

WHAT'S NEW

IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN
KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE LATEST RESEARCH AND GUIDANCE IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE WE COLLABORATE IT SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO

14th December 2018

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Please note:

Research articles and guidance are selected in accordance with agreed inclusion/exclusion criteria. This is available on request and will be reviewed regularly. In brief, research is taken only from peer-reviewed, generic public health journals; guidance is taken only from reputable national organisations such as NICE, SCIE and SIGN

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ADULT SOCIAL CARE

1. Home care in England: views from commissioners and providers

Author: BOTTERY, S

Date: 11 December 2018

Abstract: This King's Fund report, produced in association with the University of York, finds that the market for home care providers is extremely fragile, with squeezed margins and low fees forcing providers to leave. In 2017 providers handed back home care contracts in more than one in three local authorities, and some of the largest providers have withdrawn from the publicly funded home care market altogether. Staff shortages are also a 'relentless challenge' for home care providers in many places.

Websites [King's Fund](#)

2. Robotics in Social Care

Author: HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Date: 12 December 2018

Abstract: This POSTnote introduces robotic technology and the main ways it has been developed for use in social care. It reviews evidence on the impact of robotics on the costs and quality of social care and its workforce, and explores the main ethical, social and regulatory challenges to its use in social care.

Websites [POST](#)

3. Disabled Facilities Grant and other adaptations: external review

Author: MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Date: 10 December 2018

Abstract: The Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) is a capital grant paid to local authorities in England that can meet, or contribute towards, the cost of adapting a person's home. This can help eligible people to stay in their homes for longer, and live safer, healthier and more independent lives. The government commissioned an independent review of the DFG in February 2018. The review looks at how the DFG currently operates and makes evidenced based and practical recommendations for how it should change in the future. The review has made 45 recommendations and government is carefully considering the findings.

Websites [Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government](#)

4. Post-Qualifying Standards for Social Work Practice Supervisors in Adult Social Care: Government Response

Author: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Date: 11 December 2018

Abstract: In her 2016/17 annual report, the Chief Social Worker promised to consult on a knowledge and skills statement (KSS) and an assessment pathway for adult social work supervisors. This document responds to the feedback they received from their formal consultation on the KSS for practice supervisors, as well as on what further support may be needed to improve the assessed and supported year in employment (ASYE) programme. The government's response to the consultation provides:

- a summary of overarching messages and key themes identified from the consultation
- an overview of the general issues and trends identified in each of the consultation questions

The response and revised standards take into consideration the responses received as part of the formal consultation.

Websites [DHSC](#)



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES

5. Sexual abuse trauma: new support service for children

Author: NSPCC

Date: 05 December 2018

Abstract: The NSPCC has launched The Lighthouse. The facility is a partnership project with the University College London Hospitals Foundation Trust (UCLH), and Tavistock and Portman Foundation Hospital. It offers a full range of support to children and their families who have been affected by sexual abuse. Until now, young people who reported sexual abuse could face multiple interviews with social workers, law enforcement and medical professionals in different and sometimes unfriendly settings, while also struggling to access long-term emotional support. Based on the [Icelandic Barnahus model](#), The Lighthouse brings all that support under one roof. It will also gather evidence from interviews to help gain more successful prosecutions in the future.

Websites [NSPCC](#)

6. A Better Start: supporting child development in the early years

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Date: 03 December 2018

Abstract: This guide sets out concisely the reasons that the early years are so essential to future outcomes and wellbeing; the measures being taken by local authorities to bring together health, social care and early education services to create a more holistic approach to identifying and meeting the needs of young children and their families – making provision more efficient and effective; and an idea of the increasing range of interventions available to address particular issues early, before they escalate into more damaging (and expensive) problems. The case studies also highlight the importance of evidence-based practice, and of local authorities and area partnerships making sure that they commission provision and implement changes which fully reflect the particular local needs and priorities of their communities. Finally, the resources section lists the publications referred to in the text, with links, which offer a wealth of further reading and information.

Websites [LGA](#)

7. Substance misuse treatment for young people: statistics 2017 to 2018

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 06 December 2018

Abstract: Public Health England have provided alcohol and drug treatment data for under-18s from PHE's national drug treatment monitoring system (NDTMS). Healthcare professionals can use these statistics to understand:

- the availability and effectiveness of alcohol and drug treatment services for young people (under 18 years old) in England
- trends in drug and alcohol use among the young people receiving treatment
- the profile of young people accessing alcohol and drug treatment services

The report and accompanying tables contain statistical analysis of treatment data from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

Websites [PHE](#)

8. Ofsted Annual Report 2017/18: education, children's services and skills

Author: UNITED KINGDOM Ofsted
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The Annual Report looks at schools, early years, further education and skills and children's social care for the academic year 2017 to 2018. Ofsted's findings are based on inspection evidence from around 30,000 inspections of, and visits to, schools, colleges and providers of social care, early years and further education and skills. The report also draws on findings from their research and analysis this year.

Websites [Ofsted](#); [Ofsted - Press Release](#)

9. School-age children profiles: 2018 update

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The school-age children profiles bring together a range of indicators on the health of school-aged children by local area. The indicators provide information on public health outcomes for children of school-age. The school-age children profiles are designed to give commissioners and providers a context to help them prioritise action for school-aged children.

Websites [PHE](#)

10. Young people profiles: 2018 update

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The young people profiles bring together a range of indicators on the health of young people by local area and are designed to give commissioners and providers a context to help them prioritise action for young people. The indicators provide information on public health outcomes for young people, up to 24 years.

Websites [PHE](#)

11. Safeguarding children affected by parental alcohol and drug use

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: A guide for local authorities and substance misuse services to help them work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Local authorities and substance misuse services can use this guidance to:

- understand more about parental alcohol and drug use and how it affects children
- understand the implications of [Working together to safeguard children](#) for substance misuse services
- improve joint working between local authority adult and children's social care services and substance misuse services
- develop joint protocols between alcohol and drug treatment services and adult and children's social care services

Websites [PHE](#)

12. What factors are associated with the prevalence of atopic symptoms amongst adolescents in Greater Manchester?

Author: KATEBI, R

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 3: Pages: 576-581

Abstract: Atopy commonly manifests itself as atopic diseases (ADs), namely asthma, eczema and hay fever. The prevalence of AD is rising worldwide, and it is widely accepted as a major public health issue, due to the significant burden of AD on health care systems. The main outcomes measured were the prevalence of atopic symptoms and the factors associated with the development of atopy. Gender, family affluence, body mass index, diet, smoking and worrying were all significantly associated with atopic symptoms. Smoking was the only variable to be significantly associated with all three ADs. Season of birth and pollution were not shown to be associated with atopic symptoms. This study demonstrates that the prevalence of AD in Greater Manchester was high amongst adolescents. This study provides a baseline for future studies to further investigate the factors that are associated with AD and allow for the implementation of preventative public health policy.

Websites [Oxford](#)

13. School practices important for students' sexual health: analysis of the school health research network survey in Wales

Author: YOUNG, H

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2: Pages: 309-314

Abstract: This study investigates how the sexual health outcomes of a representative sample of students aged 15–16 in Wales vary according to the person delivering Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) in schools, students' access to on-site sexual health services and access to free condoms. Cross-sectional, self-report survey data were collected from students who participated in the 2015/16 School Health Research Network questionnaire in Wales. Data were analyzed from 59 schools, totalling 3781 students aged 15–16 who responded to questions about ever having had sex; age of sexual initiation and condom use at last intercourse. School level data were also collected, examining who delivers school SRE, provision of on-site, school 'drop-in' sexual health services and provision of free condoms for students. Results show that compared to teachers, other modes of SRE delivery were associated with better sexual health outcomes, including remaining sexually inactive, later age of first intercourse and condom use. Providing on-site sexual health services did not significantly reduce the odds of having ever had sex or delaying first intercourse; but was associated with increased condom use. On-site condom provision was associated with lower condom use. In conclusion, further funding and coordination of on-site sexual health advice services are required. Longitudinal research is needed to identify the temporal sequence of sexual health practices and outcomes.

Websites [Oxford](#)

14. Waterpipe tobacco smoking prevalence among young people in Great Britain, 2013–2016

Author: JAWARD, M

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 3: Pages: 548-552

Abstract: One percent of adults in Great Britain use waterpipe tobacco at least monthly, however national epidemiological evidence among young people is absent. This study aims to assess waterpipe tobacco prevalence and correlates among young people in Great Britain. Findings show that one in 10 young people in Great Britain have tried waterpipe tobacco, though more frequent use appears low. The study found no evidence of increasing or decreasing prevalence of waterpipe use between 2013 and 2016. Being male, older and a concurrent user of other tobacco products were correlated with waterpipe tobacco use.

Websites [Oxford](#)

15. Has the UK Healthy Start voucher scheme been associated with an increased fruit and vegetable intake among target families? Analysis of Health Survey for England data, 2001–2014

Author: SCANTLEBURY, L

Journal: Journal of Epidemiology Vol: 72

Abstract: Healthy Start (HS) is a UK government programme, introduced in 2006, providing vouchers to pregnant women or families with children aged <4 who are in receipt of certain benefits. Vouchers can be exchanged for fruit and vegetables (F&V), milk or infant formula. This study sought to identify any association between HS and F&V intake. Repeated cross-sectional data from the Health Survey for England were analysed. Study participants were classified into one of four groups: one HS-eligible group and three control groups, meeting only the income or demographic or no eligibility criterion. Findings show that the change in mean F&V consumption over time was similar in HS-eligible adults and children to that of the control groups. Likewise, the change in odds of consuming ≥ 3 or ≥ 1 portion of F&V/day over time was similar among HS-eligible participants and control groups. In conclusion this study found that during the period 2001–2003 to 2010–2014, F&V consumption among adults and children in households deemed eligible for HS changed similarly to that of other adults and children. Potential explanations include that vouchers may have been spent on milk or infant formula, or that vouchers helped protect F&V consumption in low-income households.

Websites [BMJ](#)

**COMMISSIONING AND ECONOMICS**

16. Understanding the new commissioning system in England: contexts, mechanisms and outcomes

Author: POLICY RESEARCH UNIT IN COMMISSIONING AND THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Date: 30 November 2018

Abstract: Healthcare commissioning is the process by which population needs are assessed, and appropriate health care is purchased to meet those needs from organisations providing care. Introduced in the NHS in 1990, this separation between the roles of planning and purchasing care on the one hand and providing care on the other, is claimed to support an effective and efficient health system. In 2012 there was a significant reorganisation of the NHS in England (enacted in the Health and Social care Act 2012 (HSCA12)), with the abolition of some organisations, the creation of others and a significant redistribution of responsibilities for commissioning different types of healthcare. The changes were comprehensive, affecting most types of organisation in the NHS. Not only was there a wider variety of types of organisation in the new system, but also responsibilities for commissioning some types of services were divided between a number of different organisations. These changes (and other aspects of the reorganisation) were intended to: give front line NHS clinicians more freedom and a greater role in commissioning; increase the efficiency of the NHS by promoting greater competition between providers; focus commissioning activity upon achieving particular outcomes rather than on counting activity; create a new Arm's Length Body (NHS England) to oversee the running of the NHS; and to transfer responsibility for public health to elected Local Authorities. In order to investigate the impact of the changes in respect of commissioning, we undertook a three year study using qualitative and quantitative methods to explore how the new commissioning system was functioning. This research aimed to assess the impact of the reforms on the operation and outcomes of the commissioning system.

Websites [Report](#); [Summary](#) c

17. Evidence-Based Interventions: Guidance for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

Author: NHS ENGLAND
Date: 29 November 2018

Abstract: This guidance document is for CCGs, to assist them in fulfilling their duties relating to securing continuous improvements in the quality of services for patients and in outcomes, particularly regarding appropriate clinical interventions.

Websites [NHS England](#)

**HEALTH CARE PUBLIC HEALTH**

18. Cancer services profiles: 2018 annual update

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The cancer services profiles have been updated with data for the 2017 to 2018 financial year. These profiles present data at GP, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and national level on:

- cancer incidence and screening
- Two Week Wait (TWW) referrals
- diagnostic services
- emergency presentations and admissions

The cancer services profiles have been designed to support commissioners and health professionals to assess the impact of cancer on their local population and make decisions about services.

Websites [PHE](#)

19. Cardiovascular disease profiles: December 2018 update

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The profiles provide an overview of data on cardiovascular and cardiovascular related conditions of heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease. They are intended to help commissioners and health professionals assess the impact of cardiovascular disease (CVD) on their local population, make decisions about services and improve outcomes for patients. The cardiovascular disease profiles are one of a range of data and analysis resources produced by PHE's National Cardiovascular Intelligence Network (NCVIN).

Websites [PHE](#)

20. Mortality Profile: December 2018

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND
Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: Public Health England (PHE) has launched the Mortality Profile. The profile brings together a selection of mortality indicators from other PHE data tools, making it easier to assess outcomes across a range

of causes of death. The Mortality Profile has been developed to present the mortality indicators from the Longer Lives tool (which is being removed in December 2018). It will also bring together a selection of mortality indicators already available in other Fingertips profile tools, including the [Public Health Outcomes Framework \(PHOF\)](#).

Websites [PHE](#)

21. Alcohol-specific deaths in the UK: registered in 2017

Author: OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The Office for National Statistics have published data on deaths in the UK that are known to be direct consequences of alcohol misuse, such as alcoholic liver disease. Main points include:-

- In 2017, there were 7,697 alcohol-specific deaths in the UK, an age-standardised rate of 12.2 deaths per 100,000 population.
- For the UK, alcohol-specific death rates have increased in recent years to similar rates observed in 2008 where they were at the highest recorded.
- Since the beginning of the time series in 2001, rates of alcohol-specific deaths among males have been more than double those observed among females (16.8 and 8.0 deaths per 100,000 in 2017 respectively).
- In 2017, alcohol-specific death rates were highest among 55- to 59-year-old females and 60- to 64-year-old males.
- Scotland remains the constituent country with the highest rate of alcohol-specific deaths in 2017; yet Scotland was the only country to experience a statistically significant decrease in rates from 2001.

Websites [ONS](#)

22. Musculoskeletal Diseases

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: Musculoskeletal conditions are the leading cause of pain and disability in England and account for one of the highest causes of sickness absence and productivity loss. The aim of this tool is to provide meaningful data, on a single platform, to enable the commissioning of high value musculoskeletal services. Musculoskeletal data is essential for understanding the health needs of local populations, the amount of people accessing services, the cost of services and the outcomes services deliver.

Websites [PHE](#)

23. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in over 16s: diagnosis and management

Author: NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Date: December 2018

Abstract: This guideline covers diagnosing and managing chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in people aged 16 and older, which includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis. It aims to help people with COPD to receive a diagnosis earlier so that they can benefit from treatments to reduce symptoms, improve quality of life and keep them healthy for longer.

Websites [NICE](#)



HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

24. Cardiovascular disease prevention: action plan

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 03 December 2018

Abstract: This updated guidance sets out Public Health England's (PHE) initiatives for cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention. This update includes the addition of 'Cardiovascular disease prevention initiatives: 2018 to 2019'

Websites [PHE](#)

25. How we drink, what we think: Public views on alcohol and alcohol policies in the UK

Author: ALCOHOL HEALTH ALLIANCE

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: Alcohol continues to be an accepted part of everyday life in the UK, despite being one of the three biggest lifestyle risk factors for disease and death. This report, which is based on a survey carried out by the AHA, gives some insights into what people think about alcohol, how aware they are about the risks associated with alcohol, and what they would like to be done to address the harms caused by alcohol. The report shows that awareness of the low-risk drinking guidelines and health risks connected to alcohol remains low: 4 in 5 people do not know that the recommended low-risk guideline is not to drink more than 14 units a week. While awareness of the link between alcohol and cancer has increased compared to previous years, the large majority of the public still do not link cancer and alcohol spontaneously. The data also shows that the majority of the public want the UK Government to do more to address the harms caused by alcohol to society, such as ill health, violent crime, domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour.

Websites [Report](#); [Press Release](#)

26. Local Alcohol Profiles for England: December 2018 data update

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: The profiles provide information to monitor the services and initiatives that have been put in place to prevent and reduce the harmful impact of alcohol.

Websites [PHE](#)

27. Vulnerabilities and substance use: ACMD report

Author: ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE MISUSE OF DRUGS

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: This independent report by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) investigates the risk factors to substance use-related problems and harms. It looks at definitions of risk and protective factors, models through which these can be explored, and the particular impact of adverse childhood experiences.

Websites [ACMD](#)

28. Diabetic eye screening programme: failsafe procedures

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 05 December 2018

Abstract: These documents set out how the failsafe processes work for the NHS diabetic eye screening (DES) programme. Public Health England have updated them to include Diabetic eye screening: managing referrals to hospital eye services.

Websites [PHE](#)

29. Support for a point-of-sale cigarette display ban among smokers: findings from the international tobacco control (ITC) Netherlands survey

Author: VAN MOURIK, D-J

Journal: BMC Public Health Vol: 18: Pages: 740

Abstract: This study was designed to examine how support for a point of sale (PoS) cigarette display ban changed among Dutch smokers between 2010 and 2015 and to identify the variables that predict support among smokers for a PoS cigarette display ban. Smokers were asked whether they supported a complete ban on displays of cigarettes inside shops and stores. Support for a PoS cigarette display ban increased from 28.9% in 2010 to 42.5% in 2015. A multiple logistic regression analysis revealed that support for a PoS display ban of cigarettes was more likely among smokers who had more knowledge about the health risks of smoking, believed smoking-related health risks to be severe, had a more positive attitude towards quitting smoking, reported stronger social norms to quit smoking, had a higher self-efficacy for quitting smoking, and had stronger intentions to quit smoking. The study concludes that to further increase support, educational campaigns about the dangers of smoking, and campaigns that encourage quitting may be needed.

Websites [BioMed](#)

30. Effectiveness of nutritional interventions addressed to elderly persons: umbrella systematic review with meta-analysis

Author: POSCIA, A

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2: Pages: 275-283

Abstract: The number of Europeans aged over 65 will double between 2010 and 2060, reaching 30% of the European population. Nutrition is emerging as a key element of healthy life since both obesity and malnutrition are established risk factors for morbidity and disability. The aim of this umbrella review (UR) is to summarize the findings of all current systematic reviews (SRs) and meta-analyses (MAs) on the effectiveness of nutritional intervention designed to promote healthy aging in older individuals. Twenty-eight papers, out of which twenty-five SRs and three MAs, met the inclusion criteria and were included in this umbrella SR. Supplementation with vitamin D and other kind of products was highly effective in preventing falls and fractures. Furthermore, several interventions, ranging from the prescription of supplements to environmental and organizational programs, resulted in an improvement in energy and protein intake, as well as positive weight outcomes. Positive findings were also found for the elderly at risk of malnutrition and for older patients with dementia. In conclusion the findings indicate that the use of a wide range of supplements and environmental and organizational intervention improve a number of anthropometric, nutritional and functional indices in the elderly.

Websites [Oxford](#)

31. Prevalence of adult overweight and obesity in 20 European countries, 2014

Author: MARQUES, A

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2: Pages: 295-300

Abstract: Monitoring obesity and overweight prevalence is important for assessing interventions aimed at preventing or reducing the burden of obesity. This study aimed to provide current data regarding the prevalence of overweight and obesity of adults, from 20 European countries. Participants were 34 814 (16 482

men) adults with mean age 50.8 ± 17.7 . Data from European Social Survey round 7, 2014, were analysed. Body mass index (BMI) was calculated from self-reported height and weight. The study concludes that even though data was self-reported, and individuals tend to overestimate their height and underestimate their weight, the prevalence of overweight and obesity is considered high. More than half of the European population is overweight and obese. This study strengthens and updates the claims of an excessive weight epidemic in Europe.

Websites [Oxford](#)

32. Promoting public health in nutrition: Nutri-Score and the tug of war between public health and the food industry

Author: CHANTAL, J

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 3: Pages: 396-397

Abstract: Dietary risk factors ranked in 2016 in the top three leading causes of morbidity and mortality in Western Europe. Such high burden of diseases urges the implementation of strong and efficient public health strategies in order to curb the impact of poor diets. The public health community has long promoted strategies impacting both individual dietary behaviour and the food environment, in a consistent global framework. However, the latter strategies imply to act upon the food and beverage manufacturers, to provide consumers with better information on the nutritional quality of the foods they produce and to ensure a shift in the nutritional composition of the food offer towards healthier eating.

Websites [Oxford](#)

33. Trends in lifestyle among three cohorts of adults aged 55–64 years in 1992/1993, 2002/2003 and 2012/2013

Author: REINDERS, I

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 3: Pages: 564-570

Abstract: Unhealthy lifestyle factors, such as obesity, smoking, excessive alcohol consumption and physical inactivity, are associated with increased morbidity and mortality risk, even in older age. This study investigated trends in lifestyle among three cohorts of adults aged 55–64 years from the Netherlands. The study consisted of three randomly selected samples of men and women. Lifestyle data were collected in 1992/1993, in 2002/2003 and in 2012/2013. Trends in lifestyle across cohorts were tested using multivariable regression analyses. Among men, but not in women, mean BMI and prevalence of obesity increased over time. The mean minutes per day spent being physically active decreased among both men and women. The lifestyle of Dutch adults aged 55–64 years was less healthy in 2012/2013 compared with 2002/2003 and 1992/1993. Political attention regarding healthy ageing should target the prevention of overweight, physical inactivity and excessive alcohol consumption in middle-aged persons.

Websites [Oxford](#)

34. Understanding differences in cervical cancer incidence in Western Europe: comparing Portugal and England

Author: MENDES, D

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2 Pages: 343-347

Abstract: Cervical cancer incidence has decreased over time in England particularly after the introduction of organized screening. In Portugal, where opportunistic screening has been widely available with only slightly lower coverage than that of the organized programme in England, rates of cervical cancer have been higher than in England. This study compared the burden of cervical cancer, risk factors and preventive interventions over time in both countries, to identify elements hindering the further decline in incidence and mortality in Portugal. Findings show that despite stable incidence, cervical cancer mortality has declined in both countries in the last decade. The burden has been 4 cases and 1 death per 100 000 women annually higher in Portugal than in England. Differences in human papillomavirus prevalence and risk factors for infection and disease progression do not explain the difference found in cervical cancer incidence. Significant mortality declines in

both countries followed the introduction of different screening policies, although England showed a greater decline than Portugal over nearly 2 decades after centralizing organized screening.

Websites [Oxford](#)



HEALTH PROTECTION

35. Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 05 December 2018

Abstract: Public Health England have published updated guidance of scarlet fever, potential complications of the disease and advice on who's most at risk and how to prevent the spread. This guidance is for health professionals to give to the public. It explains:

- what scarlet fever is and how to protect yourself
- what the symptoms are and how you can get it
- who is the most at risk
- how it is diagnosed and treatment
- what the potential complications could be

Websites [PHE](#)

36. Vaccine uptake guidance and the latest coverage data

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: Public Health England published information for health professionals and immunisation practitioners on vaccine uptake guidance and the latest coverage data. The most recent additions to the collection are:

- Annual HPV vaccination coverage in adolescent females in England 2017 to 2018
- Seasonal flu vaccine uptake in GP patients (1 September 2018 to 31 October 2018)

Websites [Collection](#); [HPV vaccination](#); [Seasonal Flu vaccine uptake](#)

37. Enteric fever (typhoid and paratyphoid) England, Wales and Northern Ireland: 2017

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 03 December 2018

Abstract: Enteric fever (also known as typhoid and paratyphoid) is an illness caused by the bacteria *Salmonella enterica* subspecies *enterica* serovar Typhi (typhoid) or serovars Paratyphi A, B or C (paratyphoid). Typhoid fever is a serious disease and can be life-threatening unless treated promptly with antibiotics. The disease may last several weeks and convalescence takes some time. In the literature, paratyphoid is considered to be typically milder than typhoid and of shorter duration. This report summarises the epidemiology of laboratory-confirmed cases of *S. Typhi* (typhoid) and *S. Paratyphi* (paratyphoid) reported in England, Wales and Northern Ireland in 2017. It includes both reference laboratory and enhanced enteric fever surveillance data.

Websites [PHE](#)

38. Weekly national flu reports: 2018 to 2019 season

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 06 December 2018

Abstract: These reports summarise UK surveillance of influenza and other seasonal respiratory illnesses for the 2018 to 2019 season. The latest report is for 6th December 2018.

Websites [PHE](#)



MATERNITY AND INFANTS

39. Three years on from a move to local authority commissioning in England, what has changed? Results from a Survey of English Health Visitors

Author: INSTITUTE OF HEALTH VISITING

Date: December 2018

Abstract: Over 1200 English health visitors participated in the 2018 Institute of Health Visiting (iHV) annual survey. For many their caseloads are increasing, they are experiencing high levels of stress, and they worry about not being able to deliver the services they should to all children with needs, especially the most vulnerable. This follows a significant reduction in local authority public health funding since 2015. The Institute's 2018 survey shows that 44% of health visitors reported working with caseloads of more than 400 children, up from 28% in 2015 when commissioning of their service transferred to local authorities. The Institute recommends a maximum of one health visitor to 250 children to deliver a safe service.

Websites [IHV](#)

40. Fit for and during pregnancy: A key role for local government

Author: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Date: 03 December 2018

Abstract: It is easy to think responsibility for the health of pregnant women and infants lies with the NHS because of its role in delivering maternity and neonatal care. But the influence of local government through its public health role and wider responsibilities is huge. In this report, you will find examples of health visitors, family workers, midwives, social care and children's centres staff helping families through this vital period as well as areas experimenting with a new local government role of consultant public health midwife.

Websites [LGA](#)

41. Antenatal and newborn screening resource

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 03 December 2018

Abstract: Public Health England (PHE) has published updated information on antenatal and newborn screening in the collection of guidance on education and training in population screening. The interactive presentation replaces the pocket-sized resource cards that PHE used to provide to midwives. It includes important information on all the antenatal and newborn screening programmes, with illustrations and links to films, e-learning and other resources.

Websites [PHE - Population screening](#); [PHE - Antenatal and Newborn Screening Resource](#)

42. Statistics on Women's Smoking Status at Time of Delivery, England - Quarter 2, 2018-19

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 06 December 2018

Abstract: Results and trends from the women's smoking status at time of delivery (SATOD) data collection in England. The results provide a measure of the prevalence of smoking among pregnant women at Commissioning Region, Region, Sustainability and Transformation Partnership and Clinical Commissioning Group level. Key facts include:

- 10.5% of mothers were smokers at the time of delivery, similar to 10.4% in Q1 2018/19, and above the current national ambition of 6% or less
- 31 out of 195 CCGs met the national ambition of 6% or less.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

43. International variations in the gestational age distribution of births: an ecological study in 34 high-income countries

Author: DELNORD, M

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2: Pages: 303-309

Abstract: Few studies have investigated international variations in the gestational age (GA) distribution of births. While preterm births (22–36 weeks GA) and early term births (37–38 weeks) are at greater risk of adverse health outcomes compared to full term births (39–40 weeks), it is not known if countries with high preterm birth rates also have high early term birth rates. This study examined rate associations between preterm and early term births and mean term GA by mode of delivery onset. Findings show that preterm and early term births ranged from 4.1% to 8.2% (median 5.5%) and 15.6% to 30.8% (median 22.2%) of live births in 2010, respectively. Countries with higher preterm birth rates in 2004–2010 had higher early term birth rates and changes over time were strongly correlated overall and by mode of onset. In conclusion, positive associations between preterm and early term birth rates suggest that common risk factors could underpin shifts in the GA distribution. Targeting modifiable population risk factors for delivery before 39 weeks GA may provide a useful preterm birth prevention paradigm.

Websites [Oxford](#)

44. Potential combined effects of maternal smoking and coffee intake on foetal death within the Danish National Birth Cohort

Author: MORALES-SUARZ-VARELA, M

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2 Pages: 315-320

Abstract: Several studies have linked coffee intake and smoking to foetal death, but a possible interaction between both exposures remains unknown. The potential interaction between smoking and coffee drinking while pregnant on the risk of foetal (early and late) death was studied, within the Danish National Birth Cohort. The study included 90 086 pregnant women, with information about their smoking habit and coffee intake in early pregnancy, and several potential confounding factors. The study results suggest that the combined effect of smoking and coffee intake during pregnancy on the risk of foetal death is coffee-dose-dependent. A low coffee intake may reduce the risk of foetal death associated with smoking while a high coffee intake increases the risk.

Websites [Oxford](#)

45. Exploring practices and perceptions of alcohol use during pregnancy in England and Sweden through a cross-cultural lens

Author: SCHOLIN, L

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 3: Pages: 533-537

Abstract: Qualitative studies have aimed to understand why some women continue to drink during pregnancy; however, there is a lack of comparative cross-cultural research. This study aimed to explore perceptions and practices of alcohol use during pregnancy in England and Sweden. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 21 parents in Merseyside, England and 22 parents in Örebro County, Sweden. Findings show that the majority of women in both countries abstained from alcohol when they found out they were pregnant, despite alcohol being part of many social contexts before pregnancy. Nine of the seventeen English women drank at some point during pregnancy, typically on special occasions. Most parents felt women should modify their alcohol intake when they become mothers, though several English parents argued that responsible motherhood did not necessarily equate to abstinence. Swedish parents held strong opinions against drinking during pregnancy and argued that any amount of alcohol could harm the foetus. English parents' opinions were divided; some were skeptical of whether low to moderate drinking was associated with risks. In conclusion, shared social norms around drinking may be shaped within the policy context of pregnancy drinking guidelines, determining whether women consume alcohol or not.

Websites [Oxford](#)



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

46. Suicide prevention profile: December 2018 update

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: Data on suicide, associated prevalence, risk factors, and service contact among groups at increased risk. The suicide prevention profile has been produced to help develop understanding at a local level and support an intelligence driven approach to suicide prevention. It provides planners, providers and stakeholders with the means to profile their area and benchmark against similar populations.

Websites [PHE](#)

47. Post-traumatic stress disorder

Author: NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Date: December 2018

Abstract: This guideline covers recognising, assessing and treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in children, young people and adults. It aims to improve quality of life by reducing symptoms of PTSD such as anxiety, sleep problems and difficulties with concentration. Recommendations also aim to raise awareness of the condition and improve coordination of care.

Websites [NICE](#)



WIDER DETERMINANTS

48. UK Poverty 2018

Author: JOSEPH ROWNTREE FOUNDATION

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: This report examines how UK poverty rates have changed in our society over the last few years, as well as over the longer term. The research focuses particularly on changes to poverty among children and workers, as well as giving an overview of trends among pensioners and other groups. This research reveals that, in our society:

- Child poverty has been rising since 2011/12;
- 4.1 million children are living in poverty, a rise of 500,000 in the last five years;
- Four million workers are living in poverty – a rise of more than half a million over five years; and
- In-work poverty has been rising even faster than employment, driven almost entirely by increasing poverty among working parents.

Websites [JRF](#)

49. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - July 2018 to September 2018, Experimental Statistics Report

Author: NHS DIGITAL

Date: 06 December 2018

Abstract: The Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Enhanced Dataset (SCCI 2026) is a repository for individual level data collected by healthcare providers in England, including acute hospital providers, mental health providers and GP practices. Key facts include: -

- There were 1,630 individual(1) women and girls who had an attendance where FGM was identified or a procedure related to FGM was undertaken in the period July 2018 to September 2018. These accounted for 2,025 attendances(2) reported at NHS trusts and GP practices where FGM was identified or a procedure related to FGM was undertaken.
- There were 925 newly recorded(3) women and girls in the period July 2018 to September 2018. Newly recorded means this is the first time they have appeared in this dataset. It does not indicate how recently the FGM was undertaken, nor does it mean that this is the woman or girl's first attendance for FGM.

Websites [NHS Digital](#)

50. Rough Sleeping Strategy: delivery plan

Author: MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Date: 10 December 2018

Abstract: Delivery plan setting out progress and next steps on the August 2018 Rough Sleeping Strategy. This document provides an update on our progress so far, further information including key milestones on all 61 commitments, and information on next steps.

Websites [Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government](#)

51. The relationship between socioeconomic status and risky drinking in Denmark: a cross-sectional general population study

Author: SEID, A

Journal: BMC Public Health Vol: 18: Pages: 743

Abstract: Socioeconomic status (SES) is regarded as consisting of education, income and employment. However, the relationship of these three components to alcohol use behaviours, such as risky single occasion drinking (RSOD) is unclear. The aim of the present paper is to specify how the three SES components relate to RSOD in a cross-sectional survey sample of the Danish general population. Data from a 2011 Danish national representative survey was analysed by multiple logistic regression. Components of SES were not found to be significantly associated with RSOD independently nor in combination. In the Danish context, SES was not associated with RSOD.

Websites [Biomed](#)

52. Unnatural death: a major but largely preventable cause-of-death among homeless people?

Author: SLOCKERS, M.T

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2: Pages: 248-252

Abstract: This study aimed to assess the contribution of specific causes-of-death to excess mortality of homeless persons and to identify differences in cause-specific mortality rates after vs. before implementing social policy measures. They conducted a register based 10-year follow-up study of homeless adults in Rotterdam and calculated the proportion of deaths by cause-of-death in this cohort in the period 2001–2010. The cohort consisted of 2130 homeless persons with a mean age of 40, 3 years. Unnatural death, cardiovascular disease and cancer were the main causes of death. Compared to the general population of Rotterdam, the homeless had an excess risk of death for all causes. The largest mortality differences with Rotterdam citizens were observed for unnatural death, infectious diseases and psychiatric disorders. Mortality due to intentional injuries (suicide and homicide) differed significantly between the two study periods. In conclusion, reducing unnatural death should be a target in social policies aimed at improving the health of the homeless.

Websites [Oxford](#)

53. Associations between unemployment and heavy episodic drinking from adolescence to midlife in Sweden and Finland

Author: BERG, N

Journal: European Journal of Public Health Vol: 28 Part: 2: Pages: 258-263

Abstract: Unemployment and alcohol use have often been found to correlate and to act as risk factors for each other. The aim of this study was to examine the associations between heavy episodic drinking (HED) and unemployment from adolescence to midlife in two Nordic countries. Findings show that in the Swedish cohort, HED at ages 16 and 30 in men and HED at age 21 in women were associated with subsequent unemployment. In the Finnish cohort, they found corresponding associations at age 16 in women and at age 22 in men. However, the gender differences were not statistically significant. The associations from unemployment to HED were non-significant in both genders, in both cohorts and at all ages. In conclusion the results suggest that heavy drinkers are more likely to experience unemployment in subsequent years. The associations from HED to unemployment seem to exist through the life course from adolescence to midlife. More emphasis should be put on reducing alcohol related harms in order to improve labour-market outcomes.

Websites [Oxford](#)

54. Increasing socioeconomic gap between the young and old: temporal trends in health and overall deprivation in England by age, sex, urbanity and ethnicity, 2004–2015

Author: KONTOPANTELIS, E

Journal: Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health Vol: 72

Abstract: At a low geographical level, little is known about the associations between population characteristics and deprivation, and their trends, which would be directly affected by the house market, labour pressures and government policies. This study describes temporal trends in health and overall deprivation in England by age, sex, urbanity and ethnicity. Results show that over time increases in relative deprivation for people aged under 30, and aged 30–59, while median deprivation decreased for those aged 60 or over were observed. Subgroup analyses indicated that relative overall deprivation was consistently higher for young adults (aged 20–29) and infants (aged 0–4), with increases in deprivation for the latter. Levels of overall deprivation in 2004 greatly varied by ethnicity, with the lowest levels observed for White British and the highest for Blacks. Over time, small reductions were observed in the deprivation gap between White British and all other ethnic groups. Findings were consistent across overall IMD and its health and disability subdomain, but large regional variability was also observed. In conclusion Government policies, the financial crisis of 2008, education funding and the increasing cost of houses relative to real wages are important parameters in interpreting the findings. Socioeconomic deprivation is an important determinant of health and the inequalities this work highlights may have significant implications for future fiscal and healthcare policy.

Websites [BMJ](#)



OTHER

55. National General Practice Profiles

Author: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

Date: 04 December 2018

Abstract: These profiles are designed to support GPs, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and local authorities to ensure that they are providing and commissioning effective and appropriate healthcare services for their local population. In addition to viewing individual practice profiles, you can view summary profiles for CCGs. Each practice can be compared with the CCG and England.

Websites [PHE](#)