

# **PHS Knowledge Services Gambling Harms Bulletin – March/April 2025**

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



Translations



Easy read



BSL



Audio



Large print



Braille

Translations and other formats are available on request at:

 [p hs.otherformats@p hs.scot](mailto:p hs.otherformats@p hs.scot)

 0131 314 5300

Public Health Scotland is Scotland's national agency for improving and protecting the health and wellbeing of Scotland's people.

© Public Health Scotland

**OGL**

This publication is licensed for re-use under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#).

For more information, visit

[www.publichealthscotland.scot/ogl](http://www.publichealthscotland.scot/ogl)

[www.publichealthscotland.scot](http://www.publichealthscotland.scot)

# Contents

- About this bulletin..... 3
- Contact..... 3
- Recent journal articles..... 3
  - Highlights..... 3
  - Prevention and intervention..... 4
  - Psychology and mental health..... 4
  - Marketing and promotion..... 7
  - Miscellaneous..... 8
- Recent reports and news (grey literature) ..... 12

## 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](mailto:phs.knowledge@phs.scot).

## Recent journal articles

### Highlights

Allami Y, Gooding NB, Young MM, Hodgins DC. **Why You Gamble Matters: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of the Association Between Gambling Motivation and Problem Gambling**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)37–50.

Barone C, Graffigna G. **Financial literacy and economic attitudes as protective factors against pathological gambling? A systematic review**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025.

McGrane E, Pryce R, Field M, Gu S, Moore EC, Goyder E. **What is the impact of sports-related gambling advertising on gambling behaviour? A systematic review.** *Addiction*. 2025;120(4)589–607.

## **Prevention and intervention**

Forsström D, Molander O, Nilsson A, Wall H. **Demographics and help-seeking among significant others contacting the Swedish gambling helpline.** *Nordisk alkohol- & narkotikatidskrift : NAT*. 2025;14550725251320748.

Francis J, Fricke A, Mavranezouli I, Navein A, Ritchie L, Gaskell M, et al. **Identification, assessment, and management of gambling-related harms: summary of NICE guideline.** *BMJ (Clinical Research Ed)*. 2025;388r323.

Keshani IM, Merkouris SS, Guyett A, Rodda SN, Dowling NA. **Clinical consensus statements on change techniques for gambling treatment: A Delphi study with clinicians.** *Journal of behavioral addictions*. 2025;14(1)430–44.

Luquiens A, Benyamina A, Perney P, Carré A. **Computerized cognitive training for problem gambling: A randomized controlled trial (TRAIN-online).** *Journal of behavioral addictions*. 2025;14(1)445–56.

Vana N, Kraus SW, Way BM, Jennings TL, Gavriel-Fried B. **Barriers to gambling treatment among american military personnel: A qualitative study.** *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2025.

## **Psychology and mental health**

Dias SE, Merkouris SS, Rodda SN, Dowling NA. **Gambling motives and problem gambling: Exploring psychological moderators in the pathways model.** *Addictive Behaviors*. 2025;162108235.

Dowling NA, Hawker CO, Merkouris SS, Rodda SN, Hodgins DC. **Addressing gambling harm to affected others: A scoping review (Part I: Prevalence, socio-demographic profiles, gambling profiles, and harm).** *Clinical Psychology Review*. 2025;116102542.

Dowling NA, Hawker CO, Merkouris SS, Rodda SN, Hodgins DC. **Addressing Gambling Harm to affected others: A scoping review (part II: Coping, assessment and treatment)**. *Clinical Psychology Review*. 2025;116102543.

Hagfors H, Kaakinen M, Savolainen I, Vepsäläinen J, Oksanen A. **Lonely gamble - A longitudinal study of loneliness, gambling to escape and problem gambling**. *Journal of behavioral addictions*. 2025.

Horn TL, McPhail A, Valencia AJ, Pfund RA, Whelan JP. **Effects of alcohol consumption on gambling warning message recall and recognition**. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*. 2025;39(2)139–50.

Kidane A, Karlsson A, Håkansson A. **Suicide and attempted suicide in gambling disorder - results from a nationwide case-control study**. *Psychiatry Research*. 2025;348116476.

Kim Y, Lee S, Park S, Lee J. **The relationship between gambling accessibility and behavior among korean adults**. *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2025;41(1)91–103.

Komoto Y. **Role of motivation in the progression of problem gambling: A comparison of early and late adults**. *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2025;41(1)299–313.

Lee A, Flack M, Caudwell KM. **Excite, or Take Flight? Exploring the Relationship between Difficulties with Emotion Regulation, Outcome Expectancies, and Problem Gambling**. *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2025;41(1)233–45.

Leslie RD, Shaw CA, McGrath DS. **Correlates of Gambling Behaviours Among Day Traders: Evidence from a National Study**. *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2025;41(1)51–66.

Lopes BM, Tavares H. **An Empirical Investigation of the Three-Pathway Model and its Contribution to the Gambling Disorder Psychopathology**. *Journal of Gambling Studies*. 2025;41(1)283–97.

Louderback ER, McCulloch SP, LaPlante DA. **Cryptocurrency Trading, Day Trading, and Gambling Behavior: Examining the Moderating Effects of Financially Focused Self-Concept and Gambling Motives.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)67–89

Malkin ML. **Applying General Strain Theory to the Relationship Between Strain from Another Person’s Gambling Behavior and Gambling Disorder.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)315–31.

Martí Valls C, Håkansson A, Cervin M. **Exploring the placement of gambling problems within the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology.** Plos One. 2025;20(3)e0313532.

Miles M, Andersson M, Claesdotter-Knutsson E, Kapetanovic S, Håkansson A. **Gambling Habits and Attitudes among Athlete and Non-Athlete High School Students in Skåne Region, Sweden.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)203–17.

Reynolds CM, Cox G, Lyons S, McAvoy H, O’Connor L, Kavalidou K. **A qualitative analysis of people who died by suicide and had gambling documented in their coronial file.** Addictive Behaviors. 2025;163108267.

Roquer M, Clotas C, Bartroli M. **Online Gambling and At-Risk Gambling Behaviour in a Cross-Sectional Survey Among 13-19 Year-Old Adolescents in Barcelona.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)167–85.

Salama GT, Herman PZ, Millanzi WC. **A Cross-Sectional Survey to Measure Attitude, Self-Reported Practice, Levels, Typology, and Determinants of Lifetime Gambling Behaviors Among Undergraduate Students in Higher Training Institutions, Tanzania.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)145–65.

Savard A-C, Kairouz S, Nadeau-Tremblay J, Brodeur M, Ferland F, French M, et al. **“It would Never have Happened Without the Pandemic”:** Understanding the Lived Experience of Individuals who Increased Their Online Gambling Participation. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)247–65.

Spence K, Dowling NA, Browne M, Rockloff M, Merkouris SS, Dias SE. **“It Was Never-Ending...”: Investigating Gambling Harm Reported by Affected Others.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025

Tulloch C, Browne M, Rockloff M, Hing N, Hilbrecht M. **The roles of coping style and social support in the experience of harm and distress among people affected by another person’s gambling.** Addictive Behaviors. 2025;162108236.

Turner NE, AlMakadma Y, Christensen DR. **The Profiles of People who Do not Engage in Positive Play while Gambling.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025.

Wang B, Gillath O, Gu R, Zhang J, Wu L. **Attachment Security Priming Reduces Risk-Taking and Emotional Responses to Loss.** Psychophysiology. 2025;62(3)e70010.

Weiss-Cohen L, Palmer M, Torrance J, Newall P. **Never tell me the odds: Typical return-to-player information increases gamblers’ perceived chances of winning.** Addictive Behaviors. 2025;168108363.

Wulfert E, Wemm SE, Broussard JD. **Betting on change: An analysis of cognitive motivational behavior therapy versus referral to gamblers anonymous for gambling disorder.** Psychology of Addictive Behaviors. 2025.

## **Marketing and promotion**

Chang F-C, Chuang W-C, Rutherford R, Chen W-Y, Yang C-Y, Chiu C-H, et al. **Associations between Marketing Exposure, In-game Purchases, Problem Gaming, Simulated Gambling, and Psychological Distress among Adolescents.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)187–201.

Griffiths S. **Severing the link between gambling advertising and harm.** BMJ. 2025;r443.

Navas J.F., Perales J.C. **The current state of gambling advertising in Spain and its potential risks.** Adicciones. 2025;37(1):3–6.

Royce B, Crawford G, Francis L, Thomas S, Hallett J. **Exploring perspectives towards the gambling industry and its marketing strategies among young people in Western Australia.** Health promotion journal of Australia : official journal of Australian Association of Health Promotion Professionals. 2025;36(2)e955.

Worters T, McKerchar C, Watkins L, Gage R, Signal L. **Public health and harmful advertising: The nature and extent of children's real-time exposure to unhealthy commodity marketing.** Social Science & Medicine. 2025;375118055.

## **Miscellaneous**

Acton S. **Offer me hope to overcome gambling harm.** BMJ (Clinical Research Ed). 2025;388r331.

Arias Rodríguez S, Escobar F. **Geographical Distribution of Betting Shops and Their Proximity to Schools: (Non-)Compliance with Regulations in the City of Madrid.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)105–17.

Brodeur M, Muñoz Gómez N, Carrier N, Roberge P, Cotton J-C, Monson E, et al. **Problematic gambling among the LGBTQIA2S + population in Canada: A quantitative study.** Addictive Behaviors. 2025;163108257.

Caudwell KM, Casanova AF, Flack M. **How does problem gambling impact the relationship between gambling attitudes and frequency?** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025.

Cavanaugh R. **Sanju George: the rising costs of problem gambling in India.** The Lancet Psychiatry. 2025;12(3):176.

Choi JM, Lee EJ. **Association Among Depressive Symptoms, Physical Symptoms, Serotonin Levels, and Gambling Disorder: A Case-Control Study.** Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services. 2025;1–10.

Cholewick A, Bennett D. **Hazardous gambling behavior is associated with amplified emotional reactivity to gambling outcomes.** Journal of behavioral addictions. 2025;14(1)480–9.

Cowlshaw S, Roberts A, George S, Kessler D. **Tackling gambling harm requires a public health approach.** BMJ. 2025;r447.

Dores AR, Peixoto M, Fernandes C, Geraldo A, Griffiths MD, Barbosa F. **Neurophysiological Correlates of Near-Wins in Gambling: A Systematic Literature Review.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)5–35.

Gainsbury SM, Chandrakumar D, Heirene RM. **Use and impact of government-mandated activity statements for online gambling in Australia.** Harm reduction journal. 2025;22(1)44.

Grönroos T, Hagfors H, Kontto J, Latvala TA, Salonen AH. **Trends in attitudes towards gambling among Finnish women and men: Cross-sectional population studies 2011, 2015, 2019 and 2023.** Nordisk alkohol- & narkotikatidskrift : NAT. 2025;14550725251320728.

Grubbs JB, Connolly AJ, Graupensperger S, Kim HS, Kraus SW. **Sports gambling and drinking behaviors over time.** JAMA psychiatry. 2025;

Håkansson A, Andersson MJ, Claesdotter-Knutsson E, Kenttä G. **Problem gambling among elite ice hockey players in Sweden - elevated prevalence among male, but not female athletes.** The Physician and sportsmedicine. 2025;1–6.

Hautamäki S, Marionneau V, Castrén S, Palomäki J, Raisamo S, Lintonen T, et al. **Methodologies and estimates of social costs of gambling: A scoping review.** Social Science & Medicine. 2025;371117940.

Jääskeläinen P, Kuusisto K. **Problematic gambling in municipal social work in Tampere, Finland: Social workers' perceptions of service pathways before the casino opening and the health and social services reform.** Nordisk alkohol- & narkotikatidskrift : NAT. 2025;14550725251325032.

Kaur P, Smith ORF, Leino T, Erevik EK, Griffiths MD, Goudriaan AE, et al. **Antidepressant prescription as a risk factor for developing gambling disorder: A longitudinal registry-based study in Norway.** Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2025;14(1)457–64.

Kresovich A, Borowiecki M, Emery SL, Lamuda PA, Taylor BG, Pollack HA, et al. **High stakes: Associations between substance use and gambling behaviors by race in the United States**. Drug and Alcohol Dependence. 2025;268112581.

Krotter A, Secades-Villa R, Iza-Fernández C, González-Roz A. **Risk Factors of At-Risk/Problem Gambling Among Young Adult Spanish Students**. Journal of prevention (2022). 2025;46(2)231–44.

Lelonek-Kuleta B, Tovar M-L, Bartczuk RP, Costes J-M. **Significant wins and their impacts: Predictors of problem gambling in French and Polish national samples**. Addictive Behaviors. 2025;163108266.

McCurdy LY, Park JJ, Potenza MN. **Substantiating policy recommendations for reducing gambling-related harms with perspectives from individuals with lived experience**. Current Opinion in Psychiatry. 2025.

McPhail A, Whelan JP, Ginley MK, Pfund RA. **Relation of cannabis use frequency and gambling behavior in individuals who gamble under the influence of cannabis**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025.

Mestre-Bach G, Potenza MN, Granero R, Håkansson A, Gómez-Peña M, Perales I, et al. **Gambling disorder and problematic pornography use: Does co-occurrence influence treatment outcome?** Journal of Behavioral Addictions. 2025;14(1)465–79.

Montastruc J-L. **Gambling disorders and drugs: a disproportionality analysis in the WHO pharmacovigilance database**. European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology. 2025.

Muela I, Ciria LF, Luque-Casado A, López-Guerrero J, Rivero FJ, Perales JC. **No evidence for the role of intentional emotion regulation in gambling-related problems: Insights from self-report, behavioral, and heart rate variability measures**. Journal of behavioral addictions. 2025;14(1)501–21.

Newall P. Sludge, dark patterns and dark nudges: **A taxonomy of on-line gambling platforms' deceptive design features**. Addiction. 2025.

Noda T, Kido M, Ito C, Ojima T. **The effect of the choice of screening test when measuring the prevalence of gambling disorder: A cross-sectional study in Japan.** Plos One. 2025;20(4)e0318885.

Ozoliņa K, Gobiņa I, Kīvīte-Urtāne A, Blinka L. **Problematic gaming, problem gambling: co-occurrence and association with depression and generalised anxiety disorder among working-age adults in Latvia.** Nordic Journal of Psychiatry. 2025;1–6.

Peng P, Hao Y, Zhang X, Ma Y, Liu X, Shen D, et al. **A multicenter cross-sectional study of gambling disorder among patients with methamphetamine use disorder in drug rehabilitation centers: prevalence, correlates, and network analysis.** Annals of General Psychiatry. 2025;24(1)12.

Recio-Vivas AM, Font-Jiménez I, Lorenzo-Allegue L, González-Pascual M, Belzunegui-Eraso A, Mansilla-Domínguez JM. **Influence of social determinants of health on gambling in adolescents. Analysis of the results of the ESTUDES 2022 survey.** Journal of Public Health. 2025.

Rodríguez MN, Goodrich KM, Bell LM, Waller MW, Zhang L, Lillioff E. **The prevalence and predictors of problem gambling among adults in new mexico: A sociodemographic analysis.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025.

Schluterman NH, Billioux VG, Brown JP, Al-Hadidi A, Tracy JK. **The relationship between gambling disorder, physical and mental health, and substance use in Maryland.** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025.

Ukhova D, Volberg R. **Gambling Harms in the Era of Legal Gambling Expansion- A Growing Health Problem.** JAMA internal medicine. 2025;185(4)389–90.

Wall H, Wennberg P, Binde P, Molander O. **Systematic assessment of gambling type involvement: reliability and validity of the gambling disorder identification test (GDIT).** Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025;41(1)219–32.

Weller J, Zeelenberg M, Summers B. **Hungry ghosts eat casino chips: associations between dispositional greed and gambling.** Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin. 2025;1461672251315200.

Xu T, Grubbs JB, Kraus SW. **Beyond sports betting legalization: comparing problem gambling risk patterns in legal and illegal states**. Journal of Gambling Studies. 2025.

Yeola A, Allen MR, Desai N, Poliak A, Yang KH, Smith DM, et al. **Growing health concern regarding gambling addiction in the age of sportsbooks**. JAMA internal medicine. 2025;185(4)382–9.

## Recent reports and news (grey literature)

### *\* Organisations funded in part by voluntary gambling industry levy*

Department for Communities, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. **Prevalence of gambling in Northern Ireland 2024** [Internet]. Department for Communities and Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency; 2025 Apr.

IFF Research. **Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the National Gambling Support Network – Scoping Report** [Internet]. GambleAware\*. 2025 [cited 2025 May 5].

IFF Research, Sweet A, Morris T. **Gambling Harms and Neurodivergence: Mapping the Evidence Landscape** [Internet]. GambleAware\*. 2025 [cited 2025 May 5].

IFF Research. **Gambling Harms and Neurodivergence: Understanding the Context and Support for Neurodivergent People in Gambling Phase 2 Report** [Internet]. GambleAware\*. 2025 [cited 2025 May 5].

N P C. Learning Report: **Improving Outcomes Fund Evaluation** [Internet]. GambleAware\*. 2025 [cited 2025 May 5].

Public Health Scotland. **Briefing: Gambling and Gaming Harms on Children and Young People** [Internet]. Public Health Scotland; 2025 Mar. [cited 2025 May 5].

Public Health Scotland. **Healthcare Needs Assessment of Gambling Harm in Scotland** [Internet]. Public Health Scotland; 2025 Apr. [cited 2025 May 5].

The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations. **Learning digest: factors influencing multi-agency working to address gambling-related harms (GRH) in Great Britain** [Internet]. GambleAware\*. 2025 [cited 2025 May 5].

## **Disclaimer**

Disclaimer All reasonable care is taken to ensure that the information we provide is accurate and we accept no responsibility for the content provided. The information provided is selective; however, the inclusion of a link does not imply approval of the contents of the website. This is not meant as an exhaustive list of publications on these topics for the given time period, but rather a selection as seen most relevant.

## **Contact**

Knowledge Services

**[phs.knowledge@phs.scot](mailto:phs.knowledge@phs.scot)**