

MEDICATION CATEGORIES

Each chapter has the following variables;

A binary 'presence of medications in this BNF chapter'. This is presented as MED(BNFCHAPTERTITLE)_(AGE)x. Chapter titles (abbreviated) are provided below. For example;

MEDGASTRO_69x, MEDCARDIO_31x

A documented 'number of medications in this BNF chapter'. Presented as NUMMED(BNFCHAPTERTITLE)_(AGE)x. For example;

NUMMEDDERM_43x, NUMMEDCNS_53x

A binary 'are they on this type of medication' in lower case. Subtypes for this are provided below.

Also note the collections data is available at;

- _31x** : Data from 1977, taken from postal survey.
- _36x** : Data from 1982, taken from home visit.
- _43x** : Data from 1989, taken from home visit.
- _53x** : Data from 1999, taken from home visit.
- _63x** : Data from 2009, both home visit and postal survey. One case incorrectly coded.
- _63c** : Data from 2009, taken from home visit unless missing, then taken from postal survey. Checked for veracity.
- _63p** : Data from 2009, taken from postal survey. Checked for veracity.
- _63h** : Data from 2009, taken from home visit. Checked for veracity.
- _69x** : Data from 2015, taken from home visit. Checked for veracity.

SPECIFIC CATEGORIES OF INTEREST

GASTROINTESTINAL (GASTRO)

MEDDiarr

Presence of anti-diarrhoeal drugs, likely for chronic diarrhoea. These drugs may be prescribed for those with side effects of other medication, poor bowel absorption (perhaps due to cancer, surgery or inflammatory bowel disease) and occasionally irritable bowel syndrome. Includes BNF groups 1.4.1 & 1.4.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDLax

Presence of laxative drugs for constipation. These drugs may be prescribed for those with side effects of other medication, chronic constipation, poor bowel absorption (perhaps due to cancer, surgery or inflammatory bowel disease) and occasionally irritable bowel syndrome. Includes BNF groups 1.6.1, 1.6.2, 1.6.3, 1.6.4, 1.6.5 & 1.6.6. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDIBS

Presence of anti-spasmodic drugs. These drugs may be prescribed for those with irritable bowel syndrome or those with gastric pain and cramps. Includes BNF group 1.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDCBD

Presence of immunosuppressive drugs for chronic bowel disease. These drugs may be prescribed for those with inflammatory bowel diseases such as Crohn's Disease or Ulcerative Colitis. It also includes medication for food allergy, but no one in the cohort is on this medication. Includes BNF groups 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3 & 1.5.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDRectal

Presence of rectal preparations, usually for haemorrhoids. This category also includes drugs prescribed for those with rectal fissures, though no one in the cohort is on this specific subclass of rectal preparations. Includes BNF groups 1.7.1, 1.7.2, 1.7.3 & 1.7.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDBiliary

Presence of drugs for reduced biliary or pancreatic absorption. These drugs may be prescribed for those with severe gallstones or chronic pancreatitis. Includes BNF groups 1.9.1, 1.9.2, 1.9.3 & 1.9.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDGORD

Presence of anti-acid drugs for Gastro Oesophageal Reflux Disease. These drugs may be prescribed for those with side effects of other medication, heartburn, and gastric ulcers, or as gastric protection when on irritant medication (such as aspirin or steroids). Includes BNF groups 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.4, & 1.3.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

CARDIOVASCULAR (CARDIO)

MEDArryth

Presence of Anti-Arrhythmic Medications. These drugs may be prescribed for a variety of cardiac arrhythmias including atrial fibrillation and ventricular and supraventricular tachycardias. Includes BNF groups 2.1.1, 2.3.1 & 2.3.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDDiuretic

Presence of Diuretics. These drugs may be prescribed to promote renal function and offload fluid (for example in heart failure) or to lower blood pressure. The group includes thiazide like diuretics (BNF221), loop diuretics (BNF222), potassium sparing diuretics (BNF223, BNF224) and other diuretics. Includes BNF groups 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.2.4, 2.2.5, 2.2.6, 2.2.7 & 2.2.8. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDBeta

Presence of Beta Blockers. These drugs may be prescribed for heart failure, tachycardia, anxiety, hypertension or ischaemic heart disease. Includes BNF group 2.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDHTN

Presence of Antihypertensive medication. These drugs are prescribed for high blood pressure or heart failure and includes angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (BNF255). Includes BNF groups 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 2.5.4, 2.5.5, 2.5.5.1, 2.5.5.2 & 2.5.5.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDNit

Presence of Nitrates. These drugs may be prescribed to lower blood pressure, or in heart failure or ischaemic heart disease. It includes calcium channel blockers (BNF262). Includes BNF groups 2.6.1, 2.6.2, 2.6.3 & 2.6.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDAnticoag

Presence of Anticoagulants. These drugs are used to thin the blood, normally when risk of thrombosis is raised, such as following a pulmonary embolism or deep vein thrombosis. They are also used to prevent stroke in atrial fibrillation and coagulopathies. Includes BNF groups 2.8.1, 2.8.2 & 2.8.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDAntiPLT

Presence of Antiplatelet agents. These drugs are commonly used in ischaemic heart disease, or following stroke and includes aspirin and clopidogrel. Includes BNF group 2.9. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDChol

Presence of Lipid Lowering Agents. These drugs are used to lower cholesterol and reduce heart attacks and strokes, either when cholesterol is found to be high, or following a myocardial infarction. The bulk of this group is statins. Includes BNF group 2.12. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

RESPIRATORY (RESP)

MEDLKA

Presence of Leukotriene Receptor Antagonists or Cromoglicate. These drugs may be prescribed as immunological therapy for the prevention of Asthma exacerbations. Includes BNF groups 3.3.1, & 3.3.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDBronch

Presence of Bronchodilators. These drugs may be prescribed for persons with Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or other disorders that cause airway contraction and wheeze. Includes BNF groups 3.1.1, 3.1.1.1, 3.1.1.2, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4 & 3.1.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDAllergy

Presence of Anti-Allergy Medications. These drugs, such as antihistamines may be prescribed for persons with chronic allergies, including allergic wheeze, hay fever, or urticarial rashes. This category also includes adrenaline for anaphylactic reactions (such as to insect bites). Includes BNF groups 3.4.1, 3.4.2 & 3.4.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDRSteroid

Presence of (Respiratory) Steroids. Steroid may be prescribed for a wide range of reasons, but are commonly to dampen immune responses. They may be inhaled for a variety of Respiratory disorders such as Asthma or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. Includes BNF group 3.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDOxygen

Presence of Regular Oxygen. Oxygen may be prescribed for persons with persistently low oxygen levels and poor lung function. Users may include those with lung cancer, severe Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or Pulmonary Fibrosis. Includes BNF group 3.6. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDCough

Presence of Anti-cough medications. These drugs are prescribed for chronic cough, which may be found as a medication side effect, or in persons with Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or other disorders that cause airway contraction and wheeze. Includes BNF groups 3.9.1 & 3.9.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDMucus

Presence of Mucolytic Agents. These drugs may be prescribed for persons with Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or other disorders that cause airway mucus build up, such as Cystic Fibrosis. Includes BNF group 3.7. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM (CNS)

MEDSedate

Presence of Sedating Agents. These drugs may be prescribed for insomnia, anxiety or occasionally muscular spasm. Historically some have been prescribed for depression, though this is not now recommended. Includes BNF groups 4.1.1, 4.1.2 & 4.1.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDPsycho

Presence of Anti-psychotic Agents. These drugs may be prescribed for any psychotic disorder, including schizophrenia or severe mania in bipolar disorder. Includes BNF groups 4.2.1, 4.2.2 & 4.2.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDDepress

Presence of Antidepressants. These drugs may be prescribed for depression and include tricyclics (BNF431), monoamine-oxidase inhibitors (BNF432), selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (BNF433) and others. Includes BNF groups 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3 & 4.3.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDStim

Presence of Stimulants. These drugs may be prescribed for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, and occasionally excessive daytime sleepiness. Includes BNF group 4.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDObes

Presence of Anti-Obesity Drugs. These drugs may be prescribed to promote weight loss and are divided into centrally acting agents which suppress appetite (BNF452) and those that affect the gut and fat absorption (BNF451). Includes BNF groups 4.5.1 & 4.5.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDNaus

Presence of Anti-Emetic and Vertigo Treatments. These drugs may be prescribed for nausea and vomiting of any origin, including as a side effect of other treatments such as opiates. It also includes medications used for vertigo and dizziness. Includes BNF group 4.6. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDPain

Presence of Analgesia. These painkillers are used for a multitude of disorders and includes non-opioid analgesics (BNF471), opioid analgesics (BNF472), medications for neuropathic pain (BNF473) and medications for headache. Includes BNF groups 4.7.1, 4.7.2, 4.7.3, 4.7.4, 4.7.4.1, 4.7.4.2 & 4.7.4.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEpil

Presence of Epileptic Agents. These drugs may be prescribed for epilepsy, seizure disorders or rarely for neuropathic pain. Includes BNF groups 4.8.1, 4.8.2 & 4.8.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDPD

Presence of Anti-Parkinsonian Agents. These drugs are used to treat Parkinson's Disease and related movement disorders. Includes BNF groups 4.9.1 & 4.9.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

ANTI-INFECTIVES (INFECT)

MEDAntibio

Presence of Antibiotic Medications. These drugs may be prescribed for persons with bacterial infections, such as pneumonia or cellulitis. They are occasionally prescribed regularly for those on immune suppression or following splenectomy. Includes BNF groups 5.1.1, 5.1.1.1, 5.1.1.2, 5.1.1.3, 5.1.1.4, 5.1.1.5, 5.1.2, 5.1.2.1, 5.1.2.2, 5.1.2.3, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.1.6, 5.1.7, 5.1.8, 5.1.9, 5.1.10, 5.1.11, 5.1.12 & 5.1.13. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDTB

Presence of Anti-tuberculous Agents. These drugs are prescribed to treat Tuberculosis. Includes BNF group 5.1.9. Derived from home visits. Missing only if both postal and home visit data collections missing.

MEDAntivir

Presence of Anti-viral Medications. These drugs may be prescribed for viral infections such as herpes, hepatitis or influenza. Includes BNF groups 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.2.1, 5.3.2.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.4 & 5.3.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDHIV

Presence of Anti-Retroviral Agents. These drugs are prescribed to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus. Includes BNF group 5.3.1. Derived from home visits. Missing only if both postal and home visit data collections missing.

MEDAntimal

Presence of Anti-malarial Agents. These drugs may be prescribed for prophylactic treatment of malaria, or treatment of existing malaria. Includes BNF group 5.4.1. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDAntifung

Presence of Antifungal Agents. These drugs may be prescribed for persons with fungal infections, such as aspergillosis, candida or toxoplasmosis. Includes BNF group 5.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

ENDOCRINE (ENDO)

MEDInsulin

Presence of Insulin. Insulin is used in type one and advanced type two diabetes mellitus. Includes BNF groups 6.1.1, 6.1.1.1, 6.1.1.2 & 6.1.1.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDDiabPO

Presence of Oral Antidiabetic agents. These are commonly used in type two diabetes mellitus. Includes BNF groups 6.1.2, 6.1.2.1, 6.1.2.2 & 6.1.2.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDDiab

Presence of any diabetic medications. This includes both Insulin and oral diabetic agents, and also includes treatments for low blood sugar and diabetic testing kits. Includes both MEDInsulin, MEDDiabPO and BNF groups 6.1.3, 6.1.4, 6.1.5 & 6.1.6. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDThyroid

Presence of Thyroid Medications. This includes both thyroid medication (BNF621) and antithyroid medication (BNF642) for thyroid disorder treatment. Includes BNF groups 6.4.1 & 6.4.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEsteroids

Presence of (Endocrine) Steroids. These drugs include Glucocorticoids used as replacement therapy in disorders such as postural hypotension and pituitary disease (BNF632), and Corticosteroids (BNF631), used to dampen immune responses in diseases such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Asthma, Rheumatoid Arthritis or. Includes BNF groups 3.6.1 & 3.6.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDSexh

Presence of Sex Hormones. These drugs are split into both female (BNF641) and male (BNF642) hormones, and anabolic steroids. Male sex hormones are usually used for Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy, female for Hormone Replacement Therapy. Includes BNF groups 6.4.1, 6.4.1.1, 6.4.1.2, 6.4.2 & 6.4.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDPit

Presence of Pituitary Medications. These drugs alter pituitary hormones, and as such have a wide range of uses, including diabetes insipidus. Includes BNF groups 6.5.1 & 6.5.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDBisphos

Presence of Bisphosphonates. These drugs are prescribed to strengthen bones and alter bone metabolism. Includes BNF group 6.6.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDGonad

Presence of Gonadotrophic Medications. These drugs affect gonadotrophins, and are commonly prescribed for persons with prostate cancer. Includes BNF group 6.7.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

OBSTETRICS, GYNAECOLOGY & URINARY TRACT DISORDERS (OBS)

MEDVulv

Presence of Medications for Vulval Disorders. This include topical HRT (BNF721) and anti-infective preparations (BNF722). Includes BNF groups 7.2.1 & 7.2.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDErect

Presence of Medications for Erectile Dysfunction. Includes BNF group 7.4.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDIncont

Presence of Medications for Urinary Incontinence. Includes BNF group 7.4.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDRetention

Presence of Medications for Urinary Retention. Includes BNF group 7.4.1. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MALIGNANT DISEASE AND IMMUNOSUPPRESSION (MALIG)

MEDChemo

Presence of Cytotoxic Chemotherapeutic Medications. These drugs are commonly used for malignancy, in numerous forms. Includes BNF groups 8.1.1, 8.1.2, 8.1.3, 8.1.4 & 8.1.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDIImmuno

Presence of Immune modulating agents. These biologic therapies alter the immune response, and are used in immunosuppression and treatment of cancers, especially haematological malignancies . Includes BNF groups 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3 & 8.2.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDHormoneAnt

Presence of Hormone Antagonists. These drugs alter hormonal levels and are predominantly used in the treatment of breast cancer. Includes BNF group 8.3.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

NUTRITION (NUTRI)

MEDAnaem

Presence of Medications to treat anaemia. These drugs replace iron in iron deficiency anaemia (BNF911, BNF9111, BNF9112) or treat megaloblastic or hypoplastic anaemias. It also includes drugs to treat neutropenia, though there are no members of the cohort on these drugs. Includes BNF groups 9.1.1, 9.1.1.1, 9.1.1.2, 9.1.3, 9.1.4, 9.1.5 & 9.1.6. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDVita

Presence of Vitamin supplements. These drugs replace vitamins and in this cohort include Vitamin A (BNF961), Vitamin B (BNF962), Vitamin C (BNF963), Vitamin D (BNF964) and Multivitamin tablets (BNF967). Includes BNF groups 9.6.1, 9.6.2, 9.6.3, 9.6.4, 9.6.5, 9.6.6 & 9.6.7. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDElec

Presence of Electrolyte replacement Medications. These replace electrolytes lost due to urinary or metabolic disorders, diarrhoea, or lost as a side effect of medication. Includes BNF groups 9.2.1, 9.2.1.1, 9.2.1.2, 9.2.1.3, 9.2.2, 9.2.2.1 & 9.2.2.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDMiner

Presence of Mineral supplements. These drugs replace mineral deficiencies and include Calcium and Magnesium (BNF951), Phosphorus (BNF952) and Zinc (BNF954). Other micronutrient supplements such as selenium are not used in this cohort. Includes BNF groups 9.5.1, 9.5.1.1, 9.5.1.2, 9.5.1.3, 9.5.2, 9.5.2.1, 9.5.2.2, 9.5.3, 9.5.4 & 9.5.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MUSCULOSKELETAL (MSK)

MEDNSAID

Presence of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Medications. These drugs dampen inflammation, and are used as painkillers and occasionally cardiovascular protection. Includes BNF group 10.1.1.

Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDDMARD

Presence of Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drugs. These drugs alter the immune response in Rheumatoid Arthritis and other inflammatory arthropathies. Includes BNF group 10.1.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDGout

Presence of Medications for Gout. These drugs urate metabolism, and are used in Gout and occasionally during chemotherapy to prevent side effects. Includes BNF group 10.1.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDRheum

Presence of Topical Anti-Rheumatic Medications. These topical drugs are used in Rheumatoid Arthritis to reduce symptoms and inflammation. Includes BNF groups 10.3.1 & 10.3.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDNeuroMSK

Presence of Neuromuscular agents. These drugs neuromuscular transmission, and here consist of muscular relaxants. This group also includes drugs that enhance neuromuscular transmission, but no cohort members are using these agents. Includes BNF groups 10.2.1 & 10.2.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

OPHTHALMOLOGICAL (EYE)

MEDEyeInfect

Presence of Anti-Infective Eye Medications. These topical drugs are used to treat infective eye diseases, such as conjunctivitis. Includes BNF groups 11.3.1 , 11.3.2 & 11.3.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEyeInflam

Presence of Anti-Inflammatory Eye Medications. These topical drugs, including steroid eye drops (BNF1141) are used to treat inflammatory eye disorders. Includes BNF groups 11.4.1 & 11.4.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEeyeMydr

Presence of Mydriatic Medications. These topical drugs are used to dilate pupils and can be used for uveitis. Includes BNF group 11.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEeyeGlauc

Presence of Anti-Glaucoma Eye Medications. These topical drugs are used to treat glaucoma. Includes BNF group 11.6. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEeyeTear

Presence of Artificial Tears. These topical drugs are used to lubricate dry eyes. Includes BNF group 11.8.1. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEeyePostop

Presence of Post-operative and Diagnostic Eye Medications. These topical drugs are used for a variety of reasons, including the diagnosis of corneal abrasions, and post-operative inflammation. Includes BNF group 11.8.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT (ENT)

MEDEar

Presence of Ear Drops. These drugs include those for ear infections (BNF1211, BNF1212) and ear wax removal (BNF1213). The variable includes BNF groups 12.1.1, 12.1.2 & 12.1.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDNasal

Presence of Nasal Spray. These drugs include those for nasal allergy (BNF1221), nasal decongestion (BNF1222) and nasal infection (BNF1223). The variable includes BNF groups 12.2.1, 12.2.2 & 12.2.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDThroat

Presence of drugs acting on the oro-pharynx. These drugs include those for oral ulceration and inflammation (BNF1231), anti-infective preparations (BNF1232), soothing lozenges and sprays (BNF1233), mouthwashes (BNF1234) and dry mouth treatments (BNF1235). Includes BNF groups 12.3.1, 12.3.2, 12.3.3, 12.3.4 & 12.3.5. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

DERMATOLOGICAL (DERM)

MEDEmol

Presence of Emollients and Barrier Creams. These topical creams relieve dry skin and are frequently used for rashes. The variable includes BNF groups 13.2.1, 13.2.1.1 & 13.2.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDEczema

Presence of Creams for Eczema. These topical creams are used to treat eczema. The variable includes BNF group 13.5.1. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDPsor

Presence of topical treatments for Psoriasis. These topical medications include coal tar and immunotherapy treatments and are used to treat psoriasis. The variable includes BNF group 13.5.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDScalp

Presence of Medicinal Shampoos. These shampoos are commonly used to treat psoriasis or other scalp conditions. The variable includes BNF group 13.9. Derived from home visits only. Missing only if both methods of data collection (postal and home visit) missing.

MEDDermInfect

Presence of Anti-Infective Creams. These topical treatments are used to treat bacterial (BNF13101), viral (BNF13103) and fungal (BNF13102) skin infections. Parasitic infections are also treated by this class of drugs, but no members of the cohort are on these specific therapies. The variable includes BNF groups 13.10.1, 13.10.1.1, 13.10.1.2, 13.10.2, 13.10.3, 13.10.4 & 13.10.5 . Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDTSteroid

Presence of Topical Corticosteroids. These topical creams are used to treat a variety of allergic and inflammatory rashes. The variable includes BNF group 13.4. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDAcne

Presence of Acne Therapies. These topical (BNF1361) and oral (BNF1362) treatments are used to treat persistent acne. The variable includes BNF groups 13.6.1 & 13.6.2. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.

MEDSterile

Presence of Chlorhexidine sterile solution. This medication is used to clean or sterilise skin, and could be given if individuals were self-managing a surgical site such as a stoma. The variable includes BNF group 13.11.2. Derived from postal survey only. Missing only if both methods of data collection (postal and home visit) missing.

ANAESTHESIA (ANAES)

MEDAntimusc

Presence of Anti-Muscarinic Agents. These drugs are used for respiratory secretions, sedation or bradycardia. Includes BNF group 15.1.3. Derived from both postal and home visits. Missing only if both methods of data collection missing.