

Advancing towards Sustainable Healthcare

Judith A Hargreaves, RN, MBA, MSc

Vice President Health Economics and Government Affairs





- → The NHS pioneered social health, aiming to keep the population fit, healthy and productive.
- Demographic change, funding and staff insufficiency, and rapidly changing requirements challenge this goal.
- → But have we gone too far and become a "National Sick Care Service"?



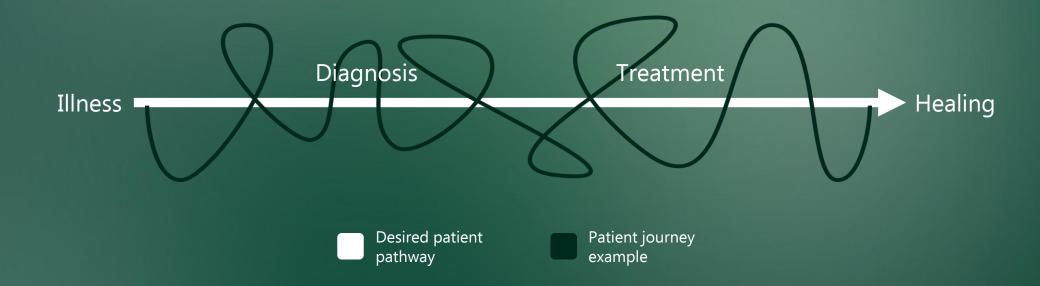
Sustainable Healthcare

Ensures the health and wellbeing needs of the current population are met, without compromising environmental, economic or social resources for future generations¹

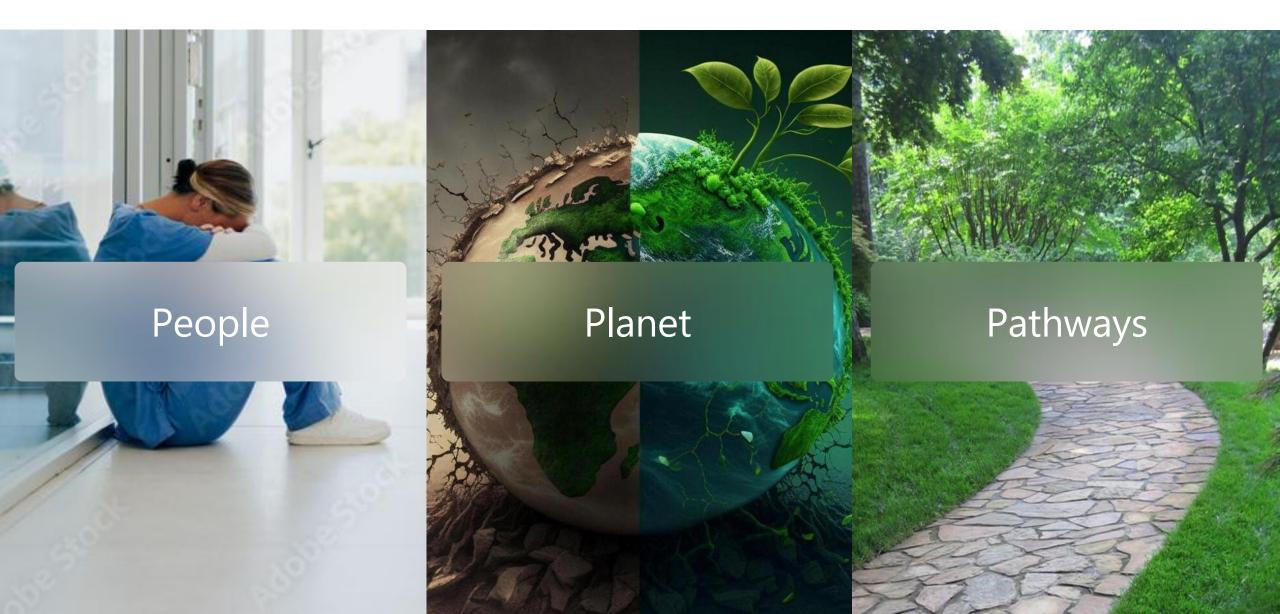


The real problem in health care

Waste, harm and variation



Three pillars of Sustainable Healthcare a Customers' perspective





Reducing interventions

- → Surgical wounds are often redressed multiple times over their average 14-day healing time¹.
- → This requires significant staff time, adds to stress, utilises numerous pieces of sterile equipment, and creates waste.
- Mepilex® Border Post-Op can be worn safely for up to 14 days², one dressing, from operating room to healed patient.
- 1. Bredow J. et al. Evaluation of Absorbent Versus Conventional Wound Dressing. A Randomized Controlled Study in Orthopedic Surgery. Deutsche Arzteblatt International, 2018.
- 2. Van Overschelde Pi et al. Undisturbed wound healing: a single centre retrospective study investigating patient reported outcomes and clinical validity of extended dressing wear time for incisional healing following orthopaedic surgery. The ARCTIS study. Journal of Wound Care: 2024



Reducing clinical waste

- → 30 million viewers saw the artist Maria Koijck's work on reducing medical waste, supported by Mölnlycke.
- → Switching from individually supplied and wrapped medical devices to surgery-specific ProcedurePak® reduced one NHS Trust's packaging waste by up to 90% (around 2.6t)¹.
- Reducing waste helped the Trust fund GHG emission-reducing initiatives¹



Increasing consumption

- Applying evidence-based medicine to inform clinical decision making.
- → Evidence shows that changing surgical gloves prior to incision closure can significantly reduce Surgical Site Infection (SSI) rates.
- → The reduction in SSI treatment conserves environmental, social and economic resources that far outweigh the impact additional pairs of gloves.



Thank you!

Judith A Hargreaves, RN, MBA, MSc Vice President Health Economics and Government Affairs

judith.hargreaves@molnlycke.com