

Appendix 1: Grouping of hospital activity categories

Pooled categories analysed	Original specialty group (ISD coding)			
Medicine	General medicine (A1) Geriatric medicine (AB) Cardiology (A2) Endocrinology and diabetes (A8) Endocrinology (A81) Diabetes (A82) Gastroenterology (A9) Renal medicine (AG) Respiratory medicine (AQ) Clinical genetics (A3) Infectious diseases (A6) Dermatology (A7) Homeopathy (AC) Neurology (AH) Rehabilitation medicine (AP) GP other than obstetrics (E12)			
	Surgical	General surgery (C1) General surgery excluding vasc & max (C11) Vascular surgery (C12) ENT (C5) Gynaecology (F2) Cardiac surgery (C41) Thoracic surgery (C42) Neurosurgery (C6) Plastic surgery (C9) Ophthalmology (C7) Urology (CB) Oral surgery (D3) Oral medicine (D4) Orthodontics (D5) Restorative dentistry (D6)		
		Musculoskeletal	Rheumatology (AR) Orthopaedic surgery (C8)	
			Oncology	Medical oncology (AD) Clinical oncology (H2) Haematology (J4) Palliative medicine (AM)
		Anaesthetics		Anaesthetics (C3)
		Psychiatry		General psychiatry (G1) Forensic psychiatry (G3) Psychiatry of old age (G4) Learning disability (G5)

