



PM issues warning to NHS: reform or perish.

Description

Getty Images Medical staff in surgical gowns working
on a patient in an operating room
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The soaring NHS waiting times and backlog in emergency care and cancer treatment are significantly impacting public health and leading to avoidable deaths, as highlighted in a blunt government-commissioned report on the state of the service in England.

In response, Prime Minister Boris Johnson asserts that the health system urgently needs to "reform or perish," given the growing demands and financial strains facing the NHS.

Health Secretary Wes Streeting underscores the critical need for a substantial shift in NHS funding towards primary care, social services, and community initiatives to alleviate the mounting pressure on hospitals.

However, the report also calls out the Conservative government for delaying vital reforms in social care and infrastructure development, prompting opposition calls for immediate action to address the NHS's pressing challenges.

The report emphasizes the urgent need for a comprehensive overhaul of the NHS, focusing on digital transformation, decentralized care, and preventive measures to safeguard the health service's future resilience.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Soaring** /'sɔːrɪŋ/ (adjective): Increasing rapidly or significantly.
2. **Backlog** /'bæk.lɒɡ/ (noun): A buildup of unprocessed work or tasks.
3. **Urgently** /'ɜːrdʒəntli/ (adverb): In a manner requiring immediate action or attention.
4. **Substantial** /səb'stænʃəl/ (adjective): Of considerable importance size or worth.
5. **Alleviate** /ə'liːvi.ət/ (verb): To make a problem less severe.
6. **Overhaul** /'oʊ.və.hɔːl/ (verb): To examine and repair or improve something thoroughly.

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What is identified as significantly impacting public health according to the government-commissioned report on the NHS in England?
 - Option: Increasing healthcare costs
 - Option: Delayed social care reforms
 - Option: Soaring waiting times and backlog in care
 - Option: Medical staff shortages

2. Who asserts that the health system urgently needs to "reform or perish"?
 - Option: Health Secretary Wes Streeting
 - Option: Prime Minister Boris Johnson
 - Option: Opposition leaders
 - Option: The NHS report authors

3. Which area does Health Secretary Wes Streeting highlight for a substantial shift in NHS funding?
 - Option: Research and development
 - Option: Hospitals infrastructure
 - Option: Primary care, social services, and community initiatives
 - Option: Specialized medical equipment

4. What has the Conservative government been criticized for in the report on the NHS?
 - Option: Delaying vital social care reforms
 - Option: Underfunding hospitals
 - Option: Lack of transparency in healthcare data
 - Option: Ignoring medical staff shortages

5. What does the report emphasize about the future of the NHS?
 - Option: Decreasing reliance on technology
 - Option: Centralized healthcare services
 - Option: Focusing on infrastructure development only
 - Option: Digital transformation and decentralized care

6. Who is calling for immediate action to address the challenges outlined in the report?
 - Option: NHS administrators
 - Option: Public health experts
 - Option: Opposition leaders
 - Option: International organizations



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Soaring waiting times and backlog in care 2. Prime Minister Boris Johnson 3. Primary care, social services, and community initiatives 4. Delaying vital social care reforms 5. Digital transformation and decentralized care 6. Opposition leaders

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is used to describe the rapidly increasing number of COVID-19 cases?
Option: Easing
Option: Fluctuating
Option: Soaring
Option: Stagnant
2. Which adverb emphasizes the need for immediate action?
Option: Casually
Option: Reluctantly
Option: Urgently
Option: Diligently
3. What term refers to the critical nature or seriousness of situation?
Option: Trivial
Option: Severity
Option: Mildness
Option: Insignificant
4. What word is used when medication is officially recommended by a doctor?
Option: Optional
Option: Customized
Option: Prescribed
Option: Suggested
5. What term relates to the growth and development of the brain and nervous system?
Option: Muscular
Option: Neurodevelopmental
Option: Respiratory
Option: Digestive



6. What is the term for the careful examination or inspection?

- Option: Neglect
- Option: Scrutiny
- Option: Approval
- Option: Superficiality

7. Which process involves providing guidance or support to someone in need?

- Option: Judging
- Option: Compromising
- Option: Counselling
- Option: Accusing

8. What term describes inappropriate behavior or wrongdoing?

- Option: Pristine
- Option: Misconduct
- Option: Ethical
- Option: Compliant

9. What is the term for a thorough examination and repair or renovation?

- Option: Neglect
- Option: Overhaul
- Option: Patchwork
- Option: Minimal

10. What term refers to the frequency of occurrence of something?

- Option: Relevance
- Option: Frequency
- Option: Incidence
- Option: Negligence

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The company was struggling due to a huge _____ of orders that needed to be processed.

12. The new medicine aims to _____ pain and reduce inflammation.

13. The community was _____ by the natural disaster with homes destroyed and lives lost.



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14. The stadium has a seating _____ of 50,000 spectators.
15. Lack of funding has been a major _____ to the project's progress.
16. The new software system improved the company's overall _____ and productivity.
17. Family planning includes methods of birth control and _____ to prevent unwanted pregnancies.
18. The errors were not intentional but were due to several _____ in the quality control process.
19. Scientists are studying the relationship between smoking and lung cancer to determine if there is a direct _____.
20. Leaders must take _____ for their actions and decisions.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)



21. The play depicted a story of love and loss that moved the audience to tears.
22. The campaign aimed to raise about the importance of environmental conservation.
23. The project's failure was attributed to several in the planning phase.
24. The university is known for its groundbreaking in the field of robotics.
25. The evidence presented in court was proven to be leading to a mistrial.
26. The company prides itself on its commitment to honesty and in all its dealings.
27. The theater has a seating of 500 making it suitable for large productions.
28. The patient needs to be seen by a doctor due to the severity of the symptoms.
29. Effective time management includes tasks based on their importance and deadlines.
30. The of flu cases usually rises during the winter months.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Soaring 2. Urgently 3. Severity 4. Prescribed 5. Neurodevelopmental 6. Scrutiny 7. Counselling 8. Misconduct 9. Overhaul 10. Incidence

Gap-Fill: 11. Backlog 12. Alleviate 13. Devastated 14. Capacity 15. Impediment 16. Efficiency 17. Contraception 18. Oversights 19. Causality 20. Accountability

Matching sentence: 1. Tragic 2. Awareness 3. Oversights 4. Research 5. Fabricated 6. Integrity 7. Capacity 8. Urgently 9. Prioritization 10. Incidence

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL4

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Author

aimeeyoung99