

### **Case study: how an ISTC is damaging an Oxfordshire hospital**

The Capio Independent Sector Treatment Centre for elective orthopaedics opened on the Horton Hospital site on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2006.

Since that date, no orthopaedic operations or clinics have been held at the Horton.

By mid September very few operations had been carried out in the Capio centre and the system for outpatient clinics does not appear to be functional. Patients discharged from the Horton are still unable to get information on when their follow up appointments are to be.

Capio is being paid £1.3 million per month. This is a guaranteed sum, whatever the amount of work done.

Horton Hospital is administered by the Oxford Radcliffe Trust. On an annual basis, the amount being paid to Capio represents half of the trust's deficit. Horton Hospital is now threatened with substantial cuts.

But the Trust's figures show that the maximum cost of increased staffing at the Horton to enable it to meet all current regulations and maintain all its services would be £1.85million per year.

**This sum is being paid to Capio every six weeks.**

Even the government's stated aims of competition and patient choice are not being met. There is no competition if the income is guaranteed and the people were given no choice between having Capio and maintaining services at the Horton.

**Why did the Oxford Radcliffe Trust and/or the PCT agree to this contract, which is neither affordable nor necessary, as orthopaedic targets were already being met?**

**In doing so they have failed to protect the interests of the people for whose health care they are responsible.**