

Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences  
University of Oxford

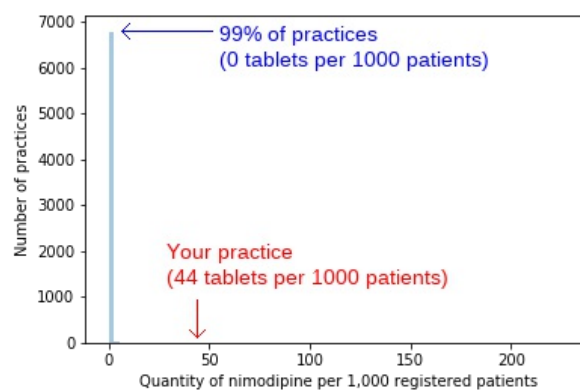
27 June 2019

PRESCRIBING LEAD, THE SMETHWICK MEDICAL CENTRE  
THE SMETHWICK MEDICAL CTR  
REGENT STREET, SMETHWICK  
WARLEY  
WEST MIDLANDS  
B66 3BQ

Dear **The Smethwick Medical Centre**,

**Your practice is an outlier for nimodipine prescribing over the last three months.**

Here's how **your practice** compares to other practices in England on nimodipine tablets prescribed in the last 3 months:



The only indication in the BNF for the prescription of nimodipine is in the prevention of ischaemic neurological defects following aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage. The course length is 21 days but most patients will complete the course while admitted or be discharged with the remainder. Extension of this course in primary care may be due to error or miscommunication.

You can learn more about how your prescription rates for nimodipine compare to other practices at [op2.org.uk/p/M88002](https://op2.org.uk/p/M88002), where you'll see your prescribing trends over time, and a breakdown of prescribing over the most recent quarter of data we have available.

Please let us know if you are aware of any reasons why your practice may be prescribing longer courses of nimodipine at [hello@op2.org.uk](mailto:hello@op2.org.uk).

This letter uses data from OpenPrescribing, a free, publicly-funded service created by researchers in the University of Oxford to make national prescribing data more useful to GPs.

**This is a one-off communication. Please let us know if you have any feedback.**

Yours sincerely,

The OpenPrescribing Team  
Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford  
[hello@op2.org.uk](mailto:hello@op2.org.uk)



<https://www.phc.ox.ac.uk/research/ebm-datalab>