

Open data to understand the impact of remote consultations in primary care

#OpenDataSavesLives

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Digital First Primary Care

- Digital first primary care, where patients use digital and online tools for faster and improved access to advice, support and treatment, plays a key part in the NHS long term plan
- As part of this, total triage and remote consultations are designed to improve access for patients and reduce workload pressures on GPs
- However, some GPs have urged caution and more research is required to understand the impact of different aspects of digital-first primary care on patients, the workforce and the wider health and care system

Open data sources

askmyGP provider data

- Rich source of patient-level data on triage and online GP consultations



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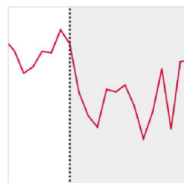
How has COVID-19 affected service delivery in GP practices that offered remote consultations before the pandemic?

16 July 2020

About 9 mins to read

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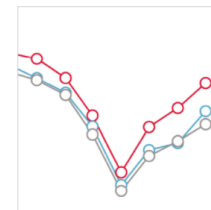
How are total triage and remote consultation changing the use of emergency care?

3 December 2020

About 10 mins to read

[Geraldine Clarke](#) / [Paris Pariza](#) / [Arne Wolters](#)

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Open data sources

GP population characteristics/demographics data

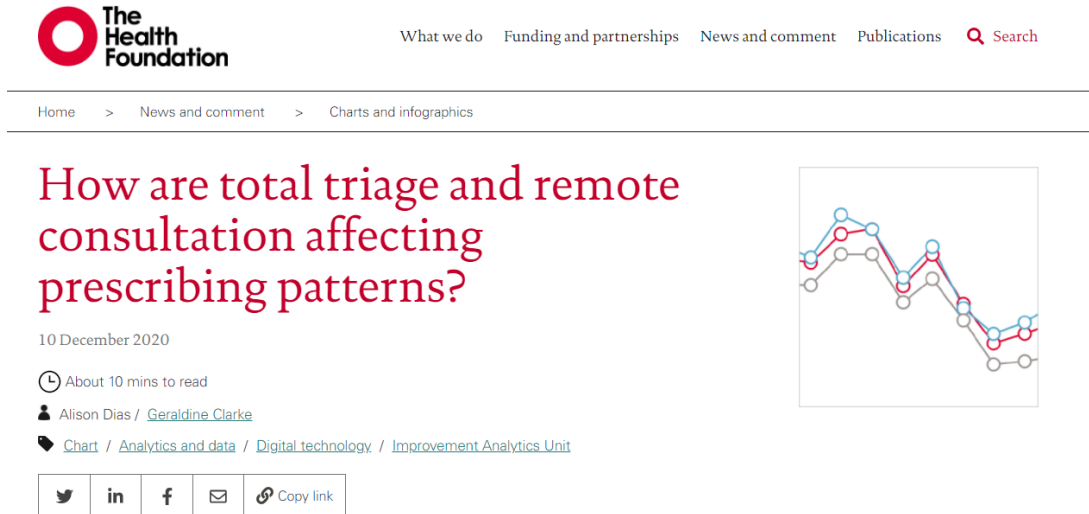
- Open data on GP characteristics including:
 - GP registered population size
 - Age, gender and ethnicity proportions
 - Index of multiple deprivation (IMD) scores
 - Quality and outcomes framework (QOF) information
- Data sourced from multiple open sources including NHSD GP practice data and ONS census data

Open data sources

- OpenPrescribing
 - A research project funded by the Health Foundation, which provides a search interface using anonymised prescribing data published by the NHS in England
 - Prescribing data available at different geographical levels, which allowed us to undertake practice-level analysis
 - Patient-level data is not available from this source

Case study

- What we looked at
 - Antibiotic, opioid analgesic and antidepressant prescribing patterns
- How we linked the data
 - GP practice code
- Analyses
 - Synthetic control approach



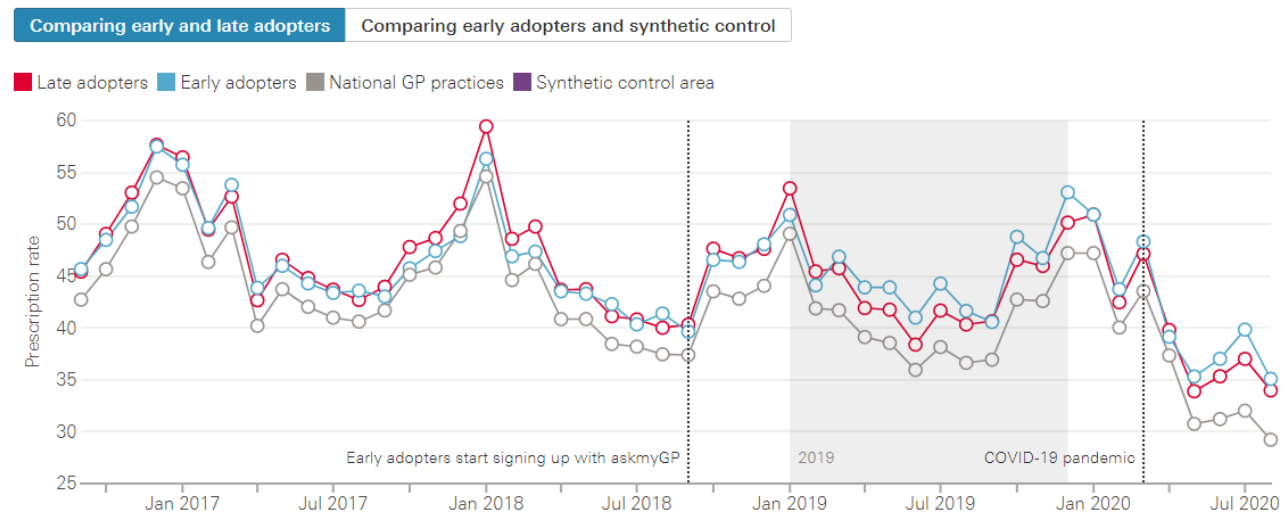
The screenshot shows a news article page from The Health Foundation. The page header includes the logo and navigation links: "What we do", "Funding and partnerships", "News and comment", "Publications", and "Search". The breadcrumb trail reads "Home > News and comment > Charts and infographics". The article title is "How are total triage and remote consultation affecting prescribing patterns?" in red text, dated "10 December 2020". Below the title, it says "About 10 mins to read" and lists authors "Alison Dias / Geraldine Clarke". The article is categorized under "Chart / Analytics and data / Digital technology / Improvement Analytics Unit". At the bottom, there are social media sharing icons for Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Email, and a "Copy link" button. On the right side of the article, there is a line chart with three data series: a blue line with circles, a red line with circles, and a grey line with circles. The blue and red lines show a similar trend, peaking in the middle and then declining, while the grey line shows a more gradual decline.

Case study

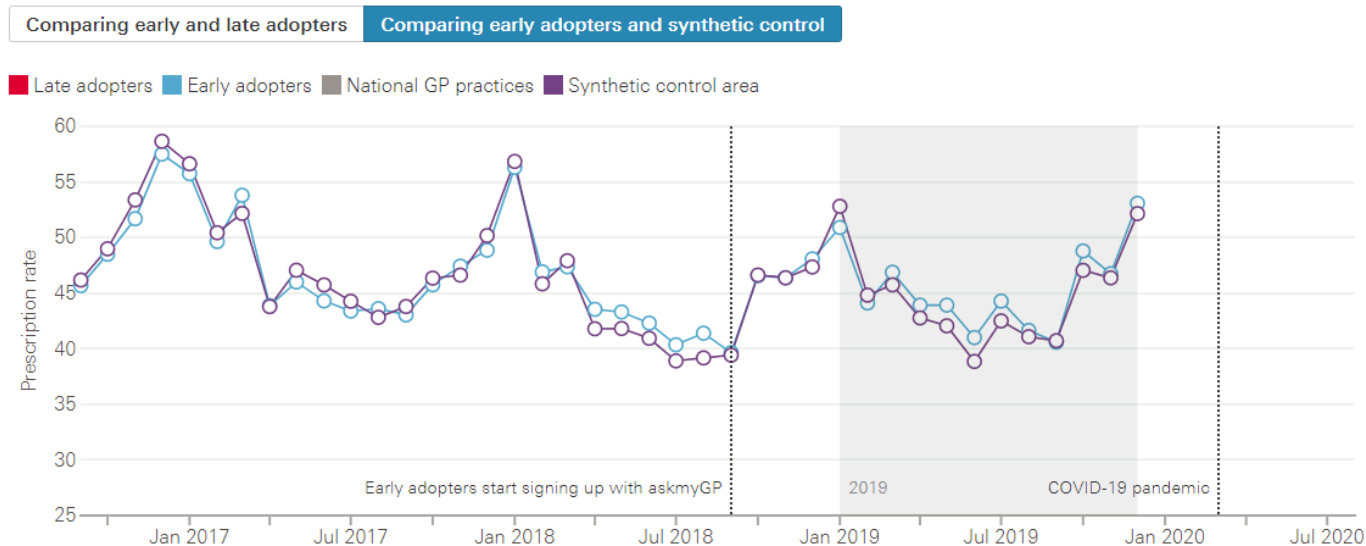
• Results

There is no evidence of any change in antibiotic prescribing patterns in early compared to late adopters of askmyGP in 2019

Rates of antibiotic prescribing per 1,000 patients per month, England, September 2016 to August 2020



Case study



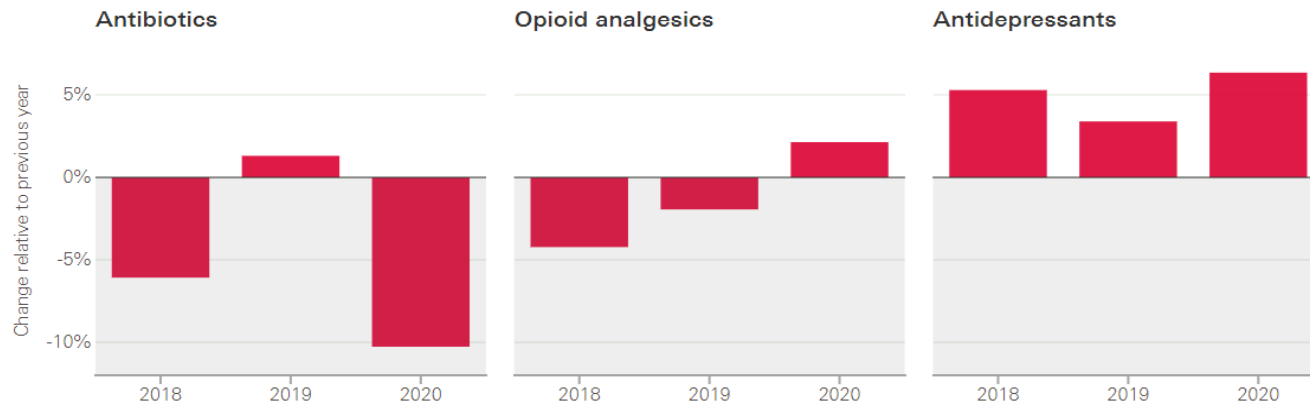
Case study

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a large decrease in the rate of antibiotic prescribing compared to the same period in 2019

Year on year percentage change in the average rate of antibiotic, opioid analgesic and antidepressant prescribing in early adopters and national GP practices from March to August, England 2017 – 2020

askmyGP early adopters

All national GP practices



Publications

- G. Clarke, P. Pariza, A. Wolters (2020): How has COVID-19 affected service delivery in GP practice that offered remote consultations before the pandemic? URL: [chart](#)
- G. Clarke, P. Pariza, A. Wolters (2020): How are total triage and remote consultation changing the use of emergency care? URL: [chart](#)
- A. Dias, G. Clarke (2020): How are total triage and remote consultation affecting prescribing patterns? URL: [chart](#)

Thank you

