NIHR Dissemination Centre

RIGHT EVIDENCE, BETTER DECISIONS
A guide to our work

Find out more by visiting www.dc.nihr.ac.uk
We are putting good research evidence at the heart of decision making in the NHS, public health and social care.

THE BEST AVAILABLE EVIDENCE

We select the most significant, rigorous and useful findings from the most reliable sources.

Much of the research evidence we share comes from projects funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). NIHR research is rigorously assessed to ensure it provides the maximum impact for patients and the public.

For NIHR Signals, we also sift through and critically appraise research papers published in over 100 leading scientific journals.

FORMATTED FOR YOUR EVIDENCE NEEDS

Whether you are looking for regular, easy to read summaries of the latest important findings or a comprehensive guide to key NIHR-funded research on a particular theme, the NIHR Dissemination Centre has something for you.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

Across all our work we tease out what the implications of the research are for current practice, policy and treatment decisions. We look at how research fits with current guidelines and ask questions to prompt evidence-based discussions.

INFORMED BY PEOPLE WHO KNOW

We work with clinical leaders, frontline staff, researchers, patients and carers to fully understand their evidence needs.

Each of our Themed Reviews is produced under the guidance of a bespoke steering group, while our Signals selection is shaped by over a thousand raters.
NIHR Signals provide decision makers in the NHS, public health and social care with the latest important research from the National Institute for Health Research and other health research organisations.

Signals explain:
• why the study was needed
• what the researchers did
• what the study found
• how the research relates to current guidelines
• the implications of the findings

They are accompanied by commentary from experts in their field, researchers and those working in practice.

Each year we sift through thousands of studies and reviews to find the most reliable, relevant and significant research. Just two percent of these make it through to become an NIHR Signal.

New Signals are published every week on the NIHR Discover Portal: discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk

YOU DECIDE WHAT WE SHARE

You can tell us which findings you believe decision makers in the NHS, public health and social care need to know about.

Our raters give us important feedback on research abstracts. This feedback is then used in our editorial meetings to decide which studies to summarise and publish as NIHR Signals.

Being a rater gives you the opportunity to use your knowledge and experience to shape what we produce.

Find out more at: www.dc.nihr.ac.uk/get-involved/raters.htm
NIHR HIGHLIGHTS
Conditions, treatments and issues explored using NIHR evidence

NIHR Highlights help to answer questions around particular conditions, treatments or issues in health and social care using evidence from a small number of NIHR funded studies.

Previous Highlights have looked at managing obesity in men, options for treating depression and how to support carers of people with dementia.

Highlights feature the voices of patients, carers, clinicians, researchers and others to provide ‘real world’ insights.

Find out more at: www.dc.nihr.ac.uk/highlights/

NIHR THEMED REVIEWS
Bringing together NIHR research on a particular theme

NIHR Themed Reviews provide a broad overview of important NIHR research around a theme.

Previous Themed Reviews have brought together evidence about end of life care, health for pregnancy and stroke services.

Themed Reviews guide you through dozens of published and ongoing NIHR studies, complete with short summaries of all the research featured.

Find out more at: www.dc.nihr.ac.uk/themed-reviews/
RECEIVE THE RIGHT EVIDENCE

You can keep up to date with the latest important evidence by subscribing to our email bulletins. Each month we’ll send you the latest NIHR Signal relating to your area of interest and tell you when new NIHR Highlights or Themed Reviews are published.

Find out more by visiting: www.dc.nihr.ac.uk/email-sign-up.htm

You can also connect with us on Twitter by following @NIHR_DC.
WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Through working to improve stroke services in our region, we’ve often found it difficult to get the right evidence to make strategic recommendations and to support quality improvement initiatives. Now the NIHR stroke themed review provides some of that evidence, easily accessible and thoroughly reviewed.


The Royal College of Midwives is delighted that the NIHR has published its themed review ‘Better Beginnings’. The report supports midwives to fully understand the evidence that underlies our public health messages to women who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy.

Cathy Warwick CBE, Chief Executive of the Royal College of Midwives (RCM)

The themed review is shining a spotlight on one of the most exciting areas of research. The provision of high quality evidence for staff working in and with care homes is essential in planning, teaching and delivering care. This accessible document will be well received by nurses and other health and social care staff alike. Do read it!

Dawne Garrett, Professional Lead Older People and Dementia Care, Royal College of Nursing
The NIHR Dissemination Centre helps clinicians, commissioners and patients to make informed decisions about which treatments and practices are most effective in health care, social care and public health.

We assess hundreds of the latest research papers from the National Institute for Health Research and other health research organisations to identify the most reliable, relevant and significant findings.

By summarising, contextualising and analysing these findings with the help of health and social care experts, we provide dependable, accessible, actionable information for those who need it.

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