

**TEKST 3**

- 1p ● 3 Wat wil Richard Hardwick duidelijk maken met de onderstaande brief?
- A Dat de kwaliteit van het medisch personeel veel te wensen overlaat.
  - B Dat de overheid veel meer geld moet investeren in de gezondheidszorg.
  - C Dat het behandelen van een ernstig zieke patiënt nu veel duurder is dan vroeger.

News Unlimited | The Observer | The NHS – a national disgrace |

## The NHS<sup>1)</sup> – a national disgrace

Sunday January 16, 2000

It was refreshing to read a sensible article about the NHS (Leader Comment, last week). As a consultant surgeon, I spend every day of my working life struggling to cope with totally inadequate facilities. The NHS is a national disgrace. The public are only just waking up to this fact, partly because politicians are always telling them how good it is. The patients who use the service know otherwise. It is grossly underfunded and

failing miserably. I have cancer patients queuing up at home waiting for surgery because of a lack of beds, overstretched resources, too few specialist surgeons and inadequate operating-room facilities. A flu epidemic may put the NHS in the spotlight briefly but it is up to the media to keep up the pressure on government and campaign for action. Money really is the answer, and lots of it.

**Richard Hardwick MD FRCS**  
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NHS = the National Health Service