

Supplemental material 2

		Groups of patients with average doses			Patients with >600mg/day	
		All patients prescribed pregabalin	≤600mg/day	>600mg/day	One provider (practice)	Multiple providers (practices)
		N (%) / M (SD)	N (%) / M (SD)	N (%) / M (SD)	N (%) / M (SD)	N (%) / M (SD)
Number of patients per group		53,049	52,172	877	295	582
Patient characteristics						
Gender	Male	21,004 (39.6)	20,468 (39.2)	536 (61.1)	190 (64.4)	346 (59.5)
	Female	32,045 (60.4)	31,704 (60.8)	341 (38.9)	105 (35.6)	236 (40.5)
Age (years)	12–17	22 (0.0)	22 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
	18–29	867 (1.6)	782 (1.5)	85 (9.7)	26 (8.8)	59 (10.1)
	30–39	1,996 (3.8)	1,808 (3.5)	188 (21.4)	40 (13.6)	148 (25.4)
	40–49	4,472 (8.4)	4,271 (8.2)	201 (22.9)	56 (19.0)	145 (24.9)
	50–59	9,434 (17.8)	9,252 (17.7)	182 (20.8)	71 (24.1)	111 (19.1)
	60–69	9,768 (18.4)	9,677 (18.5)	91 (10.4)	47 (15.9)	44 (7.6)
	≥ 70	26,490 (49.9)	26,360 (50.5)	130 (14.8)	55 (18.6)	75 (12.9)
Place of residence	Urban area	23,862 (45.0)	23,413 (44.9)	449 (51.2)	137 (46.4)	312 (53.6)
	Rural area	29,119 (54.9)	28,694 (55.0)	425 (48.5)	157 (53.2)	268 (46.0)
Approved indications						
	Epilepsy	1,968 (3.7)	1,882 (3.6)	86 (9.8)	18 (6.1)	68 (11.7)
	Generalised anxiety disorder	3,068 (5.8)	2,958 (5.7)	110 (12.5)	25 (8.5)	85 (14.6)
	Neuropathic pain	39,829 (75.1)	39,249 (75.2)	580 (66.1)	184 (62.4)	396 (68.0)
	Neuropathic pain (broad definition)	42,120 (79.4)	41,505 (79.6)	615 (70.1)	203 (68.8)	412 (70.8)
	Multiple	3,293 (6.2)	3,186 (6.1)	107 (12.2)	21 (7.1)	86 (14.8)
	None of the indications recorded in the records	9,283 (17.5)	9,098 (17.4)	185 (21.1)	71 (24.1)	114 (19.6)
Medical pre-conditions with increased risk of abuse						
	Substance use disorders	6,414 (12.1)	6,049 (11.6)	365 (41.6)	104 (35.3)	261 (44.8)
	Addictive disorder drug (alcohol)	43 (0.1)	41 (0.1)	2 (0.2)	0 (0.0)	2 (0.3)
	Addictive disorder drug (tobacco)	2 (0.0)	2 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
	Addictive disorder drug (opioids)	258 (0.5)	182 (0.3)	76 (8.7)	16 (5.4)	60 (10.3)
Drugs with potential for abuse						
	Benzodiazepine	9,665 (18.2)	9,367 (18.0)	298 (34.0)	69 (23.4)	229 (39.3)
	Opioids	23,886 (45.0)	23,527 (45.1)	359 (40.9)	108 (36.6)	251 (43.1)
	Psychostimulants	288 (0.5)	263 (0.5)	25 (2.9)	9 (3.1)	16 (2.7)
Contemporaneous prescription of gabapentin		2,973 (5.6)	2,890 (5.5)	83 (9.5)	25 (8.5)	58 (10.0)
Prescription networks and structural characteristics						
	Number of prescriptions	6.34 (3.28)	6.23 (2.91)	12.70 (10.17)	8.76 (5.46)	14.69 (11.35)
	Number of prescribers (physicians)	1.79 (1.03)	1.77 (0.89)	3.12 (3.91)	-	-
	Number of prescribers (practices)	1.59 (0.87)	1.57 (0.73)	2.86 (3.61)	-	-
Medical speciality of initial prescriber						
	GP	32,911 (62.0)	32,344 (62.0)	567 (64.7)	204 (69.2)	363 (62.4)
	Anaesthesiology	1,935 (3.6)	1,908 (3.7)	27 (3.1)	11 (3.7)	16 (2.7)
	Orthopaedics	1,209 (2.3)	1,192 (2.3)	17 (1.9)	2 (0.7)	15 (2.6)
	Neuroscience	4,292 (8.1)	4,223 (8.1)	69 (7.9)	20 (6.8)	49 (8.4)
	Neurology	5,039 (9.5)	4,984 (9.6)	55 (6.3)	26 (8.8)	29 (5.0)
	Psychiatry and psychotherapy	2,341 (4.4)	2,289 (4.4)	52 (5.9)	18 (6.1)	34 (5.8)
	Other	5,322 (10.0)	5,232 (10.0)	90 (10.3)	14 (4.7)	76 (13.1)
	Proportion of specialists among prescribers	0.31 (0.40)	0.31 (0.40)	0.31 (0.38)	0.30 (0.46)	0.31 (0.34)
	Care density among physicians ¹	47.97 (70.61)	48.29 (70.67)	33.23 (66.43)	-	-
	Care density among practices ¹	17.42 (35.77)	17.54 (35.84)	12.90 (32.76)	-	-
	Maximal geographic distance [in kilometres]	6.86 (26.63)	6.71 (26.24)	15.98 (43.27)	-	-