NHS Appointment
Utilisation and
Attendance Patterns:
A Python Diagnostic
Analysis

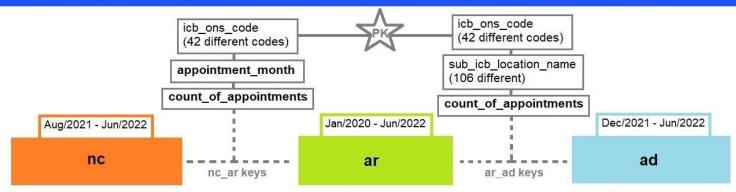




Main Research Questions

- Has there been adequate staff and capacity in the networks?
- What was the actual utilisation of resources?

NHS Missed Appointments and Capacity Analysis - Dataset Mindmap



appointment_date

national category

- General Consultation Routine
- General Consultation Acute
- Structured Medication Review
- · Service provided by organisation external to the practice
- · Patient contact during Care Home Round · Planned Clinical Procedure
- Care Home Needs Assessment & Personalised Care and Support Planning
- Non-contractual chargeable work
- · Group Consultation and Group Education

service_setting

- General Practice
- Primary Care Network
- Other
- Extended Access Provision
- Unmapped

- Planned Clinics
- · Clinical Triage
- Home Visit
- Care Home Visit
- Walk-in
- · Unplanned Clinical Activity
- · Social Prescribing Service
- · Inconsistent Mapping
- Unmapped

context type

- · Care Related Encounter
- · Inconsistent Mapping
- Unmapped

time between book and appointment

- Same
- 1 Day
- 2 to 7 Days
- 8 to 14 Days
- 15 to 21 Days
- 22 to 28 Days

appointment mode

- Face-to-Face
- Telephone
- Home Visit
- Unknown
- Video/Online

appointment status

- Attended
- Unknown
- DNA

hcp type

- · Other Practice staff
- GP
- Unknown

appointment_date

actual duration

- 1-5 Minutes
- 6-10 Minutes
- 11-15 Minutes
- 16-20 Minutes
- 21-30 Minutes
- 31-60 Minutes
- Unknown / Data Quality
- Grand Total

sub_icb_location_code sub_icb_location_ons_code

region_ons_code

- E4000003 London
- E4000005 Sussex
- E4000006 Dorset
- E4000007 Cambridgeshire & Peterborough
- E40000010 Lancashire & South Cambria
- E40000011 Nottingham & Nottinghamshire
- E40000012 North East & North Cumbria

Basic Exploration and Descriptive Statistics

Actual Duration:

23.98% 'Unknown / Data Quality' most common Appointment Length

- (i) **Unknown**, (ii) 6-10mins, (iii) 1-5mins
- National Categories:

Appointment Counts: 1 – 16590

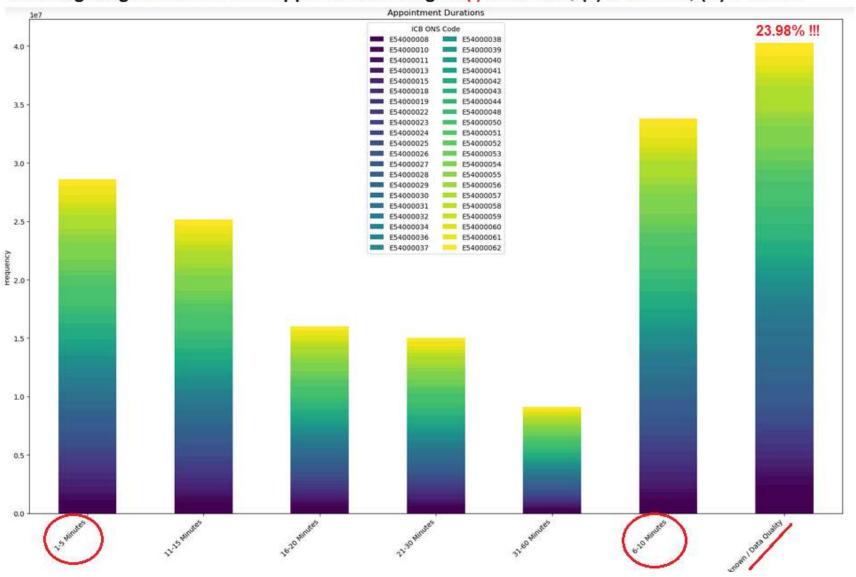
GP and General Consultation dominant

• Appointments Regional:

Largest date range Jan/2020 to Jun 2022

Appointments mostly occur within 1 – 7 days of booking

Investigating most common Appointment Length: (i) Unknown, (ii) 6-10mins, (iii) 1-5mins



Quality and Opportunities

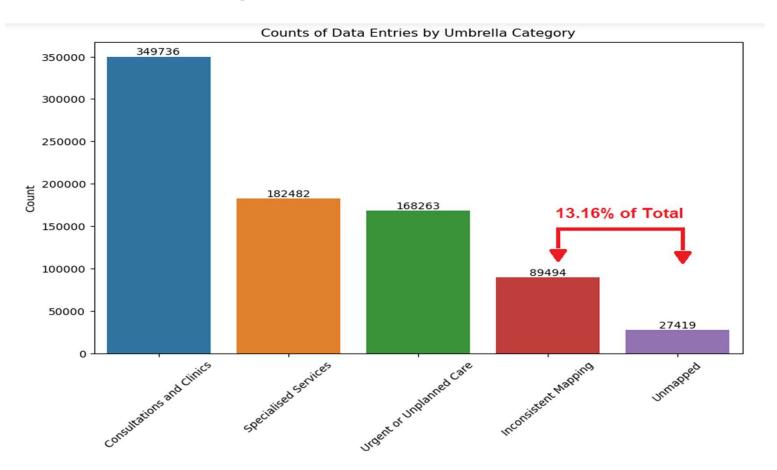
- Unknown data quality
- Data collection issues
- Absence of standardised time units creates ambiguity
- Address inconsistencies in data mapping



EDA continued

- 106 sub locations
- 42 ICB locations
- 7 regions
- 5 service settings
- 3 context types
- 18 national categories
- 3 appointment stati
- 5 appointment modes
- 3 HCP types

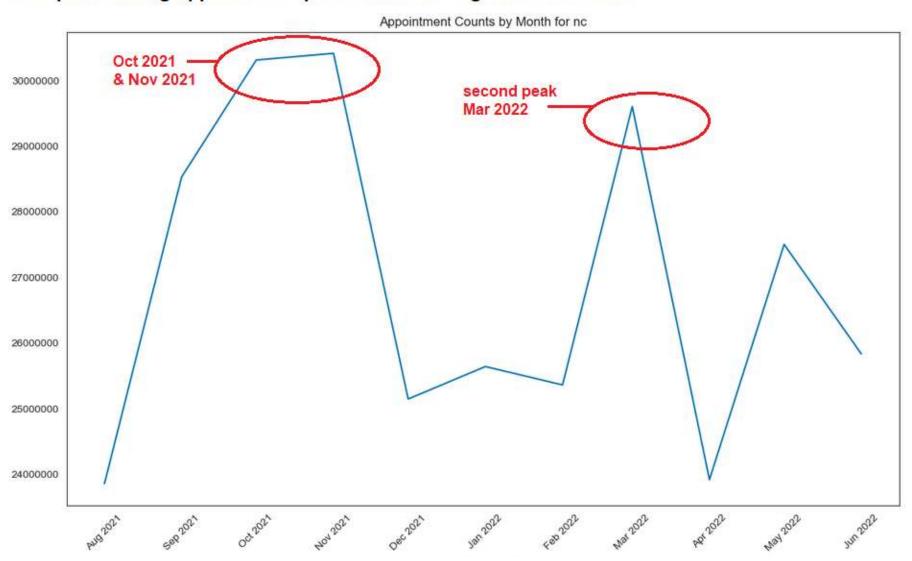
National Categories



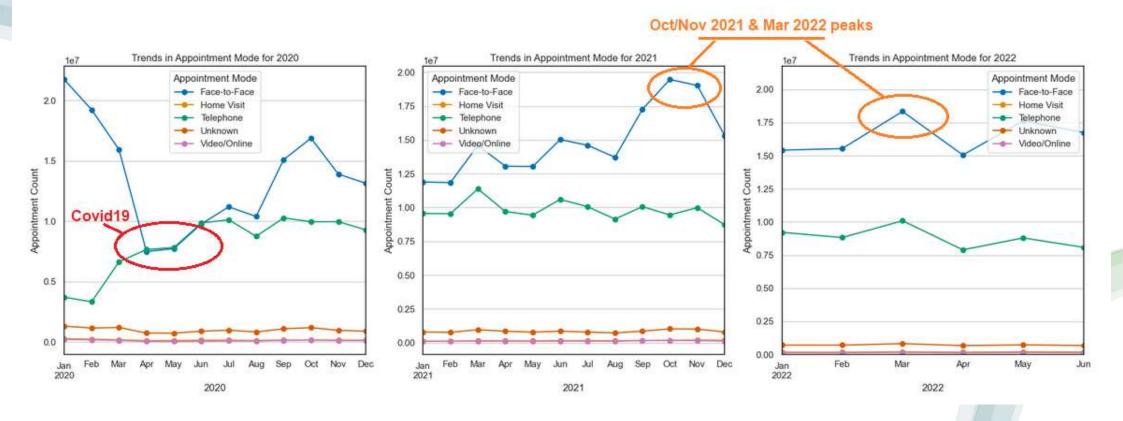
Visualisations and Monthly/Seasonal trends



Lineplot showing Appointments per Month from Aug/2021 to Jun 2022



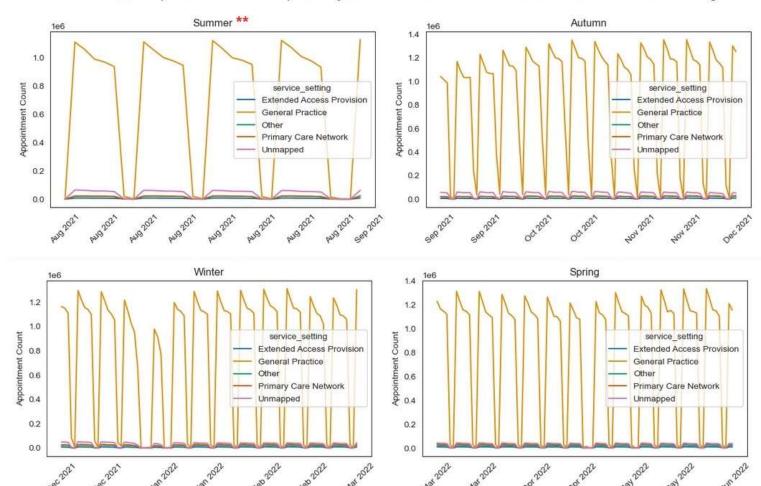
Appointment Mode Trends: 2020, 2021, 2022



Seasonal Plots for Nr. of Appointments per Service Setting by Season

** Note: a Total of 52523401 appointments is not included for Summer period, due to not being recorded in nc DataFrame.

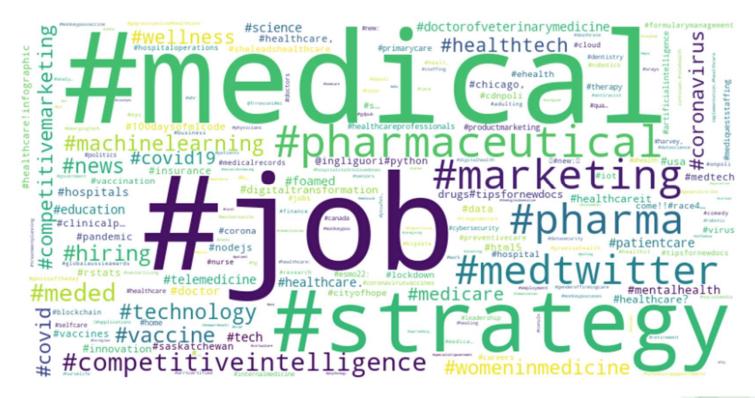
This carries repercussions for comparability with other seasons - substitute data needed for further insight.



Seasonal Patterns

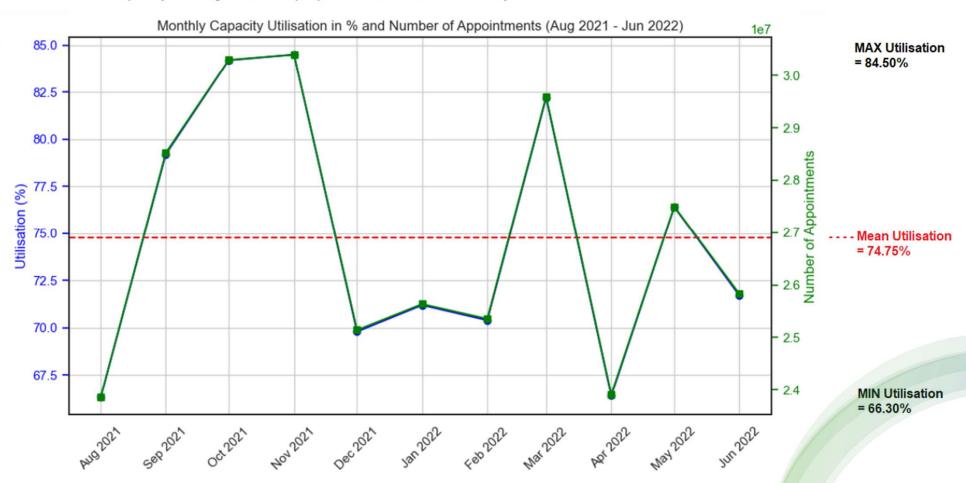
Twitter Analysis

- No designated #NHS
- Irrelevant tweets
- #USA not applicable
- · Refinement needed
- Impact on Social Media Strategy



NHS Monthly Appointment Utilisation as % and Nr. of Appointments against 1,200,000 Max. Capacity

** Note: Max. Capacity is exagerrated on purpose to account for flexibility in non-attendance



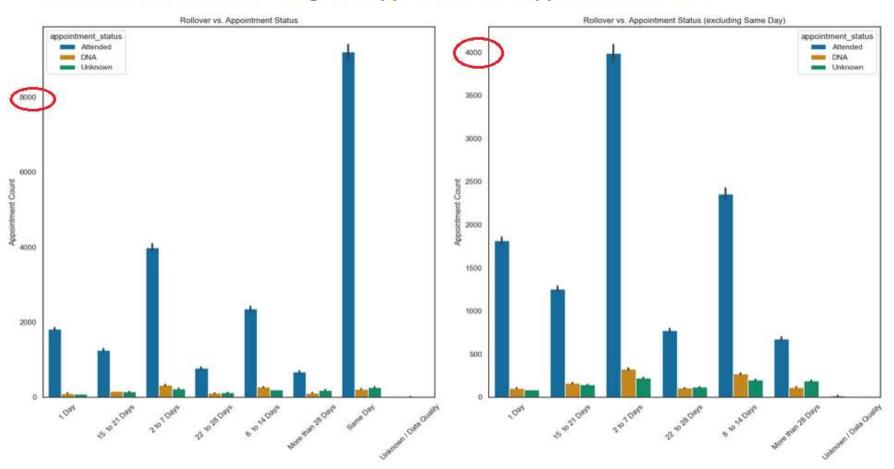
Time Trends and Correlations

- HCP, Attendance Status, and Mode remain within parameter of general fluctuation throughout.
- GP is dominant category and Attendance is the norm.

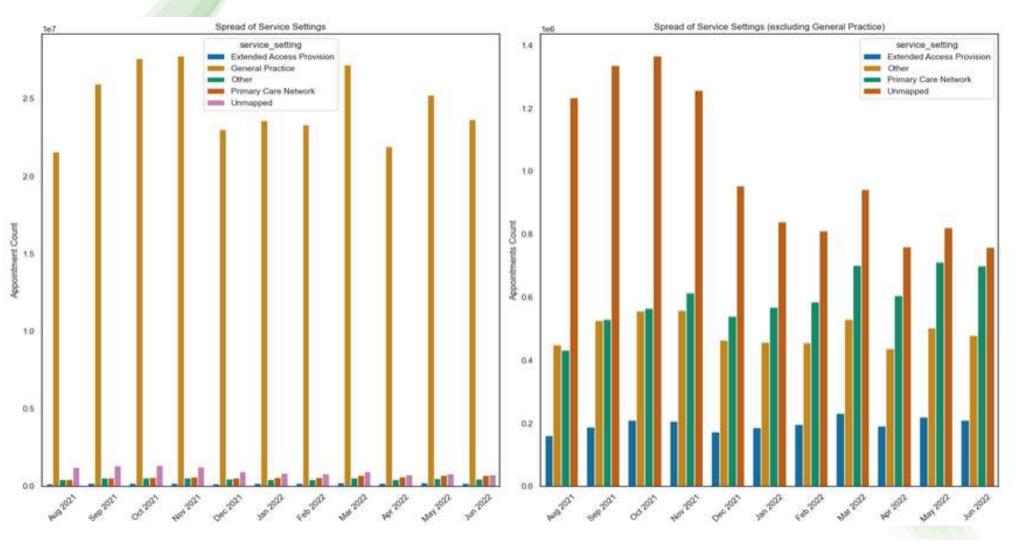


Time between Booking and Appointment vs Status

Question i: Time betw. Booking and Appointment vs Appointment Status



Spread of Service Settings



Recommendations and Conclusion



Utilise Timestamps



Leverage Location Information



Explore Appointment Characteristics



Address Data Quality Issues



Investigate Variability in Appointment Counts



Machine Learning