

Table A1 Quality and Outcomes Framework clinical indicators excluded from main analysis (n=25)*

Indicator	Description	Indicator type	Upper payment threshold	Max. points available	No. of exceptions	Percent excepted	Median exception rate (interquartile range)
<i>Atrial fibrillation</i>							
AF 3 (731,222)	Treated with anti-coagulation drug therapy or an anti-platelet therapy	Treatment	90	15	23,877	3.3%	2.4% (0.0-5.0)
<i>Coronary heart disease</i>							
CHD 2 (259,497)	Referred for exercise testing and/or specialist assessment	Measure	90	7	19,742	7.6%	5.8% (0.0-11.1)
CHD 8 (1,883,192)	Total cholesterol \leq 5 mmol/l	Outcome	70	17	161,406	8.6%	7.5% (4.9-10.8)
CHD 9 (1,883,016)	Treated with aspirin, anti-platelet therapy, or anti-coagulant	Treatment	90	7	53,329	2.8%	2.2% (1.1-4.0)
CHD 10 (1,882,594)	Treated with a beta blocker	Treatment	60	7	464,352	24.7%	24.4% (16.7-32.8)
CHD 11 (286,521)	Treated with an ACE inhibitor (patients with history of MI)	Treatment	80	7	20,433	7.1%	5.3% (0.0-10.5)
CHD 12 (1,882,778)	Record of influenza vaccination	Treatment	90	7	226,747	12.0%	11.3% (8.1-15.3)
<i>Heart failure</i>							

HF 3 (210,163)	Currently treated with an ACE inhibitor or angiotensin receptor blocker	Treatment	80	10	16,612	7.9%	5.4% (0.0-12.5)
<i>Chronic kidney disease</i>							
CKD 5 (210,442)	Treated with angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor or angiotensin receptor blocker (patients with hypertension and proteinuria)	Treatment	80	4	20,960	10.0%	6.0% (0.0-15.0)
<i>Chronic obstructive airways disease</i>							
COPD 8 (832,919)	Record of influenza immunisation	Treatment	85	6	103,889	12.5%	11.4% (7.7-16.0)
COPD 10 (832,877)	Record of FeV1	Measure	70	7	77,058	9.3%	6.8% (2.9-12.8)
COPD 11 (691,821)	Review, including an assessment of breathlessness	Treatment	90	7	46,473	6.7%	4.9% (1.9-9.1)
COPD 12 (89,599)	Diagnosis confirmed by post bronchodilator spirometry	Measure	80	5	22,759	25.4%	23.1% (9.1-40.0)
<i>Diabetes</i>							
DM 9 (2,208,548)	Record of presence or absence of peripheral pulses	Measure	90	3	123,309	5.6%	4.4% (2.5-7.3)
DM 10 (2,208,537)	Record of neuropathy testing	Measure	90	3	124,699	5.6%	4.5% (2.6-7.4)

DM 15 (243,091)	Treated with ACE inhibitors or A2 antagonists (patients with proteinuria or micro-albuminuria)	Treatment	80	3	14,557	6.0%	2.8% (0.0-8.9)
DM 17 (2,208,371)	Total cholesterol \leq 5 mmol/l	Outcome	70	6	198,048	9.0%	8.1% (5.7-11.3)
DM 18 (2,208,483)	Record of influenza immunisation	Treatment	85	3	316,524	14.3%	13.5% (10.0-17.6)
DM 21 (2,198,307)	Record of retinal screening	Measure	90	5	151,046	6.9%	5.7% (3.4-9.1)
<i>Psychotic illness</i>							
MH 5 (55,061)	Lithium levels in the therapeutic range	Treatment	90	2	5,104	9.3%	0.0% (0.0-14.3)
MH 6 (386,804)	Comprehensive care plan documented	Treatment	50	6	50,708	13.1%	10.0% (4.3-17.8)
<i>Smoking</i>							
SMO 4 (1,917,513)	Smoking cessation advice (CHD, stroke, hypertension, diabetes, COPD, CKD, asthma, schizophrenia, psychosis).	Treatment	90	35	17,953	0.9%	0.6% (0.0-1.2)
<i>Stroke</i>							
STR 8 (899,455)	Total cholesterol \leq 5 mmol/l	Outcome	60	5	108,344	12.0%	10.4% (6.6-15.2)

STR 10 (899,362)	Record of influenza immunisation	Treatment	85	2	125,577	14.0%	13.3% (9.1-18.2)
STR 12 (596,262)	Treated with anti-platelet or anti-coagulant	Treatment	90	4	21,295	3.6%	2.6% (0.0-5.3)

*Available data do not differentiate between some reasons for exception reporting for these indicators, hence they were excluded from analyses relating to reasons for exception reporting.