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Report Title: Medical Appointment Records & Factors Influencing

Patient Attendance SQL Portfolio Project

Introduction

This report presents data-driven insights derived from real-world medical appointment data collected from the state of West Virginia, USA. The dataset includes demographic and clinical details of patients, enabling a comprehensive analysis of factors that influence patient attendance. The primary goal of this project is to utilize SQL-based analysis to identify key patterns that affect appointment no-shows. By uncovering these patterns, the project aims to support clinics in reducing missed appointments, enhancing communication with patients, and optimizing resource allocation.

Data Description:

I have been provided with a dataset of 10,000 appointments from the US state of West Virginia, along with clinic and patient details. The following are the details of the key variables:

PatientId: Unique numbers assigned to each patient for identification

AppointmentID: Unique numbers for each appointment

Gender: Gender of the patient

ScheduledDay: The time and day when the appointment was scheduled

AppointmentDay: Date when the appointment was to take place

Age: Age of the patient

Neighbourhood: Area where the patient lives

Scholarship: Indicates whether the patient is enrolled in a welfare program **Hypertension, Diabetes, Alcoholism, Handcap:** Indicators of health conditions

SMS_received: Whether the patient received an SMS reminder **Showed up:** Whether the patient attended the appointment

Date.diff: Calculated difference in days between the scheduled and appointment date

Methodology and SQL Tasks

Data Cleaning

The first step in our data analysis process involves data cleaning and transformation. To achieve this, the CSV file of our Virginia patients' data was imported into the MySQL Workbench, and a database named "Virginiapatients" was created, containing a table named Virginia_patients. Then, the data was loaded into the result grid using the SELECT SQL command: "SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;". This provided an overview of our dataset, ensured it was free from duplicates, and designated the "PatientId" as the primary key. After this, the following steps were

followed to clean, filter, and retrieve data along with the application of various SQL functions (such as aggregation, common table expressions, and windows functions).

Basic SQL & Data Retrieval

1. Retrieve all columns from the Virginia_patients table.

For this purpose, the following commands are used:

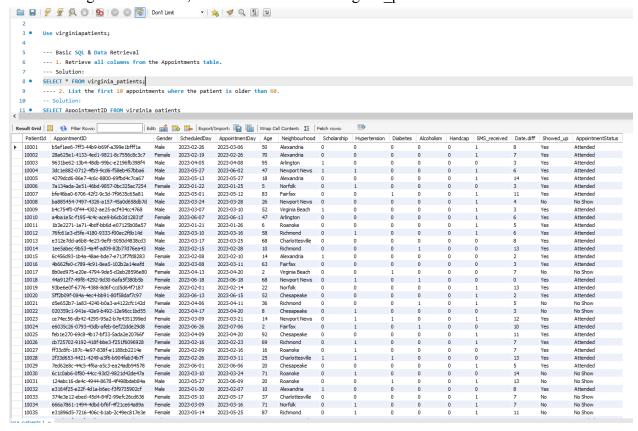
Solution:

CREATE database virginiapatients;

Use virginiapatients;

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;

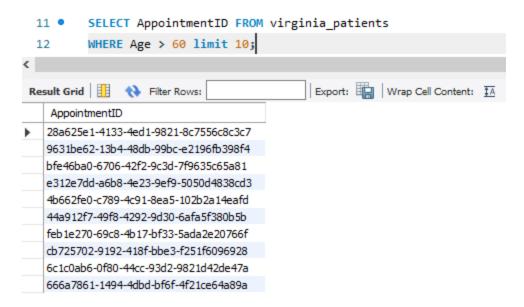
After running this statement, all columns from the Virginia patients table are retrieved.



2. List the first 10 appointments where the patient is older than 60.

Solution:

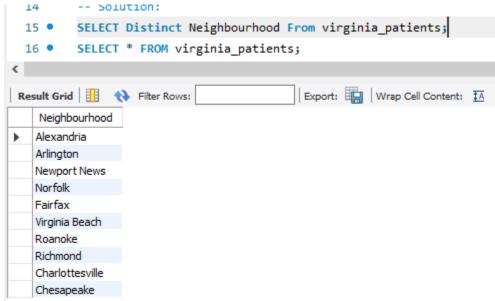
SELECT AppointmentID FROM virginia_patients WHERE Age > 60 limit 10;



To retrieve the information of the first ten patients from the Virginia_patients table whose age is above sixty, the SELECT command with the appointmentID column and a limit clause was applied, and it gave the results of the appointments.

3. Show the unique neighborhoods from which patients came. Solution:

SELECT Distinct Neighbourhood From virginia_patients;



By running the DISTINCT() function in MySQL, I was able to filter and check the data set for duplicate values, ensuring it contains no identical values. In addition, it showed me a distinct neighbourhood from the Virginia_patients table for my analysis.

4. Find all female patients who received an SMS reminder. Give a count of them Solution:

To find the number of female patients who received SMS reminders for their appointments, the COUNT() function was used. It returned a count of **3465** female patients who received an SMS. This query helps us derive insights into whether SMS reminders were fairly distributed across genders and how these reminders may have influenced **appointment attendance**, especially when analyzed alongside the no_show status.

Data Modification & Filtering

5. Update the dates in the ScheduledDay and AppointmentDay columns to the correct date format (hint: str_to_date() is a very helpful function to sort out dates) Solution:

```
SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;

SET sql_safe_updates = 0;

ALTER TABLE virginia_patients

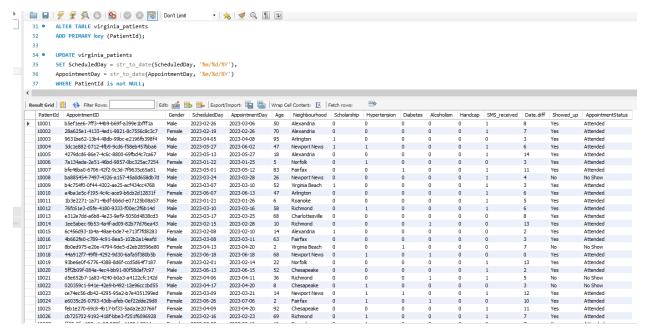
ADD PRIMARY key (PatientId);

UPDATE virginia_patients

SET ScheduledDay = str_to_date(ScheduledDay, '%m/%d/%Y'),

AppointmentDay = str_to_date(AppointmentDay, '%m/%d/%Y')

WHERE PatientId is not NULL;
```

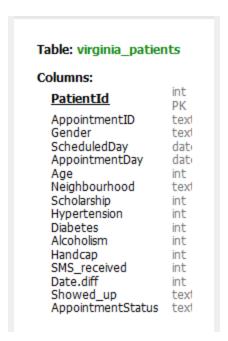


To update the date format of both the ScheduledDay and AppointmentDay columns, the str_to_date function was used. It provided us with a valid SQL date format by converting it from a string to a date. This date updation will help in date-based calculations and filter our rows more reliably.

6. Modify the datatypes of the ScheduledDay and AppointmentDay columns to DATE

Solution:

ALTER TABLE virginia_patients modify column ScheduledDay DATE, modify column AppointmentDay DATE; SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;



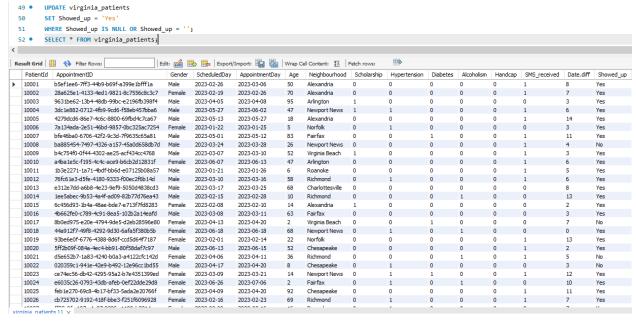
In this query, the datatypes of the ScheduledDay and appointmentDay columns were changed to a date datatype by using the alter table, modify column command.

7. Update the 'Showed_up' status to 'Yes' where it is null or empty Solution:

UPDATE virginia_patients SET Showed_up = 'Yes'

WHERE Showed_up IS NULL OR Showed_up = ' ';

SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;



In this query, updates the shoed_up column in the Virginia_patients table and either null or an empty string with yes. This is the most important step in data analysis, as it finds all missing or

blank values in rows and standardizes them to yes. Also, it cleans the dataset and allows us to run filter and sort queries more reliably.

8. Add a new column AppointmentStatus using a CASE statement: • 'No Show' if Showed up = 'No' • 'Attended' otherwise

Solution:

ALTER TABLE virginia patients

ADD Column AppointmentStatus TEXT;

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;

UPDATE virginia patients

SET AppointmentStatus = Case

WHEN Showed up = 'No' THEN 'No Show' ELSE 'Attended'

END;

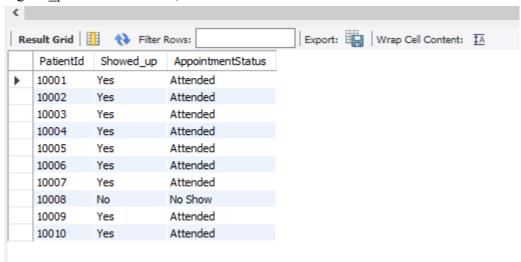
SELECT * FROM virginia patients;

SELECT PatientId, Showed up,

CASE WHEN Showed up = 'No' THEN 'No Show' ELSE 'Attended' END AS

AppointmentStatus

FROM virginia patients LIMIT 10;



In this query, a new column "AppointmentStatus in the Virginia_patients table was added to store the information on whether the patient attended or missed their appointment.

Also, a CASE expression was used to create information for the new column AppointmentStatus as:

- If Showed_up = 'No' then AppointmentStatus = 'No Show'
- Otherwise, if 'yes' then sets it to 'Attended'

And it created a cleaner and more readable version of the AppointmentStatus column, allowing us to generate more calculations, reporting, and visualizations.

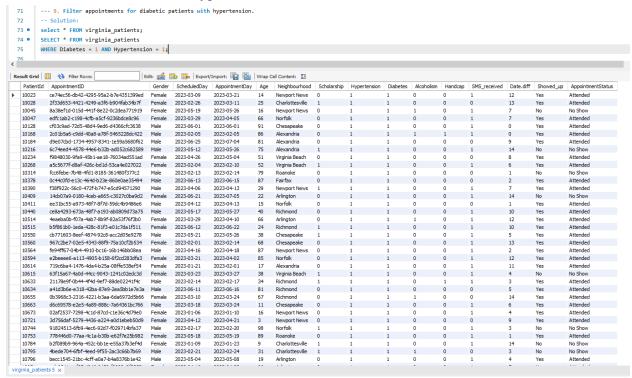
9. Filter appointments for diabetic patients with hypertension.

Solution:

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;

SELECT * FROM virginia_patients

WHERE Diabetes = 1 AND Hypertension = 1;

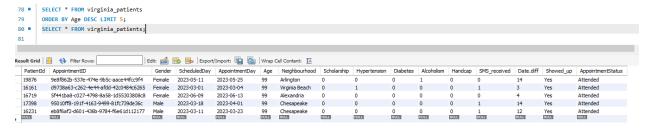


This query filters the rows from the Virginia_patients table for the patients who have both diabetes and hypertension. By running this query, we are able to identify the patients who are medically at high risk, and tracking their appointment attendance along with SMS reminders is significantly important for public health insights.

10. Order the records by Age in descending order and show only the top 5 oldest patients.

Solution:

SELECT * FROM virginia_patients ORDER BY Age DESC LIMIT 5; SELECT * FROM virginia patients;



This query sorts all patients' data from the Virginia_patients table in descending order and displays only the five oldest patients. These results gave us a snapshot of patients who have a higher risk of chronic illness and need more medical monitoring.

11. Limit results to the first 5 appointments for patients under age 18.

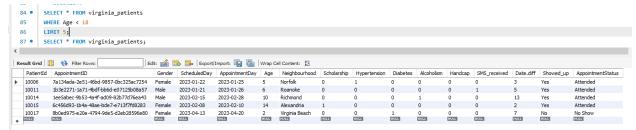
Solution:

SELECT * FROM virginia patients

WHERE Age < 18

LIMIT 5;

SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;



This query filters the patients from the Virginia_pateints table only younger than eighteen (minors). It shows the first five appointments with the status attended, with one patient (10017) no show.

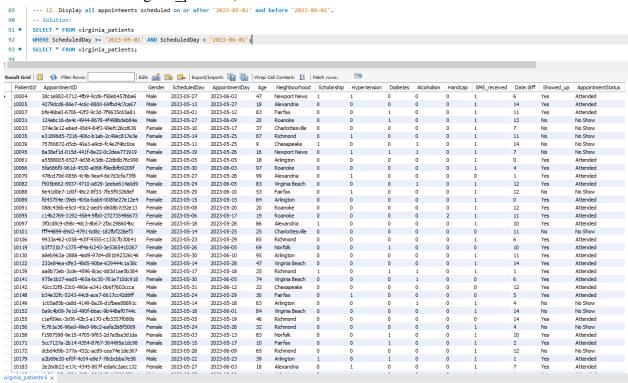
12. Display all appointments scheduled on or after '2023-05-01' and before '2023-06-01'.

Solution:

SELECT * FROM virginia_patients

WHERE ScheduledDay >= '2023-05-01' AND ScheduledDay < '2023-06-01';

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;



This query filters or returns all the appointments that were scheduled in May. Also, it gave us insights into how some appointments were scheduled in a specific time frame, along with attendance rate and SMS reminders.

Aggregation and CASE:

13. Find the average age of patients for each gender.

Solution:

SELECT Gender, AVG(Age) as average_age FROM virginia_patients GROUP BY Gender; SELECT * FROM virginia patients;



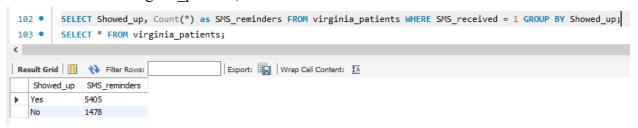
This query calculates the average age of the patients separately for each gender. So, the average age of male patients from the Virginia_patients is 50.36 years old, while the average age of female patients is 49.74 years old.

14. Count how many patients received SMS reminders, grouped by Showed_up status.

Solution:

SELECT Showed_up, Count(*) as SMS_reminders FROM virginia_patients WHERE SMS received = 1 GROUP BY Showed up;

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;



This query counts the Showed_up and SMS_reminders of the patients from the Virginia_patients table, giving us the count of SMS reminders with patients who showed up for their appointment is 5405, with 1478 patients with no show.

So a high number of show-ups indicates that SMS reminders are helping patients to attend their appointments. However, the number of no-shows may indicate other factors influencing the patients' attendance, such as traffic, motivation, and their commitment to health issues and lifestyle.

15. Count no-show appointments in each neighborhood using GROUP BY. Solution:

SELECT Neighbourhood, COUNT(*) AS no_show_count FROM virginia_patients WHERE Showed up = 'No' GROUP BY Neighbourhood;

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;



This query filters the datasets for patients who did not show up for their appointments and then groups by the results for each neighbourhood to give no_show_count for each neighbourhood. The minimum no_show_count was in Newport News with a value of 188, while the maximum was in Charlottesvile with a value of 217.

This analysis helps us to identify which neighbourhoods need more mobile clinics and more reminder outreach.

16. Show neighborhoods with more than 100 total appointments (HAVING clause). Solution:

SELECT Neighbourhood, COUNT(PatientId) as total_appointments FROM virginia_patients GROUP BY Neighbourhood Having COUNT(PatientId) > 100;



This query helps us to identify the busiest neighbourhoods with total appointments from the Virginia_patients table, and helps us to allocate more resources (more doctors, SMS reminders) to these busy neighbourhoods for effective attendance among patients.

So by running this query, we are able to find the neighbourhood with the highest total appointments is Arlington with a value of 1027, followed by Alexandra with a value of 1018, Richmond with total appointments of 1014, and Chesapeake with appointments of 1008.

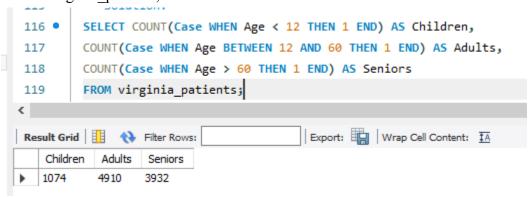
17. Use CASE to calculate the total number of:

• **children** (Age < 12)

- adults (Age BETWEEN 12 AND 60)
- seniors (Age > 60)

Solution:

SELECT COUNT(Case WHEN Age < 12 THEN 1 END) AS Children, COUNT(Case WHEN Age BETWEEN 12 AND 60 THEN 1 END) AS Adults, COUNT(Case WHEN Age > 60 THEN 1 END) AS Seniors FROM virginia patients;



This query uses a CASE() expression inside a COUNT() function to classify the patients into three age groups and then count them. It returns the value of 1074 children, 4910 adults, and 3932 seniors. It will help us to identify age-related health trend analysis and evaluate the effectiveness of SMS reminders within each age group.

18. Show whether patients are more likely to miss appointments on certain days of the week. (This can reveal patterns like more no-shows on Mondays or weekends, helping clinics to adjust scheduling.) Steps to follow for question # 20 (You can use any approach to solve this question): (Use the AppointmentDay column in the function dayname() to extract the day name (like Monday, Tuesday, etc.). Count how many appointments were scheduled, how many showed up (showed_up = "yes"), and how many were missed (Showed_up = 'No') on each day. Calculate the percentage of shows and no-shows for better comparison between days. Formula: (count of Showed_up = 'yes' / total appointment count) * 100. Use the round function to show up to two decimal points. Sort the result by No_Show_Percent in descending order to see the worst-performing days first.

Solution:

SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;
SELECT DAYNAME(AppointmentDay) as Appointment_Day, COUNT(*) AS Total_Appointments,
COUNT(CASE WHEN Showed_up = 'Yes' THEN 1 END) AS Showed_up,
COUNT(CASE WHEN Showed_up = 'No' THEN 1 END) AS No_Show,

ROUND((COUNT(CASE WHEN Showed_up = 'No' THEN 1 END) * 100.0) / COUNT(*), 2) AS No_Show_Percent FROM virginia_patients GROUP BY DAYNAME(AppointmentDay)

ORDER BY No Show Percent DESC;

```
SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;
127 •
   128 •
          SELECT DAYNAME(AppointmentDay) as Appointment_Day, COUNT(*) AS Total_Appointments,
   129
          COUNT(CASE WHEN Showed_up = 'Yes' THEN 1 END) AS Showed_up,
   130
          COUNT (CASE WHEN Showed up = 'No' THEN 1 END) AS No_Show,
   131
          ROUND((COUNT(CASE WHEN Showed up = 'No' THEN 1 END) * 100.0) / COUNT(*), 2) AS No Show Percent FROM virginia patients
          GROUP BY DAYNAME (AppointmentDay)
   132
          ORDER BY No Show Percent DESC;
   133
  <
  Export: Wrap Cell Content: IA
     Appointment_Day Total_Appointments Showed_up No_Show No_Show_Percent
  Sunday
                  1417
                                 1101
                                          316
                                                   22.30
                 1365
     Monday
                                1074
                                        291 21.32
                  1419
                                 1122
                                          297
                                                   20.93
                 1488
                                1180 308 20.70
     Thursday
     Tuesday
                  1463
                                 1162
                                1162 301
1102 280
                                          301
                                                  20.57
                  1382
     Friday
                                                  20.26
     Wednesday
```

This query helps us to find the total appointments, showed_up, no_show, with no_show_percent from each day of the week, and gives us an overview of the worst day of the week in regard to total appointments with no shows.

The results show us Sunday and Monday with the worst attendance rate for appointments, with percentages of 22% and 21%. On the other hand the Wednesday has the lowest no-show rate of appointments with a percentage of 19.25.

Window Functions

19. Track how appointments accumulate over time in each neighbourhood.

(Running Total of Appointments per Day) In simple words: How many appointments were there each day, and how do the total appointments keep adding up over time in each neighborhood?

Solution:

SELECT Neighbourhood, AppointmentDay, COUNT(*) AS daily appointments,

SUM(COUNT(*)) OVER(PARTITION BY Neighbourhood

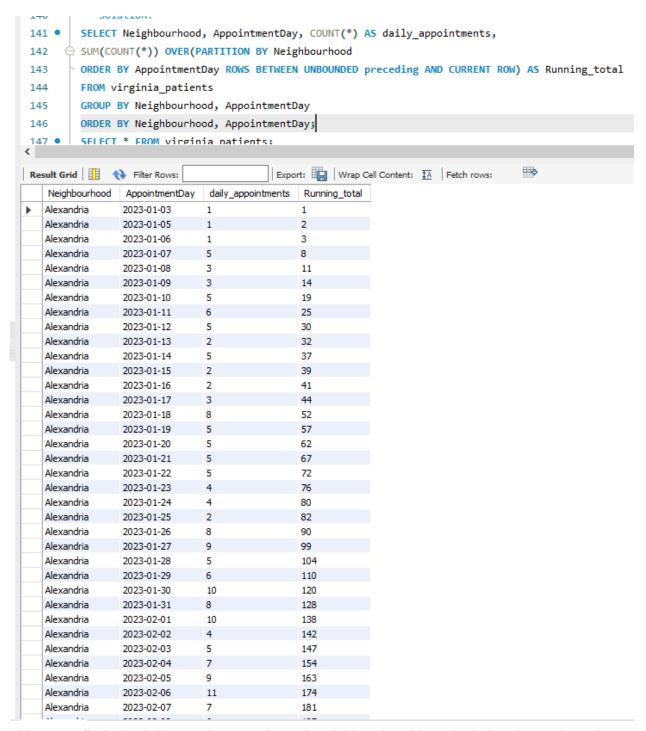
ORDER BY AppointmentDay ROWS BETWEEN UNBOUNDED preceding AND CURRENT ROW) AS Running total

FROM virginia patients

GROUP BY Neighbourhood, AppointmentDay

ORDER BY Neighbourhood, AppointmentDay;

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;



This query finds the daily appointments in each neighbourhood by calculating the total running time. It gives us how total volume of patients growing over time and helps us to monitor workload trends and higher demands of healthcare in each neighbourhood.

20. Use Dense_Rank() to rank patients by age within each gender group. Solution:

SELECT PatientId, Gender, Age, DENSE_RANK() OVER(PARTITION BY Gender ORDER BY Age DESC) AS age_rank FROM virginia_patients;

SELECT * FROM virginia patients;

```
148
          --- 20. Use Dense_Rank() to rank patients by age within each gender group--
149
          --- Solution:
150 • ♦ SELECT PatientId, Gender, Age, DENSE_RANK() OVER(PARTITION BY Gender
         ORDER BY Age DESC) AS age_rank FROM virginia_patients;
151
         SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;
152 •
 153
          --- 21. How many days have passed since the last appointment in the same neighborhood?
Result Grid 🔢 🙌 Filter Rows:
                                            Export: Wrap Cell Content: A Fetch rows:
    PatientId Gender
                     Age
                           age_rank
   19876
            Female
                    99
   11155
            Female 99
                          1
   11848
                    99
            Female
                          1
   13411
            Female
                    99
                          1
   10546
            Female
                    99
                          1
   10246
            Female
                   99
                         1
   11321
            Female
                    99
                          1
            Female
   13468
                    99
                          1
   13184
            Female
   12660
            Female
                    99
                          1
   14162
            Female
                    99
                    99
   11204
            Female
                    99
   12911
            Female
                          1
   14877
            Female
                    99
   13704
            Female
                    99
                          1
   11077
            Female
                   99
                          1
   11141
            Female
   13827
                    99
                          1
            Female
   12436
            Female
                    99
   12330
            Female
                    99
                          1
   14734
            Female
                    99
                          1
   13167
            Female
                    99
   14219
                    99
            Female
                          1
   14005
            Female
                    99
                          1
   12493
            Female
                    99
                          1
   10425
            Female
                   99
                          1
   12982
            Female
   11766
            Female 99
                          1
   17039
            Female
                    99
                           1
   18042
            Female
                    99
                          1
   18501
            Female
                    99
                          1
   18729
            Female
                   99
   17160
            Female
                    99
                          1
                    99
   18236
            Female
                          1
   17985
            Female
                    99
Result 11 ×
```

This query helps us to rank patients based on their age within their gender group. The results show the oldest patient is a female with age 99 and rank 1, helping us to find the individuals at high risk of health issues.

21. How many days have passed since the last appointment in the same neighborhood?

(Hint: DATEDIFF and Lag) (This helps to see how frequently appointments are happening in each neighborhood.)

Solution:

SELECT PatientID, Neighbourhood, AppointmentDay, LAG(AppointmentDay) OVER(PARTITION BY Neighbourhood ORDER BY AppointmentDay)

AS Previous_Appointment, DATEDIFF(AppointmentDay, LAG(AppointmentDay) OVER(PARTITION BY Neighbourhood ORDER BY AppointmentDay)) AS Since_Last_Appointment

FROM virginia_patients ORDER BY Neighbourhood, AppointmentDay; SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;

	-											
15	6 • SE	SELECT PatientID, Neighbourhood, AppointmentDay,										
15	7 C LAG(AppointmentDay) OVER(PARTITION BY Neighbourhood											
15	ORDER BY AppointmentDay)											
	11											
	 AS Previous_Appointment, DATEDIFF(AppointmentDay, LAG(AppointmentDay) OVER(PARTITION BY Neighbourhood ORDER BY AppointmentDay)) AS Since Last Appointment 											
16	60 - OV	ER(PARTITION	BY Neighbourho	ood ORDER BY Appoin	ntmentDay)) AS Since_L	ast_Appointmen						
16	51 FR	OM virginia_p	atients ORDER	BY Neighbourhood,	AppointmentDay;							
<												
D.	sult Grid Wrap Cell Content: 🔼 Fetch rows:											
Ne												
	PatientID	Neighbourhood	AppointmentDay	Previous_Appointment	Since_Last_Appointment							
Þ	12161	Alexandria	2023-01-03									
	16689	Alexandria	2023-01-05	2023-01-03	2							
	15883	Alexandria	2023-01-06	2023-01-05	1							
	14045	Alexandria	2023-01-07	2023-01-06	1							
	15384	Alexandria	2023-01-07	2023-01-07	0							
	17174	Alexandria	2023-01-07	2023-01-07	0							
	11764	Alexandria	2023-01-07	2023-01-07	0							
	19437	Alexandria	2023-01-07	2023-01-07	0							
	12710	Alexandria	2023-01-08	2023-01-07	1							
	13764	Alexandria	2023-01-08	2023-01-08	0							
	11807	Alexandria	2023-01-08	2023-01-08	0							
	11839	Alexandria	2023-01-09	2023-01-08	1							
	16026	Alexandria Alexandria	2023-01-09	2023-01-09	0							
	19779 19435	Alexandria	2023-01-09	2023-01-09	1							
		Alexandria	2023-01-10		0							
	18487 19748	Alexandria	2023-01-10 2023-01-10	2023-01-10 2023-01-10	0							
	13612	Alexandria	2023-01-10	2023-01-10	0							
	15878	Alexandria	2023-01-10	2023-01-10	0							
	15286	Alexandria	2023-01-10	2023-01-10	1							
	19752	Alexandria	2023-01-11	2023-01-10	0							
	19706 Alexandria		2023-01-11	2023-01-11	0							
	19312	Alexandria	2023-01-11	2023-01-11	0							
	12564 Alexandria		2023-01-11	2023-01-11	0							
	11660	Alexandria	2023-01-11	2023-01-11	0							
	12060	Alexandria	2023-01-11	2023-01-11	1							
	11010	AL I	2023-01-12	2020-01-11	_							

This query tells how many days have passed since the last appointment in each neighbourhood from the Virginia_patients table. The Alexandria neighbourhood has an appointment every 2 or 1 days, with some days having no appointment.

These results help us to identify neighbourhoods that need more resource allocation (high volume of appointments) and spot patterns in appointments from regular to irregular.

22. Which neighborhoods have the highest number of missed appointments? Use DENSE_RANK() to rank neighborhoods based on the number of no-show appointments.

Solution:

SELECT Neighbourhood, COUNT(*) AS missed_appointments, DENSE_RANK() OVER(ORDER BY COUNT(*) DESC)

AS Missed_rank FROM virginia_patients WHERE Showed_up = 'No' GROUP BY Neighbourhood ORDER BY Missed_rank;

SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;

		2	20.		,					
	16	6 • S	ELECT	Neighbourhood, COUNT(*) AS missed_appointments,						
	167 DENSE_			RANK() OVER(ORDER BY COUNT(*) DESC)						
	16	8 A	AS Missed_rank FROM virginia_patients WHERE Showed_up = 'No'							
	16	9 G	GROUP BY Neighbourhood ORDER BY Missed_rank;							
	170 •		SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;							
	<									
	Re	sult Grid	11 (Filter Rows:		E	xport:	Wrap Cell Content:	<u>‡A</u>	
		Neighbou	rhood	missed_appoir	ntments	Missed_rank				
	•	Charlottesville		217		1				
		Fairfax		215		2				
		Roanoke		214		3				
No		Norfolk		211		4				
		Alexandria Chesapeake Arlington Virginia Beach		211		4				
				210		5				
				204		6				
				196		7				
		Richmond		193		8				
		Newport News		188		9				

This query shows us the most important information because it identifies which neighbourhood had the most missed appointments (meaning patients can not show up). This information is found through the DENSE_RANK() function. This function first filters the entire data set for missed appointments. After that, it filters each neighbourhood and ranks them from 1 to 10 based on total missed appointments. For example, Charlottesvile ranked 1 as the worst neighbourhood for total missed appointments compared to Newport News, which ranked 9 with only 188 missed appointments.

This function in SQL gave us not only data insights but also helped us to allocate more resources to the neighbourhoods with higher missed appointments. Also, it helped us to focus more on SMS reminders and more outreach for the neighbourhoods with the highest missed attendance rate.

Subqueries and CTEs:

23. Continuing from Q. 21, show the neighbourhoods with the second and third highest no-show counts.

Solution:

WITH Noshow_counts AS(SELECT Neighbourhood, COUNT(*) AS Missed_appointments, DENSE_RANK() OVER(ORDER BY COUNT(*) DESC) AS missed_rank FROM virginia_patients
WHERE Showed_up = 'No'
GROUP BY Neighbourhood)

SELECT * FROM Noshow counts WHERE missed rank IN (2, 3); SELECT * FROM virginia patients; --- Solution: 174 • 🗇 WITH Noshow counts AS(SELECT Neighbourhood, COUNT(*) AS Missed appointments, DENSE RANK() OVER(ORDER BY COUNT(*) DESC) AS missed rank 175 FROM virginia patients 176 WHERE Showed up = 'No' 177 GROUP BY Neighbourhood) 178 SELECT * FROM Noshow counts WHERE missed_rank IN (2, 3); 179 < Result Grid | Filter Rows: Export: Wrap Cell Content: \$\overline{A}\$ Neighbourhood Missed appointments missed rank Fairfax 215 2 214 3 Roanoke

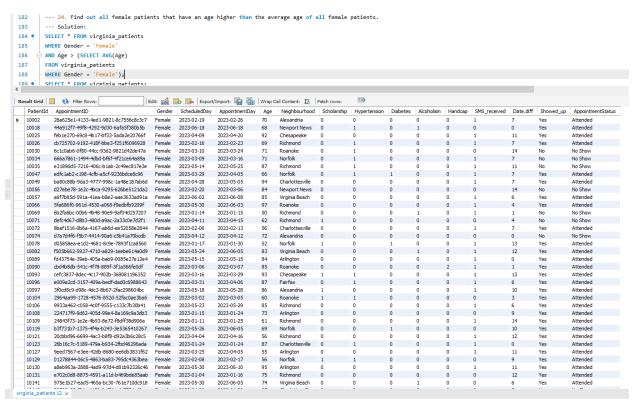
This query identifies and ranks the second and third worst neighbourhoods with the highest missed appointments. For this, a common table expression and the dense_rank function were used to filter our datasets in descending no-show counts and then rank them second and third with the most missed appointments or no-shows.

In our datasets, Fairfax and Roanoke rank second and third with the highest number of missed appointments.

24. Find out all female patients that have an age higher than the average age of all female patients

Solution:

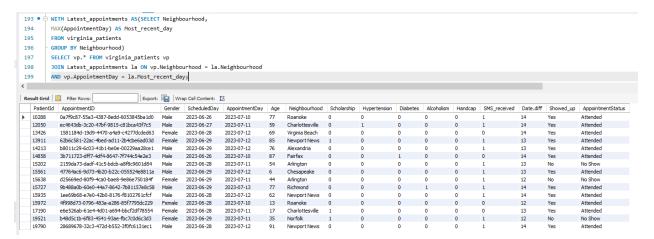
SELECT * FROM virginia_patients WHERE Gender = 'Female' AND Age > (SELECT AVG(Age) FROM virginia_patients WHERE Gender = 'Female'); SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;



This subquery filters the dataset and returns only those females whose average age is greater than the average age of all female patients in the Virginia_patients table. And this query helps us to identify the age-related patterns of missed or attended appointments. It will also help us to find out the chronic illness of these older female patients and how we can make our SMS reminders more effective for them to not miss a health appointment.

25. Find out all details of the most recent appointment in each neighbourhood based on appointmentday. Hint: First, find out what the most recent appointmentday in each neighbourhood is. Then, you can simply join this result (think CTE) to your main table to get details of the latest appointment within each neighbourhood Solution:

WITH Latest_appointments AS(SELECT Neighbourhood,
MAX(AppointmentDay) AS Most_recent_day
FROM virginia_patients
GROUP BY Neighbourhood)
SELECT vp.* FROM virginia_patients vp
JOIN Latest_appointments la ON vp.Neighbourhood = la.Neighbourhood
AND vp.AppointmentDay = la.Most_recent_day;
SELECT * FROM virginia_patients;



This query identifies the most recent appointments in each neighbourhood based on appointmentday column. The first part of the query is a common table expression (CTE), which groups the data by neighbourhood and then calculates the most recent appointmentday using the MAX() function.

Then the second part joins the Virginia_patients table with a common table expression and filters the data to match only the most recent day per neighbourhood. This helps us identify the appointment scheduling pattern and the latest patient activity in each neighbourhood.

Key Findings:

After our detailed SQL analysis of the Virginia_patients dataset, the following key findings will help in data-driven decisions for future appointments, SMS reminders, and increased attendance among patients, particularly the older ones.

- 1. SMS reminder programs are helpful and positively influence the attendance rate of patients for their appointments. Such as the total females who received SMS for their appointments was 3465 from the gender column. Similarly, we grouped the patients who showed up for their appointments after receiving SMS reminders. These numbers are 5405, who showed up after receiving SMS reminders. In contrast to the 1478 ones who did not show for their appointment. So these findings suggest that SMS reminders positively influence the appointment attendance rate.
- 2. Running total analysis of the total appointments shows the growing health care demand in a specific neighbourhood and how we can track this for future decisions on resource allocation.
- 3. The average age of female and male patients is 49.74 and 50.36, and this can help us to focus more on older patients whose age is above the average age, and we can allocate and prioritize targeted health care.
- 4. Dense_rank function helped us to identify and rank the neighbourhoods with the highest missed appointments. It also identified the older female patients from the gender column. So we can prioritize our outreach and community help programs.

- 5. We also found the neighbourhood-level insights, meaning areas with total appointments above 1000, and they need more medical staff and more efficient SMS outreach because of higher demand and more medical appointments.
- 6. We also run queries on our datasets to find patients with chronic diseases, and it helped us to identify patients with both hypertension and diabetes. So this suggests that chronic disease can impact attendance rate, and we must invest in additional follow-up mechanisms to ensure these patients properly follow their appointment schedules.
- 7. We also ran queries to find the frequent scheduling of appointments in various neighbourhoods to support better tracking of appointments. Also, we ran a CASE() expression to identify the children, adults, and seniors. By running this expression, we successfully extract the information with values 1074 children, 4910 adults, and 3932 seniors. This information will help us to understand attendance trends in patients based on their age group. Moreover, it will help us to focus more on senior patients for regular monitoring.

Recommendations:

These are the key recommendations from our SQL analysis of the Virginia patients datasets:

- 1. Expand SMS reminder programs, especially for neighbourhoods with higher attendance rates and patients (or senior patients) with a higher risk of chronic diseases.
- 2. There should be minimal to no appointment scheduling on Sundays and Mondays because these are the days with higher rates of no-show from patients of all age groups. Moreover, appointment scheduling should be encouraged on midweekdays because these are days with higher appointment show-ups.
- 3. Allocate more resources, such as mobile outreach, medical staff, and latest technology, to the neighbourhoods that continuously show higher no-show rates of appointments, such as Charlottesville, Fairfax, Roanoke, Norfolk, and Alexandria.
- 4. Most importantly, prioritize older patients who have both diabetes and hypertension for regular follow-ups, and more SMS reminders for their appointments to avoid no-shows.
- 5. Allocate more resources, such as medical staff and expansion of SMS reminders to the neighbourhoods (such as Arlington, Alexandria, Richmond, and Chesapeake) with higher total appointment and show-up rates. It will not only encourage no appointment misses from patients but also make the tending process more effective and feasible.
- 6. Also, make proper use of running total trends to track daily appointment volume that will help in clinic staffing and resource allocation to neighbourhoods with higher appointment rates.
- 7. To prevent future missed appointments from senior patients or patients with chronic diseases, use no-show data to understand why they missed their appointments in the first place.

Conclusion:

The SQL-based analysis of the medical appointments of West Virginia State provided us with critical insights into the following factors that influence patients' attendance rate.

- 1. Patient age and the pattern of show-ups for their medical appointments
- 2. Role of SMS reminders in follow-ups and showing up for their appointments
- 3. Health conditions
- 4. Neighbourhoods

In this analysis report, we were able to identify and rank the neighbourhoods based on their total appointment and the patients' attendance rate. For this purpose, different MYSQL expressions, window functions, aggregations, filtering, and subqueries were used to extract the information and devise the data-driven insights and decisions based on the extracted information. Based on these analyses, valuable information and insights were extracted to help healthcare professionals for better resource allocation to different neighbourhoods with improvements in communication. Moreover, prioritizing the senior patients with chronic illness for more follow-ups to avoid barriers in keeping up with their appointments. Not only this, but keeping track of daily appointments also offered useful information for the optimization of appointment scheduling.