

Care Quality Commission

Inspection Evidence Table

Thornton Practice (1-4357960705)

Inspection date: 16 October 2018

Date of data download: 02 October 2018

Please note: Any Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) data relates to 2016/17.

Safe

Safety systems and processes

Safeguarding	Y/N
There was a lead member of staff for safeguarding processes and procedures.	Y
Safety and safeguarding systems, processes and practices were developed, implemented and communicated to staff.	Y
Policies were in place covering adult and child safeguarding.	Y
Policies were updated and reviewed and accessible to all staff.	Y
Partners and staff were trained to appropriate levels for their role (for example level three for GPs, including locum GPs)	Y
Information about patients at risk was shared with other agencies in a timely way.	Y
Systems were in place to highlight vulnerable patients on record. There was a risk register of specific patients	Y
Disclosure and Barring Service checks were undertaken where required	Y
Explanation of any 'No' answers:	

Recruitment Systems	Y/N
Recruitment checks were carried out in accordance with regulations (including for agency staff and locums).	Y
Staff vaccination was maintained in line with current Public Health England (PHE) guidance and if relevant to role.	Y
Systems were in place to ensure the registration of clinical staff (including nurses and pharmacists) was checked and regularly monitored.	Y
Staff who require medical indemnity insurance had it in place	Y
Explanation of any answers: All new staff were required to attend Occupational Health for health screening.	

Safety Records	Y/N
There was a record of portable appliance testing or visual inspection by a competent person Date of last inspection/Test: 01/10/2018	Y
There was a record of equipment calibration Date of last calibration: 01/10/2018	Y
Risk assessments were in place for any storage of hazardous substances e.g. liquid nitrogen, storage of chemicals	Y
Fire procedure in place	Y
Fire extinguisher checks	Y
Fire drills and logs	Y
Fire alarm checks	Y
Fire training for staff	Y
Fire marshals	Y
Fire risk assessment Date of completion: August 2017	Y
Actions were identified and completed.	Y
Additional observations:	
Health and safety Premises/security risk assessment?	Y
Health and safety risk assessment and actions Date of last assessment: September 2018	Y
Additional comments:	

Infection control	Y/N
<p>Risk assessment and policy in place</p> <p>Date of last infection control audit:</p> <p>The practice acted on any issues identified</p> <p>Detail:</p> <p>Monthly cleanliness and infection control audits were carried out. High scores were achieved and action had been taken to address an outstanding issue for a bench in one of the clinical rooms to be repaired or replaced.</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>09/20/2018</p>
The arrangements for managing waste and clinical specimens kept people safe?	Y

Risks to patients

Question	Y/N
There was an effective approach to managing staff absences and busy periods.	Y
Risk management plans were developed in line with national guidance.	Y
Staff knew how to respond to emergency situations.	Y
Receptionists were aware of actions to take if they encountered a deteriorating or acutely unwell patient and had been given guidance on identifying such patients.	Y
In addition, there was a process in the practice for urgent clinician review of such patients.	Y
The practice had equipment available to enable assessment of patients with presumed sepsis.	Y
There were systems in place to enable the assessment of patients with presumed sepsis in line with National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance.	Y
Explanation of any answers:	

Information to deliver safe care and treatment

Question	Y/N
Referral letters contained specific information to allow appropriate and timely referrals.	Y
Referrals to specialist services were documented.	Y
The practice had a documented approach to the management of test results and this was managed in a timely manner.	Y
The practice demonstrated that when patients use multiple services, all the information needed for their ongoing care was shared appropriately and in line with relevant protocols.	Y
Explanation of any answers:	

Appropriate and safe use of medicines

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
Number of antibacterial prescription items prescribed per Specific Therapeutic group Age-sex Related Prescribing Unit (STAR PU) (01/07/2017 to 30/06/2018) NHS Business Service Authority - NHSBSA)	1.17	1.10	0.95	Comparable with other practices
The number of prescription items for co-amoxiclav, cephalosporins and quinolones as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for selected antibacterial drugs (BNF 5.1 sub-set). (01/07/2017 to 30/06/2018) (NHSBSA)	7.3%	8.1%	8.7%	Comparable with other practices

Medicines Management	Y/N
The practice had a process and clear audit trail for the management of information about changes to a patient's medicines including changes made by other services.	Y
Staff had the appropriate authorisations in place to administer medicines (including Patient Group Directions or Patient Specific Directions).	Y
Prescriptions (pads and computer prescription paper) were kept securely and monitored.	Y
There was a process for the management of medicines including high risk medicines (for example, warfarin, methotrexate and lithium) with appropriate monitoring and clinical review prior to prescribing.	Y See notes below
The practice monitored the prescribing of controlled drugs. (For example audits for unusual prescribing, quantities, dose, formulations and strength).	Y
There were arrangements for raising concerns around controlled drugs with the NHS England Area Team Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer.	Y
If the practice had controlled drugs on the premises there were systems for the safe ordering, checks on receipt, storage, administration, balance checks and disposal of these medicines in line with national guidance.	NA
Up to date local prescribing guidelines were in use.	Y
For remote or online prescribing there were effective protocols in place for identifying and verifying the patient in line with General Medical Council guidance.	Y
The practice held appropriate emergency medicines and risk assessments were in place to determine the range of medicines held.	Y
The practice had arrangements to monitor the stock levels and expiry dates of emergency medicines/medical gases.	Y
There was medical oxygen on site.	Y
The practice had a defibrillator.	Y
Both were checked regularly and this was recorded.	Y

Medicines that required refrigeration were appropriately stored, monitored and transported in line with PHE guidance to ensure they remained safe and effective in use.	Y
<p>Explanation of any answers:</p> <p>The system in place for monitoring patients taking high risk medicines required review to ensure it is more consistently applied and fail safe.</p>	

Track record on safety and lessons learned and improvements made

Significant events	Y/N
There was a system for recording and acting on significant events	Y
Staff understood how to report incidents both internally and externally	Y
There was evidence of learning and dissemination of information	Y
Number of events recorded in last 12 months.	12
Number of events that required action	12

Example(s) of significant events recorded and actions by the practice;

Event	Specific action taken
Medicines prescribing error.	Investigation carried out and new procedure introduced for dealing with request for repeat prescriptions.
Incident involving patient care.	Investigation carried out and change in procedures for dealing with medical emergencies.

Safety Alerts	Y/N
There was a system for recording and acting on safety alerts	Y
Staff understand how to deal with alerts	Y
<p>Comments on systems in place:</p> <p>A clear system was in place for demonstrating the actions taken in response to safety alerts.</p>	

Effective

Effective needs assessment, care and treatment

Prescribing				
Indicator	Practice performance	CCG average	England average	England comparison
Average daily quantity of Hypnotics prescribed per Specific Therapeutic group Age-sex Related Prescribing Unit (STAR PU) (01/07/2017 to 30/06/2018) (NHSBSA)	0.62	0.95	0.83	Comparable with other practices

People with long-term conditions

Diabetes Indicators				
Indicator	Practice performance	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last IFCC-HbA1c is 64 mmol/mol or less in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	83.1%	79.6%	79.5%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	17.7% (28)	11.8%	12.4%	
Indicator	Practice performance	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last blood pressure reading (measured in the preceding 12 months) is 140/80 mmHg or less (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	77.2%	74.6%	78.1%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	8.2% (13)	8.2%	9.3%	

Indicator	Practice performance	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, whose last measured total cholesterol (measured within the preceding 12 months) is 5 mmol/l or less (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	83.5%	81.4%	80.1%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	12.0% (19)	10.3%	13.3%	

Other long term conditions				
Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with asthma, on the register, who have had an asthma review in the preceding 12 months that includes an assessment of asthma control using the 3 RCP questions, NICE 2011 menu ID: NM23 (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	73.4%	73.2%	76.4%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	1.5% (3)	11.2%	7.7%	
Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with COPD who have had a review, undertaken by a healthcare professional, including an assessment of breathlessness using the Medical Research Council dyspnoea scale in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	94.1%	87.3%	90.4%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	1.9% (2)	12.0%	11.4%	

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with hypertension in whom the last blood pressure reading measured in the preceding 12 months is 150/90mmHg or less (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	86.9%	82.3%	83.4%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	2.7% (14)	4.8%	4.0%	
Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
In those patients with atrial fibrillation with a record of a CHA2DS2-VASc score of 2 or more, the percentage of patients who are currently treated with anti-coagulation drug therapy (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	79.7%	86.3%	88.4%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	9.2% (6)	7.1%	8.2%	
Any additional evidence or comments				

Families, children and young people

Child Immunisation				
Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Practice %	Comparison to WHO target
The percentage of children aged 1 who have completed a primary course of immunisation for Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio, Pertussis, Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib)((i.e. three doses of DTaP/IPV/Hib) (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (NHS England)	34	37	91.9%	Met 90% minimum (no variation)
The percentage of children aged 2 who have received their booster immunisation for Pneumococcal infection (i.e. received Pneumococcal booster) (PCV booster) (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (NHS England)	19	21	90.5%	Met 90% minimum (no variation)
The percentage of children aged 2 who have received their immunisation for Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib) and Meningitis C (MenC) (i.e. received Hib/MenC booster) (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (NHS England)	19	21	90.5%	Met 90% minimum (no variation)
The percentage of children aged 2 who have received immunisation for measles, mumps and rubella (one dose of MMR) (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (NHS England)	18	21	85.7%	Below 90% minimum (variation negative)

Any additional evidence or comments

The practice monitored non-attendance of babies and children at vaccination clinics and staff told us they would report any concerns they identified to relevant professionals. One member of staff provided us with a good example to demonstrate this.

The above data for the percentage of children aged 2 who have received immunisation for measles, mumps and rubella has improved since the above data was published. The practice manager informed us that the most up to date information for achievement shows that this is now at 94%. This is unverified information.

Working age people (including those recently retired and students)

Cancer Indicators				
Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of women eligible for cervical cancer screening at a given point in time who were screened adequately within a specified period (within 3.5 years for women aged 25 to 49, and within 5.5 years for women aged 50 to 64) (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (Public Health England)	74.6%	70.5%	72.1%	Comparable with other practices
Females, 50-70, screened for breast cancer in last 36 months (3 year coverage, %) (PHE)	67.4%	64.0%	70.3%	N/A
Persons, 60-69, screened for bowel cancer in last 30 months (2.5 year coverage, %)(PHE)	48.9%	52.0%	54.6%	N/A
The percentage of patients with cancer, diagnosed within the preceding 15 months, who have a patient review recorded as occurring within 6 months of the date of diagnosis. (PHE)	42.9%	70.1%	71.2%	N/A
Number of new cancer cases treated (Detection rate: % of which resulted from a two week wait (TWW) referral) (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (PHE)	63.6%	48.4%	51.6%	Comparable with other practices
Any additional evidence or comments				

People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia)

Mental Health Indicators				
Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses who have a comprehensive, agreed care plan documented in the record, in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) <small>(QOF)</small>	93.0%	87.0%	90.3%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	0 (0)	8.3%	12.5%	
Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses whose alcohol consumption has been recorded in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) <small>(QOF)</small>	95.3%	86.0%	90.7%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	0 (0)	9.2%	10.3%	
Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients diagnosed with dementia whose care plan has been reviewed in a face-to-face review in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) <small>(QOF)</small>	89.3%	81.8%	83.7%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	1.8% (1)	8.2%	6.8%	
Any additional evidence or comments				

Monitoring care and treatment

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average
Overall QOF score (out of maximum 559)	553	525	539
Overall QOF exception reporting (all domains)	5.5%	6.1%	5.7%

Coordinating care and treatment

Indicator	Y/N
The contractor has regular (at least 3 monthly) multidisciplinary case review meetings where all patients on the palliative care register are discussed (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	Yes

Helping patients to live healthier lives

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of patients with any or any combination of the following conditions: CHD, PAD, stroke or TIA, hypertension, diabetes, COPD, CKD, asthma, schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder or other psychoses whose notes record smoking status in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017) (QOF)	97.4%	96.0%	95.3%	Comparable with other practices
QOF Exceptions	Practice Exception rate (number of exceptions)	CCG Exception rate	England Exception rate	
	0.1% (1)	1.2%	0.8%	

Caring

Kindness, respect and compassion

CQC comments cards	
Total comments cards received	14
Number of CQC comments received which were positive about the service	14
Number of comments cards received which were mixed about the service	0
Number of CQC comments received which were negative about the service	0

Examples of feedback received:

Source	Feedback
For example, comments cards, NHS Choices	The feedback in CQC patient comment cards was all positive. Patients told us they felt listened to and involved in decisions about their care and treatment. Patients gave very positive feedback about the salaried GP and their confidence in the advice, care and treatment they provided.

National GP Survey results

Practice population size	Surveys sent out	Surveys returned	Survey Response rate%	% of practice population
2810	312	99	31.7%	3.52%

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who stated that the last time they had a general practice appointment, the healthcare professional was good or very good at listening to them (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	84.9%	88.3%	89.0%	Comparable with other practices
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who stated that the last time they had a general practice appointment, the healthcare professional was good or very good at treating them with care and concern (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	83.3%	86.8%	87.4%	Comparable with other practices
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who stated that during their last GP appointment they had confidence and trust in the healthcare professional they saw or spoke to (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	90.4%	96.1%	95.6%	Comparable with other practices
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to the overall experience of their GP practice (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	80.0%	82.5%	83.8%	Comparable with other practices
Any additional evidence or comments				

Question	Y/N
The practice carries out its own patient survey/patient feedback exercises.	Y

Date of exercise	Summary of results
2017	<p>The patient survey is carried out in flu immunisation season so as to capture the views of as many patients as possible. The 2018 survey was scheduled to commence in the near future.</p> <p>The results of the patient survey were positive in the main. The provider had analysed the responses and created an action plan to improve patients experience of the service.</p>

Any additional evidence

Involvement in decisions about care and treatment

Examples of feedback received:

Source	Feedback
Interviews with patients.	<p>We spoke with seven patients who were members of the Patient Participation Group (PPG).</p> <p>They provided very positive feedback about the care and treatment they received and about the main salaried GP. However, they reported frustration with the phone system and in waiting for an appointment.</p> <p>The provider is aware of this and is closely monitoring demand, capacity and utilisation of clinical staff across all of their GP practice locations.</p>

National GP Survey results

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who stated that during their last GP appointment they were involved as much as they wanted to be in decisions about their care and treatment (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	83.5%	93.4%	93.5%	Comparable with other practices
Any additional evidence or comments				

Question	Y/N
Interpretation services were available for patients who did not have English as a first language.	Y
Patient information leaflets and notices were available in the patient waiting area which told patients how to access support groups and organisations.	Y
Information leaflets were available in easy read format.	N
Information about support groups was available on the providers website.	Y

Carers	Narrative
Percentage and number of carers identified	The practice had 72 patients on the carers' register. This amounts to approximately 2.5% of the patient population.
How the practice supports carers	Patients who were carers were signposted to support services.
How the practice supports recently bereaved patients	The practice manager sends a bereavement card to relatives and occasionally a member of the team will attend funerals. The GPs will refer relatives to bereavement counselling or community services.

Any additional evidence

Privacy and dignity

Question	Y/N
Curtains were provided in consulting rooms to maintain patients' privacy and dignity during examinations, investigations and treatments.	Y

	Narrative
Arrangements to ensure confidentiality at the reception desk	<p>Alerts are added to patient records if they have difficulties in communicating such as the ability to read, having hearing or sight difficulties.</p> <p>The waiting room is small and cramped and is not conducive to private conversations. Staff told us a private room can be offered for any patient who requires this. The reception desk has a privacy window and the practice manager is looking to have the phones moved to more private area in reception.</p>

Question	Y/N
Consultation and treatment room doors were closed during consultations.	Y
A private room was available if patients were distressed or wanted to discuss sensitive issues.	Y

Responsive

Responding to and meeting people's needs

Practice Opening Times	
Day	Time
Monday	8am to 6.30pm
Tuesday	8am to 6.30pm
Wednesday	7.30am to 6.30pm
Thursday	8am to 6.30pm
Friday	8am to 6.30pm

Appointments available
Extended hours opening
Patients can access GPs seven days per week as from 01/10/2018 as part of the local CCG wide extended hours service. This is available from 5pm to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm Saturdays and Sundays.

Home visits	Y/N
The practice had a system to assess whether a home visit was clinically necessary and the urgency of the need for medical attention	Y
If yes, describe how this was done	
GPs triaged requests for home visits. Home visits were provided to patients whose needs required this.	

National GP Survey results

Practice population size	Surveys sent out	Surveys returned	Survey Response rate%	% of practice population
2810	312	99	31.7%	3.52%

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who stated that at their last general practice appointment, their needs were met (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	92.2%	94.7%	94.8%	Comparable with other practices
Any additional evidence or comments				

Timely access to the service

National GP Survey results

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to how easy it was to get through to someone at their GP practice on the phone (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	67.8%	63.4%	70.3%	Comparable with other practices
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to the overall experience of making an appointment (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	66.7%	65.8%	68.6%	Comparable with other practices
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who were very satisfied or fairly satisfied with their GP practice appointment times (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	57.1%	62.9%	65.9%	Comparable with other practices
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who were satisfied with the type of appointment (or appointments) they were offered (01/01/2018 to 31/03/2018)	83.6%	72.3%	74.4%	Comparable with other practices
Any additional evidence or comments				

Listening and learning from complaints received

Complaints	Y/N
Number of complaints received in the last year.	5
Number of complaints we examined	1
Number of complaints we examined that were satisfactorily handled in a timely way	1
Number of complaints referred to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman	0
Additional comments:	
Complaints were generally investigated at a practice level but they were all reported through a central reporting system and the provider had clear oversight regarding the nature of complaints, the outcome of investigations, lessons learnt and actions taken to improve patient care and experience.	

Example of how quality has improved in response to complaints

Reception staff were trained in triaging calls to book appropriate appointments.

Well-led

Leadership capacity and capability

Examples of how leadership, capacity and capability were demonstrated by the practice

The practice was well-led. The leaders had a clear commitment, capacity and capability to provide a good quality service. Improvements were made in response to feedback and there was a drive to continuously improve outcomes for patients.

Vision and strategy

Practice Vision and values

The provider had a vision and strategy to provide a high-quality service.
Staff we spoke with all demonstrated the values of openness and person-centred care are treatment.

Culture

Examples that demonstrate that the practice has a culture of high-quality sustainable care

Staff told us they felt supported to raise issues or concerns. They felt confident that the provider would listen and take action to address issues.

The provider was aware of and had systems to ensure compliance with the requirements of the duty of candour.

Staff told us there were positive and supportive relationships across the staff team.

Examples of feedback from staff or other evidence about working at the practice

Source	Feedback
Feedback from member of staff	Members of the staff team told us the team worked well together and supported each other.
Feedback from member of staff	Staff told us that the provider was supportive and leaders were approachable and inclusive.

Governance arrangements

Examples of structures, processes and systems in place to support the delivery of good quality and sustainable care.	
Practice specific policies	Policies and procedures were readily available to staff and were regularly reviewed.
Other examples	Regular clinical meetings were held. These were structured around set agenda items that included discussion on events that had taken place and any learning from these.
Y/N	
Staff were able to describe the governance arrangements	Y
Staff were clear on their roles and responsibilities	Y

Managing risks, issues and performance

Major incident planning	Y/N
Major incident plan in place	Y
Staff trained in preparation for major incident	Y

Examples of actions taken to address risks identified within the practice

Risk	Example of risk management activities
Risk register in place	A risk register was in place at the practice that identified all major risks and included plans to mitigate these. Risks were scored according to the level of risk and more high-risk issues were escalated to the provider's overarching risk register.

Appropriate and accurate information

Question	Y/N
Staff whose responsibilities include making statutory notifications understood what this entails.	Y

Engagement with patients, the public, staff and external partners

Feedback from Patient Participation Group;

Feedback
<p>The Patient Participation Group (PPG) was active and engaged with the practice. Discussions with members of the group indicated that they had a number of plans in place to support the practice in developing services.</p> <p>The PPG gave us good feedback about their experiences of the practice and the clinical and administrative team. They raised questions about capacity as they felt they waited too long to see a GP of their choice. This may be improved as a result of the provider having taken action to increase the availability of the main GP.</p>

Continuous improvement and innovation

Examples of improvements demonstrated as a result of clinical audits in past two years

Audit area	Improvement
Prescribing	One of the GPs has worked with patients to reduce opiate prescribing.
Prescribing	Improvement in number of patients with atrial fibrillation now prescribed anti-coagulant medicines.

Notes: CQC GP Insight

GP Insight assesses a practice's data against all the other practices in England. We assess relative performance for the majority of indicators using a "z-score" (this tells us the number of standard deviations from the mean the data point is), giving us a statistical measurement of a practice's performance in relation to the England average. We highlight practices which significantly vary from the England average (in either a positive or negative direction). We consider that z-scores which are higher than +2 or lower than -2 are at significant levels, warranting further enquiry. Using this technique we can be 95% confident that the practice's performance is genuinely different from the average. It is important to note that a number of factors can affect the Z score for a practice, for example a small denominator or the distribution of the data. This means that there will be cases where a practice's data looks quite different to the average, but still shows as comparable, as we do not have enough confidence that the difference is genuine. There may also be cases where a practice's data looks similar across two indicators, but they are in different variation bands.

The percentage of practices which show variation depends on the distribution of the data for each indicator, but is typically around 10-15% of practices. The practices which are not showing significant statistical variation are labelled as comparable to other practices.

N.B. Not all indicators in the evidence table are part of the GP insight set and those that aren't will not have a variation band.

The following language is used for showing variation:

Variation Band	Z-score threshold
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1	Significant variation (positive)	$Z \leq -3$
2	Variation (positive)	$-3 < Z \leq -2$
3	Comparable to other practices	$-2 < Z < 2$
4	Variation (negative)	$2 \leq Z < 3$
5	Significant variation (negative)	$Z \geq 3$
6	No data	Null

Note: for the following indicators the variation bands are different:

- Child Immunisation indicators. These are scored against the World Health Organisation target of 95% rather than the England average.

It is important to note that z-scores are not a judgement in themselves, but will prompt further enquiry, as part of our ongoing monitoring of GP practices.

Guidance and Frequently Asked Questions on GP Insight can be found on the following link:

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/what-we-do/how-we-use-information/monitoring-gp-practices>

Glossary of terms used in the data.

- **COPD:** Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- **PHE:** Public Health England
- **QOF:** Quality and Outcomes Framework (see <https://qof.digital.nhs.uk/>).
- **RCP:** Royal College of Physicians.
- **STAR-PU:** Specific Therapeutic Group Age-sex weightings Related Prescribing Units. These weighting allow more accurate and meaningful comparisons within a specific therapeutic group by taking into account the types of people who will be receiving that treatment.([See NHS Choices for more details](#)).