

How to ask the right questions: Giving analysts time to analyse

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Systems thinking for population health: a journey for developing linked datasets

27th November 2018

Format of today's workshop

- ▶ Share some of my reflections and our experience in Surrey on how to craft good questions
- ▶ Group work to develop some questions which are only answerable using linked data
- ▶ Feedback

Primary Care Network Hackathon, November 2018

- ▶ AAA Hackathon process
 - ▶ Consult on actionable questions for Primary Care Networks before the Hackathon
 - ▶ Assemble the relevant datasets before
 - ▶ Analysts collaborate in the morning to develop data visualisations to support Primary Care Network decision makers
 - ▶ Reviewed in afternoon by decisions makers and feedback received
 - ▶ Final version of the data visualizations published after the hackathon
- ▶ Analysts from Surrey County Council (Public Health, Adult Social Care and Childrens Schools and Families) plus decision makers from CCGs including Primary Care Network Clinical Leads attended

Reflections on what makes for a good question

- ▶ Triple A (in honour of the Health Foundation)
 - ▶ Actionable
 - ▶ Apt
 - ▶ Answerable

Actionable

What would you do differently if you had the answer to this analytic question?

www.nesta.org.uk/blog/public-sector-data-analytics-four-steps

NOT Actionable question

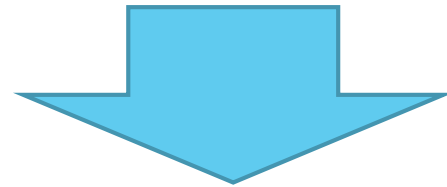
Can we see details of admissions to hospital from care homes in our area, and reason for ambulance call outs?

Action-related question

Which care homes should I target first with work to reduce hospital attendances and admissions?

Apt - “appropriate or suitable in the circumstances”

Which care homes should I target first with work to reduce hospital attendances and admissions?



Which care homes have the highest number of avoidable conveyances to hospital or emergency admissions?

Answerable

Which conveyances/admissions *are* avoidable?

Which care homes have the highest proportion of conveyances to A&E which do not result in admission?

What is the work needed to reduce avoidable conveyances?

What are the reasons for the conveyances which do not result in admission?

Group work

1. What problem are you trying to address?
2. What would you do differently if you had the right information?
3. What actionable/apt/answerable question do you want answered?
4. What data do you need to answer this question?

Group work - worked example (1)

What problem are you trying to address?

1/3 of permanent admissions to care homes are previously unknown to social care but presumably known to health.

What would you do differently if you had the right information?

Develop processes to ensure that patients at risk of a permanent admission to a care home are referred for a social care assessment at an early stage.

Group work - worked example (2)

What AAA question do you want answered?

How do patients/residents permanently admitted to a care home without prior contact with social care differ from those who have been in contact and what contacts have they had with the NHS?

What data do you need to answer the question?

Person level linked health and social care data or bespoke collected audit data

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