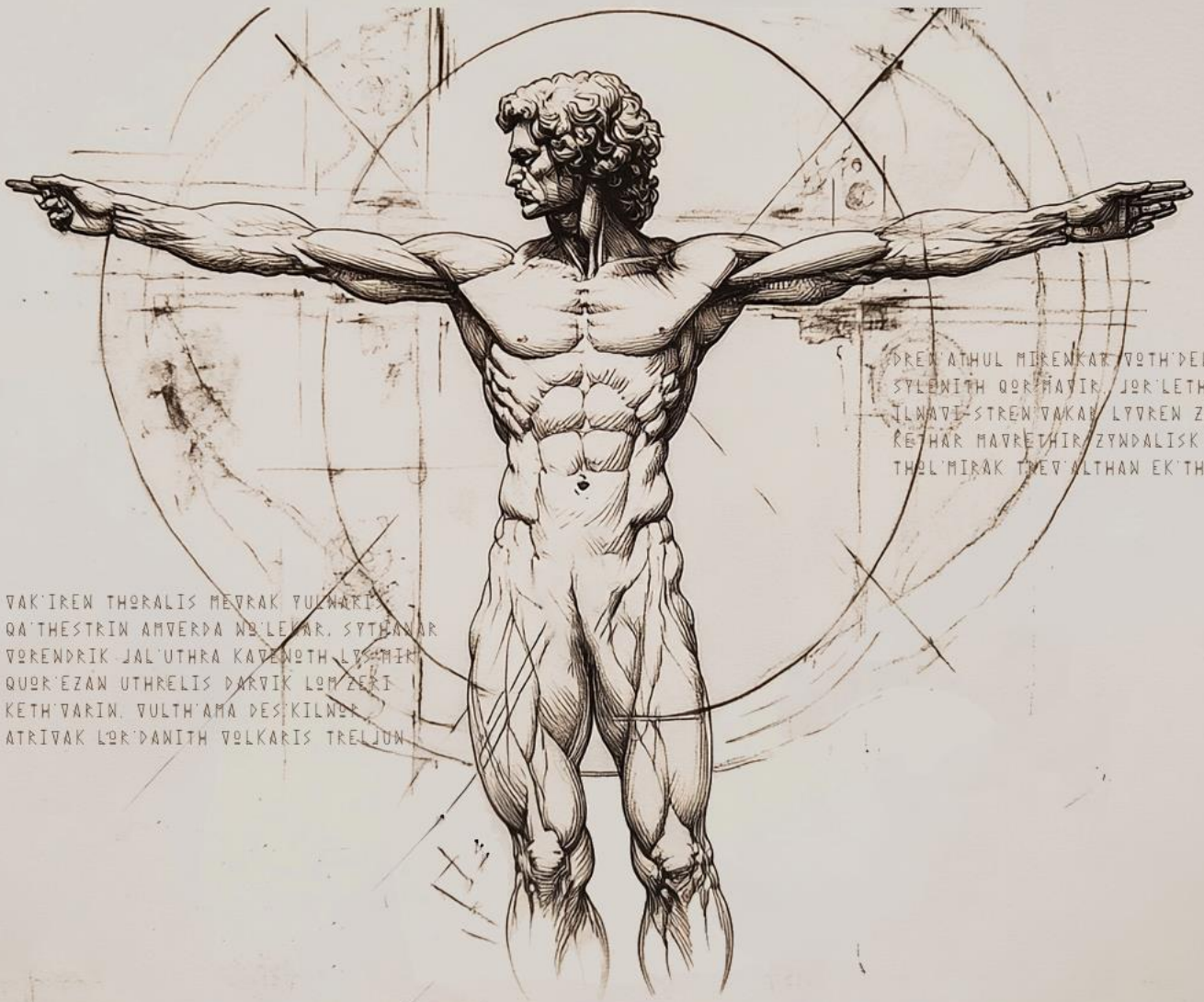
THE PHYSICAL DEGENERATION OF MAN



DREN'ATHUL MIRENKAR VOTH'DELKAR SYLONITH QOR'HAVIR, JOR'LETHAR ILWAVI-STREN'VAKAR, LYVREN ZHOL RE'HAR MAVRETHIR ZYNDALISK THOL'MIRAK TREV'ALTHAN EK'THARIS

VAK'IREN THORALIS MEVRAK YULWARIS QA'THESTRIN AMVERDA WO'LEKAR. SYTHANAR VORENDRIK JAL'UTHRA KAVENOTH LYS'MIR. QUOR'EZAN UTHRELIS DARVIK LOM'ZERI KETH'VARIN. VULTH'AMA DES'KILNOR ATRIVAK LOR'DANITH VOLKARIS TRELJUN

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BY JAMIN THOMPSON

In the following, I want to briefly describe an econopathogenic puzzle or riddle that I will then explore and solve in detail.

But before that, it is necessary to make a few brief general theoretical observations:

Modern man has been declining in physical fitness for the past 100 years.

This has been well documented by many prominent sociologists, researchers, and scholars.

And not only is the health and physical fitness of modern man degenerating over time, but the rate of degeneration is progressively accelerating year over year.

This, by any means, should constitute a great cause for alarm, particularly since this is taking place in spite of the high-tech advances that have been made in modern science and medicine along many lines of investigation.

Modern medicine has somewhat eased the sufferings of the masses, but it's quite difficult to pinpoint a cure it has actually produced since polio.

Indeed, there has been a significant reduction in the epidemic infectious diseases, but modern medicine has not reduced human sufferings as much as it endeavors to make us believe.

Many of the common plagues and diseases of bacterial origin that terrorized our ancestors have decreased significantly due to advances in antibiotics, vaccination, and public health infrastructure, but despite these triumphs of yesteryear, the problem of disease is far from solved.

Alas, there is never absolute victory, there are only tradeoffs.

Today, despite our wins over many bacteria, certain bacterial pathogens still exhibit resurgence and persistence due to antibiotic resistance and epidemiological shifts. Emerging multidrug-resistant strains (e.g., MRSA and MDR-TB), are prime examples of the challenge we face in controlling disease in the context of modern healthcare.

Additionally, the differential persistence of diseases like cholera and tuberculosis underscore the ongoing complexity in achieving comprehensive bacterial disease control.

Modern man is delicate, like a flower; and the present health condition in the United States is in dire straits.

Roughly 22 million healthcare workers attend to the medical needs of 334 million people in the United States. Every year, this population experiences approximately 1 billion illnesses, ranging from minor to severe cases.

In hospitals, over 920,000 beds are available, with roughly 600,000 occupied daily.

Every day, approximately 5% of the U.S. population (about 16.7 million people) is too sick to go to school, work, or engage in their usual activities.

On average, every American—man, woman, and child—experiences around 10 days of health-related incapacity each year.

Children spend an estimated 6-7 days sick in bed per year, while adults over age 65 have an average of around 34 days.

Approximately 133 million Americans (representing 40% of the population) suffer from chronic diseases, including heart disease, arthritis, and diabetes.

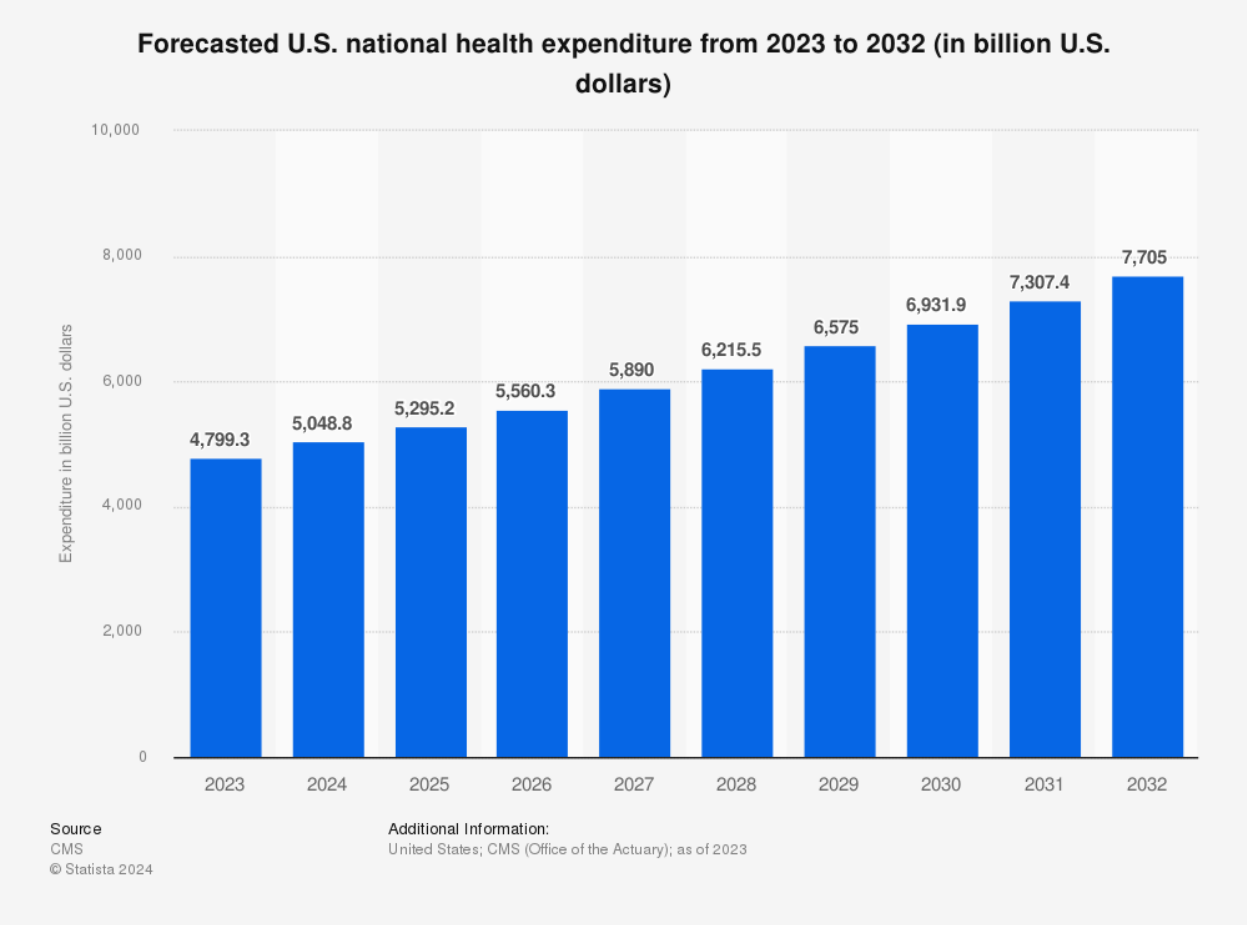
Today, around 200,000 people are totally deaf; an additional 500,000 are hearing impaired.

1.6 million Americans are living with the loss of a limb, 300,000 suffer from significant spinal injuries, and 1 million are blind.

Approximately 2 million individuals live with permanent mobility-limiting disabilities.

Approximately 1 in 5 adults in the United States (about 57 million people) experiences mental illness each year, with 5% experiencing severe mental illness that impairs daily functioning; and suicide rates have increased nearly 35% over the past twenty years.

Healthcare spending in the United States is rising, presenting serious challenges for the federal budget, according to projections from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).



In 2032, the total health expenditure of the United States is forecasted to reach roughly 7.7 trillion dollars.

National health expenditures (NHE), which includes both public and private healthcare spending, are expected to rise from $4.8 trillion (or $14,423 per person) in 2023 to $7.7 trillion (or $21,927 per person) by 2032.

Relative to the size of the economy, NHE is projected to grow from 17.6 percent of GDP in 2023 to nearly 20 percent by 2032, as rising healthcare costs will outpace overall economic growth.

Chronic illnesses are estimated to cost the U.S. economy roughly $1.1 trillion per year in direct healthcare costs and around $3.7 trillion in total economic impact when including lost productivity.