Health and care of people with learning disabilities
What we found out

April 2018 to March 2019

Easy read version for people with learning disabilities

January 2020
What we did

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

This was the fifth 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.

This year more people had a health check than the year before.

But lots of young people are still not having a health check.

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

But more people with learning disabilities are having some of these checks than before.
More people with learning disabilities have dysphagia than in the past. Dysphagia is when people find it hard to swallow.

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 example is COPD. COPD is a group of illnesses which make it hard to breathe.

In the past, people with learning disabilities were less likely to have high blood pressure. Now, people with learning disabilities are more likely to have high blood pressure.
What we will do next

We will collect the same information again in the future to see if anything has changed over time.

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