

Keep Our NHS Public's response:

Oxford University study suggests outsourcing of healthcare linked to higher deaths from treatable causes

for IMMEDIATE use:

"The argument that a leaner and more efficient private sector could do things better than the NHS has been blown out of the water, and patients have paid the price."

Co-Chair of campaigning organisation Keep Our NHS Public [1] Dr John Puntis, in referencing this latest Oxford University study, has outlined why outsourcing in the NHS leads to poorer patient care.

Dr John Puntis, Co-Chair of Keep Our NHS Public and a retired Consultant Paediatrician, said:

"The Lancet study from Oxford University [2] illustrates the dramatic impact of the 2012 Health and Social Care Act driving forward privatisation of services with the result that avoidable deaths have increased. Private companies strive to undercut the NHS in tendering, and save money by reducing numbers of staff and diluting skill mix. Hospital teams and services become fragmented. The argument that a leaner and more efficient private sector could do things better than the NHS has been blown out of the water, and patients have paid the price. Far from protecting and nurturing the NHS, this government has been slowly starving it to death and hoping the public would blame staff. This study provides a stark message: outsourcing must be ended and services brought back in house if the government is serious about improving population health outcomes and levelling up."

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Spokespeople are available for interview. Contact Samantha Wathen, Press Officer for Keep Our NHS Public press@keepournhspublic.com or Call/WhatsApp: 0777 6047472

Notes to editors

[1] Keep Our NHS Public is a national independent organisation campaigning for a well-funded, publicly owned and provided NHS www.keepournhspublic.com

[2] [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667\(22\)00133-5/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667(22)00133-5/fulltext)