

PHS Knowledge Services Gambling Harms Bulletin – March 2026

**New evidence and outputs from key organisations
relating to gambling harms**



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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 Idox Knowledge Exchange, Policy Commons and 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

Abate R, Tartaglione M, Splaice D, Tafà M, Rogier G, Velotti P. **Gambling disorder in the context of couple relationships: a systematic review**. BMC Psychology. 2026

Floyd CG, Connolly AJ, Kraus SW, Grubbs JB, Mick-Keck TO. **Motivations for gambling and problem gambling: A systematic review and methodological critique**. Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026

Ioniță I, Mușat MI, Cătălin B, Ciobanu AM. **Assessment of cognitive emotion regulation in gambling disorder: A systematic review of the literature.** Clinics and practice. 2026;16(3)

Monreal-Bartolomé A, Cabrera-Gil I, Royuela-Colomer E, Mateo-Canedo C, Beltrán-Ruiz M, Pérez-Aranda A, et al. **Gambling in women: A systematic review of interventions and prevention approaches.** Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2026

Pappa E, Vierou AM, Krania E, Dais D. **Gambling addiction and the impact on significant others: A systematic review.** The American Journal of Family Therapy. 2026;54(2)222–33

Gambling technology

Cherkasova MV, Assi AZ, Craw M, Riffey LS, Ferrari MA, Clark L. **Effects of sensory feedback on simulated online slot machine gambling.** Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026

Granero R, Fernández-Aranda F, Demetrovics Z, Jiménez-Murcia S. **Problematic Online Gaming and Gambling Among First-Year University Students: Identification of Profiles and Psychological Vulnerabilities.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026

Mangat HS, Király O, Urbán R, Yu SM, Griffiths MD, Paksi B, et al. **Esports bettors versus traditional sports bettors: Differences in demographics, impulsivity, psychopathological symptoms, and gaming and gambling behavior.** Comprehensive Psychiatry. 2026;146152667.

Rego MCS, de Souza VHM, Martins LF, Sanvicente-Vieira B. **Translation and Adaptation of the Online Gambling Disorder Questionnaire (OGD-Q) into Brazilian Portuguese.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026

Marketing and promotion

Kovařík F, Fiedor D, Sharman S. **This is “offside”: Gambling advertising during Czech football broadcasts.** Journal of behavioral addictions. 2026

McCarthy S, Pitt H, Arnot G, Thomas SL. **“They make it seem harmless”: a qualitative investigation into women’s perceptions about novel gambling promotions and public relations strategies.** BMC Public Health. 2026;26(1)

Rockloff M, Browne M, Hing N, Russell AMT, Rawat V, Newall P. **Direct gambling marketing, direct harm: A randomised experiment.** Addiction. 2026

Neuroscience

No new articles

Prevention and intervention

Biggar B, Bunn C, Reith G, Wardle H, Donnachie C, Deidda M, et al. **An uneven playing field: a mixed methods, multiphase feasibility study of a programme to reduce gambling among at-risk men in a professional football club setting.** BMC Public Health. 2026

Brazeau BW, Cunningham JA, Hodgins DC. **Help on Demand, a Self-Directed Mobile App Intervention for Gambling Problems: Development and Usability Study.** JMIR Formative Research. 2026;10e83430

Davies NH, John B, Drummond LC, Torrance J, Sabolova K, Roderique-Davies G. **Development and validation of the IDENT-Pro: a brief tool for the early identification of gambling risk factors indicative of harm.** Journal of public health. 2026;34(3)535–44

Flyger J, Niclasen B, Søgaard Nielsen A, Mejlidal A. **Socioeconomic outcomes following outpatient treatment for alcohol, cannabis, and gambling disorder in Greenland: Changes in income, employment, and welfare utilization.** Journal of Substance Use and Addiction Treatment. 2026;186209943

Forrest R, Talarico R, Waqar A, Myran DT. **Help-seeking for gambling problems following expansion of Ontario’s online gambling market and legalization of single-event sports betting**. Canadian Medical Association Journal. 2026;198(8)E281–90

Hawker CO, Dowling NA, Thomas AC, Merkouris SS. **Early Disengagement from Gambling Treatment: Insights from Clients and Practitioners**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026

Kelly JF, Simpson H. **What does the American public want to know about addiction? A national systematic qualitative investigation**. Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026;40(2)127–38

Newall P, Weiss-Cohen L, van Baal ST, Torrance J, Andrade M, Spicer A, et al. **Positive emotional harm prevention (safer) gambling messages: Results of an online experiment**. Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2026

Niven A, Miller M, White J, Noble L, Wardle H, Stoddart A, et al. **Preventing Gambling Related Harm in Adolescents: PROGRAM - A pilot cluster RCT - Synopsis Report**. Public Health Research. 2026;14(4)1–31

Quack A, Beutel ME, Gieseke L. **“Out of sight, out of mind” - results of a focus group study on gamblers’ use and evaluation of player protection measures in Germany**. BMC Public Health. 2026

Psychology and mental health

Al Azizi K, Al Omari O, Abu Sharour L, Damra JK, Al Aamri M, Al Rahbi W, et al. **Prevalence of Gaming Addiction and Its Associations With Stress, Anxiety, Depression and Self-Esteem Among University Students: A Cross-Sectional Study**. Clinical child psychology and psychiatry. 2026;13591045261432262

Arafat D, Schröer N, Juckel G, Chang D-I, Thoma P. **Empathy impairments in patients with gambling disorder**. Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology. 2026;1–15

Brodeur M, Fortier M-È, Carrier N, Audette-Chapdelaine S, Auger A-M, Savard A-C, et al. **Gambling and the COVID-19 pandemic in the province of Quebec (Canada): results from an online cross-sectional survey of people who had gambled within the last 12 months**. *BMJ Open*. 2026;16(3)e097944

Düken ME, Suzan ÖK, Günaydın M. **Problem gambling among working youth in Southeast Türkiye: predictors and psychological consequences**. *BMC Public Health*. 2026

Forrest D, McHale I, Narita K, Orujov A. **Gambling and wellbeing: Uneven gains and deficits across risk levels**. *Social Science & Medicine*. 2026;393119060

Krylova ES, Kuleshov AA, Kaleda VG. **Comparative Clinical and Psychometric Parameters of Pathological Gambling and Internet Addictions in Young Patients with Mental Disorders**. *Neuroscience and Behavioral Physiology*. 2026

Luquiens A, Bourgier C, Fabbro-Peray P. **Gambling disorder as a risk factor for suicidal ideation in medical students**. *Scientific Reports*. 2026

Pilkington ML, Gohari MR, Cole AG, Ferro MA, Elton-Marshall T, Laxer R, et al. **A Prospective Study of Mental Health in Relation to Online Gambling One-year Later in a Large Cohort of Adolescents in Canada**. *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2026;42(1)235–47

Miscellaneous

Aresi G, Arienti C, Marta E, Celata C, Gelmi G, HBSC Lombardy Committee. **Patterns of Gambling and Other Risky Behaviors among Adolescents. A Latent Class Analysis Study on the 2021/22 Health Behaviors in School Children Survey Data**. *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2026

Arminen I, Simonen M, Rydman R. **The lines of argumentation of alcohol, drug and gambling policies in Finland**. *Nordisk alkohol- & narkotikatidskrift : NAT*. 2026;14550725261417462.

Avcu AB, Gündoğdu SN, Sülü M, Kekilli CÇ, Boz G, Baran A, et al. **Patterns and Correlates of Co-occurring Smoking, Alcohol Use, Gambling, and High Internet Use Among University Students: A Cross-Sectional Study in Türkiye.** Journal of Community Health. 2026

Castrén S, Palomäki J, Egerer M, Grönroos T, Hodgins DC, Young MM. **Cultural adaptation of the lower-risk gambling guidelines: Reflections from the Finnish experience.** Journal of behavioral addictions. 2026

Chandrakumar D, Santos T, Gainsbury SM. **Defining and measuring gambling satisfaction as an indicator of gambling problems: Consumer perspectives, predictors, and scale utility.** Acta Psychologica. 2026;265106741

Chen Y-CB, Hsu C-W, Wang L-J, Chen M-H, Yang Y-H, Liang C-S, et al. **All-cause and cause-specific mortality in gambling disorder: Evidence from a nation-wide matched and sibling cohort study in Taiwan.** Addiction. 2026

Dasgupta K, Ghimire K. **Gambling and substance use: early evidence from sports betting laws.** Health Economics. 2026

Dekel D, Ekenna A, Engward H, Godier-McBard LR, Kay C, Kersey T, et al. **Qualitative exploration of gambling harm among UK veterans: normalisation, stigma and postservice escalation.** BMJ Open. 2026;16(3)e109458

Isorna-Folgar M, Albaladejo-Saura M, Villanueva-Blasco VJ, Irlés DL. **Who do tipsters work for? tipster exposure and adolescent gambling.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026

Lind K, Grönroos T, Järvinen-Tassopoulos J, Latvala T, Castrén S. **Problem gambling severity, psychosocial welfare, and intimate partner violence: evidence from a population health survey.** Journal of Interpersonal Violence. 2026;8862605261420232

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Muela I, Aonso-Diego G, Estévez A. **Exploring comorbid addictive symptoms in gambling disorder: the role of emotion regulation, alexithymia, and social support**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026

Newall P, Weiss-Cohen L, Russell AMT, Cassino D. **“Men should watch football games instead of soap operas”:** Masculine role norm endorsement as a population-level construct associated with harmful gambling. Addictive Behaviors. 2026;179108681

Ogba KTU. **Problem Gambling among Southeastern Nigerian Male Sample: Understanding the Indirect Effect of Dispositional Greed on its Association with Emotional Regulation**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026

Radunzel J, Park KH, Endres K. **Polysubstance and single substance use among adults: is gambling a differentiating factor?** Substance Use & Misuse. 2026;1–9

Tapalova O, Uspanov Z, Zhiyenbayeva N, Suyundykova N. **The profile of vulnerable groups in the context of the growth of gambling in Kazakhstan: social and demographic risk factors**. The Journal of General Psychology. 2026;1–24

Torrance J, Wright S, Newall P, Crawford T, Quigley M, Dymond S. **(Mis)Comprehension and (Mistaken) Attractiveness of Financial Gambling Inducements among UK Bettors**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2026

Recent reports and news (grey literature)

Harkins C. **Navigating an addictive and toxic landscape: A rapid review of evidence concerning contemporary influences on problem gambling among young men**. [Internet]. 2026 [cited 2026 Apr 2]