

## Appendix 2. Selected Comorbidities

Comorbidity	Criteria
1 Hypertension	Code ever recorded
2 Depression	Code recorded in last 12 months OR $\geq 4$ anti-depressant prescriptions (excluding low dose tricyclics) in last 12 months
3 Diabetes	Code ever recorded
4 COPD	Code ever recorded
5 Cancer	Code recorded in last 5 years
6 Coronary Heart Disease	Code ever recorded
7 Alcohol Problems	Code ever recorded
8 Substance Misuse	Code ever recorded
9 Learning Disability	Code ever recorded
10 Multiple Sclerosis	Code ever recorded
11 Parkinson's Disease	Code ever recorded
12 Epilepsy	Code ever recorded AND antiepileptic prescription in last 12 months
13 Migraine*	Code ever recorded
14 Blindness	Code ever recorded
15 Anorexia & Bulimia	Code ever recorded
16 Chronic Sinusitis	Code ever recorded
17 Peripheral Vascular Disease	Code ever recorded
18 Inflammatory Bowel Syndrome	Code ever recorded
19 Treated Constipation*	Code ever recorded
20 Diverticular Disease of Intestine	Code ever recorded
21 Bronchiectasis	Code ever recorded
22 Schizophrenia	Code ever recorded/recorded in last 12 months OR Lithium prescribed in last 168 days
23 Prostate Disorders	Code ever recorded
24 Hearing Loss	Code ever recorded
25 Heart Failure	Code ever recorded
26 Thyroid Disorders	Code ever recorded
27 Psoriasis and Eczema	Read code ever recorded AND $\geq 4$ related prescriptions in last 12 months (excluding simple emollients)
28 Asthma	Read code ever recorded AND any prescription in last 12 months
29 Painful Condition	$\geq 4$ prescription only medicine analgesic prescriptions in last 12 months OR $\geq 4$ specified anti-epileptics in the absence of an epilepsy code in last 12 months
30 Atrial Fibrillation	Code ever recorded
31 Stroke	Code ever recorded
32 Rheumatoid Arthritis	Code ever recorded
<b>Included in Barnett's list, excluded from this study</b>	
33 Treated Dyspepsia	No valid set of codes developed due to increasing use of proton pump inhibitors use to prevent gastric side effects of medications
34 Anxiety	Significant overlapping with depression, thus little added value to included it as separate comorbidity
35 Chronic Kidney disease	No valid set of codes developed (time constrain, currently being developed)
36 Glaucoma	Significant overlapping with visual impairment, thus little added value to included it as separate comorbidity
37 Viral Hepatitis	No valid set of codes developed due to large proportion of ever recorder cases refer to asymptomatic and acute disease with no clinical relevance
38 Chronic Liver disease	No valid set of codes developed (time constrain, currently being developed)
39 Irritable bowel disease	No clinical relevance
40 Dementia	Inclusion criteria for this study

\*Different Criteria from Barnett *et al*<sup>13</sup>