

Medicalising Poverty

Access for all

Rationing

Four categories of information

A

*Healthcare – both unequally **accessed** and fundamentally different for poor people*

B

*Primary care today – are we **medicalising poverty**? Is this the best use of our resources and a wise way of spending the money?*

C

***Rationing** – Who is forgotten? Are we looking honestly at the reality of rationing of services? Examples from Children and Young People and the vaccine programme*

D

Questions to answer

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Questions to start conversations

A1

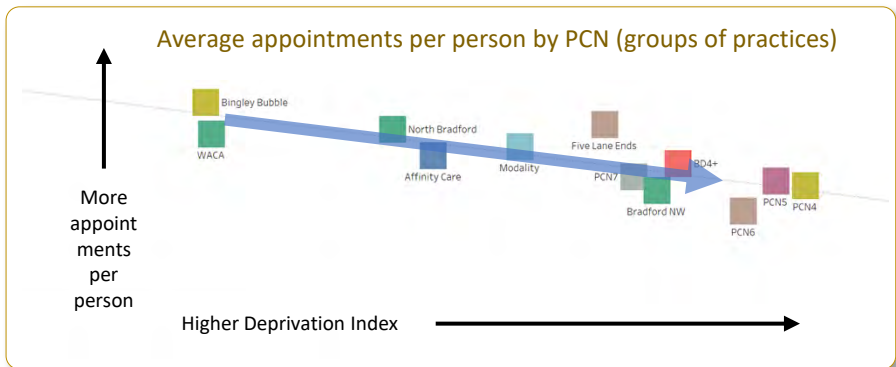
There is both unequal and different care for poorer people

The primary care we provide is fundamentally different in poorer areas.

For a poor population who may have huge challenges in their lives, primary care is:

- (a) harder to access (fewer appointments)
- (b) And less preventative (lower screening levels, less planned admissions).

Data example: fewer appts available per person in poorer areas



* Data not currently provided in Hastings

A2

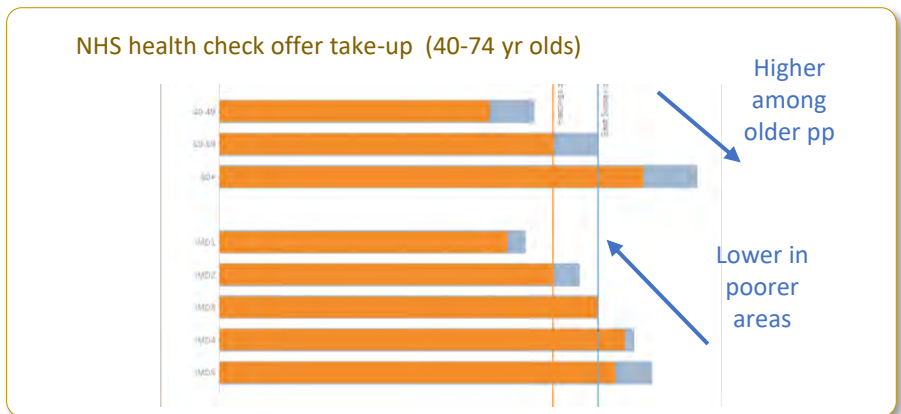
A flat offer is unequal

Equal inputs produce unequal outputs.
Counterintuitively the same offer to everyone
generates more inequality.

“Fair” is not fair

Data example: NHS health checks demonstrate
this. A similar offer made to all people aged 40-
74 shows different take-up rates by age, gender,
ethnicity and poverty/deprivation.

Data example : different take-up rates for a common offer



A5

The life expectancy gap for people who are poor has not narrowed

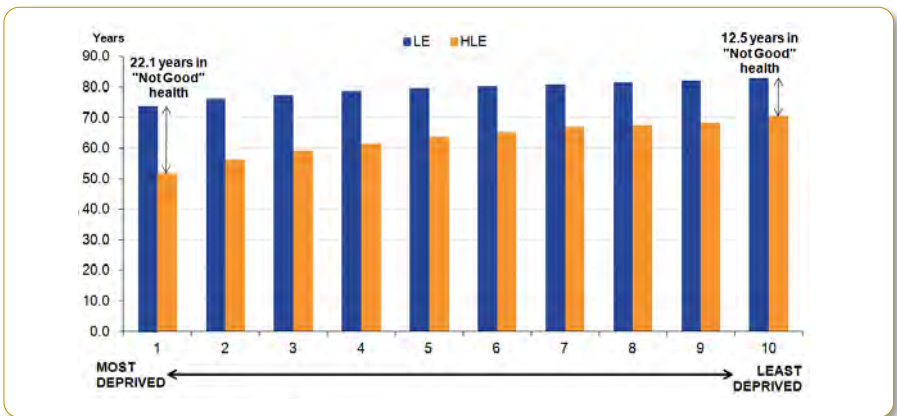
Poor people live shorter lives by 5 to 10 years. And they also spend a much shorter number of years in good health.

Life expectancy difference from highest decile of deprivation area to lowest:

Female: 86 years drops to 79 years (**7 year gap**)

Male: 83 years drops to 74 years (**9 year gap**)

Data : Life expectancy (LE) and healthy life expectancy (HLE) gaps



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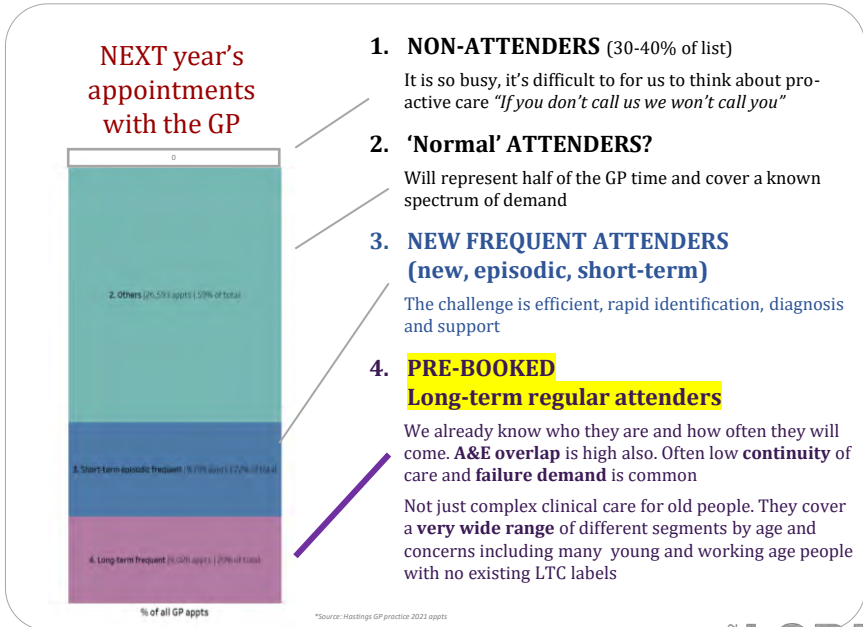
B1a

20% of next year's GP appointments are already booked

The people who see GPs frequently **year after year** are effectively 'pre-booked' next year too, taking up 20% of future GP appointments

This is just 4% of patients. That's a whole GP used up full-time for a medium-sized practice on 200-200 pp).

Data example: a year's GP appointments - 20% to long-term regular attenders



B1b

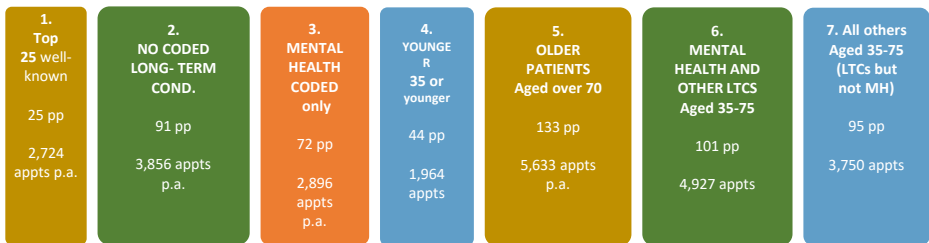
Your long-term regulars are not who you think they are

They are just a few hundred people but up to a quarter of all GP appointments, but they are mostly NOT well-known to the practice.

Every practice's group is different:

- They are often bouncing around between all staff members and not really being “picked up”
- So there is often a lack of consistency or long-view in their care
- Stereotypes and language like ‘frequent flyers’ are inaccurate and very unhelpful.
- They are all ages and very mixed in their needs. They may be ... chronic pain sufferers ... and/or young ... and/or neurodiverse ... and/or suffering from health anxiety ... and in challenging social or family circumstances.
- These patients are very receptive to trying different support approaches to break the cycle

Data example: long-term attender cohorts, a large practice



a) REVIEW AND RETHINK

Reviewing of a small sample, what can we learn?

- *Past/Present/Future thinking*

b) NEW STARTS

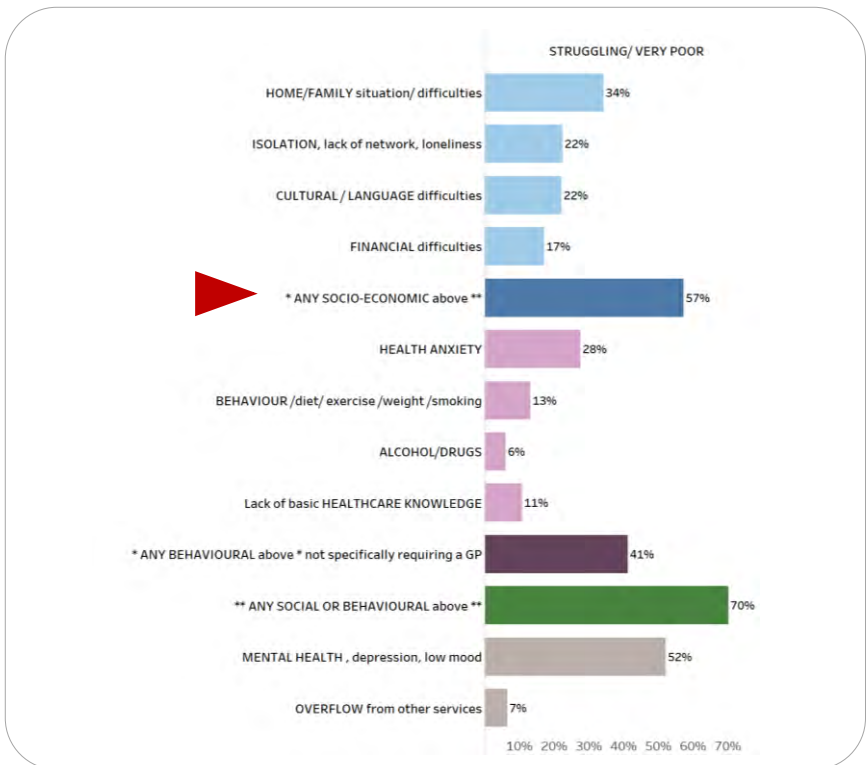
- *Long MDT reboot appt? Active navigation? Continuity? ARRS roles usage, social links? ...many options*

B2

At least a quarter of doctor appointments in general practice are significantly driven by social context

This rises to 60% of appointments for people with a turbulent life context.

Data example: GP audit of non-medical factors contributing to their appointments – below shown among patients with a turbulent life context



B4

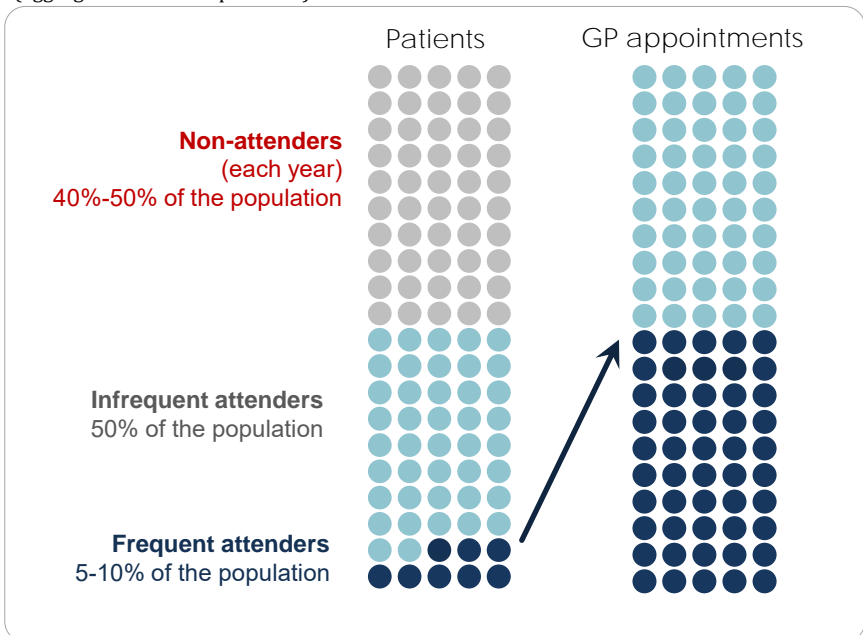
Reactive care is unequal

In a frantic world, primary care generally waits for people to come to it and then responds.

GP appointments skew to a small portion of the population every year with little left over for proactive work.

40 - 50% of people registered at a practice won't come in a given year - and a quarter or more haven't been heard from for 3-4 years, possibly longer.

Data example : patient vs appointment 'skew'
(aggregated across 25 practices)



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C1

Mental health waits for young people are extreme

CAMHS referrals are up very significantly post Covid.

EXAMPLE

- Wait for first appointment = 8 months (one region)
- Over 500 people waiting over 6 months (another region)

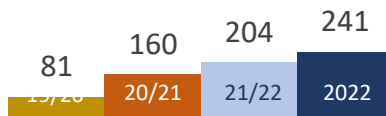
The wait for **neurodiversity assessment** in xxxx can be just short of 2 years. **This isn't a wait, it's "life on hold"**.

Referrals in one area have increased over 70% in the last 2 years.

Neurodiversity: Over 4,500 young people were waiting for an Autism and/or ADHD diagnosis in xxx recently and some services have seen up to an **80% increase in referrals over the last 2 years.**

Data example : CYPMH waiting to 1st appt in one region:

Average waiting time for CYPMH in days
(referral to 1st appt) days

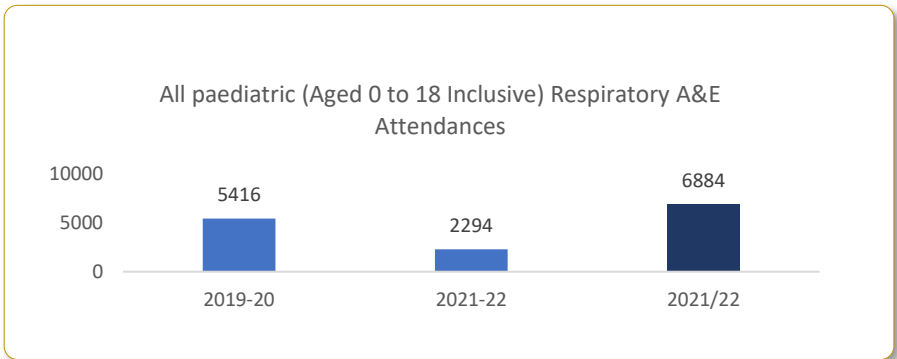


C4

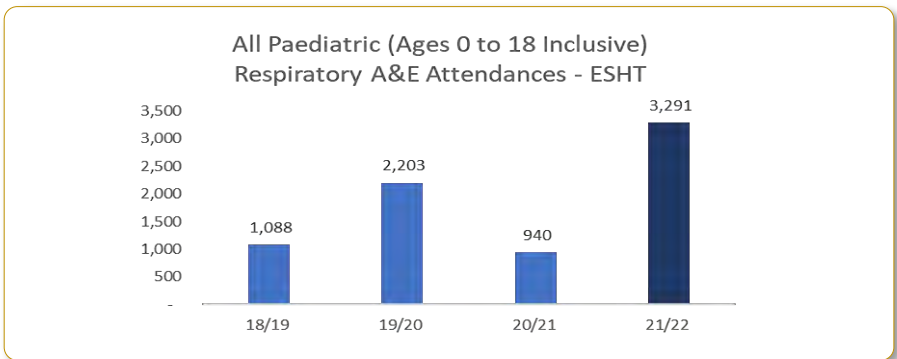
Young people are accessing A&E more frequently

There is growth in children and young people attending A&E

Data example 1 : **0-18 A&E respiratory attendances +30%**



Data example 2 : **0-18 A&E respiratory attendances +40%**



C6

A triple impact on primary care in poorer areas

1. Appointments are already skewed to a **small proportion of patients** (true for all practices)

AND

2. There are proportionately **less GPs** and less GP time available in poorer areas

AND

3. **Funding allocation may be lower** as it is weighted more by demographics than by complexity or deprivation levels

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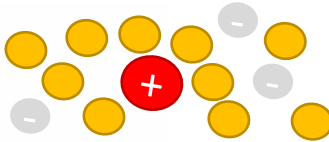
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D1



ADD A NEW SERVICE ... OR TAKE SOME AWAY?

*When services aren't joined up or missing, do we tend to try and fix things by **ADDING** a new service*

But do we need to also we think about **TAKING AWAY**, **SIMPLIFYING OR COMBINING** services too?

D2



THE NEXT GENERATION

*How do we focus on preventing the
NEXT GENERATION from being
medicalised?*

- If it's too late - or at least very hard - to change the current generation as they have had years of behaviour built into the system, then ...
- **How do we work with the NEXT generation to fundamentally change their relationship with healthcare?**
- How do we support tough GP conversations? And coordinate other support. How could this work?

D3



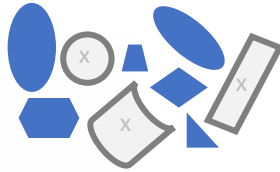
IS A NEW MODEL OF CARE NEEDED?

The traditional model of Primary Care (GPs in one place, building relationships with a stable population) is challenged by not enough GPs and an often transient or dis-engaged population then ...

What's the NEW MODEL OF PRIMARY CARE that doesn't assume that we can recruit enough GPs and that people stay in the same place, or come to us all the time?

LSBU

D7



WHAT IS A GP APPOINTMENT FOR?

**What if it's covering a lot more
than we expected?**

Are there things it should it NOT
cover?

D9



Do we need to GET OUT THERE?

Is there too much *“Don’t call us... and we won’t call you”* today in our services?

D10



HOW CAN WE BETTER DISTRIBUTE FUNDING?

To those areas that get less.

In areas where flat funding today
produces inequality?

D12



PEOPLE DON'T WAIT EQUALLY

Waiting isn't fair

What about waiting list adjustments?

If people who are poorer wait harder
what can we do?