

Supplementary Table 1 - All BNF Sections with corresponding Kendall's tau correlation coefficient, ordered by most negative to most positive. A more negative correlation coefficient indicates a higher rate of prescribing in areas with greater socioeconomic deprivation. r = correlation coefficient, n = number of prescriptions, p = p-value, D_1 = mean prescriptions per 1000 patients per 6 months in first decile (most deprived), D_{10} = mean prescriptions per 1000 patients per 6 months in tenth decile (least deprived). Section names with an asterisk (*) represent those pre-specified as sections of interest for our analysis.

BNF Chapter and Section	BNF Section Name	Number of drugs in section	r	n	p	D ₁	D ₁₀
3.1	*Bronchodilators	21	-0.4459	58,190	<0.0001	457.4	207.2
4.2	*Drugs used in psychoses and related disorders	29	-0.3858	76,420	<0.0001	204.2	101.7
3.2	*Corticosteroids (respiratory)	11	-0.3806	65,868	<0.0001	269.9	164.1
4.3	*Antidepressant drugs	27	-0.3785	88,480	<0.0001	1153.6	659.9
9.6	Vitamins	42	-0.3434	65,247	<0.0001	311.3	187.6
1.3	Antisecretory Drugs and Mucosal Protectants	11	-0.3391	46,146	<0.0001	819.5	537.4
4.8	Antiepileptic drugs	27	-0.3056	116,490	<0.0001	317.2	205.2
2.12	*Lipid-regulating drugs	19	-0.3054	47,641	<0.0001	657.5	457.6
6.1	*Drugs used in diabetes	66	-0.3004	118,520	<0.0001	456.8	307.0
1.1	Dyspepsia and Gastro-Oesophageal Reflux Disease	23	-0.2997	15,042	<0.0001	63.2	34.4
4.6	Drugs used in nausea and vertigo	14	-0.2842	26,914	<0.0001	120.7	70.2
2.6	Nitrates, Calcium channel blockers, and Other antianginal drugs	22	-0.2747	83,012	<0.0001	408.7	275.4
2.4	Beta-adrenoceptor blocking drugs	19	-0.2587	45,728	<0.0001	423.0	315.4
10.1	Drugs used in rheumatic diseases and gout	41	-0.2431	64,071	<0.0001	305.0	199.7
4.1	*Drugs used in substance dependence	10	-0.2373	17,101	<0.0001	20.3	28.8
2.9	Antiplatelet drugs	6	-0.2337	13,674	<0.0001	325.1	242.3
2.5	*Hypertension and heart failure	47	-0.2318	99,284	<0.0001	541.4	411.8
3.4	Antihistamines, Hypersensitivity, and Allergic emergencies	20	-0.2278	38,871	<0.0001	224.9	155.5
4.7	Analgesics	48	-0.2181	153,696	<0.0001	996.0	613.6
13.5	Preparations for eczema and psoriasis	16	-0.2123	17,416	<0.0001	28.4	18.4
13.12	Antiperspirants	2	-0.2080	2,141	<0.0001	2.3	0.9
13.9	Shampoo and other preparations for scalp and hair conditions	10	-0.2071	13,137	<0.0001	35.4	23.6
3.3	Cromoglycates, Related drugs, & Leukotriene Antagonists	5	-0.2062	7,812	0.0001	41.1	26.3
19.6	Acids	11	-0.2026	252	0.0003	0.4	0.0
9.1	Compound vitamin/mineral formulations	12	-0.1992	2,618	0.0001	4.6	1.5
19.2	Selective preparations	30	-0.1974	7,855	0.0001	15.7	8.9
4.5	Obesity	2	-0.1924	1,740	0.0002	4.9	1.6
1.6	Laxatives	36	-0.1874	43,570	0.0002	203.7	155.6
3.8	Aromatic inhalations	2	-0.1838	68	0.0023	0.9	0.0
3.7	Mucolytics	4	-0.1813	4,984	0.0004	28.2	14.2
7.1	Drugs used in obstetrics	1	-0.1785	15	0.0036	0.1	0.0
8.2	Drugs affecting the immune response (malignancy and immunosuppression)	7	-0.1755	15,208	0.0006	21.2	16.0
4.1	*Hypnotics and anxiolytics	20	-0.1755	35,272	0.0007	413.6	296.2

1.2	Antispasmodics & Other drugs altering gut motility	12	-0.1708	20,949	0.0008	76.4	55.8
3.1	Systemic nasal decongestants	6	-0.1666	2,914	0.0011	6.2	3.2
2.2	*Diuretics	19	-0.1625	26,786	0.0015	243.8	202.5
9.2	Fluids and electrolytes	13	-0.1535	9,722	0.0026	11.4	9.4
11.8	Miscellaneous ophthalmic preparations	18	-0.1445	20,735	0.0046	41.2	32.9
10.3	Soft-tissue disorders and topical pain relief	17	-0.1441	19,564	0.0048	101.1	81.1
9.9	Foods	16	-0.1379	3,126	0.0069	5.7	3.8
10.2	Drugs used in neuromuscular disorders	6	-0.1288	7,716	0.0116	48.5	21.8
1.4	Acute diarrhoea	3	-0.1263	4,181	0.0134	24.2	18.6
6.5	Hypothalamic and pituitary hormones and antioestrogen	6	-0.1199	5,608	0.0188	5.2	3.9
13.15	Miscellaneous topical preparations	4	-0.1190	31	0.0505	0.3	0.0
5.4	Antiprotozoal drugs	9	-0.1189	4,483	0.0199	38.4	20.7
5.1	*Antibacterial drugs	62	-0.1177	88,666	0.0212	347.7	290.6
6.6	Drugs affecting bone metabolism	9	-0.1157	8,391	0.0235	60.1	50.0
15.2	Local anaesthesia	11	-0.1137	8,137	0.0260	15.4	13.0
9.1	Anaemias and other blood disorders	20	-0.1101	20,883	0.0310	173.7	140.1
13.13	Wound management products	1	-0.1090	387	0.0446	0.6	0.0
1.9	Drugs affecting intestinal secretions	2	-0.1075	3,462	0.0352	3.2	2.2
1.5	Chronic bowel disorders	9	-0.1060	24,266	0.0379	26.5	21.4
5.5	Anthelmintics	1	-0.1050	1,238	0.0397	0.8	0.7
7.4	Drugs used for genito-urinary disorders	26	-0.1023	56,653	0.0452	166.2	139.8
8.1	Cytotoxic drugs (malignancy and immunosuppression)	6	-0.0997	3,342	0.0509	2.3	1.1
12.3	Drugs acting on the oropharynx	33	-0.0955	13,898	0.0614	19.6	17.0
9.12	Other health supplements	19	-0.0908	520	0.0909	0.7	0.0
6.2	Thyroid and antithyroid drugs	4	-0.0907	14,057	0.0756	283.0	243.3
1.7	Local preparations for anal & rectal disorders	16	-0.0887	14,729	0.0823	23.3	20.7
15.1	General anaesthesia	9	-0.0825	2,818	0.1060	2.9	2.2
12.2	Drugs acting on the nose	13	-0.0823	30,029	0.1068	107.3	93.1
13.1	Management of skin conditions	4	-0.0767	21	0.2055	0.1	0.0
2.11	Antifibrinolytic drugs and haemostatics	1	-0.0748	1,891	0.1431	5.3	4.1
7.3	*Contraceptives	25	-0.0705	34,506	0.1673	90.3	81.7
13.3	Topical local anaesthetics and antipruritics	6	-0.0705	4,259	0.1673	5.0	4.0
9.8	Metabolic disorders	4	-0.0640	164	0.2779	0.9	0.0
4.4	CNS stimulants and drugs used for ADHD	6	-0.0629	22,422	0.2182	31.7	20.2
19.13	Cordials/soft drinks	5	-0.0615	200	0.2932	1.3	0.0
13.11	Skin cleansers, antiseptics, and desloughing	19	-0.0540	3,104	0.2900	2.4	2.3
9.5	Minerals	22	-0.0462	9,871	0.3657	8.7	7.3
3.9	Cough preparations	10	-0.0442	5,360	0.3868	6.1	4.8
19.4	Single substances	14	-0.0439	96	0.4507	0.3	0.0
6.3	Corticosteroids (endocrine)	9	-0.0433	18,812	0.3968	67.7	61.4
1.8	Stoma care	2	-0.0426	4	0.4935	0.0	0.0
2.7	Sympathomimetics	2	-0.0412	759	0.4452	1.4	0.0
19.5	Other preparations	3	-0.0404	161	0.4882	0.7	0.0
13.1	Anti-infective skin preparations	31	-0.0399	26,272	0.4341	46.2	46.5

11.7	Local anaesthetics (eye)	3	-0.0389	80	0.4939	0.2	0.0
5.2	Antifungal drugs	7	-0.0385	9,237	0.4511	17.7	17.2
5.3	Antiviral drugs	12	-0.0312	7,349	0.5416	9.9	10.2
11.5	Mydriatics and cytoplegics	4	-0.0291	1,794	0.5686	1.2	0.5
19.14	Waters	1	-0.0234	516	0.6646	0.9	0.0
9.4	Oral nutrition	313	-0.0196	82,138	0.7010	86.9	80.4
2.1	Positive inotropic drugs	2	-0.0191	5,415	0.7087	18.6	17.5
8.3	Sex hormones and antagonists in malignancy	19	-0.0116	18,044	0.8198	22.6	21.9
13.4	Topical corticosteroids	29	-0.0071	63,498	0.8892	132.8	128.8
13.6	Acne and rosacea	15	-0.0053	18,560	0.9181	22.3	21.6
11.4	Corticosteroids and other anti-inflammatory eye preparations	22	-0.0002	15,105	0.9969	18.8	17.8
13.2	Emollient and barrier preparations	56	0.0034	56,075	0.9471	168.7	158.9
13.14	Topical circulatory preparations	1	0.0077	1,339	0.8818	1.0	0.0
2.8	Anticoagulants and protamine	14	0.0090	27,806	0.8605	128.6	122.4
19.9	Disinfectants, preservatives, and stabilising agents	1	0.0145	2	0.8158	0.0	0.0
6.7	Other endocrine drugs	8	0.0147	1,335	0.7735	1.0	0.1
19.1	Alcohol, wines, and spirits	1	0.0180	5	0.7723	0.0	0.0
2.3	Anti-arrhythmic drugs	6	0.0193	6,445	0.7049	6.0	4.7
9.11	Health supplements	20	0.0343	1,057	0.5091	0.8	0.0
11.3	Anti-infective eye preparations	12	0.0398	7,736	0.4356	15.2	16.9
13.7	Preparations for warts and calluses	8	0.0471	5,076	0.3561	3.6	4.3
13.8	Sunscreens and camouflagers	17	0.0500	7,598	0.3271	7.4	8.0
12.1	Drugs acting on the ear	14	0.0604	8,105	0.2368	17.9	18.6
4.9	Drugs used in Parkinsonism and related disorders	22	0.0611	34,479	0.2317	43.3	43.4
19.7	Base/Dil/Susp agents/Stabilisers	14	0.0831	5,577	0.1035	8.6	9.2
4.11	Dementia	4	0.0976	17,085	0.0559	46.3	58.1
11.6	Treatment of glaucoma	21	0.1109	32,715	0.0298	42.7	51.8
6.4	Sex hormones	37	0.1217	50,974	0.0172	71.5	83.0
7.2	Treatment of vaginal and vulval conditions	11	0.1406	15,470	0.0059	26.4	37.5
14.4	Vaccines and antisera	20	0.2176	8,557	<0.0001	8.5	13.1