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Findings in Psychology and Psychiatry Reported from E. Peters and Co-Researchers

Health & Medicine Week

By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Health & Medicine Week -- Researchers detail new data in Psychology and Psychiatry. According to news reporting originating from London, United Kingdom, by NewsRx correspondents, research stated, "Public policy decisions often appear based on an assumption that providing more options, more information, and greater decision-making autonomy to consumers will produce better outcomes. We examine reasons why this 'more-is-better' approach exists based on the psychological literature."

Our news editors obtained a quote from the research, "Although better outcomes can result from informed consumer choice, we argue that more options, information, and autonomy can also lead to unintended negative consequences. We use mostly health-related policies and guidelines from the United States and elsewhere as exemplars. We consider various psychological mechanisms that cause these unintended consequences including cognitive overload, affect, and anticipated regret, information salience and availability, and trust in governments as authoritative information providers."

According to the news editors, the research concluded: "We also point toward potential solutions based on psychological research that may reduce the negative unintended consequences of a 'more-is-better' approach."

For more information on this research see: More Is Not Always Better: Intuitions About Effective Public Policy Can Lead to Unintended Consequences. Social Issues and Policy Review, 2013;7(1):114-148. Social Issues and Policy Review can be contacted at: Blackwell Publishing Inc, 350 Main St, Malden, MA 02148, USA. (Wiley-Blackwell - www.wiley.com/; Social Issues and Policy Review - [onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1751-2409](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1751-2409))

The news editors report that additional information may be obtained by contacting E. Peters, Kings Fund, London, United Kingdom. Additional authors for this research include W. Klein, A. Kaufman, L. Meilleur and A. Dixon (see also Psychology and Psychiatry).

Keywords for this news article include: London, Europe, Psychological, United Kingdom, Psychology and Psychiatry

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