

12/13 Disease and Society in the 21st Century

Changing Patterns of Disease

- Approaching a square-shaped mortality curve?
- Longevity, but with chronic illness? Or with mental illness?
- Reversal of the demographic transition?
- Challenge of increasing obesity, diabetes, heart disease, etc.
- Challenge of resurgent infectious disease: HIV, SARS, Bird Flu

Will Medicine Be Able To Preserve Health

- Failure to deploy HAART on a global scale
- Few good options for Bird Flu
- The Red Queen Effect: Is medicine well suited for our burden of disease?
- Disease, behavior, and individualism: tobacco-related mortality
- Preventable mortality: why have we failed?

What Role for the Medical Profession?

- High, but eroding, prestige
- How will costs be contained?
- How best to improve international health?
- What obligation do we have to ensure the health of others?