

Supplementary Table 1: Percentage of patients prescribed a type of opioid analgesic by year. *Table created by authors*

% Prescribed (n)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Codeine/Dihydrocodeine	48.7 (74/152)	42.0 (63/150)	33.9 (65/192)	40.9 (83/203)	45.8 (126/192)	48.2
Tramadol	22.4 (34/152)	17.3 (26/150)	13.6 (26/192)	14.3 (29/203)	15.2 (29/192)	17.5
Morphine MR	3.29 (5/152)	3.33 (5/152)	3.65 (7/192)	3.94 (8/203)	3.65 (7/192)	3.65
Oxycodone MR	0.00 (0/152)	0.00 (0/150)	0.52 (1/192)	2.48 (5/203)	1.56 (3/192)	0.73
Any opioid	71.7 (109/152)	60.7 (91/150)	49.0 (94/192)	58.4 (118/203)	55.2 (106/192)	60.0 (82/192)

Unpublished local data regarding 1060 patients referred for primary hip and knee arthroplasty between August – September 2012-2017. Medication data was extracted from General Practitioners referral letters.