

Indicator specification:

PLDR collection of population health indicators

Prescribing indicators - Oral Anticoagulants (P_1_18)



Version: 2.00

Date: March 2026

Authors: Konstantinos Daras & Benjamin Barr

Overview

Indicator title

Prescribing indicators - Oral Anticoagulants (P_1_18).

Indicator family name

Prescribing indicators.

Summary

This indicator measures the number of Oral Anticoagulants that are prescribed on a quarterly basis by all practices in England, including GP practices. Numbers are given for the total number of items prescribed/dispensed and the total net ingredient cost (NIC) since 2011, across areas of England.

Technical description

The data covers NHS prescriptions of Oral Anticoagulants (see Appendix I) written in England and dispensed in the community in the UK. Prescriptions written in England but dispensed outside England are included. The data includes prescriptions written by GPs and other non-medical prescribers (such as nurses and pharmacists) who are attached to GP practices.

To allocate the prescribed items to each LSOA area, the Patients registered at a GP practice at Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level was used. Patients Registered at a GP Practice dataset is a quarterly publication by NHS Digital and provides count of patients by gender.

Additional information about the GP Practice Prescribing Chemical-level Data and Patients Registered at a GP Practice can be found at:

GP Practice Prescribing Chemical-level Data: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/practice-level-prescribing-data>

Patients Registered at a GP Practice: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/patients-registered-at-a-gp-practice>

Unique Identifier

P_1_18

Construction

Data sources

Denominator:

Mid-year population estimates for England, provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Population estimates are released in the summer following year end.

Numerator:

The number of Oral Anticoagulants that are prescribed on a quarterly basis by all practices in England at the LSOA level.

Data filters:

The denominator is the Mid-population estimates provided by ONS 2011-2020 and requires no filtering. The numerator is the number of Oral Anticoagulants prescribed quarterly and it is produced by filtering the following BNF codes from the entire prescribing dataset (see Appendix I).

Presentation

Breakdowns

Time period

Quarterly data: Q1 2011 – Q4 2025

Demographic

Person

Geographic

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) level in England

Disclosure control

This indicator has been produced using only publicly available datasets.

Output: p_1_18_{year}_{quarter}_LSOA.csv

Column name	Description
LSOA11	LSOA code
ALL_PATIENTS	Number of patients (estimation based on the GP patients population - quarterly published by NHS Digital).
ITEMS	Total prescribing items
NIC	Total Net ingredient cost
ALL_AGES	Mid-population estimates (ONS 2011-2020)
ITEMS_R	Total prescribing items rate
NIC_R	Total Net ingredient cost rate

Revision history

Version	Date	Summary of changes
2.00	March 2026	Update - up to Q4 2025
1.00	Aug 2019	First release

Appendix I

BNFCODE

0208020X0
0208020AA
0208020Y
0208020Z0