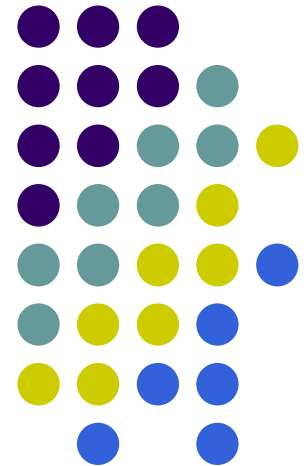
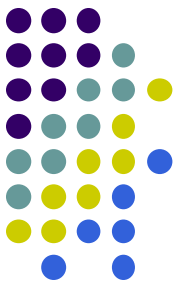


Family medicine in the UK

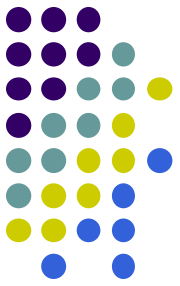
Prof. Dr. Michael Harris
United Kingdom

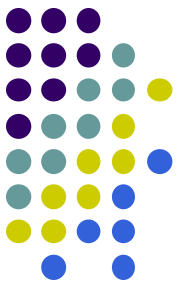


The United Kingdom (UK)



The UK's National Health Service (NHS)



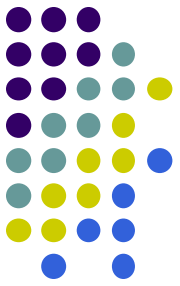


The NHS

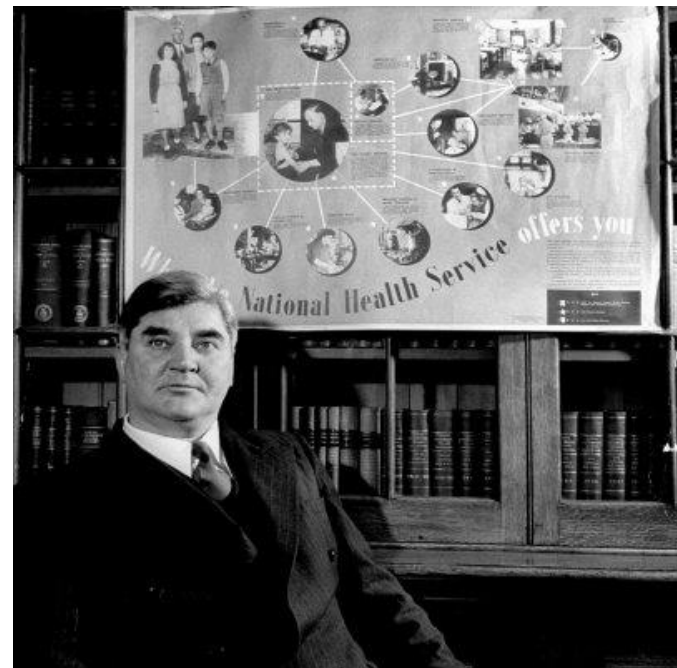
- The NHS was formed in 1948
- The fifth largest workforce in the world
 - 1.7 million employees
- Nearly all doctors and nurses in England work for the NHS



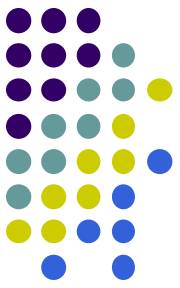
The NHS vision



- The core principles
 - It must meet the needs of everyone
 - It must be free at the point of delivery



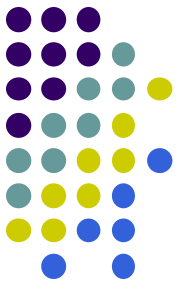
Nye Bevan



The NHS

- It is still “free at the point of delivery”
 - most patients don’t pay anything for treatment
 - financed by taxes
- Every week the NHS treats 3 million people





How much does it cost?

- Healthcare spending as % of GDP:

- UK 11.94%



- Ukraine 7.62%



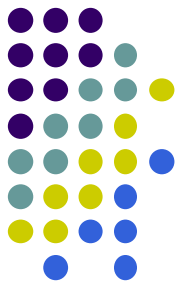
- Health expenditure per person, PPP (international \$)

- UK \$6,133



- Ukraine \$945





Primary or secondary care?

General Practitioners (GPs)

= primary care

- Work outside hospital

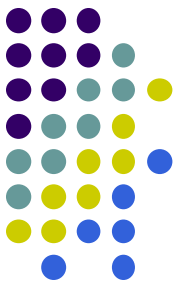
Specialists

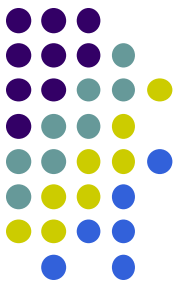
= secondary care

- Work in hospitals



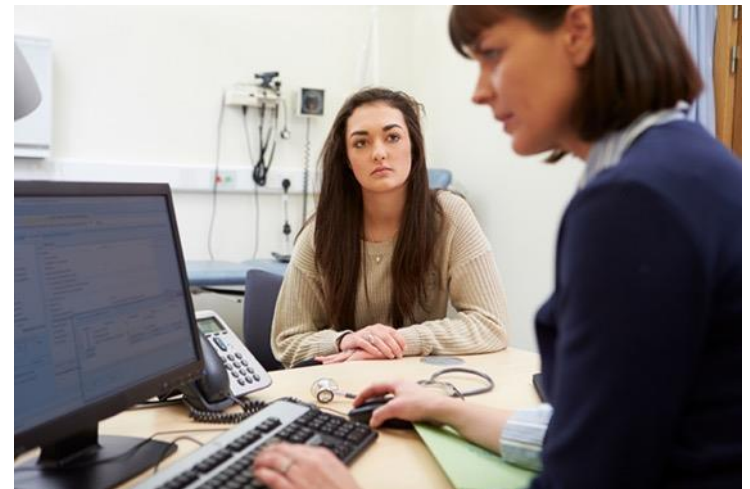
GP care (primary care)

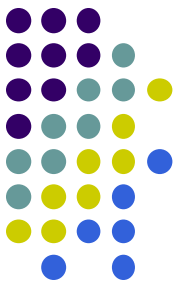




GP care (primary care)

- Half of doctors in the NHS are “General Practitioners” (GPs = Family Doctors)
 - we are specialists in family medicine
 - and earn the same as hospital specialists
- 53% of GPs are women

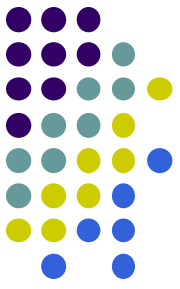




GP care (primary care)

- All GPs have nurses and other healthcare professionals in their practice teams

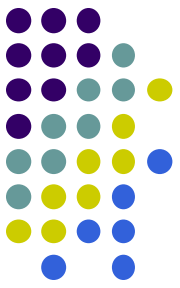




GP care

- GPs and their teams are popular with their patients
 - “84% of patients have a good overall experience of their GP practice”
 - “96% of patients say they have confidence and trust in the healthcare professional they see”

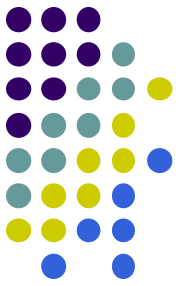




GP care

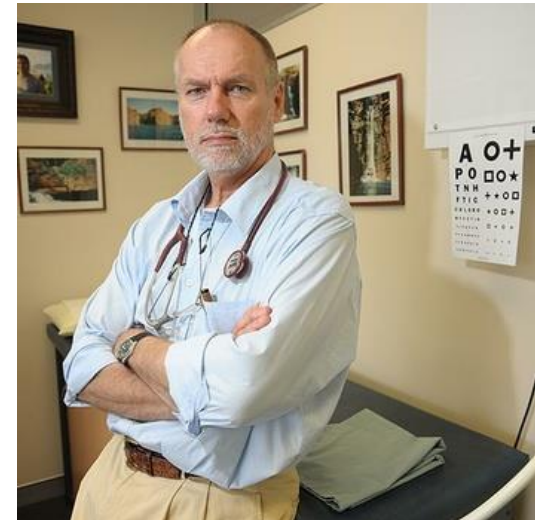
- All British citizens register with their own GP
 - 36,000 GPs for a population of 67 million
- We work in groups of GPs
 - 3-7 GPs in each practice
- 2,300 patients for each GP
 - the patients must live nearby



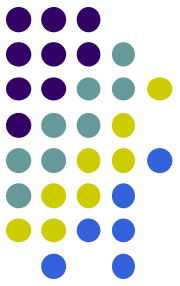


GP care

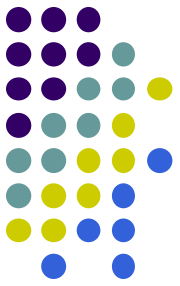
- In the NHS, most patient care is given in the patient's GP practice
 - by the GP or his/her team
- GPs are self-employed
 - but all our income and work comes from the NHS



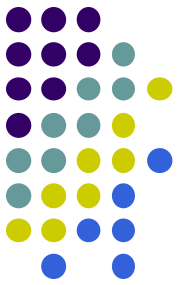
The “gatekeeper” role



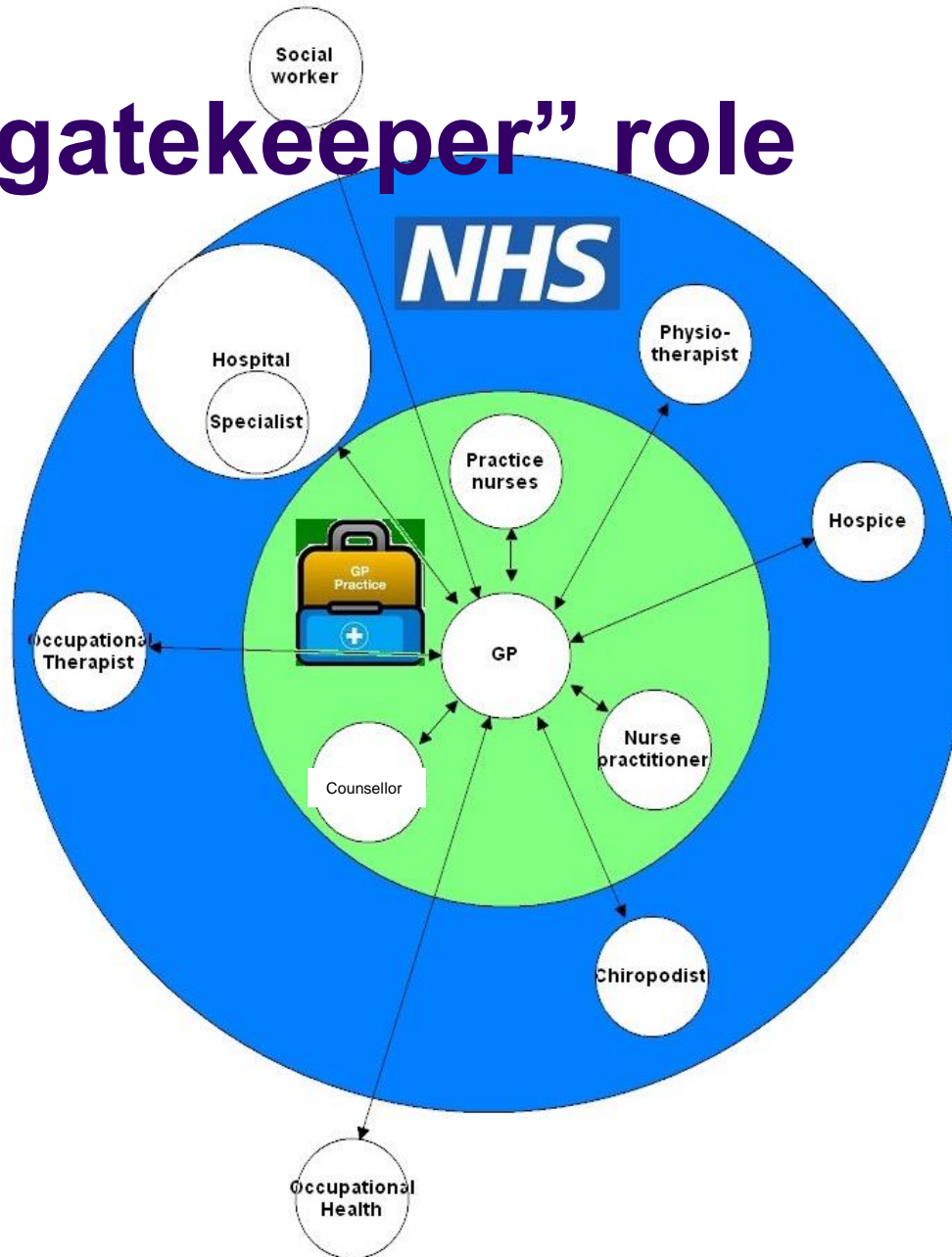
The “gatekeeper” role



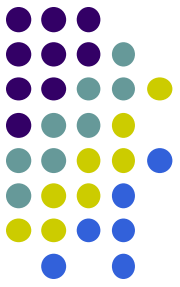
- The “gatekeeper” role
 - patients can only see specialists if they have been referred by a GP (except in an emergency)
 - as soon as the medical problem has been assessed and sorted out, specialists give the patients back to their GPs for on-going care
- The GP is the central point for everything relating to patient care



The “gatekeeper” role



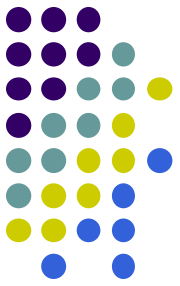
My work



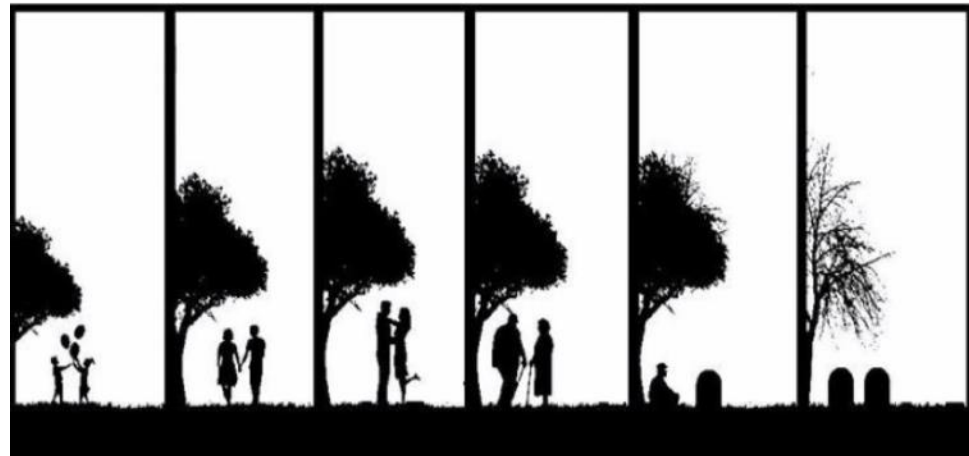
- General Practitioner (GP) for 30 years
 - at Hope House Surgery
 - a practice with 6 GPs
 - and 5 “practice nurses”
 - night-time work is optional
 - and well paid...

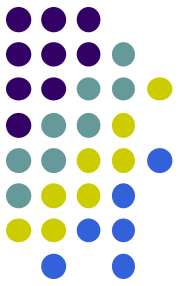


What medical problems do we see?



- “Cradle-to-grave” care
 - Physical
 - including paediatrics, gynaecology
 - Psychological
 - and psychiatry
 - Social
 - incl. drug additions
- Referral rate to specialists: 3%



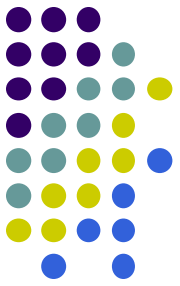


Quality of care

- Quality of care in GP practices is controlled by:
 - a yearly quality report from the practice
 - an annual audit of quality measures (examples: diabetic care, PAP smears, vaccination rates)
 - a detailed quality inspection visit every 5 years
 - formal yearly individual appraisal of all doctors and nurses in the NHS

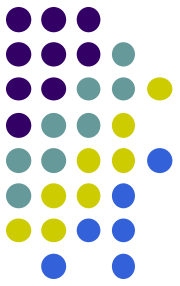


GP Training

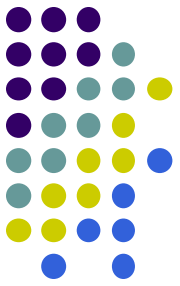


GP Training

- General practice is a popular career choice
- To become a GP, newly qualified doctors must
 - work for 5 years in approved resident posts
 - including 18 months in a “training practice” with a qualified “GP trainer”

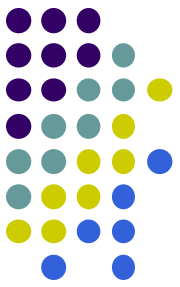


GP Training



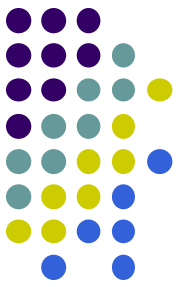
- To be a GP, doctors have to pass a difficult examination:
 - the “MRCGP” exam...
 - knowledge of primary care medicine (MCQ)
 - 75% pass rate
 - clinical and consultation skills
 - 77% pass rate
 - workplace-based assessments
 - throughout the training programme





What works well in the UK?

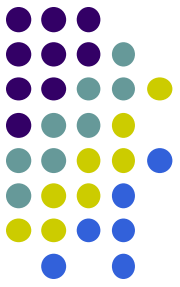
- Most patients love their GPs
- Patients, doctors and the government think that GP care is as important as specialist care
- Quality of care is usually equally good everywhere in the UK
- GPs have good incomes and lifestyles



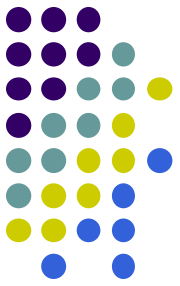
What doesn't work well?

- GPs have a large, increasing workload
 - patient demand, bureaucracy, clinical targets
- GPs work long hours, and the work is very stressful
 - many GPs leave below the age of 50 because of the pressure
- The NHS is underfunded
 - There are long waiting times for appointments and operations

General practice: the “jewel in the crown” of UK’s health system



Thank you for listening!



Michael Harris

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THANK YOU

