

10 Other treatments

This chapter includes data about the other treatments provided in general practice from each of the 10 years of the BEACH study from 1998–99 to 2007–08. The survey form allowed GPs to record up to two other treatments for each problem managed at the encounter. Other treatments included all clinical and procedural treatments provided. These groups are defined in Appendix 5. Between 2005–06 and 2007–08 the GPs were asked to indicate whether the treatment was provided by a practice nurse (tick box). In this chapter all ‘other treatments’ are reported, irrespective of whether they were done by the GP or by the practice nurse. That is, the non-pharmacological management provided in general practice patient encounters is described, rather than management provided specifically by the general practitioner. Treatments provided by the practice nurse are reported separately in Chapter 13.

Patient observations that were regarded as routine clinical measurements or observations, such as measurements of blood pressure and physical examinations, were not included between 1998–99 and 2004–05. With the inclusion of practice nurse activities in BEACH since 2005–06, patient observations have been recorded since this time only when undertaken by the practice nurse.

The direction and type of change from 1998–99 to 2007–08 is indicated for each result in the far right column of the tables: \uparrow/\downarrow indicates a statistically significant linear change, \uparrow/\downarrow indicates a marginally significant linear change, \S indicates a non-linear significant or marginal change, and – indicates there was no change.

Significant linear changes can be extrapolated to estimate the national increase or decrease in the other treatments provided between 1998–99 and 2007–08. An example of an extrapolated change is given for each table. The method used to extrapolate to national change estimates is described in Chapter 2, Section 2.4.

10.1 Clinical treatments

Overall, there has been no change in the rate of clinical treatments provided at general practice encounters when comparing 1998–99 and 2007–08 data. However, a comparison of the clinical treatment rates for each year demonstrates a number of changes over the 10-year period. As shown in Table 10.1, there was a steady significant rise between 1998–99 and 2004–05 in the rate of clinical treatments recorded. A 25% decline in clinical treatments followed in 2005–06 (from 39.2 per 100 encounters in 2004–05 to 29.2 per 100 in 2005–06). The rate then increased in 2007–08 to 34.5 per 100 encounters.

Some interesting changes over time are evident in the rate of specific types of clinical treatments provided. The decline in clinical treatments overall in 2005–06 was reflected in some of the specific types of clinical treatments given. For example, the rate of general advice and education steadily increased between 1998–99 and 2004–05, peaking at a rate of 7.0 per 100 encounters in 2004–05. The rate then decreased in 2005–06 to 4.8 per 100 encounters, a decrease of more than 30%. It again increased to the peak seen in 2004–05, with general advice and education provided in 2007–08 at a rate of 7.2 per 100 encounters (Table 10.1).

A significant linear increase was seen in the rate of sickness certificates provided over the 10-year period, given at a rate of 0.7 per 100 encounters in 1998–99 and increasing to 1.7 per

100 encounters in 2007–08. This represents an estimated 1.1 million more sickness certificates provided nationally in 2007–08 than in 1998–99.

Table 10.2 shows that some changes have occurred in the rates at which clinical treatments were used in the management of specific problems. The rate at which clinical treatments were used in the management of upper respiratory tract infection fluctuated over the years, but there was a significant rise overall in the rate of clinical treatments provided for this problem, from 1.2 per 100 upper respiratory tract infection encounters in 1998–99 to 1.8 per 100 in 2007–08. Clinical treatments were provided in the management of asthma less often in 2007–08 than in 1998–99. A significant linear decrease over the 10-year period is shown, equating to 290,000 fewer occasions at which a clinical treatment was given in the management of asthma in 2007–08 than in 1998–99.

10.2 Procedural treatments

Overall, the rate at which procedural treatments were provided by GPs increased significantly over time, from 11.8 per 100 encounters in 1998–99 to 16.7 per 100 encounters in 2007–08. This equates to an estimated additional 5.8 million occasions at which a procedure was performed in 2007–08 compared with 1998–99 (Table 10.3).

This significant rise in the rate of procedural treatments is reflected in the rates of individual types of procedural treatments. For example, there has been an increase in the group of procedures that includes excisions, biopsies and cauterisation, from 2.8 per 100 encounters in 1998–99 to 3.4 per 100 encounters in 2007–08. This equates to a national estimated 770,000 additional procedures undertaken by GPs in 2007–08 compared with 1998–99. Other procedural treatments that demonstrate a significant increase over this time included local injections and pap smears (Table 10.3).

A number of changes were apparent in the most common problems managed with a procedural treatment between 1998–99 and 2007–08 (Table 10.4). For solar keratosis (the problem most often managed with a procedure) the rate at which a procedure was performed rose marginally, from 0.7 per 100 contacts in 1998–99 to 0.9 per 100 in 2007–08.

Significantly more procedures were performed in the management of vitamin/nutritional deficiency over time, with an additional 320,000 procedures performed nationally for this problem in 2007–08 than in 1998–99 (Table 10.4).

Table 10.1: The most frequent clinical treatments, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										↑ ^(e) ↓
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)	
Advice/education*	3.5 (3.0–4.0)	4.2 (3.7–4.7)	5.8 (5.2–6.4)	6.3 (5.6–7.0)	6.9 (6.1–7.7)	6.8 (6.1–7.6)	7.0 (6.2–7.8)	4.8 (4.1–5.4)	5.7 (5.0–6.5)	7.2 (6.3–8.1)	\$
Counselling—problem*	2.9 (2.6–3.3)	3.4 (3.0–3.9)	3.4 (3.0–3.8)	4.7 (4.0–5.3)	5.5 (4.8–6.1)	4.7 (4.1–5.3)	4.2 (3.3–5.0)	4.8 (4.1–5.4)	4.4 (3.7–5.0)	4.3 (3.8–4.9)	\$
Counselling/advice— nutrition/weight*	3.8 (3.4–4.1)	4.2 (3.8–4.6)	5.6 (5.0–6.1)	5.5 (5.0–5.9)	5.2 (4.7–5.8)	4.6 (4.2–5.1)	5.3 (4.7–5.9)	3.6 (3.2–4.0)	3.4 (3.0–3.7)	4.2 (3.8–4.6)	—
Advice/education— treatment*	6.2 (5.6–6.8)	6.2 (5.6–6.8)	5.9 (5.3–6.5)	5.1 (4.6–5.6)	4.2 (3.8–4.7)	4.4 (3.8–4.9)	4.6 (4.0–5.1)	3.1 (2.6–3.5)	2.8 (2.5–3.1)	3.5 (3.1–3.8)	↓
Counselling— psychological*	2.5 (2.3–2.7)	2.6 (2.4–2.8)	2.8 (2.6–3.1)	3.2 (2.8–3.5)	2.9 (2.6–3.1)	2.9 (2.6–3.1)	3.2 (2.9–3.5)	3.1 (2.8–3.3)	2.9 (2.6–3.1)	3.2 (2.9–3.4)	\$
Advice/education— medication*	2.4 (2.2–2.6)	2.9 (2.6–3.2)	2.6 (2.3–2.9)	2.8 (2.6–3.1)	2.5 (2.2–2.7)	3.4 (3.1–3.7)	3.4 (2.9–3.8)	1.6 (1.4–1.7)	1.8 (1.6–2.0)	2.0 (1.8–2.2)	\$
Sickness certificate*	0.7 (0.6–0.9)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	1.1 (0.9–1.3)	1.1 (0.9–1.3)	1.3 (1.1–1.5)	1.0 (0.9–1.2)	1.7 (1.3–2.1)	1.6 (1.4–1.9)	1.6 (1.3–1.8)	1.7 (1.4–2.0)	↑
Other admin/document*	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.0 (0.9–1.2)	1.5 (1.3–1.6)	1.5 (1.4–1.7)	1.6 (1.4–1.7)	1.8 (1.6–2.0)	1.3 (1.1–1.5)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	1.2 (1.1–1.4)	1.5 (1.4–1.7)	\$
Reassurance, support	1.6 (1.4–1.8)	1.6 (1.4–1.8)	1.5 (1.3–1.8)	1.5 (1.3–1.7)	1.4 (1.2–1.5)	1.5 (1.3–1.7)	1.6 (1.2–1.9)	1.0 (0.8–1.2)	1.1 (0.9–1.3)	1.4 (1.2–1.6)	\$
Counselling/advice— exercise*	1.4 (1.1–1.6)	1.6 (1.4–1.8)	2.2 (1.9–2.4)	2.1 (1.8–2.3)	1.6 (1.4–1.8)	1.5 (1.3–1.7)	1.9 (1.4–2.3)	1.1 (0.9–1.2)	1.1 (1.0–1.3)	1.3 (1.1–1.5)	\$
Counselling/advice— smoking*	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.6 (0.6–0.7)	0.8 (0.6–1.0)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	\$
Counselling/advice— prevention*	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.1–0.8)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	—
Counselling/advice— lifestyle*	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.3–0.7)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.0–1.0)	0.5 (0.3–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	—

(continued)

Table 10.1 (continued): The most frequent clinical treatments, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										2007–08 (n = 95,898)	↑ ^(e) ↓
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)		
Counselling/advice— alcohol*	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.2–0.7)	0.3 (0.3–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	—
Family planning*	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.2–0.6)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	—
Observe/wait*	1.0 (0.8–1.2)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.7 (0.4–1.0)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.0–0.7)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	↘
Counselling/advice— health/body*	0.8 (0.7–1.0)	0.6 (0.4–0.7)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.4 (0.1–0.6)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	§
Counselling/advice— pregnancy*	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	↑
Counselling/advice— relaxation*	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	§
Counselling/advice— STDs*	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	—
Counselling/advice—drug abuse*	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.4 (0.1–0.6)	0.3 (0.2–0.5)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	↓
Counselling/advice— relationship*	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	↘
Total clinical treatments	31.4 (29.7–33.0)	33.5 (31.8–35.2)	37.2 (35.1–39.3)	38.1 (36.1–40.1)	37.2 (35.0–39.4)	36.6 (34.5–38.8)	39.2 (37.1–41.4)	29.2 (27.3–31.1)	29.5 (27.6–31.4)	34.5 (32.5–36.5)	34.5 (32.5–36.5)	§

(a) The direction and type of change from 1998–99 to 2007–08 is indicated for each result: ↗↘ indicates a statistically significant change, § indicates a non-linear significant or marginal change, and — indicates there was no change.

* Includes multiple ICPC-2 or ICPC-2 PLUS codes (see Appendix 5).

Note: CI—confidence interval; admin—administration; STD—sexually transmitted disease.

Table 10.2: The most common problems managed with a clinical treatment, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Problem managed	Rate at which a clinical treatment was given, per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											↑ ^(b) ↓
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)		
Depression*	1.6 (1.5–1.8)	1.6 (1.5–1.8)	1.8 (1.6–2.0)	1.7 (1.6–1.9)	1.7 (1.6–1.9)	1.7 (1.6–1.9)	1.8 (1.7–2.0)	1.7 (1.5–1.8)	1.5 (1.4–1.6)	1.8 (1.6–1.9)	–	
Upper respiratory tract infection	1.2 (1.1–1.4)	1.4 (1.2–1.6)	1.7 (1.5–1.9)	2.0 (1.7–2.2)	1.8 (1.6–2.0)	1.6 (1.4–1.8)	1.8 (1.5–2.0)	1.6 (1.3–1.8)	1.5 (1.3–1.6)	1.8 (1.6–2.0)	↑	
Hypertension*	0.9 (0.8–1.1)	1.1 (0.9–1.2)	1.4 (1.2–1.6)	1.4 (1.2–1.5)	1.5 (1.3–1.7)	1.3 (1.1–1.4)	1.3 (1.2–1.5)	1.0 (0.9–1.2)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.2 (1.1–1.4)	§	
Lipid disorders*	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	1.0 (0.9–1.2)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.8)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	§	
Diabetes—all*	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	§	
Anxiety*	0.8 (0.7–0.8)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.7 (0.7–0.8)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	–	
Gastroenteritis*	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.7 (0.6–0.7)	0.7 (0.6–0.7)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	§	
Test results*	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.3–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	↑	
Back complaint*	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	–	
Sprain/strain*	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	↓	
Obesity	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	§	
Acute stress reaction	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	–	
Osteoarthritis*	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	–	

(continued)

Table 10.2 (continued): The most common problems managed with a clinical treatment, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Problem managed	Rate at which a clinical treatment was given, per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											^(b)
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)		
General check-up*	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	↑	
Asthma	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	↓	
Acute bronchitis/ bronchiolitis	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	—	
Tobacco abuse	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	↑	
Oesophageal disease	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	§	
Pregnancy*	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	↑	
Adverse effect medical agent	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	§	
Urinary tract infection*	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	§	
Menopausal complaint	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	§	
Total problems with clinical treatments	28.7 (27.3–30.2)	30.4 (28.9–31.9)	32.8 (31.1–34.5)	33.6 (31.9–35.2)	32.8 (31.0–34.7)	32.4 (30.7–34.2)	34.4 (32.6–36.2)	26.7 (25.1–28.3)	26.8 (25.1–28.4)	31.2 (29.5–33.0)	—	

(a) Rate of provision of clinical treatment for selected problem per 100 total encounters.

(b) The direction and type of change from 1998–99 to 2007–08 is indicated for each result: ↑/↓ indicates a statistically significant change, ↗/↘ indicates a statistically significant change, ↖/↙ indicates a marginal change, § indicates a non-linear significant change, and — indicates there was no change.

* Includes multiple ICP-2 or ICP-2 PLUS codes (see Appendix 5).

Note: CI—confidence interval. This table includes individual problems which had clinical treatments given at a rate of >= 0.5 per 100 encounters in any year, and any other statistically significant differences of interest.

Table 10.3: The most frequent procedural treatments, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										2007–08 (n = 95,898)	↑ ^(a) ↓
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)		
Excision/removal tissue/ biopsy/destruction/ debridement/cauterisation*	2.8 (2.6–3.0)	3.0 (2.8–3.2)	2.6 (2.4–2.9)	2.7 (2.5–3.0)	2.9 (2.6–3.1)	3.1 (2.7–3.6)	3.3 (3.0–3.6)	3.0 (2.7–3.2)	3.4 (3.0–3.7)	3.4 (3.1–3.8)	3.4 (3.1–3.8)	↑
Local injection/ infiltration ^(b)	0.3 (0.1–0.5)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	1.2 (0.9–1.4)	1.5 (1.3–1.7)	1.6 (1.4–1.8)	2.0 (1.7–2.2)	2.0 (1.8–2.2)	1.9 (1.7–2.1)	2.3 (2.1–2.5)	2.3 (2.1–2.5)	↑
Dressing/pressure/ compression/tamponade*	2.0 (1.8–2.2)	2.2 (2.0–2.3)	1.8 (1.6–1.9)	1.8 (1.7–1.9)	2.0 (1.8–2.1)	1.8 (1.7–2.0)	2.0 (1.8–2.1)	2.1 (1.9–2.3)	2.3 (2.1–2.4)	2.2 (2.1–2.4)	2.2 (2.1–2.4)	—
Physical medicine/ rehabilitation*	1.8 (1.5–2.1)	1.7 (1.5–1.8)	2.0 (1.8–2.3)	2.2 (1.9–2.4)	2.1 (1.8–2.4)	1.7 (1.5–1.9)	2.0 (1.7–2.3)	1.4 (1.1–1.6)	1.1 (0.9–1.3)	1.3 (1.1–1.5)	1.3 (1.1–1.5)	§
Incision/drainage/flushing/ aspiration/removal body fluid*	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	1.1 (1.0–1.2)	1.1 (1.0–1.1)	1.2 (1.0–1.2)	1.1 (1.0–1.2)	1.2 (1.1–1.3)	1.0 (1.0–1.1)	1.3 (1.2–1.4)	1.3 (1.1–1.4)	1.2 (1.1–1.3)	1.2 (1.1–1.3)	§
Pap smear*	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.1 (0.9–1.2)	1.1 (0.9–1.3)	1.0 (0.8–1.1)	1.0 (0.8–1.1)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.1 (0.9–1.2)	1.1 (0.9–1.2)	↑
Repair/fixation—suture/ cast/prosthetic device (apply/remove)*	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	—
Other therapeutic procedures/surgery NEC*	0.9 (0.7–1.1)	1.1 (0.8–1.3)	1.1 (0.9–1.4)	1.4 (1.2–1.7)	1.2 (1.0–1.4)	1.1 (0.9–1.3)	1.2 (0.9–1.5)	0.8 (0.6–0.9)	0.7 (0.6–0.9)	0.8 (0.6–0.9)	0.8 (0.6–0.9)	§
Electrical tracings*	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	↑
Physical function test*	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.3–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.7)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.6 (0.4–0.7)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	↑
Urine test*	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	↑
Glucose test*	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	↓

(continued)

Table 10.3 (continued): The most frequent procedural treatments, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)	↑ ^(e) ↓
Other diagnostic procedures*	0.0 [†] (0.0–0.1)	0.1 (0.0–0.1)	0.1 (0.0–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	↑
Total procedural treatments	11.8 (11.2–12.5)	12.5 (11.9–13.0)	12.2 (11.6–12.8)	13.8 (13.1–14.5)	14.6 (13.9–15.3)	14.7 (14.0–15.5)	15.5 (14.6–16.4)	14.4 (13.7–15.1)	15.2 (14.4–16.0)	16.7 (15.9–17.5)	↑

(a) The direction and type of change from 1998–99 to 2007–08 is indicated for each result: ↑/↓ indicates a statistically significant change, ↗/↘ indicates a marginal change, ↖/↙ indicates a non-linear significant change, and — indicates there was no change.

(b) Excludes all local injection/infiltrations performed for immunisations.

* Includes multiple ICPC-2 or ICPC-2 PLUS codes (see Appendix 5).

† Rates are reported to one decimal place. This indicates that the rate is < 0.05 per 100 encounters.

Note: CI—confidence interval; NEC—not elsewhere classified.

Table 10.4: The most common problems managed with a procedural treatment, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Problem managed	Rate at which a procedural treatment was given, per 100 encounters ^(b) (95% CI)										
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)	↑ ^(b) ↓
Solar keratosis/sunburn	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.8 (0.7–0.8)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.8 (0.6–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.1)	0.9 (0.7–1.1)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.1)	↑
Female genital check-up*	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–1.0)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	↑
Laceration/cut	0.7 (0.6–0.7)	0.7 (0.6–0.7)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	—
Excessive ear wax	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	§
Malignant neoplasm skin	0.4 (0.2–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.6 (0.4–0.7)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	—

(continued)

Table 10.4 (continued): The most common problems managed with a procedural treatment, summary of annual results, BEACH, 1998–99 to 2007–08

Problem managed	Rate at which a procedural treatment was given, per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											2007–08 (n = 95,898) ↑
	1998–99 (n = 96,901)	1999–00 (n = 104,856)	2000–01 (n = 99,307)	2001–02 (n = 96,973)	2002–03 (n = 100,987)	2003–04 (n = 98,877)	2004–05 (n = 94,386)	2005–06 (n = 101,993)	2006–07 (n = 91,805)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)	2007–08 (n = 95,898)	
Warts	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	—
Chronic ulcer skin (including varicose ulcer)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	—
Sprain/strain*	0.5 (0.4–0.7)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.5–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	§
General check-up*	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	↑
Back complaint*	0.4 (0.3–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.6)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	§
Skin complaint	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	↑
Vitamin/nutritional deficiency	0.0 [†] (0.0–0.0)	0.0 [†] (0.0–0.0)	0.0 [†] (0.0–0.0)	0.1 (0.0–0.1)	0.1 (0.0–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	↑
Hypertension*	0.0 [†] (0.0–0.1)	0.1 (0.0–0.1)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.1)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	↑
Asthma	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	↑
Total problems with procedural treatments	11.2 (10.6–11.7)	11.8 (11.3–12.3)	11.5 (10.9–12.1)	13.1 (12.4–13.7)	13.6 (13.0–14.2)	13.7 (13.1–14.4)	14.3 (13.5–15.0)	13.6 (12.9–14.2)	14.3 (13.6–15.0)	15.6 (14.9–16.4)	15.6 (14.9–16.4)	↑

(a) Rate of provision of clinical treatment for selected problem per 100 total encounters.

(b) The direction and type of change from 1998–99 to 2007–08 is indicated for each result: ↑/↓ indicates a statistically significant change, ↗/↘ indicates a marginal change, § indicates a non-linear significant change, and — indicates there was no change.

* Includes multiple ICD-2 or ICD-2 PLUS codes (see Appendix 5).

† Rates are reported to one decimal place. This indicates that the rate is < 0.05 per 100 encounters.

Note: CI—confidence interval. This table includes individual problems which had procedural treatments done at a rate of ≥ 0.5 per 100 encounters in any year, and any other statistically significant differences of interest.