Why is NHS-R so awesome and how can we make it even more awesome?

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Introduction

- ▶ I learned R in 2009 in the bad old days
- I swore that I'd make sure that others didn't suffer like I did
- NHS-R is the fulfilment of this promise

Core values of open source

- Transparency
- Collaboration
- Release early and often
- Inclusive meritocracy
- Community
- Work across organisational boundaries (obviously)

Core values

- Flat hierarchy
- Sharing
- Cooperate across organisational boundaries
- We cooperate across international boundaries
- We love beginners
- We make mistakes and learn together

What is NHS-R?

- Culture > Strategy
- Doing > Talking
- NHS-R is your permission to work your way
- Nobody ever asks us to do our best work
 - NHSRplotthedots
- We know what to build, we know what to learn
- "Computer (department) says no"

What's the recipe?

- Senior fellows:
 - Statistics
 - Machine learning
 - Academia
 - Open source
 - Teaching
- Community driven

Open source

- We believe in open source
- All NHS R solutions are open source
- We teach git and GitHub and encourage organisations to share their code
- We build stuff together because we believe in the value of the community





The best things in life are free...?

- ► Slack cost £0
- Mentoring cost £0
- Book club cost £0
- Podcast cost £0
- NHSRplotthedots cost £0

But you can keep them for the birds and bees...?

- Admin support cost £££
- Conference cost £££
- RStudio Cloud cost £££
- NHSR solutions cost £££

Force multiplier

- Code is a force multiplier
- Wickham, 2014 https://bit.ly/3jQ5SuJ
- So is a community
- NHS-R is absurdly cheap and its ROI is absurdly high
- NHS-R is making people happy and productive
- NHS-R is changing the lives of its members and improving healthcare for everyone in the UK