

# TABLE of conditions and NNTs

Condition	Treatment	Comparator	Outcome	NNT (95% CI)
Acute otitis media	Antibiotics	no antibiotics or tympano-centesis	Absence of presenting signs and symptoms at 7-14 days	7
acute sprains etc	topical NSAID (good)		50% pain relief	2+
Angina	bisoprolol	nifedipine	episodes	2.7 (2.1 to 3.9)
Angina	bisoprolol	placebo	prevention exercise induced angina	2.8 (1.9 to 5.0)
Angina	isosorbide dinitrate	placebo	prevention exercise induced angina	5.0 (2.8 to 21)
Anticipated preterm delivery	Corticosteroids	no treatment	Risk of fetal RDS	11 (8 to 16)*
Arthritis	glucosamine	placebo	improved symptoms	5 (3.5 to 8.9)
Asthma (childhood)	budesonide and formoterol	budesonide alone	free of severe exacerbation for one year	11 (6.6 to 34)
back pain	epidural steroid		75% relief at 60 days	6
Childhood depression	Antidepressants	placebo	Improved	not effective
diabetic neuropathy	anticonvulsants		50% pain relief	2.05
Dementia	gingko	placebo	ADAS-Cog 4 points better	7.9 (4.2 to 67)
Dog bites	Antibiotics	placebo	Infection	16 (9 to 92)*
Erectile dysfunction	alprostadil (transurethral)	placebo	erection enabling intercourse	2.3 (2.1 to 2.6)
Esophageal variceal bleeding	Endoscopic ligation	sclerotherapy	Prevention of one re-bleeding episode	4
Flu	vaccination		no flu	23
Fungal nail infection	Terbinafine	griseofulvin	Cured at 48 weeks	2.7 (1.9 to 4.5)*
Gastric ulcer with NSAID - prevention	misoprostol	placebo	presence of gastric ulcer	13
H pylori	triple therapy		eradication	1.01
Head lice	Permethrin	placebo	Cure	1.1 (1.0 to 1.2)*
Herpes zoster	Acyclovir	placebo	Prevention of post herpetic neuralgia at 6 months	not effective
Hip fracture prevention	calcium and vitamin D	placebo	prevent one fracture	20 (13-57)
Homelessness	critical time intervention	usual services only	homeless in 18th month	6.9 (3.5 to 284)
Hypertension in the elderly	Drug treatments	no treatment	Overall prevention of cardiovascular event over 5 years	18 (14 to 25)
Lipid lowering primary prevention	various	no treatment	prevent one myocardial infarction or cerebrovascular death	69 (54 to 99)
Lipid lowering secondary prevention	various	no treatment	prevent one myocardial infarction or cerebrovascular death	16 (13 to 19)
Lipid lowering primary prevention	statins	placebo	all bad things	35 (24 to 63)
Lipid lowering secondary prevention	statins	placebo	all bad things	11 (10 -13)
Major GI bleeding and NSAID use	Misoprostol	placebo	Prevent any GI complication	166 (97 to 578)*
MI	ACE inhibitor [AIRE trial]		death within 6 months	18
Migraine	Subcutaneous sumatriptan	placebo	Headache relieved at 2 hours	2.0 (1.8 to 2.2)*
Migraine	Oral sumatriptan	placebo	Headache relieved at 2 hours	2.6 (2.3 to 3.2)*
Moderate or severe postoperative pain	Paracetamol 1000 mg	placebo	At least 50% pain relief	3.6 (3.0 to 4.4)

Condition	Treatment	Comparator	Outcome	NNT (95% CI)
Myocardial infarction and diabetes	insulin (intensive schedule)	usual care	one year mortality	14 (7.3 to 164)
neuropathic pain	antidepressants		50% pain relief	2.05
Oesophagitis	omeprazole	ranitidine	endoscopic healing rate	3.03
Oesophagitis	omeprazole	ranitidine	maintenance of endoscopic healed erosive gastritis	2.08
Peptic ulcer	Triple therapy	histamine antagonist	H pylori eradication	1.1 (1.08 to 1.15)
Peptic ulcer	Triple therapy	histamine antagonist	Ulcers remaining cured at one year	1.8 (1.6 to 2.1)
Peptic ulcer	Triple therapy	histamine antagonist	antagonist	4.9 (4.0 to 6.4)
Peripheral artery disease	Naftidrofuryl	placebo	Pain free walking distance improved by 50% (1 year)	10.3 (6.3 to 29)*
Positive GP consultation	Positive GP consultation	negative consultation	get better in 2 weeks	4 (3 to 9)
postop pain	bad oral analgesic (codeine 60 mg)		50% pain relief	18
Postoperative vomiting	Droperidol	placebo	Prevention over 48 hours in children undergoing squint correction	4.4 (3.1 to 7.1)
Prostate - benign hypertrophy	finasteride	placebo	prevent one operation	39 (23 to 111)
<b>Stroke primary prevention</b>				
MRC 17,354 individuals 36-64 years diastolic 90-109 mmHg	benzoflurazide propranolol	placebo	Prevent one stroke at one year	850
SHEP 4736 individuals 60 years or older systolic 160-219 mmHg and diastolic <90 mmHg	clorthalidone atenolol	placebo	Prevent one stroke at one year	43 (27 to 95)
STOP 1627 individuals 70-84 years systolic 180-230 mmHg and diastolic ≥90 mmHg or diastolic 105-120 mmHg	atenolol hydrochlorothiazide plus amiloride metoprolol pindolol	placebo	Prevent one stroke at one year	34 (20 to 123)
MRC 4396 individuals 65-74 years systolic 160-209 mmHg diastolic <115 mmHg	diuretic beta-blocker	placebo		70 (36 to 997)
WOSCOPS 6595 men 45-64 years cholesterol over 6.5 mmol/L	pravastatin	placebo		641 (135 to no benefit)
<b>Stroke secondary prevention</b>				
stroke	ticlopidine	placebo		15 (9 to 41)
SALT 1360 patients 50-79 years TIA or minor stroke in previous 3 months	low dose aspirin	placebo		38 (16 to 85)
AS 4444 patients 35 - 70 years angina or MI cholesterol 5.5-8.0 mmol/L	simvastatin	placebo		65 (38 to 224)
ESPS2 6602 patients >18 years TIA or stroke in previous 3 months	aspirin	placebo		37 (20 to 319)
	dipyridamole			42 (21 to >1000)
	aspirin plus dipyridamole			8 (13 to 29)
trigeminal neuralgia	anticonvulsants		50% pain relief	2.05
Ulcerative colitis	transdermal nicotine	placebo	symptom improvement	3.7 (2.4 to 8.4)
Venous thrombo-embolism	Graduated compression stockings	legs without stockings	Episodes of venous thromboembolism	9 (7 to 13)*