

7 Problems managed

A 'problem managed' is a formal statement of the provider's understanding of a health problem presented by the patient, family or community, and can be described in terms of a disease, symptom or complaint, social problem, or ill-defined condition managed at the encounter. As GPs were instructed to record each problem at the most specific level possible from the information available, the problem managed may at times be limited to the level of a presenting symptom.

At each patient encounter, up to four problems could be recorded by the GP. A minimum of one problem was compulsory. The status of each problem to the patient – new (first presentation to a medical practitioner) or old (follow-up of previously managed problem) – was also indicated. The concept of a principal diagnosis, which is often used in hospital statistics, is not adopted in studies of general practice where multiple problem management is the norm rather than the exception. Further, the range of problems managed at the encounter often crosses multiple body systems and may include undiagnosed symptoms, psychosocial problems or chronic disease, which makes the designation of a principal diagnosis difficult. Thus the order in which the problems were recorded by the GP is not significant.

This chapter includes data about the problems managed in general practice from each of the last 10 years of the BEACH study from 1999–00 to 2008–09. The direction and type of change from 1999–00 to 2008–09 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, $\$$ 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 management rate of a problem between 1999–00 and 2008–09. 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 2.8.

There are two ways to describe the relative frequency of problems managed: as a percentage of all problems managed in the study, or as a rate of problems managed per 100 encounters. Where groups of problems are reported (for example cardiovascular problems), it must be remembered that more than one of that type of problem (such as hypertension and heart failure) may have been managed at a single encounter. In considering these results, the reader must be mindful that although a rate per 100 encounters for a single ungrouped problem (for example, asthma, 1.4 per 100 encounters) can be regarded as equivalent to 'asthma is managed at 1.4% of encounters', such a statement cannot be made for grouped concepts (ICPC-2 chapters and those marked with asterisks in the tables).

7.1 Number of problems managed

GPs are asked to record information about the management of up to four problems at each encounter. Table 7.1 shows the number of problems managed at each encounter over time.

There were increases in the number of encounters where two, three and four problems were managed, and a decrease in encounters where only one problem was managed. When extrapolated to all GP encounters in Australia this indicates there were about 4.9 million

more occasions where two problems were managed, 3.1 million more occasions where three problems were managed, and 910,000 more occasions where four problems were managed by GPs in Australia in 2008–09 than in 1999–00.

There was a significant increase in the number of problems managed at encounter, from 146.7 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 154.6 in 2008–09 (Table 7.2). This suggests there were an additional 24.7 million problems managed at GP encounters in Australia in 2008–09 than in 1999–00. This was reflected in significant increases in the management rate of new problems (Table 7.5), and the management rate of chronic conditions (Table 7.6).

7.2 Distribution of problems managed by ICPC-2 component

As shown in Table 7.2, there were significant increases in the management rate of problems described and classified as ‘diagnoses and diseases’, ‘diagnostic and preventive procedures’, ‘results’ and ‘administrative procedures’ between 1999–00 and 2008–09. The increase in the management of diagnoses and diseases represents an extrapolated national increase of 15.8 million encounters for this type of problem, the increase in the rate of diagnostic and preventive procedures represents an additional 3.5 million contacts for this problem and the increase in the management of test results represents an extrapolated increase of 870,000 contacts in Australia in 2008–09 when compared with 1999–00.

There were no significant changes in the management rate of problems described in terms of symptoms and complaints, nor those described and classified as ‘medications, treatments and therapeutics’ and ‘referrals and other reasons for encounters’ between 1999–00 and 2008–09.

7.3 Problems managed by ICPC-2 chapter and individual problems managed

Problems managed at general practice encounters by ICPC chapter are described in Table 7.3 for all years from 1999–00 to 2008–09. Problems related to the respiratory system have remained the most common type of problem managed since 1999–00. However, the management rate of respiratory problems has decreased significantly from 24.2 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 20.8 per 100 in 2008–09. This represents a national decrease of approximately 1.2 million occasions where a respiratory problem was managed in 2008–09 when compared with 1999–00.

The most common individual problems managed are described in Table 7.4 for all years from 1999–00 to 2008–09. Hypertension has remained the most common individual problem managed in general practice in Australia since 1999–00. Its management rate increased significantly between 1999–00 and 2008–09, from 8.4 to 10.1 per 100 encounters. This represents an estimated national increase of 2.8 million occasions where hypertension was managed in 2008–09 compared with 1999–00.

7.4 Most common new problems

Table 7.5 shows the most frequently managed new problems between 1999–00 and 2008–09. There was a significant increase in the management rate of new problems over the 10 years of the study from 45.3 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 57.4 in 2008–09, suggesting approximately 18.5 million more GP contacts with management of new problems than in 1999–00. The majority of this increase occurred between 1999–00 and 2001–02, increasing from 45.3 to 55.1 in 2001–02. The rate remained relatively stable from 2001–02 to 2008–09.

The most common new problems managed in general practice over the decade were upper respiratory tract infection, immunisation/vaccination and acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis. The management of general check-ups as a new problem increased significantly from 0.5 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 1.1 per 100 encounters in 2008–09, representing an additional 730,000 occasions where general check-ups were managed in 2008–09 compared with 1999–00 (Table 7.5).

7.5 Most frequently managed chronic problems

Table 7.6 shows the most frequently managed chronic problems between 1999–00 and 2008–09. The management rate of chronic conditions significantly increased from 47.2 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 55.1 per 100 in 2008–09, suggesting approximately 14.0 million more GP contacts in Australia in 2008–09 with chronic problems than in 1999–00.

The most common chronic problems managed were non-gestational hypertension, depressive disorder, non-gestational diabetes and lipid disorders. These problems all increased significantly over the decade. For example, lipid disorders increased from 2.6 to 3.7 per 100 encounters, representing an increase in management of 1.5 million lipid problems from 1999–00 to 2008–09 (Table 7.6).

Table 7.1: Number of problems managed at an encounter, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Number of problems managed at encounter	Per cent of encounters (95% CI)										Direction and type of change
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)	
One problem	65.4 (64.3-66.5)	66.5 (65.4-67.5)	67.7 (66.6-68.8)	66.9 (65.8-68.1)	66.2 (65.0-67.3)	66.5 (65.3-67.7)	66.4 (65.1-67.6)	65.0 (63.7-66.2)	63.0 (61.7-64.3)	60.8 (59.6-61.9)	↘
Two problems	24.7 (24.0-25.3)	24.4 (23.8-25.1)	23.1 (22.4-23.7)	23.4 (22.6-24.1)	23.8 (23.1-24.5)	23.6 (22.9-24.3)	23.4 (22.7-24.1)	24.0 (23.3-24.8)	25.4 (24.7-26.2)	26.7 (26.1-27.4)	↗
Three problems	7.7 (7.3-8.1)	7.3 (6.9-7.7)	7.3 (6.9-7.7)	7.6 (7.2-8.0)	7.7 (7.2-8.1)	7.7 (7.3-8.2)	7.9 (7.4-8.4)	8.5 (8.1-9.0)	8.8 (8.3-9.3)	9.7 (9.2-10.1)	↗
Four problems	2.2 (1.9-2.5)	1.9 (1.5-2.2)	1.9 (1.6-2.2)	2.1 (1.7-2.5)	2.4 (2.0-2.8)	2.2 (1.8-2.5)	2.3 (2.1-2.6)	2.5 (2.2-2.7)	2.7 (2.4-3.0)	2.8 (2.6-3.1)	↗

(a) The direction and type of change from 1999-00 to 2008-09 is indicated for each result. ↗↘ indicates a statistically significant change.

Note: CI—confidence interval.

Table 7.2: Distribution of problems managed, by ICPC-2 component, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

ICPC-2 component	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)										^(b) ↕ ↔
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)	
Diagnosis, diseases	96.1 (94.4-97.8)	95.2 (93.6-96.7)	93.7 (92.1-95.2)	93.1 (91.5-94.8)	94.8 (93.0-96.5)	94.2 (94.2-96.0)	95.5 (93.6-97.3)	96.6 (94.8-98.3)	98.1 (96.2-99.9)	100.9 (99.1-102.6)	↕
Symptoms & complaints	32.0 (31.2-32.8)	31.7 (30.9-32.5)	31.4 (30.6-32.2)	31.4 (30.6-32.2)	30.8 (30.0-31.6)	31.1 (30.2-31.9)	30.4 (29.6-31.2)	31.4 (30.6-32.2)	32.3 (31.5-33.1)	32.1 (31.3-32.9)	—
Diagnostic & preventive procedures	13.1 (12.4-13.7)	12.6 (11.9-13.2)	12.4 (11.8-13.0)	13.5 (12.8-14.2)	13.6 (12.9-14.4)	13.3 (12.5-14.0)	13.7 (13.1-14.4)	13.8 (13.0-14.5)	14.2 (13.5-14.8)	15.0 (14.2-15.7)	↕
Medications, treatments & therapeutics	3.1 (2.9-3.3)	2.9 (2.7-3.1)	3.3 (3.0-3.6)	3.6 (3.3-3.8)	4.0 (3.6-4.3)	3.7 (3.4-3.9)	3.2 (3.0-3.5)	3.2 (2.9-3.5)	2.9 (2.7-3.2)	3.3 (3.0-3.6)	—
Results	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.4 (1.3-1.6)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.5 (1.4-1.7)	↕
Referral & other RFE	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	1.7 (1.5-1.9)	1.3 (1.1-1.4)	1.4 (1.2-1.5)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	—
Administrative	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	↕
Total problems	146.7 (144.9-148.6)	144.5 (142.8-146.3)	143.4 (141.7-145.2)	144.9 (143.0-146.8)	146.3 (144.4-148.2)	145.5 (143.6-147.4)	146.2 (144.2-148.2)	148.5 (146.4-150.6)	151.3 (149.2-153.4)	154.6 (152.6-156.5)	↕

(a) Figures do not total 100, as more than one problem can be recorded for each encounter.

(b) The direction and type of change from 1999-00 to 2008-09 is indicated for each result: ↕ indicates a statistically significant change, and — indicates there was no change.

Note: CI—confidence interval; RFE—reason for encounter.

Table 7.3: Distribution of problems managed, by ICP-2 chapter, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

ICPC-2 Chapter	Rate per 100 encounters ^(b) (95% CI)											^(b) ↑ ↓
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)		
Respiratory	24.2 (23.5-24.9)	22.5 (21.9-23.2)	21.4 (20.7-22.0)	20.6 (20.0-21.3)	20.1 (19.5-20.7)	19.2 (18.6-19.9)	20.6 (19.9-21.3)	19.6 (18.9-20.3)	19.4 (18.8-20.1)	20.8 (20.2-21.4)	↓	
Cardiovascular	16.3 (15.5-17.0)	16.0 (15.3-16.7)	16.1 (15.5-16.8)	16.0 (15.3-16.7)	16.8 (16.1-17.5)	16.2 (15.5-16.9)	16.6 (16.1-17.7)	17.4 (16.7-18.1)	17.6 (16.8-18.3)	18.6 (17.8-19.3)	↑	
Musculoskeletal	16.9 (16.4-17.4)	17.4 (16.9-18.0)	17.5 (17.0-18.0)	17.1 (16.5-17.6)	17.1 (16.6-17.6)	17.7 (17.1-18.3)	17.2 (16.7-17.7)	17.1 (16.6-17.6)	17.3 (16.7-17.8)	17.3 (16.9-17.8)	—	
General & unspecified	13.9 (13.4-14.5)	14.2 (13.7-14.7)	14.7 (14.0-15.5)	15.8 (15.2-16.3)	15.0 (14.5-15.5)	15.1 (14.5-15.7)	15.1 (14.5-15.7)	16.2 (15.6-16.8)	17.8 (17.1-18.5)	17.1 (16.4-17.7)	↑	
Skin	17.0 (16.6-17.5)	16.7 (16.2-17.3)	16.1 (15.6-16.6)	16.5 (16.0-17.0)	16.9 (16.2-17.6)	17.2 (16.6-17.9)	16.6 (16.1-17.2)	17.5 (16.9-18.2)	17.2 (16.5-17.9)	17.0 (16.5-17.5)	—	
Endocrine & metabolic	9.1 (8.7-9.6)	9.8 (9.3-10.2)	10.4 (10.0-10.9)	10.6 (10.2-11.0)	11.3 (10.8-11.8)	11.8 (11.2-12.3)	11.6 (11.0-12.1)	12.1 (11.6-12.6)	12.9 (12.3-13.5)	13.5 (12.9-14.0)	↑	
Psychological	10.5 (10.0-11.1)	10.8 (10.2-11.3)	10.6 (10.1-11.2)	10.3 (9.8-10.8)	10.8 (10.3-11.4)	11.4 (10.8-12.0)	11.1 (10.5-11.7)	11.0 (10.5-11.4)	11.5 (10.9-12.0)	12.4 (11.9-12.9)	↑	
Digestive	10.1 (9.7-10.3)	9.9 (9.6-10.2)	9.9 (9.6-10.2)	10.1 (9.8-10.4)	10.5 (10.2-10.8)	9.9 (9.6-10.2)	10.1 (9.8-10.4)	10.4 (10.1-10.7)	10.7 (10.4-11.1)	10.5 (10.2-10.8)	—	
Female genital system	6.2 (5.8-6.5)	6.1 (5.7-6.4)	6.1 (5.8-6.5)	6.7 (6.2-7.1)	5.9 (5.5-6.3)	5.7 (5.3-6.1)	5.8 (5.4-6.2)	5.7 (5.3-6.1)	5.8 (5.4-6.2)	6.1 (5.7-6.6)	—	
Ear	4.5 (4.3-4.7)	4.4 (4.2-4.6)	4.2 (4.0-4.4)	4.0 (3.8-4.2)	4.0 (3.8-4.1)	4.1 (3.9-4.2)	4.0 (3.8-4.1)	3.8 (3.6-3.9)	3.8 (3.6-3.9)	3.9 (3.7-4.1)	↓	
Neurological	3.9 (3.7-4.1)	3.8 (3.6-3.9)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	4.2 (4.0-4.4)	3.9 (3.8-4.1)	3.6 (3.5-3.8)	3.6 (3.4-3.8)	3.8 (3.6-3.9)	3.6 (3.4-3.7)	3.8 (3.6-3.9)	—	
Pregnancy & family planning	4.3 (4.0-4.6)	3.9 (3.6-4.2)	4.0 (3.7-4.2)	4.2 (3.9-4.5)	4.2 (3.9-4.5)	3.8 (3.6-4.1)	3.8 (3.6-4.1)	3.9 (3.6-4.2)	3.9 (3.6-4.2)	3.7 (3.4-3.9)	↓	
Urology	3.0 (2.9-3.2)	2.7 (2.5-2.8)	2.8 (2.7-3.0)	2.8 (2.7-3.0)	3.0 (2.9-3.2)	3.0 (2.9-3.2)	3.1 (2.9-3.2)	3.2 (3.0-3.3)	3.1 (3.0-3.3)	3.3 (3.2-3.5)	↑	

(continued)

Table 7.3 (continued): Distribution of problems managed, by ICP-2 chapter, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

ICPC-2 Chapter	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)										^(b) ↑ ↓
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)	
Eye	2.7 (2.6-2.9)	2.6 (2.5-2.7)	2.5 (2.4-2.6)	2.6 (2.5-2.7)	2.7 (2.6-2.9)	2.7 (2.5-2.8)	2.8 (2.6-2.9)	2.7 (2.5-2.8)	2.6 (2.4-2.7)	2.7 (2.6-2.8)	—
Male genital system	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.5 (1.3-1.6)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.4 (1.3-1.6)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.9 (1.7-2.0)	1.9 (1.7-2.0)	1.8 (1.7-1.9)	2.1 (1.9-2.2)	↑
Blood	1.7 (1.6-1.8)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.4-1.8)	1.5 (1.4-1.6)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.5 (1.3-1.6)	§
Social problems	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	↓
Total problems	146.7 (144.9-148.6)	144.5 (142.8-146.3)	143.4 (141.7-145.2)	144.9 (143.0-146.8)	146.3 (144.4-148.2)	145.5 (143.6-147.4)	146.2 (144.2-148.2)	148.5 (146.4-150.6)	151.3 (149.2-153.4)	154.6 (152.6-156.5)	↑

(a) Figures do not total 100, as more than one problem can be managed at each encounter.

(b) The direction and type of change from 1999-00 to 2008-09 is indicated for each result: ↑/↓ indicates a statistically significant change, ↗/↘ indicates a marginal change, § indicates a non-linear significant or marginal change, and — indicates there was no change.

Note: CI—confidence interval.

Table 7.4: Most frequently managed problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											^(b) ↕
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)		
Hypertension*	8.4 (7.9-8.9)	8.6 (8.2-9.1)	9.0 (8.5-9.5)	8.8 (8.4-9.3)	9.2 (8.7-9.7)	8.9 (8.4-9.4)	9.4 (8.9-10.0)	9.6 (9.1-10.0)	9.9 (9.4-10.5)	10.1 (9.6-10.6)	↕	
Check-up—all*	6.4 (6.0-6.8)	5.9 (5.5-6.2)	5.8 (5.4-6.1)	6.4 (6.0-6.8)	6.4 (5.9-6.9)	6.3 (5.9-6.7)	6.4 (6.0-6.8)	6.6 (6.2-7.0)	6.3 (6.0-6.7)	6.7 (6.3-7.1)	—	
General check-up*	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.9 (1.8-2.1)	1.8 (1.7-2.0)	2.1 (1.9-2.2)	2.1 (1.9-2.2)	2.4 (2.2-2.6)	2.5 (2.3-2.7)	2.5 (2.3-2.7)	↕	
Female genital check-up*	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.5 (1.3-1.6)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	1.7 (1.5-1.9)	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	2.0 (1.8-2.3)	↕	
Cardiac check-up*	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.2 (1.0-1.3)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.2 (1.0-1.3)	1.3 (1.1-1.5)	1.2 (1.0-1.4)	1.3 (1.1-1.5)	—	
Upper respiratory tract infection	7.2 (6.7-7.7)	6.9 (6.5-7.3)	6.2 (5.8-6.6)	6.4 (6.0-6.8)	5.5 (5.1-5.8)	5.6 (5.2-5.9)	6.2 (5.8-6.6)	5.8 (5.3-6.2)	6.2 (5.7-6.7)	6.1 (5.7-6.6)	↕	
Immunisation/ vaccination—all*	4.6 (4.2-5.0)	4.6 (4.2-4.9)	4.7 (4.3-5.1)	4.6 (4.3-5.0)	4.7 (4.3-5.2)	4.6 (4.2-5.1)	5.0 (4.6-5.4)	4.7 (4.3-5.2)	5.2 (4.8-5.6)	5.7 (5.2-6.2)	↕	
Depression*	3.4 (3.2-3.6)	3.7 (3.4-3.9)	3.4 (3.2-3.6)	3.5 (3.3-3.7)	3.6 (3.4-3.9)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	3.6 (3.4-3.8)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	4.0 (3.8-4.2)	4.3 (4.0-4.5)	↕	
Diabetes—all*	2.7 (2.5-2.9)	2.8 (2.6-3.0)	3.1 (2.9-3.3)	2.9 (2.7-3.1)	3.3 (3.1-3.5)	3.2 (3.0-3.4)	3.5 (3.3-3.8)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	3.9 (3.6-4.1)	4.1 (3.9-4.3)	↕	
Lipid disorders*	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.9 (2.7-3.1)	2.9 (2.7-3.1)	3.0 (2.8-3.2)	3.1 (2.9-3.4)	3.3 (3.1-3.6)	3.4 (3.1-3.7)	3.5 (3.2-3.7)	3.7 (3.4-4.0)	3.9 (3.7-4.2)	↕	
Arthritis—all*	3.6 (3.3-3.8)	3.9 (3.7-4.1)	3.8 (3.5-4.0)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	4.0 (3.8-4.2)	3.9 (3.7-4.2)	3.8 (3.5-4.0)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	3.6 (3.4-3.8)	3.8 (3.6-4.0)	—	
Osteoarthritis*	2.2 (2.1-2.4)	2.5 (2.3-2.7)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.6 (2.4-2.7)	2.8 (2.6-3.0)	2.8 (2.6-3.0)	2.7 (2.5-2.9)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.8 (2.6-2.9)	↕	
Back complaint*	2.8 (2.6-2.9)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.7 (2.5-2.8)	2.8 (2.6-3.0)	2.6 (2.5-2.8)	2.6 (2.5-2.8)	2.7 (2.6-2.9)	2.7 (2.6-2.9)	—	

(continued)

Table 7.4 (continued): Most frequently managed problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											^(b) ↕
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)		
Acute bronchitis/ bronchiolitis	3.2 (3.0-3.4)	2.7 (2.5-2.9)	2.7 (2.5-2.9)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.4 (2.2-2.6)	2.4 (2.2-2.6)	2.5 (2.3-2.7)	2.2 (2.1-2.4)	2.4 (2.2-2.6)	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	↕	
Oesophageal disease	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.5 (1.4-1.6)	1.8 (1.7-2.0)	1.9 (1.8-2.1)	2.2 (2.0-2.4)	2.1 (1.9-2.2)	2.4 (2.2-2.5)	2.3 (2.1-2.5)	2.3 (2.2-2.5)	2.5 (2.3-2.7)	↕	
Asthma	3.2 (3.0-3.4)	2.8 (2.7-3.0)	2.8 (2.7-3.0)	2.7 (2.6-2.9)	2.6 (2.4-2.7)	2.3 (2.2-2.5)	2.3 (2.1-2.4)	2.3 (2.1-2.4)	2.2 (2.0-2.3)	2.2 (2.1-2.3)	↕	
Prescription—all*	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.9 (1.6-2.1)	2.0 (1.8-2.2)	2.3 (2.0-2.6)	2.1 (1.8-2.3)	2.0 (1.7-2.2)	2.2 (1.9-2.4)	2.0 (1.7-2.2)	2.1 (1.9-2.4)	—	
Anxiety*	1.7 (1.6-1.9)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.7 (1.6-1.9)	1.7 (1.6-1.9)	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	1.7 (1.6-1.9)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.9 (1.8-2.1)	—	
Contact dermatitis	1.9 (1.8-2.0)	2.1 (1.9-2.2)	1.9 (1.8-2.0)	1.9 (1.8-2.0)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.9 (1.8-2.0)	1.8 (1.7-1.9)	1.9 (1.8-2.0)	1.8 (1.7-1.9)	1.9 (1.8-2.0)	—	
Urinary tract infection*	1.8 (1.7-1.9)	1.5 (1.4-1.6)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.7 (1.6-1.8)	1.7 (1.6-1.8)	1.7 (1.6-1.8)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.7 (1.6-1.8)	—	
Sleep disturbance	1.5 (1.4-1.7)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.7 (1.5-1.9)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	—	
Test results*	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.4 (1.3-1.6)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.5 (1.4-1.7)	↕	
Sprain/strain*	1.8 (1.7-2.0)	2.0 (1.9-2.2)	1.8 (1.7-1.9)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.7 (1.5-1.9)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.5 (1.4-1.7)	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	↕	
Gastroenteritis*	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.7 (1.6-1.9)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.5 (1.4-1.7)	1.5 (1.4-1.7)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.7 (1.5-1.8)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	—	
Sinusitis acute/chronic	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.5 (1.4-1.6)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.2 (1.0-1.4)	1.4 (1.2-1.5)	—	
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	↕	

(continued)

Table 7.4 (continued): Most frequently managed problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											^(b) ↕
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)		
Pregnancy*	0.7 (0.6-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.3 (1.1-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.3 (1.1-1.4)	1.3 (1.1-1.4)	↕
Ischaemic heart disease*	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.1-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.4 (1.2-1.5)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.2 (1.0-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	↘
Solar keratosis/sunburn	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.0 (0.9-1.2)	1.2 (1.0-1.3)	1.3 (1.1-1.5)	1.3 (1.1-1.6)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.4 (1.1-1.6)	1.3 (1.1-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	—
Malignant neoplasm, skin	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.7-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	1.1 (0.9-1.3)	1.2 (1.0-1.4)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	↕
Viral disease, other/NOS	1.5 (1.3-1.7)	1.6 (1.4-1.8)	1.5 (1.3-1.7)	1.4 (1.2-1.6)	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	1.2 (1.0-1.4)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.2 (1.0-1.4)	—
Oral contraception*	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.4 (1.2-1.5)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	—
Vitamin/nutritional deficiency	0.3 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	↕
Acute otitis media/ myringitis	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.5 (1.4-1.6)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.2 (1.0-1.3)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	↘
Abnormal test results*	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (1.0-1.1)	↕
Fracture*	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.0 (1.0-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (1.0-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.9 (0.9-1.0)	—
Osteoporosis	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	↕
Tonsillitis*	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	↘
Menopausal complaint	1.4 (1.2-1.5)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.5 (1.3-1.6)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	↘

(continued)

Table 7.4 (continued): Most frequently managed problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											^(b) ↕
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)		
Allergic rhinitis	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.9)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	↕
Pre-postnatal check-up*	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	0.7 (0.6-0.9)	0.7 (0.6-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.1 (0.1-0.2)	0.1 (0.1-0.2)	0.2 (0.1-0.2)	↕
Total problems	146.7 (144.9-148.6)	144.5 (142.8-146.3)	143.4 (141.7-145.2)	144.9 (143.0-146.8)	146.3 (144.4-148.2)	145.5 (143.6-147.4)	146.2 (144.2-148.2)	148.5 (146.4-150.6)	151.3 (149.2-153.4)	154.6 (152.6-156.5)		↑

(a) Figures do not total 100, as more than one problem can be managed at each encounter. Also only the most frequent problems are included.

(b) The direction and type of change from 1999-00 to 2008-09 is indicated for each result: ↕ indicates a statistically significant change, ↗/↘ indicates a marginal change, and — indicates there was no change.

* Includes multiple ICP-2 or ICP-2 PLUS codes (see Appendix 4).

Note: CI—confidence interval; NOS—not otherwise specified. This table includes individual problems which were managed at ≥= 1.0 per 100 encounters in any year, and any other statistically significant differences of interest.

Table 7.5: Most frequently managed new problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

New problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											^(b) ↕
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)		
Upper respiratory tract infection	4.5 (4.1-4.9)	4.4 (4.1-4.8)	4.7 (4.4-5.1)	5.1 (4.7-5.5)	4.2 (3.8-4.5)	4.3 (4.0-4.6)	4.8 (4.4-5.2)	4.4 (4.1-4.8)	4.8 (4.4-5.2)	4.7 (4.4-5.0)	4.7 (4.4-5.0)	—
Immunisation/vaccination—all*	1.3 (1.1-1.5)	1.5 (1.3-1.8)	2.7 (2.4-3.0)	2.9 (2.6-3.2)	2.9 (2.6-3.3)	2.7 (2.4-3.1)	2.7 (2.5-3.0)	2.8 (2.5-3.1)	2.8 (2.5-3.0)	2.8 (2.5-3.1)	2.8 (2.5-3.1)	↑
Acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis	1.7 (1.6-1.9)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.9 (1.7-2.0)	1.9 (1.7-2.1)	1.8 (1.6-1.9)	1.7 (1.5-1.9)	1.9 (1.7-2.1)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)	1.7 (1.6-1.9)	1.9 (1.8-2.1)	1.9 (1.8-2.1)	—
General check-up*	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.8-1.1)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	↑
Gastroenteritis*	1.0 (0.9-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	—

(continued)

Table 7.5 (continued): Most frequently managed new problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

New problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)											^(b)
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)		
Urinary tract infection*	0.8 (0.8-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.1)	1.1 (1.0-1.1)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (1.0-1.1)	1.0 (1.0-1.1)	↑
Sinusitis acute/chronic	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.7 (0.7-0.8)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	—
Viral disease, other/NOS	1.0 (0.8-1.1)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.0 (0.9-1.2)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	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 (0.8-1.1)	0.9 (0.7-1.0)	0.9 (0.7-1.0)	—
Sprain/strain*	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-0.9)	—
Acute otitis media/ myringitis	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.8-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	↓
Tonsillitis*	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.7)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	↓
Abnormal test results	0.1 (0.1-0.2)	0.2 (0.2-0.3)	0.3 (0.3-0.3)	0.3 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.3 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	↑
Test results*	0.1 (0.1-0.1)	0.1 (0.1-0.1)	0.2 (0.2-0.3)	0.3 (0.2-0.3)	0.3 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	↑
Total new problems	45.3 (43.6-46.9)	47.4 (45.7-49.0)	55.1 (53.8-56.5)	57.0 (55.6-58.3)	55.9 (54.5-57.3)	55.2 (53.8-56.5)	56.9 (55.5-58.2)	56.5 (55.1-57.9)	57.7 (56.3-59.1)	57.4 (56.0-58.7)	57.4 (56.0-58.7)	↑

(a) Figures do not total 100, as more than one problem can be managed at each encounter. Also only the most frequent new problems are included.

(b) The direction and type of change from 1999-00 to 2008-09 is indicated for each result: ↑/↓ indicates a statistically significant change, ↗/↘ indicates a marginal change, and — indicates there was no change.

* Includes multiple ICD-9 or ICD-10 codes (see Appendix 4).

Note: CI—confidence interval; NOS—not otherwise specified. This table includes individual new problems which were managed at >= 1.0 per 100 encounters in any year, and any other statistically significant differences of interest.

Table 7.6: Most frequently managed chronic problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Chronic problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)										^(b)
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)	
Hypertension (non-gestational)**	8.4 (7.9-8.9)	8.6 (8.1-9.1)	9.0 (8.5-9.5)	8.8 (8.3-9.3)	9.2 (8.7-9.7)	9.2 (8.7-9.7)	9.4 (8.9-10.0)	9.5 (9.0-10.0)	9.9 (9.3-10.4)	10.1 (9.6-10.6)	↕
Depressive disorder**	3.4 (3.2-3.6)	3.6 (3.4-3.9)	3.4 (3.2-3.6)	3.5 (3.3-3.7)	3.6 (3.4-3.8)	3.6 (3.4-3.8)	3.6 (3.4-3.8)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	4.0 (3.7-4.2)	4.2 (4.0-4.4)	↕
Diabetes (non-gestational)**	2.7 (2.5-2.9)	2.8 (2.6-3.0)	3.1 (2.9-3.3)	2.9 (2.7-3.1)	3.3 (3.1-3.5)	3.3 (3.1-3.5)	3.5 (3.3-3.8)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	3.9 (3.6-4.1)	4.1 (3.8-4.3)	↕
Lipid disorders**	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.9 (2.7-3.1)	2.9 (2.7-3.1)	3.0 (2.8-3.2)	3.1 (2.9-3.4)	3.1 (2.9-3.4)	3.4 (3.1-3.7)	3.5 (3.2-3.7)	3.7 (3.4-4.0)	3.9 (3.7-4.2)	↕
Chronic arthritis**	3.6 (3.3-3.8)	3.9 (3.7-4.1)	3.8 (3.5-4.0)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	4.0 (3.8-4.2)	4.0 (3.8-4.2)	3.8 (3.5-4.0)	3.7 (3.5-3.9)	3.6 (3.4-3.8)	3.8 (3.6-4.0)	—
Oesophageal disease	1.6 (1.5-1.8)	1.5 (1.4-1.6)	1.8 (1.7-1.9)	1.9 (1.8-2.0)	2.2 (2.0-2.3)	2.2 (2.0-2.3)	2.4 (2.2-2.5)	2.3 (2.1-2.5)	2.3 (2.2-2.5)	2.5 (2.3-2.7)	↕
Asthma	3.2 (3.0-3.4)	2.8 (2.7-3.0)	2.8 (2.7-3.0)	2.7 (2.6-2.9)	2.6 (2.4-2.7)	2.6 (2.4-2.7)	2.3 (2.1-2.4)	2.3 (2.1-2.4)	2.2 (2.0-2.3)	2.2 (2.1-2.3)	↕
Atrial fibrillation/flutter	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	↕
Ischaemic heart disease**	1.6 (1.4-1.7)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.1-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)	1.4 (1.2-1.5)	1.4 (1.2-1.5)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)	§
Malignant neoplasm of skin	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.7-1.0)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	1.1 (0.9-1.3)	1.1 (0.9-1.3)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.1 (1.0-1.3)	1.2 (1.0-1.4)	1.2 (1.1-1.4)	↕
Back syndrome with radiating pain**	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	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 (0.8-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	—
Osteoporosis	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	↕
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.7-0.8)	0.7 (0.7-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.8 (0.8-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	—

(continued)

Table 7.6 (continued): Most frequently managed chronic problems, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Chronic problem managed	Rate per 100 encounters ^(a) (95% CI)										^(b) ↕↕
	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)	2008-09 (n = 96,688)	
Hypothyroidism/myxoedema	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.7 (0.6-0.7)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)	↕
Heart failure	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.7 (0.6-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.7-0.8)	0.7 (0.7-0.8)	0.7 (0.7-0.8)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	↘
Migraine	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.8 (0.8-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.7)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	↘
Obesity (BMI > 30)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.6 (0.6-0.7)	0.8 (0.6-0.9)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.8 (0.6-0.9)	0.7 (0.6-0.8)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	—
Dementia (including senile, Alzheimer's)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.3 (0.2-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.6 (0.4-0.7)	—
Shoulder syndrome (excluding arthritis)**	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	↕
Gout	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.6)	0.6 (0.5-0.7)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)	—
Schizophrenia	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	↕
Anxiety disorder**	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	—
Chronic acne**	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)	0.3 (0.3-0.4)	↘
Total chronic problems	47.2 (45.5-49.0)	46.9 (45.3-48.4)	48.0 (46.4-49.5)	47.7 (46.1-49.4)	50.4 (48.6-52.1)	50.4 (48.7-52.1)	50.6 (48.8-52.5)	50.6 (48.8-52.5)	52.4 (50.5-54.3)	55.1 (53.4-56.8)	↕

(a) Figures do not total 100, as more than one problem can be managed at each encounter. Also only the most frequent chronic problems are included.

(b) The direction and type of change from 1999-00 to 2008-09 is indicated for each result. ↕ indicates a statistically significant change, ↗↘ indicates a marginal change, § indicates a non-linear significant or marginal change, and — indicates there was no change.

** Indicates that this group differs from that used for analysis in other sections of this chapter, as only chronic conditions have been included in this analysis (see Appendix 5).

Note: CI—confidence interval; BMI—body mass index. This table includes individual chronic problems which were managed at > 0.5 per 100 encounters in any year, and any other statistically significant differences of interest.