

Table S1: Details of the unit costs assigned to health care resource use data and periods of work absence collected during follow-up

Health care resource	Unit Cost (£)	Source	Details
<i>Clinic sessions:</i>			
Consultant	£167 per hour	Curtis ¹ ; Section 13.5	Applied costs based on recorded clinic session times (minutes)
Nurse specialist	£79 per hour	Curtis ¹ ; Section 12.1	Applied costs based on recorded clinic session times (minutes)
<i>Hospital-based staff:</i>			
Medical consultant	£167 per hour	Curtis ¹ ; Section 13.5	Applied cost based on assumed 15-minute session time (i.e. £41.75 per session)
Surgical consultant	£170 per hour	Curtis ¹ ; Section 13.6	Applied cost based on assumed 15-minute session time (i.e. £42.5 per session)
Physiotherapist	£41 per hour	Curtis ¹ ; Section 11.1	Applied cost based on assumed 1-hour initial consultation (at £41) and 30-minute follow-up sessions (at £20.50 per session)
Occupational therapist (and Appliance officer)	£44 per hour	Curtis ¹ ; Section 11.2	Applied cost based on assumed 1-hour session times
Dietician	£35 per hour	Curtis ¹ ; Section 11.4	Applied cost based on assumed 30-minute session time (i.e. £17.50 per session)
Podiatrist	£11 per consult	Curtis ¹ ; Section 7.4	Applied cost based on 45-minute initial consultation (at £22) and typical 20-minute follow-up sessions (£11 per session)
A&E	£93	Curtis ¹ ; Section 6.1	Applied cost based on national average for the category: not leading to admitted
<i>Community-based staff:</i>			
General Practitioner	£35 per consult	Curtis ¹ ; Section 8.8b	Applied cost based on an average 11.7-minute surgery consultation
Social worker	£91 per hour*	Curtis ¹ ; Section 11.4	Applied cost based on assumed 60-minute session time (* inclusive of 50% time face-to-face and 50% time not face-to-face)
<i>Investigations:</i>			
Plain X-ray (and Ultrasound scan)	£55	DH ² ; Sheet TPCT_DIAGIM_OP	Based on the figure relating to currency code RA23Z (X-rays and US scans data pooled)
DEXA scan	£78	DH ² ; Sheet TPCT_DIAGIM_OP	Based on the figure relating to currency code RA15Z
MRI scan	£174	DH ² ; Sheet TPCT_DIAGIM_OP	Based on the figure relating to currency code RA01Z
<i>Medication:</i>			
Intra-articular joint injection	£2.11	BNF ³ ; Section 10.1.2	Based on Kenalog (triamcinolone acetonide with lidocaine, 40mg)
Intramuscular injection	£11.76	BNF ³ ; Section 10.1.2	Based on Methylprednisolone acetate (40mg)
Non-biologic DMARDs	12-month range: £33.24 to £1245	BNF ³	methotrexate (15mg Weekly, £36); sulfasalazine (2g daily, £280); hydroxychloroquine (200mg daily, £33); leflunomide (20mg daily, £1245); prednisolone (20mg daily, £51)
Biologic DMARDs	12-month cost range: £2145 to	BNF ^{3,4}	infliximab (3mg/kg every 8 weeks, £2728); etanercept (50mg weekly, £2145); rituximab (2×1g infusions twice yearly, £8382);

	£9295		adalimumab (40mg twice a month, £9295)
Analgesics	12-month cost range: £16.14 to £102.27	BNF ³	paracetamol (8×500mg daily, £45.58); cocodamol (8×500mg daily, £102.27); tramadol (2×100mg daily, £16.14)
NSAIDs	12-month cost range: £34.68 to £196.78	BNF ³	diclofenac (75-150mg 2-3 times daily, £35.48); ibuprofen (4×200mg daily, £36.00); naproxen (2×500mg daily, £89.75); etodolac (600mg twice daily, £148.66); celebrex (100-200mg twice daily, £196.78); meloxicam (7.5mg daily, £34.68)
<i>Admissions</i>			
Day-Case	£425.34	DH ² ; Sheet TPCTDCI	Based on weighted average figures for currency codes HD23B/C
Inpatient	£621.58 per day	DH ² ; Sheet TPCTEI	Based on weighted average figures for currency codes HD23B/C
<i>Out-of-pocket expenses</i>	n/a	As self-reported in patient questionnaire	Inclusive of medication costs, costs of daily living aids, costs of supplement foods, travel expenses, and private health care costs
<i>Lost work productivity</i>	Mean wage range: £7.04 to £25.25	ONS; ASHE ⁵ ; Table 15 (with gender stratification)	Based on self-reported time off work (days). Calculated as product of: days off work × (7 × hourly wage)

1. Curtis L. Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2009. Canterbury: Personal Social Services Research Unit, University of Kent, 2009.
2. Department of Health. NHS reference costs 2009-2010. Appendix NSRC04: National Schedule of Reference Costs 2009-10 for NHS Trusts and PCTs Combined. http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_123459
3. British Medical Association, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. British National Formulary. 57th ed. (March 2009). London: BMJ Group and RPS Publishing, 2009.
4. NHS dictionary of medicines and devices. www.dmd.nhs.uk. Accessed June 2011.
5. Office for National Statistics. Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2009 Results. ASHE 2009 Table 15 - Region by Occupation (4 digit SOC 2000). <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcn%3A77-210656>