



LOSLASSEN

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million (13.5% of the population) (ONS 2002).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the health care needs of the elderly population. The Department of Health (2000) has set out a strategy for the NHS to meet the needs of the elderly population. This strategy is based on the following principles:

- The NHS should be able to meet the needs of the elderly population.
- The NHS should be able to meet the needs of the elderly population in a way that is cost-effective.
- The NHS should be able to meet the needs of the elderly population in a way that is accessible.

The NHS is currently unable to meet the needs of the elderly population in a way that is cost-effective, accessible, and of high quality. This is due to a number of factors, including:

- The increasing number of people aged 65 and over.
- The increasing number of people aged 65 and over who are in poor health.
- The increasing number of people aged 65 and over who are in long-term care.

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