The sustainability and health equity agenda

- The sustainability dimension

Dr David Pencheon.
NHS England / Public Health England: Sustainable Development Unit

The Role of Physicians and National Medical Associations in Addressing the Social Determinants of Health and Increasing Health Equity. March 24/25th 2015, BMA House
Box 2. The seven domains of quality.\textsuperscript{15}

\textbf{Patient experience:} The patient should be the definitive focus of healthcare delivery. ‘Quality healthcare’ may not be the same for every patient.

\textbf{Effectiveness:} Healthcare should be underpinned by the deployment of beneficial interventions at the right time and to the right patients.

\textbf{Efficiency:} Healthcare must make best use of limited resources. Avoidance of waste should apply to material and abstract (e.g., time, ideas) resources.

\textbf{Timeliness:} Timeliness is key to avoiding waits and potentially harmful delays in the delivery of healthcare, incorporating the deployment of health interventions to anticipate and prevent illness.

\textbf{Safety:} While risk in healthcare cannot be reduced to zero it must be actively managed with the minimisation of harm a definite objective.

\textbf{Equity:} Healthcare must strive for a level playing field, in which patients determine their own high-quality care, and in which the needs of the many and the few are balanced.

\textbf{Sustainability:} Sustainability should be viewed as a characteristic of healthcare which must run through and moderate other domains. Healthcare should be considered not only in terms of what can be delivered to an individual today, but also to the population in general and the patients of the future.
“Health systems and health professionals should meet the needs of the present...

...without compromising the ability of others, in future or elsewhere now, to meet their own needs”

- Adapted from the Brundtland Commission
Global Health

Addressing the Challenges to World Health

A collection of articles on population health around the world, including a new series of Global Health review articles as well as Perspective and research articles.

REVIEW ARTICLE

Globalization, Climate Change, and Human Health

Climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century.
Breaking down the carbon footprint demonstrates **three key areas** to focus carbon reduction activity.
Who produces the greenhouse gases?

The world map reflecting production related to climate change.

“Climate Change presents the biggest threat to health in the 21st Century” The Lancet (373;9697 pp 1659-1734, May 16-22 2009).
Who bears the burden?

The world map reflecting mortality related to climate change.

“Climate Change presents the biggest threat to health in the 21st Century” The Lancet (373;9697 pp 1659-1734, May 16-22 2009).
Ethical Procurement for General Practitioners and Clinical Commissioning Groups

Ensuring the protection of labour rights in medical supply chains
Sustainable, Resilient, Healthy, Places and People

Enable the positives

Reduce the negatives

Sustainable
Resilient
Healthy
Places
People

Natural environment
Social assets
Enable & wellbeing

Vision & goals

Environmental impacts
Inequalities
Burden of disease
Places
People

Enable

Enable the positives
200 years of health professionals protecting and improving health

1. Slavery Abolition Bill, 1833
2. Cholera: Broad Street Pump, 1854
3. Smoking and tobacco, 1962
4. Nuclear proliferation
5. Alcohol
6. Obesity
7. HIV/AIDS
8. Sustainable development, climate change
1. Tackling health inequalities means tackling climate change – locally and globally

2. Understanding that economic growth is not the most important measure of our country’s success.

3. Prioritising policies and interventions that reduce both health inequalities and mitigate climate change:
   i. sustainable and resilient local communities
   ii. active transport
   iii. sustainable food production
   iv. good quality green spaces across the social gradient
   v. zero-carbon housing will have health benefits for all