



Things doctors need to know about the NHS

- 1 The NHS is being systematically and deliberately privatised**
(For an overview see [1-3])
- 2 The English NHS market is expensive**, wastes clinical time and money, is bad for patients, and is **failing** [4]
- 3 The UK spend on health as a percentage of GDP is falling**. We are spending progressively less on health as a nation and less than comparable countries [5]. (From 9% GDP in 2013 to a predicted 6.8% by 2020). In comparison France and Germany spend 11.5% and 11.3% respectively [6]. NHS funding has only risen 0.9% annually since 2010 but **4%** is needed annually to keep pace with rising demand
- 4 Beds per capita is lower in the UK** (3/1000) than Spain (3.1/1000), Slovenia (4.6/1000), or Germany (8.2/1000); and **doctors per 1000 patients is lower in the UK** (2.8/1000) than France (3.1/1000), Italy (3.7/1000), or Cuba (6.7/1000)! The UK was ranked 28/30 OECD countries for health in May 2016 [7]
- 5 Social care cuts are crippling hospitals and community care**, with a reduction of budgets by 37% in last Parliament [8]

[1] <http://bit.ly/1Odhd5t>

[2] <http://bit.ly/1PhpekO>

[3] <http://bit.ly/1Y94xhZ>

[4] <http://bit.ly/1thj7sw>

[5] <http://bit.ly/28koaZ4>

[6] <http://bit.ly/1bgZynf>

[7] <http://bit.ly/1KZBPbe>

[8] <http://bit.ly/1SFkK1u>



5 Things doctors can do to help the NHS

- 1 Get informed.** Read *NHS SOS* and *NHS for Sale* (both available from the **Keep Our NHS Public** website: <http://bit.ly/1YevCkd>)
- 2 Join and help** local NHS campaign groups: look at the KONP website for information. Local groups really value having doctors as supporters
- 3 Write** a letter to your local newspaper about the cuts to NHS services and privatisation, and cuts to social care which impact severely on healthcare
- 4 Lobby** your MP and others to support the NHS Bill [<http://bit.ly/11pmoap>] (which calls for a halt to the market in health services and an organising back to a **national** health service)
- 5 Organise** a group of doctors to work locally on speaking out against NHS cuts and privatisation: **Doctors for the NHS** will advise and support on this



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