

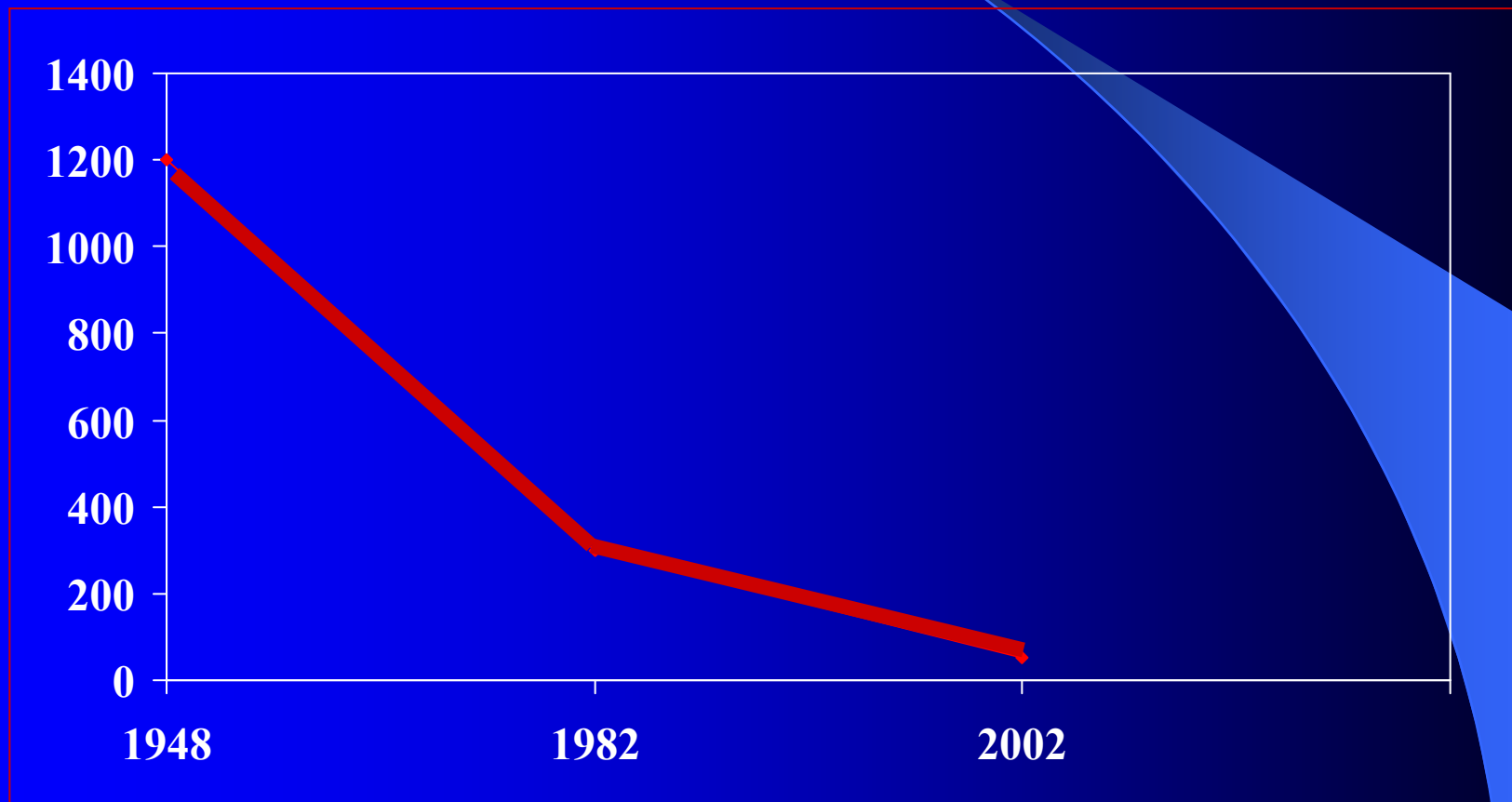
DIRTY LITTLE SECRETS



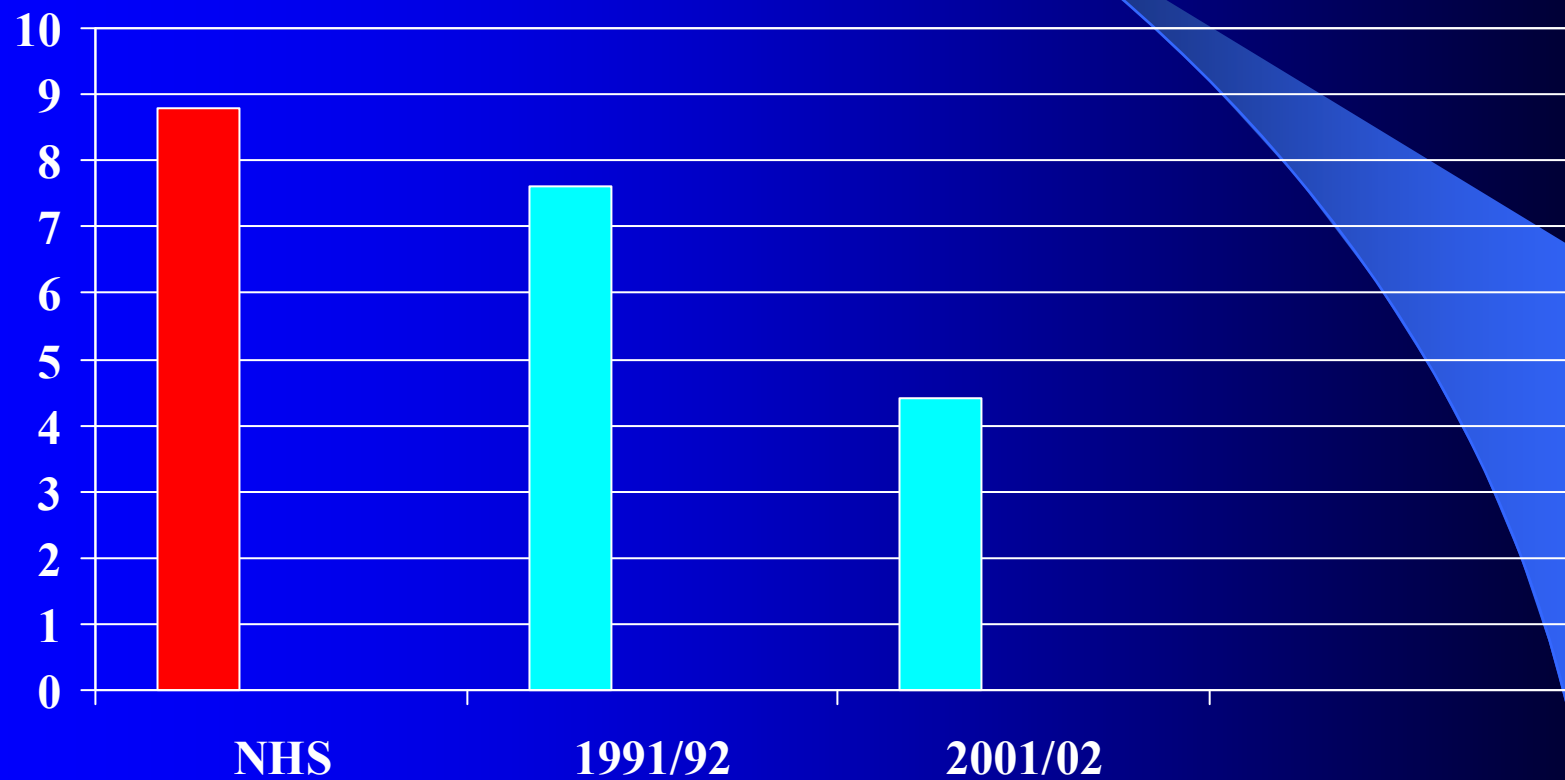
IAN HARGREAVES

MAY 2003

NHS Operated plants



NHS produced items / week



2003 AD

Past



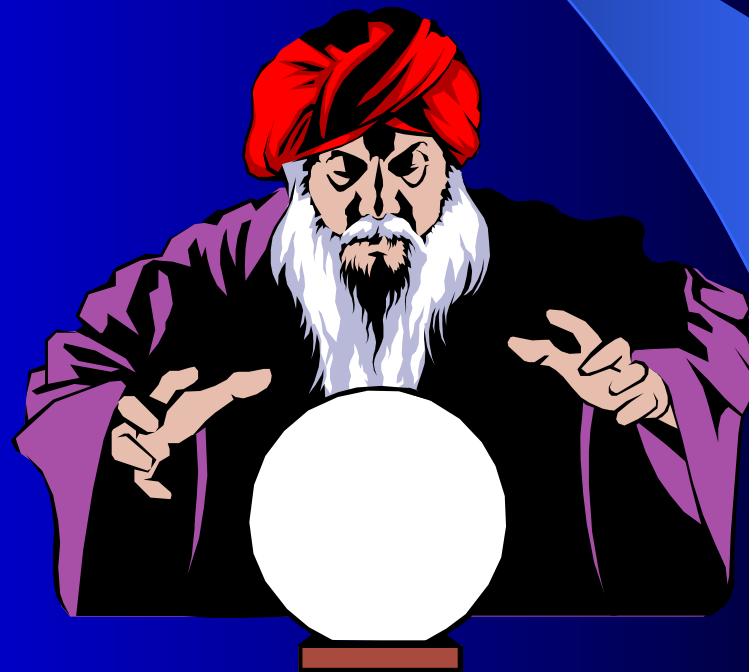
2003 AD

Present



2003 AD

Future



January 2002 - The Watt report

- Every Trust should have a staff uniform policy
- All staff uniforms laundered by or under the control of the NHS
- Staff travelling to & from work in uniform to cease
- Adequate staff changing facilities

Are uniforms, laundered at home safe for use in an Health care environment?

December 2002 - The Times

- 100,000 contract infections from NHS
- 5,000 die from contracted infections
- 15,000 die from infection related incidents
- Suggestions that laundry procedures could account for some of these deaths.

Fact or Supposition

- Suggestions that laundry procedures could account for some of these deaths ???
- HM (71) 49
- HC (87)30
- HSG(95)18

Aimed at reducing the Risk

- Thermal disinfection of textiles 71c
- Bagging procedures for infected items
- Transport arrangements
- Basic good housekeeping, drains, vents etc.

Is HSG(95)18 still relevant?

- Germany 90 C
- France Barrier systems
- Holland Dedicated plants
- Italy separate plants for Health care linen

STANDARDS

- Healthy eating (Catering)
- Cleaner Hospitals (Domestic services)
- Decontamination (Sterile services)
- P.E.A.T
- ISO 9000 (2000)
- Linen Service's (2004)

BS EN14065

- Textiles - Laundry processed textiles, Biocontamination control system
- HACCP (1996) - Hazard analysis critical control points
- Food Safety Act 1990..... Food manufacturers must be able to show diligence to prevent cross contamination.

FACT

- Processing requirements for food industry more stringent than NHS
- Uniform / protective clothing requirements more stringent than NHS

Simple / practical standards

- Are the sheets clean ?
 - Visual
 - hygienically
- Are the curtains clean
 - visual
 - When were they last cleaned ?

- Is the linen suitable for its use?
 - Correct fibre
 - Flame retardant where required
 - Adequate state of repair
- Are suitable storage facilities available for infected linen ?
 - Hopefully separated from clean
 - Correctly bagged

How serious is the NHS at reducing risk ?

- Barrier systems
- Increased temperature processing
- Chemical disinfection
- Changing facilities
- Increased laundry costs
- Anti microbial fabrics

Textiles Strategy

- North / South divide regarding “type” of bed sheet.
- Size of bed sheet
- Style of nightdress
- Pyjama’s tie or elastic waist
- Duvets or counterpanes

Maintenance Strategy

- Most laundries hold the same spare parts
- Tender specifications
- Bulk purchase of equipment
- Share equipment evaluation information

Health technical memorandum

“Fire Safety in Health care premises 87”

- * Polyester / cotton blends of nightwear should not be used.
- Firecode (1999) Polyester / cotton blends are ok to use, so long as labeled “keep away from fire”

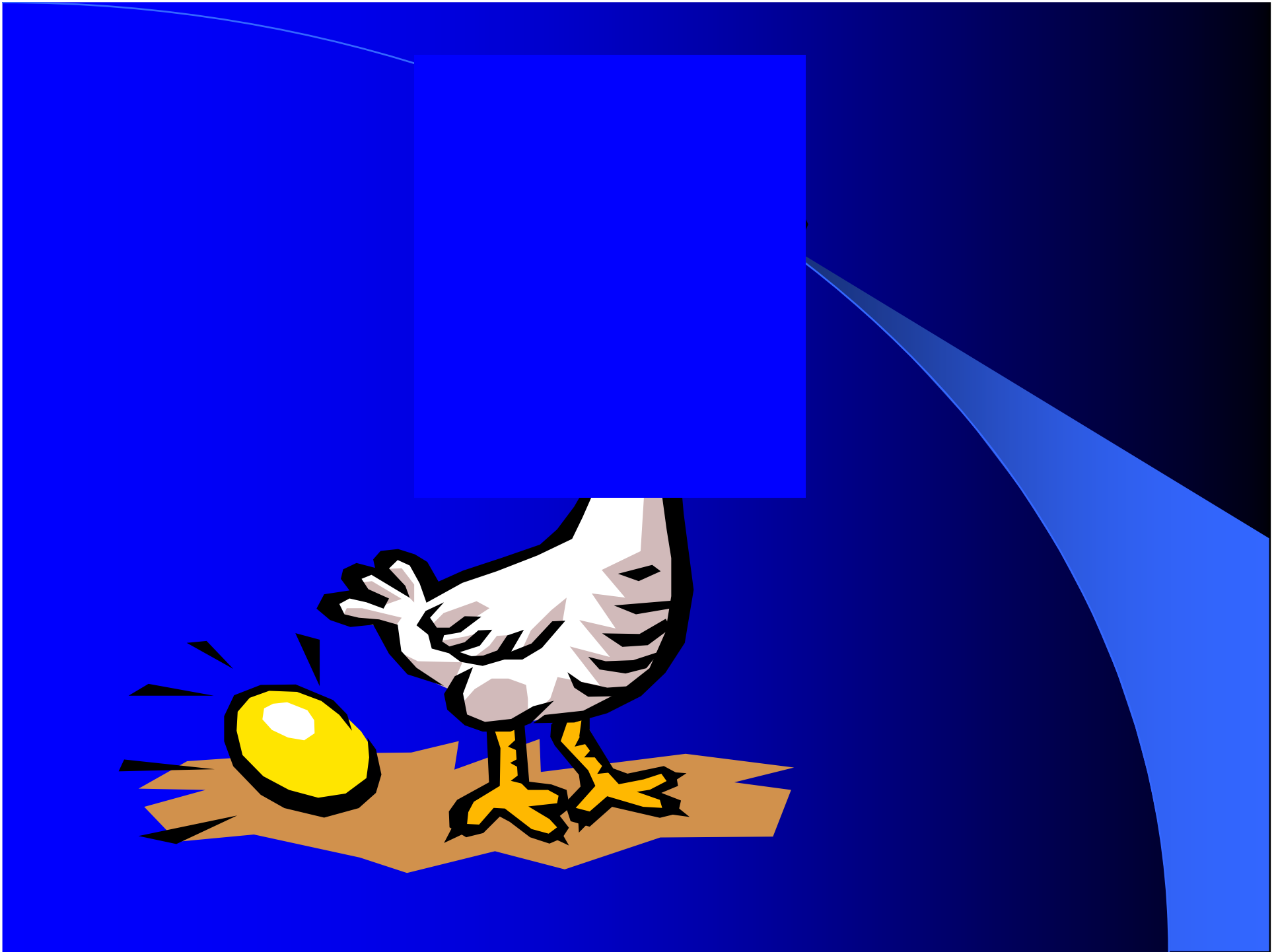
Guidance ?

- 1980 - Department of Health
 - Laundry Engineers / advisors
 - Focal point for “good practice”
- 1999 - NHS Estates
- 2002 - Strategic Health Authorities
- 350 + Trusts

2003

- ~~Great Britain~~

- ~~National Health Service~~



- NHS £11 billion / year
- Linen Services £110 million (1%)
- No centralised buying
- No Standards
- No Checks on purchases

Textiles

- £78 / bed
- 3p / item added to laundry costs
- 185,000 beds @ £78 / bed
- 50% purchased by NHS £7.2 million / yr
- NO Centralised purchasing

Theatre linen



Theatre linen

- Single use v multi use BS EN 13795
- Who decides, criteria, costs (£9 million)
- Advice
 - NHS Estates
 - Strategic Health Authorities
 - Trust
- Will everyone will do there own thing?

1998 Frank Dobson invited all those working in the NHS to comment

“A first class service - Quality in the new NHS.”

“Working together - our proposals to improve the NHS by better management and improved involvement of staff”

Succession planning

- 74% Of Linen Service Managers over 46 yrs
- No structured management training
- No career structure within Linen Services

Contingency planning

- Informal arrangements
- Not robust
- Not tested
- Dependant upon “individuals”

Monitoring of contracts

- In house & Private
- Quality
- Quantity
- Chemical damage
- Plant visits – HSG(95)18
- Vehicles

Benchmarking

- Textile spend / bed
- uniforms / staff (grade)
- utilities per kg
- Textile life

ERIC

- Unit costs 13p
- Honesty
- Catering 17 rpts.....Laundry & Linen 2
- By floor area ?

Bed change policy



Items / bed / week (surgical)

	Appendix J	A	B	C	D
Towels	6.16	4.64	1.80	5.62	4.00
Blkts	3.92	1.82	0.32	4.5	3.00
D/covers	2.10	3.04	3.00	5.00	1.50
Gowns	2.80	1.43	0.72	2.50	2.50
N/wear	2.10	5.36	5.20	4.25	6.00
P/case	8.75	7.14	4.00	21.25	12.50
Sheets	9.80	23.93	15.2	21.50	12.50
Total	35.63	47.36	30.24	64.62	42.00

Items / bed / week (medical)

	Appendix J	A	B	C	D
Towels	6.16	3.12	3.33	7.1	4.33
Blkts	3.92	1.76	1.33	2.67	4.00
D/covers	2.10	2.68	3.13	2.27	1.67
Gowns	0.98	0.44	0.67	0	0.50
N/wear	2.10	4.4	7.8	5.39	3.33
P/case	7.70	12.28	6.33	17.04	10.00
Sheets	9.45	29.6	16.00	22.72	18.33
Total	32.41	54.28	38.59	57.19	42.16

Items / bed / week

- Average items 4 Trusts 44.45 / bed
- Europe 70 items / bed (10 / day)

BED CHANGE POLICY

- All bed linen will be changed prior to a patient being admitted
- Unless soiled / stained, linen will be changed every 3 days
- Pillow cases will be turned / rotated every day, changed after 5 days.

- Infection control / risks
- National Standards
- Textile strategy
- Succession planning
- Contingency plans
- Contract monitoring
- Bed change policy

THANK YOU

