

Glossary of terms and acronyms for the Support2Work Project

Word or acronym	Definition or explanation of use in the Project
Absenteeism	Absenteeism in the context of this study is sickness absence where an employee is away from work for a period due to (mental or physical) illness.
Big data set	A collection of data that is too large or complex to be managed and analysed with traditional tools like spreadsheets.
CCGs	Clinical Commissioning Groups, replaced by Integrated Care Boards in 2022 as the bodies responsible for planning and funding most NHS services within an area. CCGs covered smaller geographic areas than the current ICBs.
Comorbidity	Having more than one illness or health condition at the same time.
Confounding factors	Confounding factors are external variables that influence both the independent and dependent variables in a study, leading to a misleading or false relationship between them.
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions. The DWP funds Employment Advisers in the NHS Talking Therapies service.
EA	Employment Adviser, these advisers working within NHSTT complement therapists' work by focusing on clients' employment situation and any issues therein.
ECDS	Emergency Care Data Set. Dataset being used in the project.
Dependent Variables	The variable that is measured and is expected to change as a result of the independent variable. It is the outcome of interest; in our study it would be employment, benefits receipt, health care costs and absenteeism.
Difference in difference	A statistical technique that estimates the causal effect of an intervention by comparing the changes in outcomes over time between a treated group (those exposed to the intervention) and a control group (those not exposed), using data from two time periods (before and after the intervention).
Empirical study	An empirical study is one that uses data collected from the real world.
Explanatory variables	Explanatory variables (also known as control variables) are additional variables to the independent variables that are used to explain variations in the dependent variable. In our research these would be things like sex, age, ethnicity and deprivation.
HES APC	Hospital Episode Statistics Admitted Patient Care. Dataset being used in the project.

HES OP	Hospital Episode Statistics Outpatient. Data set being used by the project
Knowledge Mobilisation	The process that paves the way to impact via active collaboration with key stakeholders throughout the research. This includes working with the people and organisations who will use or benefit from research (knowledge users). Together, stakeholders share and integrate their knowledge. This creates new insights and understanding about your research plans and findings. The ultimate aim is to change practice and policy and have real-world impact.
ICBs	Integrated Care Boards replaced CCGs (Clinical Commissioning Groups) in 2022 as the statutory NHS bodies responsible for planning and funding most NHS services for the population in a specific geographic area.
Independent Variable	The main variable of interest to the researcher - in our project this will be seeing an EA or not.
MHSDS	Mental Health Services Data Set. Dataset being used in the project.
NHSTT	NHS Talking Therapies.
NIHR	National Institute of Health and Care Research. This organisation is funding this research project.
PCMIS	Case management software system for clients receiving NHS Talking Therapy treatment.
PEAP	Policy Experts Advisory Panel: a group of ten subject matter experts representing various stakeholder groups from the work and mental health field.
PPI	Patient and Public Involvement.
Presenteeism	Presenteeism describes the practice of employees attending work when they are sick, injured, or experiencing other health issues that impair their ability to perform their duties effectively.
Reasonable adjustments	Refers to changes made to the work environment to remove barriers or disadvantages that enable people with a disability to work safely and productively. Under the Equal Opportunity Act 2010, 'disability' includes: physical, psychological or neurological disease or disorder, illness, whether temporary or permanent.
SEAP	Service Experts Advisory Panel: a group of 7 members of the public and 4 frontline staff who contribute their experiences to the project.
Statistical Significance	A difference is said to have statistical significance, or be statistically significant, if it is likely not caused by chance for a given statistical significance level. Statistical significance levels are reported at a confidence level, e.g. statistical significance reported at a 95 per cent confidence level means that authors are 95 per cent confident it did not happen by chance.
TEWV	Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust.