

Health and care of people with learning disabilities

What we found out

April 2014 to March 2015

**Easy read version for people with learning
disabilities**

December 2016

What we did



We collected information about the health of people with learning disabilities.



This was the first time we collected this information.



We got this information from doctors.



We wanted to know if the health of people with learning disabilities is different to other people.



We collected information to make sure people with learning disabilities are getting the care they need.

What we found



You are more likely to have a learning disability if you are a man.



More young people have learning disabilities than older people



People with learning disabilities may not live as long as some other people.



If you are aged over 14 and have a learning disability you can have a free health check.

But lots of people did not have this health check.



You can have a free flu jab if you have a learning disability.

This is something a doctor or nurse gives you to stop you getting flu.

But most young people are not getting a jab.



Most people with learning disabilities weigh too much.



Some older people with learning disabilities weigh too little.



If you have a learning disability you are less likely to get checked for some types of cancer.



Some illnesses are more common if you have a learning disability.

One of these illnesses is epilepsy. Epilepsy is when people have fits because of something that happens in their brain.



Some illnesses are less common if you have a learning disability.

One of these illnesses is heart disease. Heart disease is where blood is stopped from getting to your heart.



More people with a learning disability get asthma.

Asthma is when people can sometimes find it hard to breathe.



Dementia is an illness where you can find it hard to remember things.

More people with learning disabilities get this illness when they are younger.

What we will do next



We will collect the same information again for April 2015 to March 2017 to see if anything has changed over time.



We will write a report with more information in spring and summer 2017.



This will help us to know whether people with a learning disability need to be treated in a different way to now.