

Supplemental File: Common Conditions in Primary Care

Index

Search strategy	Page 1
Diagnostic coding legend for general conditions	Page 5
Diagnostic coding legend for specific conditions	Page 8
Characteristics of included studies	Page 13
Quality assessment of included studies	Page 14
Proportion of reasons for visits and problems managed	Page 15
Subgroup data	Page 16
Seasonality subgroups	Page 16
Clinician gender	Page 17
Patient gender	Page 18
Urban vs rural	Page 19
Ranking of general categories of conditions	Page 20

Supplement 1. Search strategy.

Databases searched:

OVID Medline (1946 to January 25, 2016), OVID EMBASE (1974 to January 25, 2016), SCOPUS, CINAHL (EBSCO, January 26, 2016), OVID EBM Reviews - Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (2005 to January 13, 2016), EBM Reviews - ACP Journal Club (1991 to February 2015), EBM Reviews - Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (1st Quarter 2015), EBM Reviews - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (January 2015), EBM Reviews - Cochrane Methodology Register (3rd Quarter 2012), EBM Reviews - Health Technology Assessment (1st Quarter 2015), EBM Reviews - NHS Economic Evaluation Database (1st Quarter 2015) and Sociological Abstracts

Medline

Database: Ovid MEDLINE(R) In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations, Ovid MEDLINE(R) Daily and Ovid MEDLINE(R) <1946 to 2016 January 25 Present>

Search Strategy:

- 1 (office visit* or general practi* or primary care or primary health care or family medicine or family doctor* or family physician* or family practice* or medical office or medical clinic or primary medical care).ti,ab. (172818)
- 2 exp *Primary Health Care/ or *"Office Visits"/ (68696)
- 3 exp *Physicians, Family/ (10285)
- 4 exp *Family Practice/ or *"Ambulatory Care"/ (56144)
- 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 (239479)
- 6 ((reason* or why or causes or common or complaints or conditions or diseases or disorders or problems) adj2 (attend* or present* or visit* or consult* or using)).ti,ab. (65952)
- 7 (Statistics & Numerical Data or Utilization).fs. or utiliz*.ti,ab. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier] (1032867)
- 8 5 and 6 and 7 (998)
- 9 ((common or prevalent or frequent*) adj1 (diagnoses or complaints or conditions or diseases or disorders or problems)).ti. (1110)
- 10 5 and 9 (82)
- 11 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.ti. or (Poseidon study not marrow).ti,ab. [mp=title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, keyword heading word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier] (139)
- 12 ((reason* or why or cause or causes or common or complaint* or condition or conditions or disease* or disorder* or problem*) adj2 (attend* or visit* or consult* or see) adj2 (doctor* or physician*)).ti. (15)
- 13 8 or 10 or 11 or 12 (1222)
- 14 remove duplicates from 13 (1201)

EMBASE

Database: Embase <1974 to 2016 January 25>

Search Strategy:

- 1 (office visit* or primary care or primary health care or family medicine or family doctor* or family physician* or family practice* or medical office or medical clinic).ti,ab. (151133)
- 2 exp primary health care/ or exp primary medical care/ or exp general practice/ or exp family medicine/ (189802)
- 3 *general practitioner/ (16704)
- 4 *"Ambulatory Care"/ (12167)
- 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 (267141)
- 6 ((reason* or why or cause or causes or common or complaint* or condition or conditions or disease* or disorder* or problem*) adj2 (attend* or present* or visit* or consult* or using)).ti,ab. (169419)
- 7 health care utilization/ or exp statistics/ or "utilization review"/ or utiliz*.ti,ab. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword] (868029)
- 8 5 and 6 and 7 (725)
- 9 ((common or prevalent or frequent*) adj1 (diagnoses or complaints or conditions or diseases or disorders or problems)).ti. (1277)
- 10 5 and 9 (90)
- 11 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.ti. or (Poseidon study not marrow).ti,ab. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, drug trade name, original title, device manufacturer, drug manufacturer, device trade name, keyword] (165)
- 12 ((reason* or why or cause or causes or common or complaint* or condition or conditions or disease* or disorder* or problem*) adj3 (attend* or visit* or consult* or see) adj3 (doctor* or physician*)).ti. (46)
- 13 8 or 10 or 11 or 12 (1010)

EBM Reviews

Database: EBM Reviews - Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews <2005 to January 13, 2016>, EBM Reviews - ACP Journal Club <1991 to December 2015>, EBM Reviews - Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects <2nd Quarter 2015>, EBM Reviews - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials <December 2015>, EBM Reviews - Cochrane Methodology Register <3rd Quarter 2012>, EBM Reviews - Health Technology Assessment <4th Quarter 2015>, EBM Reviews - NHS Economic Evaluation Database <2nd Quarter 2015>

Search Strategy:

- 1 (office visit* or general practi* or primary care or primary health care or family medicine or family doctor* or family physician* or family practice* or medical office or medical clinic or primary medical care).ti,ab. (15600)
- 2 exp *Primary Health Care/ or *"Office Visits"/ (1154)
- 3 exp *Physicians, Family/ (1)
- 4 exp *Family Practice/ or *"Ambulatory Care"/ (2)
- 5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 (15818)
- 6 ((reason* or why or causes or common or complaints or conditions or diseases or disorders

or problems) adj2 (attend* or present* or visit* or consult* or using)).ti,ab. (1826)
7 (Statistics & Numerical Data or Utilization).fs. or utiliz*.ti,ab. [mp=ti, ab, tx, kw, ct, ot, sh, hw] (14103)
8 5 and 6 and 7 (12)
9 ((common or prevalent or frequent*) adj1 (diagnoses or complaints or conditions or diseases or disorders or problems)).ti. (23)
10 5 and 9 (8)
11 National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey.ti. or (Poseidon study not marrow).ti,ab. [mp=ti, ab, tx, kw, ct, ot, sh, hw] (1)
12 ((reason* or why or cause or causes or common or complaint* or condition or conditions or disease* or disorder* or problem*) adj2 (attend* or visit* or consult* or see) adj2 (doctor* or physician*)).ti. (1)
13 8 or 10 or 11 or 12 (21)

CINAHL Searched January 26, 2016

<input type="checkbox"/> Select / deselect all <input type="button" value="Search with AND"/> <input type="button" value="Search with OR"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Searches"/>				
Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions	
<input type="checkbox"/> S15	(S10 OR S11 OR S13) AND (S9 AND S14)	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (264)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S14	S10 OR S11 OR S13	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (2,028)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S13	((reason* or why or cause or causes or common or complaint* or condition or conditions or disease* or disorder* or problem*) N2 (attend* or visit* or consult* or see) N2 (doctor* or physician*))	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (130)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S12	"Poseidon study" NOT marrow	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (0)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S11	National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (610)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S10	T1 ((reason* or why or causes or common or complaints or conditions or diseases or disorders or problems) N2 (attend* or present* or visit* or consult* or using))	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (1,305)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S9	S2 OR S3 OR S4 OR S5 OR S6 OR S8	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (26,930)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S8	S1 AND S7	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (26,122)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S7	utiliz* or statistic*	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (759,983)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S6	(MH "Office Visits/UT/SN")	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (493)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S5	(MH "Ambulatory Care/UT/SN")	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (911)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S4	(MH "Family Practice/UT/SN")	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (939)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S3	(MH "Physicians, Family/UT/SN")	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (519)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S2	(MH "Primary Health Care/SN/UT")	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (1,735)	
<input type="checkbox"/> S1	"office visit*" or "general practi*" or "primary care" or "primary health care" or "family medicine" or "family doctor*" or "family physician*" or "family practice*" or "medical office" or "medical clinic" or "primary medical care"	Search modes - Find all my search terms	View Results (95,630)	

Sociological Abstracts

ti(reason* OR why OR cause OR causes OR common OR complaint* OR condition OR conditions OR disease* OR disorder* OR problem) AND ti(attend* OR present* OR visit* OR consult* OR see OR utiliz*) AND ("primary care" OR "primary health care" OR "family physician" OR "family practi*" OR "family doctor*" OR "general practi*" OR "medical clinic*" OR "office visits" OR "primary medical care") = 22

SCOPUS

(TITLE("primary care" OR "primary health care" OR "family physician" OR "family practi*" OR "family doctor*" OR "general practi*" OR "medical clinic*" OR "office visits" OR "primary medical care")) and (TITLE(attend* OR present* OR visit* OR consult* OR see OR utiliz*)) and (TITLE(reason* OR why OR cause OR causes OR common OR complaint* OR condition OR conditions OR disease* OR disorder* OR problem*))

Google (Searched January 21, 2016)

(reasons or causes) (visit* or attend*) (doctor* or physician* or "primary care")

Supplement 2. Diagnostic coding legend for general conditions.

General Diagnostic Code Given for Systematic Review	Diagnostic Codes Used in Individual Studies
Blood/blood-forming organs	blood, blood forming organs and immune system blood, blood forming organs and immune mechanism blood blood/blood-forming organs
Breast	breast
Cancer	cancer cancers/neoplasms neoplasm
Cardiovascular/circulatory	cardiovascular/circulatory cardiovascular circulatory systems circulatory
Nervous system/sense organs	central nervous system nervous system/sense organs nervous system and sense organs neurological ear eye
Congenital	congenital
Dental	dental
Digestive	digestive gastrointestinal digestive system
Endocrine	endocrine, nutritional, metabolic diseases immunity disorders endocrine, metabolic, nutritional endocrine endocrine/nutritional/metabolic/immunity
General/unspecified	general and unspecified general unspecified general

	unspecified conditions all other diagnosis/unknown symptoms, signs, and ill-defined conditions symptoms non-specific
Hepatic	hepatic
Infectious/parasitic	infectious and parasitic diseases infectious/parasitic
Injury/poisoning	injury/poisoning injury and poisoning
Psychological	mental disorders psychological mental
Musculoskeletal	musculoskeletal musculoskeletal/connective tissue musculoskeletal and connective tissue muscular
Pregnancy/perinatal	pregnancy, child bearing, family planning pregnancy/childbirth/puerperium perinatal
Genitourinary	urological urinary urinary tract genito-urinary genitourinary genital tract gynaecology/infertility male genital female genital
Renal	renal
Respiratory	respiratory respiratory system
Skin/subcutaneous tissue	skin skin/subcutaneous tissue skin and subcutaneous tissue
Social problems	social

	social problems
Supplementary classification	actions (“therapeutic procedures”, “preventive procedures”, “operations”, “administration”) supplementary classification (ICD-9 - “Factors Influencing Health Status and Contact with Health Services”) check-up investigations (“examination”, “history”, “diagnostic procedures/lab test/radiology”)
Vaccines	vaccines

Supplement 3. Diagnostic coding legend for specific conditions.

Specific Diagnostic Code Given for Systematic Review	Diagnostic Codes Used in Individual Studies
Abdominal unspecified	Gastroenteritis/diarrhea Stomach pain, cramps Pain in the abdomen Intestines and peritoneum disease other Gastroenteritis Intestinal infectious disease Other localized abdominal pain Abdominal pain/cramps general Abdominal pain epigastric Diarrhoea Vomiting Nausea Abdominal complain/cramps
Acute MSK injury	Sprains strains joints and adjacent muscles
Acute otitis media	Ear and mastoid process diseases Otitis media Acute sup. otitis media Earache or ear infection Acute otitis media Ear pain/earache
Admin	Administrative procedure
Administrative medical	Physical for school or employment
Anemia	Anaemias Anaemia
Arthritis (not back)	Rheumatism excluding the back Arthritis Arthropathies and related disorders Pain in joint Osteoarthritis Arthritis/joint Swelling Knee symptoms Degenerative joint disease Knee symptoms/complaints Joint pain or symptoms Hand and finger pain or symptom
Asthma	Asthma
Back pain/spinal pain	Back complaint Dorsopathies Back symptoms

	Dorsalgia Low back symptoms Low back complaint excl radiation Neck pain Neck symptom/neck complaint excl headache Shoulder symptoms/complaints Shoulder pain or symptom
Bronchitis/bronchiolitis	Bronchitis Bronchiolitis Acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis
Cardiovascular	Ischaemic heart diseases Congestive heart failure Stroke/cerebrovascular accidents Coronary artery disease Chest pain and related symptoms Veins, lymphatic, and other circulatory diseases Pressure/tightness of heart Chest symptoms/complaints
Cellulitis	Skin and subcutaneous tissue infections Nonfungal skin infection
COPD	Obstructive airway diseases Pulmonary disease chronic obstructive and allied conditions
Cough	Coughing Cough
Depression/anxiety	Depression or anxiety Depression Anxiety Anxiety and nervousness Neurotic personality and other mental disorders Psychological disturbances Counselling Feeling anxious/nervous/tense
Dermatitis	Contact dermatitis Skin and subcutaneous tissues other inflammatory conditions Skin itch/eczema Skin rash Eczema Pruritus Rash generalized Local redness/erythema/rash
Diabetes	Type 2 diabetes

	Diabetes mellitus Diabetes
Dyspepsia	Gastro-esophageal reflux disease Peptic disease Dyspepsia/ulcers Esophagus stomach duodenal disease
Epilepsy	Epilepsy
Eye	Eye and adnexa disorders Red eye Eye pain
Fatigue	Malaise and fatigue General weakness/tiredness
Fever	Fever
Gynecology	Genital disease, other Female genital tract disorders, other Vaginal discharge
Headache	Headache, pain in head Headache
Hepatitis	Hepatitis
HIV	HIV/AIDS
Hypertension	Hypertension Hypertension/high blood pressure Essential hypertension Hypertensive disease Blood pressure test Hypertension, complicated Hypertension, uncomplicated
Hypothyroidism/endocrine	Hypothyroidism Endocrine gland disease, other
Immunization	Immunization/vaccination
Impacted cerumen	Impacted cerumen Hearing complaints excl H84
Infection unspecified	Virosis Infectious disease, other Mycoses
Influenza	Influenza
Leg symptoms	Leg symptoms Leg/thigh symptoms/complaints Foot and toe symptoms/complaints
Lipid	Lipid Disorder Hyperlipidemia Obesity/lipid disorders

	Dyslipidemia
Medication	Medication Prescription
Metabolic immunity disorders	Metabolic immunity disorders
Myalgia	Myalgia Muscle pain
Nutritional deficiency	Vitamin/nutritional deficiency
Pain not specified	Generalised body pain Pain, not specified Generalized aches and pains
Parasites	Helminthiasis Worms, other parasites Scabies and other acariases
Pharyngitis	Throat symptoms Acute sore throat Pharyngitis Symptom/complaint throat Swallowing problems
Pneumonia	Lower respiratory tract infections/pneumonia Lower respiratory infection Pneumonia Acute lower respiratory infection Resp infection other
Pregnancy	Pregnancy-related
Progress visit	Progress visit
Respiratory unspecified	Pain in respiratory system Shortness of breath/dyspnea Respiratory/pleuritic pain
Routine health maintenance	Health maintenance and prevention General medical examination Check up Routine health maintenance Well-baby examination Observation/health education/advice/diet
Sinusitis	Sinusitis Sinus problems Rhinitis Sneezing/nasal congestion
Skin unspecified	Skin lesion, not specified Skin and subcutaneous tissue diseases other Local swelling/papule/lump/mass Skin symptom/complaint, other
Sleep disturbance	Sleep disturbance

Social problems	Social problems
Symptoms unspecified	Symptoms, signs and illdefined Feeling ill Loss of appetite Other referrals not elsewhere classified Weight loss
Tuberculosis	TB Tuberculosis
Test follow-up	Other and unspecified test results Test results Blood test
Tonsillitis	Acute tonsillitis Recurrent tonsillitis
Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified	Common cold, rhinosinusitis Acute upper respiratory infection Upper respiratory infection Upper respiratory tract infections Upper respiratory tract infection URTI acute Upper respiratory tract diseases other Respiratory infections acute
Urinary tract infection	Urinary tract infection Cystitis Urinary system diseases, other Acute cystitis Recurrent UTI Acute urethritis Pyelonephritis Fungal UTI Catheter-associated UTI Urinary frequency/urgency Dysuria/painful urination Dysuria
Vertigo/dizziness	Vertigo/dizziness

Supplement 4. Characteristics of included studies.

Citation	Years of data collection	Total sampling duration (number of weeks)	Country	Specific area	Total patient population served	Total number of visits included	General system (SY) or specific (DX)	Patient reported (PT) or clinician reported (DR)	Name of coding system used	Results as number (N), percent (P), or rate (R)	Quality Score (out of 5)
Binns, 2007	2002	32 (continuous)	USA	national	N/A	597,176	SY, DX	DR	ICD-9-CM, PRINS	P	4
Britt, 1996	1990-1991	2 (per physician, over 12 months)	Australia	national	N/A	113,468	SY	PT, DR	ICPC	R	5
Britt, 2015	2014-2015	n/a (up to 100 encounters)	Australia	national	N/A	98,728	DX	PT, DR	ICPC-2	N, P, R	5
Brueton, 2010	2001-2002	26	South Africa	Eastern Cape	250,000	4,383	SY, DX	PT, DR	ICPC-2	N, P	3
Fleming, 2005	2001	52 (continuous)	England, Wales	national	325,850	N/A	DX	DR	ICD-9	R	3
Harrison, 2011	2009-2010	n/a (up to 100 encounters)	Australia	national	N/A	101,349	SY	PT, DR	ICPC-2	R	5
Mash, 2012	2010	1 (5 days over 1 year)	South Africa	national	2,780,270	18,856	SY, DX	PT, DR	ICPC-2	N, P	4
Ministry of Health, 2004	2001-2002	2 (per physician, over 18 months)	New Zealand	national	N/A	8258	SY	PT, DR	READ2	P (not practice subgroups), R (not season subgroups)	5
Mohan, 2003	2000	52 (continuous)	India	Mysore	N/A	N/A	DX	DR	N/A	P	1
Murphy, 2015	2008-2010	n/a (up to 100 encounters)	Ireland	national	503,823	16,899	SY	PT	N/A	N, P (not subgroups)	3
National Center for Health Statistics, 2014	2014	52 (1 week per physician)	USA	national	N/A	6,386	DX	DR	ICD-9-CM	N, P	5
Pace, 2004	1995-1998	208 (continuous)	USA	national	N/A	13,149	DX	DR	ICD-9	N (not subgroups), P	5
Pearson, 1996	1994-1995	52 (continuous)	England	Somerset	65,000	4,685	SY	DR	ICD-9	R	5
Probst, 2002	1996-1997	104 (continuous)	USA	national	N/A	19,409	DX	PT	ICD-10	P	5
Salvi, 2015	2011	1 day	India	national	N/A	204,912	DX	DR		P	2
Sayer, 1996	1990-1991	2 (per physician, over 12 months)	Australia	national	N/A	96,144	SY	PT, DR	ICPC	N	5
Soler, 2012	1995-2005 (Amsterdam), 2001-2005 (Malta), 2003 (Serbia)	132 (Amsterdam), 60 (Malta), 12 (Serbia) (all continuous)	Amsterdam, Malta, Serbia	national	15,318 (Netherlands), 9896 (Malta), 72,673 (Serbia)	838,896 (Netherlands), 70,177 (Malta), 207,323 (Serbia)	DX	PT	ICPC, ICPC-2	R	4
Wandell, 2013	2009-2011	104 (continuous)	Sweden	Stockholm County	1,987,827	3,810,843	DX	DR	ICD-10	N, P	1

Supplement 5. Quality assessment of included studies.

	Low quality		High quality
Representative sample of clinicians*	7		11
Representative sample of patients†	1	17	
Used a defined coding system	3	15	
Prolonged data collection (≥1 year)	4		14
Data collected prospectively (vs. retrospectively)	3	15	

*Considered a representative sample of clinicians if there was evidence for at least 2/3 of the following: mixture of male/female clinicians, mixture of years in practice, mixture of practice sizes.

†Considered a representative sample of patients if there was evidence for at least 2/3 of the following: mixture of male/female patients, mixture of urban/rural, range in patient age.

Citation	Representative sample of clinicians	Representative sample of patients	Defined coding	Prolonged data collection	Retrospective or prospective	Total score
Binns, 2007	1	1	1	0	1	4
Britt, 1996	1	1	1	1	1	5
Britt, 2015	1	1	1	1	1	5
Brueton, 2010	0	1	1	0	1	3
Fleming, 2005	0	1	1	1	0	3
Harrison, 2011	1	1	1	1	1	5
Mash, 2012	0	1	1	1	1	4
Ministry of Health, 2004	1	1	1	1	1	5
Mohan, 2003	0	0	0	1	0	1
Murphy, 2015	0	1	0	1	1	3
National Center for Health Statistics, 2014	1	1	1	1	1	5
Pace, 2004	1	1	1	1	1	5
Pearson, 1996	1	1	1	1	1	5
Probst, 2002	1	1	1	1	1	5
Salvi, 2015	0	1	0	0	1	2
Sayer, 1996	1	1	1	1	1	5
Soler, 2012	0	1	1	1	1	4
Wandell, 2013	1	1	1	1	0	4

Supplement 6. Proportion of reasons for visits and problems managed.

Reasons for visits	Top 3 (Britt, 2015)	Top 20 (Probst, 2002)	Top 30 (Britt, 2015)	Top 80 (Mash, 2012)	
Percent of visits	23%	46%	59%	83%	
Problems managed	Top 10 (Britt, 2015)	Top 10 (Brueton, 2010)	Top 23 (Pace, 2004)	Top 25 (Mash, 2012)	Top 35 (Britt, 2015)
Percent of problems	29%	52%	76%	53%	54%

Supplement 7. Subgroup data.

S7a. Seasonality subgroups

	New Zealand – General (Ministry of Health, 2004)				United States of America – Specific (Pace, 2004)			
	Autumn	Winter	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter	Spring	Summer
1	Supplementary classification	Respiratory	Supplementary classification	Supplementary classification	Hypertension	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified	Hypertension
2	Respiratory	Supplementary classification	Respiratory	Respiratory	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified	Hypertension	Hypertension	Routine Health Maintenance
3	Cardiovascular/ circulatory	Cardiovascular/ circulatory	Cardiovascular/ circulatory	Cardiovascular/ circulatory	Routine Health Maintenance	Routine Health Maintenance	Sinusitis	Diabetes
4	Nervous/ sense organs	Nervous/ sense organs	Nervous/ sense organs	Skin/ subcutaneous tissue	Sinusitis	Sinusitis	Routine Health Maintenance	Lipid
5	Injury/ poisoning	Injury/ poisoning	Injury/ poisoning	Nervous/ sense organs	Diabetes	Bronchitis/ bronchiolitis	Bronchitis/ bronchiolitis	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified
6	Skin/ subcutaneous tissue	Skin/ subcutaneous tissue	Musculoskeletal	Injury/ poisoning	Lipid	Asthma	Diabetes	Sinusitis
7	General/ unspecified	Psychological	Skin/ subcutaneous tissue	General/ unspecified	Bronchitis/ bronchiolitis	Acute otitis media	Lipid	Back pain/spinal pain
8	Musculoskeletal	Endocrine	General/ unspecified	Musculoskeletal	Arthritis (not back)	Diabetes	Back pain/spinal pain	Depression/ anxiety
9	Psychological	Musculoskeletal	Digestive	Psychological	Back pain/spinal pain	Depression/ anxiety	Depression/ anxiety	Arthritis (not back)
10	Digestive	Genitourinary	Genitourinary	Genitourinary	Depression/ anxiety	Arthritis (not back)	Arthritis (not back)	Asthma
11	Genitourinary	General/ unspecified	Infectious/ parasitic	Infectious/ parasitic	Asthma	Lipid	Asthma	Bronchitis/ bronchiolitis
12	Endocrine	Infectious/ parasitic	Psychological	Digestive	Acute otitis media	Back pain/spinal pain	Acute otitis media	Urinary tract infection
13	Infectious/ parasitic	Digestive	Endocrine	Endocrine	Pregnancy	Pregnancy	Urinary tract infection	Pregnancy
14	Cancer	Cancer	Cancer	Cancer	Headache	Headache	Dermatitis	Cardiovascular
15	Blood/ blood-forming organs	Blood/ blood-forming organs	Blood/ blood-forming organs	Blood/ blood-forming organs	Urinary tract infection	Urinary tract infection	Headache	Acute otitis media
16	Pregnancy/ perinatal	Pregnancy/ perinatal	Pregnancy/ perinatal	Pregnancy/ perinatal	Cardiovascular	Cardiovascular	COPD	COPD
17	Congenital	Congenital	Congenital	Congenital	COPD	COPD	Hypothyroid	Dermatitis
18					Dermatitis	Dermatitis	Pregnancy	Headache
19					Hypothyroid	Hypothyroid	Cardiovascular	Hypothyroid

S7b. Clinician gender subgroups

	Male Clinician – General	Female Clinician – General
	Australia (Britt, 1996 and Harrison 2011)	Australia (Britt, 1996 and Harrison 2011)
1	Respiratory	Respiratory
2	Musculoskeletal	Genitourinary
3	Skin/subcutaneous tissue	Cardiovascular/circulatory
4	Cardiovascular/circulatory	General/unspecified
5	General/unspecified	Skin/subcutaneous tissue
6	Nervous system/sense organs	Musculoskeletal
7	Digestive	Nervous system/sense organs
8	Endocrine	Digestive
9	Psychological	Psychological
10	Genitourinary	Endocrine
11	Pregnancy/perinatal	Pregnancy/perinatal
12	Blood/blood-forming organs	Blood/blood-forming organs
13	Social problems	Social problems

S7c. Patient gender subgroups

	Male Patient – General	Male Patient – Specific	Female Patient – General	Female Patient – Specific
	Ireland (Murphy, 2015), England (Pearson, 1996), Australia (Sayer, 1996)	England and Wales (Fleming, 2005)	Ireland (Murphy, 2015), England (Pearson, 1996), Australia (Sayer, 1996)	England and Wales (Fleming, 2005)
1	Respiratory	Symptoms unspecified	Respiratory	Symptoms unspecified
2	Skin/subcutaneous tissue	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified	Nervous system/sense organs	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified
3	Musculoskeletal	Arthritis (not back)	Skin/subcutaneous tissue	Arthritis (not back)
4	Digestive	Acute otitis media	Musculoskeletal	Gynecology
5	Nervous system/sense organs	Dermatitis	Cardiovascular/circulatory	Acute otitis media
6	General/unspecified	Hypertension	Genitourinary	Skin unspecified
7	Cardiovascular/circulatory	Back pain/spinal pain	Digestive	Hypertension
8	Genitourinary	Eye	General/unspecified	Back pain/spinal pain
9	Endocrine	Skin unspecified	Endocrine	Eye
10	Psychological	COPD	Psychological	Depression/anxiety
11	Supplementary classification	Depression/anxiety	Supplementary classification	Dermatitis
12	Injury/poisoning	Cellulitis	Blood/blood-forming organs	Urinary tract infection
13	Cancer	Acute MSK injury	Cancer	Abdominal unspecified
14	Infectious/parasitic	Infection unspecified	Injury/poisoning	COPD
15	Blood/blood-forming organs	Gynecology	Vaccines	Cellulitis
16	Vaccines	Dyspepsia	Breast	Infection unspecified
17	Social problems	Cardiovascular	Social problems	Acute MSK injury
18	Dental	Endocrine/hypothyroidism	Dental	Dyspepsia
19	Renal	Abdominal unspecified	Hepatic	Cardiovascular
20	Hepatic	Metabolic immunity disorders other	Pregnancy/perinatal	Cancer

S7d. Urban vs. rural subgroups

	United States of America – Specific (Probst, 2002)	
	Urban	Rural
1	Routine health maintenance	Routine health maintenance
2	Cough	Cough
3	Pharyngitis	Hypertension
4	Hypertension	Back pain/spinal pain
5	Fever	Progress visit
6	Progress visit	Pharyngitis
7	Acute otitis media	Dermatitis
8	Dermatitis	Acute otitis media
9	n/a*	Administrative medical
10	Abdominal unspecified	Medication
11	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified	Arthritis (not back)
12	Back pain/spinal pain	Upper respiratory tract infection, unspecified
13	Headache	Fever
14	Cardiovascular	Headache
15	Administrative medical	Abdominal unspecified
16	Medication	Cardiovascular
17	Diabetes	Diabetes
18	n/a*	
19	n/a*	
20	Arthritis (not back)	

*Not available - information in article was based on rural rankings and some urban conditions were not given.

Supplement 8. Ranking of general categories of conditions presenting to primary care.

Rank	Condition	Rank Score* (maximum score 17)	Number of Studies Included in (out of 6)	Highest Rank	Lowest Rank
1	Respiratory	16.8	6	1	2
2	Nervous system/sense organs	14.3	6	2	6
3	Cardiovascular/circulatory	12.8	6	3	10
4	Skin/subcutaneous	12.2	6	2	10
5	Musculoskeletal	11.7	6	3	8
6	General/unspecified	10.8	5	2	7
7	Digestive	10.3	6	5	11
8	Genitourinary	9.3	6	4	13
9	Endocrine	9.2	6	3	13
10	Supplementary classification	8	3	1	3
11	Psychological	7.2	5	7	12
12	Pregnancy/perinatal	3.8	3	7	16
13	Blood/blood-forming organs	3.7	4	11	13
14	Injury/poisoning	3.2	2	5	12
15	Social problems	2.8	3	12	13
16	Cancer	2.5	3	11	14
17	Infectious/parasitic	2.5	2	9	12

*Higher scores mean the condition was reported as a more common reason for visits in more studies.

†Studies included in this analysis were Binns et al. 2007, Brueton et al. 2010, Mash et al. 2012, Ministry of Health 2004, Murphy et al. 2015, Sayer & Britt 1996.