

Suggested contribution by JM to nurses

1. Movement for NHS, 1900-48; foundation of NHS - structure and finance; early problems in 1950s - Guillebaud Report, etc; lack of ~~hospital~~ hospital planning; situation by early 1960s.
2. Emergence of debate on rationing in 1960s and 1970s; 1974 reorganisation; regional class inequalities debate in 1970s - RAWP, etc; problems of medical progress versus equity in resource allocation.
3. Social class inequalities - Black Report, etc; increasing critical challenge to medical mystique; 'politics of medicine' - incl. industrial disputes in 1970s; rise of private medicine; current problems in NHS, plans for privatisation, etc.

ABOVE CAN SERVE AS INTRODUCTION TO MARIAN GOUGH'S CONTRIBUTION ON THE ECONOMICS OF HEALTH CARE, RESOURCE ALLOCATION, ETC; AND TO POSSIBLE 'MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY' INPUT BY MF, RF OR MB.

File: Social Policy
+ News
Ready list

Lectures and seminars to nursing students by Dr J Macnicol

These lectures/seminars will provide students with a basic understanding of the development of health care in Britain and the current issues in the National Health Service. The aim will be to focus on interesting and relevant problems, and to adopt a critical and analytical perspective. This part of the course comprises 4 sessions; students will then go to Mrs Marian Gough (on 14th November) for sessions examining in much greater detail the economics of resource allocation and associated issues. Then in the second term students will attend Mr M Bury's course on Contemporary Issues in Health.

Lectures will be on Mondays at 3.00 in room 86, Reid Building.

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| 10 October:
(1 hour session) | The origins of the NHS, 1900-48; the long-term historical background to current problems. |
| 17 October:
(1½ hour session) | The first 25 years of the NHS: issues of total cost, planning and political consensus. |
| 24 October:
(1 hour session) | The debate on rationing of health care in the 1970s: RAWP, regional inequalities and resource allocation. |
| 31 October:
(1½ hour session) | Social class inequalities and the performance of the NHS; privatisation and current problems. |

(I shall also extend one of these sessions to include an introduction to the S400 Extended Essay).

Reading list

(a) Historical to 1948

- Brian Abel-Smith, The Hospitals (1964)
 John Pater, The Making of the National Health Service (1981)
 Gordon Forsyth, Doctors and State Medicine (1966)
 Michael Foot, Aneurin Bevan, Vol II (1973)
 Frank Honigsbaum, The Division in British Medicine (1979)

(b) Developments since 1948 and general discussions

- Brian Abel-Smith, The National Health Service: the First Thirty Years (1979)
 Brian Watkin, The National Health Service, 1948-78 (1978)
 Vincente Navarro, Class Struggle, the State and Medicine (1978)
 Brian Abel-Smith and Richard Titmuss, The Cost of the National Health Service (1956)
Report of the Royal Commission on the National Health Service, 1979, Cmnd. 7615.
 Rudolph Klein, The Politics of the National Health Service (1983)
 Chris Ham, Health Policy in Britain: the Organisation and Politics of the NHS (1982)

(c) General discussions on rationing

- Michael Cooper, Rationing Health Care (1976)
 Brian Abel-Smith, Value for Money in Health Services (1976)
 P. Foster, Access to Welfare (1983), Ch 5.

(d) Regional inequalities, resource allocation, rationing in practice

DHSS, Planning Resources for Health in England: Report of the Resource Allocation Working Party (1976)

Alan Maynard and Anne Ludbrook, 'Budget Allocation in the NHS', Journal of Social Policy, Vol 9, No 3, July 1980.

(e) Social class inequalities

Nick Davidson and Peter Townsend (eds), Inequalities in Health: the Black Report (1982)

Vivienne Walters, Class Inequalities in Health Care (1979)

Alan Maynard and Anne Ludbrook, 'Inequality, the National Health Service and Health Policy', Journal of Public Policy, Vol 2, Pt 2, May 1982.

Jon Stern, 'Social Mobility and the Interpretation of Social Class Mortality Differentials', Journal of Social Policy, Vol 12, No 1.

Seminar topics:

1. Discuss the view that the founding of the NHS in 1948 was an event that benefited the medical profession as much as it benefited the general public.
2. Why, during the first 25 years of its existence, was the main issue in the NHS the one of its total cost?
3. "Rationing health care is difficult because it involves more the defeating of vested interests than it does the construction of indicators of need". Discuss.
4. Why has there been so much concern over social class inequalities in health recently?
5. The present government is committed to a policy of privatisation in health care. What implications do you think this will have for the NHS?

John Macnicol
October 1983

File: Health Service

~~Outcomes~~