The Healthcare Crisis in the UK

In 1948, the UK was the first modern nation to provide free healthcare at the point of delivery for all its citizens. The 2022/23 budget was £181.7 billion, 12 times as much as at its inception (today's equivalent of £15 billion).

The greatest stress on the NHS comes from managing mostly preventable chronic conditions such as heart disease, high blood pressure, and type 2 diabetes. 70% of all UK health and social care expenditure goes towards the 25% (15 million) of the UK population who have a chronic condition.

"A bigger proportion of public spending goes on health. Governments over the years have had to invest more and more of the public purse into it. Today 30p out of every £1 spent on services goes on health." "Even during the years of deep austerity, extra money has been found for the health service." "Yet it seems no matter how much is invested, it's still not enough. The NHS is creaking at the seams." [BBC]

Psychological Illness in the UK

In the United Kingdom, an estimated 1 in 6 adults have experienced a 'common mental disorder' like depression or anxiety. The NHS in England spent £14.3 billion on mental health services in 2020/21, which made up 14.8% of local NHS funding allocations.

Leading 10 Causes of Death in the UK in 2022

Leading Causes of Death in 2022

1. Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease: 65,967 deaths (11.4% of all deaths)
2. Ischaemic Heart Disease: 59,356 deaths (10.3% of all deaths)
3. Lower Respiratory Diseases: 29,250 deaths (5.1% of all deaths)
4. Stroke: 32,000 deaths (5.5% of all deaths)
5. Lung Cancer: 20,000 deaths (3.5% of all deaths)
6. Influenza and Pneumonia: 20,000 deaths (3.5% of all deaths)
7. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD): 18,000 deaths (3.1% of all deaths)
8. Breast Cancer: 11,000 deaths (1.9% of all deaths)
9. Colon and Rectum Cancer: 10,000 deaths (1.7% of all deaths)
10. Prostate Cancer: 12,000 deaths (2.1% of all deaths)

Summary

Since the founding of the NHS in 1948, life expectancy in the UK has risen significantly, from roughly 66 years for men and 71 years for women to around 79.1 years for men and 83 years for women today.

However, both men and women spend roughly 15 to 20 years of their later lives in poor or limited health.

Men

* Life expectancy is 79.1 years.

* Healthy life expectancy is roughly 60.9 years, meaning men spend about 18.4 years (23% of their lives) in ill health.

Women

* Life expectancy is 83 years.

* Healthy life expectancy is roughly 60.9 years, meaning women spend about 22.1 years (27% of their lives) in ill health.

UK Health Spending

The UK Government spends, on average, approximately £4,188 per person per year on healthcare.

This is calculated from the Government's funded (reported) expenditure of approximately £280 billion for a UK population of 66.9 million.