Public Health Scotland

# PHS Knowledge Services Gambling Harms Bulletin – October 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

Johanis M, Pate R. **S18. the surge of online gambling and gambling disorder in older adults: a systematic review of psychiatric care, ethical considerations, and policy implications.** The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry. 2026;34(10)S109–11.

van Nierop B, Wijsbroek S, Kleinjan M, Maes M, Cup V, Peeters M. **The association between video gaming and adolescent identity: A systematic review**. Adolescent research review. 2026.

## Gambling technology

Garrett SL. **Identifying the Socio-Emotional and Mental Health Correlates of Online Sports Betting Among Late Adolescent Boys**. Journal of adolescence. 2026;98(7)2316–29.

Suomi A, Noble-Carr D, Culbong H, Stevens T. **From the love of the game: a qualitative study exploring mechanisms to online gambling participation in young people**. International Gambling Studies. 2026;1–21.

Westermeyer B, Eisenberg MD, Meiselbach MK. **Online sports betting legalization and behavioral health care use**. JAMA psychiatry. 2026.

Wohl MJA, Ortis AC, Davis CG, Tabri N. **Nudging the uptake of responsible gambling tools among land-based casino players: A randomized controlled trial assessing the utility of incentivization**. Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026.

## Marketing and promotion

Xiao LY, Petrovskaya E, Khoo N, Denoo M, Roberts A. **Widespread suspected illegal advertising of paid loot boxes and social casino games in Belgium: Empowered by the EU digital services act to assess compliance using Meta's ad repository**. European addiction research. 2026;1.

## Neuroscience

No relevant articles.

## Prevention and intervention

No relevant articles.

### Psychology and mental health

Arpaci R, Kabakoğlu H, Tanriverdi D. **The impact of problematic online gambling on university students' lives: exploring links with impulsivity, emotion regulation, and psychological distress**. Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services. 2026;1–9.

### Miscellaneous

Helvich J, Migalova E, Tavel P. **Network examination of online gambling disorder, psychological distress, and daily functioning: Comparative role of maladaptive personality traits**. Technology, Mind, and Behavior. 2026.

King-Parker M, Sharman S. **Investigating outcome types and betting strategies in roulette: A simulation study**. European addiction research. 2026;1.

Murray M, Pitt H, McCarthy S, Arnot G, Constandt B, De Jans S, et al. **A narrative review of qualitative studies exploring the normalization of gambling for youth and younger adults**. Health promotion international. 2026;41(5.

Park JJ, Potenza MN. **Gambling and gaming disorders, problematic pornography use, and other addictive behaviors (use of social media and artificial intelligence chatbots) in youth**. Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America. 2026;35(4)797–811.

Syvertsen A, Ebrahimi OV, Sagoe D, Kristensen JH, Pallesen S. **Undirected and directed networks of problem gambling: Follow the money trail. European Psychiatry**. 2026;69(1)e100.

## Recent reports and news (grey literature)

Public Health Wales. **Areas of research interest in gambling related harms and public health** [Internet]. 2026 [cited 2026 Nov 2].

Sharp-Jeffs N. **'The Penny Dropping'. Gambling Harm and Economic Abuse Project. Final evaluation report** [Internet]. 2026 [cited 2026 Nov 2].

The Gambling Commission. **Gambling behaviour and harm among people from different ethnic groups** [Internet]. 2026 [cited 2026 Nov 2].

The Gambling Commission. **Illegal online gambling - Phase 3: Understanding push factors for consumer engagement with illegal gambling websites** [Internet]. 2026 [cited 2026 Nov 2].