KENT PUBLIC HEALTH BSERVATORY

Health and Social Care Bulletin



Your guide to what's new in public health and social care locally and nationally

15 March 2019

This bulletin brings together the latest public health and social care news, publications and information with direct links to full content. For more documents and previous issues of the Bulletin, go to

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Spring Statement 2019 (13/03/19)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, has presented his Spring Statement to the House of Commons.

The Written Ministerial Statement provides more detail on some of the announcements in the Spring Statement, and sets out details of other forthcoming government policies.

Philip Hammond's speech What you need to know House of Commons Library summary

Local Government Association

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Cancer/Stroke/Cardiovascular

NICE: Hypertension in adults' guidance in development (11/03/19)

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published its <u>draft updated guideline</u> on the diagnosis and treatment of high blood pressure (hypertension) for public consultation. In the biggest change to NICE's previous guidance published in 2011, the level of a person's cardiovascular disease risk at which treatment for high blood pressure can be started has been reduced.

The draft guideline recommends that blood pressure lowering drugs should be offered to people aged under 80 with a diagnosis of stage 1 hypertension who have a 10% or greater risk of developing cardiovascular disease within the next 10 years.

The draft guideline supports the direction of the NHS Long Term Plan and CVD ambitions to improve outcomes in cardiovascular disease, including preventing strokes and heart attacks, through better detection and treatment of high blood pressure.

The draft guideline is open for public consultation until 23 April 2019. Final guidance is expected to be published in August 2019.

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Communities and Local Government

Nudges for social good: LGA behavioural insights programme (13/03/19)

Behavioural insights can be used to design a temporary change or 'nudge' in a service in order to encourage people to act in a different way. By nudging people to make better choices for themselves and for society, local government service outcomes can be improved.

In this <u>publication</u> the Local Government Association (LGA) gives practical tips and learning to improve project research and management by councils.

Presentations from an event on this topic.

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Disabilities

Review of the National Autism Strategy 'Think Autism': call for evidence Consultation 14 March-16 May 2019

In April 2014 the government published <u>'Think Autism'</u>, a strategy for meeting the needs of autistic adults in England. The strategy supports the <u>Autism Act 2009</u>.

This year the Department of Health and Social Care, working with the Department for Education, will review the strategy and extend it to cover children as well as adults. To this end they have issued a <u>call for evidence</u> from people with autism, their families and their carers about their experiences of care and support.

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Drugs/Alcohol

Drug and alcohol treatment outcomes: measuring effectiveness (13/03/19)

Public Health England collects information about users of alcohol and drug misuse services. This includes the outcomes of treatment.

Keyworkers can use the treatment outcomes profile as a clinical tool to support the treatment planning process. It can help structure conversations with patients and set treatment goals.

Guidance, treatment outcomes profile and monitoring forms

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Education

PHE scientists lead workshops to inspire next generation (08/03/19)

In <u>British Science Week</u> (8 to 17 March 2019), Public Health England (PHE) is running a <u>series of workshops</u> and festivals for children and young people. A group of 80 scientists from across PHE will join forces to inspire the next generation.

From pupils extracting DNA from their own cells using household products, to hands-on experience of a real public health laboratory, a series of interactive activities will help children and young people understand the variety of scientific careers available to make an impact on the world around us.

PHE is in the process of creating a campus of excellence for public health research, improvement and protection, and a new headquarters, at a site in Harlow. It is expected to be fully operational by 2024.

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Environment/Transport/Housing

Improving outdoor air quality and health: review of interventions (11/03/19)

Public Health England (PHE) was commissioned by the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) to review the evidence for practical interventions to reduce harm from outdoor air pollution. Between 28,000 and 36,000 deaths a year

are attributed to long-term exposure. There is evidence that air pollution causes the development of coronary heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease and lung cancer, and exacerbates asthma.

The focus of this <u>comprehensive review</u> was on those actions available to local authorities and, where appropriate, the national actions needed to support them.

News release

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Health Care

Primary care networks explained (13/03/19)

Primary care networks form a key building block of the NHS long-term plan. Bringing general practices together to work at scale has been a policy priority for some years.

While GP practices have been finding different ways of working together, for example in super-partnerships, federations, clusters and networks, the NHS long-term plan and the new GP contract, which will take effect in April 2019, put a more formal structure around this way of working, but without creating new statutory bodies.

How will they be formed, funded and held accountable? And what difference will they make? Beccy Baird if the King's Fund explains the latest form of GP collaboration.

Clinical review of NHS access standards (11/03/19)

In 2018 Professor Stephen Powis, NHS National Medical Director, was asked to carry out a <u>clinical review of standards</u> across the NHS, with the aim of determining whether patients would be well served by updating and supplementing some of the older targets currently in use. The review is being undertaken in three phases.

This <u>interim report</u> sets out the initial proposals for testing changes to access standards in mental health services, cancer care, elective care and urgent and emergency care.

NHS to test new rapid care measures for patients with the most urgent mental and physical health needs

see also NHS England: Combined performance summary, March 2019

The King's Fund Nuffield Trust analysis

National framework for NHS continuing healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care (11/03/19)

NHS continuing healthcare is an ongoing package of health and social care that is arranged and funded solely by the NHS where an individual is found to have a primary health need. Such care is provided to an individual aged 18 or over to meet needs that have arisen as a result of disability, accident or illness.

The <u>national framework</u> for NHS continuing healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care sets out the principles and processes for deciding eligibility. It should be read together with other documents in the <u>NHS continuing healthcare and NHS-funded nursing care collection published by the Department of Health and Social Care.</u>

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Health Protection/Emergencies

Italy bans unvaccinated children from school (12/03/19)

Italian children have been told not to turn up to school unless they can prove they have been properly vaccinated, BBC News Health reports. The deadline follows months of national debate over compulsory vaccination.

The new law came amid a surge in measles cases - but Italian officials say vaccination rates have improved since it was introduced. Under Lorenzin's law, named after the former health minister who introduced it, children must receive a range of mandatory immunisations before attending school. They include vaccinations for chickenpox, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella.

Children up to the age of six years without proof of vaccination will be turned away or excluded from nursery and kindergarten under the new rules. Those aged between six and 16 cannot be banned from attending school, but their parents face fines if they do not complete the mandatory course of immunisations. Parents risk being fined up to €500 (£425) if they send their unvaccinated children to school.

WHO Europe Measles outbreak

Public Health England Measles: guidance, data and analysis

BBC News Health Greater Manchester recent confirmed cases, 7 March 2019

Meningococcal disease: guidance on public health management (08/03/19)

This guidance, by Public Health England, is an <u>update</u> on the public health management of individual cases and clusters of invasive meningococcal disease.

It is an amalgamation of guidance first published in February 2011, revised March 2012, March 2018 and again in March 2019.

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Hearing/Sight

Diabetic eye screening quality assurance: local visit reports (15/03/19)

Public Health England publishes <u>executive summaries</u> from local screening quality assurance (QA) visit reports of diabetic eye screening services, including recommendations.

The latest document published is for Surrey diabetic eye screening programme.

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Inequalities/Minorities

Study finds third of homeless people die from treatable conditions (11/03/19)

The <u>Bureau of Investigative Journalism</u> reports that the final count from their <u>Dying Homeless project</u> shows an average of 11 homeless people a week have died in the UK in the last 18 months. Data dating back to October 2017 has been

collected on those who have died on the streets or in temporary accommodation; the tally now stands at 796 people. Of those people whose age is known, more than a quarter were under 40 when then they died.

While many might assume hypothermia or drug and alcohol overdoses kill the majority of homeless people, research led by Dr Robert Aldridge, Institute of Health Informatics, <u>University College London (UCL)</u> shows that in fact most homeless people die from illnesses. Nearly a third of the deaths explored by UCL were from treatable illnesses like tuberculosis, pneumonia or gastric ulcers which could potentially have improved with the right medical care.

The results of the research have been published in Wellcome Open Research.

See also <u>Deaths of homeless people in England and Wales – local authority estimates: 2013 to 2017</u>, Office for National Statistics 26 February 2019.

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Information/Evidence/Research/Ethics

Statutory National Data Guardian for Health and Social Care (11/03/18)

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has <u>invited</u> Dame Fiona Caldicott to be the first holder of the statutory office of National Data Guardian for Health and Social Care. The National Data Guardian's (NDG) role is to help ensure that the public can trust that health and care information is securely safeguarded and used appropriately. The position was first established in November 2014 and <u>legislation</u> was passed in December 2018 to place the role on a statutory footing.

The new law means that the NDG will be able to issue official guidance about the processing of health and adult social care data. Public bodies, such as hospitals, GPs, care homes, planners and commissioners of services, will have to take note of guidance that is relevant to them. So will organisations such as private companies or charities which are delivering services for the NHS or publicly funded adult social care.

Speech by Baroness Blackwood, Health Minister <u>Building public trust for the use of patient data</u> Consultation on priorities ends 22 March 2019

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Integrated Health and Social Care

Payments and contracting for integrated care (14/03/19)

Policy makers in the English NHS have attempted for thirty years to devise financial incentive schemes to improve the performance of health services. One recurring challenge is how to measure the performance of health services as a basis for handing out financial rewards and penalties.

It is difficult to devise metrics that effectively capture local health systems' overall performance and that can measure accurately in the short to medium term. Another challenge is how to apply financial incentives effectively in public health systems. If the state withholds payments from underperforming health care providers, this makes it harder for them to deliver adequate services.

This new report from the King's Fund examines the attempt to implement effective incentive schemes for new integrated health and care systems.

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Legislation/Crime/Prisons

Opt-out organ donation: Max and Keira's Bill passed into law (15/03/19)

A new <u>system</u> for organ donation that will save hundreds of lives has come into law, with the Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Bill receiving Royal Assent on 15 March.

The Organ Donation Act will mean adults in England will be considered potential donors unless they chose to opt out or are excluded. The act is known as Max and Keira's law in honour of a boy who received a heart transplant and the girl who donated it.

There are more than 6,000 people currently waiting for an organ in the UK. Three people die each day while on the waiting list. The new law will help to reduce the number of people waiting for a life-saving transplant.

Changes to the way consent is granted will take effect in 2020. Before this happens, the government will launch a public awareness campaign to make sure people understand the new system and the choices they have.

NHS Blood and Transplant <u>How is organ donation law changing?</u> Legislation UK

Inspecting secure training centres: framework (13/03/19)

The <u>framework</u> sets out how Ofsted, together with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons and the Care Quality Commission, will inspect secure training centres from 1 April 2019.

The framework has been updated after running a consultation in 2018. Read the <u>consultation proposals and the outcome</u> report for more information about what has changed.

There are 3 secure training centres in England: Medway, Rainsbrook and Oakhill.

No STC has been rated 'good' or 'outstanding' since 2015. The new framework is anticipated to result in a more consistent approach to inspection of secure settings for children and bring it more in line with how Ofsted inspects secure children's homes. There are 14 secure children's homes in England, and 10 (71.4%) have been rated 'good' or 'outstanding'.

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Children and Young People Now

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Maternity/Infants

Child and maternal health data and intelligence (12/03/19)

Public Health England collects and analyses available child and maternal health data and produces intelligence resources to help with improving services and outcomes.

This <u>updated guidance</u> supports commissioners, service planners and other healthcare professionals with using these resources to make or influence decisions about services that improve the health of children, young people and pregnant women.

The <u>Pregnancy and early life: reducing stillbirth and infant death planning tool</u> uses available data to model estimates of possible effects of various factors, on infant mortality in a local geographical area.

Drinking in pregnancy: lasting effects of low-level alcohol use? (14/03/19)

High levels of alcohol use in pregnancy have been shown to be associated with Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), and negative outcomes such as premature birth and an increase in the risk of miscarriage. However, the literature is less clear on the association of alcohol use in pregnancy and offspring mental health, specifically for low levels of prenatal alcohol exposure.

In a guest post for <u>Alcohol Policy UK</u>, Kayleigh Easey lead researcher of a recent <u>systematic review</u> and member of the Tobacco and Alcohol Research Group discusses the issue.

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Mental Health and Wellbeing

Psychological Therapies: reports on the use of IAPT services, England - December 2018 final, including reports on the IAPT pilots and quarter 3 2018-19 data (14/03/19)

IAPT is run by the NHS in England and offers NICE-approved therapies for treating people with depression or anxiety.

This <u>statistical release</u>, form NHS Digital, makes available the most recent Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) monthly and quarterly data, including activity, waiting times, and outcomes such as recovery.

The release also includes reports from the IAPT integrated health pilot and the IAPT Employment Adviser pilot, plus supplementary analyses, covering the financial years 2015-16 to 2017-18.

Cafe Society: A fresh approach (12/03/19)

Alex Hoskyn, founder of the Chatty Cafe Scheme has written a <u>feature article</u> for the Social Care Institute for Care Excellence (SCIE) about an idea of a table for customers who are up for talking to other customers.

The <u>Chatty Café Scheme</u> has been set up to reduce loneliness and to get people talking - but the organisers knew from Day One that they would not mention the word 'Loneliness' on the publicity. It is too heavy, stigmatized and would perhaps put people off. Rather they are trying to influence UK café culture by encouraging venues to designate a Chatter and Natter table, which is where customers can sit if they are happy to talk to other customers.

Improving young people's experiences in transition to and from inpatient mental health settings (11/03/19)

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) have jointly produced a <u>series</u> of quick guides giving key information on a selection of social care topics.

The newest quick guide covers the <u>transitions</u> into and out of inpatient mental health settings which are an important time for young people and their families. Staff can improve outcomes for young people by helping them understand what to expect.

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Older People

The State of Ageing in 2019 (13/03/19)

How prepared is society for our longer lives? A new report, <u>'The State of Ageing in 2019'</u>, from the Centre for Ageing Better, uses publicly available data to give a snapshot of what life is like for people aged 65 and older today. Britain is undergoing a radical demographic shift, with the number of people aged 65 and over set to grow by more than 40% in just two decades, reaching over 17 million by 2036.

While people aged 65 can expect to live just half of the remainder of their life without disability, those in less affluent parts of the country will die earlier and be sicker for longer. Ill health is a major cause of people falling out of work prematurely and can affect quality of life and access to services like healthcare.

The report also investigates the prospects for people currently in their 50s and 60s looking across four crucial areas: work and finances, housing, health and communities.

Media release

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Oral Health

Adult oral health: applying All Our Health (11/03/19)

Public Health England (PHE) has published evidence and guidance to help healthcare professionals improve <u>dental</u> health in adults.

It includes examples and interventions to improve dental health for adults by helping people to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities.

See also evidence on other topics on the All Our Health collection.

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Pharmacy/Prescribing

NIHR Signal: Antimicrobial stewardship programmes reduce antibiotic use in long-term care homes (12/03/19)

Antimicrobial stewardship programmes have been found to reduce antibiotic use in long-term care residences by 14% when pooling evidence across a range of study types and interventions.

Antimicrobial resistance is a public health threat, and overuse of antimicrobials is one of the main causes. Antimicrobial stewardship programmes are a government strategy to support the appropriate prescribing of antimicrobials within the NHS. There has been little evidence for their use or effectiveness in long-term care settings.

This National Institute for Health Research NIHR Signal examines the systematic review and offers expert commentary.

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Public Health/Health Promotion

Community-centred and asset-based approaches (15/03/19)

There is growing interest in community-centred approaches to improving health, reducing health inequalities and also in supporting people with long-term conditions. Public Health England (PHE) has published <u>guidance</u> (2015) on what this means and types of approaches that work.

Outcomes from these approaches include increased social connectedness, empowerment, participation, cohesion, resilience and social capital. By their nature community-centred approaches are diverse. It is often difficult to assess and measure the wider social impacts and compare areas, however there is evidence that there is a good social return on investment.

Duncan Selbie in his <u>Friday Message</u> draws attention to PHE's bank of 41 <u>community-centred examples</u>: "this collection is a great resource, illustrating practical ways to help build healthier communities and maximise community assets."

See also Think Local Act Personal (TLAP)

PHE stakeholder research: 2018 to 2019 (15/03/19)

Public Health England (PHE) is responsible for providing support and evidence-based, expert advice to national government, local authorities, the NHS and other partners on matters affecting the health and wellbeing of the nation.

PHE <u>commissioned</u> Ipsos MORI to carry out its annual stakeholder research, seeking the views and perspectives of leading stakeholders. The results are a reflection of work to date, and provide indicators for areas of development in the future.

Report

Wider public health workforce review: 2018 to 2019 (12/03/19)

In 2015, the Centre for Workforce Intelligence (CfWI) and the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) identified that the wider public health workforce has the potential to make a large contribution to the public's health and wellbeing. During 2018-19 Public Health England (PHE) has conducted a review of this workforce and its activities, which is detailed in this report.

The wider public health workforce comprises individuals and organisations across a range of sectors: healthcare, social care, emergency services, education, employment, criminal justice, housing and planning. In many instances, members of this workforce are engaged in joint projects that span boundaries between different sectors and organisations addressing shared priorities with 'upstream' preventative action.

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Safeguarding

Knife crime: safeguarding children and young people in education (12/03/19)

Ofsted carried out a research project on knife crime in education. The research was carried out in 29 schools, colleges and pupil referral units (PRUs) in London.

The research posed 3 questions:

- What are schools, colleges and PRUs in London doing to safeguard children and learners from knife crime while on school premises?
- How are schools, colleges and PRUs in London giving children the knowledge and skills to stay safer in their local communities?
- How are exclusions being used when children bring knives to school?

The <u>report</u> finds that while schools need to keep children safe, they do not have the ability to counter the complex societal problems behind the rise in knife crime. These need to be addressed by a range of partners including the police, local authorities and policy makers.

Amanda Spielman, HMCI commentary on knife crime Ofsted news release

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Screening

Independent Breast Screening Review: government response (14/03/19)

The Independent Breast Screening Review looked into an incident in the breast screening programme in England, which resulted in thousands of women aged between 68 and 71 not being invited to their final breast screening. The review published its report in December 2018.

This <u>document</u> sets out the government's response to each recommendation made in the report. The government has accepted all the recommendations.

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Sexual Health

Kent: Shifting views on sexual health for the over 45s (13/03/19)

A new European funded project is underway in <u>Kent</u> to tackle the rising number of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among people in their forties by encouraging people to discuss the issue.

Studies reveal major changes in sexual behaviour over the last century, including increasing numbers of sexually active older people. The over-45s at risk are generally those entering new sexual relationships after a period of monogamy, often post-menopause, when pregnancy is no longer a consideration, but little thought is given to STIs.

SHIFT is a newly-approved EU-funded project, linking organisations across the South East of England, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. The project will develop a programme specifically for this age group, together with training for sexual health professionals and the wider workforce.

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Smoking/Tobacco Control

Stop smoking services and tobacco control in England (15/03/19)

Since responsibility for commissioning stop smoking services moved to local government in England in 2013, the local offer of support and advice to smokers has diversified. A new <u>report</u> from <u>Cancer Research UK</u> and <u>Action and Smoking</u> and <u>Health (ASH)</u> looks at the changing landscape.

The report finds that the majority of local authorities still commission a specialist stop smoking service but some have replaced these services with integrated lifestyle/wellbeing services and others only commission support from primary care professionals (GPs and pharmacists). In a handful of cases, local authorities have decommissioned their services for smokers altogether.

No Smoking Day - Time to Seek Out Quit Support (13/03/19)

On No Smoking Day, Kent residents who smoke were reminded of the support services that can help them quit.

Approximately 16.3% of Kent residents are smokers and while the number of smokers has fallen over recent years, many people find it hard to quit. Tobacco remains the number one killer in England and a chief cause of long-term poor health with one in four hospital beds occupied by a smoker. In 2017/18 smoking attributable admissions in Kent accounted for 11,599 people.

Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust (KCHFT) offers year-round support to quit smoking. Local services such as pharmacies, NHS quit clubs and digital tools are available to support people who want to quit independently.

KCHFT and Wellbeing People are currently carrying out a series of NHS Health Checks across the county in local venues including high streets and shopping centres.

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Social Care/Welfare

Ombudsman issues good practice guide for care providers (15/03/19)

The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman has issued a good practice guide which shares lessons from complaints to help adult social care providers improve their services.

Based on the Ombudsman's lengthy experience of investigating complaints about independent providers, the guide gives real-life examples of the common problems the organisation sees – and offers some ways to avoid the pitfalls.

Common issues the Ombudsman sees in its complaints include a lack of clear information about fees, charges and contracts, problems with billing and invoices, ensuring people's belongings are looked after properly, and dealing with challenging behaviour from friends and relatives.

Social care commentary: using models of practice successfully (02/19)

Yvette Stanley, Ofsted's National Director of Social Care, reflects on the success factors in different <u>models of practice</u> that local authorities use when working with children and families. She poses three questions:

what works best in implementing a model of practice? what are the ingredients that make a model effective? does Ofsted have a preferred model of practice?

See also the collection of Social care commentaries.

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Workplace

ONS: Living longer: caring in later working life (14/03/19)

As the UK population gets older, an increasing number of workers are providing care towards the end of their working life for family members. One in four older female workers, and one in eight older male workers, have caring responsibilities.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has published <u>analysis</u> examining the interplay between caring and working in later life in the UK.

NIHR Signal: Cognitive behavioural therapy may help ease depression in the workplace (12/03/19)

Workplace-based interventions for people with depressive symptoms are effective. This review of 16 trials looked at early stage interventions to prevent depressive symptoms from developing into more severe depressive illness.

Both cognitive behavioural therapy and some non-cognitive behavioural therapy interventions, such as supervised exercise, worked equally well. Telephone and internet-based therapy worked better than face-to-face therapy.

This National Institute for Health Research NIHR Signal examines the research and offers expert commentary.

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