

Public Health Key Documents: September 2023

NIHR

Cost-effectiveness of therapeutics for COVID-19 patients: a rapid review and economic analysis

The rapid review sought to assess the cost-effectiveness of treatments used for the treatment of Covid-19 in hospital - or used in the community in patients with Covid-19 at high risk of hospitalisation. The treatments were estimated to be clinically effective although not all reached statistical significance. All treatments in the hospital setting, or community, were estimated to plausibly have a cost per quality-adjusted life-year gained value below NICE thresholds when compared with standard of care. However, almost all drugs could plausibly have cost per quality-adjusted life-years above NICE thresholds. There is considerable uncertainty in the results as the prevalent variant, vaccination status, history of being infected and standard of care have all evolved since the pivotal studies were conducted which could have significant impact on the efficacy of each drug. For drugs used in high-risk patients in the community setting, the proportion of people at high risk who need hospital admission was a large driver of the cost per quality-adjusted life-year.

Systematic search: Limited

August 2023

<https://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hta/NAFW3527/>

The King's Fund

Nil

Scottish Government

Adult secondary mental health services and psychological therapies and interventions specification: consultation analysis, key themes report

This executive summary brings together and examines the key themes identified in the consultation analysis reports - the standards and specification; resources; services and service providers; people with lived experience and their family and carers.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/adult-secondary-mental-health-services-psychological-therapies-interventions-specification-consultation-analysis-key-themes-report/>

Social care - Independent Review of Inspection, Scrutiny and Regulation: recommendation report

The review outlines why change is needed and sets out a comprehensive package of recommendations that would produce a human rights-based system of inspection, scrutiny, and regulation that is comprehensive, inclusive, joined up, proportionate and fair.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/irisr-recommendation-report/>

Suicide Bereavement Support Service: evaluation report - year 2

This report draws on two years of the evaluation while also providing additional learning and evidence on experiences and outcomes.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/evaluation-suicide-bereavement-support-service-year-2-evaluation-report/>

Alcohol - minimum unit pricing: public attitudes research

Respondents were slightly more likely to be in favour of MUP than against it.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/public-attitudes-minimum-unit-pricing-mup-alcohol-scotland/>

SIGN

Nil

Public Health Scotland

PHS climate change and sustainability strategic plan

This document sets out 41 high-level actions across three focus areas that PHS will take from 2023 through to 2026. These actions aim to place population health, wellbeing and equity at the heart of climate action and embed climate action in all PHS's work to improve and protect population health and reduce inequalities.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/publications/phs-climate-change-and-sustainability-strategic-plan/>

Review of smoking cessation services in Scotland

PHS were commissioned by the Scottish Government to carry out a review of smoking cessation services and make recommendations for the delivery of services going forward. This report presents the findings of the advisory group that led the review.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/publications/review-of-smoking-cessation-services-in-scotland/review-of-smoking-cessation-services-in-scotland-advisory-group-report/>

Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC Advice)

olipudase alfa (Xenpozyme)

Indication under review: As an enzyme replacement therapy for the treatment of non-Central Nervous System (CNS) manifestations of Acid Sphingomyelinase Deficiency (ASMD) in paediatric and adult patients with type A/B or type B. Scottish Government Medicines Policy Branch will notify Health Boards when this medicine is available for prescribing within the ultra-orphan pathway. Meantime, any requests to access treatment should be considered through local non-formulary processes.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/olipudase-alfa-xenpozyme-ultra-orphan-smc2560/>

vutrisiran (Amvuttra®)

Accepted for use within NSHScotland for the treatment of hereditary transthyretin-mediated amyloidosis (hATTR amyloidosis) in adult patients with stage 1 or stage 2 polyneuropathy.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/vutrisiran-amvuttra-abb-smc2596/>

ibrutinib (Imbruvica®)

Accepted for use in combination with venetoclax for the treatment of adult patients with previously untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL).

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/ibrutinib-imbruvica-full-smc2543/>

daratumumab (Darzalex®)

Accepted for use in combination with lenalidomide and dexamethasone for the treatment of adult patients with newly diagnosed multiple myeloma who are ineligible for autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT).

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/daratumumab-darzalex-ndmm-full-smc2536/>

mosunetuzumab (Lunsumio®)

NOT recommended for use as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory follicular lymphoma (FL) who have received at least two prior systemic therapies.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/mosunetuzumab-lunsumio-full-smc2542/>

rimegepant (Vydura®)

Accepted for restricted use, after a resubmission, for the preventive treatment of episodic migraine in adults who have at least four migraine attacks per month. Restricted to patients with episodic migraine who have at least 4 migraine attacks per month, but fewer than 15 headache days per month and who have had prior failure on three or more migraine preventive treatments.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/rimegepant-vydura-resub-smc2603/>

eladocagene exuparvovec (Upstaza)

Indication under review: for the treatment of patients aged 18 months and older with a clinical, molecular, and genetically confirmed diagnosis of aromatic L-amino acid decarboxylase (AADC) deficiency with a severe phenotype. Scottish Government Medicines Policy Branch will notify Health Boards when this medicine is available for prescribing within the ultra-orphan pathway. Meantime any requests to access treatment should be considered through local non-formulary processes.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/medicines-advice/eladocagene-exuparvovec-upstaza-uo-smc2586/>

NICE - Technology Appraisal Guidance

TA914 Pembrolizumab for previously treated endometrial, biliary, colorectal, gastric or small intestine cancer with high microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficiency

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta914>

TA916 Bimekizumab for treating active psoriatic arthritis

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta916>

NICE – Guidelines

NG235 Intrapartum care

Covers the care of women and their babies during labour and immediately after birth. Focuses on women who give birth between 37 and 42 weeks of pregnancy ('term'). The guideline aims to help women make informed choices about where to have their baby and about their care in labour. It also aims to reduce variation in aspects of care.

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng235>

NG234 Spinal metastases and metastatic spinal cord compression

Covers recognition, referral, investigation and management of spinal metastases and metastatic spinal cord compression (MSCC). It is also relevant for direct malignant infiltration of the spine and associated cord compression. It aims to improve early diagnosis and treatment to prevent neurological injury and improve prognosis.

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng234>

UKHSA Knowledge & Library Services evidence briefings & syntheses

What types of interventions can improve retention of staff during periods of change?

Summarises recent evidence on the types of interventions that can improve retention of staff during periods of change as follows: reducing staff turnover results in significant cost savings for healthcare organisations; high staff turnover can have a negative impact on patient care and health service delivery, and work productivity; when employees leave, it is not only the individual that the team/organisation loses, but also their skills, abilities, and knowledge; strategies for managing change need to be accepted by employees in order for them to be effective; change cannot always be anticipated; there are many reasons that people leave their workplaces including poor work/life balance, high work stress, lack of career opportunities, etc.; organisations need to be conscious of what their employees' priorities are, and provide a flexible working environment, with fair shift-work patterns to suit everyone; disengaged employees do not work well in a team, and just focus on their tasks, rather than the organisation as a whole; when staff are engaged, they are more productive because they feel motivated to do their best; staff who feel empowered and are satisfied with their jobs are more likely to stay with an organisation; employees who participate in wellness programmes in the workplace are more engaged and less likely to leave the organisation; succession planning, mentoring, and wellness schemes are all interventions that can help organisations retain their most valuable employees.

Systematic search: Limited

August 2023

<https://ukhsa.koha-ptfs.co.uk/cgi-bin/koha/opac-retrieve-file.pl?id=badc27acbaead4697c7e7802d69849ed>

EPPI Centre

What are embedded researchers and what influence do they have in public health settings?

A number of principles or values that hold implications across stakeholders around how embedded researcher activities should be perceived, organised, and measured in the future were identified: an embedded researcher is a form of exploratory and contextually bound intervention that works best when tailored to individual organisations; although embedded researcher interventions in public health settings ultimately aim to increase the uptake of research in practice and thereby improve health outcomes, these outcomes are unlikely to be systemically observed for years and without sustained investment in research capacity; embedded researcher interventions require a change in mindset towards co-creation; applied embedded research can be impactful in changing organisations to become more research active, although applied research is not always highly regarded within universities; embedded researchers require support at all levels to maximise the potential benefits of their roles; embedded researcher interventions are theorised to follow a staged model which includes a stage involving undertaking activities to become embedded; evaluations need to understand the success of this stage to understand if/how further progress is achieved; for many embedded researcher interventions, gaining a more processual insight into which changes happen, and how, is likely to be more useful than quantitative metrics; a systematic map identified 108 different descriptors for the roles, activities or schemes that align with an embedded researcher intervention; there is a need to establish a core set of umbrella terms to describe embedded researcher roles and schemes to improve further advancement of knowledge around this area.

Systematic search: Limited

October 2023

<https://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=3916>

AHRQ (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality – USA)

Nil

Health Foundation

Net zero care: what will it take?

Outlines key ways NHS health care providers can decarbonise care that are consistent with existing priorities. These include preventing disease, improving the management of disease and health, moving care out of hospitals, eliminating avoidable waste, avoiding unnecessary interventions and using lower-carbon alternatives.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.health.org.uk/publications/long-reads/net-zero-care-what-will-it-take>

Canadian Agency for drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)

Direct-Acting Antivirals for Pediatric Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection

Evidence showed that treatment with glecaprevir-pibrentasvir for children and adolescents with chronic hepatitis C virus infection was efficacious with an overall sustained virologic response 12 weeks after treatment near 100%. Glecaprevir-pibrentasvir treatment was well-tolerated. Most adverse events were mild. No evidence on clinical effectiveness was found.

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/direct-acting-antivirals-pediatric-chronic-hepatitis-c-virus-infection>

Non-Sterile Glove Use

In acute care settings with low-risk of infection transmission, discontinuing contact precautions (i.e., gloves and gown) may result in similar rates of hospital-acquired methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and may lower the risk of hospital-acquired vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE),

compared to scenarios in which such precautions were employed. Rates of late-onset infections in a neonatal intensive care unit were similar when standard infection control precautions were used compared with universal glove use. Two guidelines recommend that nonsterile gloves should be worn for nonsterile procedures when it is anticipated that there will be contact with blood, body fluids, non-intact skin, mucous membranes, lesions, or hazardous drugs and chemicals, for environmental cleaning and when contact precautions for infection control are in effect.

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/non-sterile-glove-use>

Somatropin for Short Stature

For children with short stature who were born small for gestational age, one guideline suggests increasing human growth hormone dose when treatment response is unsatisfactory, while aiming for normal insulin-like growth factor 1 levels. For children with idiopathic short stature, one guideline recommends against the routine use of growth hormone. It suggests initiating growth hormone therapy on a case-by-case basis as well as conducting an assessment 12 months after initiation to optimize dosage. The development of recommendations from guidelines included in this report was challenged by limited relevant evidence, as well as heterogeneity of growth hormone dose and frequency and treatment response found in available literature.

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/somatropin-short-stature>

Timing of Ventilator Circuit Tubing Replacement

In adult patients with mechanical ventilation, more frequent ventilator circuit tubing replacement may increase the odds of ventilator-associated pneumonia, but the findings are imprecise. In paediatric patients, more frequent and less frequent intervals of ventilator circuit tubing replacement may result in similar a risk of ventilator-associated pneumonia, all-cause mortality, and ventilator-associated pneumonia mortality, and similar durations of mechanical ventilation and hospital stay. For preterm neonates, children, and adult patients, it is recommended to replace the ventilator circuit tubing if it is visibly soiled, not functioning properly, or as recommended in the manufacturer's instructions.

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.cadth.ca/timing-ventilator-circuit-tubing-replacement>

McGill University Health Centre (Canada)

Nil

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

Rapid Health Technology Assessment of Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Adults with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus

The aim of this rapid HTA was to provide advice on the clinical-effectiveness, cost effectiveness, and budget impact of providing CGM for adults with T1DM. Different routes to accessing CGM in Ireland have meant that the more expensive systems have been easier to obtain. The reports advises that a single managed access programme with clearly defined eligibility criteria would improve equity of access and could help to control costs

Systematic search: Yes

September 2023

<https://www.higa.ie/reports-and-publications/health-technology-assessment/rapid-health-technology-assessment-continuous>

Campbell Collaboration

What is the effect of intergenerational activities on the wellbeing and mental health of older people?

This systematic review found limited evidence of intergenerational interventions' effects on mental health and wellbeing of older people. 14 trials from 6 countries had some important methodological weaknesses. Interventions were mainly delivered in-person and often in groups. They included visiting programmes, school volunteering programmes, music-based interventions and task-oriented interventions such as activities set in a multigenerational park, reminiscing activities, aggression management programmes, learning a language, making local environmental changes and in-school project work. Intergenerational interventions showed a small positive trend towards improving self-esteem and depression for older people participating. However, due to the small study sizes and low number of studies available, it is not possible to be confident about any effects. There were no data about social isolation, spiritual health or sense of community. There are no long-term studies and no data on equity.

Systematic search: Yes

October 2023

<https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/better-evidence/intergenerational-activities-wellbeing-and-mental-health-of-older-people.html>

Glasgow Centre for Population Health

Nil

Selected other recent reports

NHS Race & Health Observatory (2023) Inequalities in Mental Health Care for Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller Communities: Identifying Best Practice

This comprehensive review explores a lack of mental health care provision for these communities, captures first hand insight and highlights good practice examples from six effective services across England, most of them run by voluntary Gypsy, Roma and Traveller organisations. It includes recommendations for policy, practice and research.

Systematic search: Limited

September 2023

<https://www.nhsrho.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Inequalities-for-Gypsy-Roma-Traveller-Main-Report-Sept-2023.pdf>

The Children's Society (2023) The Good Childhood Report.

Almost a third of the children aged 10 to 17 who completed the annual survey were unhappy with at least one of ten specific areas of their lives. The majority (74%) of children felt positive about their own futures, but less than four in ten felt positive about the future of the country and the world. More children were unhappy with school (14.5%), a larger proportion than for the other nine aspects of life included in the Good Childhood Index. Children who worried about how much money their family had were more likely to be unhappy than those without financial worries with all the different aspects of life that they were asked about, and particularly with their home, money and things they own, and the amount of choice they have. Among other top worries for children were finding a job, getting good grades at school, rising prices and the environment.

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/2023-09/The%20Good%20Childhood%20Report%202023.pdf>

Frontier Economics (2023) The societal and economic costs of preventable cancers in the UK

The key findings of this report estimate that the total cost of UK preventable cancer cases diagnosed in 2023 is £78 billion, equating to 3.5% of annual GDP. For new cases diagnosed between 2023 to 2040, the total cost is £1.26 trillion. The analysis considers five cost areas: individual, health care, social care, family and carer, and productivity. In 2023, the largest contributors to costs are productivity lost at £40 billion and individual costs at £30 billion, driven by the quality of life and unpaid productivity lost due to mortality. Cost per case is highest for lung cancer (approx. £630,000 per case), similar for bowel, breast and other cancers (£300,000 to £400,000 per case) and lowest for melanoma (approx. £135,000 per case).

Systematic search: No

September 2023

<https://www.frontier-economics.com/media/edwnhnlc/frontier-economics-the-societal-and-economic-costs-of-preventable-cancers-in-the-uk.pdf>

NICE FORWARD PLANNING – Publications due October 2023

Stroke rehabilitation in adults

Clinical Guideline - update (new pharmaceutical and clinical practice evidence)

Acute Respiratory Infection in over 16s: Initial assessment and management

Clinical Guideline – new

Pegunigalsidase alfa for treating Fabry disease

Technology Appraisal

Talazoparib for treating BRCA 1 or 2 mutated advanced breast cancer after prior chemotherapy

Technology Appraisal

Etranacogene dezaparvovec for treating moderately severe or severe haemophilia B

Technology Appraisal

Zanubrutinib for treating chronic lymphocytic leukaemia

Technology Appraisal

Daridorexant for treating insomnia disorder

Technology Appraisal

Rimegepant for treating or preventing migraine

Technology Appraisal

Tofacitinib for treating active ankylosing spondylitis

Technology Appraisal

Daratumumab with lenalidomide and dexamethasone for untreated multiple myeloma when stem cell transplant is unsuitable

Technology Appraisal

Tirzepatide for treating type 2 diabetes

Technology Appraisal

Mirikizumab for treating moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis

Technology Appraisal