal of Public Health* 2024;46(3):e500-e509.

[Check for full-text availability](#)

[Urban farms are spaces designated for the cultivation of plants for food security, medicinal and curative purposes. They have become more widespread and health benefits have been claimed; however, no consensus exists regarding this information. Hence, this study aims to provide information about the health effects of urban farming. The benefits of urban farming outweigh the disadvantages. Further research should be conducted to clarify the potential benefits of this practice.]

Measuring and increasing rates of self-isolation in the context of COVID-19: a systematic review with narrative synthesis.

L E Smith. *Public Health* 2024;234:224-235.

[There was no consensus in defining, operationalising, or measuring self-isolation, resulting in significant risk of bias in included studies. Future definitions of self-isolation should state behaviours to be enacted and duration. People recommended to self-isolate should be given support. Public health campaigns should aim to increase perceived effectiveness of self-isolation and promote accurate information about susceptibility to infection.]

Report

A better way of doing business: Securing the right to a healthy workplace.

Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH); 2024.

<https://www.rsph.org.uk/about-us/news/workplace-health-report-universal-right-healthy-workplace.html>

[Over ten million UK workers lack access to workplace health support, this report calls for universal 'right to a healthy workplace'. It sets out how we can reduce the economic cost of ill health and argues that putting an emphasis on building healthier workplaces will help reduce the economic cost of ill health which is estimated to stand at around £100 billion every year.]

Malnutrition and nutritional care survey in adults.

British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN); 2024.

<https://www.bapen.org.uk/pdfs/reports/mag/national-survey-of-malnutrition-and-nutritional-care-2023.pdf>

[This report presents findings from the screening of 2,250 adults from across the UK. It aims to give a picture of the prevalence of malnutrition and the different nutritional care interventions implemented in various settings across the four nations. It found the highest rate of adults at risk of malnutrition since the survey's commencement, at 48% of all those screened.]

Public health 2040: how technology and AI is reshaping the wider public health workforce.

Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH); 2024.

https://www.rsph.org.uk/static/3733cb0b-8a3d-467e-968c7f0b2088fc46/90569a6b_8491-46b2-

[a9fff8eb29fb42d5/Public-health-2040-tech-and-ai.pdf](https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/mens-health-silent-crisis-needs-be-national-concern-lga)

[New technology and artificial intelligence (AI) has already had a profound impact on the UK, and offers new opportunities to improve the delivery of public health. However, these developments also pose potential threats to the wider public health workforce, who are key to ensuring a healthy population. They are uniquely placed to help manage these changes to the public's health and will be essential in navigating and utilising new technological developments.]

Men's health: 'Silent crisis' needs to be a 'national concern'

Local Government Association (LGA); 2024.

<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/mens-health-silent-crisis-needs-be-national-concern-lga>

[Men in England are facing "a silent health crisis", dying nearly four years earlier than women, while suffering disproportionately higher rates of cancers, heart disease and type 2 diabetes, according to a new report by the Local Government Association.]

Never Too Late to Change the Rate: Attitudes of UK adults aged 50-70 towards respiratory vaccinations.

Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH); 2024.

<https://www.rsph.org.uk/our-work/policy/vaccinations/never-too-late-to-change-the-rate.html>

[Our report calls for tailored strategies to reach and engage with those in underserved communities, and for a multi-channelled communication approach to include unusual spaces, such as workplaces, when delivering messages about vaccinations.]

Physical health checks for people with a severe mental illness.

Race Equality Foundation (REF); 2024.

<https://raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Race-Equality-Foundation-Severe-Mental-Illness-and-Physical-Health-Checks-Training-Report-2024.pdf>

[Between 2021 and 2024, the Race Equality Foundation conducted a series of projects to understand in greater detail whether Black African and Caribbean people with severe mental illness were aware of and accessing physical health checks (PHCs). This work identified several barriers and challenges to the uptake of PHCs, which are summarised in this report. It also suggests that awareness and understanding of PHCs within voluntary sector organisations should be improved.]

Public health 2040: health protection in a warming world.

Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH); 2024.

<https://www.rsph.org.uk/static/06845ea3-f35e-4e05-9ed798db309f642c/0f8dea33-5552-4aa9-a8ea4d4a3573d7f6/PH2040-Health-Protection-in-a-warming-world-briefing.pdf>

[Climate change is set to pose significant changes to our planet and health. The wider public health workforce, who are key to ensuring a healthy population, are uniquely placed to help manage these changes to the public's health. This briefing looks at the future needs of the public health workforce to ensure that they have the capacity, skills, resources and support needed to protect the public from the impact of new threats to their health.]

Evidence-Based Summary

A public health approach to suicide prevention.

The Lancet Public Health; 2024.

<https://www.thelancet.com/series/suicide-prevention>

[This series argues that a change in the narrative is needed to move from presenting suicide as a mental health issue to also acknowledging the impact of social factors, such as poverty, debt, addictions, homelessness, abuse, discrimination and social isolation, on a person's decision to consider suicide. Tackling the social factors which contribute to suicide requires a policy re-set with a government commitment for suicide prevention efforts – a "suicide prevention in all policies" approach.]

Empowering healthy places: Unveiling the powers and practices of local councils in fostering healthy neighbourhoods

Local Government Association (LGA); 2024.

<https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/empowering-healthy-places-unveiling-powers-and-practices-local-councils-fostering>

[This guide presents a practical report for councils, outlining their powers in relation to planning and public health in a unified and simplified document. It also provides valuable recommendations to councils and national government alike to guide our efforts.]



KnowledgeShare: Update your knowledge, share your knowledge

What is KnowledgeShare?

KnowledgeShare makes it easier to access personalised resources and services from the Library and Knowledge Service. The library service uses KnowledgeShare to provide services to you (including search requests, information skills teaching and evidence updates) and you can log in with your NHS OpenAthens account to access these services directly.

We are committed to safeguarding your information. The information you supply will be used to contact you about services or resources you have requested from the Library and Knowledge Service. For further information on how we keep your information secure, and your rights to access it, read the full [KnowledgeShare Privacy Policy](#)

How do I access it?

You can log into KnowledgeShare with your NHS OpenAthens account at knowledgeshare.nhs.uk
If you don't have an NHS OpenAthens account, you can register at openathens.nice.org.uk

What can I do with KnowledgeShare?

- **Receive personalised updates.** To receive email current awareness updates once logged in to KnowledgeShare, click on your name in the top right of the screen and click Your Profile. Then click on Edit in the top right of the Professional Interests box. Enter your interests in the text box or use the categories below.

- **Book on to skills session** Once logged in to KnowledgeShare, scroll down the page to see a selection of skills sessions. Click on the desired session and then click the Book Place button.

- **Request an evidence search** Once logged in to KnowledgeShare, click on Evidence on the grey tool bar and then click on Request an Evidence Search. Fill in the form with details of the search.