

Issues Within The National Health Service



Objectives

- Establish why the NHS is struggling after 70 years.
- Highlight these issues?
- Where are these issues taking place?
- Why have these issues occurred?
- Give recommendations for improvement.



Introduction

The NHS celebrated its 70th birthday in July 2018. This prompted researchers from The Kings Fund, the Nuffield Trust, the Institute of Fiscal Studies and the Health Foundation to investigate key issues that are highlighted within the NHS (The Kings Fund, 2018).



NHS 70: The biggest struggle in 70 years

<https://news.sky.com/video/nhs-70-the-biggest-struggle-in-70-years-11423656>

NO MORE CUTS
TO FRONTLINE
MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES

Southern Health NHS
NHS Foundation Trust
unit was not clean (\$
limited information
It felt difficult track care for patients
a lack of clarity
there seems to be a gap



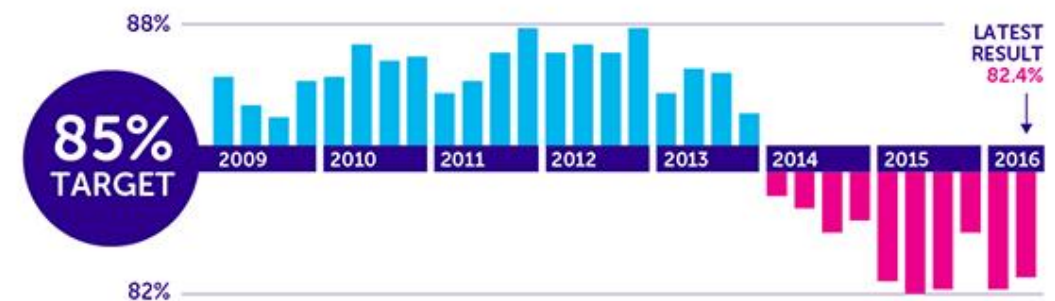
Issues Within NHS

Issues:

- From 2009 to 2013, the amount of patients being seen exceeded the 85% target.
- From 2014 to 2016 the numbers dropped below target, with the latest result being 82.4%.
- Why?

PATIENTS STILL WAITING TOO LONG FOR TREATMENT

% OF NHS CANCER PATIENTS IN ENGLAND STARTING TREATMENT WITHIN 62 DAYS



Source: NHS England. Provider-based quarterly cancer waiting times data. Oct 2009 – Jun 2016.

LET'S BEAT CANCER SOONER
cruk.org



Why Are Patients Wait Too Long To Access Treatment?

- Staff Shortages
- Availability of Treatment
- Funding



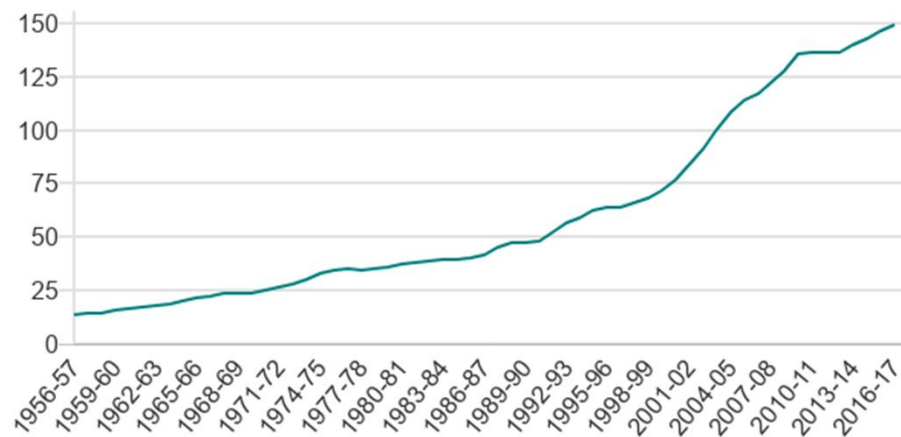
Who Is responsible for these issues?

- National Health Service (NHS?)
- Service users?
- Service providers?
- Government?

This graph shows the increase of spending within the NHS (adjusted for inflation)

How the NHS budget has grown

Real-terms growth, 2017-18 prices (£bn)



Source: IFS, Government

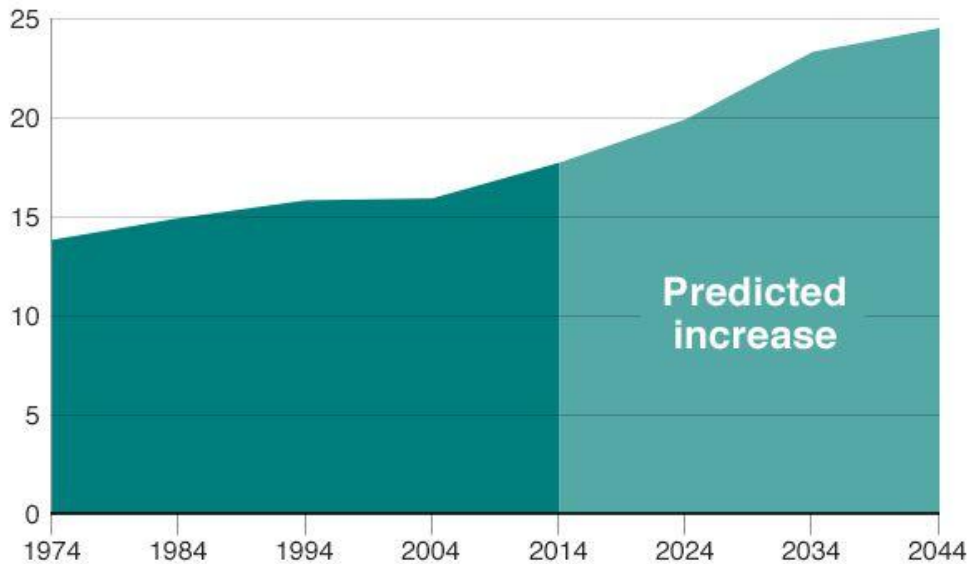
BBC

- In 2017 around £150 billion was spent in the UK on health.
- However, it is apparently not enough to cover the demand for healthcare within the UK.
- A big proportion of public spending goes on health.
- The NHS is considered to be buckling under the immense pressure from public need for healthcare and treatment (Institute for Fiscal Studies, 2017).

Ageing population

The UK's ageing population

% population aged 65 and over



Source: ONS

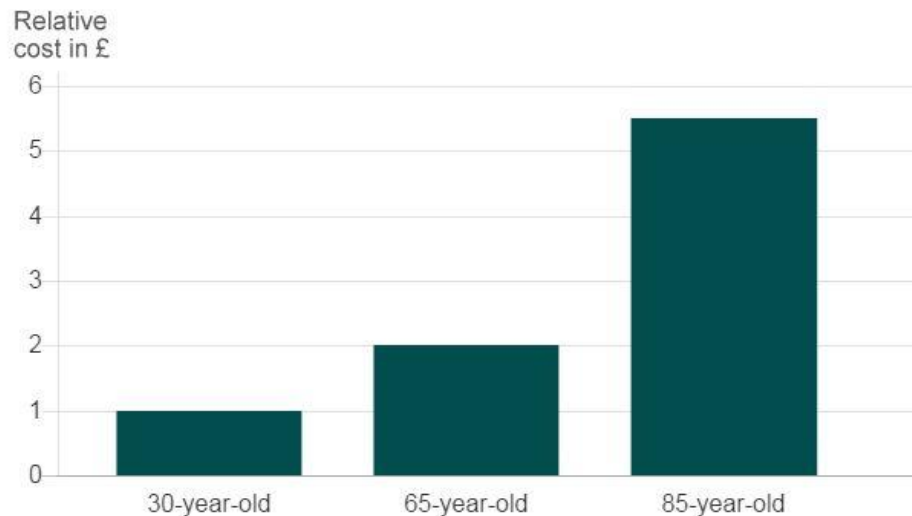
BBC

- Although the possibility of living longer is extremely comforting to most people, it could come with a price.
- Long term chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and dementia could impact a person's quality of life.
- Some people will have one of these conditions by the time they reach 65, additionally, two conditions by the time they reach the age of 75 (Office of National Statistics, 2018).

Comparing NHS Spending On People By Age

Comparing NHS spending on people by age

Spending for patients increases as they get older



Source: IFS

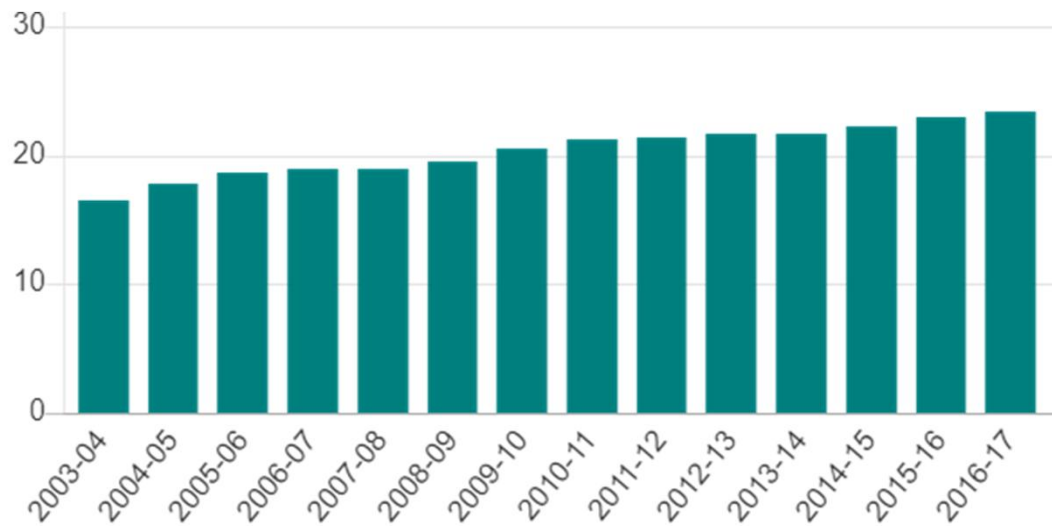
BBC

- The average cost of care for a 65 year old person is 2 times the average cost of care of a 30 year old person.
- The costs rises to over 5 times as much for an 85 year old person.
- The NHS are considering capping the expenditure budget on drugs to 20 million a year.

Increasing Demand for Urgent Treatment

- Why?

Visits to A&E in England (in millions)



Increasing Demand for Urgent Treatment Because of:

- Increase of chronic illnesses.
- Shortage of district community nurses.
- Ageing population.
- Lack of GP appointments.



Where are these issues taking place?

Hospitals

Dentists

Care in the
community

Care
Homes

Staff

Doctors
surgeries

What are these issues?

Treatment
availability

Ageing
population

Waiting
times/lists

Care plan
packages

Funding

Brexit

Bed
blocking

Lack of
staff

Why have these issues occurred within the NHS?

- The UK spends a lower proportion on health than other EU countries.
- Ageing population.
- Chronic health conditions.
- Poor lifestyle behaviours.

Recommendations for Improvement

- Education on health behaviours.
- Promote healthy living.
- Tighter restrictions on the marketing of unhealthy food and drink.
- Be mindful of accessing unnecessary treatment and care.
- More funding provided by the Government.

Summarise



You should now be able to ;

- Identify issues within the NHS.
- Acknowledge who is responsible for these issues.
- Explain where these issues are taking place.
- Discuss why these issues occurred within the NHS.
- Give recommendations for improvement.

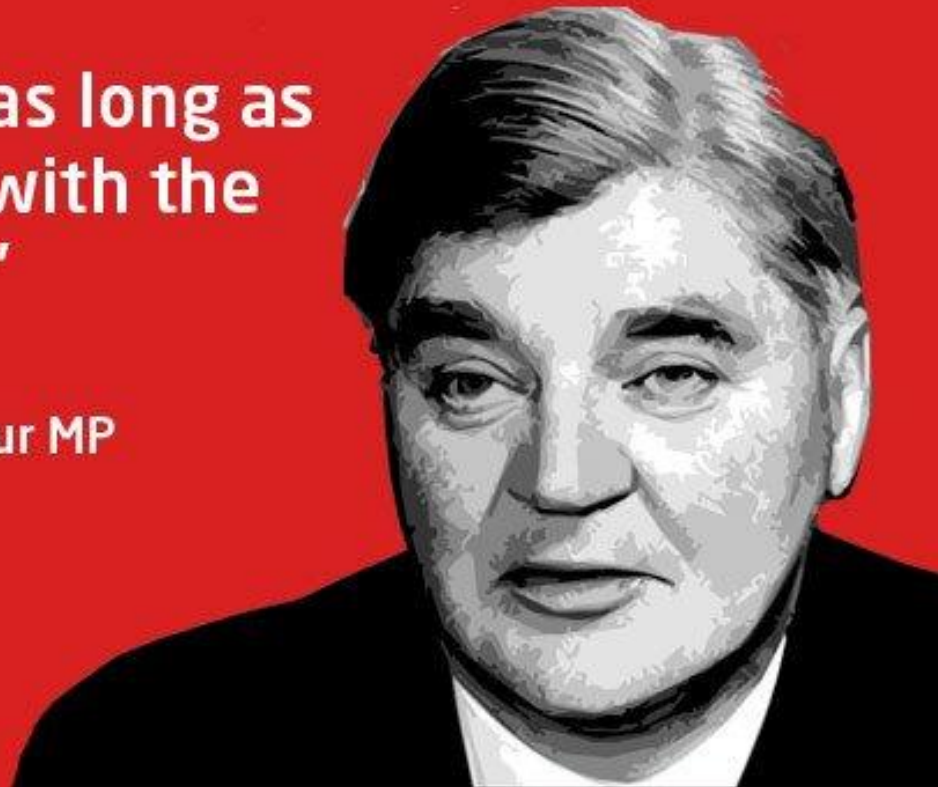
Any Questions?



Quote for Today

**"The NHS will last as long as
there are folk left with the
faith to fight for it"**

**Aneurin Bevan,
Founder of the NHS & Labour MP**



References

- Institute for Fiscal Studies, (2017) *UK Health and Social Care Spending*. Available at: <https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/8879> (Accessed 10th February 2019)
- Office of National Statistics, (2018) *NHS70: Marking 70 years of the National Health Service*. Available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/articles/nhs70marking70yearsofthenationalhealthservice/2018-06-26> (Accessed 10th February 2019)
- The Kings Fund, (2018) *The NHS at 70: What's the problem with social care, and why do we need to do better?* Available at: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/nhs-70-whats-the-problem-with-social-care> (Accessed 8th February 2019)
- Sky News, (2018) *NHS 70: The biggest struggle in 70 years*. Available at: <https://news.sky.com/video/nhs-70-the-biggest-struggle-in-70-years-11423656> (Accessed 8th February 2019)