

*Index date* = date of the first NRT patch prescription.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

*Baseline period* — used to measure baseline patient characteristics; patients' baseline periods were from the start of the patient record to index date.

Minimum of 6 months.

*Follow-up period* — used to measure the study endpoints; patients' follow-up periods were from index date to the end of the patient record. Data was available until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

Minimum of 14 days.