The end of the European welfare state
- Is it a reality in European countries?

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Total health spending as percentage of GDP 1960-2010, all OECD countries

Note: GDP, gross domestic product
Use of warfarin/ OAC in AF pats with riskfactors – large variations.

Complications related to implantation of devices (PM, ICD, CRT) - large variations.
Projected spending on health & elderly care as percentage of GDP; with and without assumptions about improvements in technology

Source: Ministry of Health and Social Affairs Sweden (2010)
Sweden - Redefining health care

Creation of “value-based” health care;

• Value = the health outcomes achieved per dollar spent.

“Health outcome”

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Cost
Value-based health care (VBHC)

- Re-focus towards “value” rather than “volume”
- Focus on “health outcomes” rather than focus on “process”.
- Patient management organised according to disease states, including concomitant diseases, instead of focus on subspecialities or interventions.
- Medical conditions handled by multi-disciplinary teams, with different specialties and levels of care.
- Includes care stakeholders to interact across care boundaries, e.g., nurses responsible for clinical history interview or physical investigation and discharge evaluation (orthopedic ward Uppsala, surgical ward Linkoping).
- Learn from registries, use data from long-term follow-ups to guide suitable treatments.

Porter and Teisberg; “Re-defining health care”

www.escardio.org/EHRA
Physicians has become outsiders
From 2015; no longer industry sponsored congresses or meetings,

- No planned hospital, community or state budget for continuous medical education replacing industrial support for physicians in Sweden;

No formalised Examination in Cardiology

- Voluntary via Swedish Society of Cardiology

No formalised subspecialty training, no CME scores.
Cardiology chairs at University Hospitals
- Zero professors.
  • Shift in power from physicians to admin. personel/ politicians

Health care mistakes made – only a few analysed
Conclusions

• The end of the European welfare state - Is it a reality in European countries?

• It is not the end - But of great concern, at least in Sweden