

Supplementary File One

BNF Category	Body System
1	Gastrointestinal
2	Cardiovascular
3	Respiratory
4	Central Nervous System
5	Infections
6	Endocrine
7	Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Urinary Tract Disorders
8	Malignancy and Immunosuppressants
9	Nutrition and Blood
10	Musculoskeletal and Joint Disorders
11	Eye
12	Ear, Nose and Oropharynx
13	Skin
14	Immunological Products and Vaccines
15	Anaesthesia

Table 1: Drug categories used in this analysis

Joint Formulary Committee. BNF 78: September 2019-March 2020. London: Pharmaceutical Press; 2019.

Step	Drug classification and example
Step 1	Non-Opioid ± Adjuvant Example: Paracetamol
Step 2	Weak Opioid ± Non-Opioid ± Adjuvant Example: Codeine
Step 3	Strong Opioid ± Non-Opioid ± Adjuvant Example: Morphine

Table 2: WHO Three step analgesic ladder