4 Defining comorbidity - protocol

4.1 Approach to defining comorbidities

We used concomitant medications to identify comorbid conditions.

Previous studies have also used the WHO ATC criteria to define comorbid diseases, but usually in routine healthcare data with the goal being descriptive epidemiology, as in a recent paper by Huber et al.¹ We are not aware of any previous study which has used this approach for individual-level participant data from clinical trials, or to examine heterogeneity of treatment effects. To reduce non-differential misclassification bias, we have chosen definitions which we think favour specificity over sensitivity. (Table S4.2).

For each of the drug-based definitions in Table S4.2, reported concomitant medications were eligible if they were started at any time on or before starting the trial drug (or comparator) regardless of when they were stopped. Topical drugs are not included in the definitions except for M02 or S01E. Nor drugs with an inhaled or nebulised route of administration, except for R03 drugs.

This approach to defining comorbidities is a compromise between sensitivity and specificity and some misclassification is inevitable, reflecting the difficulty of inferring diagnoses from drug-usage. We have attempted to minimise the misclassification based on our understanding of clinical practice, with an emphasis on specificity over sensitivity.

For example, rather than assuming all participants taking a drug in the A02B class have an acidrelated disorder (Table S4.2) we have limited this definition to exclude participants also taking nonsteroidal drugs or any drug with anti-thrombotic actions (aspirin, antiplatelets, warfarin etc.). Similarly, we have not used aspirin to define cardiovascular disease because it is in widespread use for primary prevention.²

Moreover, while the ATC system is organised around therapeutic indications, not all indications are coded. This is because "A medicinal substance can be given more than one ATC code **ONLY** if it is available in two or more strengths or routes of administration with clearly different therapeutic uses." For example, finasteride is classified as a dermatological drug if low-dose and as a drug for benign prostatic hyperplasia if high-dose. Therefore, for a single strength and route of administration, there is only "one code, the main indication being decided on the basis of the available information."³

Moreover, the "main" WHO ATC indication is not necessarily the commonest indication. For example, in a US study of drug "mentions" in a representative database, >80% of mentions for gabapentin and amitriptyline were for off-label indications, predominantly pain.⁴ Similarly, in a Canadian study of antidepressant use in primary care, amitriptyline was "almost exclusively prescribed for off-label indications" most commonly for pain, insomnia, and migraine.⁵ These published findings are consistent with the clinical observation of members of our steering committee (and an independent epileptologist), that these drugs are predominantly used for pain. Despite this, the WHO ATC scheme does not include pain as an indication for these drugs, classifying gabapentin and pregabalin exclusively as antiepileptics and amitriptyline exclusively as an antidepressant.

Nor is there necessarily a code where routes/strengths do differ. For example, prochlorperazine is defined solely as an antipsychotic, despite being available in a buccal preparation for nausea. In this case the accompanying note states that "The substances in this group are sometimes used for other indications in much lower doses".

We had initially planned to add skin disease to the list of diagnoses, however we found that topical therapies were very poorly recorded in the trial data and so have opted to drop this from the comorbid disease definitions.

A tabular summary of the drug-based comorbidity definitions given in Table 4.2, the definitive description is contained in the R code R code for comorbid disease definitions.

4.2 Incomplete ATC coding

An additional complexity is caused by the fact that for certain trials, sponsors have only provided less specific codes (eg 3 or 4-character codes) and not 5-character codes which uniquely identify each class (7-character codes identifying each agent). Where this is the case, but the drug name with or without route and indication information have been provided, we assigned each potentially-relevant drug to a WHO ATC code using the US Government drug meta-thesaurus (RXNORM). Where neither the drug name, nor sufficiently detailed drug-class information is provided, we adopted a workaround suited to each definition (Table S4.2). This had a limited impact on the overall comorbidity totals, and only applied to inflammatory, pain, urological and erectile definitions (4.1). In the case of pain and inflamamtory definitions, the broader categorisation was used. For urological and erectile definitions, the narrower categorisation was used.

Table S4.1: Proportion of participants with definition met on basis of 3/4 character ATC code

Trials Pain Inflammatory Urological Erectile Table S4.2: Como	prbidity I	YODA 37 253 (5.7%) 148 (77.5%) 40 (21.6%) 40 (27.3%) Definitions	CSDR 82 832 (59 308 (8) 156 (12 181 (12	%) 1%) 2.7%) 2.5%)
Condition	ATC codes	ATC label		Exceptions/more specific definitions/notes
Acid related	A02A	ANTACIDS		
	A02B	DRUGS FOR ACID RELATED DISORDERS		Exclude where also taking M01A ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS, NON- STEROIDS, or B01 (antithrombotic) drugs Note this includes insulins and analogues, other blood glucose lowering drugs etc. It does not include cardiovascular prevention drugs We do not exclude metformin, although this is used to treat Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS).
Diabetes mellitus	A10	DRUGS USED IN DIABETES		
Thromboembolic disease, atrial fibrillation or valvular heart disease	B01AA	Vitamin K antagonists		Do not include if only 4- level codes are available.
	B01AE Direct thrombin inhibitors			Do not include if only 4- level codes are available.
	B01AF Direct factor Xa inhibitors			Do not include if only 4- level codes are available.
Cardiovascular	C01	CARDIAC THERAPY DRUGS		

Table S4.2: Comorbidity Definitions							
Condition	ATC codes	ATC label	Exceptions/more specific definitions/notes				
diseases	C04 C02	PERIPHERAL VASODILATORS ANTIHYPERTENSIVES					
	C07	beta-Adrenergic Blocking Agents	Except ?propranolol? or other ?C07AA Beta blocking agents, non- selective? non-selective beta-blockers where participant is also taking an N02C drug. Do not apply exclusion if these have only 4 or 5 characters (respectively).				
	C08	CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS					
	C09	AGENTS ACTING ON THE RENIN- ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM					
Urinary frequency and incontinence Erectile dysfunction Benign prostatic hypertrophy Glaucoma	G04BD	Drugs for urinary frequency and incontinence	If only-4-character code exclude.				
	G04BE	Drugs used in erectile dysfunction	If only-4-character code				
	G04C	DRUGS USED IN BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERTROPHY	If only 3-character code exclude. If only 3-character code define as eye disease.				
	S01E	ANTIGLAUCOMA PREPARATIONS AND MIOTICS					
Arthritis and arthralgia	M01A	ANTIINFLAMMATORY AND ANTIRHEUMATIC PRODUCTS, NON- STEROIDS	If only 3-character code define as arthritis and arthralgia, but accept some misclassification possible as indications for penicillamine include ?conditions associated with impaired copper metabolism? eg Wilson?s disease and gold is used to treat dermatological conditions.				
	M01B	ANTIINFLAMMATORY/ANTIRHEUMATIC AGENTS IN COMBINATION TOPICAL PRODUCTS FOR JOINT AND					
	M02	MUSCULAR PAIN					
Osteoporosis (or risk factors for osteoporosis)	M05	DRUGS FOR TREATMENT OF BONE DISEASES					
Gout	M04	ANTIGOUT PREPARATIONS	Although allopurinol is being used for other indications, this is unlikely to be widespread.				
arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, systemic lupus	A07EA	Corticosteroids acting locally	Where only 3-character codes are provided, define as any A07				

Table S4.2: Comorbidity Definitions ATC Exceptions/more specific Condition **ATC** label codes definitions/notes erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Where only 3- character codes are provided, define A07EC Aminosalicylic acid and similar agents as any A07 Where only 3- character L04AB Tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNF-) inhibitors codes are provided, define as any L04 Where only 3- character codes are provided, define L04AA Selective immunosuppressants as any L04 Other immunosuppressants (includes Where only 3- character L04AX methotrexate,azathioprine, and codes are provided, define lefluonomide) as any L04 Do not define if only 3character code is available. If only 4-character code M01CBGold preparations available define, since only other agent is an obscure drug oxycinchophen Do not define if only 3character code is available. If only 4-character code M01CCPenicillamine and similar agents available define, since only other agent is an obscure drug oxycinchophen D05 **ANTIPSORIATICS** Do not define if only 3-N02C ANTIMIGRAINE PREPARATIONS Migraine character code is available If only 3-character code Pain N02A OPIOIDS available define as pain OTHER ANALGESICS AND N02B **ANTIPYRETICS** Prochlorperazine is included in this class. If individual drug data available exclude if Schizophrenia prochlorperazine. If 5-N05A ANTIPSYCHOTICS and delusional character code available exclude ?N05AB disorders Phenothiazines with piperazine structure?. If only 4-character code is available do not define. Mood, neurotic If only 3-character code and sleep N05B ANXIOLYTICS available do not define. disorders If only 3-character code N05C HYPNOTICS AND SEDATIVES available do not define Except amitriptyline. If drug

term not available

N06A ANTIDEPRESSANTS

Table S4.2: Comorbidity Definitions							
Condition Epilepsy	ATC codes	ATC label	Exceptions/more specific definitions/notes Except where drug is pregabalin, gabapentin or valproic acid. If specific drug is not given, and if indication for drug is not stated proceed as follows. If only a 5-character code is provided exclude N03AX (which includes gabapentin and pregabalin) and N03AG				
			(includes valproic acid). This will reduce sensitivity, but improve specificity. If only a 4-character code is provided do not attempt to define.				
Parkinson?s disease and Parkinsonism	N04	ANTI-PARKINSON DRUGS					
Dementia	N06D	ANTI-DEMENTIA DRUGS	Do not define if only 3- character code is available				
Chronic lower respiratory disease	R03	DRUGS FOR OBSTRUCTIVE AIRWAY DISEASES					
Thyroid disorders Skin diseases	H03 D02A	THYROID THERAPY DRUGS EMOLLIENTS AND PROTECTIVES					
	D04	ANTIPRURITICS, INCL. ANTIHISTAMINES, ANESTHETICS, ETC.					
	D06	ANTIBIOTICS AND CHEMOTHERAPEUTICS FOR DERMATOLOGICAL USE					
	D07	CONTICOSTEROIDS, DERMATOLOGICAL PREPARATIONS					

4.3 Mapping ATC codes to READ codes

We mapped the ATC codes to Read codes (which are used in the SAIL data) off-line, using the NHS Business Authority mappings⁶ and, for some more recent drugs such as novel antidiabetic drugs, by manually mapping between ATC and Read codes. The mapping was very good, even retaining information on route. For example the READ code for topical beclomethasone preparations mapped to different ATC codes to those for oral preparations.

4.4 Suppression of comorbid conditions

For all three data sources, comorbid diseases were excluded if these were considered to be identical to the main condition (Table S4.3). For example, a patient/participant with asthma could not be considered to have airways disease as a comorbidity. This inevitably involved clinical judgements, for example pain was not suppressed for rheumatoid arthritis as we considered that where inflammation was fully controlled, pain may not be present, while the patient would nonetheless have clear evidence of the disease. In contrast, given that osteoarthritis is essentially a degenerative process, we

concluded that the diagnosis was of doubtful validity in the absence of at least some pain. These exclusions were nonetheless applied identically across all three cohorts.

Not defined as comorbid Indication Alzheimer's Disease Dementia Alzheimer's Disease Schizophrenia and delusional disorders Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, Ankylosing Spondylitis systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Ankylosing Spondylitis Arthritis and arthralgia Chronic lower respiratory disease Asthma Atrial Fibrillation, Stroke Cardiovascular diseases Thromboembolic disease, atrial fibrillation or valvular heart Atrial Fibrillation, Stroke disease Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia Benign prostatic hypertrophy Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia Urinary frequency and incontinence Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria (Ciu) systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases **Diabetes Mellitus Diabetes mellitus** Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2 Diabetes mellitus Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; **Diabetes mellitus** Hypertension Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Hypertension Hypertension Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Renal **Diabetes mellitus** Insufficiency Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Renal Renal Insufficiency Erectile Dysfunction, Benign Erectile dysfunction Prostatic Hyperplasia Erectile Dysfunction, Benign Benign prostatic hypertrophy Prostatic Hyperplasia Erectile Dysfunction, Benign Urinary frequency and incontinence Prostatic Hyperplasia Thromboembolic disease, atrial fibrillation or valvular heart Hypertension, Pulmonary disease Osteoporosis Osteoporosis (or risk factors for osteoporosis) Osteoporosis, Male Osteoporosis (or risk factors for osteoporosis) Osteoporosis: Hip Fracture Osteoporosis (or risk factors for osteoporosis) Parkinson Disease Parkinsons disease and Parkinsonism Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, Psoriasis systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Pulmonary Disease, Chronic Chronic lower respiratory disease Obstructive Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, Rheumatoid Arthritis systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Rheumatoid Arthritis Arthritis and arthralgia Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Thromboembolic disease, atrial fibrillation or valvular heart Thromboembolism disease

Table S4.3: Indication/condition pairs where the condition is not considered a comorbidity

Ulcerative Colitis; Crohn's Disease Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease,

Diabetes mellitus

disease

Thromboprophylaxis

Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

Thromboembolic disease, atrial fibrillation or valvular heart

Table S4.3: Indication/condition pairs where the condition is not considered a comorbidity Indication Not defined as comorbid systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Thromboembolic disease, atrial fibrillation or valvular heart Venous Thromboembolism disease Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's Disease systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, Ulcerative Colitis systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases Inflammatory arthropathies, inflammatory bowel disease, **Psoriatic Arthritis** systemic lupus erythematosus and connective tissue diseases **Psoriatic Arthritis** Arthritis and arthralgia Pain Migraine Migraine Migraine Osteoarthritis Pain Osteoarthritis Arthritis and arthralgia Parkinsons disease and Parkinsonism **Restless Legs Syndrome** Hypertension Hypertension Hypertension Cardiovascular diseases **Diabetic Nephropathies Diabetes mellitus Diabetic Nephropathies** Renal Arthroplasty, Replacement, Knee; Pain Thromboembolism Thromboembolism; Arthroplasty, Pain Replacement, Hip Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; **Diabetes mellitus** Hyperglycemia Rhinitis, Allergic, Perennial Chronic lower respiratory disease

4.5 Comorbidity counts

For the comorbidity count calculation, these concomitant medication definition pairs were also collapsed into a single condition (Table S4.4).

Table S4.4: Conditions as recorded on CSDR site

Definition 1Definition 2PainMigrainePainRheumatologic conditions

4.6 R code for comorbid disease definitions

Comorbid diseases were implemented, consistently across all datasts using the following R code.

```
library(tidyverse)
library(stringr)
# read in conmed data
conmed <- readRDS("Data/conmed_randomised_cleaned_no_contradictions.Rds") %>%
filter(!is.na(drug_class)) %>%
distinct()
rxnorm_bnf <- read_csv("Supporting/bnf_rxnorm_atc_codes.zip")
rxnorm_bnf <- rxnorm_bnf %>%
filter(!is.na(str))
###### Functions
PrintDrugChoices <- function(incld, excld = FALSE, mydf = conmed){</pre>
```

```
mydf2 <- mydf %>%
    mutate(incld = incld, excld = excld) %>%
    group by(trial, id) %>%
    mutate(excld = any(excld)) %>%
    ungroup() %>%
    filter(incld & !excld) %>%
    group_by(term, route classify, atc code) %>%
    count(sort = TRUE)
 mydf2
}
ApplyMedCriteria <- function(incld, excld = FALSE, print = TRUE, mydf = conmed) {</pre>
  PrintDrugChoices(incld, excld, mydf) %>% head(19) %>% print()
  mydf2 <- mydf %>%
   mutate(incld = incld, excld = excld) %>%
    group by(trial, id) %>%
    summarise(present = any(incld) & !any(excld))
  print( paste0(round(100* mean(mydf2$present), 1), "%"))
  mydf2
## Rename variables in dataset so do not ahve to rename code
conmed <- conmed %>%
  rename(atc code = drug class,
         trial = trial id trunc,
         route classify = route)
############# Define comorbidities based on concomitant medicaitons
## First remove aspirin from all analyses as is used widely as prophylaxis
## Similarly remove amitriptyline as most frequently used for PAIN not for depression,
anxietv etc
## Updated this code to be more specific, particularly for aspirin
DropDrugs <- function(mystring = "acetylsalicylic acid|aspirin") {</pre>
 x <- rxnorm bnf %>%
    filter(str_detect(str, mystring))
  x <- rxnorm bnf %>%
    filter (code %in% x$code | str %in% x$str) %>%
    transmute(term_lower = str, atc_code = str_sub(code, 1, 5))
 Х
}
aspirin codes <- c("A01DA05", "B01AC06", "N02BA01")</pre>
aspirin <- rxnorm bnf %>%
  filter(code %in% aspirin codes) %>%
  mutate(term lower = str to lower(str)) %>%
  distinct(term lower, code)
amitriptyline <- DropDrugs("amitriptyl")</pre>
pre_gab_val <- DropDrugs("gabapentin|pregabalin|valrpoate|valproic acid")</pre>
conmed <- conmed %>%
 mutate(term_lower = str_to_lower(term) %>%
           str replace ("/[0-9] {8,8}/", "") %>%
           str_trim()) %>%
 anti join(aspirin %>% select(term lower))
conmed <- conmed %>%
  anti join(amitriptyline %>% select(term lower))
conmed <- conmed %>%
  anti join(pre gab val %>% select(term lower))
## Antacids
# Note only antacid codes are A02A, A02B, A02X and the last is an empty category
antacids_included <- conmed$atc_code %>% str_sub(1, 4) %in% c("A02A", "A02B") |
  conmed$atc code %>% str_sub(1, 3) == "A02"
```

```
antacids_excluded <- (conmed$atc_code %>% str_sub(1, 4) %in% "M01A") |
  (conmed$atc code %>% str sub(1, 3) %in% "B01")
conmed ant <- ApplyMedCriteria(antacids_included, antacids_excluded)</pre>
## Diabetes
diabetes_included <- conmed$atc_code %>% str_sub(1, 3) %in% c("A10")
conmed diab <- ApplyMedCriteria(diabetes included)</pre>
## thromboembolic
tbe included <- str_sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 5) %in% c("B01AA", "B01AE", "B01AF")
conmed tbe <- ApplyMedCriteria(tbe included)</pre>
## Cardiovascular (CV)
cv codes <- paste0("C0", c(1,2,4,7,8,9))
cv included <- str_sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) %in% cv codes</pre>
cv excluded <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 4) == "N02C" &
 str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 5) == "C07AA"
# Where has only 4 digits cannot exclude beta-blockers, where only has 3 cannot exclude
antimigraine
conmed cv <- ApplyMedCriteria(cv included, cv excluded)</pre>
## Urinary incontinence
ur included <- str_sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 5) == "G04BD"</pre>
conmed ur <- ApplyMedCriteria(ur included)</pre>
## Erectile dysfunction (ED)
ed included <- str_sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 5) == "G04BE"</pre>
conmed ed <- ApplyMedCriteria(ed included)</pre>
## Urinary incontinence or ED
## If only 4 character code is available define as urinary incontinence or ED
ur ed included <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 4) == "G04B" & str length(conmed$atc code
) == 4
conmed ur ed <- ApplyMedCriteria(ur ed included)</pre>
## Benign prostatic hypertrophy (BPH)
bph included <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 4) == "G04C"</pre>
conmed bph <- ApplyMedCriteria(bph included)</pre>
## Urinary incontinence or ED or BPH, these are tiny proportions, probably ignore
## If only 3 character code is available define as urinary incontinence or ED or BPH
ur_ed_bph_included <- str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 3) == "G04" & str_length(conmed$atc_c</pre>
ode) == 3
conmed ur ed bph <- ApplyMedCriteria (ur ed bph included)
## Glaucoma
# drop isosorbide even though classified as an eye drug as is not a contemporary drug f
or glaucoma
glaucoma <- str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 4) == "S01E" &</pre>
 (is.na(conmed$term) | conmed$term != "ISOSORBIDE")
conmed gl <- ApplyMedCriteria(glaucoma)</pre>
## Arthritis and arthralgia
# Exclude FOLIC ACID from this as is very common and (despite class here)
# is not an M01AX code in WHO ATC
art <- ((str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 4) %in% c("M01A", "M01B") |</pre>
          str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 3) == "M02")) &
       (is.na(conmed$term) |
          conmed$term != "FOLIC ACID")
conmed art <- ApplyMedCriteria(art)</pre>
## Osteoporosis
ost <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) == "M05"</pre>
conmed_ost <- ApplyMedCriteria(ost)</pre>
## Gout
gou <- str_sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) == "M04"</pre>
```

```
conmed gou <- ApplyMedCriteria(gou)</pre>
## Inflammatory arthropathies, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease or conective tissu
e diseases
conmed inf <- ApplyMedCriteria(inf)</pre>
inf3 <- (!inf) & (str_length(conmed$atc_code == 3) &</pre>
                    str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) %in% c("A07", "L04", "D05"))
inf4 <- (!inf) & (str_length(conmed$atc_code == 4) &</pre>
                    str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 4) %in% c("M01C"))
conmed inf4 <- ApplyMedCriteria(inf4|inf3)</pre>
## Migraine
mig <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 4) == "N02C"</pre>
conmed mig <- ApplyMedCriteria(mig)</pre>
## Pain
pai <- str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 4) %in% c("N02A", "N02B") &</pre>
 (!str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 5) == "N02BA")
# Already excluded aspirin above
conmed pai <- ApplyMedCriteria(pai)</pre>
pai3 <- !pai & (str_length(conmed$atc code ==3) &
                  str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) == "N02")
#already excluded aspirin
conmed pai3 <- ApplyMedCriteria(pai3)</pre>
## schizophrenia and delusional disorders
sch include <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 4) == "N05A"</pre>
sch exclude <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 5) == "N05AB"</pre>
conmed sch <- ApplyMedCriteria(sch include, sch exclude)</pre>
# Anxiety and mood disorders
anx <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 4) %in% c("N05B", "N05A", "N06A")
# already excluded amitriptyline
conmed anx <- ApplyMedCriteria(anx)</pre>
## Epilepsy
epi <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) == "N03"</pre>
# Already excluded GABAPENTIN, PREGABALIN AND VALPROATE terms
# WIll also exclude 5-digit code when text is missing
pre gab val5 <- str length(conmed$atc code ==5) & is.na(conmed$term) & conmed$atc code
== "N03AX"
epi excld <- pre gab val5</pre>
conmed epi <- ApplyMedCriteria(epi, epi excld)</pre>
## Parkinson'd disease and Parkinsonism
pd <- str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 3) == "N04"
conmed pd <- ApplyMedCriteria(pd)</pre>
## Dementia
dem <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 4) == "N06D"</pre>
conmed dem <- ApplyMedCriteria(dem)</pre>
## Chronic lower respiratory disease (predominantly asthma and/or COPD)
resp <- str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 3) == "R03"</pre>
conmed resp <- ApplyMedCriteria(resp)</pre>
## Thyroid disease (hyper and hypothroidism incldued)
thy <- str sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) == "H03"
conmed thy <- ApplyMedCriteria (thy)
## Skin diseases
skn <- str_sub(conmed$atc_code, 1, 4) == "D02A" |</pre>
  str_sub(conmed$atc code, 1, 3) %in% c("D04", "D06", "D07")
```

```
conmed skn <- ApplyMedCriteria(skn)</pre>
## Combine all conditions into a single dataset
"conmed skn"
)
conmed all <- map(a, get)</pre>
conmed %>% distinct(company, trial, id) %>% nrow()
names(conmed all) <- str replace(a, "conmed ", "")</pre>
conmed all <- map2(conmed all, names(conmed all), ~</pre>
                     set names(.x, c("trial", "id", .y)))
conmed all <- reduce(conmed all, inner join)</pre>
## Create more informative labels for conditions
'pain', 'pain3', 'parkinsons', 'asthma_COPD', 'schizophrenia',
'thromboembolic', 'thyroid', 'urological', 'urological_or_ed', 'urological_o
r ed or bph',
           'skin')
smrs_all <- map(b, function(x) tapply(conmed_all[[x]], conmed_all$trial, mean))</pre>
names(smrs all) <- b lbl</pre>
b lkp <- b lbl
names(b lkp) <- b</pre>
other names <- setdiff(names(conmed all), names(b lkp))
names(other names) <- other names</pre>
b_lkp <- c(other_names, b_lkp)</pre>
names(conmed all) <- b lkp[names(conmed all)]</pre>
conmed_all <- trial_indic_drug %>%
  select(nct id, medicine, condition, trial) %>%
  inner join(conmed all)
## Collapse additional conditions
## Clearly very uncommon to have urological 3-level codes, so drop for simplicity
conmed all <- conmed all %>%
  mutate(pain = pain|pain3,
         inflammatory = inflammatory | inflammatory4) %>%
  select(-pain3, -inflammatory4, -urological or ed,
         -urological or ed or bph)
## set condition to null where it corresponds to the indication condition
## Rename and update now adding in YODA trials
## Solely YODA condition terms are "Crohn's disease", "Ulcerative colitis", "Psoriatic
arthritis",
# and "Migraine" the others appear in CSDR
condition match <- c("Alzheimer's Disease", "ankylosing spondylitis", "Asthma",</pre>
                     "Atrial Fibrillation, Stroke", "Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia",
                     "Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria (CIU)", "Diabetes Mellitus",
                     "Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2",
                     "Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Hypertension",
"Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Renal Insufficiency",
                     "Erectile Dysfunction, Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia",
                     "Hypertension, Pulmonary",
                     "Osteoporosis", "Osteoporosis, Male", "Osteoporosis; Hip Fracture"
```

```
11
```

```
"Parkinson Disease", "Psoriasis", "Pulmonary Disease, Chronic Obst
ructive",
                      "rheumatoid arthritis", "Systemic Lupus Erythematosus", "Thromboem
bolism",
                      "Thromboprophylaxis", "Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus",
                      "Ulcerative Colitis; Crohn's Disease",
                      "Venous Thromboembolism",
                      "Crohn's disease",
                      "Ulcerative colitis"
                      "Psoriatic arthritis",
                      "Migraine",
                      "Osteoarthritis",
                      "Restless Legs Syndrome",
                      "Hypertension",
                      "Diabetic Nephropathies",
                      "Arthroplasty, Replacement, Knee; Thromboembolism",
                      "Thromboembolism; Arthroplasty, Replacement, Hip",
                      "Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Hyperglycemia",
                      "Rhinitis, Allergic, Perennial")
conmed all <- conmed all %>%
  mutate(condition = case when(
    condition == "Rheumatoid arthritis" ~ "rheumatoid arthritis",
    condition == "Ankylosing spondylitis" ~ "ankylosing spondylitis",
    condition %in%
      c("Type 2 diabetes", "Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Hyperglycemia") ~ "Diabetes Mel
litus, Type 2",
    condition == "Alzheimer's" ~ "Alzheimer's Disease",
    TRUE ~ condition
  ))
names(condition match) <- condition match</pre>
condition match <- as.list(condition match)</pre>
condition match$`Alzheimer's Disease` <- c("dementia", "schizophrenia")</pre>
condition match$Asthma <- "asthma COPD"</pre>
condition match$`Atrial Fibrillation, Stroke` <- c("CV", "thromboembolic")</pre>
condition_match$`Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia` <- c("prostate", "urological")</pre>
condition match$`Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria (CIU) `<- "inflammatory"
condition_match$`Diabetes Mellitus` <- "diabetes"
condition_match$`Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2` <- "diabetes"</pre>
condition match Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Hypertension <- c("diabetes", "hypertensio
n")
condition match$`Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Renal Insufficiency` <- c("diabetes", "rena</pre>
1")
condition match$`Erectile Dysfunction, Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia` <- c("erectile", "</pre>
prostate", "urological")
condition_match$`Hypertension, Pulmonary` <- "thromboembolic"</pre>
condition match[c("Osteoporosis", "Osteoporosis, Male", "Osteoporosis; Hip Fracture")]
<- "osteoporosis"
condition match$`Parkinson Disease` <- "parkinsons"</pre>
condition_match$Psoriasis <- c("inflammatory", "skin")</pre>
condition match$`Pulmonary Disease, Chronic Obstructive` <- "asthma COPD"</pre>
condition_match[c("rheumatoid arthritis", "ankylosing spondylitis",
                   "Psoriatic arthritis")] <- map(
                     condition match[c("rheumatoid arthritis", "ankylosing spondylitis",
                                        "Psoriatic arthritis")],
                function(x) c("inflammatory", "arthritis"))
condition_match$`Systemic Lupus Erythematosus`<- "inflammatory"</pre>
condition match$Thromboembolism <- "thromboembolic"</pre>
condition match$Thromboprophylaxis <- "thromboembolic"</pre>
condition_match$`Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus` <- "diabetes"</pre>
condition_match[c("Ulcerative Colitis; Crohn's Disease",
                 "Crohn's disease",
                 "Ulcerative colitis")] <- "inflammatory"
condition match$`Venous Thromboembolism` <- "thrombembolic"</pre>
condition match$Migraine <- c("pain", "migraine")</pre>
condition_match$Osteoarthritis <- c("pain", "arthritis")</pre>
condition match$`Restless Legs Syndrome` <- c("parkinsons")</pre>
```

```
condition match$Hypertension <- c("hypertension", "CV")</pre>
condition match$`Diabetic Nephropathies` <- c("diabetes", "renal")</pre>
condition match$`Arthroplasty, Replacement, Knee; Thromboembolism` <- c("pain")</pre>
condition_match$`Thromboembolism; Arthroplasty, Replacement, Hip` <- c("pain")</pre>
condition match$`Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2; Hyperglycemia` <- "diabetes"</pre>
condition_match$`Rhinitis, Allergic, Perennial` <- "asthma COPD"</pre>
saveRDS (condition match, "Scratch data/index conditions matching comorbidities.Rds")
## For sail create as dataframe
# condition_match_df <- stack(condition_match)</pre>
# names(condition_match_df) <- c("conmed", "index")</pre>
# write csv(condition match df, "Outputs/index comorbid suppress.csv")
## Apply exclusion by setting each concomitant disease to FALSE if is also the indicati
conmed_all_final <- conmed_all
conmed_all_final2 <- conmed_all_final</pre>
for (condition slct in names(condition match)) {
 print(paste0(condition_slct, " - ", condition_match[[condition slct]]))
  conmed all final2[conmed all final$condition %in% condition slct,
                    names(conmed all final2) %in% condition match[[condition slct]]
                    ] <- FALSE
conmed all final <- conmed all final2</pre>
rm(conmed all final2)
saveRDS(conmed all final, "Data/comorbidity based on conmeds.Rds")
## Count conditions after have excluded index disease
# Avoid double-counting of pain
## Drop skin as concerns about completeness of recording
conmed all final count <- conmed all final %>%
  mutate(skin = FALSE,
         pain = if else(migraine|arthritis, FALSE, pain),
         arthritis = if_else(inflammatory, FALSE, arthritis))
# Create a disease count variable for each participant
conmed all final count <- conmed all final count %>%
 mutate (disease_count = NA)
conmed_all_final_count$disease_count <- rowSums(conmed_all_final_count %>% ungroup() %>
                                                    select(antacids:urological))
a <- table(conmed all final count$disease count)</pre>
round(100*cumsum(rev(a))/nrow(conmed all final count),2)
# Aggregate the disease count for each trial
conmed all final count agg <- conmed all final count %>%
  group by (nct id, disease count) %>%
  summarise(x = length(disease_count)) %>%
  group by (nct id) %>%
 mutate (n = sum (x)) \$ > \$
  ungroup() %>%
  mutate (prop = round (100 \times x/n, 1))
# Spread this to wide for easier examination
conmed all final count agg wide <- conmed all final count agg %>%
  select(nct_id, n, disease_count, prop) %>%
  spread(disease count, prop, fill = 0)
## Summarise the proportion of participants with each comorbidity within each trial
conmed all trial lvl <- conmed all final %>%
  select(-id) %>%
  group_by(trial, nct_id, medicine, condition) %>%
  summarise all(function(x) round(100*mean(x),1))
write_csv(conmed all trial lvl,
          "Outputs/Trial level counts of people with each disease based on concomittant
medicines.csv")
write_csv(conmed all final count agg wide,
```

"Outputs/Trial level counts of people with disease counts based on concomitta nt medicines.csv")