

**Table S1. Descriptive statistics for selected control variables.**

Variable (min-max)	Observations	Mean (SD) / %
<b>Patient characteristics</b>		
Age (0-110)	16,563,946	37.7 (27.9)
Gender	16,563,946	100%
<i>Male</i>	7,003,057	42.3%
<i>Female</i>	9,560,889	57.7%
IMD quintile (1-5)	15,690,550	3.2 (1.4)
Ratio distance of nearest hospital to nearest GP (0.4 - 44.6)	16,256,118	4.1 (2.4)
Type of area	15,707,810	100%
<i>Urban</i>	13,535,244	86.2%
<i>Rural</i>	2,172,566	13.8%
Region	15,690,550	100%
<i>North</i>	5,822,600	37.1%
<i>South &amp; East</i>	2,144,612	13.7%
<i>Midlands</i>	5,129,125	32.7%
<i>London</i>	2,594,213	16.5%
<b>GP practice characteristics</b>		
% patients typically able to get an appointment per practice (39.9%-100%)	15,629,833	84.0%
Number of FTEs per practice (0.02-34.1)	14,877,337	5.6 (3.7)
<b>Call characteristics</b>		
Call had clinical input (yes=1, no=0)	16,563,946	21.6%
Call duration in minutes (0-189.7)	16,563,946	15.4 (22.6)