

Additional file 1

All medications are used in calculating the number of asthma-related dispensations as a covariate for asthma severity; but only a subset of the list is used for the case definition (refer to the right-most column)

| Medication categories | Active ingredient(s) | Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) | Drug Identification Numbers (DIN) | Used in case definition? |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Used in the 'narrow definition' of resource use (short list), also used for case-definition of asthma (see text) | | | | |
| Inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) | Beclomethasone | R03BA01 | 2242030, 2242029, 374407, 828521, 828548, 872334, 893633, 897353, 1949993, 1950002, 2079976, 2213710, 2213729, 2215039, 2215047, 2215055, 2216531 | Y |
| | Budesonide | R03BA02 | 2229099, 1978918, 1978926, 852074, 851752, 851760 | Y |
| | Fluticasone | R03BA05 | 2237247, 2237246, 2237245, 2237244, 2244293, 2244292, 2244291, 2174731, 2174758, 2174766, 2174774, 2213583, 2213591, 2213605, 2213613 | Y |
| | Ciclesonide | R03BA08 | 2285614, 2285606, 2303671 | Y |
| Short-acting beta-agonists (SABA) | Salbutamol | R03AC02 | 790419, 812463, 832758, 832766, 851841, 860808, 867179, 897345, 1926934, 1938851, 1938878, 1945203, 1947222, 1986864, 2022125, 2046741, 2048760, 2069571, 2084333, 2148617, 2154412, 2173360, 2208229, 2208237, 2208245, 2212315, 2212323, 2213400, 2213419, 2213427, 2213478, 2213486, 2214997, 2215004, 2215616, 2215624, 2215632, 2216949, 2231430, 2231488, 2231678, 2231783, 2231784, 2232570, 2232987, 2236931, 2236932, 2236933, 2239365, 2239366, 2241497, 2243115, 2243828, 2244914, 2245669, 2259583, 2326450 | Y |
| | | R03CC02 | 620955, 620963, 874086, 894249, 894257, 1932691, 2035421, 2063689, 2091186, 2146843, 2146851, 2164434, 2164442, 2165368, 2165376, 2212390, 2213435, 2213443, 2213451, 2261324 | Y |
| | Terbutaline | R03AC03 | 786616 | Y |
| | Orciprenaline | R03CB03 | 249920, 3891, 2236783, 2229862, 2152568, 2192675 | Y |
| Long-acting beta-agonists (LABA) | Salmeterol | R03AC12 | 2211742, 2214261, 2231129, 2136139, 2136147 | Y |
| | Formoterol | R03AC13 | 2230898, 2237224, 2237225 | Y |
| ICS and LABA in combination (ICS+LABA) | Budesonide, formoterol | R03AK07 | 2245385, 2245386 | Y |

| | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| | Fluticasone, salmeterol | R03AK06 | 2240835, 2245126, 2245127, 2240836, 2240837 | Y |
| Leukotriene receptor antagonists (LTRA) | Montelukast | R03DC03 | 2247997, 2238217, 2243602, 2238216 | Y |
| | Zafirlukast | R03DC01 | 2236606 | Y |
| | Zileuton | Not available in Canada | | |
| Anti-immunoglobulin E monoclonal antibody | Omalizumab | R03DX05 | 2260565 | Y |
| Inhaled mast cell stabilizers | Cromoglicic acid (cromolyn) | R03BC01 | 2231431, 2231671, 2046113, 534609, 555649, 261238, 638641, 2049082, 2219468 | Y |
| Theophylline | Choline theophyllinate | R03DA02 | 346071, 405310, 441724, 441732, 451282, 458708, 458716, 476366, 476390, 476412, 503436, 511692, 536709, 565377, 589942, 589950, 792934 | Y |
| | Theophylline | R03DA04 | 156701, 261203, 460982, 460990, 461008, 466409, 488070, 532223, 556742, 575151, 599905, 627410, 631698, 631701, 692689, 692697, 692700, 722065, 1926586, 1926594, 1926608, 1926616, 1926640, 1966219, 1966227, 1966235, 1966243, 1966251, 1966278, 1966286, 2014165, 2014181, 2230085, 2230086, 2230087 | Y |
| | Aminophylline | R03DA05 | 14923, 178497, 497193, 497193, 497207, 582654, 582662, 868450, 2014270, 2014289 | Y |
| Inhaled anticholinergics | Ipratropium bromide | R01AX03 | 2246084, 2246083, 2163705, 2163713, 2240508, 2240072 | N |
| | | R03BB01 | 2126222, 2243827, 2231494, 731439, 576158, 2247686, 824216, 2026759, 1950681, 2239131, 2216221, 2210479, 2231785, 2236934, 2236935, 2237134, 2237135, 2239627, 2231135, 2231136, 2231245, 2231244, 2097141, 2097176, 2097168 | N |
| | Ipratropium bromide, fenoterol | R03AK03 | 02148633 | N |
| | Tiotropium bromide | R03BB04 | 02246793 | N |
| Other beta-agonists | Epinephrine | R03AA01 | 2017555, 466417, 525103, 1927582 | N |
| | Ephedrine | R03CA02 | 2237085, 2229698, 2100231, 2100258, 2243148, 2236722, 2229678, 2219743, 2012111, 2229711, 38121, 2242961, 876534, 893323, 893331, 438847, 2242639, 2126419, 2126400 | N |
| | Isoprenaline | R03AB02 | 2017652 | N |
| | Orciprenaline | R03AB03 | 1923870, 1928449, 2017660, 254134, 3859 | N |
| Other corticosteroids | Cortisone | H02AB10 | 280437, 16241, 16446, 16438 | N |
| | Triamcinolone | H02AB08 | 2194090, 15016, 15024, 2194082 | N |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------|---|---|
| | Prednisone | H02AB07 | 610623, 598194, 550957, 312770, 252417, 210188, 868426, 868434, 868442, 21695, 232378, 607517, 508586, 156876, 271373, 271381 | N |
| | Prednisolone | H02AB06 | 21679, 2230619, 2152541, 2245532 | N |
| | Methylprednisolone | H02AB04 | 1934325, 1934333, 1934341, 30759, 30767, 36129, 30988, 2245406, 2245400, 2245408, 2245407, 2241229, 2231893, 2231894, 2231895, 2232750, 2232748, 2063727, 2063697, 2063719, 2063700, 36137, 2230210, 2230211, 30678, 30651, 30643 | N |
| | Betamethasone | H02AB01 | 2237835, 36366, 2063190, 176834, 28096, 28185 | N |
| | Hydrocortisone | H02AB09 | 888222, 888230, 888206, 888214, 30910, 30929, 872520, 872539, 878618, 878626, 30635, 30600, 30619, 30627 | N |
| | Dexamethasone | H02AB02 | 2261081, 2250055, 213624, 16462, 354309, 716715, 874582, 1977547, 664227, 2204274, 2204266, 295094, 285471, 489158, 2239534, 732893, 732885, 2260301, 2237044, 2260298, 2237046, 2237045, 1946897, 1964976, 1964968, 1964070, 2279363, 783900, 751863, 2311267, 2240687, 2240685, 2240684 | N |
| Other xanthines | Theophylline, combination | R03DA54 | 545090, 476374, 334510, 356123, 792942, 721301, 317225, 828718, 640093, 828726, 828742, 307548 | N |
| Other anti-allergic agents | Levocabastine | R01AC02 | 2020017 | N |
| | Ketotifen | R06AX17 | 2221330, 2176084, 2230730, 2218305, 2231680, 2231679, 600784, 577308 | N |