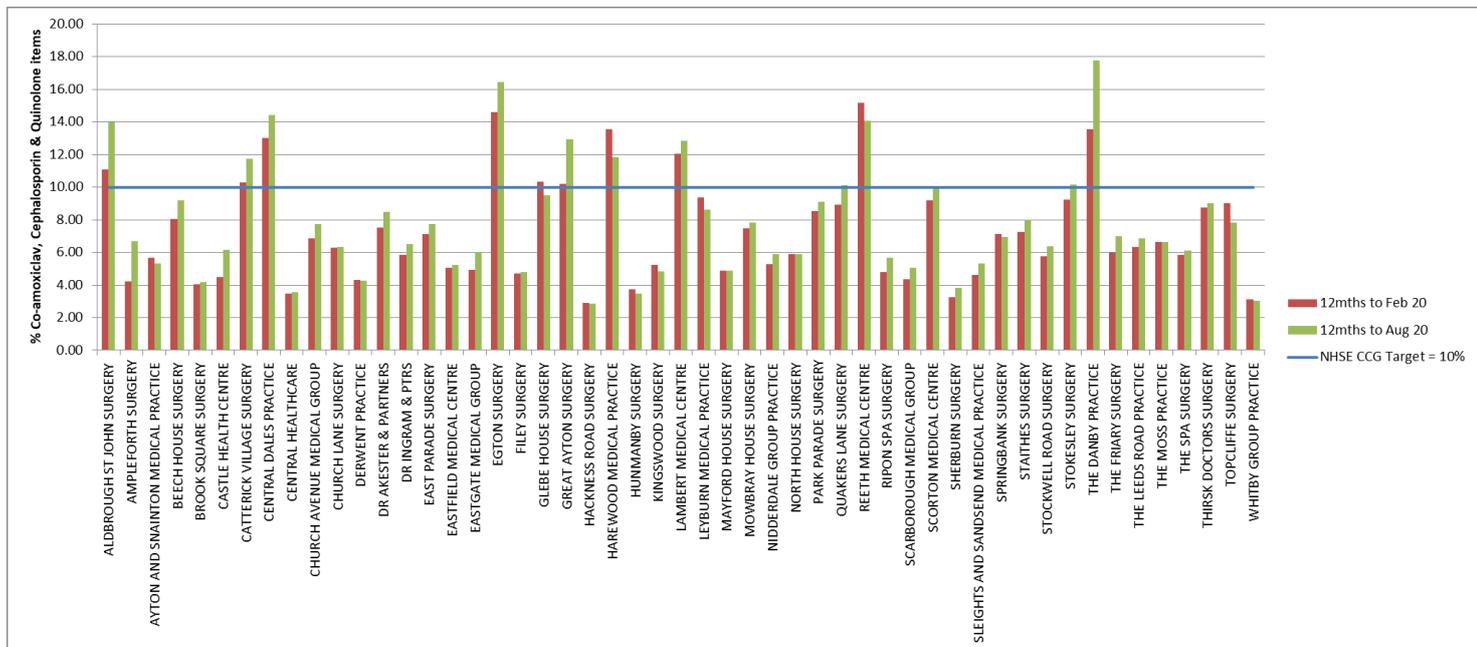




position during 2020. Significant reductions in prescribing rates have also been seen at Central Dales Practice and Derwent Practice, amongst others.

Particularly for the remaining eight practices with prescribing rates above the target line and the practices who have shown an increase during this time period, this is an ideal opportunity to discuss and review antimicrobial prescribing with all prescribers in the surgery. Good practice amongst the team can be shared and team discussions may encourage prescribers to reflect on how they can reduce the number of antibiotic scripts issued.

The graph below shows the second NHSE indicator for antibiotic prescribing in primary care, which is for the percentage of broad spectrum antibiotics to be below 10% of the total number of all antibiotics prescribed. Several practices are showing a downward trend in their proportion of broad spectrum antibiotic prescribing during this time period, notably Glebe House Surgery who have now met the national target. In addition; Thirsk Doctors Surgery, Topcliffe Surgery and Staithes Surgery who achieved this target for the first time last year have maintained their position during 2020. Some practices have seen increases in their prescribing of broad spectrum antibiotics and we would ask that these practices review and discuss this with their peers. We understand that COVID-19 may have had an effect on prescribing patterns earlier this year.



We would also urge all practice staff (this includes non-clinical staff) to consider signing up as an antibiotic guardian if they have not already done so. This campaign was launched to promote collective action from both healthcare professionals and members of the public to work together to attempt to slow the spread of antibiotic resistance:

<https://antibioticguardian.com/>

Please share the information in this letter with all members of staff in the practice.

Yours sincerely,

The Medicines Management Team