

Supplementary appendix 1. Details of patients

ID	Sex, age	Symptoms	Treatment	GP sex	GP code
(1)	F 58	Breast pain; heaviness in arm; . palpitations; nausea; dizziness; trembling.	T (blood, chest x-ray, ECG); F (1/52).	M	1
(2)	M 64	Chest pain; blackouts; cough.	D (gout); F (2/52).	M	1
(3)	F 26	Pain in fingers, elbows, wrists, knees; swollen foot; abdominal pain & nausea; vaginal discharge; flushes; dizziness; headaches.	D (antibiotics, anti-inflammatory); T (vaginal swabs).	M	1
(4)	F 49	Leg pain; extended and painful abdomen.	D (diuretic, anti-fungal, antispasmodic, analgesic, anti-inflammatory); S.	M	3
(5)	F 35	Cystitis; itchy ears.	D (antibiotic).	M	4
(6)	F 55	Panic attacks; ankle injury.	D (antidepressant, proton pump inhibitor); F (4/52); S.	M	5
(7)	F 35	Abdominal pain; facial spots; throbbing legs; migraine.	T (ultrasound scan).	F	6
(8)	F 19	Skin rash and cracking on hands; headaches; nasal congestion; extended and painful abdomen; faecal blood.	D (contraceptive, decongestant, muscle relaxant) T (blood); F (2/52).	F	6
(9)	M 43	Flushes; sweating.	T (24-hr urine).	F	6
(10)	F 65	Sounds in head and ears.	D (analgesic, anticoagulant, iron, lipid-lowering).	F	8
(11)	F 66	Cough; protrusion from bowel/vagina.	D (laxative); R (gynaecology).	F	8
(12)	F 62	Neck stiffness; heartburn.	D (proton pump inhibitor, anti-inflammatory).	M	10
(13)	F 48	Flushing; mood swings.		M	7
(14)	F 37	Panic attacks; weight loss; choking; hand injury.	D (nutritional supplement, contraceptive, anxiolytic).	M	10
(15)	F 50	Shoulder pain.	D (analgesic).	F	13
(16)	M 81	Chest pain; swollen feet.		M	14
(17)	M 63	Dizziness; buzzing in ears; headache; faints.	R (ENT).	M	14
(18)	F 31	Neck lump; weight loss; mood swings.	D (antidepressant); T (blood); R (surgical).	M	16
(19)	F 43	Chest pain; cough; earache; itchy ears.	D (contraceptive, analgesic, ear drops); S.	F	17
(20)	F 58	Heartburn; flatulence; nasal drip; itchy eyes; cough.	D (HRT, antihistamine, motility agent).	M	15
(21)	F 66	Blood vessel in leg; flutter in chest.	D (antihypertensive); F (4/52).	M	18
(22)	F 36	Stomach discomfort; skin problems; wrist and arm pain.	D (proton pump inhibitor); F (4/52).	M	18
(23)	M 21	Insomnia & tiredness; vomiting; pain in stomach.	D (hypnotic); F(1/52).	F	20
(24)	F 52	Neck swelling.	D (beta-blocker, anti-fungal, lipase inhibitor); F (4/52).	F	20
(25)	F 39	Altered appetite; irregular menstruation; breast pain.	D (gamolenic acid, iron, antihistamine); T (blood); R (breast clinic); F (4/52).	M	21
(26)	M 41	Pain in hand; cramps and loss of sensation in fingers; pain in elbow; sensations in feet; poor sleep and appetite; noises in ears.	D (anxiolytic); F (2/52).	F	22
(27)	M 21	Lump and pain in armpit; itchy scalp; communication problems.	T (blood); F (1/52).	F	22
(28)	F 37	Headache; tiredness; aching muscles; mouth ulcers; run down.	T (blood); F (2/52); S.	F	23
(29)	F 33	Tiredness; dizziness.	D (antidepressant, iron); T (blood); S.	F	23
(30)	F 73	Swallowing difficulty; flatus; heartburn; abdominal discomfort.	D (proton pump inhibitor, anti-fungal).	F	24
(31)	F 30	Headache; nausea; visual disturbances; blackouts; tingling right side.	D (migraine medication); F (2/52).	F	23
(32)	F 57	Back and neck pain; faints; upset stomach.	D (ACE inhibitor, Proton pump inhibitor, Non-steriod anti-inflammatory); R (Physiotherapy).	F	25
(33)	M 76	No energy; leg aches.	T (Blood); F (5/52).	M	28
(34)	M 55	Red stomach.	D (Proton pump inhibitor).	M	28
(35)	M 75	Runny eyes; leg aches; sleeplessness.	D (Diuretic, Local oral analgesic, Anti-rheumatic, Steriod inhaler, Antibiotic eye drops); F (8/52).	M	28
(36)	F 56	Headache; pain and clicking neck; altered bowel movement.	D (Alpha-adrenoceptor blocker, Thyroid hormone, Beta Blocker); T (Blood); F (8/52).	M	28

^aD = drugs; T = tests/investigations; R = referral; S = sick-note; F = follow-up visit recommended.