

Supplementary Table 2

Comparison of the characteristics between those who were followed up for 8 months and those who were censored from this study cohort (N=86147)

	Censored n=12103 (14.0)	Followed up for 8 months n=74044 (86.0)	Standardized difference
Age (mean, SD)	41.0 (13.1)	42.2 (11.8)	-0.096
Sex, male	5740 (47.4)	37962 (51.3)	-0.078
Occupational status, employed	8101 (66.9)	48142 (65.0)	0.040
Cancer	1365 (11.3)	7763 (10.5)	0.026
Medical specialty, psychiatry	4277 (35.3)	21831 (29.5)	0.124
Psychiatric diagnosis			
None	4306 (35.6)	29991 (40.5)	-0.101
Mood disorder (F3)	2196 (18.1)	11788 (15.9)	0.059
Neurotic, stress-related and somatic disorder (F4)	3747 (31.0)	22785 (30.8)	0.004
Mood and neurotic disorders (F3 and F4)	1582 (13.1)	8026 (10.8)	0.071
Other disorders	272 (2.2)	1454 (2.0)	0.014
Multiple BZDs on first prescription	1515 (12.5)	8179 (11.0)	0.047
Type of BZD ^a			
Hypnotic	3918 (32.4)	22494 (30.4)	0.043
Anxiolytic	7353 (60.8)	47211 (63.8)	-0.062
Both	832 (6.9)	4339 (5.9)	0.041
Administration instructions ^a			
As needed	2992 (24.7)	18937 (25.6)	-0.021
Regular prescription: 1 week (1-7 days)	3815 (31.5)	22858 (30.9)	0.013
Regular prescription: 2 weeks (8-14 days)	3808 (31.5)	22324 (30.1)	0.030
Regular prescription: more than 2 weeks (\geq 15 days)	1488 (12.3)	9925 (13.4)	-0.033
Half-life of BZD ^a			
Short (< 12 h)	7858 (64.9)	48892 (66.0)	-0.023
Medium (12-24 h)	2236 (18.5)	12098 (16.3)	0.058
Long (\geq 24 h)	2009 (16.6)	13054 (17.6)	-0.027

Data presented as n (%) unless otherwise specified.

BZD, benzodiazepines and Z-drugs; SD, standard deviation.

a: Characteristics of BZD with the longest prescription days in the first prescription