



Public Health  
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

# Objectives of Public Health England: relevance to public libraries

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Knowledge & Evidence Specialist

# Public Health England





Do you work in a local authority? See how we can help.

## Knowledge & Library Services

Welcome to Public Health England's Knowledge and Library Services online. We provide knowledge, library and evidence services to PHE. Our aim is to help protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce inequalities, by providing and mobilising the best available evidence for public health.

Please [contact us](#) with any enquiries.

PHE Staff can use this search box to perform a single search to retrieve books, journals, evidence briefings and practice examples, from a range of information resources: PHE subscribed resources, NHS core content, and open access resources.

### PHE Discovery

Search

☒ Keyword ☐ Title ☐ Author

LAPH staff can find out more about their EDS [here](#).



Print Friendly

### Request a literature search

PHE staff can request a literature search using our [online form](#).

More information is available on our [Literature Search](#) page.

### Our Service Offer

- » [Expert literature searching](#)
- » [Enquiry services](#)
- » [Document delivery \(articles\) & inter-library loans \(books\)](#)
- » [Access to resources](#)
- » [Information skills training](#)
- » [Knowledge updates and alerting services](#)
- » [Knowledge management services and facilitation](#)
- » [Integrated & embedded subject-specialist liaison](#)

<https://phelibrary.koha-ptfs.co.uk/>

# Knowledge & Library Services

## Finding the evidence: research support

### Evidence Briefings

Summaries of the best available evidence that has been identified and selected from research using systematic and transparent search methods to answer a specific question.

### Evidence Syntheses

Bringing together topic-specific data and the latest published evidence in a robust review process. The evidence is systematically identified, synthesised and critically appraised.

### Practice Examples

Shared learning from public health practitioners' experience of developing and implementing public health programmes and projects.

### Current Awareness Updates

Keeping up to date with the latest research. Bulletins produced include: Child and Maternal Health; Healthy People, Healthy Places; Infection; Mental Health.

### Public Health Matters

The official blog of Public Health England, providing expert insight on the organisation's work and all aspects of public health.



**Be careful what you share.  
Things aren't always  
what they seem online.**

## Don't feed the beast

Just because a story appears online, doesn't make it true. The internet is great, but it can also be used to spread disinformation in the form of misleading news and content. When shared, disinformation can take on a life of its own, and have some serious consequences. It can lead to health scares, false accusations and potentially damaging hoax stories. It's not always easy to spot, so using the S.H.A.R.E checklist can help you make sure that you don't feed the beast.

<https://www.sharechecklist.gov.uk/>



# Use the S.H.A.R.E checklist

Before you like, comment or share online, use the S.H.A.R.E checklist to make sure you're not contributing to the spread of harmful content.



## Source

Make sure that the story is written by a source you trust, with a reputation for accuracy. If it's from an unfamiliar organisation, check for a website's 'About' section to learn more.



## Headline

Always read beyond the headline. If it sounds unbelievable, it very well might be. Be wary if something doesn't seem to add up.



## Analyse

Make sure you check the facts. Just because you have seen a story several times, doesn't mean it's true. If you're not sure, look at fact checking websites and other reliable sources to double check.



## Retouched

Check whether the image looks like it has been or could have been manipulated. False news stories often contain retouched photos or re-edited clips. Sometimes they are authentic, but have been taken out of context.



## Error

Many false news stories have phony or look-alike URLs. Look out for misspellings, bad grammar or awkward layouts.

<https://www.sharechecklist.gov.uk/>



## Our campaigns



Moving more



Eating Well



Becoming  
Smokefree



Drinking less



Stressing



Checking  
yourself



Sleeping Well

Healthcare Workers Flu  
Immunisation

Coming soon



Cervical Screening campaign



Pharmacy Advice

HELP US  
HELP YOU

BEFORE IT GETS WORSE



Start4Life

start  
4 life

A good start for a healthier life



NHS 111 Phone and Online

Go straight to 111

Call or go online



2019 Change4Life Nutrition  
Campaign

change  
4 life



Health Harms



How Are You?

HOW ARE YOU?



GP Access

HELP US  
HELP YOU

WHEN YOU NEED IT



Keep Antibiotics Working

Keep Antibiotics Working



Every Mind Matters

EVERY MIND  
MATTERS

ONE YOU



Stay Well This Winter

HELP US  
HELP YOU

STAY WELL THIS WINTER



<https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/>

# Health information for the public: online sources





# Scenario

***“I’ve been given these tablets – what do they do?”***



Levothyroxine is a medicine used to treat an underactive thyroid gland (hypothyroidism).

The thyroid gland makes thyroid hormone which helps to control energy levels and growth.

Levothyroxine is taken to replace the missing thyroid hormone.

Levothyroxine is only available on prescription. It comes as tablets or as a liquid that you drink.

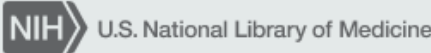

Source: <https://www.nhs.uk/medicines/levothyroxine/>

Image source: <https://www.treated.com/underactive-thyroid/levothyroxine>


# HealthTalk <http://healthtalk.org/>



HealthReach <https://healthreach.nlm.nih.gov/>




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[A](#) [A](#) [A](#) 


## Search for Patient Education Materials

Find multilingual, multicultural health information and patient education materials about health conditions and wellness topics. Learn about diseases, causes, symptoms, treatment, and prevention. Materials may be available as printable documents, audio, and video.


Search




All Languages 

All Formats 

All Authors 

# HealthFeedback <http://healthfeedback.org/>

 Health Feedback About Article Reviews Community



Accurate information is the foundation of a functioning democracy

WHAT WE DO

Health Feedback is a worldwide network of scientists sorting fact from fiction in health and medical media coverage. Our goal is to help readers know which news to trust.

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7.5K

DAILY NEWS 14 May 2018

### Cause of polycystic ovary syndrome discovered at last



Public

Annotations 1 Page Notes

ScienceFeedback  
Re Public 8

Just now

Cause of polycystic ovary syndrome discovered at last

Overall scientific credibility: 'neutral', according to scientists who analyzed this article.

"Cause of polycystic ovary syndrome..."  
Alice Klein, New Scientist

Scientific Credibility  
+0.3

+2 Very high  
+1 High  
0 Neutral  
-1 Low  
-2 Very low  
n/a Not Applicable

HealthFeedback.org  
Find more details in HealthFeedback's analysis

Overstates scientific confidence | Missing

New Scientist article accurately summarises polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) research but overstates significance of animal studies

New Scientist

*"I think that the title overstates the position with the present level of knowledge and is too sensationalist. The 'ovarian cysts' stated to typically characterize PCOS are not."*

- 17 Jan 2019

# Behind the Headlines

Your guide to the science that makes the news

## Categories

- [Cancer](#)
- [Genetics and stem cells](#)
- [Food and diet](#)
- [Obesity](#)

[Eating more fruit and veg 'improves mental wellbeing'](#)

Wednesday February 6 2019

[Women's brains 'may age slower' than men's](#)

Tuesday February 5 2019



# Looking behind the headlines...

- Where did the story come from?
- What kind of research was this?
- What did the research involve?
- What were the basic results?
- How did the researchers interpret the results?
- Conclusion
- [Links to the headlines / Links to the science] – examples of the differences between what was found in the results of the research and what has been reported / used as a headline to draw people in (clickbait?)

# Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Daily Mail**  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019 www.dailymail.co.uk 70p

**Hollywood may have axed his film premiere... but here's why Neeson is NOT a racist** JAN MOIR SEE PAGE NINE



## HOW BRITAIN'S PUBBERING UP

**Revealed: Number drinking to harmful level falls sharply**

By Kate Pickles Health Correspondent

**BRITONS are falling out of love with booze, official figures suggested last night.**

The number of adults drinking more than the recommended 14 units of alcohol a week has fallen significantly. Just one in seven women, and one in four men, are breaching the limit. In 2011, it was one in five women and one in three men. Experts said the findings were a sign that public health warnings were finally getting through. However, the NHS report also showed that deaths from alcohol abuse have risen 16 per cent in a decade to 5,800 a year.

Drink has become one of the biggest reasons for severe illness among the middle-aged, causing heart disease, liver disease, cancer and dementia. The report also found that:

- Alcohol-related hospital admissions have risen 15 per cent to 328,000 a year.
- Heavy drinkers aged 55 to 64 were the most likely to stick to alcohol guidelines.
- High-income households were the least likely to stick to alcohol guidelines.
- Girls aged 11 to 15 are getting drunk more often than boys of the same age.

The Alcohol Information Partnership, which represents the drinks industry, said the figures showed the country's relationship with alcohol was changing.

More people are choosing to drink for pleasure, rather than to get drunk and for a great many of them the trend is toward choosing fewer, better quality drinks, a spokesman said. This reflects a maturing relationship with

Turn to Page 2



Signing off: Humphrys, 75, and his fellow host Mishal Husain

**Today's big news: Radio 4's John Humphrys to quit** SEE PAGES 22&23



The

INDEPENDENT

WEDNESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2019

WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK



**Bonnie Greer**  
This revelation has echoes of lynching



**Matthew Norman**  
Is May now failing like Grayling?



**Ben Chu**  
The Brexiteers have betrayed Nissan



**Roisin O'Connor**  
Chvrches on finding meaning in pop

**Neeson defends himself over race storm**



The actor appears on TV yesterday to respond to outrage over his comments made to The Independent

## Deaths caused by alcohol reach record high

One patient admitted to hospital over drinking every 30 seconds

ALEX MATTHEWS-KING  
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

The NHS admits a patient to hospital because of drinking every 30 seconds as alcohol deaths reach their highest rate since records began, analysis

showed yesterday. The number of people killed by drinking in England has risen 6 per cent on last year – and 17 per cent in the past decade. But despite this, the number being treated for alcohol problems fell to 76,000 last year as funding for public

health was cut. The report from NHS Digital also showed that well-off households were almost twice as likely to be drinking more than the recommended guidelines, even though deaths from alcohol were more common in deprived areas.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019

# NOW BRITAIN'S SOBERING UP

**Revealed: Number drinking to harmful level falls sharply**

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reach record high

One patient admitted to hospital over drinking every 30 seconds



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