

1. The National Health Service Act was published in 1946.
2. The NHS was launched on July 5th 1948
3. The Health Secretary, Aneurin Bevan, launched the NHS at Park Hospital in Manchester
4. The NHS was founded out of the ideal that good healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth.
5. The NHS was founded on three core principles: that it meet the needs of everyone; that it be free at the point of delivery; that it be based on clinical need, not ability
6. When 13-year-old Sylvia Diggery (nee Beckingham) was admitted to a Manchester hospital with a liver condition in 1948, she became the first patient to be treated by the NHS.
7. The Mental Health Act was introduced in 1959, making new provision for the care and treatment of people with mental health problems.
8. The first heart transplant in the UK took place on May 3 1968 at the National Heart Hospital in Marylebone, London.
9. In 1972, CT scans revolutionise the way doctors examine the body
10. In 1978, the world's first baby is born as a result of in vitro fertilisation (IVF)
11. In 1979 the first successful bone marrow transplant on a child takes place
12. In the 1980s, MRI scans are introduced
13. In 1987 the world's first liver, heart and lung transplant is carried out at Papworth Hospital
14. In 1988 breast screening is introduced for women over the age of 50
15. In 1994 the NHS Organ Donor Register is launched
16. In 1991 the first wave of new NHS trusts are established
17. In 1998 NHS Direct is launched becoming one of the largest single e-health services in the world, handling more than half a million calls each month.
18. In 2000, NHS Walk In Centres are introduced offering convenient access to a range of NHS services
19. In 2002 Primary Care Trusts were launched, overseeing 37,000 GPs, 21,000 dentists and controlling 80% of the NHS budget
20. In 2002, the 4-hour target to ensure no patient spends more than 4 hours in an A&E department from arrival to admission, transfer or discharge, is introduced
21. Foundation trusts were first introduced in 2004.
22. In 2007 the NHS Choices website is launched
23. From 1st July 2007, smoking was banned in restaurants, pubs and other public places
24. From 1st April 2008, free choice is introduced for patients
25. On July 5th 2008, the NHS celebrates its 60th birthday
26. The Care Quality Commission was launched in April 2009 to regulate the quality of services in health, mental health and adult social care.
27. In March 2011, the Department of Health published the NHS Constitution, setting out the seven guiding principles of the NHS and the rights of patients
28. Principle 1: The NHS provides a comprehensive service available to all
29. Principle 2: Access to NHS services is based on clinical need, not an individual's ability to pay
30. Principle 3: The NHS aspires to the highest standards of excellence and professionalism
31. Principle 4: The NHS aspires to put patients at the heart of everything it does
32. Principle 5: The NHS works across organisational boundaries and in partnership with other organisations in the interest of patients, local communities and the wider population.
33. Principle 6: The NHS is committed to providing best value for taxpayers' money and the most effective, fair and sustainable use of finite resources.
34. Principle 7: The NHS is accountable to the public, communities and patients that it serves
35. The NHS values are: Working together for patients; Respect and dignity; Commitment to quality of care; Compassion; Improving lives; Everyone counts.



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YEARS
OF THE NHS
1948 - 2018

36. From summer 2013, the new NHS111 service was made available across England.
37. In 2011, the Health and Social Care Bill was published
38. Matthew Green, 40, became the first UK patient to receive an artificial plastic heart implant at Papworth Hospital, Cambridgeshire, in August 2011.
39. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 was published bringing in wide-ranging reforms
40. The London 2012 Olympics opening ceremony pays tribute to the outstanding NHS
41. In April 2013 the NHS Friends and Family Test was launched
42. This year the NHS plans to spend £126bn
43. The NHS budget in 1948 was £437million
44. The NHS is funded mainly from general taxation and National Insurance contributions
45. In England there are 207 clinical commissioning groups
46. In England there are 135 acute non-specialist trusts
47. In England there are 17 acute specialist trusts
48. In England there are 54 mental health trusts
49. In England there are 35 community providers
50. In England there are 10 ambulance trusts
51. In England there are approx. 7,500 GP practices
52. In March 2017, the NHS employed 106,430 doctors, 285,393 nurses and health visitors, and 132,673 scientific, therapeutic and technical staff
53. In comparison with the healthcare systems of ten other countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and USA) the NHS was found to be the most impressive overall by the Commonwealth Fund in 2017.
54. Current health expenditure in the UK was 9.75 per cent of GDP in 2016. This compares to 17.21 per cent in the USA,
55. The NHS deals with over 1 million patients every 36 hours
56. In 2015/16 there were 40 per cent more operations ('procedures and interventions' as defined by Hospital Episode Statistics, excluding diagnostic testing) completed by the NHS compared to 2005/06, with an increase from 7.215m to 10.119m
57. There were 16.252m total hospital admissions in 2015/16, 28 per cent more than a decade earlier
58. The total annual attendances at Accident & Emergency departments was 23.372m in 2016/17, 23.5 per cent higher than a decade earlier
59. At the end of April 2017, there were 3.783 million patients on the waiting list for treatment.
60. 68.7 per cent of Red 1 ambulance calls were responded to within eight minutes
61. The UK population is projected to increase from an estimated 64.6 million in mid-2014 to 69.0 million by 2024 and 72.7 million by 2034.
62. The number of people aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 14.9m in 2014 to 21.9m by 2039. As part of this growth, the number of over-85s is estimated to more than double from 1.5 million in 2014 to 3.6 million by 2039.
63. Life expectancy for English men is 79.4 years
64. Life expectancy for English women is 83.1 years
65. The NHS is the fifth largest employer in the world, behind McDonalds, Walmart the US Department of Defense and China's People's Liberation Army
66. There are more than 100 volunteering roles within health and social care
67. In a typical week, 1.4 million people will receive help in their home from the NHS.
68. Full-time GPs treat an average of 255 patients a week.
69. Around 50,000 people develop an irregular heartbeat each year. It's a major cause of strokes and heart attacks.
70. The NHS identity is one of the most cherished and recognisable brands in the world

