Background The representativeness of practice networks is important when using the information obtained to guide health policy. Aim To develop a model for examining the representativeness of practice networks. Methods Comparison of surveyed population, practice structure and prescribing characteristics with the national data using the Weekly Returns Service (WRS) for 2006 as an example of practice network. The population monitored was compared with the national PCT population. The practice postcode was linked to the Index of Multiple Deprivation and the distribution compared with the national...