Care Quality Commission

Inspection Evidence Table

Wateringbury Surgery (1-550867448)

Inspection date: 2 September 2022

Date of data download: 10 August 2022

Overall rating: Good

We have rated the practice Good overall; the key questions of effective is rated requires improvement and the key questions of safe, responsive, caring and well-led are rated good. We found breaches of Regulations 12 (safe care and treatment).

Safe Rating: Good

Safety systems and processes

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

Safeguarding	Y/N/Partial
Safeguarding systems, processes and practices were developed, implemented and communicated to staff.	Y
Partners and staff were trained to appropriate levels for their role.	Υ
There was active and appropriate engagement in local safeguarding processes.	Υ
The Out of Hours service was informed of relevant safeguarding information.	Υ
There were systems to identify vulnerable patients on record.	
Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were undertaken where required.	
There were regular discussions between the practice and other health and social care professionals such as health visitors, school nurses, community midwives and social workers to support and protect adults and children at risk of significant harm.	

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The provider had a designated safeguarding lead and deputy. All staff knew how to identify and report concerns. There were policies which were accessible to all staff. The policies outlined who to contact for further guidance if staff had concerns about a patient's welfare.

The practice had a Disclosure and Barring Service check policy and procedure (DBS – a check which enables employers to check the criminal records of current and potential employees in order to ascertain whether they are suitable to work). We looked at the records of staff employed and found that all staff had the most appropriate check undertaken.

Safeguarding Y/N/Partial

The practice had a clear policy in use for staff who acted as chaperones. We saw there were notices in the practice that advised patients chaperones were available if required. All staff who acted as chaperones were trained for the role.

Recruitment systems	Y/N/Partial
Recruitment checks were carried out in accordance with regulations (including for agency staff and locums).	Y
Staff vaccination was maintained in line with current UK Health and Security Agency (UKHSA) guidance if relevant to role.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The practice maintained records of up to date information relating to staff indemnity insurance and proof of registration with professional bodies. For example, the General Medical Council and the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

The practice had effective policies and processes for recruiting staff.

Safety systems and records	Y/N/Partial
Health and safety risk assessments had been carried out and appropriate actions taken. Date of last assessment: September 2022	Υ
There was a fire procedure.	Υ
Date of fire risk assessment: July 2022 Actions from fire risk assessment were identified and completed.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw records to confirm that staff who were designated fire marshals had received training. The fire risk assessment clearly identified risks, the level of risk and actions taken to address these.

Records showed that portable appliance testing (PAT) and calibration testing of equipment had been carried out within the last 12 months.

Legionella (a bacterium found in water supplies which can cause severe respiratory illness) testing and routine systems and processes for monitoring of this were being maintained. Records viewed confirmed this. However, the practice had a disconnected shower, the drain of which was not shown on the check list. The provider wrote to us following the inspection to show that the checklist and legionella policy had been updated and the routine flushing of the shower drain had been implemented.

Infection prevention and control

Appropriate standards of cleanliness and hygiene were met.

	Y/N/Partial
Staff had received effective training on infection prevention and control.	Υ
Infection prevention and control audits were carried out. Date of last infection prevention and control audit: July 2022	Y
The practice had acted on any issues identified in infection prevention and control audits.	Y
The arrangements for managing waste and clinical specimens kept people safe.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We observed the premises to be clean and tidy. We saw that all relevant staff were adhering to current best practice guidance on COVID-19.

We saw that the practice had a designated lead for infection prevention and control (IPC). We saw from records that they had the required level of training to undertake this role. Records viewed confirmed that hand hygiene audits and annual IPC statements were being routinely conducted.

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.	Υ
There was an effective induction system for temporary staff tailored to their role.	Υ
The practice was equipped to respond to medical emergencies (including suspected sepsis) and staff were suitably trained in emergency procedures.	Y
Receptionists were aware of actions to take if they encountered a deteriorating or acutely unwell patient and had been given guidance on identifying such patients.	Y
There were enough staff to provide appointments and prevent staff from working excessive hours	Y

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.	Υ
There was a system for processing information relating to new patients including the summarising of new patient notes.	Υ
There were systems for sharing information with staff and other agencies to enable them to deliver safe care and treatment.	Y

Referrals to specialist services were documented, contained the required information and there was a system to monitor delays in referrals.	Y
There was a documented approach to the management of test results and this was managed in a timely manner.	Y
There was appropriate clinical oversight of test results, including when reviewed by non-clinical staff.	Y

Appropriate and safe use of medicines

The practice had systems for the appropriate and safe use of medicines, including medicines optimisation. However, improvements were required.

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) (01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022) (NHS Business Service Authority - NHSBSA)	0.81	0.83	0.79	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). (01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022) (NHSBSA)	11.1%	9.2%	8.8%	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 (01/10/2021 to 31/03/2022)	4.99	5.75	5.29	No statistical variation
Total items prescribed of Pregabalin or Gabapentin per 1,000 patients (01/10/2021 to 31/03/2022) (NHSBSA)	119.2‰	132.4‰	128.2‰	No statistical variation
Average daily quantity of Hypnotics prescribed per Specific Therapeutic group Age-sex Related Prescribing Unit (STAR PU) (01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022) (NHSBSA)		0.62	0.60	No statistical variation
Number of unique patients prescribed multiple psychotropics per 1,000 patients (01/10/2021 to 31/03/2022) (NHSBSA)		6.9‰	6.8‰	No statistical variation

Note: ‰ means per 1,000 and it is **not** a percentage.

Medicines management	Y/N/Partial
The practice ensured medicines were stored safely and securely with access restricted to authorised staff.	Y
Blank prescriptions were kept securely, and their use monitored in line with national guidance.	Υ
Staff had the appropriate authorisations to administer medicines (including Patient Group Directions or Patient Specific Directions).	Y
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.	N/A
There was a process for the safe handling of requests for repeat medicines and evidence of structured medicines reviews for patients on repeat medicines.	Υ
The practice had a process and clear audit trail for the management of information about changes to a patient's medicines including changes made by other services.	Υ
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).	Υ
There were arrangements for raising concerns around controlled drugs with the NHS England and Improvement Area Team Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer.	Υ
If the practice had controlled drugs on the premises there were appropriate systems and written procedures for the safe ordering, receipt, storage, administration, balance checks and disposal of these medicines, which were in line with national guidance.	
The practice had taken steps to ensure appropriate antimicrobial use to optimise patient outcomes and reduce the risk of adverse events and antimicrobial resistance.	Υ
For remote or online prescribing there were effective protocols for verifying patient identity.	N/A
The practice held appropriate emergency medicines, risk assessments were in place to determine the range of medicines held, and a system 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.	Y
Vaccines were appropriately stored, monitored and transported in line with UKHSA guidance to ensure they remained safe and effective.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We completed a series of searches on the practice's clinical records system. These searches were completed with the consent of the provider, and to review if the practice was assessing and delivering care and treatment in line with current legislation, standards and evidence-based guidance.

The practice had taken appropriate action to address the issues we identified during our clinical searches. At the time of our inspection visit, we found that best practice guidance and safe management of high-risk medicines was not always applied. For example, we looked at the records of five patients each prescribed:

Y/N/Partial

Medicines management

Methotrexate. We found that one patient had not been appropriately monitored, reviewed and
prescribed methotrexate. We saw the last recorded blood testing was dated January 2022. This
was not in line with best practice guidance of three-month testing. Additionally, we saw there
were alerts on the record to show that blood test monitoring was overdue by a period of four
months and the medicine being prescribed to the patient, in the absence of the required
monitoring.

We saw that none of these patients had the day of administration of the methotrexate recorded on the repeat prescription template and four of the patients did not have a linked diagnosis to the underlying medicine template (in line with best practice guidance).

- Potassium sparing diuretics (used to increase the amount of fluid passed from the body in urine, whilst also preventing too much potassium being lost with it). We found that all these patients had not been appropriately monitored within required timescale, reviewed and prescribed these medicines. There was no evidence in the patients records to show that the prescriber had reviewed the patients to check that monitoring was checked before prescribing; for all these patients and there was no evidence of follow up to non-compliance with recalls for testing and monitoring.
- Warfarin (use to thin blood and prevent clotting). We reviewed five records and found two of
 these patients had not been appropriately monitored within the required timescale or reviewed
 before being prescribed these medicines. There was no evidence in the patients' records to show
 that the prescriber had reviewed the monitoring blood results before prescribing for all these
 patients, and there was no evidence of follow up to non-compliance with recalls for testing and
 monitoring.

Following our site visit the practice management team provided us with an overview of the actions they had taken in relation to the above patients' records. We were told that some patients had received blood tests, but these had not been coded correctly or were located in another software platform and hadn't been linked to the patient's records. Where this had occurred, the GPs had corrected these. We were also told that patients requiring blood test monitoring had been called to attend the practice. The practice management team had also completed a further search, in order to identify the records of patients that had not been inspected as part of our process. For patients prescribed warfarin, all of these patients had been reviewed, and one was receiving testing at a local pharmacy, the other was no longer a registered patient of the practice. Where local pharmacies were completing this testing, the practice had corresponded with them and had made a formal arrangement for sharing of results.

The provider also sent us documentary evidence, in the form of an action plan, to show that the number of patients where action had been taken, those that needed to be contacted and a date for ensuring these would be completed by. The provider had also set a date to review the action plan again to ensure they had met their target. We saw that the action plan was clear, comprehensive and realistic in terms of timescales and actions to be taken by 30 September 2022.

The practice had appropriate emergency medicines at Wateringbury Surgery. However, at Larkfield Surgery (known as Chaucer Way to patients), we saw Atropine, Glyceryl Trinitrate (GTN) spray and Benzylpenicillin were the only emergency medicines held and there were no risk assessments to show how this had been determined. Following the inspection, the provider wrote to us and provided documentary evidence to show that all the recommended medicines for use in an emergency had been

Medicines management

Y/N/Partial

obtained and were available at the practice and a new checklist for routine monitoring of these had been implemented.

Dispensary services (where the practice provided a dispensary service)	Y/N/Partial
There was a GP responsible for providing effective leadership for the dispensary.	Y
The practice had clear Standard Operating Procedures which covered all aspects of the dispensing process, were regularly reviewed, and a system to monitor staff compliance.	Y
Dispensary staff who worked unsupervised had received appropriate training and regular checks of their competency.	Y
Where the Electronic Prescription Service is not used for dispensary prescriptions, prescriptions were signed before medicines were dispensed and handed out to patents. There was a risk assessment or surgery policy for exceptions such as acute prescriptions.	Y
Medicines stock was appropriately managed and disposed of, and staff kept appropriate records.	Υ
Medicines that required refrigeration were appropriately stored, monitored and transported in line with the manufacturer's recommendations to ensure they remained safe and effective.	Υ
If the dispensary provided medicines in Monitored Dosage Systems, there were systems to ensure staff were aware of medicines that were not suitable for inclusion in such packs, and appropriate information was supplied to patients about their medicines.	Υ
If the practice offered a delivery service, this had been risk assessed for safety, security, confidentiality and traceability.	N/A
Dispensing incidents and near misses were recorded and reviewed regularly to identify themes and reduce the chance of reoccurrence.	Υ
Information was provided to patients in accessible formats. For example, large print labels, braille, information in a variety of languages etc.	Y
There was the facility for dispensers to speak confidentially to patients and protocols described the process for referral to clinicians.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and other comments on dispensary services:

The practice dispensed to approx. a third of its patient list.

We looked at the arrangements for the dispensing of medicines to patients. We spoke with dispensing staff, who had received appropriate training in pharmacy services. Medicines were prepared and the prescriptions checked and counter-signed by GPs daily before being issued to patients.

The dispensary was in a secure room and there were systems to help ensure that medicines were stored safely and securely. Prescriptions that had been prepared and were awaiting collection by patients were also stored appropriately.

Sharps containers used in the dispensary were appropriately assembled and all had audit labels completed to identify their origin and the date they were assembled or sealed. There were clear stock records and audit checks kept of the medicines held in the dispensary.

The practice was able to access the provision of information given to patients in a variety of languages. Staff were aware of and able to demonstrate the ability to provide labels in other formats such as large print or braille; with support from the local pharmacy.

The dispensary held stocks of controlled drugs (medicines that required extra checks and special storage because of their potential misuse) and had procedures to manage them safely, including any controlled drugs that were returned to the practice. There were also arrangements for the destruction of controlled drugs.

Any dispensing errors, complaints and incidents were investigated, actioned and recorded for learning. The practice had a system to monitor the quality of the dispensing process.

The dispensary received four deliveries a day. If a patient was prescribed a medicine during a consultation and it was not stocked, the dispensers informed the patient and provided a text message service to inform them when it had been received and was ready for collection. This was to avoid the patient having an unnecessary visit to the practice.

Track record on safety and lessons learned and improvements made

The practice learned and made improvements when things went wrong.

Significant events	
The practice monitored and reviewed safety using information from a variety of sources.	Υ
Staff knew how to identify and report concerns, safety incidents and near misses.	Υ
There was a system for recording and acting on significant events.	Υ
Staff understood how to raise concerns and report incidents both internally and externally.	Y
There was evidence of learning and dissemination of information.	Υ
Number of events recorded in last 12 months:	8
Number of events that required action:	4

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw that openness and transparency about safety was encouraged. Staff understood and fulfilled their responsibilities to raise concerns and report incidents and near misses and were fully supported to do so. Documents reviewed showed that when something went wrong, an appropriate thorough investigation that involved all relevant staff and people who use services were involved in the process.

The service participated in learning with other providers within the primary care network (PCN). Lessons learned were communicated effectively, in order to support improvement.

Example of significant events recorded and actions by the practice.

Event	Specific action taken	
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An error had occurred with a sample being placed in the incorrect collection box by a patient.

The practice had discussed this at a practice meeting and subsequently completed a review of the systems in use for collection of patient samples. It was established that clearer sign posting, and a new wall mounted, tamper proof collection box was required.

The practice had implemented these changes, amended that safe collection of samples policy and all staff had been informed during meetings, in order to reduce the risk of this incident being repeated.

Safety alerts	Y/N/Partial
There was a system for recording and acting on safety alerts.	Partial
Staff understood how to deal with alerts.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw examples of actions taken on recent alerts. For example, regarding sodium valproate. However, not all safety alerts had been actioned, to ensure the guidance was applied. We reviewed five patient records and found:

- Five patients aged over 65, that were on a higher prescribed dose of citalopram or escitalopram (anti-depressant), had not been informed of the risks associated with this or had discussions recorded, with regards to adjusting the dose in line with current best practice guidance (an alert from 2014).
- Two patients of childbearing age, prescribed Pregabalin (used to treat epilepsy, anxiety or nerve pain) had not been informed of the need use effective contraception whilst taking this medicine.

We raised this with the GPs and practice manager at the time of the clinical searches. Following the inspection, the provider wrote to us and provided documentary evidence to show that actions had been completed to address the issues identified. We saw from these documents that patients aged over 65, that were on a higher prescribed dose of citalopram or escitalopram, had been reviewed and contacted by 7 September and that clinicians had been informed of the need for clear recordings where a patient refused a reduced dosage and were acceptant of the risks. For patients of childbearing age, prescribed Pregabalin; we saw that they had been informed via a patient information leaflet and codes added to their records to check their contraception during future consultations.

We saw from the action plan provided that the management of MHRA alerts had been added as a standing agenda item at clinical meetings and systems had been updated to ensure the receipt of alerts, were allocated to the next partner administrative session to review the patient list.

Effective

Rating: Requires Improvement

QOF requirements were modified by NHS England and Improvement for 2020/21 to recognise the need to reprioritise aspects of care which were not directly related to COVID-19. This meant that QOF payments were calculated differently. For inspections carried out from 1 October 2021, our reports will not include QOF indicators. In determining judgements in relation to effective care, we have considered other evidence as set out below.

The key question of effective is rated requires improvement. Our clinical record searches found improvement was required in relation to the monitoring of long-term conditions.

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. However, improvements were required.

	Y/N/Partial
The practice had systems and processes to keep clinicians up to date with current evidence-based practice.	Υ
Patients' immediate and ongoing needs were fully assessed. This included their clinical needs and their mental and physical wellbeing.	Partial
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.	Partial
There were appropriate referral pathways to make sure that patients' needs were addressed.	Υ
Patients were told when they needed to seek further help and what to do if their condition deteriorated.	Υ
The practice had prioritised care for their most clinically vulnerable patients during the pandemic.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The practice had taken appropriate action to address the issues we identified during our clinical searches. At the time of our inspection visit, we found that patients with long-term conditions were not always offered a structured annual review to check their health and medicines needs were being met. Care, as well as treatment, was not always delivered in line with current legislation, standards and evidence-based guidance.

We looked at the records of five patients who had:

 A potential missed diagnosis of Diabetes. We found that all five patients lacked routine blood tests. The practice had not repeated the test within two to 12 weeks (when the test result was above the parameter set).

- Asthma, who had been prescribed two or more courses of rescue steroids in the last 12 months.
 We found that two of these patients were overdue a review, one had last been conducted in 2019 and the other in February 2021.
- Hypothyroidism who have not had thyroid function test monitoring for 18 months. We found that all five patient's lacked routine blood tests, with reviews dating back to 2016 in one specialised case and between 2019 and January 2022 for the remainder.
- Diabetic retinopathy (a complication of diabetes, caused by high blood sugar levels damaging the back of the eye) who had a HbA1c blood test (a blood sugar level test) result within the required parameters. We found two of these patients were overdue a review following their most recent HbA1c blood test result.

We raised this with the GPs and practice manager at the time of the clinical searches. Following our site visit the practice management team provided us with an overview of the actions they had taken in relation to the above patients' records. We were told that some patients had received blood tests, but these had not been coded correctly or were located in another software platform and hadn't been linked to the patient's records. Where this had occurred, the GPs had corrected these. We were also told that patients requiring blood test monitoring had been called to attend the practice. There had also been patients that had had their medicines ceased or changed by secondary care providers and these had not been coded correctly. The practice management team had also completed a further search, in order to identify the records of patients that had not be inspected as part of our process.

The provider also sent us documentary evidence, in the form of an action plan, to show that the number of patients where action had been taken, those that needed to be contacted and a date for ensuring these would be completed by. The provider had also set a date to review the action plan again to ensure they had met their target. We saw that the action plan was clear, comprehensive and realistic in terms of timescales and actions to be taken (30 September to 31 October 2022). For those patients to be reviewed by 31 October 2022, these had been risk stratified due to the number of patients required to be contacted and seen. For example, patients at risk of diabetic retinopathy. Those with the higher risk rating would be seen as a matter of urgency. We saw that staff had been designated to undertake these reviews and had been allocated support staff to assist with the process.

Effective care for the practice population

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- All patients with a learning disability were offered an annual health check.
- End of life (EoL) care was delivered in a coordinated way which took into account the needs of those whose circumstances may make them vulnerable.
- There was a dedicated member of staff who was trained to be an End of Life Champion, to support bereaved patients and families with having a point of contact at the practice. Support was provided to ensure EoL medicines were ready and available when needed and to help with the processes involved with EoL care.

- 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.
- The practice assessed and monitored the physical health of people with mental illness, severe mental illness, and personality disorder.
- Patients with poor mental health, including dementia, were referred to appropriate services.

Management of people with long term conditions

Findings

- Patients with long-term conditions were not always 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 was involved in the IMP2ART Implementing and improving asthma selfmanagement as routine project. This had increased the number asthma patients who had a selfmanagement plan; it is a continuing project and records showed increases monthly.
- 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.
- Patients had access to the Diabetes App, which enabled them to upload their own results and follow dietary advice and exercise programmes.
- The practice and patients had access to a home monitoring system, which had been implemented for diabetic patients requiring an ACR. (Urine albumin to creatinine ratio (ACR), also known as urine microalbumin, which helps identify kidney disease that can occur as a complication of diabetes). The system sends the patients a home monitoring test kit which is linked with an APP on their phone; the results of which are automatically uploaded to patients' electronic records, enabling a review to be completed by a clinician.

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) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (NHS England and Improvement)	93	100	93.0%	Met 90% minimum

The percentage of children aged 2 who have received their booster immunisation for Pneumococcal infection (i.e. received Pneumococcal booster) (PCV booster) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (NHS England and Improvement)	124	135	91.9%	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) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (NHS England and Improvement)	124	135	91.9%	Met 90% minimum
The percentage of children aged 2 who have received immunisation for measles, mumps and rubella (one dose of MMR) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (NHS England and Improvement)	124	135	91.9%	Met 90% minimum
The percentage of children aged 5 who have received immunisation for measles, mumps and rubella (two doses of MMR) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (NHS England and Improvement)	107	111	96.4%	Met 95% WHO based target

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

Cancer Indicators	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of persons eligible for cervical cancer screening at a given point in time who were screened adequately within a specified period (within 3.5 years for persons aged 25 to 49, and within 5.5 years for persons aged 50 to 64). (Snapshot date: 31/03/2022) (UK Health and Security Agency)	78.6%	N/A	80% Target	Below 80% target
Females, 50-70, screened for breast cancer in last 36 months (3 year coverage, %) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (UKHSA)	60.0%	63.4%	61.3%	N/A
Persons, 60-74, screened for bowel cancer in last 30 months (2.5 year coverage, %) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (UKHSA)	69.7%	68.0%	66.8%	N/A
Number of new cancer cases treated (Detection rate: % of which resulted from a two week wait (TWW) referral) (01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021) (UKHSA)	50.0%	56.4%	55.4%	No statistical variation

Any additional evidence or comments

Published results showed that the provider's uptake for cervical cancer screening as at March 2022 was below the 80% target for the national screening programme.

Unverified data showed that to date 85% of patients aged 25 to 49 years and 87% of patients aged 50 to 64 years registered at the practice had received cervical cancer screening.

We were told that to increase uptake for cervical screening; they regularly reviewed the updated figures and sent recall letters/text messages to remind patients of the need to book an appointment and took the opportunity to speak to the patient when they attended the practice for other matters.

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.

	Y/N/Partial
Clinicians took part in national and local quality improvement initiatives.	Υ
The practice had a programme of targeted quality improvement and used information about care and treatment to make improvements.	Υ
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

Records showed that four clinical audits had been carried out in the last two years. These were part of an overarching programme. The audits were aligned to significant event investigation findings or changes in clinical best practice guidance.

We saw that the practice had completed an audit to identify patients at risk of undiagnosed Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) based on their previous kidney function blood test result. The audit identified 43 patients who were potentially at risk. Of these, 13 were identified as having CKD, three were of concern (based on blood test results and most recent blood pressure recording) and 13 required further diagnostic testing. The practice had recalled those patients who required further diagnostic testing or were of concern and had carried out all appropriate tests and referrals. A second cycle of the audit had been planned to test outcomes.

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.	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

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 provider understood the learning needs of staff and provided protected time and training to meet them. Up to date records of skills, qualifications and training were maintained.

The practice also encouraged A level students with an interest in medicine, to experience primary care and regularly had work experience students observing GPs and other health care professionals. One of the GP partners wrote a work experience policy and pack for the practice, which was subsequently shared with West Kent Education Network and had been adopted by other practices in the area.

Coordinating care and treatment

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

Indicator	Y/N/Partial
Care was delivered and reviewed in a coordinated way when different teams, services or organisations were involved.	Y
Patients received consistent, coordinated, person-centered care when they moved between services.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The practice had access to dementia coordinator services, as well as a health and inequalities care coordinator; who worked closely with the GPs, the wider community and voluntary sector providers, to help identify groups / patients in need of extra support. For example, ethnic groups, those with a physical and / or sensory disability and socially excluded patients.

The practice held a weekly clinic run by a children's health and well-being navigator, to help improve the care and support offered to children, young people and their families, particularly those with mental health problems and neurodevelopmental disorders.

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.	Υ
Patients had access to appropriate health assessments and checks.	Υ
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 and tackling obesity.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw that information was available for patients in the waiting room. For example, local campaigns for health advice, fitness and dietary programmes; as well as external bodies who provided support services. Social media platforms were also used to promote healthier living.

The practice is the Park Run Ambassador for Malling Park Run (a free, weekly, community event), which was actively promoted to patients, where appropriate, in consultations, on the media screens in the waiting rooms and Park Run magazines. In 2019, the practice worked with Start 2 Run Together and had invited patients to join a couch to 5K group provided by the surgery. This was a 12-week course with the final goal being patients running 5K and/or taking part in their first Park Run.

Social Media platforms were used to present webinars (a seminar provided over the internet). We saw that the topic of diabetes had been presented and the next scheduled topic was Menopause.

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.	Υ
Clinicians supported patients to make decisions. Where appropriate, they assessed and recorded a patient's mental capacity to make a decision.	Υ
Do Not Attempt Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR) decisions were made in line with relevant legislation and were appropriate.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We looked at the records of two patients with DNACPR decisions. We found there were clearly documented reasons for the DNACPR decisions that were not discriminatory or based on

assumptions about the person's quality of life, and there was a record of a discussion with the person (and their representative, where appropriate).

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.	Y
Staff displayed understanding and a non-judgemental attitude towards patients.	Υ
Patients were given appropriate and timely information to cope emotionally with their care, treatment or condition.	Y

Reviews left on the NHS Choices website	
Total reviews	9
Number of reviews that were positive about the service	9
Number of reviews that were mixed about the service	0
Number of reviews that were negative about the service	0

Experience shared with CQC directly via our website	
Total received	1
Number received which were positive about the service	0
Number received which were mixed about the service	0
Number which were negative about the service	1

Examples of feedback received	Source
 Feedback about the practice captured in the national GP patient survey (results published in July 2022) was positive. The reviews left on the NHS Choices website and experience shared with CQC directly about services, were predominantly positive. The main theme from negative feedback we received from patients was that they found it difficult when contacting the practice and support with mental health needs. 	Reviews left on the NHS Choices website over the last 12 months and experience shared with CQC directly via our website.

National GP Patient Survey results

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 (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	94.6%	82.1%	84.7%	Tending towards variation (positive)
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 (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	93.5%	80.8%	83.5%	Tending towards variation (positive)
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 (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	98.7%	92.0%	93.1%	Tending towards variation (positive)
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to the overall experience of their GP practice (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	91.1%	66.8%	72.4%	Variation (positive)

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

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.	Y
Staff helped patients and their carers find further information and access community and advocacy services.	Υ
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence: Easy read and pictorial materials were available to those who required them.	

National GP Patient 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 (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	95.9%	89.0%	89.9%	No statistical variation

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

Carers	Narrative
	The practice had identified 314 patients who were carers (3.5% of the practice list).
	The practice held a register of the patients who had been identified as carers. They were supported by the social prescriber through regular contact via the telephone.
	There was a dedicated section on the practice's website that indicated support available to carers and encouraged patients to identify whether they were carers.
	The practice offered carers an annual influenza vaccination and an annual health check.
	Policies and procedures were clear on how to identify and record carers onto the patient record within the practices software system.
How the practice supported recently bereaved patients.	All bereavements were notified to all staff, so they were aware when talking to relatives. The patients' named GP called the family to offer a consultation.
	The practice also provided help by signposting relatives to other support services where appropriate.

Privacy and dignity

The practice respected patients' privacy and dignity.

	Y/N/Partial
A private room was available if patients were distressed or wanted to discuss sensitive issues.	Υ
There were arrangements to ensure confidentiality at the reception desk.	Y
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:	

Staff recognised the importance of people's privacy and dignity and respected it at all times. Consideration of people's privacy and dignity was consistently embedded in everything that staff do, including awareness of any specific needs as these were known to staff and also recorded and communicated.

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.	Y
The importance of flexibility, informed choice and continuity of care was reflected in the services provided.	Y
The facilities and premises were appropriate for the services being delivered.	Y
The practice made reasonable adjustments when patients found it hard to access services.	Y
There were arrangements in place for people who need translation services.	Y
The practice complied with the Accessible Information Standard.	Υ
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:	•
-	

The practice had a hearing loop for use by people with hearing aids and was wheelchair accessible.

Day	Time
Opening times: Wateringbury Surgery	
Monday to Friday	8am to 6pm
Opening times: Larkfield Surgery (Chaucer Way)	
Monday to Thursday	8.30am to 12.30pm and 2pm to 5pm
Friday	8.30am to 12.30pm

Further information about how the practice is responding to the needs of their population

- 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.
- There was a medicines delivery service for housebound patients.
- The practice liaised regularly with the community services to discuss and manage the needs of patients with complex medical issues.
- All parents or guardians calling with concerns about a child were offered a same day appointment when necessary.

- Pre-bookable appointments were available to all patients at additional locations within the area, as the practice was a member of a primary care network (PCN). Appointments were available Saturday and Sunday 10am until 1pm.
- 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 adjusted the delivery of its services to meet the needs of patients with a learning disability.

Access to the service

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

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected access to GP practices and presented many challenges. In order to keep both patients and staff safe early in the pandemic practices were asked by NHS England and Improvement to assess patients remotely (for example by telephone or video consultation) when contacting the practice and to only see patients in the practice when deemed to be clinically appropriate to do so. Following the changes in national guidance during the summer of 2021 there has been a more flexible approach to patients interacting with their practice. During the pandemic there was a significant increase in telephone and online consultations compared to patients being predominantly seen in a face to face setting.

	Y/N/Partial
Patients had timely access to appointments/treatment and action was taken to minimize the length of time people waited for care, treatment or advice	Υ
The practice offered a range of appointment types to suit different needs (e.g. face to face, telephone, online)	Y
Patients were able to make appointments in a way which met their needs	Υ
There were systems in place to support patients who face communication barriers to access treatment	Y
Patients with most urgent needs had their care and treatment prioritised	Y
There was information available for patients to support them to understand how to access services (including on websites and telephone messages)	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

There were multiple appointment types available, including face to face, telephone and video consultations. Patients were able to book appointments in person, on the telephone and via Doctorlink (online). The practice had systems to ensure patients were directed to the most appropriate person to respond to their immediate needs.

Video consultations were available, however, uptake for these was low. The practice continued to offer these, as it was meeting the needs of a minority of patients.

On the day of inspection we looked at the practice's appointment system and found that the next available face to face appointment with a GP was on 27 September 2022 at Wateringbury Surgery, 26

September at (Larkfield Surgery), and the next available face to face appointment with a nurse was on 6 September 2022.

The practice had a staff member who was a Digital Champion, who held regular clinics where patients could book a face to face or telephone consultation; to provide them with support in accessing online services. For example, the NHS APP and patient online services.

National GP Patient Survey results

Indicator	Practice	CCG average	England average	England comparison
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to how easy it was to get through to someone at their GP practice on the phone (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	74.8%	N/A	52.7%	Variation (positive)
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who responded positively to the overall experience of making an appointment (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	73.7%	48.6%	56.2%	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 (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	72.2%	48.2%	55.2%	Tending towards variation (positive)
The percentage of respondents to the GP patient survey who were satisfied with the appointment (or appointments) they were offered (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022)	77.0%	68.2%	71.9%	No statistical variation

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.	23
Number of complaints we examined.	
Number of complaints we examined that were satisfactorily handled in a timely way.	
Number of complaints referred to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.	0

	Y/N/Partial
Information about how to complain was readily available.	Υ
There was evidence that complaints were used to drive continuous improvement.	Υ
Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:	

Patients knew how to give feedback about their experiences and could do so in a range of accessible ways, including how to raise any concerns or issues.

The practice kept a record of all verbal complaints made and those that became considered significant events.

We saw from meeting minutes that complaints were a standard agenda item for discussion.

Example of learning from complaints.

Complaint	Specific action taken
A patient complained about a breach of confidentiality when requesting a clinical specimen bottle.	The practice acknowledged the complaint and spoke with the patient. They audited the processes undertaken for receiving clinical specimens. These processes had been amended to ensure all new specimen bottles were delivered from a separate supply to those which had been returned by patients. The practice had recognised that the complaint was also a significant event and had taken appropriate and effective actions to improve the process. We saw that both patients involved in this incident had been informed of the breach and the measures taken to avoid this being repeated.

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.	Υ
They had identified the actions necessary to address these challenges.	
Staff reported that leaders were visible and approachable.	
There was a leadership development programme, including a succession plan.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The practice had a clear business and contingency plan in operation.

The leadership was knowledgeable about issues and priorities for the quality and sustainability of services.

Staff who completed our staff guestionnaire, told us that the GP partners and practice management team were approachable, compassionate and inclusive.

Vision and strategy

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

	Y/N/Partial
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:	

nation of any answers and additional evidence:

All staff who completed our staff questionnaire were aware of the practices' vision, values and strategy. They understood their role in supporting the development and achievement of these.

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.	Υ
There was a strong emphasis on the safety and well-being of staff.	Υ
There were systems to ensure compliance with the requirements of the duty of candour.	Υ
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 had access to a Freedom to Speak Up Guardian.	Υ
Staff had undertaken equality and diversity training.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

Leaders modelled and encouraged compassionate, inclusive and supportive relationships among staff so that they felt respected, valued and supported.

We saw that there was a culture of collective responsibility and positive relationships between staff and teams, where conflicts and sharing of lessons learnt/improvements were discussed constructively and effectively.

There were processes for providing all staff at every level with the development they needed, including highquality appraisal and career development conversations.

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

Source	Feedback
forms	We received 16 staff feedback forms. The feedback received from staff was positive and comments included; staff felt supported by management for both professional and personal matters; the practice gave excellent patient care; management were calm, approachable and accessible. Staff told us that feedback that had been given had been acted upon. For example, a recommendation had been made to extend the appointment times for complex patients, which staff told us had been actioned. They told us that pride and positivity in the running of the practice, their employment and focus on the needs of patients; was actively encouraged. This led to staff members feeling that they were one team with a common purpose.

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.	Υ
Staff were clear about their roles and responsibilities.	
There were appropriate governance arrangements with third parties.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The GP partners and practice manager ensured that governance in the practice, functioned effectively. The structures, processes and systems of accountability, including the governance and management of partnerships, joint working arrangements and shared services; were clearly set out and understood by all staff.

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 quality improvement programme.	Y
There were effective arrangements for identifying, managing and mitigating risks.	
A major incident plan was in place.	
Staff were trained in preparation for major incidents.	
When considering service developments or changes, the impact on quality and sustainability was assessed.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The practice had an effective and comprehensive process to identify, understand, monitor and address current and future risks.

Clinical and internal audit processes functioned well and had a positive impact on quality governance.

From our clinical searches, we saw that reviews and monitoring of patients were not always being completed in line with best practice guidance. We raised this with the provider and were sent a clear and comprehensive action plan that had been implemented to ensure all reviews would be managed effectively.

The practice had systems to continue to deliver services, respond to risk and meet patients' needs during the pandemic.

	Y/N/Partial
The practice had adapted how it offered appointments to meet the needs of patients during the pandemic.	Y
The needs of vulnerable people (including those who might be digitally excluded) had been considered in relation to access.	Y
There were systems in place to identify and manage patients who needed a face-to-face appointment.	Y
The practice actively monitored the quality of access and made improvements in response to findings.	Υ
There were recovery plans in place to manage backlogs of activity and delays to treatment.	Y
Changes had been made to infection control arrangements to protect staff and patients using the service.	Y
Staff were supported to work remotely where applicable.	Y

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

The practice continued to operate throughout the pandemic providing a range of appointments including; face to face, video and telephone consultations, as well as home visits.

All digitally excluded patients were coded as such on their patient records and offered face to face appointments.

The practice is part of Malling PCN, who lead Covid-19 Vaccination centres across the West Kent area. At the height of the pandemic Larkfield Surgery became the designated Hot Hub for Malling PCN.

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 monitor and improve performance.	Y
Performance information was used to hold staff and management to account.	Y
Staff whose responsibilities included making statutory notifications understood what this entailed.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw from records viewed that meetings had were structured and minutes were being comprehensively maintained, stored, accessible and detailed learning and actions from complaints; safeguarding; and significant event investigation outcomes were recorded. We saw that previous meeting minutes were discussed, and any outstanding actions were addressed.

The provider had recognised their registration with CQC was not up to date and did not include all partner GPs. We saw documented evidence to show that an application had been made to add them to their registration with CQC.

Governance and oversight of remote services

	Y/N/Partial
The practice used digital services securely and effectively and conformed to relevant digital and information security standards.	Y
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.	Υ
Patients were informed and consent obtained if interactions were recorded.	Υ
The practice ensured patients were informed how their records were stored and managed.	Y
Patients were made aware of the information sharing protocol before online services were delivered.	Υ
The practice had arrangements to make staff and patients aware of privacy settings on video and voice call services.	
Online consultations took place in appropriate environments to ensure confidentiality.	Y
The practice advised patients on how to protect their online information.	Y

Engagement with patients, the public, staff and external partners

The practice involved the public, staff and external partners to help achieve 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.	Υ
The practice worked with stakeholders to build a shared view of challenges and of the needs of the population.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw that the practice engaged and involved all staff (including those with protected equality characteristics) and ensured that the voices of all staff were heard and acted on to shape services.

There was a transparent, collaborative and open approach with all relevant stakeholders about performance.

The patient participation group (PPG) supported the practice as a critical friend and to help drive improvements. We spoke with a PPG member and saw they were working on a project with the assistant

manager practice in relation to access to the service. The project was in the early stages of development. The PPG members had also provided support to the practice in all its social media channels, including the introduction of webinars.

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.	Υ
Learning was shared effectively and used to make improvements.	Υ

Explanation of any answers and additional evidence:

We saw from records viewed and staff we spoke with that learning and improvement was high on the practice's agenda. Discussions about lessons learnt, additional training needs and improvements required (following complaints and significant events) were clearly documented and followed up.

The practice was involved in training junior doctors at FY2 level (These are fully qualified doctors who have worked at least one year as hospital doctors who work under supervision). They also host medical students for a four-week programme and had previously took part in hosting a third year Paramedic student for a week's placement. From records viewed, we saw that appropriate recruitment and placement agreements had been obtained. All the staff were, to some degree, involved in the training of future GPs, nursing, reception and administration staff.

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-gp-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.
- UKHSA: UK Health and Security Agency.
- 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.
- % = per thousand.