

**OHE Lunchtime Seminar with Prof Luigi Siciliani,
Department of Economics and Related Studies,
University of York**

Waiting Time Policies in the Health Sector: What Works?

**16th September 2015 between 12:00-2:00pm
King George V, Marriott County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd,
London, SE1 7PB**

A buffet lunch will be available from 12:00 noon. The seminar will start promptly at 12.30 pm and finish promptly at 2.00 pm

The seminar has three purposes. First, it will summarise key findings of a recent overview of policies aiming to reduce waiting times in 13 OECD countries. It will highlight several "success" stories of policies that obtained significant reductions in the last decade (Siciliani, Borowitz and Moran, 2013, Health Policy Studies). Policies will be distinguished between those acting on the demand, the supply or both. It will be argued that a key factor of success is the combination of supply policies with maximum waiting-times targets or guarantees. Implications for countries facing a reduction in available resources will be drawn. Second, it will provide comparative evidence of waiting times across OECD countries and show how the UK waits have evolved in the last decade compared to other countries. Third, based on recent empirical literature, it will discuss the presence of inequalities in waiting times by socioeconomic status even within publicly-funded health systems in several countries.

Luigi Siciliani is a Professor of Health Economics at the Department of Economics and Related Studies at the University of York, where he directs the MSc in Health Economics. He is a co-Editor of the Journal of Health Economics. Prior to this he worked for the OECD in 2000-01 under the first OECD waiting time project. He has specialised in the economics of hospitals and has published over 40 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

If you would like to attend this seminar please reply to Kerry Sheppard (ksheppard@ohe.org). If you are unable to attend but think that a colleague might like to, please pass on this letter to them.

Yours faithfully



Adrian Towse
Director