

Running head: HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL CARE SYSTEMS

Submitted by- Shah Nawaz Begum, [2 Forest road](#), London, [SM3 9NS](#), United Kingdom.

Health Care and Social Care Systems

Name of the student

Name of the University

Authors note

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## **Introduction**

Human welfare and sustained economic as well as the social development is very much essential for the good health. As stated by the World Health Organization, health comprises of the completeness of the social, mental and also the physical well being of the person. It does not merely involve the absence of the disease or illness. The social care on the other hand can be explained as the professional care, support, advocacy and protection the groups of people or individuals who are vulnerable or are dependent on each other.

It can be stated that the healthcare system in an organization comprising of the institutions, resources and the individual people to whom the services of the healthcare industry is to be provided to meet the needs of the target population's health needs.

The essay is focused to analyze the international health as well as the social care systems and prove a comparison between the two systems found in the four countries of the UK and Malawi.

## **The international health care and social care systems of United Kingdom**

### **England:**

In England, the department of the Health generally governs the health and the social care systems. The department of the Health is responsible for providing the guidelines to the local government bodies and the centers of the healthcare unit and to the NHS, i.e. the National Health Services (Abuabara et al., 2017). The NHS and the Social Care are provided with the strategic leadership by the health department of the England. They deliver the services with the help of the

partners and they themselves do not get involved directly as they performs the task of monitoring the performances of the units related to the department of the health and shows a close relationship among the related bodies. The payments for these services are made from the taxes that are paid by the people. The services are therefore free to use. Apart from this, there are the private healthcare units that provide the healthcare services to those who are paying.

The social services are provided by the 150 councils found in the England with the help of the department of the Health and the related public bodies that are non-departmental, for example, the General Social Care Council (Akazili et al., 2017). This body is responsible for the regulation of the work of the professional social workers and its related education that is necessary. These professionals are working with the people who are in the vulnerable position in the society. It is very important for them to have in-depth knowledge of the context they are working in and maintain the standards of their works by gaining proper trainings.

**Wales:**

In the Wales, there is a need for the continual improvement in the health care system. The government of the Wales is responsible for the monitoring of the healthy services with the help of the Health and Social Services Directorate. The services of the health industry are further divided into the primary, the secondary and the tertiary services of care by the general practitioners and other institutions (Bourassa et al., 2017). The services also include the ambulances and the general hospitals and specialist hospitals, the general practitioners, etc. among these the specialist hospitals are responsible for treating some particular kind of disease or illness such as the cancer.

With the help of the social services of the local body's partnership, the people are provided with the community care services, generally these services are given to the patients at their own place (Gutacker et al., 2017). The twenty-two local authorities of the government of Wales provide the social services to the people as stated by the government and there are the eighteen hundred independent as well as private organizations.

The Wales government passed the Care Standards Act 2000 to set the regulations and the minimum standards. The local authorities of the Wales provide support to around one million people from the locality (Burkle et al., 2017). Both the local government and the central government of Wales shares the responsibility of the social and health care services, they also provide the plan and provide the services over the Wales' governmental bodies to assess them.

**Scotland:**

In Scotland, the NHS Scotland is providing the services of the healthcare. The Scottish Government Health Directorate manages the NHS centrally. The NHS includes around 12000 employees as nurses and doctors (Eide & Ingstad, 2017). There are the 14 boards of the NHS that are regional that delivers health services such as the management of the performances and the leadership to the local system of Scotland.

The Scottish Social Services Council or the (SSSC) is responsible for registering the people working for the social services that regulates the training, development and education. Around 198000 employees or more are involved in the variety of task range and the different people using this service. There are codes of practices that are set for the employees and the employers by the SSSC. They are responsible for setting the standards for the social workers as

well as their employers to provide effective justified services to the people of Scotland (Feller et al., 2017).

### **Northern Ireland:**

The Health Department, Social Services and the Public Safety provide the hospital policies and the legislations to the institution of hospitals, community and personal health services and the family practitioners (Delnord et al., 2017). They are all responsible for the improvement of the health of the people living in Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland's community care and the social services are categorized into Trusts. The names of the Trusts are as follows:

- Fostering in the Northern Ireland
- Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
- Western Health and Social Care Trust
- South-Eastern Health and Social Services, etc.

The country is having a Patient and Client Council that provides their views on the issues of the health and the social care. They act after listening to the views of the people and encourage them for involvement (Clark, 2017). They also encourage filing complaints, if it is needed and advise them by giving them the information about the matters.

Among the differences that were found among the systems of the public healthcare, one is the cost for the prescription of the patients. The countries like the Wales, the Northern Ireland and also the Scotland were found to adopt the abolishment of the charges related to the prescriptions. However, England is found to charge the patients for the prescriptions who are

within the age bracket of 16-60 years. There are exceptions regarding the contraceptive pills that are provided by the state government. However, lower income or patients with illness like cancer are exempted to pay the prescription charges (Butler et al., 2017). As the delivery of the health care services are considered as a developed matter there are few differences that are found to exist within the systems of the mentioned countries.

### **The International Health care and social care systems of Malawi**

Malawi is the country, which is situated in the South Africa. The country found to experience the prevalence of the deadly diseases like the AIDS or HIV, Malaria and the existence of the Tuberculosis and others (Jerene et al., 2017).

The existence of the health as well as the social systems in the 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries such as the Malawi is found to be absent. This is because of the shortage of the professional healthcare practices. This is also affecting the treatment of the HIV or AIDS among the people who are infected (Matz et al., 2017). There is the lack of interest among the international donors to spend money for the treatment of these diseases making the plan for the treatment much more difficult.

The hospitals that are run by the government in the Malawi are designed as three tiered networks that provide the medical facilities. The large network is included in the third tier that consists of the rural hospitals found across the country. The services they offer are free of costs and are often considered as the only medical facility that is available to the villagers get in their life cycle.

The cases are registered in the nearest hospitals of the villager's homes. These hospitals lack the availability of the doctors and the nurses almost in every rural hospital (Papanicolas & Cylus, 2017). However, there are equipments for performing the surgeries but the surgeons are not available for carrying out the minor surgeries, leaving these equipments unused. As stated by



Semba, (2017) there has been new equipments that have been taken up for carrying out surgeries but there are no surgeons available to complete even the minor of the surgeries. This makes the equipments just apiece of mere machines that has no use in actuality. Rural hospitals have been set up for treatment of the people but there are no supplies that reach the rural hospitals. As stated by Walls, & Ooms, (2017) the system that has been adapted is designed in such a way that it meets the need of the top tier of the hospitals then to the next tier and at the end of it supplies are given to the rural hospitals. This makes the rural hospitals not capable of treating critical cases of any patient. When a critical case arrives in the rural hospitals they find it difficult to treat the patient and they have to transfer the patient to the upper tier district hospitals. There are facilities that are allocated in the district hospitals of Malawi in all of its 27 districts. Due to the adaptation of this plan the district hospitals of Malawi perform the surgery related treatment and deal with the more critical cases. As described by World Health Organization (WHO). (2017), there is a shortage of good doctors, surgeons and very less number of nurses is available even in the district level hospitals of Malawi. As stated by World Health Organization. (2017) The designed structure of medical system fails even in the top tier of the hospitals as there are very less availability of medicines even in the top tier of the hospitals.

The top tier of the hospitals are present in the most urban places of Malawi. But as the medicines or the medical assistance is left short the total medical structure fails. Only few doctors and nurses are present in the top tiers of the hospitals to take care of the growing dangerous diseases like HIV, tuberculosis, malaria childbirth and the other serious issues. The issues are increasing gradually for a big reason that the doctors who are graduating leave the country to go to the other places.(Zelmer et al.,2017)

## Conclusion

It is very much difficult to draw the comparison between the aspects of the United Kingdom and the Malawi from the available information. The World Health Ranking marked the health and the social system of the United Kingdom as the eighteenth among the others. The Malawi is found to stand on the rank of one hundred and eighty fifth or 185<sup>th</sup> on the list. The health care systems are implemented with appropriate policies relating to the healthcare. The proper allocation of the resources as well as the work force is found in the context of United Kingdom's healthcare departments.

Whereas in case of the Malawi the non-existence of the social as well as health care systems as it is one of the third world countries where the resources are found in limited quantity and are not even handled with proper care. They also lack skilled work force that results in the mishandling of the available limited resources.

The issue of the health inequality is found in both United Kingdom and Malawi. The ratio of the health inequality is much higher in the Malawi than in the United Kingdom. There is the need to produce the proper combination of the action's policy and their sequencing order and also the proper utilization of the resources as well the requirement for the effective communication in the Malawi to increase their health care standards. The things that are necessary for this purpose are the public investment scaling, building of the capacity, mobilization of the domestic resources and the development of the assistance by building strong international partnerships. The Malawi government is required to strengthen the polices of the government in the context, take care of the human rights and involve themselves in promoting the services of the healthcare units of the government in the society.

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