Public Health Scotland

PHS Knowledge Services Gambling Harms Bulletin – September 2026

New evidence and outputs from key organisations relating to gambling harms

This bulletin is produced every month by PHS Knowledge Services.



Translations and other formats are available on request at:

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About this bulletin

This current awareness bulletin contains a selection of material gathered from a search of the evidence base. It is not intended to be comprehensive and has not been critically appraised. Collated by a qualified information professional, the content is selected by informed prioritisation of the search results based upon agreed criteria.

The bulletin is not a substitute for clinical or professional judgement and the information contained within does not supersede national and local NHS policies and protocols.

Journal articles were sourced from MEDLINE, Embase and APA PsycInfo, all on the Ovid platform. Grey literature was sourced from a range of relevant websites. For details of resources used and associated search strategies, please contact us using the details below.

Contact

If you need assistance in obtaining the full text of any of the articles, or have any other queries, please contact **phs.knowledge@phs.scot**.

Recent journal articles

Highlights

Hastings MR, Forman DP, Kim HS, Pfund RA. **A systematic review and meta-analysis of the relative and complementary effects of motivational interviewing and cognitive-behavioral treatment for problem gambling and gambling disorder**. Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026.

Gambling technology

Forrest R, Doan N, MacDonald-Spracklin R, Pugliese M, Turner NE, Myran DT. **Emergency Department Visits for Gambling Disorders After the Legalization of**

Single-Event Sports Betting and Rapid Expansion of Online Gambling. American Journal of Preventive Medicine. 2026;108551.

Marketing and promotion

No relevant articles

Neuroscience

Yılmazer E, Çınaroğlu M, Ülker SV, Tarlacı S. **Reciprocal brain-behavior associations in gambling disorder revealed by theta cordance and directional predictive modeling**. Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience. 2026;201707261.

Zhong G, Liu J, Gao X, Xue Q, Xue C, Zhang X, et al. **Blunted neurophysiological responses to loss feedback characterize the emotionally vulnerable type of clinical samples with gambling disorder**. Psychological Medicine. 2026;56e294.

Prevention and intervention

Håkansson A. **Gambling and screening for gambling problems in high school students before and after legal gambling age: associations with gender and gambling-related attitudes**. Frontiers in public health. 2026;141805134.

Hardoy CR. **Gambling disorder and suicide risk: A critical gap in psychiatric assessment guidelines**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026;42(3)1315–20.

Mallon S, Runacres J, McCormack F, Riley V, Motta-Yanac E. **Shame, Stigma and Indebtedness in Gambling-Related Harm: A Rapid Review of Help-Seeking and Suicidality**. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2026;23(9)1141.

Mestre-Bach G, Badiella B, Esteve GD, Normand E, Mejías D, Fernández-Aranda F, et al. **Tobacco use and gambling disorder: Associations with clinical characteristics, and treatment outcome**. Acta Psychologica. 2026;269107514.

Tatar O, Sharker S, Huỳnh C, Fleury M-J. **Predictors of Hospitalization Among Patients with Gambling Disorder: a Retrospective Matched Case–Control Study**. International journal of mental health and addiction. 2026.

Psychology and mental health

Tungwa B, Jimu C, Radzikai M, Jaricha H, Khombo S, Mlambo PM. **Understanding sports betting among young people: psychosocial and structural influences**. Journal of prevention (2022). 2026.

Weng X, Deng Y, Xia Y, Wang J, Chan SS-C, Zhao SZ. **Exploring Gambling-like Behaviors in Children's Cigarette Card Games and Parental Pro-game Perceptions in China: A Qualitative Study**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026;42(3)979–92.

Miscellaneous

Lloret-Irles D, Isorna Folgar M, Cabrera-Perona V, Villanueva-Blasco VJ. **Sports context and adolescent gambling: football participation as a risk environment**. International Gambling Studies. 2026;1–22.

Pradani WH, Mually MA, Guspa A, Pratama RI, Alkhawwash MA. **Does Religiosity Moderate the Relationship Between Self-Control and Online Gambling? Evidence from Indonesia**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026;42(3)1223–36.

Saldaña-Ruiz C, Gómez-Sánchez L, Vicente-Prieto A, Vicente-Gabriel S, Lugones-Sánchez C, González-Sánchez S, et al. **Mediterranean Diet Adherence and Screening Indicators of Gambling-Related Problems in a Sample of Young Adults: An Exploratory Cross-Sectional Analysis of the EVA-Adic Study**. Nutrients. 2026;18(17).

Tapalova O, Suyundykova N, Zhiyenbayeva N, Buribayev Y, Tapalov S. **Psychometric Evaluation of the Bilingual Russian-Kazakh Problem Gambling Severity Index: Item-Level Response Patterns and Behavioral Factors**

Associated with Gambling-Related Harm. Behavioral sciences (Basel, Switzerland). 2026;16(9).

Recent reports and news (grey literature)

Gambling Commission. **Exploring consumer views on informed choice in gambling** [Internet]. 2026 [cited 2026 Oct 5].