

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 1999–00 to 2008–09. 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 4. Between 2005–06 and 2008–09 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.

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, clinical observations have been recorded, but only when undertaken by the practice nurse.

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, \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 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.

10.1 Clinical treatments

Overall, there was no change in the rate of clinical treatments provided at general practice encounters when comparing 1999–00 and 2008–09 data. However, there was a significant increase in the rate of clinical treatments recorded between 1999–00 and 2004–05, followed by a 25% decrease in 2005–06. The rate of clinical treatments then gradually increased to 34.0 per 100 encounters in 2008–09 (Table 10.1).

There were numerous changes when comparing the individual types of clinical treatments given over the 10-year period. Since 1999–00 there was an overall increase in the rate of general advice and education given to patients, from 4.2 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 6.1 per 100 in 2008–09. There were also numerous significant changes within this period (Table 10.1). The rate of other administrative/documentation shows a similar pattern, with peaks of 1.8 per 100 encounters occurring in 2003–04 and 2008–09.

A significant linear increase was seen in the rate of sickness certificates provided over the 10-year period, given at a rate of 0.6 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 and increasing to 1.9 per 100 encounters in 2008–09. This represents an estimated 1.5 million more sickness certificates provided nationally in 2008–09 than in 1999–00.

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 tobacco abuse increased fivefold from 0.1 per 100 tobacco abuse encounters in 1999–00 to 0.5 per 100 in 2008–09. Clinical treatments were provided in the management of asthma less often in 2008–09 than in 1999–00. A significant linear decrease over the 10-year period is shown, equating to 270,000 fewer occasions at which a clinical treatment was given in the management of asthma in 2008–09 than in 1999–00.

10.2 Procedures

Overall, the rate at which procedures were provided by GPs increased significantly over time, from 12.5 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 16.7 per 100 encounters in 2008–09. This equates to an estimated additional 6.1 million occasions at which a procedure was performed in 2008–09 compared with 1999–00 (Table 10.3).

This significant rise in the rate of procedures is reflected in the rates of individual types of procedural treatments. For example, there was an increase in pap smears, from 0.8 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 1.2 per 100 encounters in 2008–09. This equates to a national estimated 540,000 additional pap smears undertaken by GPs in 2008–09 compared with 1999–00. Other procedural treatments that demonstrate a significant increase over this time included local injections (Table 10.3).

A number of changes were apparent in the most common problems managed with a procedure between 1999–00 and 2008–09 (Table 10.4). In parallel with the aforementioned increase in the rate of pap smears there was an associated increase in the rate of female genital check-ups, from 0.5 per 100 encounters in 1999–00 to 1.1 per 100 in 2008–09. This equated to an additional 730,000 female genital check-ups performed in 2008–09 compared with during 1999–00.

For solar keratosis (the problem most often managed with a procedure) the rate at which a procedure was performed rose marginally, from 0.8 per 100 contacts in 1999–00 to 0.9 per 100 in 2008–09.

Significantly more procedures were performed in the management of hypertension over time, with an additional 120,000 procedures performed nationally for this problem in 2008–09 than in 1999–00 (Table 10.4).

Table 10.1: The most frequent clinical treatments, BEACH, 1999–00 to 2008–09

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										^(e) ↕
	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)	
Advice/education*	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)	6.1 (5.4–6.9)	§
Counselling—problem*	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)	3.8 (3.3–4.4)	—
Counselling/advice— nutrition/weight*	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)	4.1 (3.6–4.5)	—
Advice/education— treatment*	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)	3.5 (3.1–4.0)	↘
Counselling— psychological*	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)	3.2 (3.0–3.5)	↗
Advice/education— medication*	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)	2.3 (2.1–2.6)	§
Sickness certificate*	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)	1.9 (1.6–2.2)	↗
Other admin/document*	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)	1.8 (1.7–2.0)	§
Reassurance, support	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)	1.5 (1.3–1.8)	—
Counselling/advice— exercise*	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)	1.4 (1.2–1.6)	—
Counselling/advice— smoking*	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)	0.8 (0.7–0.8)	—
Counselling/advice— prevention*	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)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	—
Counselling/advice— lifestyle*	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)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	—

(continued)

Table 10.1 (continued): The most frequent clinical treatments, BEACH, 1999–00 to 2008–09

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										^(a) ↕
	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)	
Counseling/advice— alcohol*	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 (0.3–0.4)	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)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	—
Observe/wait*	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)	0.4 (0.3–0.6)	—
Counseling/advice— health/body*	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 (0.3–0.5)	—
Counseling/advice— pregnancy*	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)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	—
Counseling/advice— relaxation*	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)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	↕
Counseling/advice— STDs*	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)	0.1 (0.1–0.2)	—
Counseling/advice—drug abuse*	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)	↕
Counseling/advice— relationship*	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	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)	34.0 (32.1–35.9)	§

(a) The direction and type of change from 1999–00 to 2008–09 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 4).

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

Table 10.2: The most common problems managed with a clinical treatment, BEACH, 1999–00 to 2008–09

Problem managed	Rate at which a clinical treatment was given, per 100 contacts ^(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)		
Depression*	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)	1.8 (1.7–2.0)	—	
Upper respiratory tract infection	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)	1.7 (1.5–1.9)	—	
Hypertension*	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)	1.1 (1.0–1.2)	—	
Lipid disorders*	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)	1.0 (0.9–1.1)	↕	
Diabetes—all*	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)	1.1 (0.9–1.2)	↕	
Anxiety*	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)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	—	
Gastroenteritis*	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)	0.7 (0.6–0.7)	↕	
Test results*	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)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	↕	
Back complaint*	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)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	—	
Sprain/strain*	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)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	↕	
Obesity	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)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	—	
Acute stress reaction	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)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	—	
Osteoarthritis*	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)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	—	

(continued)

Table 10.2 (continued): The most common problems managed with a clinical treatment, BEACH, 1999–00 to 2008–09

Problem managed	Rate at which a clinical treatment was given, per 100 contacts ^(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)		
General check-up*	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)	0.4 (0.3–0.5)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	↑
Asthma	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)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	↓
Acute bronchitis/ bronchiolitis	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)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.4 (0.3–0.4)	—
Tobacco abuse	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)	0.3 (0.4–0.5)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	↑
Pregnancy*	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)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)	↑
Urinary tract infection*	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)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.2)	↓
Menopausal complaint	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)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	0.2 (0.1–0.2)	↓
Total problems with clinical treatments	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)	30.9 (29.2–32.5)	30.9 (29.2–32.5)	—

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

(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 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 4).

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

Table 10.3: The most frequent procedural treatments, BEACH, 1999–00 to 2008–09

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										^(e)
	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)	
Excision/removal tissue/ biopsy/destruction/ debridement/cauterisation*	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)	3.2 (2.9–3.5)	—
Local injection/ infiltration ^(b)	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 (2.1–2.4)	↑
Dressing/pressure/ compression/tamponade*	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)	2.3 (2.1–2.4)	—
Physical medicine/ rehabilitation*	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)	1.2 (1.1–1.3)	↓
Incision/drainage/flushing/ aspiration/removal body fluid*	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)	1.3 (1.2–1.4)	↑
Pap smear*	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)	1.2 (1.0–1.3)	↑
Repair/fixation—suture/ cast/prosthetic device (apply/remove)*	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)	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	↓
Other therapeutic procedures/surgery NEC*	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)	0.9 (0.7–1.1)	—
Electrical tracings*	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)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	—
Physical function test*	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*	0.2 (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)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	↑
Glucose test*	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, BEACH, 1999–00 to 2008–09

Treatment	Rate per 100 encounters (95% CI)										2008–09 (n = 96,688)	↑ ^(a) ↓
	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)		
Other diagnostic procedures*	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)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	0.3 (0.2–0.3)	↑
Total procedural treatments	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)	16.7 (16.0–17.5)	16.7 (16.0–17.5)	↑

(a) 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 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 4).

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

Table 10.4: The most common problems managed with a procedural treatment, BEACH, 1999–00 to 2008–09

Problem managed	Rate at which a procedural treatment was given, per 100 contacts ^(a) (95% CI)										2008–09 (n = 96,688)	↑ ^(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)		
Solar keratosis/sunburn	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)	0.9 (0.8–1.1)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	↑
Female genital check-up*	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)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	1.1 (0.9–1.2)	↑
Laceration/cut	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)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	0.7 (0.6–0.8)	—
Excessive ear wax	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)	0.6 (0.5–0.6)	0.6 (0.6–0.7)	↑
Malignant neoplasm skin	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)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.6 (0.5–0.7)	↑
Warts	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)	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	—

(continued)

Table 10.4 (continued): The most common problems managed with a procedural treatment, BEACH, 1999-00 to 2008-09

Problem managed	Rate at which a procedural treatment was given, per 100 contacts ^(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)		
Chronic ulcer skin (including varicose ulcer)	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)	0.5 (0.4-0.6)	—	
Sprain/strain*	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)	0.3 (0.2-0.3)	↓	
General check-up*	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)	0.3 (0.3-0.4)	↑	
Back complaint*	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 (0.2-0.4)	—	
Vitamin/nutritional deficiency	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*	0.1 (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 (0.2-0.3)	↑	
Asthma	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	11.8 (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 (15.0-16.3)	↑	

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

(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-2 or ICD-2 PLUS codes (see Appendix 4).

‡ 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 selected problems in any year, and any other statistically significant differences of interest.