Care Quality Commission

Inspection Evidence Table

Guildowns Group Practice (1-544213010)

Inspection date: 10,11 and 17 December 2019

Date of data download: 9 December 2019

Overall rating: Requires improvement

Please note: Any Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) data relates to 2018/19.

Safe

Rating: Requires improvement

We rated the practice as requires improvement for providing safe services because:

- There were gaps in arrangements to assess, monitor and manage risks.
- There were areas of medicines management that were not sufficient.
- The recording and dissemination of learning from significant events was not sufficient.
- The recording of decisions related to patient safety alerts was not sufficient.

Safety systems and processes

The practice had some systems, practices and processes to keep people safe and safeguarded from abuse.

Safeguarding	Y/N/Partial
There was a lead member of staff for safeguarding processes and procedures.	Yes
Safeguarding systems, processes and practices were developed, implemented and communicated to staff.	Yes
There were policies covering adult and child safeguarding which were accessible to all staff.	. Yes
Policies took account of patients accessing any online services.	Yes
Policies and procedures were monitored, reviewed and updated.	
Partners and staff were trained to appropriate levels for their role.	
There was active and appropriate engagement in local safeguarding processes.	
The Out of Hours service was informed of relevant safeguarding information.	
There were systems to identify vulnerable patients on record.	
Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were undertaken where required.	
Staff who acted as chaperones were trained for their role.	
There were regular discussions between the practice and other health and social care	

Safeguarding	Y/N/Partial
professionals such as health visitors, school nurses, community midwives and social	
workers to support and protect adults and children at risk of significant harm.	

Recruitment systems	Y/N/Partial
Recruitment checks were carried out in accordance with regulations (including for agency staff and locums).	Yes
Staff vaccination was maintained in line with current Public Health England (PHE) guidance if relevant to role.	Partial
There were systems to ensure the registration of clinical staff (including nurses and pharmacists) was checked and regularly monitored.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw evidence that the practice kept records of staff vaccinations however these were not all complete and some were not up to date. One of the records we reviewed was out of date as it stated that the staff member needed a booster vaccination after five years which meant it was due seven years ago. There was no clear risk assessment in place to demonstrate which records should be kept.

Safety systems and records	Y/N/Partial
There was a record of portable appliance testing or visual inspection by a competent person. Date of last inspection/test: Wodeland Avenue 02/03/2019 Stoughton Road 13/12/2019 The Oaks 18/12/2018 University 05/09/2019	Yes
There was a record of equipment calibration. Date of last calibration: Wodeland Avenue 12/03/2019 Stoughton Road 11/03/2019 The Oaks 13/03/2019 University 13/03/2019	Yes
There were risk assessments for any storage of hazardous substances for example, liquid nitrogen, storage of chemicals.	Yes
There was a fire procedure.	Yes
There was a record of fire extinguisher checks. Date of last check: Wodeland Avenue 27/06/2019 Stoughton Road 27/06/2019 The Oaks 27/06/2019 University	Yes

There was a log of fire drills.	
Date of last drill:	
Wodeland Avenue 10/07/2019	Yes
Stoughton Road 06/12/2019	162
The Oaks 13/11/2019	
University 17/09/2019	
There was a record of fire alarm checks.	Yes
There was a record of fire training for staff.	Yes
There were fire marshals.	Yes
A fire risk assessment had been completed.	
Date of completion:	
Wodeland Avenue 22/05/2019	Yes
Stoughton Road 23/05/2019	
The Oaks 24/05/2019	
University 23/05/2019	
Actions from fire risk assessment were identified and completed.	Partial

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Action plans were created as part of the fire risk assessment however these were not updated or monitored centrally to ensure actions were completed in the timescales determined by the risk assessment. For example, we saw a fire risk assessment undertaken in May 2019 had identified one high risk action which required immediate action and one medium risk action which required action within one month. There was no evidence that either had been completed.

There were nominated fire marshals however some fire marshals had not received training to undertake the role.

Health and safety	Y/N/Partial
Health and safety risk assessments had been carried out and appropriate actions taken.	
Date of last assessment:	
Wodeland Avenue 22/05/2019	Dowtiel
Stoughton Road 23/05/2019	Partial
The Oaks 24/05/2019	
University 23/05/2019	

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Action plans were created as part of the health and safety risk assessments however these were not updated or monitored centrally to ensure actions were completed in the timescales determined by the risk assessment.

Infection prevention and control

Appropriate standards of cleanliness and hygiene were met/not met.

	Y/N/Partial
There was an infection risk assessment and policy.	Partial
Staff had received effective training on infection prevention and control.	Yes
Infection prevention and control audits were carried out. Date of last infection prevention and control audit:	Yes
The practice had acted on any issues identified in infection prevention and control audits.	Partial
There was a system to notify Public Health England of suspected notifiable diseases.	Yes
The arrangements for managing waste and clinical specimens kept people safe.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The infection control lead had only recently taken over the role and told us that they intended to complete an infection control audit shortly. There was no action plan in place from the most recent infection control audit at all sites. We saw evidence that action had been taken to address some concerns raised but not all.

We found that different versions of infection control policies were in use on different sites and that some of these were not up to date. The out of date policies did not match the policy held on the central computer system.

Risks to patients

There were adequate systems to assess, monitor and manage risks to patient safety.

	Y/N/Partial
There was an effective approach to managing staff absences and busy periods.	Yes
There was an effective induction system for temporary staff tailored to their role.	Yes
Risk management plans for patients were developed in line with national guidance.	Yes
The practice was equipped to deal with medical emergencies (including suspected sepsis) and staff were suitably trained in emergency procedures.	Yes
Clinicians knew how to identify and manage patients with severe infections including sepsis.	Yes
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.	Partial
There was a process in the practice for urgent clinical review of such patients.	Yes
When there were changes to services or staff the practice assessed and monitored the impact on safety.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Staff we spoke with who worked in the reception areas told us that they were confident in the actions they should take if they encountered a deteriorating patient who had chest pain or difficulty breathing. They told us that they were not confident that they would know what to do if a patient was showing other signs of deterioration, such as sepsis.

There were flowcharts of the actions that should be taken in the event of a patient suffering chest pain or difficulties breathing provided in each of the reception areas.

Information to deliver safe care and treatment

Staff had the information they needed to deliver safe care and treatment.

	Y/N/Partial
Individual care records, including clinical data, were written and managed securely and in line with current guidance and relevant legislation.	Yes
There was a system for processing information relating to new patients including the summarising of new patient notes.	Yes
There were systems for sharing information with staff and other agencies to enable them to deliver safe care and treatment.	Yes
Referral letters contained specific information to allow appropriate and timely referrals.	Yes
Referrals to specialist services were documented and there was a system to monitor delays in referrals.	Yes
There was a documented approach to the management of test results and this was managed in a timely manner.	Yes
There was appropriate clinical oversight of test results, including when reviewed by non-clinical staff.	Yes
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.	Yes

Appropriate and safe use of medicines

The practice did not have systems for the appropriate and safe use of medicines, including medicines optimisation

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) (01/10/2018 to 30/09/2019) (NHS Business Service Authority - NHSBSA)	0.78	0.83	0.87	No statistical variation
The number of prescription items for coamoxiclav, cephalosporins and quinolones as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for selected antibacterial drugs (BNF 5.1 sub-set). (01/10/2018 to 30/09/2019) (NHSBSA)	6.1%	9.9%	8.5%	No statistical variation
Average daily quantity per item for Nitrofurantoin 50 mg tablets and capsules, Nitrofurantoin 100 mg m/r capsules, Pivmecillinam 200 mg tablets and Trimethoprim 200 mg tablets prescribed for uncomplicated urinary tract infection (01/04/2019 to 30/09/2019)	6.01	5.85	5.60	No statistical variation
Average daily quantity of oral NSAIDs prescribed per Specific Therapeutic Group Age-sex Related Prescribing Unit (STAR-PU) (01/04/2019 to 30/09/2019)	1.69	1.66	2.08	No statistical variation

Medicines management	Y/N/Partial
The practice ensured medicines were stored safely and securely with access restricted to authorised staff.	Yes
Blank prescriptions were kept securely and their use monitored in line with national guidance.	Yes
Staff had the appropriate authorisations to administer medicines (including Patient Group Directions or Patient Specific Directions).	No
The practice could demonstrate the prescribing competence of non-medical prescribers, and there was regular review of their prescribing practice supported by clinical supervision or peer review.	Yes
There was a process for the safe handling of requests for repeat medicines and evidence of structured medicines reviews for patients on repeat medicines.	Yes
The practice had a process and clear audit trail for the management of information about	Yes

Medicines management	Y/N/Partial
changes to a patient's medicines including changes made by other services.	
There was a process for monitoring patients' health in relation to the use of medicines including high risk medicines (for example, warfarin, methotrexate and lithium) with appropriate monitoring and clinical review prior to prescribing.	Partial
The practice monitored the prescribing of controlled drugs. (For example, investigation of unusual prescribing, quantities, dose, formulations and strength).	Yes
There were arrangements for raising concerns around controlled drugs with the NHS England Area Team Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer.	Yes
The practice had taken steps to ensure appropriate antimicrobial use to optimise patient outcomes and reduce the risk of adverse events and antimicrobial resistance.	Yes
The practice held appropriate emergency medicines, risk assessments were in place to determine the range of medicines held, and a system was in place to monitor stock levels and expiry dates.	Partial
There was medical oxygen and a defibrillator on site and systems to ensure these were regularly checked and fit for use.	Yes
Vaccines were appropriately stored, monitored and transported in line with PHE guidance to ensure they remained safe and effective.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Patient group directions were used appropriately. The system for ensuring patient specific directions (PSDs) were signed prior to the medicine being administered and recorded accurately in the patient's medical record was not sufficient. We saw evidence where PSDs scanned onto patients' medical records did not contain any patient identifying details but referred to lists or other pages which not in the medical record and were not accessible. The PSDs did not always contain the name of the medicine to be given.

We saw evidence that the process for monitoring patients' health who were prescribed high risk medicines could be improved.

Appropriate emergency medicines were available at each location however the records to demonstrate that these were monitored were not easily accessible to staff and were not available for all locations. There was also a system for monitoring the medicines carried in GP bags however we noted some anomalies in the recordings.

Track record on safety and lessons learned and improvements made

The practice learned and made improvements when things went wrong.

Significant events	Y/N/Partial
The practice monitored and reviewed safety using information from a variety of sources.	Yes
Staff knew how to identify and report concerns, safety incidents and near misses.	Yes
There was a system for recording and acting on significant events.	Yes
Staff understood how to raise concerns and report incidents both internally and externally.	Yes
There was evidence of learning and dissemination of information.	Partial

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The practice had reviewed significant events and identified key themes.

Some of the staff we spoke with told us that they were not aware of any significant events. We found that the recording of significant events and the dissemination of learning identified could be improved.

Example of significant events recorded and actions by the practice.

	Specific action taken
A new member of staff was not aware of the correct procedure for handling urgent test results which meant there was a delay in a GP reviewing the results.	There was no patient impact. The induction process for new members of staff was amended to include the procedure for urgent test results.

Safety alerts	Y/N/Partial		
There was a system for recording and acting on safety alerts.	Yes		
Staff understood how to deal with alerts.	Yes		
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:			
We saw examples of actions taken on recent alerts for example, regarding sodium valproate. However we found that actions taken were not always clearly recorded.			

Effective

Rating: Requires improvement

We rated the practice as requires improvement for providing effective services because:

- There was low uptake of childhood immunisations.
- There was not a comprehensive programme of quality improvement activity.

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

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) (01/10/2018 to 30/09/2019) (NHSBSA)	1 1/1	0.93	0.74	No statistical variation

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

- 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 months (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	81.7%	84.0%	79.3%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	17.8% (134)	15.0%	12.8%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	80.7%	78.7%	78.1%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	11.3% (85)	13.3%	9.4%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	81.6%	84.2%	81.3%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	16.4% (123)	15.3%	12.7%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	75.9%	76.3%	75.9%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	3.8% (44)	8.3%	7.4%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	90.7%	91.9%	89.6%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	6.6% (19)	15.1%	11.2%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	85.6%	82.3%	83.0%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	4.4% (83)	4.2%	4.0%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	92.7%	90.6%	91.1%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	8.3% (21)	7.6%	5.9%	N/A

Families, children and young people Population group rating: Good

- The practice has not met the minimum 90% target for four of four childhood immunisation uptake
 indicators. The practice has not met the WHO based national target of 95% (the recommended
 standard for achieving herd immunity) for four of four childhood immunisation uptake indicators.
- The practice had promoted childhood immunisations and had run some themed clinics where the nursing staff dressed up as super heroes.
- 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
 when necessary.
- 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 contraception.
- Staff had the appropriate skills and training to carry out reviews for this population group.
- The practice was aware that some children eligible for the flu vaccination had not received it at the
 time of our inspection due to a delay in the vaccines being delivered to the practice. The practice
 had a system to ensure that eligible children would receive the vaccination once the stock had
 been delivered.

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)	150	206	72.8%	Below 80% uptake
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)	134	172	77.9%	Below 80% uptake
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)	131	172	76.2%	Below 80% uptake
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)	143	172	83.1%	Below 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

- The practice had systems to inform eligible patients to have the meningitis vaccine, for example
 before attending university for the first time. The practice also offered the meningitis vaccine to
 students registered with them who had not received the vaccine prior to attending university.
- The practice had a branch on a university campus and we saw evidence that the practice had tailored services at this branch to meet the needs of the student and staff population.
- 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.
- Patients could book or cancel appointments online and order repeat medication without the need to attend the surgery.

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)	57.8%	N/A	80% Target	Below 70% uptake
Females, 50-70, screened for breast cancer in last 36 months (3 year coverage, %) (01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018) (PHE)	70.8%	73.1%	72.1%	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)	53.8%	59.4%	57.3%	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)	78.9%	75.6%	69.3%	N/A
Number of new cancer cases treated (Detection rate: % of which resulted from a two week wait (TWW) referral) (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (PHE)	59.0%	47.9%	53.8%	No statistical variation

Any additional evidence or comments

The practice was aware of the low uptake of cervical cancer screening and had been promoting this. The practice ran a number cervical cancer screening walk in clinics where refreshments were provided and patients were given a goodie bag after their smear. These clinics were run at various times to for example 7am to 12pm, 4pm to 8pm and Saturday mornings.

Unverified data provided by the practice showed that the uptake for cervical cancer screening had now improved to 65%.

People whose circumstances make them vulnerable

Population group rating: Good

- Same day appointments and longer appointments were offered when required.
- All patients with a learning disability were offered an annual health check.
- End of life care was delivered in a coordinated 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.

People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia)

Population group rating: Good

- 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.
- Same day and longer appointments were offered when required.
- There was a system for following up patients who failed to attend for administration of longterm 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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	90.1%	89.6%	89.4%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	13.0% (21)	15.5%	12.3%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	91.9%	88.2%	90.2%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	8.6% (14)	11.5%	10.1%	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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	87.3%	82.2%	83.6%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	3.8% (8)	7.5%	6.7%	N/A

Monitoring care and treatment

The practice routinely reviewed the effectiveness and appropriateness of the care provided.

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average
Overall QOF score (out of maximum 559)	550	No Data	539.2
Overall QOF score (as a percentage of maximum)	98.4%	No Data	96.4%
Overall QOF exception reporting (all domains)	6.2%	No Data	No Data

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

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

There was no evidence or a clear or comprehensive audit programme to drive quality improvement and no recent two cycle audits. The practice had carried out some prescribing audits.

The practice was aware of low uptake of cervical cancer screening and childhood immunisations and had tried to improve these.

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.	Yes
The learning and development needs of staff were assessed.	Yes
The practice had a programme of learning and development.	Yes
Staff had protected time for learning and development.	Yes
There was an induction programme for new staff.	Yes
Induction included completion of the Care Certificate for Health Care Assistants employed since April 2015.	Yes
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.	Yes
The practice could demonstrate how they assured the competence of staff employed in advanced clinical practice, for example, nurses, paramedics, pharmacists and physician associates.	Yes
There was a clear and appropriate approach for supporting and managing staff when their performance was poor or variable.	Yes

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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019)	Yes
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.	Yes
Care was delivered and reviewed in a coordinated way when different teams, services or organisations were involved.	Yes
Patients received consistent, coordinated, person-centred care when they moved between services.	Yes
For patients who accessed the practice's digital service there were clear and effective processes to make referrals to other services.	Yes

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.	Yes
Staff encouraged and supported patients to be involved in monitoring and managing their own health.	Yes
Patients had access to appropriate health assessments and checks.	Yes
Staff discussed changes to care or treatment with patients and their carers as necessary.	Yes
The practice supported national priorities and initiatives to improve the population's health, for example, stop smoking campaigns, tackling obesity.	Yes

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 (01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019) (QOF)	92.7%	93.8%	95.0%	No statistical variation
Exception rate (number of exceptions).	1.0% (36)	0.7%	0.8%	N/A

Consent to care and treatment

The practice always obtained / was unable to demonstrate that it 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.	Yes			
Clinicians supported patients to make decisions. Where appropriate, they assessed and recorded a patient's mental capacity to make a decision.	Yes			
The practice monitored the process for seeking consent appropriately.	Yes			
Policies for any online services offered were in line with national guidance.	Yes			

Caring Rating: Good

Kindness, respect and compassion

Staff treated patients with kindness, respect and compassion. Feedback from patients was positive about the way staff treated people.

	Y/N/Partial
Staff understood and respected the personal, cultural, social and religious needs of patients.	Yes
Staff displayed understanding and a non-judgemental attitude towards patients.	Yes
Patients were given appropriate and timely information to cope emotionally with their care, treatment or condition.	Yes

CQC comments cards	
Total comments cards received.	13
Number of CQC comments received which were positive about the service.	10
Number of comments cards received which were mixed about the service.	2
Number of CQC comments received which were negative about the service.	1

Source	Feedback
	Patients told us that they felt they received excellent care and were treated with respect. One of the comment cards mentioned an unsatisfactory consultation where the patient felt the GP was rude and unsympathetic.
	We spoke with eight patients who told us that the clinical staff treated them with care and respect and that they felt listened to and included in decisions about their care and treatment.

National GP Survey results

Practice population size	Surveys sent out	Surveys returned	Survey Response rate%	% of practice population
23116.0	447.0	110.0	24.6%	0.48%

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 (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	80.8%	91.9%	88.9%	Tending towards variation (negative)
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 (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	76.8%	89.8%	87.4%	Tending towards variation (negative)
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 (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	93.5%	97.3%	95.5%	No statistical variation
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to the overall experience of their GP practice (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	81.2%	88.2%	82.9%	No statistical variation

Any additional evidence or comments

The practice was aware that some patients found it difficult to access appointments and were trialling some additional appointment times.

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

Involvement in decisions about care and treatment

Staff helped patients to be involved in decisions about care and treatment.

	Y/N/Partial
Staff communicated with patients in a way that helped them to understand their care, treatment and condition, and any advice given.	Yes
Staff helped patients and their carers find further information and access community and advocacy services.	Yes

Source	Feedback
	We spoke with eight patients who told us they felt they were given the information they needed to make decisions about their care and their decisions were respected.

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 (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	92.8%	95.9%	93.4%	No statistical variation

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

Carers	Narrative
Percentage and number of carers identified.	The practice had identified 270 patients who were carers (approximately 1.2% of the patient list).
How the practice supported carers (including young carers).	One member of the patient services team was the carers champion and provided carers packs for carers when they were identified. This also provided a single point of contact for carers who needed to contact the practice. The practice referred carers for carers breaks where appropriate and information for carers was available in the waiting areas at each surgery except The Student Health Centre.
How the practice supported recently bereaved patients.	When a family has been bereaved they were contacted by the GP who knew them best and offered support or signposted to appropriate community services.

Privacy and dignity

The practice respected patients' privacy and dignity.

The presence respective parising and anginery.	
	Y/N/Partial
Curtains were provided in consulting rooms to maintain patients' privacy and dignity during examinations, investigations and treatments.	Yes
Consultation and treatment room doors were closed during consultations.	Yes
A private room was available if patients were distressed or wanted to discuss sensitive issues.	Yes
There were arrangements to ensure confidentiality at the reception desk.	Partial
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Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We observed during the inspection that at three of the surgeries conversations at the reception could be overheard in the waiting room. In one of the surgeries music was played in the waiting area to distract from conversations at reception and at all the surgeries staff were aware of how to manage patient confidentiality.

Responsive Rating: Good

Responding to and meeting people's needs

The practice organised and delivered services to meet patients' needs.

	Y/N/Partial
The practice understood the needs of its local population and had developed services in response to those needs.	Yes
The importance of flexibility, informed choice and continuity of care was reflected in the services provided.	Yes
The facilities and premises were appropriate for the services being delivered.	Yes
The practice made reasonable adjustments when patients found it hard to access services.	Yes
There were arrangements in place for people who need translation services.	Yes
The practice complied with the Accessible Information Standard.	Yes

Practice Opening Times	
Day	Time
Opening times: Wodeland Avenue	
Monday	8am to 6.30pm
Tuesday	8am to 6.30pm
Wednesday	8am to 6.30pm
Thursday	8am to 6.30pm
Friday	8am to 6.30pm
Opening times: The Oaks Surgery	
Monday	8am to 6.30pm
Tuesday	8am to 4pm
Wednesday	8am to 6.30pm
Thursday	8am to 6.30pm
Friday	8am to 6.30pm
Opening times: Stoughton Road Surgery	
Monday	8am to 6.30pm
Tuesday	8am to 6.30pm
Wednesday	8am to 6.30pm
Thursday	8am to 12.30pm
Friday	8am to 6.30pm
Opening times: The Student Health Centre	<u> </u>
Monday	8am to 6pm
Tuesday	8am to 6pm
Wednesday	8am to 12.30pm
Thursday	8am to 6pm
Friday	8am to 6pm

Extended hours

The practice was part of a federation of local GP practices that provided evening and weekend appointments for patients at local GP practices. These appointments were booked through the patient's own practice.

National GP Survey results

Practice population size	Surveys sent out	Surveys returned	Survey Response rate%	% of practice population
23116.0	447.0	110.0	24.6%	0.48%

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 (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	89.7%	95.3%	94.5%	Tending towards variation (negative)

Older people

Population group rating: Good

Findings

- All patients had a named GP who supported them in whatever setting they lived.
- The practice was responsive to the needs of older patients, and offered home visits and urgent appointments for those with enhanced needs and complex medical issues.
- The practice provided effective care coordination to enable older patients to access appropriate services.
- There was a medicines delivery service through local pharmacies for housebound patients.

People with long-term conditions

Population group rating: Good

- Patients with multiple conditions had their needs reviewed in co-ordinated appointments.
- The practice provided effective care coordination to enable patients with long-term conditions to access appropriate services.
- The practice liaised regularly with the local district nursing team and community matrons to discuss and manage the needs of patients with complex medical issues.
- Care and treatment for people with long-term conditions approaching the end of life was coordinated with other services.

Families, children and young people

Population group rating: Good

Findings

- Nurse appointments were available outside of school times so that school age children did not need to miss school.
- We found there were systems to identify and follow up children living in disadvantaged circumstances and who were at risk, for example, children and young people who had a high number of accident and emergency (A&E) attendances. Records we looked at confirmed this.
- All parents or guardians calling with concerns about a child were offered a same day appointment when necessary.

Working age people (including those recently retired and students)

Population group rating: Good

Findings

- The needs of this population group had been identified and the practice had adjusted the services
 it offered to ensure these were accessible, flexible and offered continuity of care.
- Pre-bookable evening and weekend appointments were also available to all patients at additional locations within the area, as the practice was a member of a GP federation.
- The practice had introduced services tailored for specific groups of patients, such as a new system for contraceptive pill checks at The Student Health Centre.

People whose circumstances make them vulnerable

Population group rating: Good

- The practice held a register of patients living in vulnerable circumstances including homeless people, Travellers and those with a learning disability.
- People in vulnerable circumstances were easily able to register with the practice, including those
 with no fixed abode such as homeless people and Travellers.
- The practice provided effective care coordination to enable patients living in vulnerable circumstances to access appropriate services.
- The practice adjusted the delivery of its services to meet the needs of patients with a learning disability.

People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia)

Population group rating: Good

Findings

- Priority appointments were allocated when necessary to those experiencing poor mental health.
- Staff interviewed had a good understanding of how to support patients with mental health needs
 and those patients living with dementia. Staff had undertaken dementia training where through a
 simulated environment they experienced some of the difficulties in living with dementia.
- The practice was aware of support groups within the area and signposted their patients to these accordingly.
- The practice was part of the GP integrated mental health service which offers advice and guidance for emotional well being and mental health issues through telephone consultations or face to face consultations in the practice.
- All staff and clinicians had undertaken suicide awareness training.

Timely access to the service

People were able to access care and treatment in a timely way.

National GP Survey results

	Y/N/Partial
Patients with urgent needs had their care prioritised.	Yes
The practice had a system to assess whether a home visit was clinically necessary and the urgency of the need for medical attention.	Yes
Appointments, care and treatment were only cancelled or delayed when absolutely necessary.	Yes

Any additional evidence or comments

The practice was trialling additional appointment times.

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 (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	69.8%	N/A	68.3%	No statistical variation
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to the overall experience of making an appointment (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	64.6%	74.7%	67.4%	No statistical variation
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who were very satisfied or fairly satisfied with their GP practice appointment times (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	43.8%	65.9%	64.7%	Variation (negative)
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who were satisfied with the type of appointment (or appointments) they were offered (01/01/2019 to 31/03/2019)	64.9%	78.4%	73.6%	No statistical variation

Source	Feedback
Friends and Family test (FFT) 31/10/2018 to 29/10/2019	The latest FFT results showed that 88% respondents would recommend the practice to their friends and family, 8% would not recommend the practice and 4% didn't know whether they would recommend the practice or not.

Listening and learning from concerns and complaints

Complaints were listened and responded to and used to improve the quality of care.

Complaints	
Number of complaints received in the last year.	9
Number of complaints we examined.	3
Number of complaints we examined that were satisfactorily handled in a timely way.	3
Number of complaints referred to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.	0

	Y/N/Partial	
Information about how to complain was readily available.	Yes	
There was evidence that complaints were used to drive continuous improvement.	Yes	
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:		
We saw evidence that complaints and learning from complaints were discussed at site meetings.		

Well-led

Rating: Requires improvement

We rated the practice as requires improvement for providing well-led services because:

- Leaders did not demonstrate that they had a credible strategy to deliver sustainable care.
- Feedback from staff was very mixed, with some concerns raised around bullying and a lack of clarity around roles and responsibilities.
- Systems and processes were not operating as leaders intended.
- Identification, management and mitigation of risk was not sufficient.

Leadership capacity and capability

Leaders could not demonstrate that they had the capacity and skills to deliver high quality sustainable care.

	Y/N/Partial
Leaders demonstrated that they understood the challenges to quality and sustainability.	Yes
They had identified the actions necessary to address these challenges.	Partial
Staff reported that leaders were visible and approachable.	Partial
There was a leadership development programme, including a succession plan.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

In the last three years there have been significant changes in the senior leadership within the practice.

The leaders in the service had a positive attitude with an enthusiasm to deliver high quality care. The leaders had recently undergone leadership training and had a leadership development plan in place and had recently recruited an additional manager to support this. A number of training and social events had been run to try to improve staff engagement however there was still a very high turnover of staff which was a huge challenge to delivering sustainable care.

Staff we spoke with gave mixed feedback about the visibility and approachability of leaders.

Vision and strategy

The practice had a clear vision but it was not supported by a 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.	Yes
There was a realistic strategy to achieve their priorities.	Yes
The vision, values and strategy were developed in collaboration with staff, patients and external partners.	Partial
Staff knew and understood the vision, values and strategy and their role in achieving them.	Partial
Progress against delivery of the strategy was monitored.	Partial

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Staff we spoke with gave mixed feedback about how they were involved in the vision, values and strategy of the practice and what they knew about these. Some staff we spoke with told us they had found out about potential future developments from outside the practice before they were made aware of it through practice communications.

Leaders told us that they had tried to involve staff in the future development of the practice and had run a staff survey and a number of meetings and other events.

Culture

The practice culture did not effectively support high quality sustainable care.

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

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Leaders told us there was a strong emphasis on the safety and well-being of staff but the systems and processes in place for the management of risk were not operating as the leaders intended.

Some staff we spoke with told us they were confident that they could raise concerns. However, some staff we spoke with told us that they felt there was bullying in the work place and that there may be retribution if they raised concerns. Some staff we spoke with also told us that they were not confident they would be listened to if they did raise concerns.

Leaders told us that they were aware that some staff felt that there was a culture of bullying and that they wouldn't be listened to. The leaders demonstrated they had introduced new systems and tried to put new measures in place to reassure staff and encourage them to speak up.

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

Source	Feedback
Staff interviews	Feedback from staff was very mixed particularly across different sites and different
	staff groups. Some staff told us that they enjoyed working for the service and felt
	well supported but others told us they did not like working at the practice.

Governance arrangements

The overall governance arrangements were ineffective.

	Y/N/Partial
There were governance structures and systems which were regularly reviewed.	Yes
Staff were clear about their roles and responsibilities.	Partial
There were appropriate governance arrangements with third parties.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

There were governance structures in place with clear lead roles however some staff we spoke with told us that they were not clear what their responsibilities were or who was responsible on a day to day basis. Staff we spoke with also told us that in some cases the leaders in the practice had different expectations of some staff roles that the staff working in that service area.

Managing risks, issues and performance

The practice did not have clear and effective processes for managing risks, issues and performance.

	Y/N/Partial
There were comprehensive assurance systems which were regularly reviewed and improved.	No
There were processes to manage performance.	Yes
There was a systematic programme of clinical and internal audit.	Partial
There were effective arrangements for identifying, managing and mitigating risks.	No
A major incident plan was in place.	Yes
Staff were trained in preparation for major incidents.	Yes
When considering service developments or changes, the impact on quality and sustainability was assessed.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We found that systems and processes were not operating as leaders intended. There was clinical and internal audit but this was not in a planned or systematic manner.

Risks were identified but systems were not in place to ensure that risk was managed or mitigated appropriately. For example, some risk assessments had no clear action plans and others had action plan which had not been completed or reviewed in a timely manner.

Appropriate and accurate information

The practice did not always act on appropriate and accurate information.

	Y/N/Partial
Staff used data to adjust and improve performance.	Yes
Performance information was used to hold staff and management to account.	Yes
Our inspection indicated that information was accurate, valid, reliable and timely.	Yes
There were effective arrangements for identifying, managing and mitigating risks.	No
Staff whose responsibilities included making statutory notifications understood what this entails.	Yes

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Recording and communication around the identification, management and mitigation of risk was not clear. Leaders in the service were not aware of some of the risks identified.

Engagement with patients, the public, staff and external partners

The practice involved 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.	Yes
The practice had an active Patient Participation Group (PPG).	Partial
Staff views were reflected in the planning and delivery of services.	Yes
The practice worked with stakeholders to build a shared view of challenges and of the needs of the population.	Partial

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The PPG had been inactive for several years and had only restarted in the last few months.

The practice did work with stakeholders however at the time of inspection the practice was not registering new patients.

The practice leaders also held lead roles within the primary care network (PCN) the practice was part of and were involved in developing services to meet the needs of the population of the PCN.

We saw evidence that staff had participated in a half-day session last year where staff suggestions were discussed. Staff and leaders also participated in a workshop around personality types and ways of working to help team working and each individual received their own personalised report.

The practice had introduced a team award scheme to help recognise staff who contributed behind the scenes and aimed to improve morale.

Feedback from Patient Participation Group.

Feedback

The PPG told us that the group had newly restarted with a mixture of new members and members of the previous PPG. They told us that it was too early to tell how they would work with the practice. The PPG told us they were pleased with the care provided by the practice however they also told us it was difficult to book appointments.

Continuous improvement and innovation

There were some systems and processes for learning, continuous improvement and innovation.

	Y/N/Partial
There was a strong focus on continuous learning and improvement.	Yes
Learning was shared effectively and used to make improvements.	Partial

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

There was some evidence that learning was shared and used to make improvements, but we found learning was not always shared widely enough to support improvement. We also found that there some missed opportunities for learning.

Examples of continuous learning and improvement

The practice had provided enhanced training such as the Dementia Bus and suicide awareness. The practice was proactive in trying to increase uptake of cervical screening.

The practice had introduced a system for patients at The Student Health Centre to request repeat prescriptions of contraceptive pills without the need for a face to face appointment.

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 practices 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. Note that practices that have "Met 90% minimum" have not met the WHO target of 95%.
- 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.
- 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). This indicator does not have a CCG average and is scored against the national target of 80%.

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-qp-practices

Note: The CQC GP Evidence Table uses the most recent validated and publicly available data. In some cases at the time of inspection this data may be relatively old. If during the inspection the practice has provided any more recent data, this can be considered by the inspector. However, it should be noted that any data provided by the practice will be unvalidated and is not directly comparable to the published data. This has been taken into account during the inspection process.

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.