

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(May, 2010 + Misc.) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

Canada

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
11/5/10	http://www.archdisabilitylaw.ca/ email notice	<p>ARCH Disability Law Centre is hosting a 30th Anniversary Celebratory Symposium "Human Rights for People with Disabilities: Today and Tomorrow".</p> <p>The Symposium is taking place at the Law Society of Upper Canada on Monday December 13th from 9 – 5 with a reception to follow.</p> <p>To access the notice, copy and paste or click on the link below:</p> <p>http://www.archdisabilitylaw.ca/?q=arch-disability-law-centre-30th-anniversary-celebratory-symposium-december-13-2010</p>

Provinces – Eastern Canada

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
4/30/10	http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn18849-mirror-gene-clue-to-brains-righttoleft-links.html	<p>A handful of rare individuals have "mirror movement" disorders: they are unable to clench their left fist without the right following suit.</p> <p>Now a gene that causes such disorders has been found, and it may help unravel a deeper mystery: how it is that the left side of our brains controls the right side of the body, and vice versa. Mirror movement (MM) disorders fascinate neuroscientists because they appear to arise from the sides of the brain failing to connect to just one side of the body. Studying them might therefore tell us how the left-right links normally form.</p> <p>"It's a problem where the brain, instead of being selectively connected to the opposite side of the body, seems to connect to both sides of the body," says Guy Rouleau, a neurologist at the University of Montréal in Canada.</p> <p>To understand the genetic basis of MM disorders, Rouleau and his colleagues scanned the genes of members of several generations of a Canadian family in which mirror movement is common.</p> <p>Those with MM disorders had a specific mutation in one of their copies of a gene called DCC, thought to control the routes that the developing nerve cells carve through the body.</p> <p>His team found a different mutation in the DCC gene in an Iranian family in which the disorder is common, but in none of 538 unrelated people without mirror movements.</p> <p>The team concludes that DCC protein is required during development to coax nerve cells across the body's midline, so that left brain areas control the right side of the body and vice versa. In people with just one working copy of DCC, only some nerve cells get the message to cross the midline...</p>

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5/4/10	http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/Health/20100504/autism-care-centres-100504/ http://www.autism.nf.net/news.php?news=27	<p>The Nova Scotia government should set up a network of regional centres to provide a wide range of care for people living with autism, a team of advisers recommends in a report* released Monday.</p> <p>The eight-member team, which included government officials and autism advocates, submitted 53 recommendations aimed at helping the province deal with the increasing number of people diagnosed with the complex neurological disorder...</p> <p>The survey found that respondents with preschool children with autism said they need more parent training and easier access to early intensive behaviour therapy.</p> <p>Parents with school-age children with autism said they needed more social and friendship programs and activity programs, such as physical education, art and music.</p> <p>Adults with autism said they needed access to more employment programs, friendship and recreation programs and post-secondary programs.</p> <p>To address these challenges, the report stressed that the creation of regional centres is a priority.</p> <p>* Autism Management Advisory Team Report on Lifespan Needs for Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder http://www.gov.ns.ca/coms/noteworthy/AutismReport.html http://www.ednet.ns.ca/pdfdocs/autism_mgmt/Autism%20Management%20Advisory%20Team%20Report.pdf</p>
6/24/10	http://www.gladnet.org/	<p>Disability Rights Promotion International Canada (DRPI-Canada) would like to share with you a fact sheet from its monitoring project in Quebec City. The fact sheet presents a summary of the findings of disability rights monitoring focusing on the individual experiences of persons with disabilities. The monitoring project in Quebec City was led by our partners, the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Rehabilitation and Social Integration (CIRRIS) and Regroupement des personnes des organisations de handicapées de la région 03 (ROP 03.) People with disabilities participated fully in all aspects of the project as coordinators and monitors.</p> <p>Accessible versions in both languages are available on the DRPI-Canada website:</p> <p>-English version at http://www.yorku.ca/drpi/CanadaFactQueEn.html</p> <p>-French version at http://www.yorku.ca/drpi/CanadaFactQueFr.html</p> <p>Disability Rights Promotion International - Canada (a SSHRC funded project) York University, 5021 TEL Building 4700 Keele Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M3J 1P3 tel: 416-736-2100 ext. 20883 fax: 416-736-5986 e-mail: drpi_can@yorku.ca web site: www.yorku.ca/drpi</p>

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7/20/10	http://www.gladnet.org/	<p>Disability Rights Promotion International Canada (DRPI-Canada) would like to share with you a thematic fact sheet from its monitoring project in Toronto. The fact sheet summarizes the key findings of disability rights monitoring focusing on social participation which has been revealed as the top priority for persons with disabilities interviewed in Toronto. The monitoring project in Toronto was led by our partner, the Centre for Independent Living in Toronto (CILT). People with disabilities participated fully in all aspects of the project as coordinators and monitors. Accessible versions in both languages are available on the DRPI-Canada website: -English version at http://www.yorku.ca/dрпи/CanadaFactTor0710En.html -French version at http://www.yorku.ca/dрпи/CanadaFactTor0710Fr.html</p>
5/12/10	http://www.healthcanal.com/disorders-conditions/7758-Severity-binge-eating-disorder-linked-childhood-sexual-emotional-abuse-JGH-researchers.html	<p>... David M. Dunkley, a psychiatric researcher and clinical psychologist at the Jewish General Hospital* (JGH) in Montreal, and his colleagues studied a group of 170 BED [binge eating disorder] sufferers and discovered that the severity of the condition -- reflected by greater body dissatisfaction and depressive symptoms -- appears to be linked to very specific histories of childhood sexual or emotional abuse, which in turn lead to self-criticism. Their results were published recently in the International Journal of Eating Disorders**.</p> <p>"Childhood sexual abuse or emotional abuse were associated with greater body dissatisfaction in BED, whereas physical abuse or physical or emotional neglect were not," explained Dunkley, a project director at the Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research at the JGH and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at McGill University...</p> <p>"I definitely suggest that therapists focus on self-criticism in cases of suspected childhood maltreatment in BED," continued Dunkley. "We did look at alternative theories, like childhood emotional abuse leading to depression which leads to body dissatisfaction and self-criticism. But it doesn't seem to work that way. Self-criticism is the mediator. Without it, it doesn't seem to progress to greater body dissatisfaction in BED."</p> <p>* http://www.jgh.ca/ ** http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1098-108X</p>

Provinces – Western Canada

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
5/13/10	http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/our-communities/herald/New-program-to-tackle-mental-illness-93432159.html	<p>... [Eric] Fraser was speaking as the guest of honour at the April 30 launch of Your Recovery Journey, a new program designed to help those living with mental illnesses win their own battles. The program will assist others like him, Fraser said, because it</p>

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		<p>helps participants determine what tools they need to achieve recovery. It was created by the Schizophrenia Society of Canada and several partner agencies.</p> <p>Chris Summerville, executive director of the Manitoba Schizophrenia Society, said the program is the first of its kind in Canada. It is modeled on similar, successful programs in other countries.</p> <p>"It's a peer-led, recovery-oriented program for people with severe mental illness," he said, adding it provides participants an added sense of hope not offered in other programs. "We've not had anything like this."</p> <p>Summerville said it's important to offer individuals with mental illness a sense of hope because most of them are capable of improving the quality of their life...</p> <p>For more information about Your Recovery Journey, visit www.your-recovery-journey.ca</p>
5/20/10	http://www.sleepreviewmag.com/news/2010-05-19_04.asp	<p>Reports have suggested that sleep problems in children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) are associated with challenging daytime behaviors.</p> <p>A new study on a large group of youths with ASDs confirms these reports and will support the development of treatments for sleep disturbances as a way to improve behavior, according to researchers from Autism Speaks' Autism Treatment Network* (ATN).</p> <p>Results of the study, and three others conducted by the ATN, were presented May 2 at the Pediatric Academic Societies** (PAS) annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada...</p> <p>Parents of children participating in the ATN completed the Children's Sleep Habits Questionnaire and the Child Behavior Checklist. An analysis of 1,056 children found an association between sleep problems and problematic daytime behaviors, especially emotional problems and anxiety. Children who got less sleep had more emotional problems, and children who had parasomnias, including nightmares, night terrors, and sleepwalking, had more behavior problems overall...</p> <p>* http://www.autismspeaks.org/science/programs/atn/ ** http://www.pas-meeting.org/2010Vancouver/default.asp</p>
5/27/10	http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/722600	<p>The use of certain psychotropic medications enhances an already high underlying risk for osteoporosis, according to several studies presented here at the American Psychiatric Association 2010 Annual Meeting.</p> <p>Psychotropic agents have been linked to fractures and antidepressants have been associated with low bone mineral density (BMD). Studies presented at this meeting validate these earlier findings and suggest that many patients may already be at high risk for bone disease.</p> <p>In a large study from Canada, osteoporosis was found to be associated with the use of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), mood stabilizers other than lithium, and</p>

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		<p>benzodiazepines. Use of tricyclic antidepressants was protective, he reported.</p> <p>"We found a 40% increased risk for low BMD with SSRIs and a 37% reduced risk with tricyclic antidepressants," said James Bolton, MD, of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. Data were derived from Manitoba's healthcare database that captures all physician contacts and diagnoses, all medication prescriptions, all hospitalizations, and census data, which was linked to data from the Manitoba Bone Density Program, a clinical database of information from dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry scans...</p> <p>American Psychiatric Association (APA) 2010 Annual Meeting: Abstract NR4-5. Presented May 25, 2010.</p>
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Other Countries

Australia

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
5/5/10	Disabled Peoples International's (DPI's) E-news http://v1.dpi.org/	<p>Aboriginal Policy in Australia and Canada</p> <p>The Australian referendum of 1967 approved amendments to the Australian Constitution which allowed the Federal Government to make special laws that applied to Aboriginal Australians. As a result, since 1967, Australian governments have put in place policies and programs with the aim of achieving positive social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal people. However, over four decades later, the gap between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians is still unacceptably wide. In fact, some studies suggest the gap is actually widening.</p> <p>Canada faces similar issues in closing the gap between their indigenous and non-indigenous citizens. While Canada and Australia both enjoy a high ranking on the United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) Human Development Index (HDI)—8th and 4th respectively—their indigenous people are considerably worse off, comparatively sitting at 32nd and 103rd. This situation of Aboriginal people living in Third World conditions highlights the need for urgent action in both countries. An overview of the history of Aboriginal policy and relations in Australia in comparison to Canada provides a useful context for policymakers in both countries. Some of the negative experiences in Australia can also serve as a warning to governments in Canada, whereby if some of the problems faced in Canadian Aboriginal communities are not addressed soon, drastic interventions may be needed. To read the new report on the above (in PDF format only) titled "Aboriginal Relations and Policy in Australia and Canada: From Handout to Hand-Up", go to http://www.fcpp.org/files/1/10-04-22-Aus-Canada_Aboriginal_FINAL.pdf</p>

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Ireland (includes Northern Ireland)

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11/18/10	http://www.nda.ie/CntMgmtNew.nsf/DCC524B4546ADB3080256C700071B049/F1D157570980DF218025778100507AD0?OpenDocument Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/1h5s8e	Contemporary Developments in Disability Services The papers below comprise a significant programme of work undertaken by NDA to explore contemporary developments in disability services. The work focuses on three core areas (1) residential provision for people with disabilities (2) employment services for people with disabilities (3) the configuration of disability services internationally and NDA's Policy Advice Paper on Disability Services in Ireland.

New Zealand

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>nothing relevant for May, 2010</i>

Scotland

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
		<i>nothing relevant for May, 2010</i>

UK

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
>>>>		Recent email from the LDHealthNetwork:
7/23/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	Study funded by the Wellcome Trust explored the experiences of people diagnosed with autism and parents of children/adults with autism. The findings were published at; http://www.healthtalkonline.org/disability/LifeontheAutismspectrumAdults Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/zr7mi http://www.healthtalkonline.org/disability/LifeontheAutismspectrumParents Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/zr7mv
7/28/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	Here is a link to a number of different guides to the Equalities act which comes into force on 1st October. http://www.equalities.gov.uk/equality_act_2010/equality_act_2010_what_do_i_n.aspx Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/zw77y
7/28/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	Understanding the Needs of People with Mental Health Conditions and/or Learning Disabilities and the Implications for the Pension, Disability and Carers Service http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/rrep654.pdf This literature review was commissioned to understand the needs, preferences and experiences of people with mental health conditions and learning disabilities when accessing benefits, specifically disability living allowance and attendance allowance.
7/28/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities	New Challenging Behaviour charter launched The Challenging Behaviour - National Strategy Group has launched a charter to promote the human rights of individuals with learning disabilities who are perceived as challenging. Up to 27,000 people with learning disabilities in the UK may

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	http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	<p>have been given a label of challenging behavior, resulting in this group of people being - stigmatised and socially excluded denied the right to ordinary lives in the community, to education, recreation and employment placed in institutional settings a long way from home and families.</p> <p>The label challenging behaviour, has become misused over time. Rather than being used as a term to encourage carers and professionals to understand the underlying reasons for a person's behaviour, 'challenging behaviour' has been used as a diagnostic label, viewed as being intrinsic to the person.</p> <p>The Challenging Behaviour -National Strategy Group want people (and organisations) to sign up to the charter to register their support for the principles it contains and to commit to action to improve the lives of children and adults who are labelled as challenging. We need as many people as possible to support us, so please ask your friends and family to sign up too. To read the charter, including an easy read version visit: http://www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk/</p>
7/30/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>www.equalityhumanrights.com/UNCRPDguide</p> <p>New guidance launched to promote disabled people's human rights</p> <p>The Commission is delighted to launch a new piece of guidance that will support all disabled people, including your supporters, to have their voices heard. The UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities - What does it mean for you? sets out what the Convention means in practice for disabled people, what the Convention says and how you can use it to bring about change.</p> <p>The Convention guide: . Reaffirms that disabled people have - and should be able to enjoy their human rights on an equal basis with non-disabled people, and sets out the steps governments are expected to take to make these rights a reality.</p> <p>. Applies to all disabled people and covers all areas of life including access to justice, personal mobility, health, education, work and recreation.</p> <p>. Can help you to campaign for changes in national and local policies and services.</p> <p>. Can be used to interpret and support existing rights.</p> <p>The guide and further information is available here: www.equalityhumanrights.com/UNCRPDguidest Or http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/uncrpdguide.pdf</p>
8/3/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>ATT Autistic Spectrum Disorder Transition Toolkit (DFES) available via www.autismtoolkit.com</p>
8/3/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation</p>	<p>New BILD* books catalogue launched</p> <p>Giving full details about BILD's range of best selling books around protecting the rights of people with learning disabilities</p>

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	<p>for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>and working in person centred ways; and on subjects from understanding autism to positive behaviour support, the catalogue is available to download from the BILD website at http://www.bild.org.uk/03books.htm or you can be sent a copy by post if you email t.tindell@bild.org.uk * British Institute of Learning Disabilities http://www.bild.org.uk/index.html</p>
<p>8/10/10</p>	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>Raising our sights report and DVD - copies available Hard copies of the 'Raising our sights' report and DVD are now available. This report about services for adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities was written by Professor Jim Mansell for the Department of Health. March, 2010 To order a copy: Email publications@mencap.org.uk or Tel 020 7696 6900 (Please note there is a limit of 1 per person, 3 per organisation) To view the report and DVD on-line: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_114346 http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_117961.pdf Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/v0e44 Excerpt from the Foreword: Following the publication of Valuing People Now in 2009 I was asked to undertake a review of services for adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities and to make recommendations. Valuing People Now examined progress in implementing the 2001 White Paper Valuing People: it concluded that, while good progress had been made on many fronts, commissioners and policy makers were not sufficiently addressing the needs of people with learning disabilities who had more complex needs, including people with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities. The strategy was strengthened to ensure that it did address these needs, and this report is part of the process of implementation. I have sought examples of good practice which could be used to illustrate both what is possible and what policy obstacles have to be overcome. I found that, where families were supported to make the most of the opportunities presented by the Government's 'personalisation' agenda, they were in general getting what they and their disabled family member needed and wanted. These families are pioneers. They have often had to struggle to get what they need. I identified a number of specific obstacles to which national and local government need to attend to enable more families to take up the new opportunities available. However, the major obstacles to wider implementation of policy for adults with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities are prejudice, discrimination and low expectations. I have called my report Raising our sights because I believe that we can achieve considerably more for this group of people than we have in the past.</p>

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8/13/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	<p>Making Life Good in the Community: Disability Services - Department of Human Services, Victoria, Australia</p> <p>http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/improving_supports/kew_redevelopment/evaluation_of_community_living</p> <p>Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/10mm8n</p> <p>A research study to examine the factors that are involved in good outcomes for people with a disability when they leave institutional care models has been undertaken by La Trobe University on behalf of the Department of Human Services. It explored how best to support people with intellectual disabilities living in group homes to lead fulfilling lives. The study, called Making Life Good in the Community, had both qualitative and quantitative elements and used ethnography, action research, interviews and surveys to collect data.</p> <p>The major part of the study is now complete. The remaining component of the study is the completion of the quantitative study that will collate data 12 months after the move of the last residents, which took place in April 2008.</p>
9/1/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	<p>Disability services: An A-Z of what works</p> <p>If you manage or commission services for disabled children and young people this guide is for you. This tool will be helpful whichever agency you work in - universal or specialist, third sector or statutory. Your services for disabled children may be multi-agency or delivered through inter-agency arrangements. Now, more than ever you will want to know more about 'what works' for disabled children and young people so that you can make the most effective use of limited resources. Wherever you are, C4EO has brought together the very best research, data and local practice to support your local plans to develop excellent and responsive services for disabled children and their families. As well as web-based resources, C4EO can offer tailored support to help you improve outcomes for disabled children and their families in your area.</p> <p>http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/disabledchildren/atozwebguide/default.aspx?themeid=2&accesstypeid=1</p> <p>Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/10tz0w</p> <p>http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/disabledchildren/atozwebguide/webguide.aspx?themeid=2&accesstypeid=1</p>
9/1/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	<p>NHS Evidence - learning disabilities</p> <p>Personalisation & adults with learning disabilities: an annotated guide to the literature</p> <p>http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/peradult.pdf</p>
9/9/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is	<p>Welcome to the Disability Toolkit</p> <p>http://sites.childrensociety.org.uk/disabilitytoolkit/index.aspx</p>

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	<p>hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>This online database has been created by practitioners to help you quickly find information and ideas to support your work with disabled children and young people. You can use the left hand menus to search the database, submit your resources, submit your practice and find out more information about the database. http://sites.childressociety.org.uk/disabilitytoolkit/toolkit/search.aspx</p>
9/16/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>This email is to let you know that the Department of Health's personal health budgets Learning Network has a new DH website address. The new web URL is: www.dh.gov.uk/personalhealthbudgets The Learning Network continues to be the online home for the DH's personal health budgets pilot programme and the place to find news, resources and information about learning so far. If you are directly involved in the pilot, you can join the learning community. Our policy pages on the Department of Health's main website can also be accessed from the home page of the Learning Network.</p>
10/25/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>New Guide Launched to Help Improve Commissioning of Services for People with Learning Disabilities Labelled as 'Challenging' A new guide has been launched today by the National Development team for Inclusion (NDTi) to help commissioners to implement Government policy on how to commission cost and outcome effective services for people with learning disabilities described as 'challenging services'. The guide has been funded by the Department of Health as part of the Valuing People Now delivery plan. People with learning disabilities who are also labelled as 'challenging' services continue to get poor quality services and outcomes across most of the country. The costs of these services are often very high. Government policy on changing this is described in the 'Mansell report'. A few locations have made progress in implementing the Mansell Report. The NDTi has studied these areas to find out what they are doing differently to enable this progress to be made. The Guide summarises the evidence from this work. Seven areas are described where practice needs to change. Evidence is given of what is happening in the local areas to support progress and specific advice given on actions to take that will help to improve commissioning and outcomes for people. Those seven areas are around: . Vision and values . Leadership . Relationships . The service model . Provider and staff skills . Having an evidence base . Specific commissioner actions A summary of the Guide has been produced as an 'NDTi Insight' - a series of 2 page highlights of the most important learning from pieces of work carried out by NDTi. This is available at the NDTi website on the following link:</p>

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		<p>http://www.ndti.org.uk/publications/ndti-insights/ndti-insights.aspx</p> <p>Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/181tvm</p> <p>A copy of the full Guide is also available on the NDTi website at the above link.</p> <p>http://www.ndti.org.uk/cms/site/docs/Guide%20for%20Commissioners%20of%20Services%20for%20People%20who%20Challenge%20Services%20Final%20Report.pdf</p>
10/25/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence and SCIE have published new guidance on how to better support children in care - 'Promoting the quality of life of looked-after children and young people'</p> <p>Downloadable at the following location: http://www.familylaw.co.uk/articles/NICE20102010?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2</p> <p>Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/1bsk21</p> <p>The London Network of Parents with Learning Difficulties has launched its new website. It has a downloadable Parenting Toolkit for Partnership Boards to measure how good they are at supporting parents. Made for London Partnership Boards, it can help service providers across the country to review services for parents with learning difficulties and learn from parents themselves how to make them better.</p> <p>www.londonparents.net</p>
10/25/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>In response to the [UK] government's comprehensive spending review, Mencap has launched a new website. The website will enable debate about how planned cuts will affect people with a learning disability and their families.</p> <p>Follow the discussion about spending cuts on our new website which features a video with a personal story www.mencap.org.uk/talklearningdisability</p> <p>Also see: Learning Disability Coalition http://www.learningdisabilitycoalition.org.uk/</p>
10/25/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>The Policy Press has just published a new book: ' People with intellectual disabilities: Towards a good life? ', by Kelley Johnson and Jan Walmsley, with Marie Wolfe. (Sept., 2010)</p> <p>What does it mean to have a good life? Why has it proved so difficult for people with intellectual disabilities to live one? This important book explores these questions, provides an analysis of related policies and underpinning ideologies and looks to how a good life may be made more attainable. For more information please see:</p> <p>http://snipurl.com/1c2n7n http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781847420688</p>
10/26/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>Supporting parents with learning disabilities and difficulties http://www.bristol.ac.uk/wtwpn/information-for-pwlds/</p>

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10/26/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	We have been doing inclusive research developing an outcome measure for psychological therapies. CORE-LD (Clinical Outcomes in Routine Evaluation - Learning Disabilities) has just completed its psychometric testing and will be available in early 2011 on University College of London's Centre for Health Service Research in Intellectual Disabilities (CHSRID) web site. CORE-LD is officially part of the CORE-OM family and is copy left which means that it is free for people to use but cannot be changed without permission from CORE Systems Trust. http://www.ucl.ac.uk/clinical-psychology/Research-Groups/CHSRID/measures.php Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/1cf75d We hope this is helpful and of interest to the wider LD population. We will be publishing the results of our research in the New Year. Best wishes Stephanie Davies and Michelle Brooks On behalf of the Collaborative Research Group (CoRG)
10/26/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	Positive Goals for Positive Behavioural Support: Interventions to Improve Quality of Life for People with Learning Disabilities Whose Behaviour Challenges by Peter Fox, Eric Emerson Published - 31/03/2010 Publisher - Pavilion Publishing (Brighton) Ltd ISBN – 9781841962696 http://www.waterstones.com/waterstonesweb/products/peter+fox/eric+emerson/positive+goals+for+positive+behavioural+support/7387633/
10/28/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	The films 'Safeguarding adults. If you don't do something, who will?' are supported by a suite of training tools including discussion guides and a PowerPoint presentation which can be adapted to promote local safeguarding policies. They are all available on our new online safeguarding hub which also includes examples of safeguarding best practice, resources and policies. To watch the films and visit our safeguarding hub go to: www.nmc-uk.org/safeguarding
11/2/10	http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-11670044	Implanted chip 'allows blind people to detect objects' ... The chip allows a patient to detect objects with their eyes, unlike a rival approach that uses an external camera. Details of the work are in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B*... However, it was only when the chip was placed further behind the retina, in the central macular area in three people, that they achieved the best results... The best results were achieved with Mr Terho, who was able to recognise cutlery and a mug on a table, a clock face and discern seven different shades of grey. He was also able to move around a room independently and approach people.

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		<p>In further tests he read large letters set out before him, including his name, which had been deliberately misspelled... "Even having a limited ability to see with the chip, it will be good for orientation, either walking somewhere or being able to see that something is before you even if you don't see all the tiny details of the object." The chip works by converting light that enters the eye into electrical impulses which are fed into the optic nerve behind the eye. It is externally powered and in the initial study was connected to a cable which protruded from the skin behind the ear to connect with a battery. The team are now testing an upgrade in which the device is all contained beneath the skin, with power delivered though the skin via an external device that clips behind the ear...</p> <p>* http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/</p>
11/5/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>Working Together with Parents Network (WTPN) which exists to support any professional or volunteer working with parents with learning disabilities or learning difficulties or the children of parents who have learning disabilities/difficulties. WTPN is a free internet based network supported by the Baring Foundation and based at the University of Bristol. The site contains a wealth of relevant information and links to vital policy, including the 'Good practice guidance on working with parents with learning disabilities' (DfES/DoH 2007) as well as useful resources such as the recently published Stories of positive practice around supporting parents with learning disabilities and learning difficulties. There are also discussion forum on which you could safely discuss the often difficult issues you face.</p> <p>Our website address is: www.right-support.org.uk or www.bristol.ac.uk/wtwpn/</p>
11/5/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>SCIE is launching a report on risk enablement and safety in self directed support and personal budgets at the NCAS conference today and Sarah Carr who is NDTi Board Member is the author. Please have a look at the following link for further information: http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/reports/report36/index.asp Alternatively try: http://tinyurl.com/28tpm8n</p>
11/9/10	<p>LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk</p>	<p>Many people with long-term neurological conditions (LTNCs) require support from a range of services, but these services do not always work in a joined-up way. The National Service Framework (NSF) for Long-term Neurological Conditions recognised the need for an integrated approach to service delivery. Our study explored what helps or hinders service integration. From this we identified three types of service that promote continuity of care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Community, interdisciplinary, neurological rehabilitation teams . nurse specialists

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		<p>. proactive, holistic day opportunities services. We then conducted a survey of all English Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) to assess the initial impact of the National Service Framework on integrated service provision. Our findings show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . access to these important services is frequently compromised by restrictive eligibility criteria, ill-defined pathways and a lack of availability locally . neurological charities and other voluntary sector organisations play a key role in improving access and promoting continuity of care . implementation of the NSF for LTNCs has been hindered by competing policy, organisational and financial priorities. <p>The summary and the full report are available from: http://php.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/pubs/1789/ http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/august.pdf http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/LTNC.pdf Rachel Pitman Information Officer Social Policy Research Unit University of York www.york.ac.uk/spru (01904) 321981 The Social Policy Research Unit has an international reputation for excellence in research in key areas of social policy, especially disability, social work, health and social care, children and young people, poverty, welfare and employment. Read about our research and download publications from: www.york.ac.uk/spru</p>
11/12/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	<p>the final report of the Commission on 2020 Public Services: 'From social security to social productivity: a vision for 2020 Public Services' was launched yesterday. http://clients.squareeye.com/uploads/2020/documents/PST_final_rep.pdf Alternatively try: http://snipurl.com/1frgf</p>
11/16/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	<p>Issue of using outcomes measures to evaluate our work From Duncan Blackman This topic has arisen before. I'm attaching a literature review, Accountability or Outcome Measures for Non-Government Community Services, which I compiled a few months before retirement. This might be of use. Readers can feel free to contact me directly for copies of the articles which I downloaded if they can't locate their own from the web-links that are provided.</p> <p>Literature review http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/lit.doc</p>
11/18/10	LDHealthNetwork UK Health and Learning Disability Network is hosted by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk	<p>Developing better commissioning for individuals with behaviour that challenges services - a scoping exercise http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/bet.pdf Developing better commissioning for individuals with behaviour that challenges services - a scoping exercise - summary http://www.ldhealthnetwork.org.uk/docs/beter.pdf</p>

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USA

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
5/3/10	http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2010/05/03/GI-problems-common-in-children-with-autism/UPI-75391272942999/ http://www.pediatricsupersite.com/view.aspx?rid=63809	<p>Gastrointestinal symptoms occur in almost 50 percent of children with autism spectrum disorders, U.S. researchers found.</p> <p>The study, conducted by Autism Speaks' Autism Treatment Network*, also found GI symptoms such as abdominal pain, constipation and diarrhea increased as children get older.</p> <p>Dr. Daniel Coury, medical director of the ATN and of Ohio State University, and colleagues examined data from 1,185 children and found 45 percent had GI symptoms at the time of enrollment. Previous research resulted in conflicting results, Coury said.</p> <p>Thirty-nine percent of children under the age of 5 reported symptoms, while 51 percent of children age 7 and older reported GI symptoms.</p> <p>"These findings suggest that better evaluation of GI symptoms and subsequent treatment may have benefits for these patients," Coury said in a statement...</p> <p>The findings were presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies** annual meeting annual meeting in Vancouver.</p> <p>*</p> <p>http://www.autismspeaks.org/science/programs/atn/atn_physicians_researchers.php</p> <p>** http://www.pas-meeting.org/2010Vancouver/</p>
5/5/10	Disabled Peoples International's (DPI's) E-news http://v1.dpi.org/	<p>Introducing RTC Media Website</p> <p>RTC Media produces award-winning broadcast documentaries, educational and training programs, Public Service Announcements and profiles in support of community inclusion.</p> <p>Please take a moment to visit the site and explore some of great work being done by self-advocates, direct support professionals, parents, artists, activists, teachers, and many others. Go to http://rtc.umn.edu/rtcmedia/</p>
5/5/10	http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2010/05/05/Sleep-behavior-problems-linked-in-autism/UPI-94351273034348/	<p>U.S. researchers linked sleep problems in children with autism spectrum disorders and behavioral problems.</p> <p>Study authors Suzanne Goldman and Dr. Beth Malow of Vanderbilt University in Nashville and Dr. Daniel Coury of Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, say there was a statistically significant association between sleep difficulties and daytime behaviors.</p> <p>They found children who got less sleep had more emotional problems and children who had sleep problems such as nightmares, night terrors and sleepwalking had more behavior problems overall...</p> <p>Goldman, Malow, Coury and colleagues analyzed Children's Sleep Habits Questionnaires completed by 1,056 parents of children with a clinical diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders -- 564 of children ages 2-5 and 492 of ages 6-18. Daytime behaviors were obtained using the Child Behavior Checklist -- another validated, parentally completed questionnaire.</p>

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		The findings were presented at the annual meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies in Vancouver.
5/10/10	http://blog.govdelivery.com/usodep/2010/05/following-a-roadmap-for-success-the-prevention-of-mental-emotional-and-behavior-disorders-among-youn.html	<p>Disability Blog - http://blog.govdelivery.com/usodep/ Following a Roadmap for Success: The Prevention of Mental, Emotional and Behavior Disorders Among Young People By Guest Blogger A. Kathryn Power, M.Ed, Director, Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) ... Preventing Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders among Young People: Progress and Possibilities is a report that was recently released by the National Research Council and Institute of Medicine and commissioned by the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). It updates the groundbreaking 1994 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, Reducing Risks for Mental Disorders, which provided the basis for understanding the science of prevention, examined early research in the field and proposed areas for further study... It argues that we must target our interventions to strengthen individuals by building resilience. Resilient individuals, those who have good self-esteem, communication and problem-solving skills and respect and appreciation for others, can withstand the inevitable slings and arrows of our complex world. We must strengthen families, because strong, healthy families grow strong, healthy individuals. The long-standing view of families as broken, needing to be fixed, is giving way to a new strengths-based model. We must strengthen communities because, as the report points out, "communities have a role to play in supporting preventive interventions and in developing responses that address community needs and build on community needs." Strengthening individuals in community is the essence of a public health approach to health care... For more information, visit http://www.bocypf.org/prevention_parent_brochure.pdf A. Kathryn Power, M.Ed. is Director of the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an operating division of the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Director Power leads a staff of 126 professionals in facilitating the transformation of our nation's mental health care system into one that is recovery-oriented and consumer-centered. http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/cmhs/kpower.asp Following a Roadmap for Success: The Prevention of Mental, Emotional and Behavior Disorders Among Young People http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12480#description (can be read online at this site)</p>
5/13/10	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>Impact: Feature Issue on Aging and People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3122</p>

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		<p>Summary: What can be done today to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are aging? That's the focus of this issue of Impact, which contains articles that give a variety of responses to this question. From self-advocates and their families you hear of the importance of having opportunities to be active participants in their communities. Researchers and practitioners speak to policy and service issues that address the physical, social, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.</p> <p>Published by the Institute on Community Integration (UCEDD)* and the Research and Training Center on Community Living**, College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota • Volume 23 • Number 1 • Winter 2010</p> <p>http://ici.umn.edu/products/impact/231/ http://ici.umn.edu/products/impact/231/231.pdf</p> <p>* http://ici.umn.edu/ ** http://rtc.umn.edu/</p>
5/17/10	<p>The eCast, Mental Health & Rehabilitation Newsletter May 2010 The monthly email newsletter from the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University</p>	<p>Community Integration: Supporting People in Getting What They Want</p> <p>A new 6 module online course provides an overview of community integration that is based on self-determination values, disability theory, research evidence, and successful practices. Prepared by faculty of the Penn Collaborative on Community Integration of Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities, this course option is approved for 6 continuing education credits by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and by USPRA for Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioners. For information and to register, go to www.cmhsrp.uic.edu/nrtc/upenn.course.asp to register.</p>
5/19/10	<p>http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/722045</p>	<p>A special theme issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association solely dedicated to mental health highlights the need to shift the focus from the problem of mental illness to mental health solutions.</p> <p>The highlights of the May 19 issue include 6 major studies, 4 commentaries, a cover story describing the circumstances surrounding Vincent Van Gogh's hospitalizations, and a personal essay by Clinton B. McCracken, an addiction researcher who discusses his own struggle with drug abuse.</p> <p>http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/vol303/issue19/index.dtl</p>
5/23/10	<p>Disability.gov Weekly Digest Bulletin</p>	<p>An online resource on transition services for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families in Pennsylvania. As a wiki, this handbook allows viewers to add relevant and timely content to this site to ensure that individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families have access to the most current and comprehensive information on transition services in Pennsylvania.</p> <p>http://www.disability.gov/state/pennsylvania/education http://www.autismhandbook.org/index.php/Main_Page</p>
5/27/10	<p>e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips</p>	<p>Compendium of Community Aging Initiatives http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3136</p> <p>Summary: Find a comprehensive listing of initiatives across the</p>

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		<p>country to help communities become more aging-friendly. Included in the Compendium are brief summaries of 121 community aging efforts, contacts for each, and listings organized by national affiliation and state.</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/files/184/9195/CompendiumCommunityAgingServices2010.pdf</p> <p>http://128.255.56.99/web/centeronaging/WhatWeDo/Compendium_of_Community_Aging_Services2010.pdf</p> <p>http://128.255.56.99/web/centeronaging/index.shtml</p>
5/27/10	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>Direct Care Worker Retention – Strategies for Success</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3206</p> <p>Summary: More than two dozen proven examples of direct-care worker retention strategies are outlined in this report. The report includes key research findings in the literature that show which factors lead to an increase in retention, as well as key successful strategies and programs, including many tools, resources and contacts.</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/files/188/9375/DirectCareWorkersReport.pdf</p>
5/27/10	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>Increasing Person-Centered Thinking: Improving the Quality of Person-Centered Planning</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3218</p> <p>Summary: Are you looking for ways to improve the quality of person-centered plans? This manual was developed to help improve the facilitation process around PCP. Most of the information uses the foundation of Personal Futures Planning, and the training provides an overview of the fundamental concepts and principles underlying this approach to planning. The manual is intended to be used as a resource in training programs.</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/files/189/9415/pcpmanual.pdf</p>
5/27/10	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>IRIS: Include, Respect, I Self-Direct – Wisconsin</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3141</p> <p>Summary: Check out a long term care option that allows individuals more choice, control, and freedom in designing their support and service plans to meet functional, vocational, medical and social needs. Consumers manage their goods and services, and may use the program to remain in their community and avoid moving into a nursing home or an institution. Explore IRIS's website and brochure.</p> <p>http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/bdds/IRIS/general.htm</p> <p>http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/P2/p23205.pdf</p>
5/27/10	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	<p>Staying Employed: Early Intervention for Adults with Potentially Disabling Conditions</p> <p>http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3209</p> <p>Summary: Did you miss the disability forum which provided an overview of the Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment? You can access a live recording of presentations where the rationale for DMIE, a review of its core goals, and descriptions of four states' implementations of the program were presented. Findings and implications for disability policy are</p>

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		discussed as well. http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/disability/dmie.asp http://www.disabilitypolicyresearch.org/Forums/
5/27/10	e-clips@hcbs.org Clearinghouse clips	The Classic Measure of Disability in Activities of Daily Living Is Biased ... http://www.hcbs.org/moreInfo.php/nb/doc/3142 Summary: Policy makers desire a uniform assessment tool that works well for adults of all ages, but disability assessment can only be as uniform as the underlying measurement is. If ADL or IADL/ADL measures are biased by age, their use with adults of different ages could be misleading. Findings of this study indicate that as demand for community services increases among adults of all ages, an expanded IADL/ADL measure is more useful than ADL. http://pascenter.org/publications/publication_home.php?id=1000
5/27/10	Disability.gov Weekly Digest Bulletin	Disability.gov Research & Statistics Update: Disability Research Design Issues & Strategies: A Conversation with Researchers Information from a recent webcast hosted by National Center for the Dissemination of Disability Research (NCDDR) for National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) grantees and others interested in disability and rehabilitation research study methodology and design. Presentations from the webcast are available to download. This information has recently been updated, and can be read by visiting this link: http://www.disability.gov/education/research/%26_statistics http://www.ncddr.org/webcasts/webcast26.html

Other International

<i>Date</i>	<i>Link (location)</i>	<i>Summary (Excerpts)</i>
4/28/10	http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/04/100427182609.htm	New evidence presented at the European Congress of Endocrinology has shown that vitamin D deficiency is closely associated with the chronic fatigue that often follows post traumatic brain injury (TBI)... Around two-thirds of post TBI patients go on to suffer chronic fatigue. Now a group of researchers in the Netherlands have linked vitamin D deficiency to chronic fatigue in post-TBI sufferers. The group, led by Dr Jessica Schnieders from Rijnstate Hospital in Arnhem, The Netherlands, looked at vitamin D and hormone levels in 90 fatigued and non-fatigued subjects. They also systematically evaluated pituitary hormones and factors such as sleep, attention, emotional well-being, quality of life, coping style, and daily activity. They found that 51% of TBI patients were severely fatigued 10 years after the trauma. Vitamin D deficiency was present in 65% of post TBI patients and significantly related with fatigue (P<0.05), with patients who suffered from fatigue more likely to be vitamin D deficient. The

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		<p>group also found a higher incidence of growth hormone and sex hormone deficiency in the fatigued group, but they found no evidence that these deficiencies contributed to the fatigue... European Society of Endocrinology http://www.euro-endo.org/</p>
5/5/10	<p>Disabled Peoples International's (DPI's) E-news http://v1.dpi.org/</p>	<p>Facts Sheets on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) The European Network on Independent Living, with whom DPI Europe has a very close relationship, has released a number of fact-sheets on different Articles within the CRPD. They can be found by following links at http://www.enil.eu/enil/index.php?option=com_mamblog&Itemid=113&task=show&action=view&id=450&Itemid=113</p>
5/21/10	<p>Disabled Peoples International's (DPI's) E-news http://v1.dpi.org/</p>	<p>The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has recently published on its website on disability a document titled "Monitoring the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Guidance for Human Rights Monitors". To read document in English, go to http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Disabilities_training_17EN.pdf</p>
5/21/10	<p>Disabled Peoples International's (DPI's) E-news http://v1.dpi.org/</p>	<p>Allfie (Alliance for Inclusive Education), based in the UK, has developed a Manifesto on Inclusive Education which is available to stimulate discussion and debate. To read in full in English, go to http://www.allfie.org.uk/docs/ALLFIE%20Manifesto.pdf</p>
>>>>	http://www.gladnet.org/	<p>Relevant news from the Global Applied Disability Research and Information Network (GLADNET) listserv:</p>
6/7/10		<p>WWDA's recently released a Policy Paper entitled 'Women With Disabilities & The Human Right to Health: A Policy Paper'. Members of Women With Disabilities Australia (WWDA), have identified the right to the highest attainable standard of health as a priority issue of concern. In keeping with WWDA's systemic advocacy work to create greater awareness among governments and other relevant institutions of their obligations to fulfil, respect, protect and promote the human rights of women with disabilities, WWDA's Policy Paper examines what is meant by women with disabilities right to health. It places this fundamental human right in the context of Australia's obligations under three of the key human rights conventions it has ratified: the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Paper highlights the ways in which women and girls with disabilities in Australia are denied the freedoms and entitlements necessary for the realisation of their right to health. It then provides an overview of a range of key policy initiatives required to address the structural, socioeconomic and cultural barriers that currently deny women with disabilities their right to health. The</p>

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		<p>paper includes key strategies for consideration by the Australian Government. Recognising that the right to health is dependent on the realisation of other human rights, and extends to the underlying determinants of health, the key strategies identified in WWDA's paper address a broad range of themes, that cut across several government portfolios.</p> <p>WWDA's Policy Paper is attached in PDF format, however a Word version is also available and can be emailed to you, or can be downloaded from the WWDA website at: http://www.wwda.org.au/health2006.htm http://www.wwda.org.au/WWDAPolicyPaper2010.pdf http://www.wwda.org.au/WWDAPolicyPaper2010.doc</p>
6/11/10		<p>ILO Conference report - People with Intellectual Disabilities - Opening Pathways to Training and Employment in the African Region</p> <p>An estimated 10 to 15 million people in Africa have some form of Intellectual disability and the majority live in poverty and isolation. The ILO-Irish Aid Partnership Programme held a conference in Lusaka on 9-11 March 2010 to focus new attention on the issue and discuss ways of promoting training and employment opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities.</p> <p>To view the conference report containing the presentations made, an overview of the discussions and a summary of recommendations for action, please visit: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/---ifp_skills/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_141572.pdf</p>
9/4/10		<p>World Bank - OPEN DATA INITIATIVE http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog</p> <p>The World Bank's Open Data initiative is intended to provide all users with access to World Bank data. The data catalog is a listing of available World Bank data sources. This listing will continue to be updated as additional data resources are added. These resources include databases, pre-formatted tables and reports. Each of the listings includes a description of the data source and a direct link to that source. Where possible, the databases are linked directly to a selection screen to allow users to select the countries, indicators, and years they would like to search. Those search results can be exported in different formats. Users can also choose to download the entire database directly from the catalog.</p> <p>SEE-- COUNTRIES http://data.worldbank.org/country TOPICS http://data.worldbank.org/topic INDICATORS http://data.worldbank.org/indicator DATA CATALOG http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog</p>

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10/18/10		<p>Now available on ILOTV, hosted on YouTube: Opening pathways to training and employment for people with intellectual disabilities in Africa http://www.youtube.com/iloty People with intellectual disabilities represent nearly two per cent of the world's population, or some 130 million people. Because of stigma and discrimination, a majority are excluded from education, training and employment. In this film, representatives of governments, employers, trade unions and disability advocates from East African countries, Australia and the United Kingdom examine what is possible for persons with intellectual disabilities, and persons with intellectual disabilities have an opportunity to describe what work means to them.</p>
10/24/10		<p>Disability Cash Transfers in the Context of Poverty and Unemployment: The Case of South Africa by SOPHIE MITRA World Development Vol. 38, No. 12, pp. 1692–1709, 2010 Summary.— South Africa’s Disability Grant (DG) program has been criticized for its poor administration and the dependency culture it promotes. This paper assesses the program’s targeting effectiveness and its effects on labor supply. Using disability self-reports and standard measures of economic well being, the results suggest that DG’s inclusion errors are relatively limited but exclusion errors are substantial and serious. The paper also shows that increased leniency in disability screening policy in the Gauteng province in the early 2000s does not appear to have altered labor market behaviors relative to Northern Cape, a province where there was no change in policy. The working paper is available at: http://ideas.repec.org/p/frd/wpaper/dp2009-08.html Sophie Mitra Assistant Professor Department of Economics Fordham University 441 East Fordham Road Bronx, NY 10458-9993 ph: 718-817-5337 fax: 718-817-3518 www.fordham.edu/economics/mitra</p>
10/27/10		<p>WHO releases guidelines on community-based rehabilitation for people with disabilities New document offers practical ways to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities and their families 27 October 2010, Geneva/Abuja. Launched today in Abuja, Nigeria, the Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) guidelines provide practical suggestions to programme managers on how to develop or strengthen community-based programmes that are inclusive of people with disabilities and their families. Many people with disabilities have limited or no access to health</p>

**Environmental Scan¹ – Relevant News on Disability Issues
(May, 2010 + Misc.) (Note: Contains excerpts of copyrighted material.)**

		<p>care and rehabilitation, education, skills training, and employment opportunities. This contributes to a vicious cycle of poverty and disability.</p> <p>Community-based rehabilitation is a strategy for the equalization of opportunities and social integration of all children and adults with disabilities. It is implemented through the combined efforts of disabled people, their families and communities, and representatives of the appropriate health, education, vocational and social sectors.</p> <p>"The Community-based rehabilitation guidelines provide an important additional tool to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and strengthen community-based development involving people with disabilities," said Dr Etienne Krug, Director of the WHO Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability Department.</p> <p>Development and implementation of the guidelines WHO, ILO, UNESCO and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC), notably CBM, Handicap International, the Italian Association Amici di Raoul Follereau, Light for the World, the Norwegian Association of Disabled and Sightsavers – have worked closely together to develop the guidelines. In addition, more than 180 individuals and nearly 300 organizations, the majority from low-income and middle-income countries, have been involved.</p> <p>The guidelines are based on a new CBR matrix which includes five components - health, education, livelihood, social and empowerment - each with their corresponding elements. CBR programme implementers can select, based on local needs and priorities, which components and elements to implement. The guidelines strongly encourage the inclusion and participation of people with disabilities and their families in all decision-making processes.</p> <p>WHO will provide technical support to member states to facilitate the implementation of the guidelines and ensure they reach a wide audience. In addition WHO will support the development of a training package, facilitation of "train-the-trainer" programmes, strengthening of regional CBR networks, and the development of a global CBR network.</p> <p>To access the Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) guidelines visit: http://www.who.int/disabilities/cbr/guidelines/en/index.html</p> <p>For more information, please contact Mr Chapal Khasnabis at WHO (khasnabisc@who.int)</p>
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