

Care Quality Commission

Inspection Evidence Table

Dr Aamer Khan (1-671683266)

Inspection date: 19 September 2019

Date of data download: 19 September 2019

Overall rating: Good

Please note: Any Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) data relates to 2017/18.

Effective

Rating: Good

Effective needs assessment, care and treatment

Patients' needs were assessed, and care and treatment was delivered in line with current legislation, standards and evidence-based guidance supported by clear pathways and tools.

	Y/N/Partial
The practice had systems and processes to keep clinicians up to date with current evidence-based practice.	Y
Patients' immediate and ongoing needs were fully assessed. This included their clinical needs and their mental and physical wellbeing.	Y
Patients presenting with symptoms which could indicate serious illness were followed up in a timely and appropriate way.	Y
We saw no evidence of discrimination when staff made care and treatment decisions.	Y
Patients' treatment was regularly reviewed and updated.	Y
There were appropriate referral pathways to make sure that patients' needs were addressed.	Y
Patients were told when they needed to seek further help and what to do if their condition deteriorated.	Y
The practice used digital services securely and effectively and conformed to relevant digital and information security standards.	Y

Prescribing	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) (01/07/2018 to 30/06/2019) <small>(NHSBSA)</small>	1.54	0.64	0.75	Tending towards variation (negative)

Older people

Population group rating: good

Findings

- The practice used a clinical tool to identify older patients who were living with moderate or severe frailty. Those identified received a full assessment of their physical, mental and social needs.
- The practice followed up on older patients discharged from hospital. It ensured that their care plans and prescriptions were updated to reflect any extra or changed needs.
- The practice carried out structured annual medication reviews for older patients.
- Staff had appropriate knowledge of treating older people including their psychological, mental and communication needs.
- Health checks, including frailty assessments, were offered to patients over 75 years of age.
- Flu, shingles and pneumonia vaccinations were offered to relevant patients in this age group.

People with long-term conditions

Population group rating: good

Findings

- Patients with long-term conditions were offered a structured annual review to check their health and medicines needs were being met. For patients with the most complex needs, the GP worked with other health and care professionals to deliver a coordinated package of care.
- Staff who were responsible for reviews of patients with long-term conditions had received specific training.
- GPs followed up patients who had received treatment in hospital or through out of hours services for an acute exacerbation of asthma.
- The practice shared clear and accurate information with relevant professionals when deciding care delivery for patients with long-term conditions.
- The practice could demonstrate how they identified patients with commonly undiagnosed conditions, for example diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), atrial fibrillation and hypertension.
- Adults with newly diagnosed cardio-vascular disease were offered statins.
- Patients with suspected hypertension were offered ambulatory blood pressure monitoring.
- Patients with atrial fibrillation were assessed for stroke risk and treated appropriately.
- Patients with COPD were offered rescue packs.
- Patients with asthma were offered an asthma management plan.

Diabetes Indicators	Practice	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	85.1%	72.8%	78.8%	No statistical variation

months (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>				
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	26.4% (72)	10.6%	13.2%	N/A
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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	85.1%	76.8%	77.7%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	4.0% (11)	7.4%	9.8%	N/A

	Practice	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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	80.2%	76.1%	80.1%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	3.7% (10)	7.8%	13.5%	N/A

Other long-term conditions	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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	86.1%	80.4%	76.0%	Tending towards variation (positive)
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	3.7% (8)	3.2%	7.7%	N/A
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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	95.2%	89.1%	89.7%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	12.5% (6)	10.4%	11.5%	N/A

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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	93.2%	83.1%	82.6%	Significant Variation (positive)
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	1.4% (5)	5.0%	4.2%	N/A
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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	90.0%	88.5%	90.0%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	0.0% (0)	11.6%	6.7%	N/A

Any additional evidence or comments

We discussed the prescribing rates of hypnotic medicines with the provider, as the rate was above the national average. The provider confirmed that these medicines were monitored within the practice. However, prescribing was managed through specialists in secondary care. The trend was due to a very small number of patients receiving them and long-standing challenges in supporting several patients in accessing alternative medicines.

We discussed with the provider the higher than average rates of exception reporting for 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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018). The provider told us that the practice population was predominately South Asian and a higher than average proportion of patients living with diabetes were not always able to attend for reviews due to regular and extended trips to Pakistan. We have asked the provider to continue in their efforts to monitor the care of this group.

Families, children and young people

Population group rating: good

Findings

- Childhood immunisation uptake rates mostly met or exceeded minimum targets of at least 90%. For one immunisation, the provider had achieved uptake of 89.6%, as 43 out of 48 eligible children attended. We have asked the provider to continue in their efforts to target this group.
- The practice contacted the parents or guardians of children due to have childhood immunisations.
- The practice had arrangements for following up failed attendance of children's appointments following an appointment in secondary care or for immunisation and would liaise with health visitors and the local safeguarding services when necessary. The provider had also developed a 'child not brought' policy that ensured that children were monitored through safeguarding procedures when appropriate.
- The practice had arrangements to identify and review the treatment of newly pregnant women on long-term medicines. These patients were provided with advice and post-natal support in accordance with best practice guidance.

- Young people could access services for sexual health and would be signposted to local services for coils and implants for contraception.
- Staff had the appropriate skills and training to carry out reviews for this population group.

Child Immunisation	Numerator	Denominator	Practice %	Comparison to WHO target of 95%
The percentage of children aged 1 who have completed a primary course of immunisation for Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio, Pertussis, Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib), Hepatitis B (Hep B) ((i.e. three doses of DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB) (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (NHS England)	40	41	97.6%	Met 95% WHO based target
The percentage of children aged 2 who have received their booster immunisation for Pneumococcal infection (i.e. received Pneumococcal booster) (PCV booster) (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (NHS England)	44	48	91.7%	Met 90% minimum
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) (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (NHS England)	43	48	89.6%	Below 90% minimum
The percentage of children aged 2 who have received immunisation for measles, mumps and rubella (one dose of MMR) (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (NHS England)	44	48	91.7%	Met 90% minimum

Note: Please refer to the CQC guidance on Childhood Immunisation data for more information:
<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/how-we-monitor-gp-practices>

Working age people (including those recently retired and students)

Population group rating: good

Findings

- The practice had systems to inform eligible patients to have the meningitis vaccine, for example before attending university for the first time.
- Patients had access to appropriate health assessments and checks including NHS checks for patients aged 40 to 74. There was appropriate and timely follow-up on the outcome of health assessments and checks where abnormalities or risk factors were identified.
- We saw that screening rates for women and breast cancer were in line with or slightly higher than the local average. However, they were lower than the national average. We also saw that screening rates for bowel cancer were lower than local and national averages. The provider told us that this was due in part to the reluctance of the patient population to engage with bowel screening due to cultural reasons. We have asked the provider to continue their efforts to target eligible members of the practice population to participate in screening programmes.
- Patients could book or cancel appointments online and order repeat medication without the need to attend the surgery.

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Cancer Indicators	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) (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) (Public Health England)	72.6%	N/A	N/A	Below 80% target
Females, 50-70, screened for breast cancer in last 36 months (3 year coverage, %) (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) (PHE)	58.4%	55.7%	69.9%	N/A
Persons, 60-69, screened for bowel cancer in last 30 months (2.5 year coverage, %)(01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) (PHE)	30.1%	36.1%	54.4%	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. (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) (PHE)	100.0%	74.5%	70.2%	N/A
Number of new cancer cases treated (Detection rate: % of which resulted from a two week wait (TWW) referral) (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) (PHE)	25.0%	51.5%	51.9%	No statistical variation

Any additional evidence or comments

The provider continued to target patients to maintain and improve cervical screening uptake. Patients were invited to attend a dedicated clinic and patients who do not speak English were contacted by staff who were able to encourage attendance by speaking in a range of community languages. The data in this evidence table is provided by Public Health England. More recent unverified QoF data from 2018/19 showed an achievement of 88% inclusive of exceptions. The provider assured us they would continue their efforts in targeting eligible women to undertake cervical screening.

People whose circumstances make them vulnerable

Population group rating: good

Findings

- Same day appointments and longer appointments were offered when required. Vulnerable patients were clearly flagged on the computer to assist reception staff to identify and support these patients appropriately.
- All patients with a learning disability were offered an annual health check.
- End of life care was delivered in a coordinated and highly personalised way which took into account the needs of those whose circumstances may make them vulnerable.
- The practice had a system for vaccinating patients with an underlying medical condition according

to the recommended schedule.

- The practice demonstrated that they had a system to identify people who misused substances, which included a clear protocol and the opportunity to review these cases across a multi-disciplinary setting.

People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia)

Population group rating: good

Findings

- The practice assessed and monitored the physical health of people with mental illness, severe mental illness, and personality disorder by providing access to health checks, interventions for physical activity, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer and access to 'stop smoking' services. This was managed by a revised clinical template that had been developed locally.
- Same day and longer appointments were offered when required.
- There was a system for following up patients who failed to attend for administration of long-term medication.
- When patients were assessed to be at risk of suicide or self-harm the practice had arrangements in place to help them to remain safe.
- Patients at risk of dementia were identified and offered an assessment to detect possible signs of dementia. When dementia was suspected there was an appropriate referral for diagnosis.
- Patients with poor mental health, including dementia, were referred to appropriate services.

Mental Health Indicators	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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	95.8%	92.6%	89.5%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	0.0% (0)	7.1%	12.7%	N/A
The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses whose alcohol consumption has been recorded in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	95.8%	96.0%	90.0%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	0.0% (0)	4.3%	10.5%	N/A
The percentage of patients diagnosed with dementia whose care plan has been reviewed in a face-to-face review in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	100.0%	86.0%	83.0%	Variation (positive)

Exception rate (number of exceptions).	0.0% (0)	9.2%	6.6%	N/A
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Any additional evidence or comments

The provider had recently added dementia awareness training as a requirement for staff to undertake to support this patient group.

Monitoring care and treatment

The practice had a comprehensive programme of quality improvement activity and routinely reviewed the effectiveness and appropriateness of the care provided

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average
Overall QOF score (out of maximum 559)	546.2	530.7	537.5
Overall QOF score (as a percentage of maximum)	97.7%	94.9%	96.2%
Overall QOF exception reporting (all domains)	7.3%	6.9%	5.8%

	Y/N/Partial
Clinicians took part in national and local quality improvement initiatives.	Y
The practice had a comprehensive programme of quality improvement and used information about care and treatment to make improvements.	Y
Quality improvement activity was targeted at the areas where there were concerns.	Y
The practice regularly reviewed unplanned admissions and readmissions and took appropriate action.	Y

Examples of improvements demonstrated because of clinical audits or other improvement activity in past two years

- The provider had a programme of planned clinical audit. For example, through the monitoring of high risk medicines (DMARDs compliance and monitoring). A first cycle audit had also been recently undertaken to review the efficiency of the two week fast-track referral system for urgent concerns. The provider had reviewed the experience of 14 patients and saw that all had been appropriately referred in a timely way.
- The practice pharmacist complied with CCG led reviews, including the prescribing of baby formula and efforts to reduce the prescribing of antibiotics.
- Relevant alerts were also complied with. For example, women who took sodium valproate for the treatment of epilepsy and were also of child-bearing age were screened by the practice and this led to one patient being advised to take an alternative medicine.
- The provider also actively participated in a local initiative '9 care processes' to improve the care and treatment of patients with diabetes. The provider achieved an overall achievement score of 71% of compliance with targets against an average of 65%, placing it amongst the highest achieving practices in the area.

Effective staffing

The practice was able to demonstrate that staff had the skills, knowledge and experience to carry out their roles.

	Y/N/Partial
Staff had the skills, knowledge and experience to deliver effective care, support and treatment. This included specific training for nurses on immunisation and on sample taking for the cervical screening programme.	Y
The learning and development needs of staff were assessed.	Y
The practice had a programme of learning and development.	Y
Staff had protected time for learning and development.	Y
There was an induction programme for new staff.	Y
Induction included completion of the Care Certificate for Health Care Assistants employed since April 2015.	N/A
Staff had access to regular appraisals, one to ones, coaching and mentoring, clinical supervision and revalidation. They were supported to meet the requirements of professional revalidation.	Y
The practice could demonstrate how they assured the competence of staff employed in advanced clinical practice, for example, nurses, paramedics, pharmacists and physician associates.	Y
There was a clear and appropriate approach for supporting and managing staff when their performance was poor or variable.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: The health care assistants (HCAs) both began their employment prior to April 2015. We saw that their learning and development needs were identified and met by the provider.	

Coordinating care and treatment

Staff worked together and with other organisations to deliver effective care and treatment.

Indicator	Y/N/Partial
The contractor has regular (at least 3 monthly) multidisciplinary case review meetings where all patients on the palliative care register are discussed (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) (QOF)	Y
We saw records that showed that all appropriate staff, including those in different teams and organisations, were involved in assessing, planning and delivering care and treatment.	Y
Care was delivered and reviewed in a coordinated way when different teams, services or organisations were involved.	Y
Patients received consistent, coordinated, person-centred care when they moved between services.	Y

For patients who accessed the practice's digital service there were clear and effective processes to make referrals to other services.	Y
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Helping patients to live healthier lives

Staff were consistent and proactive in helping patients to live healthier lives.

	Y/N/Partial
The practice identified patients who may need extra support and directed them to relevant services. This included patients in the last 12 months of their lives, patients at risk of developing a long-term condition and carers.	Y
Staff encouraged and supported patients to be involved in monitoring and managing their own health.	Y
Patients had access to appropriate health assessments and checks.	Y
Staff discussed changes to care or treatment with patients and their carers as necessary.	Y
The practice supported national priorities and initiatives to improve the population's health, for example, stop smoking campaigns, tackling obesity.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: The provider actively promoted programmes to improve outcomes for patients for diabetes and COPD. The lead GP prioritised end of life care and ensured that patients were closely supported and compassionately cared for. There was also support for bereaved relatives. This ethos was confirmed with other staff and patients we spoke with or received comments from.	

Smoking 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 (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) <small>(QOF)</small>	96.2%	96.4%	95.1%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	1.0% (6)	0.8%	0.8%	N/A

Consent to care and treatment

The practice always obtained consent to care and treatment in line with legislation and guidance.

	Y/N/Partial
Clinicians understood the requirements of legislation and guidance when considering consent and decision making. We saw that consent was documented.	Y
Clinicians supported patients to make decisions. Where appropriate, they assessed and recorded a patient's mental capacity to make a decision.	Y
The practice monitored the process for seeking consent appropriately.	Y
Policies for any online services offered were in line with national guidance.	Y

Well-led

Rating: good

Leadership capacity and capability

There was compassionate, inclusive and effective leadership at all levels.

	Y/N/Partial
Leaders demonstrated that they understood the challenges to quality and sustainability.	Y
They had identified the actions necessary to address these challenges.	Y
Staff reported that leaders were visible and approachable.	Y
There was a leadership development programme, including a succession plan.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: The practice manager worked across several locations. However, staff we spoke with confirmed that they were always accessible and worked in the practice for at least two days a week.	

Vision and strategy

The practice had a clear vision and credible strategy to provide high quality sustainable care.

	Y/N/Partial
The practice had a clear vision and set of values that prioritised quality and sustainability.	Y
There was a realistic strategy to achieve their priorities.	Y
The vision, values and strategy were developed in collaboration with staff, patients and external partners.	Y
Staff knew and understood the vision, values and strategy and their role in achieving them.	Y
Progress against delivery of the strategy was monitored.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: We saw evidence that a clear strategy had been developed and was being implemented. The provider had decided to relocate premises to improve access to services and we saw that an extensive and sensitive consultation had been undertaken with staff and patients.	

Culture

The practice had a culture which drove high quality sustainable care.

	Y/N/Partial
There were arrangements to deal with any behaviour inconsistent with the vision and values.	Y
Staff reported that they felt able to raise concerns without fear of retribution.	Y
There was a strong emphasis on the safety and well-being of staff.	Y
There were systems to ensure compliance with the requirements of the duty of candour.	Y
When people were affected by things that went wrong they were given an apology and informed of any resulting action.	Y
The practice encouraged candour, openness and honesty.	Y
The practice's speaking up policies were in line with the NHS Improvement Raising Concerns (Whistleblowing) Policy.	Y
The practice had access to a Freedom to Speak Up Guardian.	Y
Staff had undertaken equality and diversity training.	Y

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

Source	Feedback
Staff interviews	Staff told us that they enjoyed working at the practice because of its caring ethos. They felt consulted and involved in decisions that affected them. They described the leaders as caring and supportive.

Governance arrangements

There were clear responsibilities, roles and systems of accountability to support good governance and management.

	Y/N/Partial
There were governance structures and systems which were regularly reviewed.	Y
Staff were clear about their roles and responsibilities.	Y
There were appropriate governance arrangements with third parties.	Y
<p>Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:</p> <p>We saw evidence that effective governance arrangements were in place. We saw that systems promoting patient and staff safety were effectively implemented and regularly reviewed and acted upon. Staff had oversight of safeguarding processes and took action to ensure that the premises were clean and well maintained. Policies and procedures were reviewed and shared across the staff team.</p>	

Managing risks, issues and performance

There were clear and effective processes for managing risks, issues and performance.

	Y/N/Partial
There were comprehensive assurance systems which were regularly reviewed and improved.	Y
There were processes to manage performance.	Y
There was a systematic programme of clinical and internal audit.	Y
There were effective arrangements for identifying, managing and mitigating risks.	Y
A major incident plan was in place.	Y
Staff were trained in preparation for major incidents.	Y
When considering service developments or changes, the impact on quality and sustainability was assessed.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: We saw evidence that appropriate risk assessment activity was undertaken.	

Appropriate and accurate information

There was a demonstrated commitment to using data and information proactively to drive and support decision making.

	Y/N/Partial
Staff used data to adjust and improve performance.	Y
Performance information was used to hold staff and management to account.	Y
Our inspection indicated that information was accurate, valid, reliable and timely.	Y
There were effective arrangements for identifying, managing and mitigating risks.	Y
Staff whose responsibilities included making statutory notifications understood what this entails.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: The provider had a range of internal performance targets to identify and drive areas of improvement.	

If the practice offered online services:

	Y/N/Partial
The provider was registered as a data controller with the Information Commissioner's Office.	Y
Patient records were held in line with guidance and requirements.	Y

Any unusual access was identified and followed up.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: The provider contributed to the provision of a data controller role undertaken by the CCG. Protocols were clearly established for the safe management of confidential data including access restrictions to sensitive data.	

Engagement with patients, the public, staff and external partners

The practice involved the public, staff and external partners to sustain high quality and sustainable care.

	Y/N/Partial
Patient views were acted on to improve services and culture.	Y
The practice had an active Patient Participation Group.	Y
Staff views were reflected in the planning and delivery of services.	Y
The practice worked with stakeholders to build a shared view of challenges and of the needs of the population.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: Patients had been actively consulted in relation to the planned relocation of the premises. Meetings were held regularly and were well attended by at least 10 patients; a member of the leadership team also always attended.	

Feedback from Patient Participation Group.

Feedback
We spoke with the lead member of the PPG who told us that the patient group had a diverse membership but reported that it was a challenge to effectively engage with and reflect the needs of some groups of the practice population. We were told that the practice undertook a range of health promotion and teaching activities with the group and wider patient population; promoting self-care and social prescribing.

Continuous improvement and innovation

There was evidence of systems and processes for learning, continuous improvement and innovation.

	Y/N/Partial
There was a strong focus on continuous learning and improvement.	Y
Learning was shared effectively and used to make improvements.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: We saw evidence that learning from incidents, complaints and clinical updates was shared and recorded in practice meetings.	

Examples of continuous learning and improvement

The provider was engaged with a range of quality improvement activity and was one of Bradford's highest achieving practices in supporting patients with diabetes through the '9 care processes' programme. We saw that the practice also had a proactive approach to promoting self-care and offered teaching opportunities to empower patients and improve health outcomes.

There was also evidence of clinical audit and internal performance monitoring for improving childhood immunisation targets and the uptake of adults eligible for the flu vaccination.

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 no statistical variation, 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 no statistical variation 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 Bands	Z-score threshold
Significant variation (positive)	≤ -3
Variation (positive)	> -3 and ≤ -2
Tending towards variation (positive)	> -2 and ≤ -1.5
No statistical variation	< 1.5 and > -1.5
Tending towards variation (negative)	≥ 1.5 and < 2
Variation (negative)	≥ 2 and < 3
Significant variation (negative)	≥ 3

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.
- 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 uses a rules based approach for scoring, due to the distribution of the data. This indicator does not have a CCG 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: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/how-we-monitor-gp-practices>

Glossary of terms used in the data.

- **COPD:** Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- **PHE:** Public Health England
- **QOF:** Quality and Outcomes Framework
- **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.