

Aesop – GP omni questions – November 2021

Methodology:

Savanta ComRes interviewed 1,001 UK General Practitioners (GPs) online from 5th to 28th November 2021. Data were weighted to be representative of UK GPs by region. Savanta ComRes are members of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

Headline Results:

Q1. In relation to healthcare, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the arts (broadly defined as dance, drama, music, visual arts, films, singing, reading, painting, drawing, crafts and making)?

% of GPs who strongly/tend to agree with each of the following	2018	2019	2021
Public engagement with the arts can make a significant contribution to the prevention agenda (i.e. preventing ill health among the public)”	66%	74%	65%
Arts-based interventions can make a significant contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of the NHS workforce	62%	72%	64%
Arts-based interventions can be a cost-effective way to deliver primary care to the public to improve health outcomes	44%	54%	47%

- Two thirds of UK GPs agree that public engagement with the arts can make a significant contribution to the prevention agenda (65%), a decline of 9 percentage points since 2019 (74%), returning to similar levels seen in 2018 (66%). Less than two in ten disagree (15%).
- Level of agreement that arts-based interventions can make a significant contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of the NHS workforce has also seen an overall 8 percentage point drop since 2019 (from 72% to 64%), returning to similar levels seen in 2018 (62%).
- Just under half (47%) of UK GPs agree that arts-based interventions can be a cost-effective way to deliver primary care to the public to improve health outcomes, compared to 54% in 2019 and 44% in 2018. Only 12% *strongly* agree, and a quarter (24%) disagree.
- GPs in England are significantly more likely than those in Scotland to agree that public engagement with the arts can make a significant contribution to the prevention agenda (65% vs 53%) and that arts-based interventions can make a significant contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of the NHS workforce (65% vs 53%).
- Out of the regions in England, GPs in London (58%) are most likely to agree that arts-based interventions can be a cost-effective way to deliver primary care to the public to improve health outcomes.
- GP Partners/Principals are significantly more likely than Salaried GPs to *disagree* that arts-based interventions can be a cost-effective way to deliver primary care to the public to improve health outcomes (26% vs 15%).

Q2. Looking at the actions you may have taken over the past year in relation to local patient referrals to arts-based social prescribing interventions, please tell us which are true, false or not relevant.

- One in ten (9%) UK GPs say they have referred patients to local arts interventions to improve their health in the past year. Half (52%) say they have not done this and four in ten (38%) say that this is not relevant to them.
- One in twenty (5%) UK GPs say that the number of referrals they have made to local arts interventions to improve patients' health has increased compared to previous years. Four in ten (40%) say that they have not increased the number of referrals and over half (55%) say this is not relevant to them.
- GPs in England are significantly more likely than those in Scotland to say that they have increased the number of referrals to local arts interventions compared to previous years (6% vs 2%).

Q3. Which of the following, if any do you see as barriers for referring patients to local arts interventions?

- Seven in ten (72%) UK GPs say that a lack of awareness of the programmes amongst GPs is a barrier for referring patients to local arts interventions.
- GPs in England are significantly more likely than GPs in Scotland to cite a lack of awareness amongst GPs as a barrier for referring patients to local arts interventions (74% vs 62%).
- This is followed by a lack of patient interest (38%), no clear evidence of impact (31%), negative attitudes amongst GPs (21%), high cost of programmes (18%) and not being cost effective (14%).
- GP Partners/Principals are significantly more likely than Salaried GPs to think that a lack of clear evidence of impact (33% vs 25%) and negative attitudes amongst GPs (21% vs 15%) are barriers for referring patients to local arts interventions.