NHS Success & Failure: Are Britain’s Child Mortality Rates (0-4) Indicative of Hidden ‘rationing’ in the NHS?

A study of Child (0-4) and Adult (55-74) Mortality Rates in UK and 20 Western Nations 1989-2014 #

Key Findings

Britain’s Percentage GDP-Health-Expenditure (%GDPHE) is the lowest in 21 Western countries.

From a high in 2010 of 9.4%, fell twice in 2011 and 2013 to 9.1%, France & Germany 11.6 & 11.5%. Average %GDPEH in USA 12.1%, France & Germany 9.5% & UK LOWEST at 7.0%.

UK has THIRD highest relative poverty, 4th highest Child Mortality Rate (0-4) & lowest %GDPHE.
Yet between 1989-2014 Britain had bigger reduction of Adult (55-74) deaths than 17 Other Countries including USA.

Whilst Child Mortality (0-4) rates fell in every country, nine other countries had bigger reductions than the UK. Is this an indication of hidden rationing in the UK? “Child Mortality Rates are an indication of how well a country meets the needs of its children” (UNICEF, 2001).

Dare to Speak Truth to Power.


Practice Implications

Britain’s Health and Social Care field professionals, social work and medicine, are operating in the most fiscally restricted countries of the Western world. Yet our Child-Abuse-Related-Deaths (CARD) have never been lower since records began and the UK leads the world in reducing CARDS (were 4th highest now 3rd lowest). It is Child Poverty, linked to structural poverty that is the hidden neglect and the unspoken scandal of UK Child Mortality Rates- hence we need to” Hear the Voice of the Seldom Heard”.

Professor Colin Pritchard