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Development and test-retest reliability of a new, self-report questionnaire assessing healthcare use and personal costs in people with Inflammatory Bowel Disease: the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Resource Use Questionnaire (IBD-RUQ)

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Introduction

Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), including Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC), is a chronic gastrointestinal tract condition of unknown aetiology. The prevalence of IBD is rising, due to the increasing population in cities and changes in diet and lifestyle^{1,2}. IBD management is complex and costly, with frequent hospitalisations, investigations, operations, use of expensive medicines, out-of-pocket costs and time-off work^{3,4}. Hence, the rising prevalence of IBD and high IBD-related costs can pose a significant financial burden to patients, health care systems and society.

Advances in medication and diagnostic tools have increased costs of IBD management, as reported in two large cohort studies in Germany⁵ and the Netherlands⁶. They also raised the importance of accurate measurement of healthcare and other resource utilisation as part of economic evaluations to inform resource allocation decisions. The most used method of obtaining data on resource use and costs in clinical research is through self-report questionnaires such as the widely used Client Service Receipt Inventory⁷. However, such generic questionnaires do not include particular categories such as travel expenses for health appointments and cost for purchases of medication, products, supplements and services specifically related to people with IBD;

This study details the development of the self-reported IBD Resource Use Questionnaire (IBD-RUQ) to measure healthcare resource use and costs among IBD patients from the perspectives of health services, patients and society. It reports IBD-RUQ's face and content validity, and test-retest reliability. The study is part of the broader IBD-BOOST (https://ibdboost.net) research programme, focusing on the

- evaluation on
 iBD by relieving the
 pain and urgency and enh.



Materials and Methods

Development phase

The initial set of resource items: The questions and resource use categories were initially informed from a questionnaire developed for an earlier project on faecal incontinence in IBD8. These questions captured key health care resource utilisation (i.e., contacts with health professionals, tests and investigations, hospital admissions and medications). Further questions about investigations, medication names and dosages (as recommended by the UK MHRA and European EMA government agencies), and out-of-pocket expenses were suggested by the investigators based on their clinical and research experience on IBD patients. Scoping review of existing resource use questions used in IBD: Following the initial selection of resource use items, we identified additional categories associated with IBD by conducting a scoping review of relevant questionnaires. The search was undertaken in PubMed restricted to the English language. We used a combination of search terms such as "inflammatory bowel disease", "Crohn's disease", "ulcerative colitis", "resource use questionnaire", "patient-reported outcome", and "resource use". We excluded IBD clinical-related measures and those developed specifically for children. We shortlisted and reviewed the studies collecting information about resources used by IBD patients. Selection of items: A multi-disciplinary team developed the questionnaire's first draft. Next, volunteers Crohn's Colitis UK from and patient charity (www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk) and people with IBD who had previously consented to be contacted were invited to contribute to the questionnaire's development. They provided comments on the draft questionnaire, particularly on the items associated

with personal expenses. This consultation resulted in a wide range of items comprising direct (e.g., visits to an IBD nurse), non-National Health Service (NHS) (e.g., transport to hospital appointments) and indirect (e.g., sick leave days from work) costs. The process of generating the final six core categories and resource use items included in the pilot version of the questionnaire is presented in **Figure 1**.

Face and content validity: The IBD-RUQ was piloted among 30 volunteers with IBD within the patient and public involvement group to test face and content validity. They anonymously filled in the draft version of the questionnaire and provided verbal and written feedback. Most questionnaires were completed online, and few were completed on paper during a face-to-face patient and public involvement event. The questionnaire's content was tested for questions' clarity and the items' completeness and refined based on the feedback received. For example, we ensured using lay language instead of clinical terms. We also included additional items (e.g., over-the-counter medications). In another round of testing, the revised version of the questionnaire was given to a convenience sample of 12 people waiting for consultations in an IBD clinic. No further issues or new suggestions emerged. The final IBD-RUQ is presented in **Appendix 1**.

Test-retest IBD-RUQ reliability study: patient recruitment and testing phase

To minimise any overlap between volunteers who provided feedback during the questionnaire's development and those participating in the survey, respondents were recruited using a different patient pool. Between March and April 2019, 103 people with IBD from the IBD-BOOST programme's database, were invited by email to participate. Another 55 people with IBD were verbally invited during an IBD patient conference.

The study's inclusion criteria were: aged 18 years or older, being diagnosed with IBD, residing in the UK, and providing written informed consent. The survey's invitation contained a link to the online information package describing the study's purpose, a brief screening page to check the eligibility versus the inclusion criteria, a consent form, and the questionnaire. Participants filled out the online questionnaire via the Survey Monkey platform (https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk) twice, with at least two weeks between the measurement occasions. To achieve an intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC) of 0.8 with a 95 % confidence interval ± 0.1 for the two repeated measures, we aimed to recruit at least 50 participants¹⁰. The retest invitation was sent out to participants who had completed the initial test survey with an enclosed £5 gift voucher to increase the likelihood of their response¹¹. One reminder e-mail was sent if the retest was not completed within a week of an invitation.

Sources of unit costs

We calculated the total costs per participant using individual-level resource use data. The unit costs for each category were obtained from official sources (**Appendix 2**). Productivity loss was estimated by multiplying the self-reported number of days offwork by the daily wage. A working week was assumed to have five working days. All unit costs are reported in British pound sterling (£) at 2019-20 prices, adjusted for inflation where necessary using the Hospital and Community Health Services Pay and Prices Index¹², with total costs per participant annualised.

Statistical analysis

Differences between test and retest values were examined using descriptive statistics. To test the reliability of multiple items scores from the same participant between the 2-week time gap, we calculated the ICCs using a two-way mixed-effect model with interaction for the absolute agreement. The reliability was categorised into "poor"

(ICC<0.5), "moderate" (ICC 0.5-0.75), "good" (ICC 0.76-0.9), and "excellent" (ICC>0.9)¹³. Missing values for quantities/frequency of individual resource items use for those who reported item use were imputed using mean imputation at individual-item level. The resource use was assumed to be zero, should both values for resource use and quantity were left unfilled or an answer for medication use was "unsure" and the corresponding frequency unfilled. All analyses were performed using Stata 16.1 (StataCorp, College Station, Texas, USA).

Ethical considerations

This study was approved by King's College London, UK ethics committee (MRA-18/19-8956). Participation in the survey was voluntary, and all participants provided ¿d befoi informed consent. The data were anonymised before the analyses, and participants were assured of anonymity.

Results

Development phase

Scoping review: A PubMed search identified 436 studies, of which 16 reported direct or indirect healthcare resource utilisation in people with IBD. Resource utilisation was assessed using web-based or written patient self-report questionnaires¹⁴⁻¹⁹, an electronic database^{3,4,20,21}, patients' records^{22,23}, or a combination of questionnaires and patients' records²⁴⁻²⁶. To measure the participants' productivity loss due to IBD, we adapted the question on productivity from the Work Productivity and Activity Impairment Questionnaire (General Health version 2.0)²⁷ to IBD.

IBD-RUQ: The final IBD-RUQ includes 102 items in six categories, with a recall period of three months. It is well known that longer recall-periods are subject to errors of omissions and underreporting while a shorter recall period can result in missing out on rare but expensive events²⁸. We opted for a three-month recall period as likely optimal in the context of a chronic condition such as the IBD²⁹. Service use questions have two response options (Yes/No), and quantitative questions (e.g., "number of visits") are numeric but not capped. The medication section also includes the additional response option "Unsure".

Participants' characteristics: Of 158 participants invited to participate in the survey, 55 (34.8%) completed the test questionnaire. Of them, 48 (87.3%) also completed the retest and were included in the analyses. 65% were female, the mean age of 56 (Standard Deviation (SD) 16) years, 46% were retired, and 60% reported having Crohn's disease. All other participants' characteristics can be found in **Table 1**. The seven participants who did not complete the retest survey were mostly male (71%),

- their mean age was 55 (SD 12) years, 43% were employed, and 57% reported having

 UC (Appendix 3).
- Acceptability and missingness: At test, the level of data missingness was less than 5% across most individual numeric variables, with few exceptions (**Appendix 4**). There were no missing data for the number of hospitalisations and days off-work due to IBD.

Validation phase

Reliability: Test-retest reliability of self-reported quantities of service use is shown in Table 2. The number of hospital admissions and working days off-work due to IBD reported by the participants had excellent reliability (ICC=1.00 and ICC=0.96, respectively). Good to excellent reliability was estimated for the number of outpatients visits to most secondary care specialists (ICC=0.85-1.00). However, there was poor to moderate reliability for the number of primary care visits (ICC=0.40-0.55). Intake quantities for most medication groups had good to excellent reliability (ICC=0.77-1.00), while diagnostics, except for magnetic resonance imaging scans (ICC=0.37), demonstrated moderate to good reliability (ICC=0.65-0.85). When aggregated, the diagnostics category had the highest reliability (ICC=0.86), and primary care visits category had the lowest reliability (ICC=0.58).

IBD-related costs

The mean annual IBD-related costs of study participants are presented in **Table 3** and their distribution in **Figure 2**. Extrapolating the 3-month costs from our study to yearly costs yielded mean annual costs of £5,926 (Standard Error (SE) £738) and £5,491 (SE £818) per participant at test and retest, respectively, with a mean difference of £435 (SE £513). Healthcare costs accounted for the most significant part of IBD-related costs, with over 84% of all incurred costs at both test (£5,066 (SE £681)) and

retest (£4,622 (SE £734)) with a mean difference of £444 (SE £490). Productivity loss due to IBD accounted for about 9%-10% of the overall costs both at test (£531 (SE £256)) and retest (£558 (SE £263)), with a mean difference of £28 (SE £78). Participants' out-of-pocket expenses accounted for about 5%-6% at both test (£329 .ed costs acros.
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.5). (SE £52)) and retest (£311 (SE £60)), with a mean difference of £19 (SE £40). The overall mean annual IBD-related costs across test and retest were £5,708 (SE £1102). The mean annual IBD-related costs of study participants were also startified by IBD diagnosis (Appendix 5).

Discussion

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study to develop a comprehensive selfreport resource use questionnaire designed for patients with IBD in the UK.

IBD-RUQ is unique as it provides a single, IBD-specific, all-inclusive self-reported instrument to measure IBD-related resources and costs. IBD-RUQ complements previous instruments and studies in IBD that focused on work productivity and activity impairment³⁰, health-related quality of life³¹⁻³³, and quality of care³⁴. Previous costing and cost-effectiveness studies of IBD in the UK have used medical records²², non-published patients' questionnaires and medical notes³⁵, patient diaries and hospital records³⁶ to quantify healthcare resource use. None of those existing tools included all categories of costs related to healthcare resource use, employment loss, and personal expenses.

Test-retest analyses also showed that IBD-RUQ is a reliable and valid instrument that can be used to measure service use and costs of adults living with IBD. Most sections of the IBD-RUQ achieved moderate to excellent test-retest reliability. In particular, outpatient hospital appointments and diagnostics sections showed good reliability. Visits to primary care services showed moderate overall reliability, with visits to a general practitioner or a nurse having poor reliability. We speculate this could be due to captured genuine service use differences in the two-week gap between test and retest. The suboptimal reliability of magnetic resonance imaging scan use could be due to either to confusion with the computer tomography use among participants or the possibility of the magnetic resonance imaging scan being performed in the time gap between the two assessments for assessing the participants' disease activity or intestinal inflammation.

Medication use demonstrated overall good reliability, which was expected, given that people with IBD regularly take medications to avoid disease relapses. Changes in healthcare use, are also possible within the two weeks between test and retest completion, which explains why reliability ranged from moderate to excellent per medication group and type. Specifically, the substantial use of corticosteroids among our participants, possibly, indicates that the majority of participants were experiencing flare-ups at the time of the study. This may have also resulted in higher average cost for medication and overall IBD costs in our study. The focus in the present study has been on the reliability of the IBD-RUQ and, therefore, disease activity was not recorded as it was not essential. In applications of the IBD-RUQ, researchers should, however consider using disease activity validated scales for CD³⁷ and UC³⁸ in conjunction with IBD-RUQ to enable interpretation of the reported resource use and costs. Hospitalisations and time-off work reporting had excellent and good reliability, respectively, supporting the hypothesis that more significant disease episodes (such as hospital admissions) are likely to be remembered.

Our results also suggested that older patients with IBD incur lower costs than younger patients. We estimated that participants of 55 years of age or less, on average, incurred 20% higher IBD-related total costs primarily due to costs associated with time taken off-work due to IBD symptoms. People with IBD in employment accrued 8% higher costs than those not in employment. Future studies could consider recording actual work-related income and measuring workplace presenteeism to precisely assess productivity loss due to IBD.

At the time of our study, most likely, participants were at the mild end of IBD spectrum as they reported high aminosalicylates use and fewer hospitalisations. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that patients with more severe IBD were less likely to participate

in the survey. Higher hospitalisation rates, and increased medication use and doses would result in higher healthcare costs. As reported, the mean total annual health care expenditure for patients with CD was lower than those with UC. This difference was driven by higher aminosalicylates use, which is the first treatment option for UC and a less often option in CD. In line with previous studies, CD patients in the study reported higher use of outpatient appointments, diagnostics and incurred higher out-of-pocket expenses ^{6,18}.

Our study has a number of limitations. First, although in this study, the reliability, and content and face validity of IBD-RUQ have been established, bias in self-reported questionnaires may influence the validity of our results. To address this, our next step is to assess the questionnaire's validity by comparing the self-reported hospital care use with hospital administrative data in a sub-sample of NHS IBD outpatients. Second, we did not record the completion time of IBD-RUQ and recognise that it may require considerable time. Future studies using the IBD-RUQ could measure its completion time to inform implementation plans. Also we did not include in the medication section of IBD-RUQ, the widely used, in people with IBD, generic mesalamine and opioids. We advise future users to modify IBD-RUQ to also include these drugs in the medication section. Third, our test-retest sample was small, and while useful to study questionnaire reliability and its costing, the results may not generalise well. Fourth, the study was limited to people living in the UK and to the circumstances at time of questionnaire development. Nevertheless, all items of healthcare resource use, employment and personal expenses included in this tool should generalise well to the IBD population internationally. Hence, we encourage users to adjust the specification of healthcare items to local settings and clinical guidelines.

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Conclusion

IBD-RUQ is a reliable and valid self-reported measure of resource utilisation and costs in adults with IBD. It can be used to estimate healthcare use, productivity losses and patient-related costs in people living with IBD. It is available for use in clinical trials and other research studies to assess the costs of IBD and cost-effectiveness of IBD interventions. We invite our colleagues to utilise it.

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Table 1: Participants characteristics at test and retest

	Test	Retest
	questionnaire	questionnaire
	(n=55)	(n=48)
Age (years), mean (SD)	55.8 (15.9)	55.9 (16.5)
Sex, women (%)	33 (60.0)	31 (64.6)
Self-reported diagnosis, n (%)	1	1
Crohn's disease or Crohn's colitis	31 (56.4)	29 (60.4)
Ulcerative colitis	22 (40.0)	18 (37.5)
IBD Unclassified	2 (3.6)	1 (2.1)
Employment status, n (%)*	I	l
Employed (inc. zero-hour contract or self-employed)	21 (38.2)	18 (37.5)
Retired	23 (41.8)	22 (45.8)
Student	3 (5.5)	3 (6.3)
Other †	5 (9.1)	4 (8.3)
letee		

Notes:

^{*} There are three missing observations at test and one at retest in the employment status category;

[†] Including unemployed and homemaker

Table 2: Test-retest reliability of IBD-RUQ in adult people with IBD

Type of resource use in the last THREE MONTHS	Test (n=48)	Retest (n=48)	Test-Retest (n=48)
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	ICC (95% CI)
Outpatient Visits/Contacts (Primary	/ Care)		
General Practitioner	0.7 (1.1)	0.6 (1.1)	0.40† (0.13-0.62)
General Practice Nurse	0.7 (1.6)	0.3 (0.7)	0.47† (0.22-0.66)
Pharmacist	1.5 (2.1)	1.1 (1.6)	0.55‡ (0.48-0.84)
Total	2.9 (3.7)	2.0 (2.4)	0.58‡ (0.35-0.74)
Outpatient Visits/Contacts (Second	ary Care)		
Gastroenterologist	0.5 (0.5)	0.4 (0.6)	0.62‡ (0.41-0.77)
Colorectal Surgeon	0.1 (0.5)	0.1 (0.4)	0.71‡ (0.54-0.83)
Rheumatologist	0.1 (0.3)	0.1 (0.2)	0.85§ (0.76-0.92)
Dietician	0.1 (0.3)	0.1 (0.3)	1.00" (1.00-1.00)
Psychologist	0.1 (0.4)	0.1 (0.7)	0.88§ (0.80-0.93)
Accident & emergency staff	0.3 (0.8)	0.2 (0.8)	0.74‡ (0.58-0.84)
IBD nurse	0.7 (1.3)	0.7 (1.4)	0.84§ (0.73-0.91)
Advice Line	0.5 (1.2)	0.6 (1.5)	0.88§ (0.79-0.93)
Total	2.3 (2.5)	2.3 (3.1)	0.84 [§] (0.73-0.91)
Diagnostic procedures and tests			3
Computerised tomography scan	0.1 (0.3)	0.1 (0.3)	0.73‡ (0.56-0.84)
Magnetic resonance imaging scan	0.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.2)	0.37† (0.10-0.59)
Colonoscopy	0.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.2)	0.65‡ (0.45-0.79)
Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.2)	0.66‡ (0.47-0.79)
Ultrasound	0.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.3)	0.74‡ (0.58-0.85)

Stool test (e.g. faecal calprotectin	0.4 (0.6)	0.4 (0.6)	0.85§ (0.75-0.91)
test)	0.4 (0.0)	0.4 (0.0)	0.03* (0.73-0.31)
Blood test	1.7 (1.8)	1.5 (1.6)	0.78§ (0.64-0.87)
Total	2.3 (2.2)	2.2 (2.1)	0.86 [§] (0.76-0.92)
Medication type (number of tablets/	suppositories/inje	ections)	
Aminosalicylates – tablet	146.4 (177.4)	131.3 (159.7)	0.77\§ (0.62-0.86)
Aminosalicylates – suppository/foam	17.5 (48.9)	14.0 (36.1)	0.84\\$ (0.73-0.91)
Immunosuppressants – tablet	36.8 (75.3)	35.0 (71.1)	0.93 (0.88-0.96)
Steroids - tablet	56.0 (158.9)	38.5 (152.0)	0.70‡ (0.53-0.82)
Steroids – injection/infusion	0.1 (0.2)	3.5 (24.2)	0.65‡ (0.44-0.73)
Supplements – tablet	60.1 (110.6)	37.6 (79.7)	0.81§ (0.67-0.90)
Biologics - injection/suppository	0.7 (1.7)	0.7 (1.7)	1.00" (1.00-1.00)
Total	317.5 (304.2)	260.6 (295.2)	0.77§ (0.62-0.87)
Hospitalisations	0.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.2)	1.00 (1.00-1.00)
Employment		1	
Time off work (days) due to IBD	1.1 (3.5)	1.1 (3.6)	0.96 (0.92-0.98)
		1	

Notes: *Where a resource use item was missing, this was imputed using the mean for the same resource use item for other users in the same category at the same assessment point; **Reliability classification of the ICC estimate (based on the 95% confident interval): values less than 0.5: poor (†); between 0.50-0.75: moderate (‡); between 0.76-0.90: good (§), greater than 0.90: excellent (II).

Table 3: Mean annual health care, productivity loss and out-of-pocket costs (UK£)

			Cost difference	Mean cost
Resource Use category	Test (n=48)	Retest (n=48)	(Test-Retest,	(Test, Retest)
			no adjustment)	
7,			Mean	Mean (SE)
	Mean (SE)	Mean (SE)	difference	
			(SE*)	
Outpatient Visits/Contacts (F	Primary Care)			
General Practitioner	125.0 (27.4)	104.5 (27.7)	20.5 (30.2)	114.7 (39.0)
General Practice Nurse	35.2 (11.7)	16.7 (5.0)	18.5 (9.1*)	25.9 (12.7)
Pharmacist	103.7 (21.1)	75.6 (16.1)	28.1 (17.7)	89.6 (26.5)
Total	263.9 (46.9)	196.7 (36.8)	67.1 (39.2)	230.3 (59.6)
Outpatient Visits/Contacts (S	Secondary Care)	19		
Gastroenterologist	275.6 (47.2)	240.0 (56.2)	35.6 (45.5)	257.8 (77.7)
Colorectal Surgeon	75.8 (37.9)	54.2 (31.9)	21.7 (26.6)	65.0 (49.5)
Rheumatologist	46.8 (34.5)	31.2 (21.8)	15.6 (15.6)	39.0 (40.9)
Dietician	26.3 (12.7)	26.3 (12.7)	0.0 (0.0)	26.3 (18.0)
Psychologist	16.5 (16.5)	27.5 (27.5)	-11.0 (11.0)	22.0 (32.1)
Accident & Emergency staff	79.1 (32.2)	65.7 (33.6)	13.4 (23.9)	72.4 (46.5)
IBD nurse	189.8 (49.2)	197.4 (54.3)	-7.6 (29.8)	193.6 (73.2)
Advice Line	51.3 (19.4)	67.4 (24.6)	-16.1 (11.0)	14.8 (22.3)
Total	761.3 (103.7)	709.7 (128.5)	51.6 (81.7)	735.5 (132.0)

Total healthcare costs	5065.6 (680.5)	4621.7 (733.6)	444.0 (489.5)	4843.7 (1000.6)
Hospital admissions due to IBD	93.8 (65.6)	93.8 (65.6)	0.0 (0.0)	93.8 (92.8)
Hospitalisations				
Total	3239.0 (633.3)	2814.7 (652.8)	424.3 (432.0)	3026.9 (909.5)
Biologics	1511.8 (555.7)	1767.7 (598.3)	-256.0 (256.3)	1639.8 (816.6)
Dietary supplements	13.9 (3.6)	10.5 (2.7)	3.5 (2.2)	12.2 (4.5)
Steroids	622.6 (278.5)	49.0 (24.1)	573.6 (273.9*)	335.8 (279.5)
Immunosuppressants	7.2 (2.2)	62.9 (38.3)	-55.7 (38.5)	35.1 (38.4)
Aminosalicylates	1083.5 (216.8)	924.6 (184.6)	158.9 (137.9)	1004.0 (284.7)
Medication			I	
Total	707.6 (215.5)	806.7 (259.3)	-99.1 (202.2)	757.2 (337.2)
Blood test	74.8 (11.4)	65.5 (10.1)	9.3 (7.2)	70.1 (15.2)
calprotectin test)	42.9 (9.8)	45.5 (10.6)	-2.7 (5.6)	44.2 (14.5)
Stool test (i.e. faecal	42.0 (0.0)	4E E (40.0)	2.7 (5.0)	
Ultrasound	38.5 (21.7)	38.5 (28.5)	0.0 (18.3)	38.5 (35.8)
endoscopy	132.8 (132.8)	265.5 (185.7)	-132.8 (132.8)	199.1 (228.3)
Colonoscopy Upper gastrointestinal	203.3 (101.1)	203.3 (101.1)	0.0 (133.9)	285.3 (227.9)
Scan	285.3 (161.1)	285.3 (161.1)	0.0 (135.9)	
Magnetic resonance imaging	58.5 (40.9)	87.8 (49.6)	-29.3 (51.0)	73.1 (64.3)
scan	75.0 (36.3)	18.8 (9.1)	56.3 (30.3)	46.9 (37.4)
Computerised tomography				

Overall costs	5925.7 (738.3)	5490.6 (817.9)	435.1 (512.8)	5708.2 (1101.9)
Total patient-related costs	329.2 (52.2)	310.5 (60.4)	18.7 (39.9)	319.9 (79.8)
travel	92.4 (19.0)	104.0 (30.9)	-11.7 (17.3)	98.2 (36.3)
Health appointment related				
Products, complementary & alternative Therapies	181.8 (41.5)	133.5 (33.2)	48.3 (24.9)	157.6 (53.2)
Symptom management	55.1 (15.9)	73.0 (23.7)	-17.9 (111.5)	64.0 (28.6)
Patient out-of-pocket expens	ses			
Productivity loss cost due to IBD**	530.9 (255.5)	558.4 (263.2)	-27.5 (77.8)	544.6 (366.7)
Productivity loss due to IBD				

Notes:

^{*} P-value <0.05 (using paired t-test)

^{**} Incurred by 9 and 7 participants in employment in the test and the re-test measurement occasions, respectively. An overview of the content included in each (sub)category can be found in Appendix 1.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We thank the reviewers and editor for their time in reviewing the manuscript and for their helpful comments. Please see below our responses to individual points.

Reviewer: 1

Comments to the Author

The paper is well written. There are a few questions arising from this paper:

1) What is the justification for having a disease specific questionnaire, when generic tools would cover all the relevant categories. Does a complete list of all possible drug brands aid or deter patients in completing a full list? With changes in drug formulations and brands this will need constant updating

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We have noted: "The most used method of obtaining data on resource use and costs in clinical research is through self-report questionnaires such as the widely used Client Service Receipt Inventory (*Beecham, J. and Knapp, M., 2015. Client Service Receipt Inventory*) aiming at specific resource use categories). However, such generic questionnaires do not include particular categories such as travel expenses for healthcare appointments and cost for purchases of medication, products, supplements and services specifically related to people with IBD." (lines 29-34)

As Resource Use Questionnaires are designed to capture information regarding all key resource use and/or costs, we included a comprehensive list of medications for IBD currently prescribed in the UK. Also, the electronic version of the questionnaire uses skipping patterns when certain types of medications are not used (e.g. biologics) so participants only answer the sections relevant to them.

The addition of "In the past three months, have you been prescribed any other medication?" question in the revised version of IBD-RUQ will allow participants to list any other medications (e.g. newly approved ones) and periodic updating will be beneficial.

2) How was the period of 3 months decided upon? What evidence is there that longer periods increase risk of omission?

AUTHORS' REPLY:

It is well known that longer recall-periods are subject to errors of omissions and underreporting while a shorter recall period can result in missing out on rare but expensive events (Janssen LM, Drost RM, Paulus AT, et al. Aspects and Challenges of Resource Use Measurement in Health Economics: Towards a Comprehensive Measurement Framework. PharmacoEconomics. 2021;39(9):983-993). We opted for a three-month recall period as likely optimal in the context of a chronic condition such as the IBD (Icks A, Dittrich A, Brüne M, et al. Agreement found between self-reported and health insurance data on physician visits comparing different recall lengths. Journal of clinical epidemiology. 2017;82:167-172). (lines 143-146)

3) Questions re contact with doctors do not specify whether a clinic appointment face to face, or telephone/online appointment, or a brief phone call for admin purposes etc. Costs must differ greatly AUTHORS' REPLY:

We agree with the reviewer and have noted in discussion that applications of IBD-RUQ should allow telephone, video and face-to-face consultation services will be listed separately to also allow the accurate calculation of their costs. (lines 261-263)

4) Many drugs have a tick box for 1, but then have 'other' category with no box. Patients may assume that the 'correct' dose is 1 tablet, when often it is a much larger dose.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We have included medication dosage as recommended by the UK (MHRA) and European (EMA) government agencies. However, participants are still able to indicate if they are taking different dosages from those listed by specifying the exact dose (free text) next to the "other" option.

5) There are exhaustive lists of brands for many drugs but not for calcium and vitamin D. Only Adcal D. Why??

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Adcal D3 is the most prescribed brand for calcium and vitamin D. Other brands such us Accrete are usually prescribed to other type of population (osteoporosis). We note that a further section where participants can add any other drugs (not currently listed) should be considered in IBD-RUQ application.

6) Ostomy supplies - costs vary widely and exact device and frequency of change would help to clarify costs

AUTHORS' REPLY:

An assumption that a (drainable – most common) stoma bag is replaced three times a week can be made. The cost for a stoma will be derived as the average price of stoma bags used in the NHS.

(http://www.drugtariff.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/#/00465833DB 1/DB00465168/COLOSTOMY%20BAGS)

7) There is no opportunity to specify prescribed dietary supplements

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Dietary supplements (except of vitamin and minerals listed in the questionnaire) are not prescribed on the NHS. "Dietary supplements" to be deleted from "prescribed medication" section in the next version of IBD-RUQ.

8) For inpatient stays - is it sufficiently clear that only the days in hospital during the previous three months should be included.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Question about inpatient stays includes in bold the recall period: "In the last three (3) months, have you been admitted into hospital for one or more nights".

9) It is not possible for patients to specify if they took a drug for only part of the three months. This would be common (eg prednisolone) and in that case the dose would vary week on week

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Yes, participants can record by adding a free text if the dose did vary week on week by selecting the "other" option on the "Number of times and frequency of dosage intake in the last 3 months" medication section.

10) Are medical costs incurred for non-IBD illnesses included or excluded.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Only IBD-related costs (medical costs incurred for non-IBD illnesses are excluded) are included as noted in RUQ questions' wording.

11) External validation of data available through NHS records -eg hospital stays, clinic appointments, and drug prescribing should be used for external validation

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We agree with the reviewer and have noted "although in this study, the reliability, and content and face validity of IBD-RUQ have been established, bias in self-reported questionnaires may influence the validity of our results. To address this, our next step is to assess the questionnaire's validity by comparing the self-reported hospital care use with hospital administrative data in a sub-sample of NHS IBD outpatients." (lines 243-247)

Reviewer: 2

Comments to the Author

This is a worthy attempt at addressing IBD resource utilisation and in that sense addresses an important unmet need.

Please clarify the following:

1.Please add a few lines on the IBD-Boost programme which is not known to the generalist readership. This will enable readers to contextualise the cohort invited to participate.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Done. We have noted that "The study is part of the broader IBD-BOOST (https://ibdboost.net) research programme, focusing on the development and evaluation of management interventions to improve the well-being of people with IBD by relieving the most common and troublesome chronic symptoms of fatigue, pain and urgency and enhancing quality of life." (lines 39-43)

2. Was disease activity consciously not recorded using any tool? I notice you do allude to this in the discussion and appropriately recognise that this is a limitation. Whilst this in itself is not a flaw, please explain if this was an omission or simply because of the study design

AUTHORS' REPLY:

The focus of this RUQ test-retest reliability study was on IBD-RUQ itself with very limited patient characterisation. However, researchers should consider adding more detailed patient characterisation in conjunction with IBD-RUQ to facilitate interpretation of the reported resource use and costs.

3.In your discussion you state that MRI scans are infrequently used and that there could be confusion with CT scans. Is it correct that MRI scans are infrequently used? The use of intestinal U/S is not yet cemented in UK practice, so how do you reconcile with this? It is possible that your patients had fewer scans during the period tested or may have had their scheduled appointment during this period etc but please clarify this comment.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We have added that: "The suboptimal reliability of magnetic resonance imaging scan use could be due to either to confusion with the computer tomography use among participants or the possibility of the magnetic resonance imaging scan being performed in the time gap between the two assessments for assessing the participants' disease activity or intestinal inflammation". (lines 206-210)

4. Also, is it really true that patients in remission consistently take their medication even when in remission?

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Particular medications for IBD (such as aminosalicylates, immunomodulators and biologics) are used regularly by people with IBD to maintain remission and, therefore, expected to be accurately reported.

5. Or that flare up symptoms are "rare" in IBD?

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We have rephrased this statement: "The substantial use of corticosteroids among our participants, possibly, indicates that the majority of participants were experiencing flare-ups at the time of the study." (lines 215-217)

6. You state that participants were more likely to be at the mild end of the IBD spectrum as they reported higher use of aminosalicylates and fewer hospitalisations. How do you assume that patients with more severe IBD were less likely to participate in the survey? Indeed, did you record this activity to be able to substantiate this comment? Or would you suggest that the questionnaire may not be applicable in the moderate to more severe disease spectrum?

AUTHORS' REPLY:

In this study the focus is on IBD-RUQ test-retest reliability of self-reported resource use rather than substantive costs valuation. We have noted that: "In applications of the IBD-RUQ, researchers should, however consider using disease activity validated scales for CD and UC in conjunction with IBD-RUQ to enable interpretation of the reported resource use and costs." (lines 220-223)

7. There did appear to be a substantial use of corticosteroids among your participants. Please comment and explain how that might relate to disease activity and resource utilisation?

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We have noted that: "The substantial use of corticosteroids among our participants, possibly, indicates that the majority of participants were experiencing flare-ups at the time of the study. This may have also resulted in higher average cost for medication and overall IBD costs in our study." (lines 215-218)

However, we would refrain from detailed interpretation of findings in view of limited study size and patient characteristics.

8. Strikingly it is unclear whether there are differences between people with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Additionally, what are the differences in 5ASA use among people with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis? That could have a bearing on your observations.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We have noted that: "the mean total annual health care expenditure for patients with CD was lower than those with UC. This difference was driven by higher aminosalicylates use, which is the first treatment option for UC and a less often option in CD." (lines 238-240)

However, due to the small size of our study and the disproportionate representation of IBDs (CD=29 and UC=18) we have to be careful when making direct comparisons between participants with CD and UC. Larger cross-sectional studies are required to enable us drawing safe conclusions between different types of IBD.

9. Did you not enquire regarding the use of generic mesalamine?

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Mesalamine was not included in the questionnaire as a generic (not aware of its availability at the time of designing the questionnaire) but as a brand-name drug of Asacol, Pentasa, Mezavant, Salofalk and Octasa. This has been acknowledged in limitations: "Also we did not include in the medication section of IBD-RUQ the widely used, in people with IBD, generic mesalamine and opioids. We advise future users to modify IBD-RUQ to also include these drugs in the medication section." (lines 250-253)

10. Was there no enquiry regarding opioid use?

AUTHORS' REPLY:

This is an omission on our part as opioids could be prescribed to IBD patients with chronic abdominal pain. This has been acknowledged in limitations: "Also we did not include in the medication section of IBD-RUQ the widely used, in people with IBD, generic mesalamine and opioids. We advise future users to modify IBD-RUQ to also include these drugs in the medication section." (lines 250-253)

11. You include subscription to a gym as an out-of-pocket expense. Is it ever likely that it will not be an out-of-pocket expense or does it not in fact align with healthy living? I am unable to understand how this question fits into the framework of IBD resource utilisation.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Physical activity is used to help reduce stress in people with inactive or mild IBD. Exercise may have beneficial effects on both the disease course and the quality of life of patients with IBDs (*Engels, M., Cross, R.K. and Long, M.D., 2018. Exercise in patients with inflammatory bowel diseases: current perspectives. Clinical and Experimental Gastroenterology, 11, p.1.*)

12. The study may provide an excellent opportunity for further iterations or validation in various cohorts. In your discussion please explain next steps and opportunities with further research and also how you see this integrate into clinical practice or service evaluation.

AUTHORS' REPLY:

We have noted that: "although in this study, the reliability and content and face validity of IBD-RUQ have been established, bias in self-reported questionnaires may influence the validity of our results. To address this, our next step is to assess the questionnaire's validity by comparing self-reported and hospital administrative data in a sub-sample of NHS IBD outpatients." (lines 243-247)

Thank you for taking the time to consider this and congratulations on a novel and interesting study.

Editor(s)' Comments to Author

Please include a section - what is known, what this study adds, implications for practice - please see instructions for authors

AUTHORS' REPLY:

Done.

What is already known on this topic

Self-report resource use questionnaires are lacking in IBD and, therefore, particular resources often used by this patient population such as IBD medication, products, supplements and services remain unidentified.

What this study adds

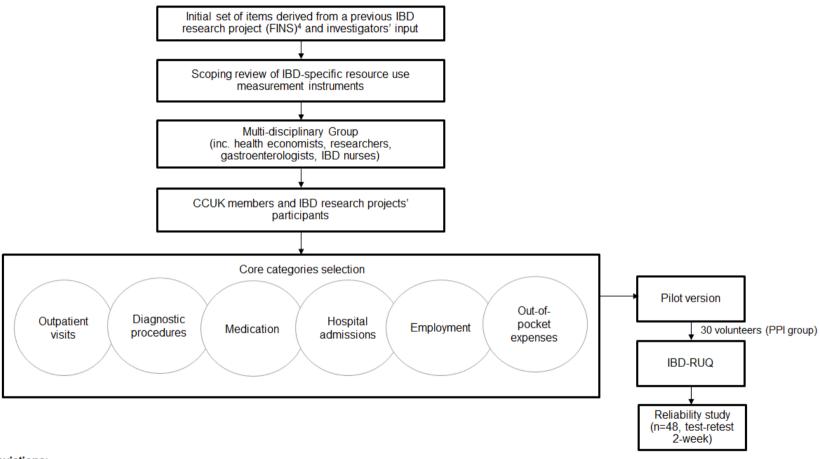
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at affect research, practice
oe used in research studies to ca. We present the first IBD-Resource Use Questionnaire (IBD-RUQ) to reliably measure resources and costs of patents with IBD from the perspectives of health services, patients and the society.

How this study might affect research, practice or policy

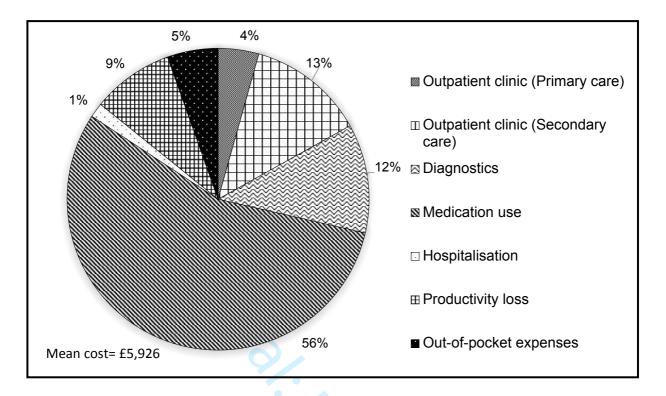
The IBD-RUQ can be used in research studies to capture resource utilisation and assess IBD-related costs.



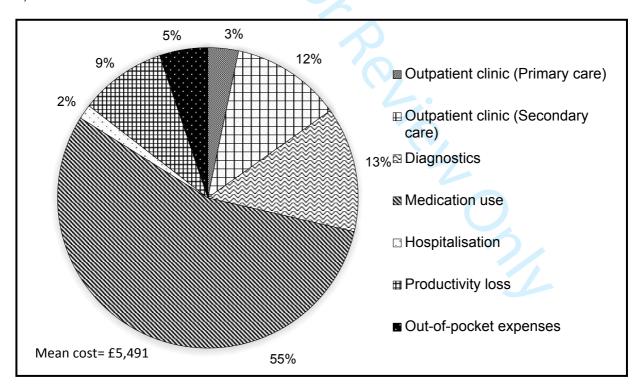
Abbreviations:

IBD: Inflammatory Bowel Disease; FINS: Faecal incontinence Intervention Study; CCUK: Crohn's and Colitis UK; PPI: Patient and Public Involvement; IBD-RUQ: Inflammatory Bowel Disease Resource Use Questionnaire

a) Distribution of IBD costs at Test



b) Distribution of IBD costs at Retest



Appendix 1: The IBD-Resource Use Questionnaire

The IBD Resource Use Questionnaire

RESOURCE USE
1 OUTPATIENT VISITS
In the last three (3) months, have you been seen by or contacted any of the following
health professionals for your inflammatory bowel disease? Please tick YES or NO to each
of the following
If yes, number of
visits or contacts in
Specialist doctor (Consultant or team): Yes No the last 3 months
Gastroenterologist
Colorectal surgeon
Rheumatologist
Other specialist doctor (please specify below):

If yes, number of visits or contacts in Other health professional: the last 3 months No Yes IBD nurse (by phone or in person) IBD advice line / helpline (by phone or by email) Stoma nurse Accident and Emergency (A&E) staff General Practitioner (GP) General Practice nurse Dietician **Psychologist** Pharmacist (by phone or in person) Other (please specify below):

2. DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES

In the last **three (3) months**, have you had any of the following diagnostic tests or procedures for your inflammatory bowel disease? Please tick yes or no for each.

If yes, number of tests in the last 3 **Test** months Yes No CT-Scan MRI-scan Colonoscopy Upper GI Endoscopy Ultrasound Stool tests (e.g. faecal calprotectin test) Blood test Any other test (please specify):

3. MEDICATIONS		
Medication name		Number of times and frequency of dosage intake in the last 3 months
METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION: BY MOUTH		
STEROIDS		
Budenofalk (budesonide) tablets 3mg	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □ twice (2) daily □ three (3) daily □ other (please specify): don't know □
Clipper (beclometasone dipropionate) tablets 5mg	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □ other (please specify): don't know □

Cortiment		once (1) daily □
(budesonide)	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	other (please specify):
tablets 9mg	Yes/No/Unsure	don't know □
		once (1) daily □
Entocort		twice (2) daily □
(budesonide)	Yes/No/Unsure	three (3) daily □
tablets 3mg	res/No/Offsure	other (please specify):
		don't know □
		once (1) daily □
	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) daily □
Medrone tablets 2mg		four (4) daily □
		other (please specify):
	72	don't know □
	7.	
		once (1) daily □
Medrone Tablets 4mg		twice (2) daily □
	March March Land	four (4) daily □
	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
		don't know □

Medrone	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □ twice (2) daily □ four (4) daily □
tablets 16mg		other (please specify): don't know □
Plenadren (hydrocortisone) tablets 5mg	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □ twice (2) daily □ four (4) daily □ six (6) daily □ eight (8) daily □ other (please specify): don't know □
Plenadren (hydrocortisone) tablets 20mg	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □ twice (2) daily □ four (4) daily □ six (6) daily □ eight (8) daily □ other (please specify): don't know □

Prednisolone		once (1) daily □
tablets 5mg	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) daily □
· ·		other (please specify):
		don't know □
AMINOSALICYLATES (5-ASAs)	
9		twice (2) daily □
Asacol		three (3) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	six (6) daily □
tablets 400mg	No residence	other (please specify):
		don't know □
		twice (2) daily □
Asacol	Yes/No/Unsure	three (3) daily □
(mesalamine)		six (6) daily □
tablets 800mg		other (please specify):
		don't know □
		•
		four (4) daily □
		six (6) daily □
Colazide		eight (8) daily □
(balsalazide disodium)	Yes/No/Unsure	nine (9) daily □
tablets 750mg		other (please specify):
		don't know □
Mezavant	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) daily □
	1	

(mesalamine)		three (3) daily □
tablets 1200mg		four (4) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
		four (4) daily □
		five (5) daily □
Octasa		six (6) daily □
	Yes/No/Unsure	eight (8) daily □
(mesalamine)	res/No/onsure	ten (10) daily □
tablets 400mg		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
	79	
		<u> </u>

		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
		four (4) daily □
		five (5) daily □
Octasa		six (6) daily □
(mesalamine)	Van Ala II la avena	eight (8) daily □
tablets 800mg	Yes/No/Unsure	ten (10) daily □
tablets boomy		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
		once (1) daily □
	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) daily □
Pentasa		three (3) daily □
(mesalamine) tablets 1gr		four (4) daily □
		six (6) daily □
		eight (8) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
Pentasa		once (1) daily □
(mesalamine)		twice (2) daily □
tablets 1gr	Yes/No/Unsure	three (3) daily □
talioto igi		four (4) daily □
		six (6) daily □
	I	I

		eight (8) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
Salazopyrin (sulfasalazine) tablets 500mg	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) daily □ three (3) daily □ four (4) daily □ eight (8) daily □ twelve (12) daily □ sixteen (16) daily □ other (please specify): don't know □
Salofalk (mesalamine) tablets 250mg	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □ twice (2) daily □ three (3) daily □ four (4) daily □ five (5) daily □ six (6) daily □ nine (9) daily □ twelve (12) daily □ other (please specify): don't know □

		once (1) daily □
		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
Salofalk		four (4) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily □
tablets 500mg		six (6) daily □
tablets soomy		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
		once (1) daily □
		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
Salofalk		four (4) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily □
tablets 1000mg	۷.	six (6) daily □
		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
		1
Salofalk		once (1) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) daily □
granules 500mg		three (3) daily □
		four (4) daily □
	I	

		five (5) daily □
		six (6) daily □
		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
		once (1) daily □
ζ,		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
Salofalk	C.	four (4) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily □
granules 1000mg		six (6) daily □
		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
	72	other (please specify):
	7.	don't know □
		once (1) daily □
		twice (2) daily □
Salofalk		three (3) daily □
	Vas/No/Unsura	four (4) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily □
granules 1,5gr		six (6) daily □
		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):

		don't know □
		once (1) daily □
		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
Salofalk		four (4) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily □
granules 3gr		six (6) daily □
		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):
	•	don't know □
IMMUNOSUPPRESSANT	TS .	5/
Azathioprine	V	once (1) daily □
tablets 25mg	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
		don't know □
Azathioprine	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □
tablets 50 mg		other (please specify):

		don't know □
Mercaptopurine (6-MP)		once (1) daily □
tablets 50mg	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
		don't know □
		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 2,5mg		don't know □
Ç		
		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 7,5mg		don't know □
		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 10mg	٧.	don't know □
		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 12,5mg		don't know □

		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 15mg		don't know □
		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 17,5mg		don't know □
	7.	once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 20mg		don't know □
	P	once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 22,5mg		don't know □
		7_
	-	once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 25mg		don't know □

		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 27,5mg		don't know □
		once (1) weekly □
Methotrexate	Yes/No/Unsure	other (please specify):
tablets 30mg		don't know □
VITAMINS & MINERAL S	SUPPLEMENTS (REMINDER: <u>BY PR</u>	ESCRIPTION ONLY)
Adcal D3	0,	<u>-</u>
(calcium carbonate)	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □
chewable tablets 1500		other (please specify):
mg	7.	don't know □
Folate (folic acid)	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □
tablets 5 mg	103/110/01/34/0	other (please specify):
		don't know □
	N	capsules per day 1 / 2 / 3 /
Forceval (multivitamins)	Yes/No/Unsure	4
		don't know □
	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □
Iron tablets	1 53.110, 0110410	· · · · ·
		other (please specify):

		don't know □
METHOD OF ADMINISTR	RATION:	
BY INJECTION / INFUSION	ON	
STEROIDS		
Hydrocortisone	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □
Tryarocorasone	Tes/No/Grisure	other (please specify):
	* :	don't know □
Methylprednisolone	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □
weary prounctions	Toda Toda Toda Toda Toda Toda Toda Toda	other (please specify):
		don't know □
IMMUNOSUPPRESSANT	rs	
		once (1) daily □
Azathioprine	Yes/No/Unsure	
injection 50mg		other (please specify):
,		don't know □
ANTI-TNF INHIBITORS /	BIOLOGIC MEDICATION	
		once (1) every 4 weeks □
Entyvio	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) every 8 weeks □
(vedolizumab)	Tes/No/Offsure	
infusion 300mg		other (please specify):
Ü		don't know □
Humira	Yes/No/Unsure	. –
(adalimumab)		once (1) every week □

injection 20mg		once (1) every two weeks
		twice (2) every two weeks
		other (please specify):
,0		don't know □
		once (1) every week □
Humira		once (1) every two weeks
(adalimumab)	Yes/No/Unsure	
injection 40mg	Tes/No/orisure	twice (2) every two weeks
injection formg		
		other (please specify):
		don't know □
		once (1) every 6-8 weeks
Infliximab	Yes/No/Unsure	
infusion 100mg		other (please specify):
		don't know □
	```L	once (1) every 4 weeks □
Simponi	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) every 4 weeks □
(golimumab	7.00,770,070,070	other (please specify):
injection 50mg		don't know □
Simponi	Voc/No/Uneuro	once (1) every 4 weeks □
(golimumab	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) every 4 weeks □
injection 100mg		other (please specify):

		don't know □
		once (1) every 8 weeks □
Stelara		anaa (4) ayany 40 yyaala
(ustekinumab)	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) every 12 weeks
infusion 130mg		other (please specify):
		other (please specify).
		don't know □
		once (1) every 8 weeks □
		once (1) every o weeks in
Stelara		once (1) every 12 weeks
(ustekinumab)	Yes/No/Unsure	
(usterinamas)		
injection 45mg		other (please specify):
		don't know □
	telara	once (1) every 8 weeks □
Stelara		once (1) every 12 weeks
	Yes/No/Unsure	
(ustekinumab)		
injection 90mg		other (please specify):
,		•
	- 2	don't know □
VITAMINS		
B12 injection	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □
	7.007.107.07.007.0	other (please specify):
		dan't lucas 🔽
		don't know □
Iron infusion		once (1) daily □
	Yes/No/Unsure	other (places aposity).
		other (please specify):
		don't know □

METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION:			
BY RECTAL SUPPOSITO			
STEROIDS			
Budenofalk	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily □	
(budesonide)	res/No/Orisure	other (please specify):	
		don't know □	
	8	once (1) daily for 2 weeks	
		once (1) daily for 3 weeks	
Colifoam	Yes/No/Unsure	twice (2) daily for 2 weeks	
(hydrocortisone)			
		twice (2) daily for 3 weeks	
		other (please specify):	
		don't know □	
		once (1) daily for 2 weeks	
Predfoam	Yes/No/Unsure	once (1) daily for 3 weeks	
(prednisolone)			
		once (1) daily for 4 weeks	

		other (please specify):	
		don't know □	
AMINOSALICYLATES (	5-ASAs)		
		twice (2) daily □	
		three (3) daily □	
Asacol	Yes/No/Unsure	six (6) daily □	
(mesalamine)		other (please specify):	
suppositories 500mg		don't know □	
	````````.		
		twice (2) daily □	
Asacol		three (3) daily □	
	Yes/No/Unsure	six (6) daily □	
(mesalamine) suppositories 500mg		other (please specify):	
		don't know □	
		once (1) daily □	
Pentasa	·	twice (2) daily □	
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	three (3) daily □	
enema 1gr	703/110/0/134/0	four (4) daily □	
		six (6) daily □	
		eight (8) daily □	
		other (please specify):	
		don't know □	

		once (1) daily □		
		twice (2) daily □		
Pentasa		three (3) daily □		
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	four (4) daily □		
enema 1gr		six (6) daily □		
0		eight (8) daily □		
		other (please specify):		
Ç		don't know □		
		twice (2) daily □		
	7.	three (3) daily □		
Solozopyrin		four (4) daily □		
Salazopyrin (sulfasalazine) suppositories 0,5gr	Yes/No/Unsure	eight (8) daily □		
		twelve (12) daily □		
		sixteen (16) daily □		
		other (please specify):		
		don't know □		
		once (1) daily □		
		twice (2) daily □		
Salofalk		three (3) daily □		
	Yes/No/Unsure	four (4) daily □		
(mesalamine)	res/No/Onsure	five (5) daily □		
suppositories 500mg		six (6) daily □		
		nine (9) daily □		
		twelve (12) daily □		
		other (please specify):		

		don't know □
		once (1) daily □
		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
Salofalk		four (4) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily □
suppositories 1gr		six (6) daily □
		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
	.	other (please specify):
		don't know □
		once (1) daily □
		twice (2) daily □
		three (3) daily □
Salofalk	72	four (4) daily □
(mesalamine)	Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily □
rectal foam 1gr		six (6) daily □
		nine (9) daily □
		twelve (12) daily □
		other (please specify):
		don't know □

	once (1) daily □		
	twice (2) daily □		
	three (3) daily □		
	four (4) daily □		
Yes/No/Unsure	five (5) daily \square		
	six (6) daily □		
	nine (9) daily □		
	twelve (12) daily □		
	other (please specify):		
C.	don't know □		
VEO	NO		
YES	NO		
	YES		

4. HOSPITALISATIONS	
In the last three (3) months, have you been admitted into hospital for one or more night	ts
because of your inflammatory bowel disease? Please tick Yes or No	
No (Please go to Question 1.5)	
Yes	
If yes, please give number of times: times	
If ticked "Yes", please give details for the <u>five</u> most recent admissions.	

1st hospital admission: When were you admitted in hospital and for how long? Date of admission: D D M M Y Y Y Number of nights in hospital

Did you spend time in the intensive care unit?

Yes

No

If yes, please specify days spent in intensive care: days

Did you have an operation? Yes No, If no, please go to next admission

If you had an operation: Type of IBD surgery (during this hospital admission)

Yes, surgery in the small bowel (either laparoscopically or with open surgery)

Yes, surgery in the large bowel (colon)

Yes, surgery resulting in either temporary or permanent stoma formation

Yes, surgery for a fistula or abscess

Yes, other, please state name of operation below

No, I didn't receive surgery

Note: Hospital admission section is replicated for total number of admissions reported

5. IMPACT OF IBD ON YOUR EMPLOYMENT Which of the following best describes your current employment status? Please tick ONE box only Employed (including zero-hour contract or self-employed If yes, please give average number of hours of work per week (e.g. 37.5): Hours Retired Student Unemployed Other (please specify below) In the last three (3) months, have you had any days (including half days) off work due to your inflammatory bowel disease? Please tick ONE box only Yes No N/A If yes, please give the number of days including half days (please specify): **Days**

Have you had to **stop working / retire early** because of your IBD?

Yes No

If yes, in what year did you stop working / retire early:

(Year)

6. OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES

In the **last three (3) months**, have you purchased (<u>without prescription</u>) any form of medication, products, supplements or complementary and alternative medicines and services **related specifically to your inflammatory bowel disease?**

Please tick yes or no for each

If yes,

please give

Symptom Management: Yes No APPROX cost (£)

Anti-diarrhoeal medication (e.g. Imodium) £

Pain killers (e.g. paracetamol)			£	
Iron Supplements			£	
Vitamin supplements (e.g. Multivitamins,			£	
Calcium, Vitamin D, Folic Acid)				
Rehydration solutions (e.g. Dioralyte or			£	
Electrolade)				
Meal replacements (e.g. Complan, Ensure)			£	
Lifestyle (e.g. subscription to gym)			£	
				4
				If yes,
				please give
Products:	Yes	No		APPROX cost (£)
Pads and/or pants for faecal incontinence			£	
Wet wipes			£	
Air fresheners			£	
Creams (e.g. Sudocream, Zinc & castor oil)			£	
Bed protection (e.g. mattress protector)			£	
				1

In the **last three (3) months**, have you purchased (<u>without prescription</u>) any form of complementary and alternative medicines and services **related specifically to your inflammatory bowel disease? <u>Please tick yes or no for each</u>**

Complementary & Alternative			If yes,
Therapies: do you use these to help			please give
with symptoms of IBD?	Yes	No	APPROX cost (£)
Herbal Supplements			£
Probiotics			£
Prebiotics			£
Fish oil			£
Acupuncture / Massage / Relaxation			£
(private/out-of-pocket costs)			
Psychological Therapy			£
(e.g. Cognitive Behavioural Therapy)			
Cannabidiol (CBD) Oil/Spray			£
Other (e.g. specialised diet, devices,			£
home alterations)			

7.	In the last three ((3) months, a	about how muc	ch in tot	al have you spent on tra	evel for
health	appointments/atte	endances for	your inflammat	tory bov	wel disease?	
Please	e tick Yes or No fo	<u>r each:</u>				
	Car	Ye	S	No		
	If yes, pleas	e give the ap	proximate mile	eage an	nd car parking costs (if a	ny)
		арр	proximate milea	age:		(Miles)
			car parking co	sts:	£	
	Bus/Tube/T	rain Ye	S	No		
		If yes, plea	ase give the ap	proxim	ate ticket costs (if any):	
			Ticket co	ests:	£	
	Taxi	Ye	S	No		
		If yes, plea	ase give the ap	proxim	ate ticket costs (if any):	
			со	osts:	£	

Other (e.g. childminder/ carer's costs while attending appointments for your
inflammatory bowel disease):
Yes No
If yes please specify:
Please give total costs:

Appendix 2: Unit costs of health and social care resource items used to calculate costs

		Source of cost	
Resource item	Unit costs*	data	Basis of estimate
Outpatient services			
			weighted average of all
GP (at surgery/practice)	£45.00	PSSRU 2018 ¹	outpatient adult attendances
			weighted average of all
Practice Nurse (surgery)	£13.00	PSSRU 2018	outpatient adult attendances
	х.	Csikar JI et al,	
Pharmacist	£17.00	2016 ²	20 min appt
			page 18; based on NHS
IBD Nurse	£67.00	PSSRU 2018	reference costs 2011/2012
	0		page 130; telephone triage
IBD Advice line	£28.00	PSSRU 2018	(nurse-led)
		2019-20	weighted average of all
Gastroenterologist	£150.00	National Tariffs ³	outpatient adult attendances
		2019-20	weighted average of all
Colorectal Surgeon	£130.00	National Tariffs	outpatient adult attendances
		2019-20	weighted average of all
Rheumatologist	£187.00	National Tariffs	outpatient adult attendances
			page 18; based on NHS
Dietician	£79.00	PSSRU 2018	reference costs 2011/2012
			hourly unit cost for a clinical
			psychologist (UK NHS Agenda
Psychologist	£66.00	PSSRU 2018	for Change band 8a)

Diagnostic procedures and tests			
-		NHS Ref Costs	weighted average of all adult
CT scan	£225.00	2017/184**	attendances
OT Scarr	2223.00		
		NHS Ref Costs	weighted average of all adult
MRI scan	£351.00	2017/18	attendances
0,		NHS Ref Costs	weighted average of all adult
Colonoscopy	£1141.00	2017/18	attendances
		NHS Ref Costs	weighted average of all adult
Upper GI Endoscopy	£1593.00	2017/18	attendances
		NHS Ref Costs	weighted average of all adult
Ultrasound	£154.00	2017/18	attendances
			Faecal calprotectin diagnostic
Stool test (i.e. faecal calprotectin			tests for inflammatory diseases
test)	£30.00	NICE ⁵	of the bowel
		Akhtar W et al,	
Blood test/phlebotomy	£11.00	20146	includes FBC,LFT,U&E,CRP
Inpatient services			
			weighted average of IBD
		NHS Ref Costs	overnight admission without
IBD admission (per night)	£563.00	2017/18	interventions
Medications & Dietary supplement	S		O,
Adcal D3	£2.72	BNF ⁷	48 tablets per pack
Asacol 400mg	£27.45	BNF	84 tablets per pack
Asacol 800mg	£54.90	BNF	84 tablets per pack
Azathioprine 25mg	£1.71	BNF	28 tablets per pack
Azathioprine 50mg	£2.47	BNF	56 tablets per pack
B12 injection	£14.50	BNF	5 infusions per pack

Budenofalk 2mg	£57.11	BNF	14 enemas per pack
Budenofalk 3mg	£75.05	BNF	100 tablets per pack
Clipper 5mg	£56.56	BNF	30 tablets per pack
Colazide 750mg	£30.42	BNF	130 tablets per pack
Colifoam rectal 100	£9.33	BNF	14 doses per pack
Cortiment 9mg	£75.00	BNF	30 tablets per pack
Entocort 3mg	£84.15	BNF	100 tablets per pack
Entyvio	£2,050.00	BNF	1 infusions per pack
Folate	£3.52	BNF	90 tablets per pack
Humira 20	£352.14	BNF	2 infusions per pack
Humira 40	£704.28	BNF	2 infusions per pack
Hydrocortisone	£10.60	BNF	5 infusions per pack
Infliximab	£377.66	BNF	1 infusion per pack
Iron	£1.29	BNF	28 tablets per pack
Iron infusion	£39.85	BNF	5 vials per pack
Mercaptopurine 50	£49.15	BNF	25 tablets per pack
Mezavant 1200mg	£42.95	BNF	60 tablets per pack
Octasa 400 tablets	£16.58	BNF	90 tablets per pack
Pentasa 1g	£42.95	BNF	60 tablets per pack
Pentasa 1G enema	£17.73	BNF	7 enemas per pack
Pentasa 1G suppository	£40.01	BNF	28 tablets per pack
Pentasa 500mg tablets	£30.74	BNF	100 tablets per pack
			14 metered applications per
Predfoam	£187.00	BNF	pack
Prednisolone 5mg	£1.80	BNF	28 tablets per pack
Salazopyrin 500mg tablets	£6.65	BNF	112 tablets per pack
Salofalk 1,5g granules	£48.85	BNF	60 granules per pack

Salofalk 1g granules	£28.74	BNF	50 granules per pack
Salofalk 1g supppository	£29.62	BNF	30 suppositories per pack
Salofalk 1gr rectal	£30.17	BNF	14 doses per pack
Salofalk 1000gr	£28.74	BNF	50 granules per pack
Salofalk 250gr	£16.19	BNF	100 tablets per pack
Salofalk 2gr enema	£29.92	BNF	7 enemas per pack
Simponi 100	£1,525.94	BNF	1 infusion per pack
Stelara 90	£2,147.00	BNF	1 infusion per pack
Salaries			
18-21 (age)	£249.00	ONS ⁷	Weekly pay – Gross (£)
22-29 (age)	£476.00	ONS	Weekly pay – Gross (£)
30-39 (age)	£613.00	ONS	Weekly pay – Gross (£)
40-49 (age)	£669.00	ONS	Weekly pay – Gross (£)
50-59 (age)	£624.00	ONS	Weekly pay – Gross (£)
60+ (age)	£471.50	ONS	Weekly pay – Gross (£)

Notes: *Unit costs at 2019/20 prices/costs; **Costs adjusted to 2019/20 prices using the Hospital and

Community Health Services Pay and Prices Index (Accessed 07/02/2021)

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- 8. Office for National Statistics. Earnings and hours worked, age group: ASHE Table 6. In:2019

Appendix 3: Participants characteristics who only completed the test questionnaire

	(n=7)
Age (years), mean (SD)	54.9 (12.1)
ex, women (%)	2 (28.6)
elf-reported diagnosis, n(%)	
Crohn's disease or Crohn's colitis	2 (28.6)
JIcerative colitis	4 (57.1)
BD Unclassified	1 (14.3)
mployment status, n(%)*	1
Employed (inc. zero-hour contract or self-employed)	3 (42.9)
Retired	1 (14.3)
Other †	1 (14.3)

Notes:

^{*} There are two missing observations in the employment status category;

[†] Including unemployed and homemaker

Appendix 4: Missing data at test and retest

-	Te	est	Retest	
Type of resource use (in the last three months)	n=	48	n=48	
	Users/Non-	Missing quantity of	Users/Non-	Missing quantity of
	users	use (% of	users	use (%)
		users)		(11)
Outpatient visits/contacts (Primary or Communit	y care)	I		I
General Practitioner (GP)	20/28	2 (4.2)	15/33	1 (2.1)
General Practice Nurse	13/35	1 (2.1)	11/37	1 (2.1)
Pharmacist	23/25	1 (2.1)	20/28	2 (4.2)
Outpatient visits/contacts (Secondary care)				
Gastroenterologist	21/27	1 (2.1)	16/32	1 (2.1)
Colorectal Surgeon	5/43	0 (0.0)	3/45	0 (0.0)
Rheumatologist	2/46	0 (0.0)	2/46	0 (0.0)
Dietician	4/44	0 (0.0)	4/44	0 (0.0)
Psychologist	1/47	0 (0.0)	1/47	0 (0.0)
A&E staff	8/40	0 (0.0)	6/42	1 (2.1)
IBD nurse	17/31	0 (0.0)	15/33	1 (2.1)
Advice Line	9/39	0 (0.0)	10/38	1 (2.1)
Diagnostic procedures and tests	I	<u> </u>		I
Computerised Tomography (CT) scan	4/44	0 (0.0)	4/44	1 (2.1)
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan	2/46	0 (0.0)	3/45	0 (0.0)
Colonoscopy	3/45	0 (0.0)	3/45	1 (2.1)
Upper gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopy	1/47	0 (0.0)	2/46	0 (0.0)

	Ultrasound	3/45	1 (2.1)	2/46	0 (0.0)		
	Stool test (i.e. faecal calprotectin test)	15/33	1 (2.1)	15/33	1 (2.1)		
	Blood test	38/10	4 (8.3)	34/14	4 (8.3)		
Medica	ation type (number of tablets/injections)	1		I	1		
	Aminosalicylates – tablet	23/25	4 (8.3)	24/24	3 (6.3)		
	Aminosalicylates – suppository/foam	7/41	1 (2.1)	7/41	0 (0.0)		
	Immunosuppressants – tablet	12/36	0 (0.0)	17/31	0 (0.0)		
	Steroids - tablet	8/40	2 (4.2)	3/45	0 (0.0)		
	Steroids – injection/suppository	1/47	0 (0.0)	1/47	0 (0.0)		
	Dietary supplements – tablets	20/28	9 (18.8)	17/31	7 (14.5)		
	Biologics - injection/infusion	9/38	0 (0.0)	10/38	0 (0.0		
Hospit	alisations	1		I	1		
IBD	Number of hospital admissions due to	2/46	0 (0.0)	2/46	0 (0.0)		
Emplo	vment						
	Time off work (days) due to IBD	9/39	0 (0.0)	7/41	0 (0.0)		

Appendix 5: Mean annual health care, productivity loss and out-of-pocket costs [UK£], by IBD diagnosis, age and employment status at enrolment

employment status at emo	6					
Resource Use Category	By IBD	diagnosis	Ву	age	By employ	ment status
	Crohn's disease	Ulcerative Colitis	Age ≤ 55	Age > 55	Employed	Other
	(n=29)	(n=18)	(n=22)	(n=26)	(n=18)	(n=29)
Outpatient Visits/Contacts (Primary Care) (SE)		h			
General Practitioner (GP)	152.7 (32.6)	60.0 (27.2)	153.5 (39.9)	81.9 (24.9)	137.6 (39.4)	101.4 (29.6)
General Practice Nurse	25.9 (9.0)	27.4 (15.1)	22.9 (12.2)	28.5 (10.1)	15.0 (8.5)	32.7 (11.7)
Pharmacist	90.1 (22.6)	93.8 (25.1)	111.8 (25.0)	70.9 (21.8)	100.7 (30.1)	84.6 (20.3)
Total	268.7 (55.4)	181.3 (41.0)	288.2 (59.7)	181.3 (45.7)	253.4 (64.9)	218.7 (47.5)
Outpatient Visits/Contacts (Secondary Care) (S	E)			<u> </u>	
Gastroenterologist	312.9 (67.7)	166.7 (55.4)	262.5 (72.7)	253.8 (61.6)	254.2 (82.3)	269.0 (58.3)
Colorectal Surgeon	98.6 (52.3)	0.0 (0.0)	23.6 (16.3)	100.0 (57.8)	28.9 (19.8)	89.7 (52.1)
Rheumatologist	64.5 (45.7)	0.0 (0.0)	85.0 (59.9)	0.0 (0.0)	103.9 (72.9)	0.0 (0.0)

Dietician	43.6 (20.6)	0.0 (0.0)	28.7 (19.8)	24.3 (16.8)	35.1 (24.1)	21.8 (15.1)
D 11:4	, ,	, ,		, ,	, ,	, ,
Psychologist	36.4 (36.4)	0.0 (0.0)	48.0 (48.0)	0.0 (0.0)	58.7 (58.7)	0.0 (0.0)
A&E staff	109.8 (48.8)	16.2 (16.2)	71.8 (28.0)	73.0 (52.0)	79.5 (33.3)	70.5 (46.7)
IBD nurse	168.0 (68.9)	238.2 (73.1)	215.4 (77.0)	175.2 (65.5)	226.0 (92.3)	180.2 (59.6)
Advice Line	18.3 (7.9)	10.1 (6.6)	27.3 (11.0)	4.3 (2.2)	22.5 (10.5)	10.6 (6.0)
Total	906.9 (158.0)	461.6 (121.5)	844.1 (164.7)	643.6 (146.7)	876.1 (187.6)	673.6 (136.9)
Diagnostic procedures and t	ests (SE)	<i>(</i> / ,				
Computerised Tomography		79/.				
	73.7 (35.0)	6.3 (6.3)	25.6 (25.6)	64.9 (33.7)	31.3 (31.3)	58.2 (30.4)
(CT) scan		1.0				
Magnetic Resonance						
Imaging (MRI) scan	72.6 (40.4)	78.0 (78.0)	127.6 (75.0)	27.0 (27.0)	39.0 (39.0)	96.8 (57.5)
, , ,						
Colonoscopy	314.8 (186.9)	0.0 (0.0)	103.7 (103.7)	438.8 (253.8)	0.0 (0.0)	472.1 (237.0)
Upper gastrointestinal (GI)				1//		
	329.6 (242.1)	0.0 (0.0)	434.5 (317.6)	0.0 (0.0)	531.0 (286.4)	0.0 (0.0)
endoscopy						
Ultrasound	63.7 (38.6)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	71.1 (42.9)	0.0 (0.0)	53.1 (37.7)
Stool test (i.e. faecal						
·	56.6 (14.1)	26.7 (12.1)	44.6 (17.1)	43.8 (11.3)	47.9 (17.5)	43.4 (12.2)
calprotectin test)						

Productivity loss cost due to IBD*	637.2 (366.8)	425.7 (353.7)	1188.3 (533.5)	0.0 (0.0)	1452.3 (638.1)	0.0 (0.0)
Productivity loss due to IBD						
Total NHS costs	4566.4 (773.4)	5260.7 (1282.1)	4847.6 (858.4)	4840.3 (1003.0)	4289.5 (822.7)	5337.0 (964.8)
Hospital admissions due to IBD	155.3 (107.8)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	173.2 (120.0)	0.0 (0.0)	155.3 (107.8)
Hospitalisations (SE)			R			
Total	2249.6 (639.0)	4441.9 (1191.1)	2900.9 (767.6)	3133.4 (924.0)	2434.6 (714.1)	3498.6 (894.7)
Biologics	1608.7 (654.8)	1780.9 (1090.6)	1839.7 (781.9)	1470.6 (814.3)	1532.8 (697.1)	1762.7 (832.8
Dietary supplements	16.9 (4.5)	5.3 (2.2)	6.4 (2.4)	17.1 (4.9)	8.0 (2.9)	15.0 (4.5)
Steroids	125.0 (82.6)	693.9 (345.8)	184.4 (154.7)	463.8 (228.2)	38.4 (38.4)	531.9 (229.0)
Immunosuppressants	29.2 (22.6)	46.5 (36.4)	39.4 (29.8)	31.4 (25.3)	44.7 (36.4)	30.3 (22.7)
Aminosalicylates	469.9 (126.7)	1915.2 (377.7)	831.1 (270.5)	1150.5 (265.2)	810.7 (314.2)	1158.8 (243.5
Medication (SE)					I	I
Total	985.9 (314.7)	176.1 (90.3)	814.4 (349.5)	708.7 (273.4)	725.4 (396.5)	790.8 (264.5)
Blood test	74.9 (12.7)	65.1 (18.0)	78.4 (16.9)	63.1 (12.3)	76.3 (16.7)	67.1 (13.5)

Overall costs	5551.2 (866.0)	5978.0 (1412.0)	6413.5 (1027.1)	5111.3 (1047.8)	6100.6 (1104.0)	5643.8 (1003.9)
Total patient-related costs	347.5 (69.8)	291.5 (85.0)	377.6 (81.6)	271.0 (68.8)	358.7 (98.7)	306.8 (62.5)
travel		0 (. 0)	(,	· · · (· = · · ·)	0.0 (00)	0=11 (1011)
Health appointment related	127.9 (38.1)	54.3 (15.1)	142.1 (49.5)	61.1 (12.6)	129.6 (56.7)	82.1 (19.1)
alternative Therapies	149.0 (33.3)	180.2 (78.8)	145.0 (34.1)	168.3 (59.4)	135.9 (38.1)	176.6 (53.8)
Products, complementary &	140.0 (22.2)	400.0 (70.0)	145 0 (24.4)	160.2 (50.4)	425.0 (20.4)	476 G (F2 9)
Symptom management	70.6 (28.4)	57.1 (19.2)	90.5 (37.0)	41.6 (13.3)	93.2 (44.8)	48.1 (12.8)

Notes: SE, standard error

^{*} Incurred by 9 and 7 participants in employment in the test and the re-test measurement occasions, respectively. An overview of the content included in each (sub)category can be found in Appendix 1.