

## NIHR

### **Smoking cessation medicines and e-cigarettes: a systematic review, network meta-analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis**

Using combined therapies instead of monotherapy treatments may offer smokers a better chance of successfully quitting smoking over both short and long periods of time. Although the combined therapy of nicotine replacement therapy and varenicline at standard doses was the most effective treatment, this is currently unlicensed for use in the UK. When limited to licensed interventions in the UK, nicotine replacement therapy standard was most cost-effective, followed by varenicline standard.

Systematic search: Yes

September 2021

<https://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hta/hta25590/>

### **Non-invasive imaging software to assess the functional significance of coronary stenoses: a systematic review and economic evaluation**

QAngio® XA 3D/QFR® (three-dimensional/quantitative flow ratio) imaging software (Medis Medical Imaging Systems BV, Leiden, the Netherlands) and CAAS® vFFR® (vessel fractional flow reserve) imaging software (Pie Medical Imaging BV, Maastricht, the Netherlands) are non-invasive technologies to assess the functional significance of coronary stenoses, which can be alternatives to invasive fractional flow reserve assessment. QAngio XA 3D/QFR showed good diagnostic accuracy but there was little data on clinical impact. The effectiveness of CAAS vFFR was uncertain.

Systematic search: Yes

September 2021

<https://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hta/hta25560/>

## The King's Fund

### **Directors of public health (DsPH) and the Covid-19 pandemic: 'A year like no other'**

Report, based on 58 interviews with DsPH and other leaders working at local, regional and national levels, found DsPH have played a crucial role in leading the local response to Covid-19. They have been responsible for a range of health protection activities from testing in the community, to facilitating the uptake of the vaccine, to planning for the availability of food and emotional support for local people. The report highlights key learning from the experiences of DsPH to build a picture of what has happened over the past year and what is important for a strong public health response to the recovery from the pandemic and any future public health emergencies.

Systematic search: No

September 2021

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/directors-public-health-covid-19-pandemic>

## Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC Advice)

### **cabotegravir (Vocabria)**

Accepted for use in combination with rilpivirine prolonged-release injection, for the treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in adults who are virologically suppressed (HIV-1 RNA <50 copies/mL) on a stable antiretroviral regimen without present or past evidence of viral resistance to, and no prior virological failure with agents of the NNRTI and INI class

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/cabotegravir-vocabria-full-smc2376/>

**olaparib (Lynparza®)**

Accepted for use as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer and BRCA1/2-mutations (germline and/or somatic) who have progressed following prior therapy that included a new hormonal agent.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/olaparib-lyparza-full-smc2366/>

**cabozantinib (Cabometyx®)**

Accepted for use in combination with nivolumab for the first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma in adults.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/cabozantinib-cabometyx-abb-smc2386/>

**empagliflozin (Jardiance®)**

Accepted for use in adults for the treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/empagliflozin-jardiance-abb-smc2396/>

**liraglutide (Saxenda®)**

NOT recommended as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for weight management in obese or overweight adults.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/liraglutide-saxenda-full-smc2378/>

**bempedoic acid / ezetimibe (Nustendi®) i**

Accepted for restricted use in adults with primary hypercholesterolaemia (heterozygous familial and non-familial) or mixed dyslipidaemia, as an adjunct to diet in a number of restricted circumstances.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/bempedoic-acidezetimibe-nustendi-abb-smc2406/>

**midazolam oral solution (Ozalin®)**

Accepted for use in children from 6 months to 17 years old, for moderate sedation before a therapeutic or diagnostic procedure or as premedication before anaesthesia.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/midazolam-ozalin-abb-smc2392/>

**chloroprocaine hydrochloride (Ampres®)**

Accepted for restricted use for use as spinal anaesthesia in adults where the planned surgical procedure should not exceed 40 minutes. SMC restriction: for use in day-case anaesthetic pathways.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/chloroprocaine-hydrochloride-ampres-resub-smc2373/>

## Scottish Government

### **Safer drug consumption facilities: evidence paper**

There are more than 100 Safer Drug Consumption Facilities (SDCFs) operating in at least 66 cities around the world, within 10 countries - Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, France, Luxembourg, Spain, Denmark, Australia and Canada. The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs & Drug Addiction and the Advisory Council on Misuse of Drugs both support their use. This paper highlights the evidence in support of safer drug consumption facilities.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/safer-drug-consumption-facilities-evidence-paper/>

### **Time, Space, Compassion Three simple words, one big difference: Recommendations for improvements in suicidal crisis response**

In 2020, 805 lives in Scotland were lost to suicide and it is estimated that over the course of a lifetime 1 in 15 people will have attempted suicide, (an estimated 368,500 people). This report deliberately does not recommend a particular model of crisis support. Instead, it sets out an approach, based on the principles of Time, Space and Compassion. If embedded effectively into existing and new responses, they would radically change the experiences of those who need support at a time of crisis.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/time-space-compassion-three-simple-words-one-big-difference-recommendations-improvements-suicidal-crisis-response/pages/1/>

### **Junior doctors - 48-hour maximum working week (without averaging): expert working group report**

A 48 hour maximum working week (without averaging) cannot be safely piloted or achieved within current service models and staffing establishments. Achieving the 48 hour working week (without averaging) objective through service redesign and increased staffing would require long term (circa 10 years) planning and would have significant resource implications. If change is considered, a regional pilot study should be conducted which should evaluate the impact on the whole system (including other staff groups) and whether or not there are benefits for Junior Doctors in terms of reducing fatigue and improving wellbeing. There are evidence based interventions known to reduce fatigue and the associated patient and staff safety risks that could be implemented to consistent standards across Scotland.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/export-working-group-report-48-hour-maximum-working-week-without-averaging-junior-doctors-scotland/>

### **Compliance with self-isolation and quarantine measures: literature review**

The review analysed research on the relation between self-isolation and quarantine regimes, and compliance and included data from the UK, European and non-European countries. The literature shows that lack of knowledge on Covid-19 and self-isolation and quarantine regulations, financial difficulties, practical factors (such as living arrangements, caring responsibilities, ability to access

food and other essential supplies, and other health conditions), psychological distress and communication inequalities all play a key role in determining whether or not people comply with self-isolation. Research suggests that where people are motivated by perceived personal and sociocultural benefits, and are helped to overcome the many practical and social barriers to adherence they are more likely to comply with regulations. The literature also stresses the importance of gaining and maintaining trust in science and confidence in the government's ability to adequately handle the crisis.

Systematic search: Limited

October 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/compliance-self-isolation-quarantine-measures-literature-review/pages/5/>

### **Scottish Strategy for Autism: evaluation**

Key findings show that the Scottish Autism Strategy supported and funded a wide range of activities and developments at a local and national level, designed to bring about improvements in services and support for autistic people and their families/carers.

Systematic search: No

September 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/evaluation-scottish-strategy-autism/>

**Please note:** Covid-19 data and statistics, advice and guidance are available from <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/> with further publications available at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/?topics=Coronavirus+in+Scotland>

## **SIGN**

An **update** to the **guideline on Managing the long-term effects of COVID-19** in collaboration with NICE and RCGP is in progress and due in **Autumn 2021**.

A **rapid national clinical guideline on the prevention and management of venous thromboembolism in patients with COVID-19** is also due in **Autumn 2021**.

## **Public Health Scotland**

### **Rapid evidence review of the socioeconomic determinants of mental wellbeing**

Measures of socioeconomic position appear to be important factors for mental wellbeing, and the association is likely to be underestimated in a high proportion of existing studies. Interventions to achieve adequate incomes and/or improve access to high-quality employment and action to reduce other forms of material deprivation are likely to improve levels of mental wellbeing in the population.

Systematic search: Limited

October 2021

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/publications/rapid-evidence-review-of-the-socioeconomic-determinants-of-mental-wellbeing/rapid-evidence-review-of-the-socioeconomic-determinants-of-mental-wellbeing-19-october-2021/>

### **Evaluation of the impact of alcohol minimum unit pricing (MUP) on crime and disorder, public safety and public nuisance**

Despite evidence of a decline in the sale of alcohol following the introduction of MUP, this has had little impact on the trend direction or level of alcohol-related crime, disorder and public nuisance (in

total or by type) in Scotland. This suggests the reduction in the sale of alcohol is below that required to deliver a crime-related dividend, or that if a crime-related dividend has occurred it has done so at a scale that the study has lacked the sensitivity to identify.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/publications/evaluation-of-the-impact-of-alcohol-minimum-unit-pricing-mup-on-crime-and-disorder-public-safety-and-public-nuisance>

#### **Conference Outbreak March 2020 Incident Management Team report**

Report relating to the **Nike conference** in Edinburgh. Actions taken by the Incident management team were successful in curtailing onward transmission of Covid-19.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/publications/conference-outbreak-march-2020-incident-management-team-report/>

#### **Prioritise child poverty: a data and systems approach**

Documents from a joint Public Health Scotland and Inverclyde Council project describing a public health needs assessment approach to understand the local child poverty system and shape local child poverty priorities.

Systematic search: No

September 2021

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/publications/prioritise-child-poverty-a-data-and-systems-approach>

An animation showing the approach taken can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/586307092>

### **NICE – Guidelines**

#### **NG205 Looked-after children and young people**

Guideline covers how organisations, practitioners and carers should work together to deliver high-quality care, stable placements and nurturing relationships for looked-after children and young people. It aims to help these children and young people reach their full potential and have the same opportunities as their peers.

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng205>

### **NICE - Technology Appraisal Guidance**

#### **TA735 Tofacitinib for treating juvenile idiopathic arthritis**

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta735>

#### **TA736 Nivolumab for treating recurrent or metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck after platinum-based chemotherapy**

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta736>

**TA737 Pembrolizumab with platinum- and fluoropyrimidine-based chemotherapy for untreated advanced oesophageal and gastro-oesophageal junction cancer**

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta737>

**TA738 Berotralstat for preventing recurrent attacks of hereditary angioedema**

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta738>

**TA734 Secukinumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in children and young people**

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta734>

**TA733 Inclisiran for treating primary hypercholesterolaemia or mixed dyslipidaemia**

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta733>

**EPPI Centre**

**Global emergency remote education in secondary schools during the COVID-19 pandemic**

Self-regulation and understanding were the most frequently reported indicators of student engagement, with online assessment tools, learning management systems with collaborative tools, live synchronous lessons with peer and teacher interaction, and teacher-made videos considered particularly engaging. Social isolation was the most frequently reported indicator of disengagement, characterised by poor attendance in live lessons, a lack of opportunities to seek help and difficulties facilitating peer collaboration. Although assessment online was particularly challenging, 21 different types of online assessments strategies were identified, with online quizzes and formative online feedback the most frequently used. Live marking or recorded feedback and assessment were particularly beneficial. Peer collaboration was facilitated through peer assessment, inquiry-based group work and experiments, aided by the use of collaborative software and combining multiple applications. Parental support contributed to learning, although issues of equity impacted the extent to which they could engage with their children's learning, alongside gaps in family content knowledge and technological skills.

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=3847>

**AHRQ (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality – USA)**

**Physical Activity and the Health of Wheelchair Users: A Systematic Review in Multiple Sclerosis, Cerebral Palsy, and Spinal Cord Injury**

Physical activity was associated with improvements in walking ability, general function, balance (including fall risk), depression, sleep, activities of daily living, female sexual function, and aerobic capacity, depending on population enrolled and type of exercise utilized. No studies reported long-

term cardiovascular or metabolic disease health outcomes. Future trials could alter these findings; further research is needed to examine health outcomes, and to understand the magnitude and clinical importance of benefits seen in intermediate outcomes.

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/physical-activity-wheelchair/research>

### **Malnutrition in Hospitalized Adults**

Evidence shows an association between malnutrition and increased mortality and prolonged length of hospital stay among hospitalized patients identified as malnourished. However, the strength of this association varied depending on patient population and tool used to identify malnutrition.

Evidence indicates malnutrition-focused hospital-initiated interventions likely reduce mortality and may improve quality of life compared to usual care among patients diagnosed with malnutrition.

Research is needed to assess the clinical utility of measurement tools for malnutrition.

Systematic search: Yes

October 2021

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/malnutrition-hospitalized-adults/research>

## **Health Foundation**

### **Assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the clinically extremely vulnerable population**

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a substantial burden of severe infection and mortality among the clinically extremely vulnerable population. They were also profoundly impacted by major reorganisation of the NHS in the early part of the pandemic. Action is needed at local and national level to address the unmet need for NHS care and worsening mental health. Further work is needed to understand the longer-term consequences for the clinically extremely vulnerable population both in terms of long-term health care needs and in terms of their ability to resume work and other daily activities.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/assessing-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-clinically-extremely-vulnerable-population>

### **A whole-government approach to improving health**

Outlines a number of evidence-based policies that can be taken to improve health across the whole of the UK.

Systematic search: No

October 2021

<https://www.health.org.uk/publications/reports/a-whole-government-approach-to-improving-health>

## **Canadian Agency for drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)**

### **Total Parenteral Nutrition for Neonates**

Two studies reported conflicting findings regarding weight gain, length, and time to regained birth weight in moderate-to-late preterm neonates weighing 1,500 g or more at birth treated with peripherally administered parenteral nutrition (P-PN) versus 10% dextrose or dextrose-containing fluids. However, both studies reported no statistically significant difference in safety and other measures such as head circumference, time to full enteral feeds, and length of hospital stay between

the treatment groups – however, the strength of the evidence was limited. No relevant evidence-based guidelines regarding using TPN in term or moderate-to-late preterm neonates weighing 1,500 g or more at birth was identified.

Systematic search: Limited

October 2021

<https://cadth.ca/total-parenteral-nutrition-neonates>

### **Heart Function Clinics for Patients with Heart Failure**

Low- to moderate-quality clinical evidence suggested that heart failure clinics were associated with significant reductions in all-cause mortality, reductions in heart failure–related hospitalization, better guideline-directed medical therapy management, and higher adherence to heart failure medications compared to usual care. The findings for all-cause hospitalization were mixed.

Systematic search: Limited

October 2021

<https://www.cadth.ca/heart-function-clinics-patients-heart-failure>

### **McGill University Health Centre (Canada)**

Nil

### **Health Information & Quality Authority (Ireland) – Health Technology Assessments**

Nil

### **Campbell Collaboration**

#### **Multisystemic Therapy® for social, emotional, and behavioural problems in youth age 10 to 17**

Available evidence shows that MST reduces rates of out-of-home placement and arrest or conviction in the USA, but not in other countries. Moderate to low quality evidence shows that MST has positive effects on self-reported delinquency and parent and family functioning, but no evidence was found relating to the overall impacts on youth symptoms, substance abuse, peer relations, or school outcomes. Predication intervals indicate that future studies are likely to find positive or negative effects of MST on all outcomes. The quality of evidence was mixed.

Systematic search: Limited

October 2021

<https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/better-evidence/multisystemic-therapy-social-emotional-behavioral-problems.html>

### **Glasgow Centre for Population Health**

Nil

### **NICE FORWARD PLANNING – Publications due November 2021**

#### **Heart valve disease presenting in adults: investigation and management**

Clinical Guideline

#### **Mexiletine for treating myotonia in adults with non-dystrophic myotonic disorders**

Single Technology Appraisal

#### **Ponesimod for treating relapsing multiple sclerosis**

Single Technology Appraisal

#### **SeHCAT (tauroselcholic [75 selenium] acid) for diagnosing bile acid diarrhoea**



Diagnostic Technology

**Nivolumab for adjuvant treatment of oesophageal or gastro-oesophageal junction cancer**

Single Technology Appraisal

**Atezolizumab with paclitaxel for untreated advanced triple-negative breast cancer**

Single Technology Appraisal

**Type 2 diabetes in adults: management - SGLT2 inhibitors for chronic kidney disease (update)**

Clinical Guideline

**Ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage: diagnosis and initial management (update)**

Clinical Guideline

**Venetoclax with a hypomethylating agent for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable**

Single Technology Appraisal

**Belimumab for the treatment of active autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus**

Single Technology Appraisal

**Tobacco: preventing uptake, promoting quitting and treating dependence (update)**

Public health guideline

**GID-MT553 Synergo for non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer**

Medical Technology