

QIPP Prescribing Comparators: Description and Specification

This document details the descriptions and specifications for the QIPP prescribing comparators. They should be read in conjunction with the latest update of the National Prescribing Centre Publication - Key Therapeutic Topics 2010/11 (July 2010).

- A set of 13 comparators have been developed to support the QIPP (Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention) medicine use and procurement workstream.
<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Healthcare/Qualityandproductivity/index.htm>
- The comparators have been developed as a part of the QIPP workstream led by Peter Rowe, QIPP National Workstream lead “Medicine Use and Procurement” – Department of Health. They have been developed following discussion and feedback within the QIPP medicine steering and wider reference groups and SHA leads and industry partners.
- The comparators cover 10 of the 15 therapeutic areas included in latest update (February 2011) of the National Prescribing Centre Publication – Key Therapeutic Topics 2010/11 (July 2010).
http://www.npc.nhs.uk/qipp/resources/qipp_document_jan2011_version1.1_march11_final.pdf
- The comparators highlight variation and support local discussion and decisions regarding QIPP, with the aim of reducing variation and a movement of the mean in the appropriate direction over time. The comparators aim to support organisations and prescribers to review the appropriateness of current prescribing, revise prescribing where appropriate and monitor implementation.
- For some of the comparator topics more detailed work, probably involving patient-level audit, may be required to understand whether current practice – as identified in the comparator – is based on recommended practice. The need for this may apply irrespective of the current prescribing level.
- Comparator values are available via NHSBSA Prescription Services Prescribing Toolkit. Values are available via PCT charts and data tables (see below)
http://www.epact.ppa.nhs.uk/systems/sys_main_tk.htm
- A set of charts and data tables showing comparator values for all PCTs are available on the NHSBSA website:
<http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/PrescriptionServices/3332.aspx> .
Individual PCTs can be highlighted by selecting the PCT from the drop down menu on each chart.

- A glossary of terms is available in appendix 1. More detailed information on the prescribing measures and terminology used in the comparators can be found in the Prescribing Support Unit (NHS Information Centre) booklet – Prescribing Measures and their application
<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/webfiles/Services/PSU/Prescribing%20Measures%206th%20edition.pdf>

Summary of QIPP Prescribing Comparators:

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	QIPP comparator description	Prescribing Toolkit Title
1. Renin-angiotensin system drugs	Number of prescription items for angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all drugs affecting the renin-angiotensin system excluding aliskiren.	1. ACE inhibitor % items
2. Lipid modifying drugs	Number of prescription items for simvastatin and pravastatin as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all statins, plus the total number of prescription items for combination of simvastatin/ezetimibe, plus total number of prescription items for ezetimibe alone	2. Low cost lipid modifying drugs
3. Hypoglycaemic agents	Number of prescription items for metformin and sulphonylureas as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all antidiabetic drugs.	3. Hypoglycaemic drugs
4. Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs)	Number of prescription items for “low cost” PPI preparations (omeprazole, lansoprazole and pantoprazole) as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all PPIs.	4. Low cost PPIs % items
5. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)	Number of prescription items for ibuprofen and naproxen as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all NSAIDs.	5. NSAIDs: Ibuprofen & naproxen % items
	Number of average daily quantities (ADQs) per Star-PU for all NSAIDs (BNF section 10.1.1)	6. NSAIDs: ADQ/STAR PU
7. Intermediate and long acting insulin analogues	Number of prescription items for long acting human analogue insulins detemir and glargine as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all long acting and intermediate acting insulins excluding biphasic insulins.	7. Long/intermediate insulin analogues
9. Clopidogrel	Generic prescribing rate for clopidogrel	9. Clopidogrel generic prescribing rate
11. Antibacterial prescribing – especially quinolones and cephalosporin	Number of prescription items for antibacterial drugs (BNF 5.1) per Star-PU	10. Antibacterial items/STAR PU,
	Number of prescription items for cephalosporins and quinolones as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for selected antibacterial drugs (BNF 5.1)	11. Cephalosporins & quinolones % items
12. Hypnotics	Total number of average daily quantities (ADQs) for benzodiazepines (indicated for use as hypnotics) and “Z” drugs per Star-PU*.	12. Hypnotics ADQ/STAR PU
15. Alendronate	Generic prescribing rate for alendronic acid (sodium alendronate)	13. Alendronate generic prescribing rate
	Number of prescription items for alendronic acid (sodium alendronate) as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all bisphosphonates and other drugs affecting bone metabolism (BNF 6.6.2)	14. Alendronate as % of all bisphosphonates

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	1. Renin-angiotensin system drugs						
QIPP Comparator 1	Number of prescription items for angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all drugs affecting the renin-angiotensin system excluding aliskiren.						
Toolkit Comparator Title	ACE inhibitor % items						
Numerator	<p>Items for BNF section 2.5.5.1 (ACE inhibitors)</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors</td> <td>0205051</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors	0205051		
BNF Name	BNF Code						
Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors	0205051						
Denominator	<p>Items for BNF sections 2.5.5.1 (ACE inhibitors) and 2.5.5.2 (angiotensin-II receptor antagonists).</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors</td> <td>0205051</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Angiotensin-II Receptor Antagonists</td> <td>0205052</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors	0205051	Angiotensin-II Receptor Antagonists	0205052
BNF Name	BNF Code						
Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors	0205051						
Angiotensin-II Receptor Antagonists	0205052						
Further Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denominator excludes direct renin inhibitors (BNF section 2.5.5.3) i.e. aliskiren. Licenced indications limited to essential hypertension. Use currently remains low. 						

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	2. Lipid modifying drugs																				
QIPP Comparator 2	Number of prescription items for simvastatin and pravastatin as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all statins, plus the total number of prescription items for combination of simvastatin/ezetimibe, plus total number of prescription items for ezetimibe alone																				
Toolkit Comparator Title	Low cost lipid modifying drugs																				
Numerator	Items for simvastatin and pravastatin (sub-set of BNF 2.12) <table> <tr> <td>Pravastatin Sodium</td> <td>0212000X0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Simvastatin</td> <td>0212000Y0</td> </tr> </table>	Pravastatin Sodium	0212000X0	Simvastatin	0212000Y0																
Pravastatin Sodium	0212000X0																				
Simvastatin	0212000Y0																				
Denominator	Items for all statins, including combination of simvastatin / ezetimibe, and ezetimibe (sub-set of BNF section 2.12). <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Atorvastatin</td> <td>0212000B0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cerivastatin</td> <td>0212000C0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ezetimibe</td> <td>0212000L0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fluvastatin Sodium</td> <td>0212000M0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lovastatin</td> <td>0212000R0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pravastatin Sodium</td> <td>0212000X0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rosuvastatin Calcium</td> <td>0212000AA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Simvastatin</td> <td>0212000Y0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Simvastatin & Ezetimibe</td> <td>0212000AC</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Atorvastatin	0212000B0	Cerivastatin	0212000C0	Ezetimibe	0212000L0	Fluvastatin Sodium	0212000M0	Lovastatin	0212000R0	Pravastatin Sodium	0212000X0	Rosuvastatin Calcium	0212000AA	Simvastatin	0212000Y0	Simvastatin & Ezetimibe	0212000AC
BNF Name	BNF Code																				
Atorvastatin	0212000B0																				
Cerivastatin	0212000C0																				
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Pravastatin Sodium	0212000X0																				
Rosuvastatin Calcium	0212000AA																				
Simvastatin	0212000Y0																				
Simvastatin & Ezetimibe	0212000AC																				
Further Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generic prescribing rate for pravastatin and simvastatin is high. • Cerivastatin and lovastatin nil prescribing due to products being withdrawn / unavailable in UK. 																				

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	3. Hypoglycaemic agents						
QIPP Comparator 3	Number of prescription items for metformin and sulphonylureas as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all antidiabetic drugs.						
Toolkit Comparator Title	Hypoglycaemic agents						
Numerator	Items for BNF section 6.1.2.2 and BNF section 6.1.2.1 <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Biguanides</td> <td>0601022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sulphonylureas</td> <td>0601021</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Biguanides	0601022	Sulphonylureas	0601021
BNF Name	BNF Code						
Biguanides	0601022						
Sulphonylureas	0601021						
Denominator	Items for BNF section 6.1.2 (antidiabetic drugs) <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Antidiabetic Drugs</td> <td>060102</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Antidiabetic Drugs	060102		
BNF Name	BNF Code						
Antidiabetic Drugs	060102						
Further Comments							

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	4. Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs)												
QIPP Comparator 4	Number of prescription items for “low cost” PPI preparations (omeprazole, lansoprazole and pantoprazole) as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all PPIs.												
Toolkit Comparator Title	Low cost PPIs % items												
Numerator	<p>Items for omeprazole, lansoprazole and pantoprazole (sub-set of BNF 1.3.5) *</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lansoprazole</td> <td>0103050L0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Omeprazole</td> <td>0103050P0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pantoprazole</td> <td>0103050R0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Lansoprazole	0103050L0	Omeprazole	0103050P0	Pantoprazole	0103050R0				
BNF Name	BNF Code												
Lansoprazole	0103050L0												
Omeprazole	0103050P0												
Pantoprazole	0103050R0												
Denominator	<p>Items for BNF section 1.3.5 (proton pump inhibitors) **</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Esomeprazole</td> <td>0103050E0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lansoprazole</td> <td>0103050L0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Omeprazole</td> <td>0103050P0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pantoprazole</td> <td>0103050R0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rabeprazole Sodium</td> <td>0103050T0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>See comments below</p>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Esomeprazole	0103050E0	Lansoprazole	0103050L0	Omeprazole	0103050P0	Pantoprazole	0103050R0	Rabeprazole Sodium	0103050T0
BNF Name	BNF Code												
Esomeprazole	0103050E0												
Lansoprazole	0103050L0												
Omeprazole	0103050P0												
Pantoprazole	0103050R0												
Rabeprazole Sodium	0103050T0												
Further Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * No attempt made to exclude orodispersible preparations such as MUPs and FasTabs from numerator. Difficulties in defining “low cost” as current costs are now lower. ** Denominator <u>excludes</u> helicobacter pylori eradication. Currently no preparations available. <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Helicobacter Pylori Eradication Therapy</td> <td>0103050A0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Helicobacter Pylori Eradication Therapy	0103050A0								
BNF Name	BNF Code												
Helicobacter Pylori Eradication Therapy	0103050A0												

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	5. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)										
QIPP Comparator 5	Number of prescription items for ibuprofen and naproxen as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all NSAIDs.										
Toolkit Comparator Title	NSAIDs: Ibuprofen & naproxen % items										
Numerator	<p>Items for ibuprofen and naproxen (sub-set of BNF section 10.1.1)</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ibuprofen</td> <td>1001010J0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ibuprofen Lysine</td> <td>1001010AD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Naproxen</td> <td>1001010P0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Naproxen Sodium</td> <td>100101070</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Ibuprofen	1001010J0	Ibuprofen Lysine	1001010AD	Naproxen	1001010P0	Naproxen Sodium	100101070
BNF Name	BNF Code										
Ibuprofen	1001010J0										
Ibuprofen Lysine	1001010AD										
Naproxen	1001010P0										
Naproxen Sodium	100101070										
Denominator	<p>Items for BNF section 10.1.1 (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs)</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs</td> <td>100101</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs	100101						
BNF Name	BNF Code										
Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs	100101										
Further Comments											

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	5. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)																														
QIPP Comparator 6	Number of average daily quantities (ADQs) per Star-PU for all NSAIDs (BNF section 10.1.1)																														
Toolkit Comparator Title	NSAIDs: ADQ/STAR PU																														
Numerator	Total ADQ usage for BNF section 10.1.1 <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs</td> <td>100101</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs	100101																										
BNF Name	BNF Code																														
Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs	100101																														
Denominator	Number of Star-PU's for BNF section 10.1.1 Cost based Oral NSAIDs SUB THERA STAR (09) PUs Oral NSAIDs (BNF 10.1.1) <table> <thead> <tr> <th>age group</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-4</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5-14</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15-24</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25-34</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>35-44</td> <td>1.2</td> <td>1.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>45-54</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>2.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>55-64</td> <td>3.7</td> <td>5.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>65-74</td> <td>5.0</td> <td>6.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>75+</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>4.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	age group	Male	Female	0-4	0.2	0.2	5-14	0.1	0.2	15-24	0.2	0.5	25-34	0.5	0.8	35-44	1.2	1.6	45-54	2.0	2.9	55-64	3.7	5.2	65-74	5.0	6.3	75+	4.0	4.6
age group	Male	Female																													
0-4	0.2	0.2																													
5-14	0.1	0.2																													
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25-34	0.5	0.8																													
35-44	1.2	1.6																													
45-54	2.0	2.9																													
55-64	3.7	5.2																													
65-74	5.0	6.3																													
75+	4.0	4.6																													
Further Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Prescription Services Toolkit volume comparator. 99.4% of items are covered by ADQ values. 																														

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	7. Intermediate and long acting insulin analogues																		
QIPP Comparator 7	Number of prescription items for long acting human analogue insulins detemir and glargine as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all long acting and intermediate acting insulins excluding biphasic insulins.																		
Toolkit Comparator Title	Long/intermediate insulin analogues																		
Numerator	<p>Items for insulin detemir and insulin glargine (sub-set of BNF section 6.1.1.2)</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Insulin Detemir</td> <td>0601012X0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insulin Glargine</td> <td>0601012V0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Insulin Detemir	0601012X0	Insulin Glargine	0601012V0												
BNF Name	BNF Code																		
Insulin Detemir	0601012X0																		
Insulin Glargine	0601012V0																		
Denominator	<p>Items for all long acting and intermediate acting insulins <u>excluding*</u> biphasic insulins (sub-set of BNF section 6.1.1.2).</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Insulin Detemir</td> <td>0601012X0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insulin Glargine</td> <td>0601012V0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insulin Zinc Suspension</td> <td>0601012G0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insulin Zinc Suspension (Amorphous)</td> <td>0601012L0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insulin Zinc Suspension (Crystalline)</td> <td>0601012N0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Isophane Insulin</td> <td>0601012S0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Intermed&Long-Acting Insulin Preps</td> <td>060101200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protamine Zinc Insulin</td> <td>0601012U0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Insulin Detemir	0601012X0	Insulin Glargine	0601012V0	Insulin Zinc Suspension	0601012G0	Insulin Zinc Suspension (Amorphous)	0601012L0	Insulin Zinc Suspension (Crystalline)	0601012N0	Isophane Insulin	0601012S0	Other Intermed&Long-Acting Insulin Preps	060101200	Protamine Zinc Insulin	0601012U0
BNF Name	BNF Code																		
Insulin Detemir	0601012X0																		
Insulin Glargine	0601012V0																		
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Isophane Insulin	0601012S0																		
Other Intermed&Long-Acting Insulin Preps	060101200																		
Protamine Zinc Insulin	0601012U0																		
Further Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Denominator <u>excludes</u> following: <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Biphasic Insulin Injection</td> <td>0601012C0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Biphasic Insulin Lispro</td> <td>0601012F0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Biphasic Isophane Insulin</td> <td>0601012D0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Biphasic Protamine Insulin</td> <td>0601012W0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Biphasic Insulin Injection	0601012C0	Biphasic Insulin Lispro	0601012F0	Biphasic Isophane Insulin	0601012D0	Biphasic Protamine Insulin	0601012W0								
BNF Name	BNF Code																		
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Biphasic Insulin Lispro	0601012F0																		
Biphasic Isophane Insulin	0601012D0																		
Biphasic Protamine Insulin	0601012W0																		

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	9. Clopidogrel				
QIPP Comparator 8	Generic prescribing rate for clopidogrel				
Toolkit Comparator Title	Clopidogrel generic prescribing rate				
Numerator	Items for clopidogrel written by approved name <table> <tr> <td>BNF Name</td> <td>BNF Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clopidogrel</td> <td>0209000C0AA</td> </tr> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Clopidogrel	0209000C0AA
BNF Name	BNF Code				
Clopidogrel	0209000C0AA				
Denominator	Total items for all prescribing for clopidogrel <table> <tr> <td>BNF Name</td> <td>BNF Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clopidogrel</td> <td>0209000C0</td> </tr> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Clopidogrel	0209000C0
BNF Name	BNF Code				
Clopidogrel	0209000C0				
Further Comments					

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	11. Antibacterial prescribing – especially quinolones and cephalosporins																														
QIPP Comparator 9	Number of prescription items for antibacterial drugs (BNF 5.1) per Star-PU																														
Toolkit Comparator Title	Antibacterial items/STAR PU																														
Numerator	Items for BNF section 5.1 <table> <tr> <td>BNF Name</td> <td>BNF Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Antibacterial Drugs</td> <td>0501</td> </tr> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Antibacterial Drugs	0501																										
BNF Name	BNF Code																														
Antibacterial Drugs	0501																														
Denominator	Number of Star-PU's (for BNF section 5.1) Item based Antibacterial (5.1) Star (09) PU Antibacterial (BNF 5.1) <table> <thead> <tr> <th>age group</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-4</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>0.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5-14</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15-24</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25-34</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>35-44</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>45-54</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>55-64</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>0.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>65-74</td> <td>0.6</td> <td>0.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>75+</td> <td>0.9</td> <td>1.1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	age group	Male	Female	0-4	0.8	0.7	5-14	0.3	0.4	15-24	0.4	0.6	25-34	0.3	0.6	35-44	0.3	0.6	45-54	0.3	0.6	55-64	0.4	0.7	65-74	0.6	0.9	75+	0.9	1.1
age group	Male	Female																													
0-4	0.8	0.7																													
5-14	0.3	0.4																													
15-24	0.4	0.6																													
25-34	0.3	0.6																													
35-44	0.3	0.6																													
45-54	0.3	0.6																													
55-64	0.4	0.7																													
65-74	0.6	0.9																													
75+	0.9	1.1																													
Further Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADQ per Star-PU is an existing Prescription Services Toolkit volume comparator. • Numerator includes all of BNF 5.1. Paragraphs excluded from comparator 10 (see below) only account for 0.6% of all items for BNF 5.1. 																														

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	11. Antibacterial prescribing – especially quinolones and cephalosporins																		
QIPP Comparator 10	Number of prescription items for cephalosporins and quinolones as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for <i>selected</i>* antibacterial drugs (BNF 5.1)																		
Toolkit Comparator Title	Cephalosporins & quinolones % items																		
Numerator	<p>Items for BNF sections 5.1.2.1 (cephalosporins) and 5.1.12 (quinolones)</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cephalosporins</td> <td>0501021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quinolones</td> <td>050112</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Cephalosporins	0501021	Quinolones	050112												
BNF Name	BNF Code																		
Cephalosporins	0501021																		
Quinolones	050112																		
Denominator	<p>Items for BNF sections 5.1.1; 5.1.2.1; 5.1.3; 5.1.5; 5.1.8; 5.1.11; 5.1.12; 5.1.13)*</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cephalosporins</td> <td>0501021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Macrolides</td> <td>050105</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metronidazole, Tinidazole & Ornidazole</td> <td>050111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Penicillins</td> <td>050101</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quinolones</td> <td>050112</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sulphonamides And Trimethoprim</td> <td>050108</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tetracyclines</td> <td>050103</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Urinary-Tract Infections</td> <td>050113</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Cephalosporins	0501021	Macrolides	050105	Metronidazole, Tinidazole & Ornidazole	050111	Penicillins	050101	Quinolones	050112	Sulphonamides And Trimethoprim	050108	Tetracyclines	050103	Urinary-Tract Infections	050113
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Urinary-Tract Infections	050113																		
Further Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denominator attempts to exclude specialist antibiotics that do not provide a suitable alternative to quinolones and cephalosporins. Better supports potential efficiency/cost tools. • Prescribing of injectables within cephalosporins (0501021) negligible (0.12% items for qtr 1 and qtr 2 2010/11) therefore no attempt to exclude from numerator. Likewise for quinolones. • No prescribing for Cephalosporins and other Beta-Lactams (sub-paragraph 0501020) therefore excluded from numerator (contains mainly injectable preparations). 																		

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	12. Hypnotics																																
QIPP Comparator 11	Total number of average daily quantities (ADQs) for benzodiazepines (indicated for use as hypnotics) and “Z” drugs per Star-PU*.																																
Toolkit Comparator Title	Hypnotics ADQ/STAR PU																																
Numerator	<p>ADQ usage for benzodiazepines in BNF section 4.1.1 and “Z” drugs (zolpidem, zopiclone and zaleplon) in BNF section 4.1.1</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>BNF Name</th> <th>BNF Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Flunitrazepam</td> <td>0401010I0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flurazepam Hydrochloride</td> <td>0401010L0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loprazolam Mesilate</td> <td>0401010N0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lormetazepam</td> <td>0401010P0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nitrazepam</td> <td>0401010R0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Temazepam</td> <td>0401010T0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Triazolam</td> <td>0401010V0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zaleplon</td> <td>0401010W0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zolpidem Tartrate</td> <td>0401010Y0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zopiclone</td> <td>0401010Z0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Flunitrazepam	0401010I0	Flurazepam Hydrochloride	0401010L0	Loprazolam Mesilate	0401010N0	Lormetazepam	0401010P0	Nitrazepam	0401010R0	Temazepam	0401010T0	Triazolam	0401010V0	Zaleplon	0401010W0	Zolpidem Tartrate	0401010Y0	Zopiclone	0401010Z0										
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Denominator	<p>Number of Star-PU^{**}</p> <p>Cost based drugs acting on benzodiazepine receptors Star (09) PU*</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">age group</th> <th colspan="2">Drugs acting on Benzodiazepine receptors</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-4</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5-14</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15-24</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25-34</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>35-44</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>45-54</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>55-64</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>65-74</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>2.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>75+</td> <td>2.3</td> <td>3.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	age group	Drugs acting on Benzodiazepine receptors		Male	Female	0-4	0.0	0.0	5-14	0.0	0.0	15-24	0.1	0.1	25-34	0.3	0.3	35-44	0.4	0.5	45-54	0.5	0.8	55-64	0.8	1.5	65-74	1.3	2.4	75+	2.3	3.8
age group	Drugs acting on Benzodiazepine receptors																																
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Further Comments	<p>** Star-PU values are based on all benzodiazepine and “Z” drugs acting on benzodiazepine receptors i.e. includes benzodiazepines indicated for use as anxiolytics (sub-set of BNF section 4.1.2) Star-PU values for proposed numerator are not available.</p>																																

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	15. Alendronate				
QIPP Comparator 12	Generic prescribing rate for alendronic acid (sodium alendronate)				
Toolkit Comparator Title	Alendronate generic prescribing rate				
Numerator	<p>Items for alendronic acid prescribed by approved name</p> <table> <tr> <td>BNF Name</td> <td>BNF Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alendronic Acid</td> <td>0606020A0AA</td> </tr> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Alendronic Acid	0606020A0AA
BNF Name	BNF Code				
Alendronic Acid	0606020A0AA				
Denominator	<p>Total items for all prescribing for alendronic acid</p> <table> <tr> <td>BNF Name</td> <td>BNF Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alendronic Acid</td> <td>0606020A0</td> </tr> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Alendronic Acid	0606020A0
BNF Name	BNF Code				
Alendronic Acid	0606020A0				
Further Comments					

NPC Key Therapeutic Topic	15. Alendronate				
QIPP Comparator 13	Number of prescription items for alendronic acid (sodium alendronate) as a percentage of the total number of prescription items for all bisphosphonates and other drugs affecting bone metabolism (BNF 6.6.2)				
Toolkit Comparator Title	Alendronate as % of all bisphosphonates				
Numerator	All items for alendronic acid <table> <tr> <td>BNF Name</td> <td>BNF Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alendronic Acid</td> <td>0606020A0</td> </tr> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Alendronic Acid	0606020A0
BNF Name	BNF Code				
Alendronic Acid	0606020A0				
Denominator	All items for BNF section 6.6.2 <table> <tr> <td>BNF Name</td> <td>BNF Code</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bisphosphonates and Other Drugs</td> <td>060602</td> </tr> </table>	BNF Name	BNF Code	Bisphosphonates and Other Drugs	060602
BNF Name	BNF Code				
Bisphosphonates and Other Drugs	060602				
Further Comments					

Appendix 1: Glossary

Average daily quantities (ADQs)

The Average Daily Quantities (ADQ) is a measure of prescribing volume based upon prescribing behaviour in England. It represents the assumed average maintenance dose per day for a drug used for its main indication in adults. The ADQ is not a recommended dose but an analytical unit to compare prescribing activity. See link below for further detail.

<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/services/prescribing-support-unit-psu/using-the-service/reference/measure/volume-measures/average-daily-quantities-adq>

Denominator

The denominator is what the numerator (see below) is being measured or compared against. The QIPP comparators use prescription items and Star-PU's as denominators.

NB: The mathematical definition is "the number in a fraction that lies *below* the divide line. The number that lies *above* the divide line is the numerator".

Generic prescribing

Refers to prescribing using the approved name of a medicine. The generic name of a medicine can also be referred to as recommended international non-proprietary name (rINN), non-branded or non-proprietary name. In the majority of instances prescribing by generic name will result in a generic version of the medicine being supplied rather than a branded version of the same medicine.

Numerator

The numerator is what is being measured or compared. The QIPP comparators use prescription items or ADQs as numerators.

NB: The mathematical definition is "the number in a fraction that lies *above* the divide line. The number that lies *below* the divide line is the denominator".

Prescription item

"Prescription item" is a measure of the frequency of prescribing. A prescription item refers to a single medicine which maybe prescribed along with other medicines on the same prescription form i.e. a measure of number of medicines and not number of prescription forms (which may include more than 1 medicine).

A prescription item does not provide information on the quantity prescribed or duration of treatment e.g. an item maybe for 1, 2 or 3 months treatment.

Star-PU

Specific Therapeutic group Age-sex weightings Related Prescribing Units (STAR-PU) are designed to measure prescribing weighted for age and sex of patients. There are differences in the age and sex of patients for who drugs in specific therapeutic groups are usually prescribed. To make such comparisons STAR-PU have been developed based on costs of prescribing or items within therapeutic groups. See link for further detail:

<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/services/prescribing-support-unit-psu/using-the-service/reference/asures/patient-denominators/star-pus>