

**Table 3: Use of health care resources by groups with appropriate and inappropriate use of asthma medications**

Use of health care resources	Patient group; mean (and SD)*		p value
	Appropriate use (n = 4671)	Inappropriate use (n = 763)	
<b>Hospital resources</b>			
Hospital admissions			
No. (and %) of patients admitted at least once	257 (5.5)	64 (8.4)	0.002
No. of admissions per patient	0.07 (0.34)	0.11 (0.42)	0.006
Urgent admissions			
No. (and %) of patients with at least one urgent admission	154 (3.3)	44 (5.8)	0.001
No. of urgent admissions per patient	0.04 (0.26)	0.08 (0.33)	0.005
<b>Prescribing physicians†</b>			
No. of "prescribing physicians" seen per patient	1.4 (0.7)	1.8 (1.4)	<0.001
No. of prescriptions‡ per physician	2.5 (1.5)	5.2 (4.2)	<0.001
No. of prescriptions per patient	3.3 (1.9)	7.5 (4.9)	<0.001
<b>All physicians§</b>			
No. of physicians seen per patient	5.1 (4.2)	4.8 (4.3)	0.16
No. of visits per physician	3.2 (3.0)	3.9 (3.8)	<0.001
No. of visits to all physicians per patient	14.9 (15.9)	16.7 (19.3)	0.015

\*Except where indicated otherwise.

†A prescribing physician was any physician who prescribed asthma medication for a member of the study group.

‡For any asthma medication.

§All physicians seen by all patients in the study group, whether or not they prescribed asthma medication.

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