



## REGIONAL DRUG AND THERAPEUTICS CENTRE (NEWCASTLE)

# COST COMPARISON CHARTS

## January 2020

### INTRODUCTION

The charts included within this report are organised by BNF classification (legacy) and show comparative costs at the NHS Basic price<sup>1,2</sup> (as of January 2020) for selected agents. Except where indicated otherwise, each chart shows the cost of 1 year<sup>3</sup> of treatment at a commonly prescribed daily dose (shown in brackets). The doses given are not intended to imply therapeutic equivalence and for some BNF sub-classifications, such as angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE inhibitors), the doses may vary according to indication. Additionally, in some therapeutic areas, for instance antibacterial drugs, the duration of treatment may differ from that shown. Primarily, this report focuses on costs related to prescribing in Adults. There are however a few exceptions where products specifically for use in children are represented, such as in the Emollients and Infant formulas sections. Additional notes to highlight any relevant cost related information are also added where appropriate, to improve the clarity of the information presented.

Rationale for inclusion: The cost comparison charts (CCCs) aim to represent the diversity of products available; including the least expensive, most prescribed, higher cost products being prescribed and products with additional features. The products included are furthermore considered in the context of National and local guidance and stakeholder formulary decisions. It is not possible to represent all pharmaceuticals within these charts.

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<sup>1</sup> NHS Business Services Authority (NHS BSA). Drug tariff. <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/drug-tariff>

<sup>2</sup> NHS BSA. Dictionary of medicines and devices (dM+d) <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/dictionary-medicines-and-devices-dmd>

<sup>3</sup> 1 year in this instance is equal to 364 days (rather than 365) standardising 1 month as equal to 28 days.

Stakeholders (under password protection) can access the current version of the CCCs via our website in three formats: PDF, Word and Excel. The Excel version incorporates a more detailed comparison of contraceptives and allows charts to be split by BNF subsections in some instances. The PDF format of the previous CCC report is available for free access.

To navigate to the chart required, hover the cursor over the section required, press CTRL and click with the left mouse button.

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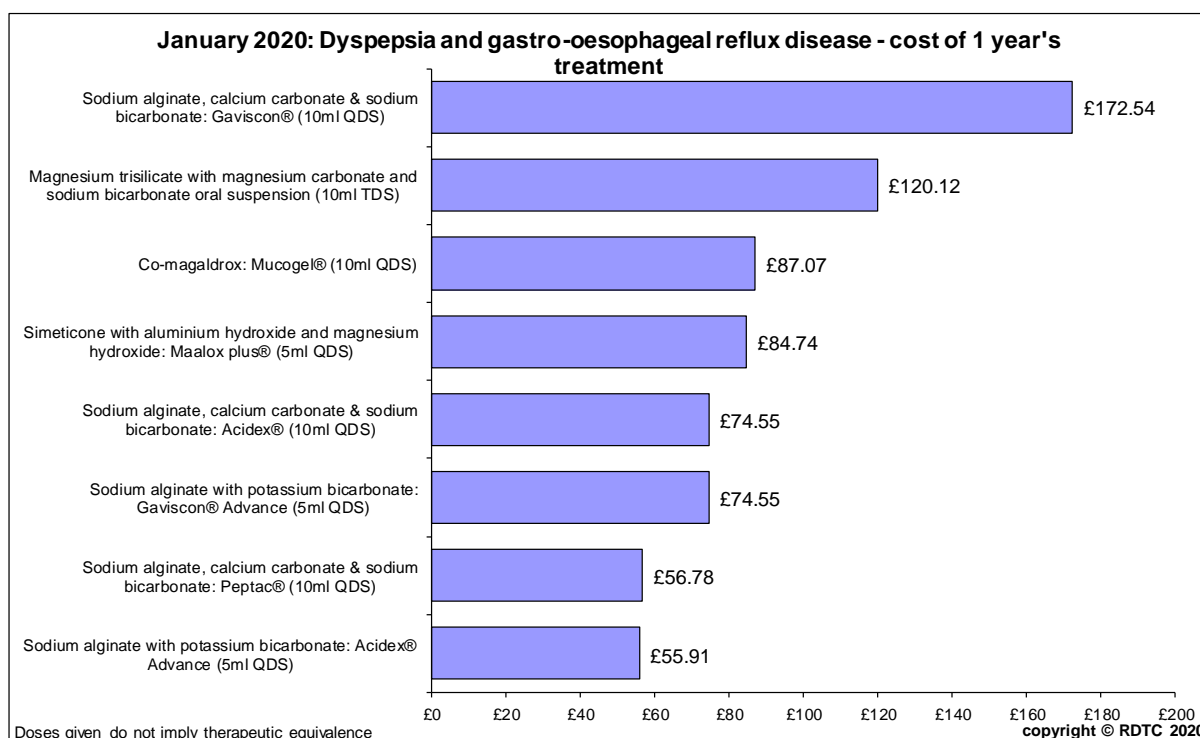
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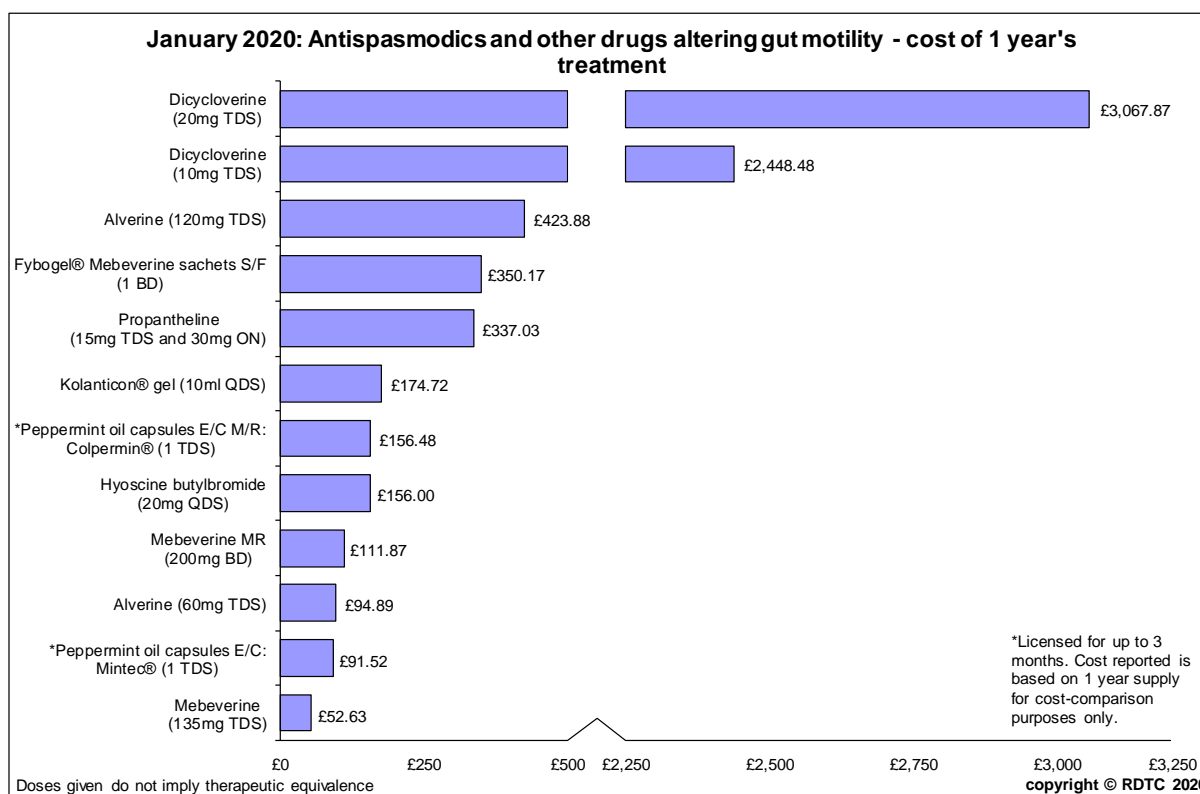
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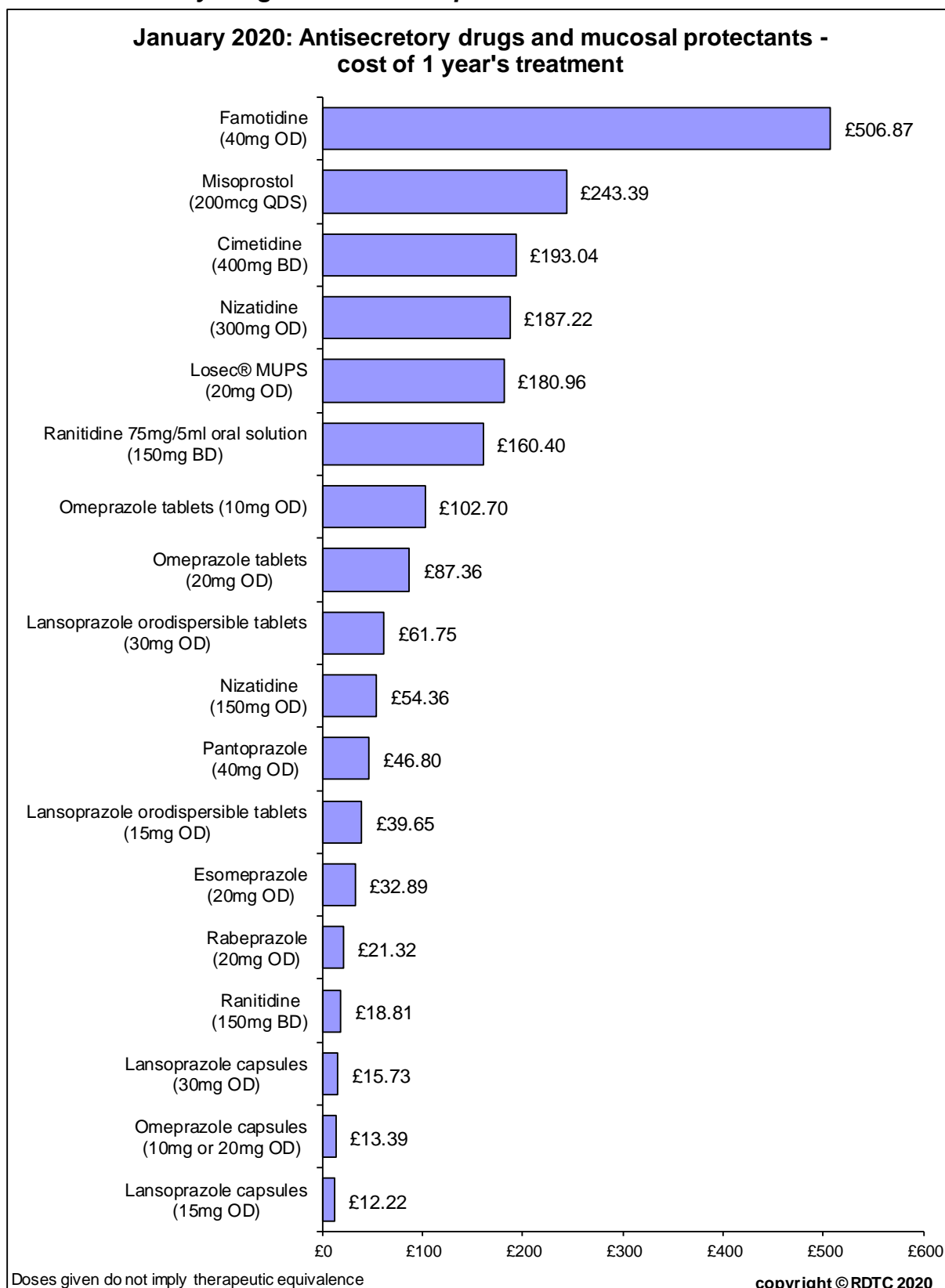


### 1.2 Antispasmodics and other drugs altering gut motility



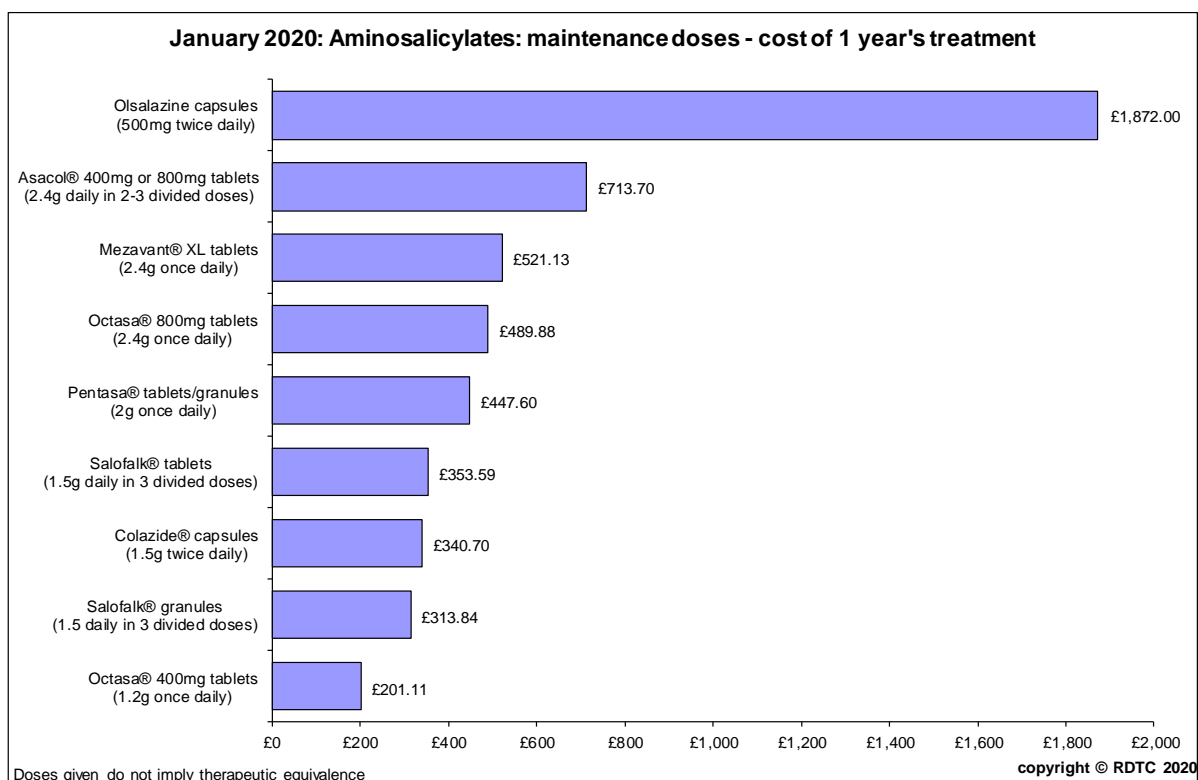
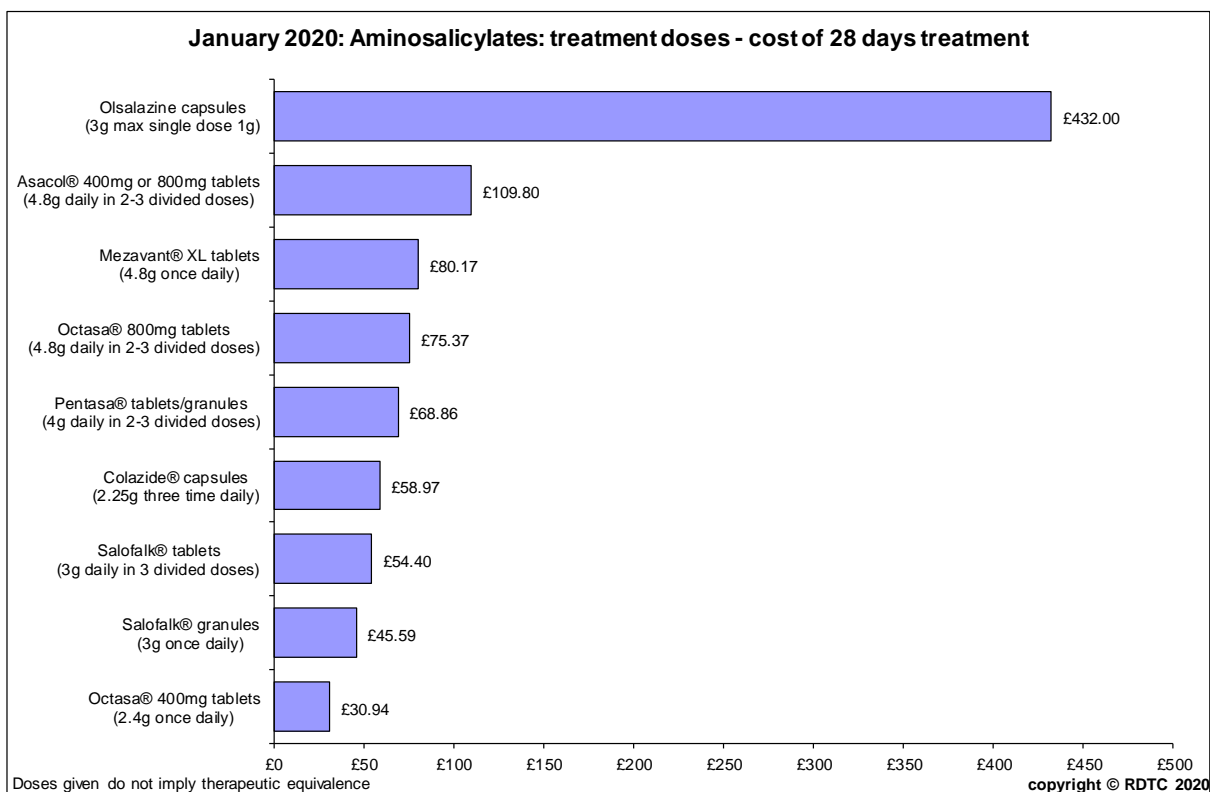
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1.3 Antisecretory drugs and mucosal protectants



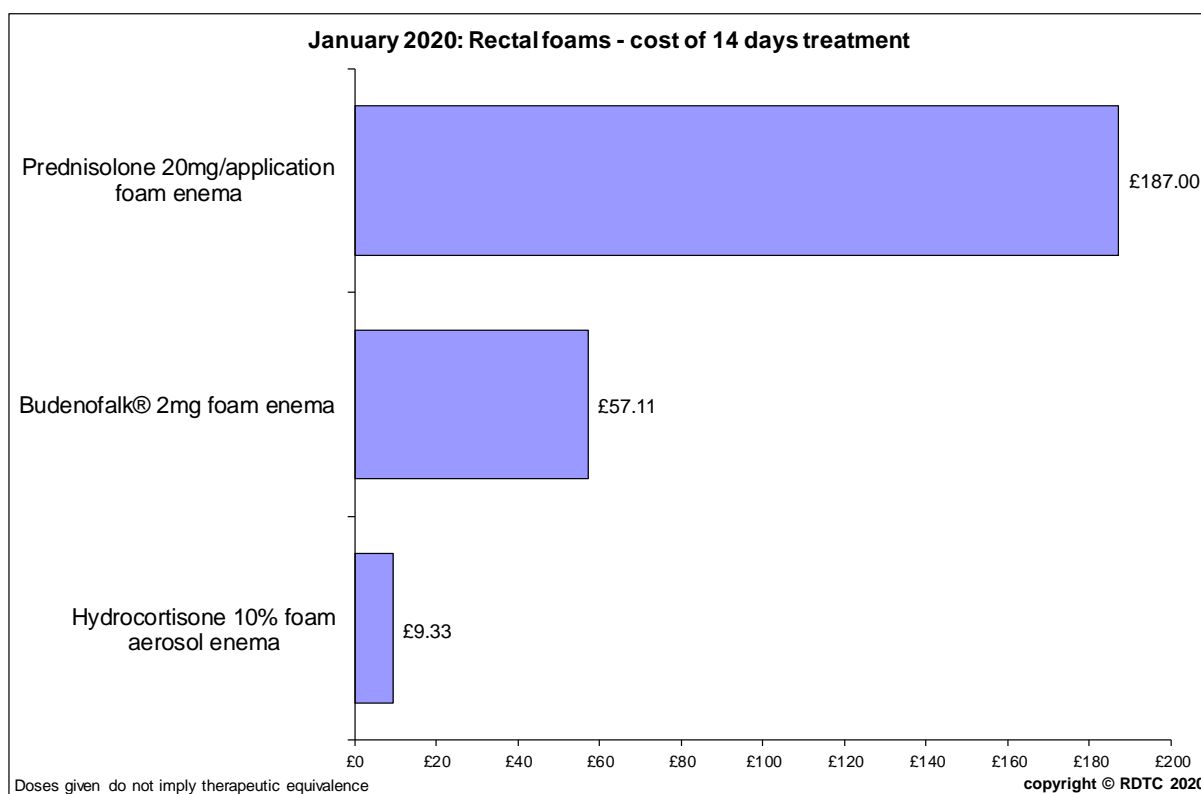
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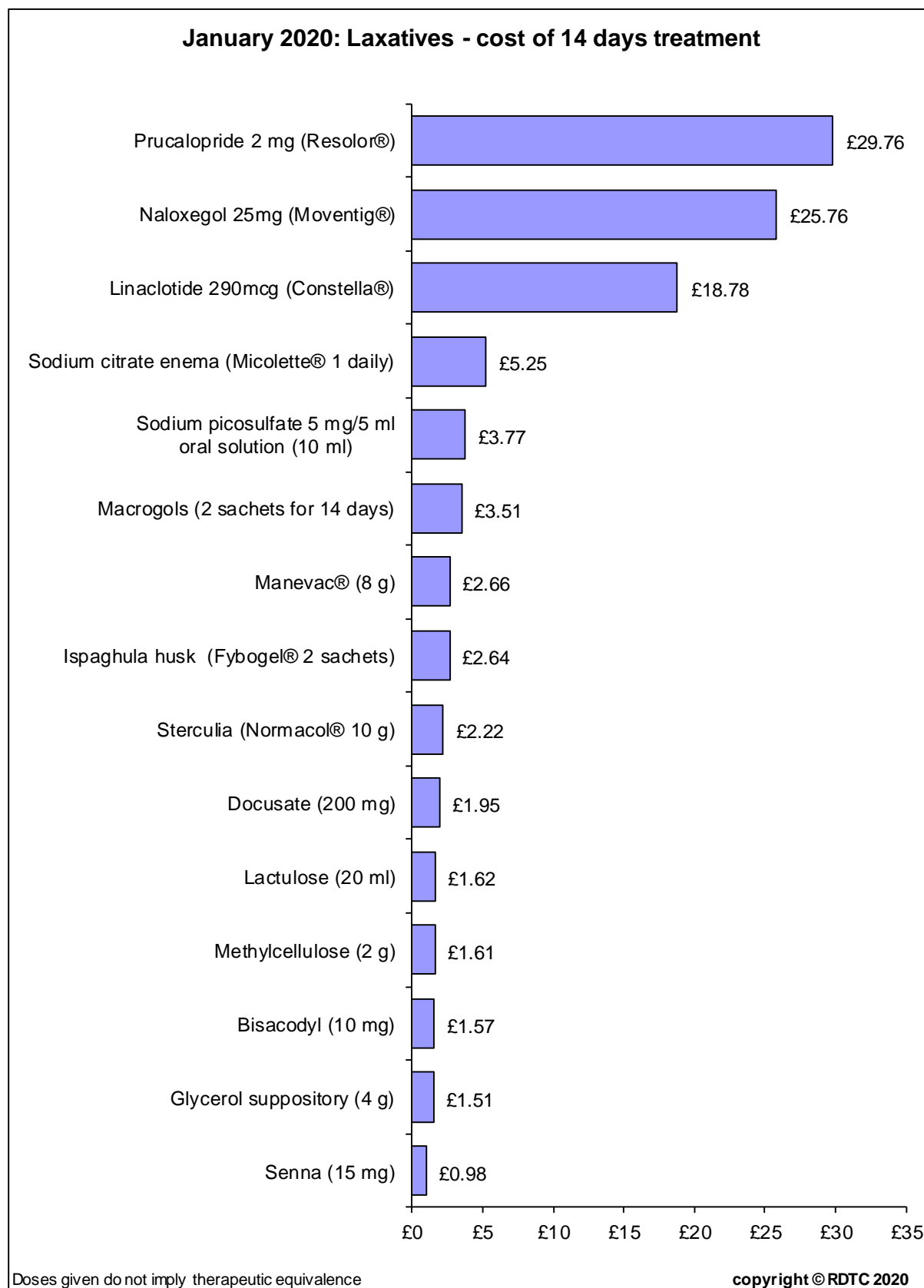


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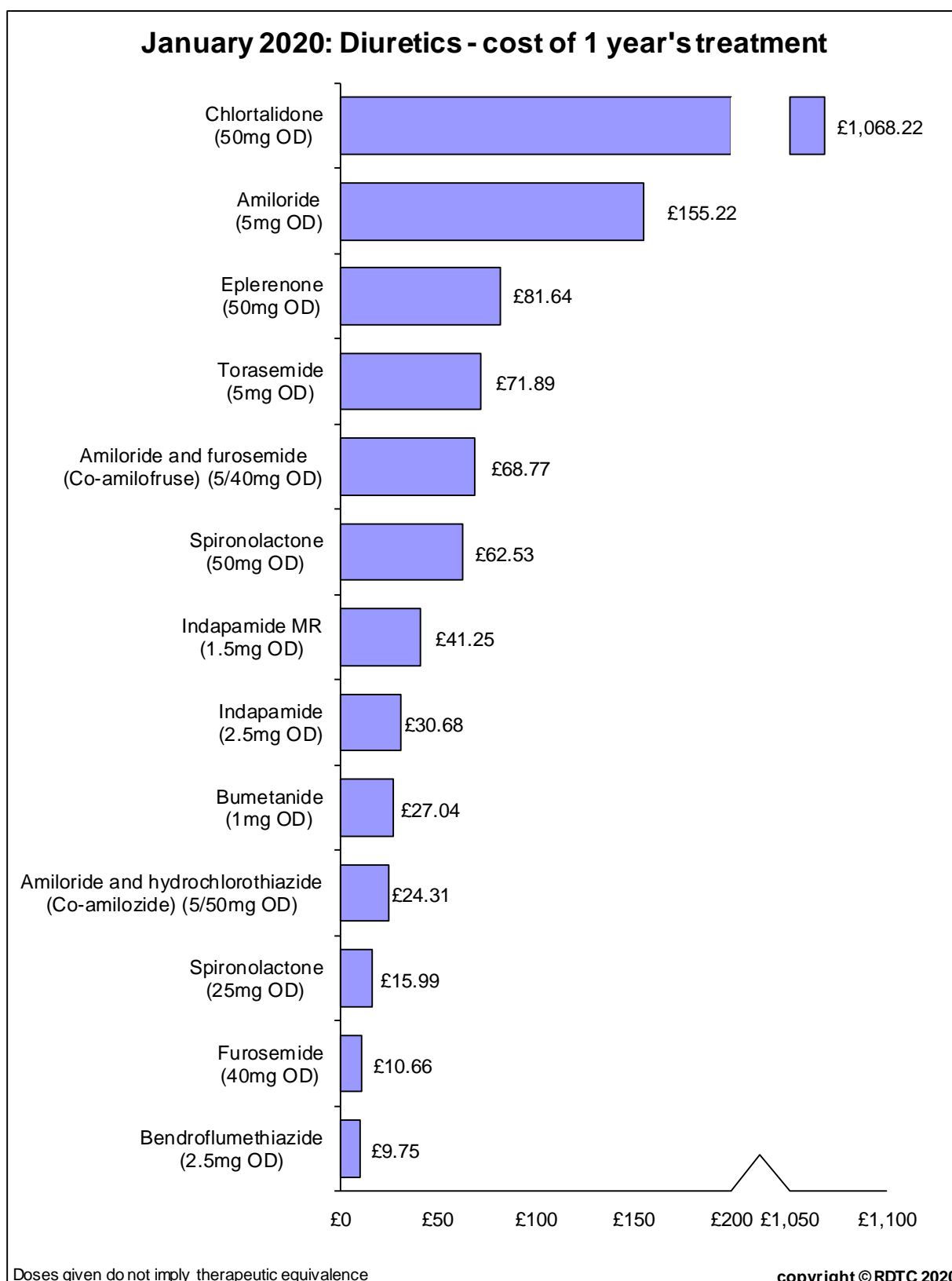
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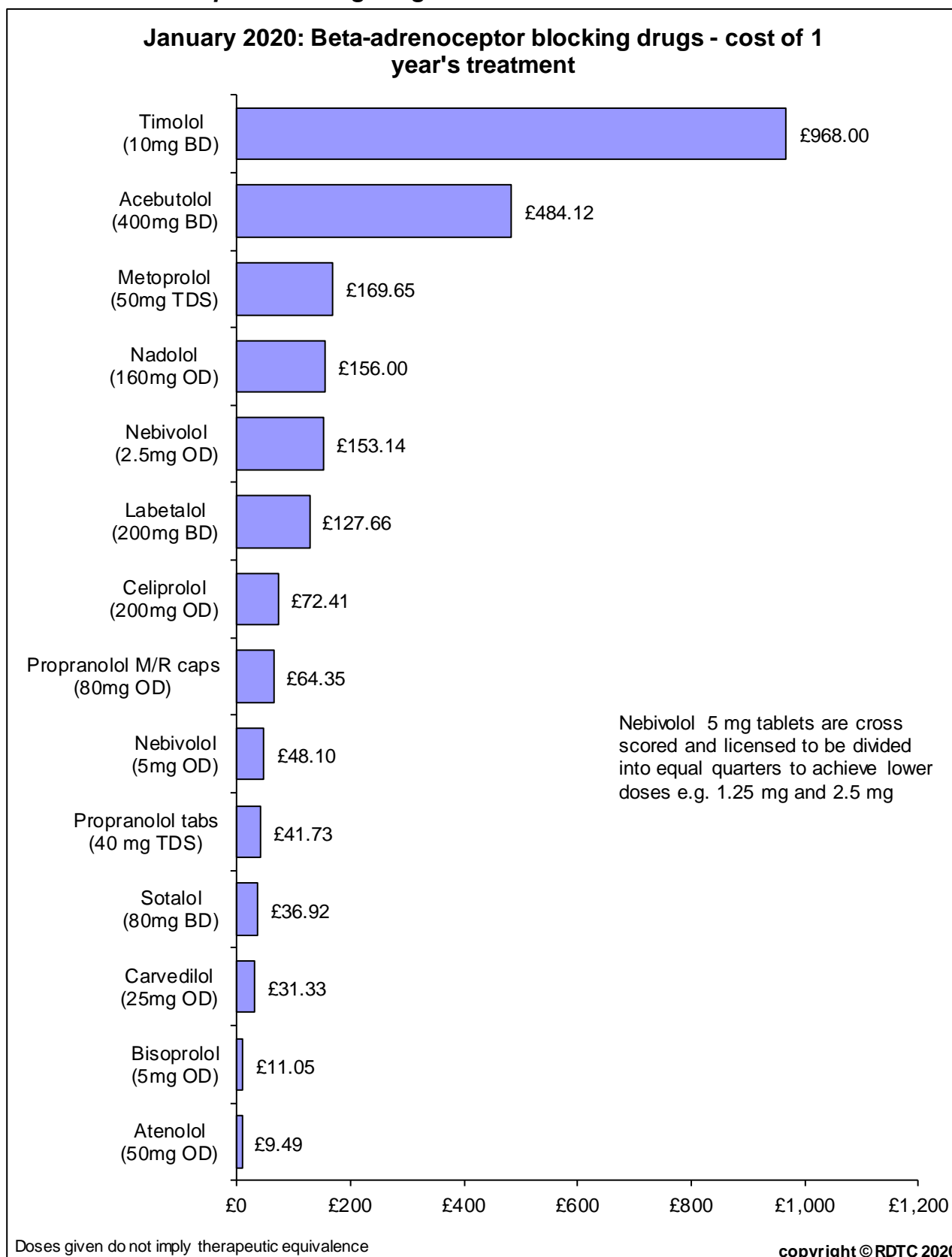
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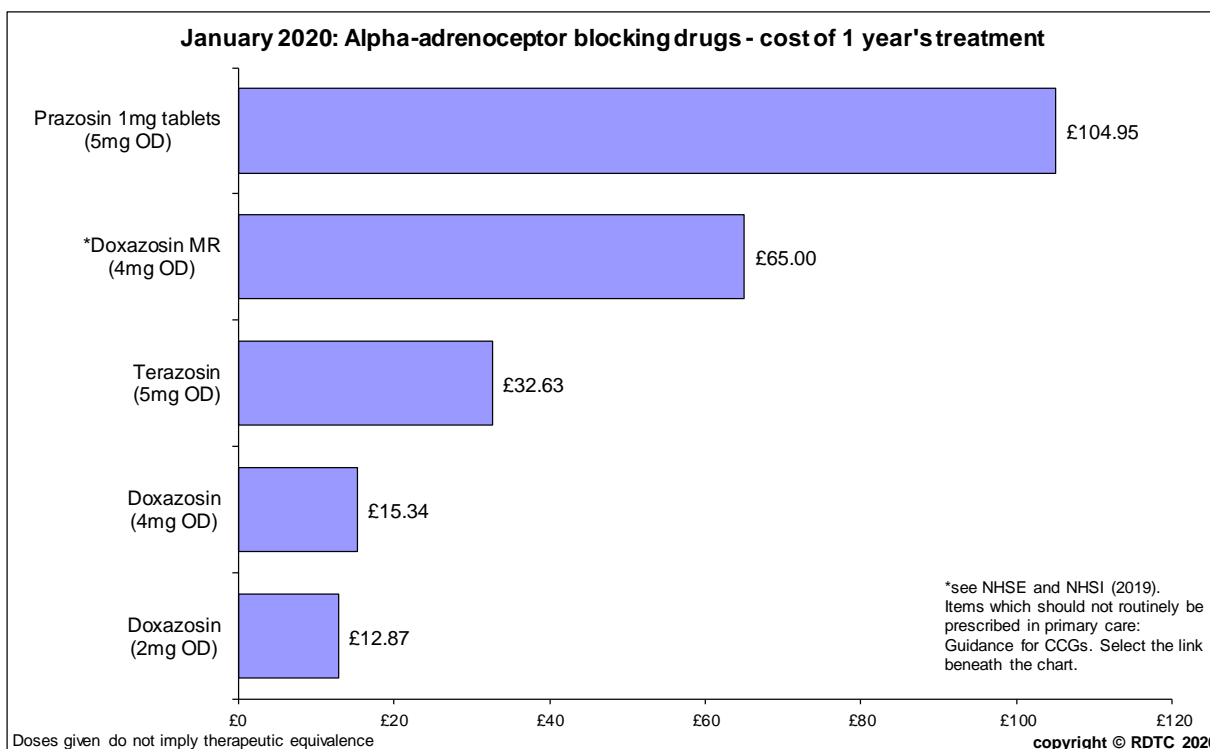
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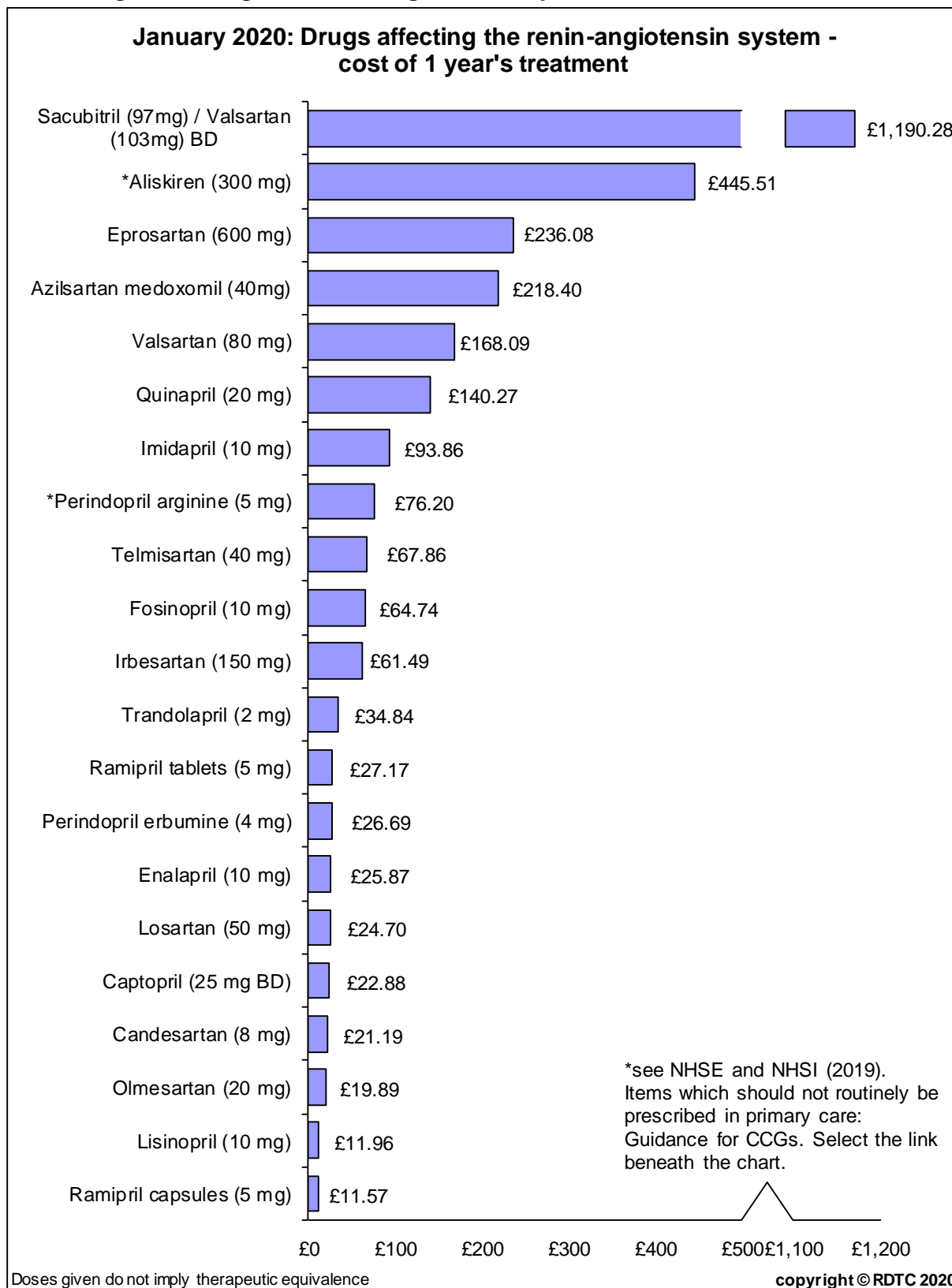
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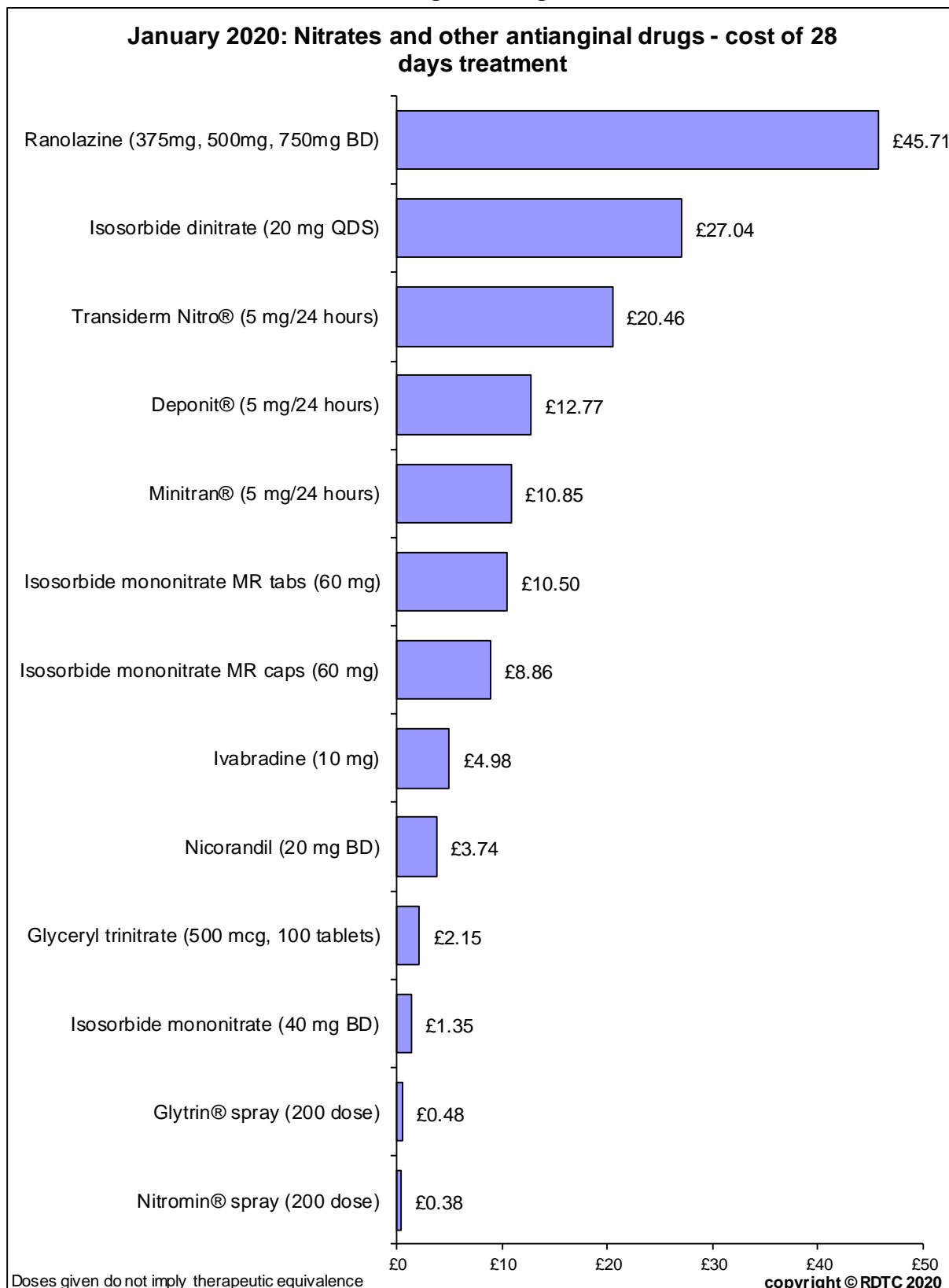
2.5.5 Drugs affecting the renin-angiotensin system



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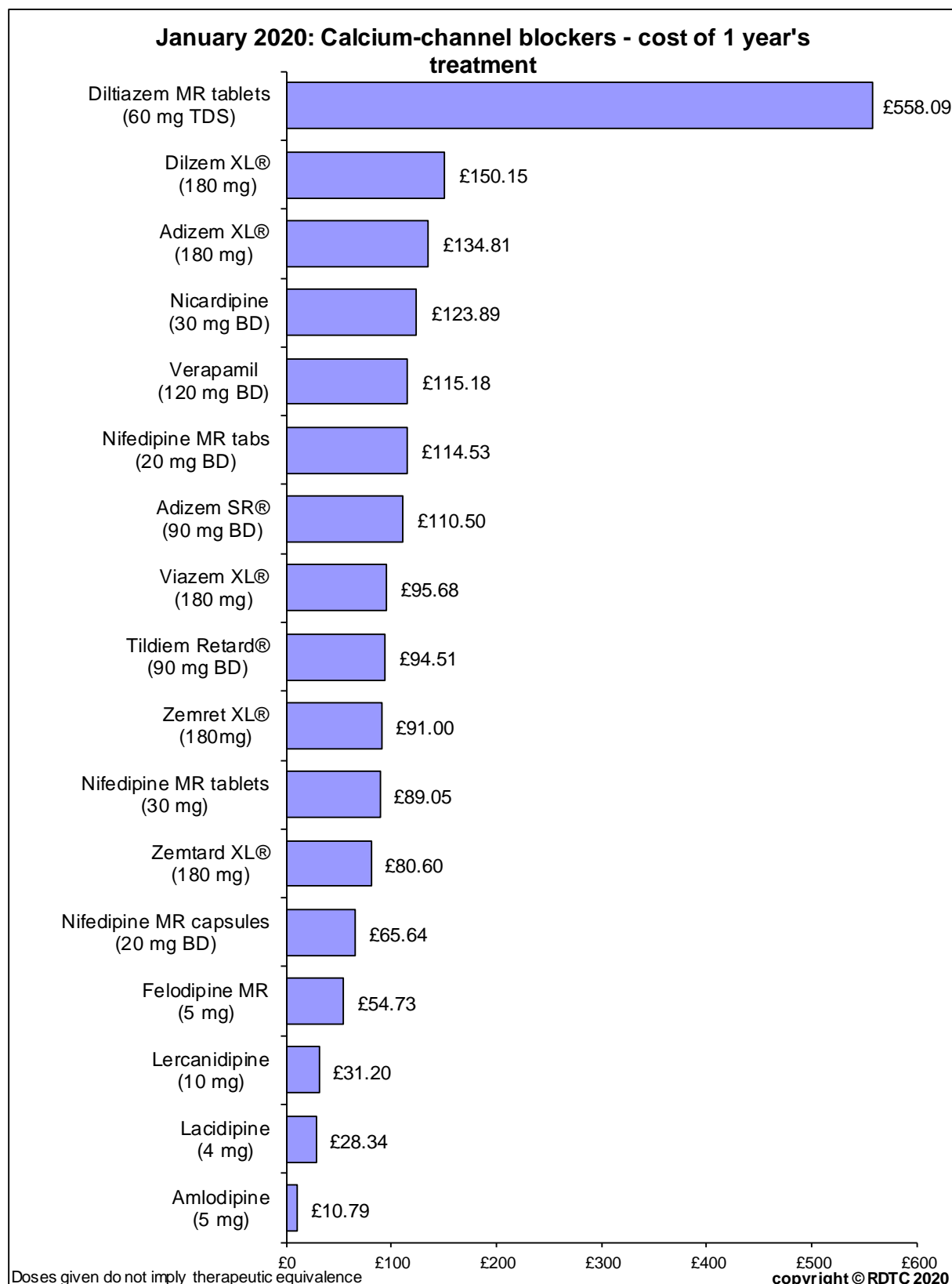
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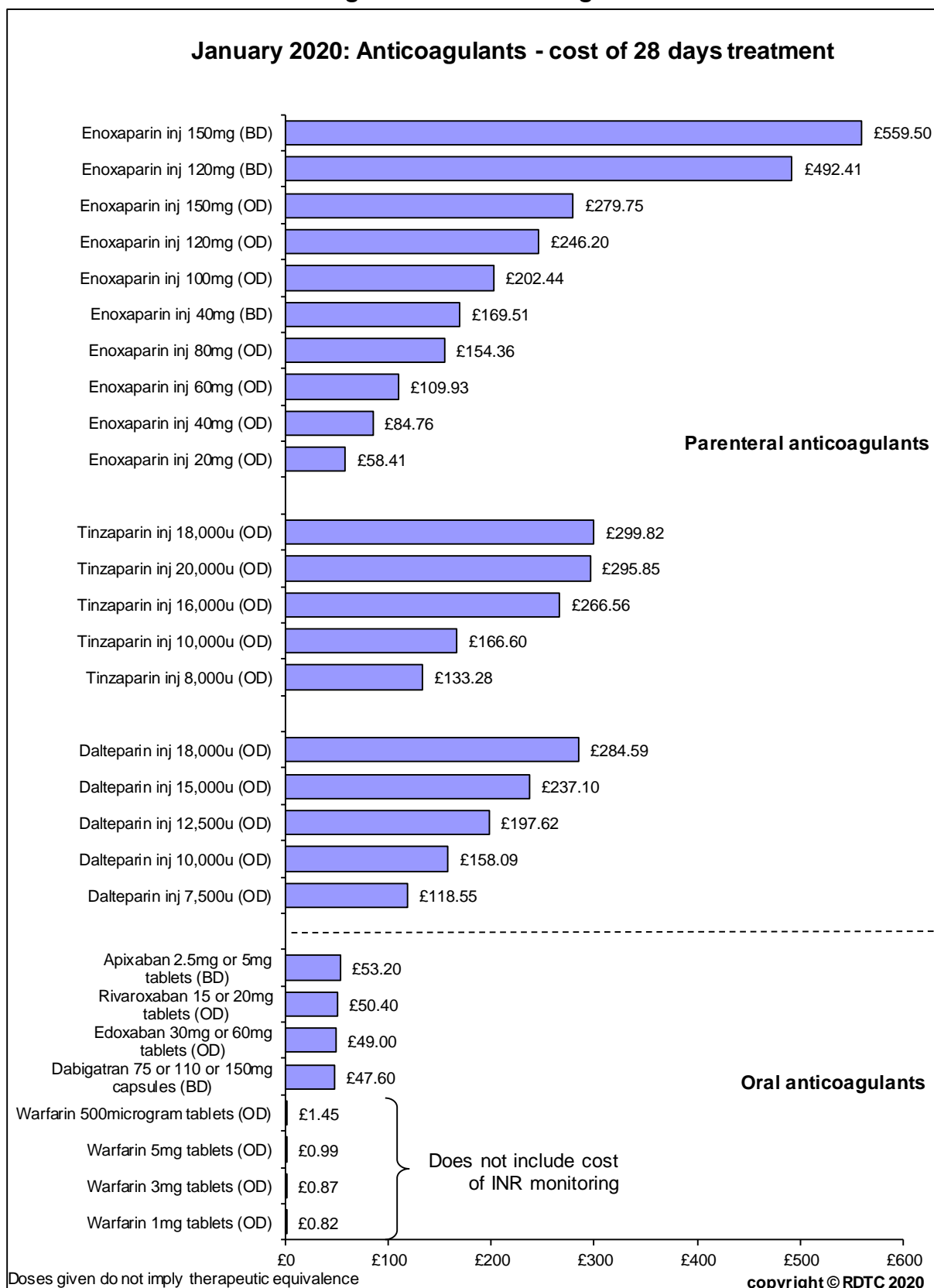
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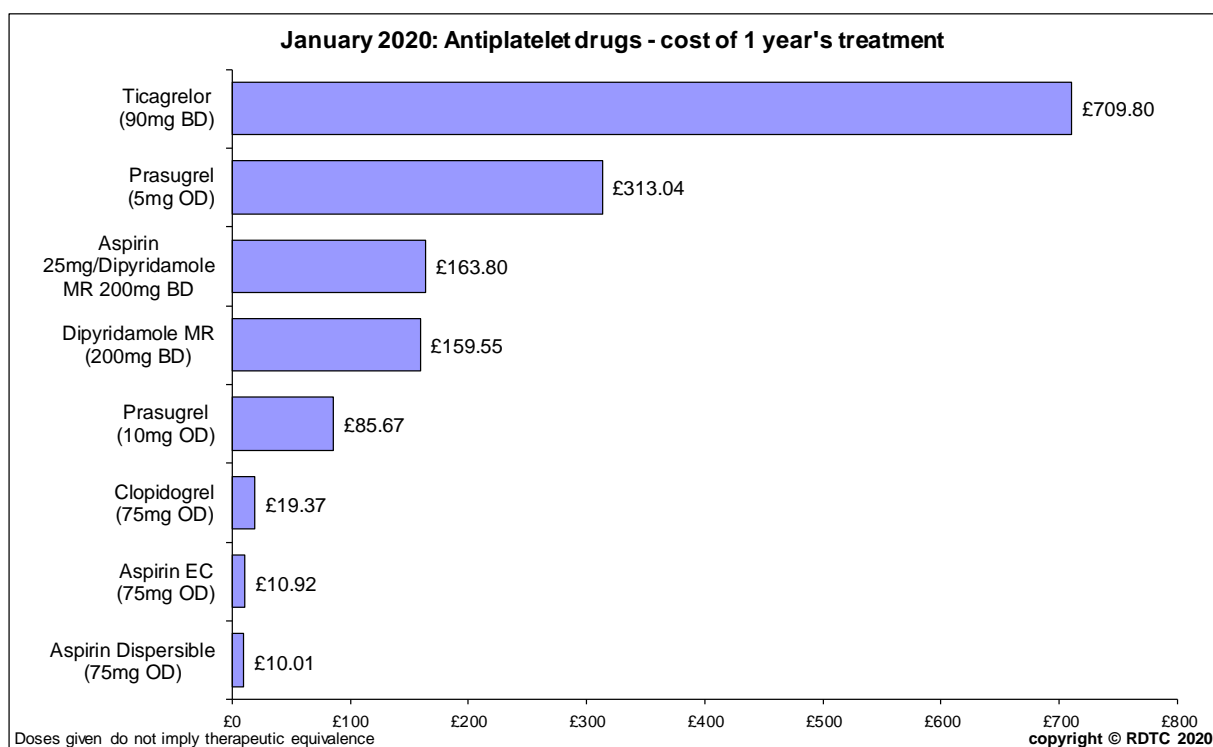


2.8.1/2.8.2 Parenteral anticoagulants/oral anticoagulants



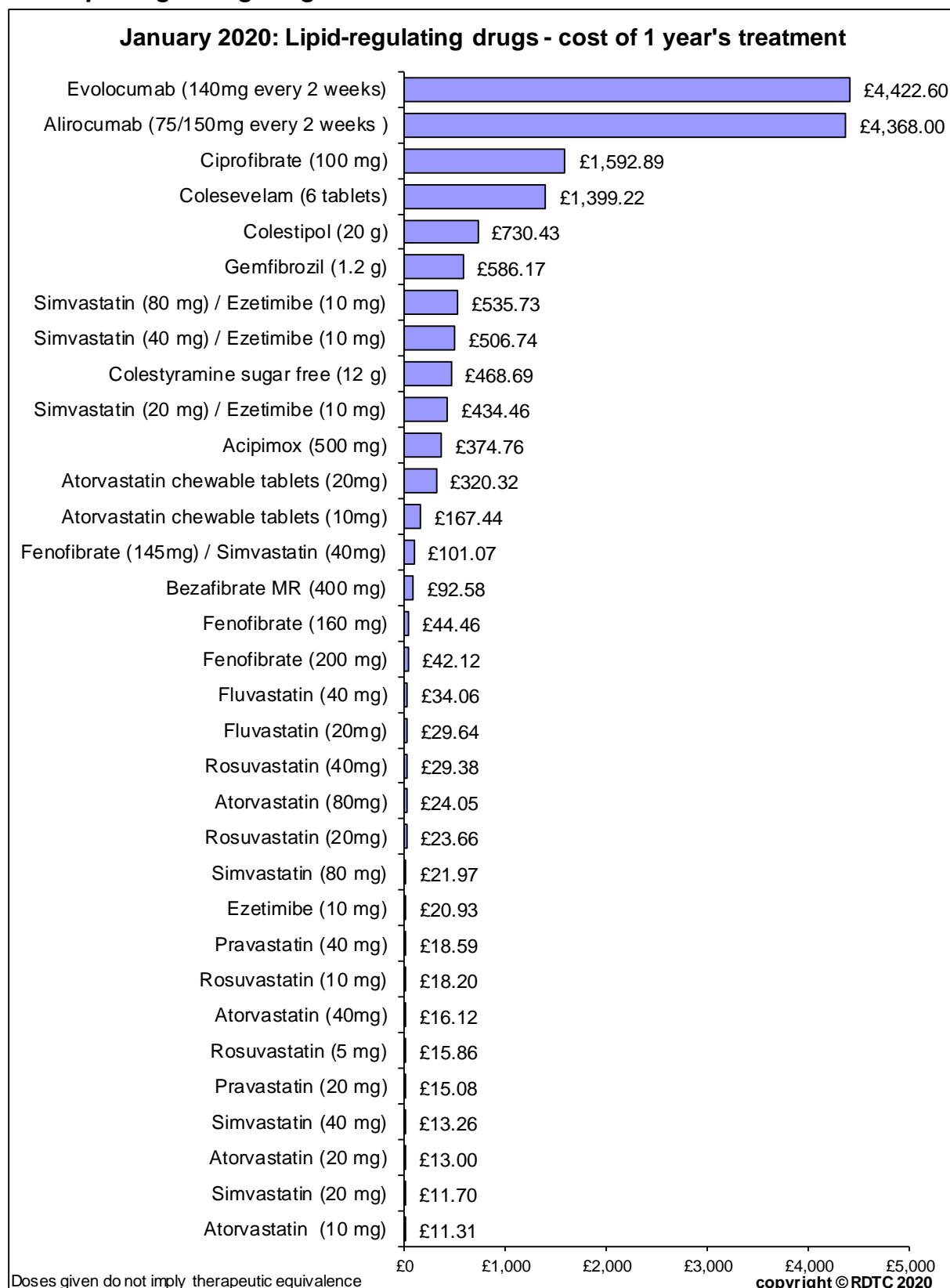
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## 2.9 Antiplatelet drugs



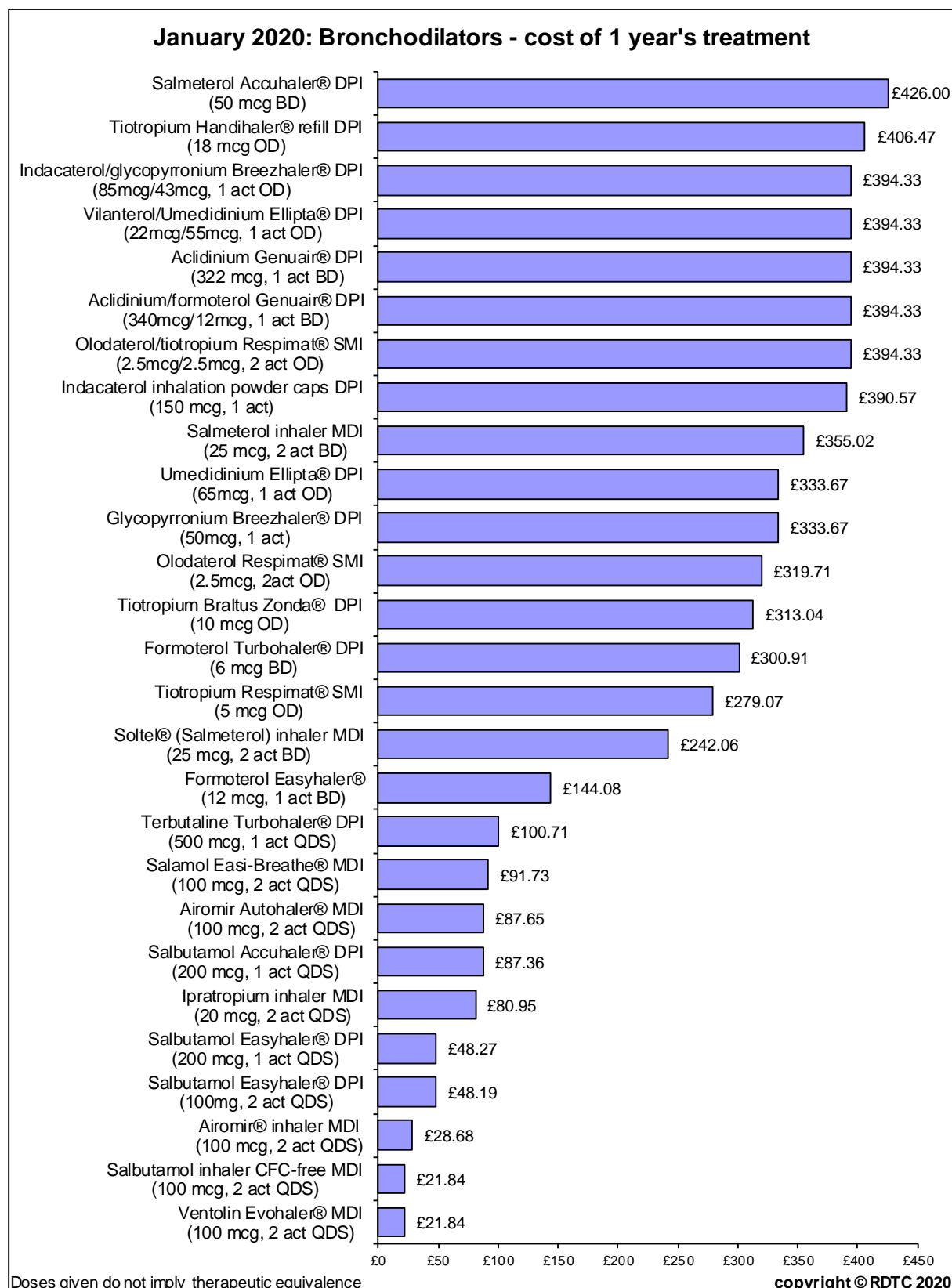
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## 2.12 Lipid-regulating drugs

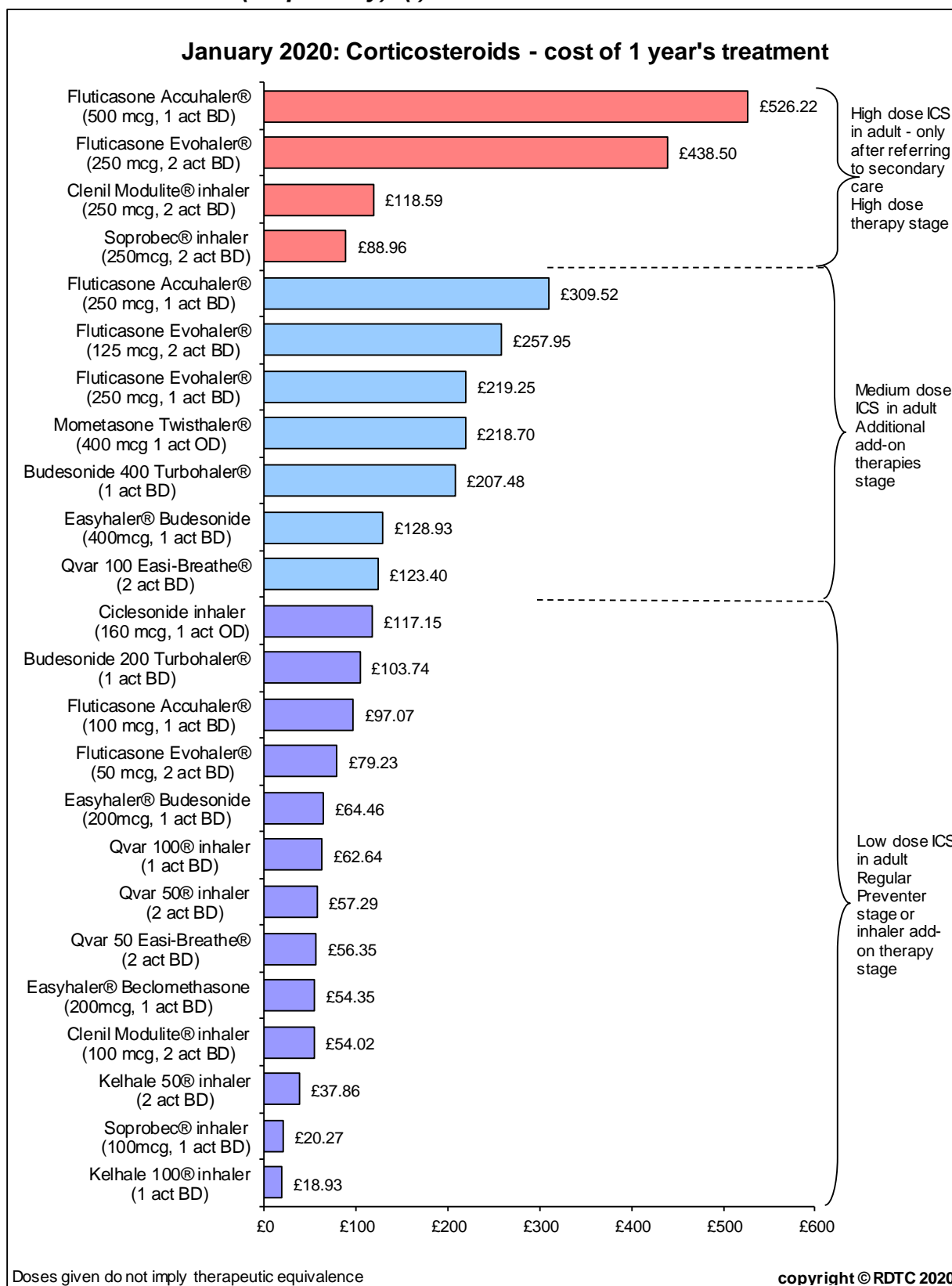


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## 3.1 Bronchodilators

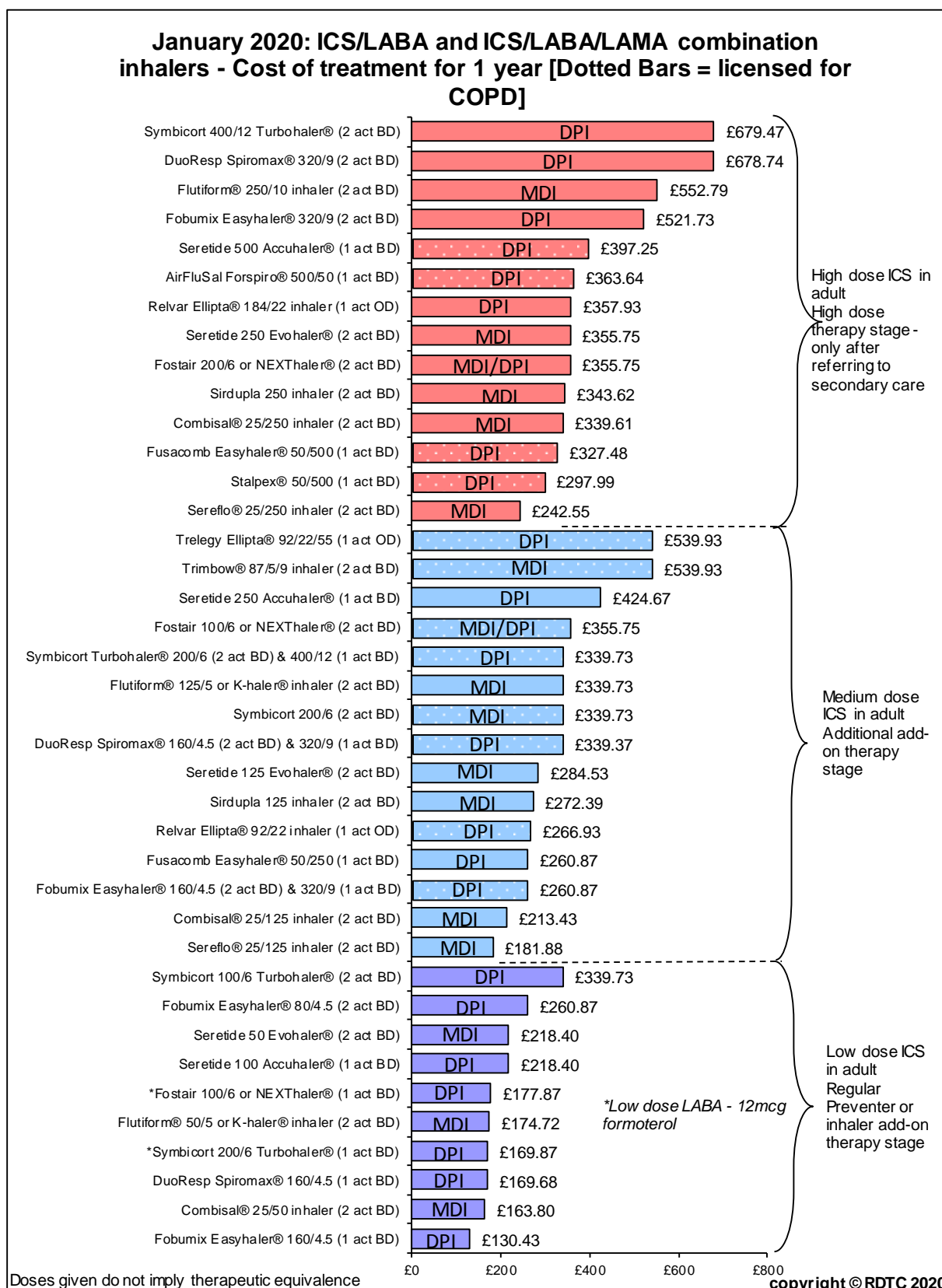

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3.2 Corticosteroids (respiratory): (i) corticosteroid inhalation devices



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**3.2 Corticosteroids (respiratory): (ii) combination with bronchodilators, inhalation devices**



High dose ICS in adult  
High dose therapy stage - only after referring to secondary care

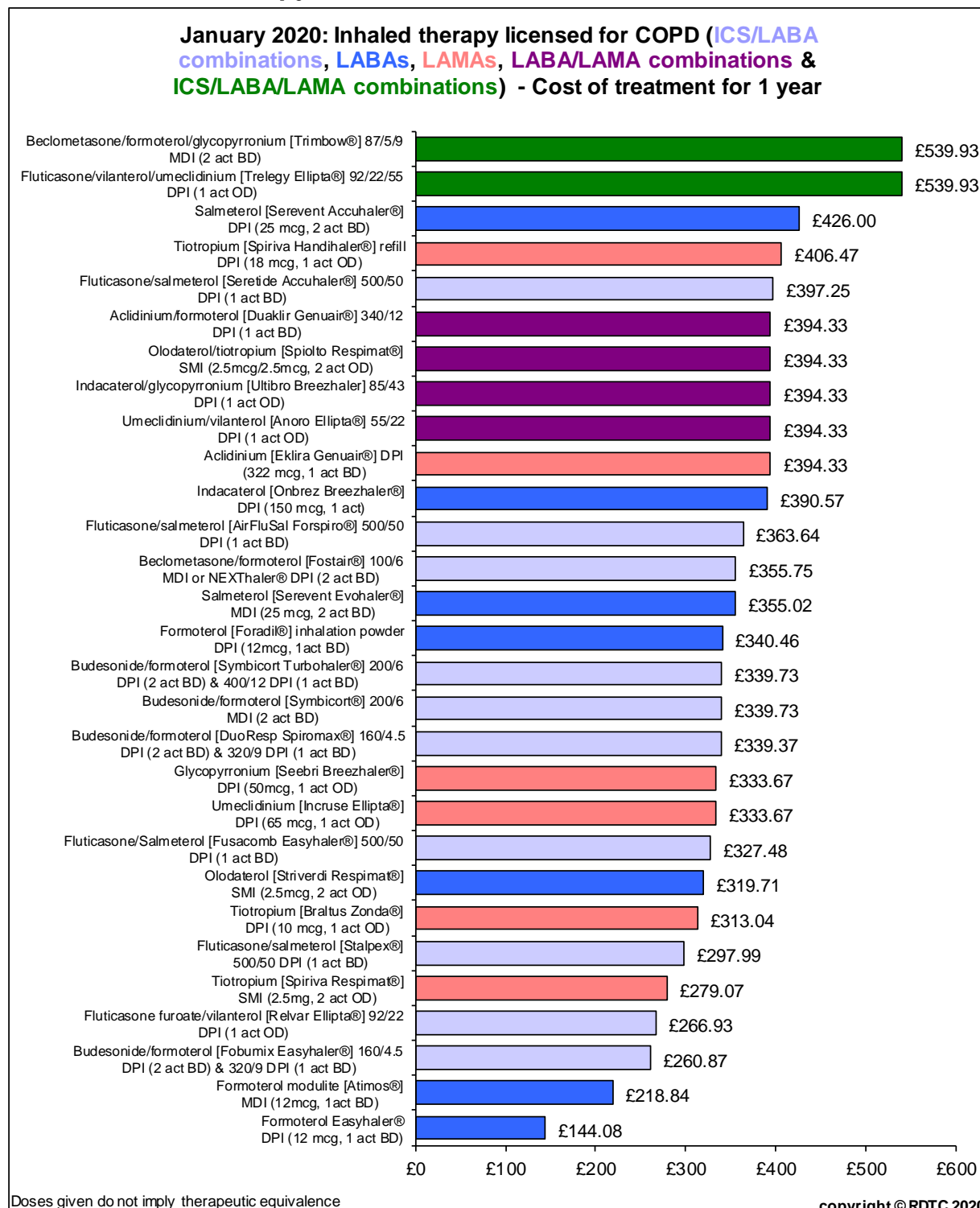
Medium dose ICS in adult  
Additional add-on therapy stage

Low dose ICS in adult  
Regular Preventer or inhaler add-on therapy stage

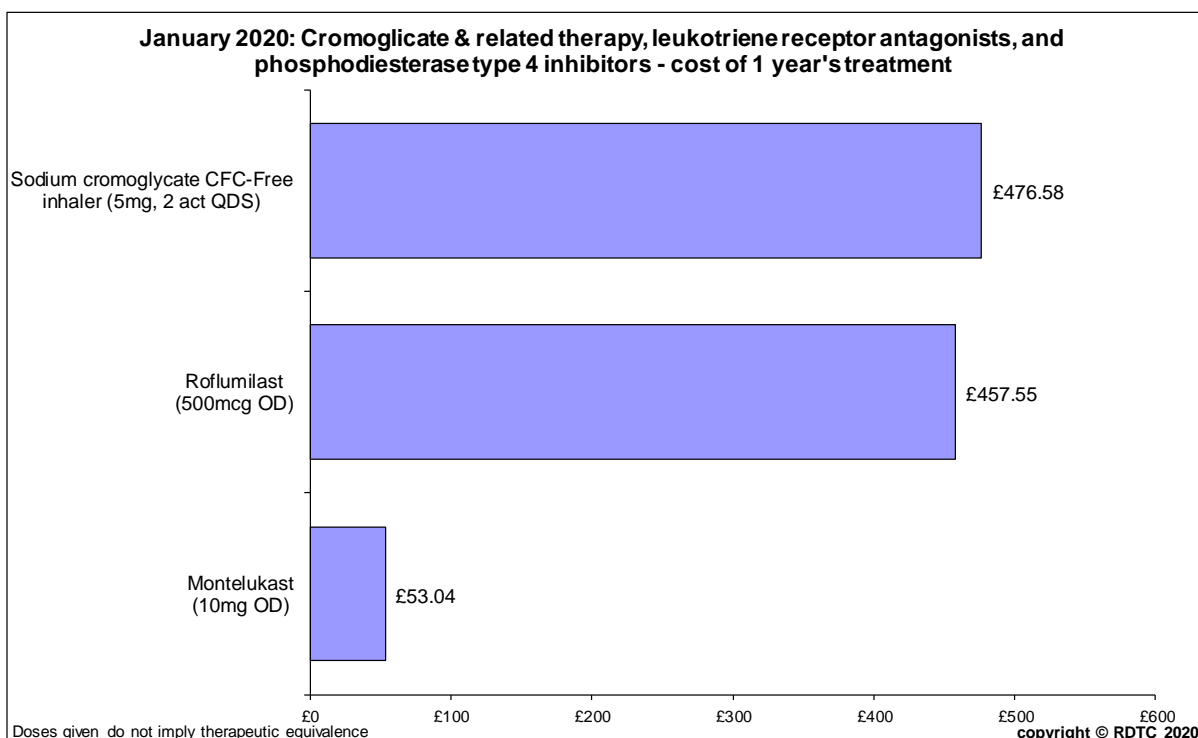
\*Low dose LABA - 12mcg formoterol

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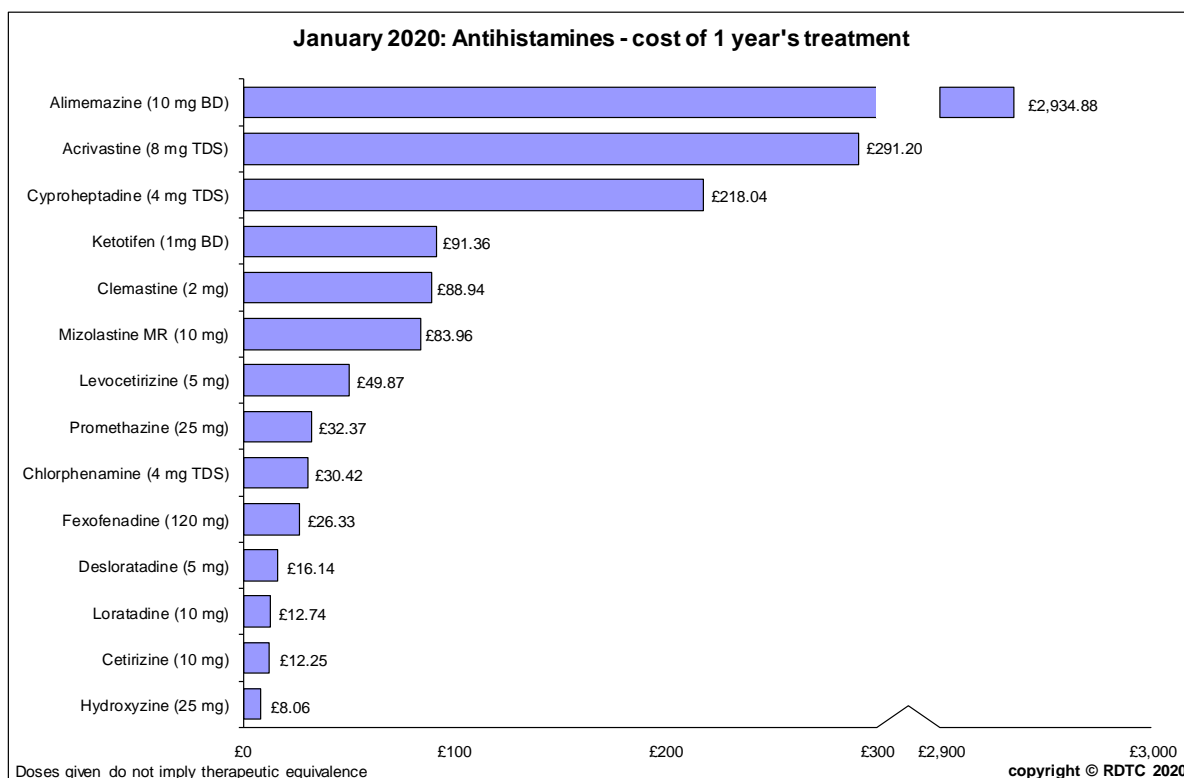
## 3.1 &amp; 3.2 Inhaled therapy licensed for COPD

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### 3.3 Cromoglicic acid & related therapy, leukotriene receptor antagonists, and phosphodiesterase type-4 inhibitors



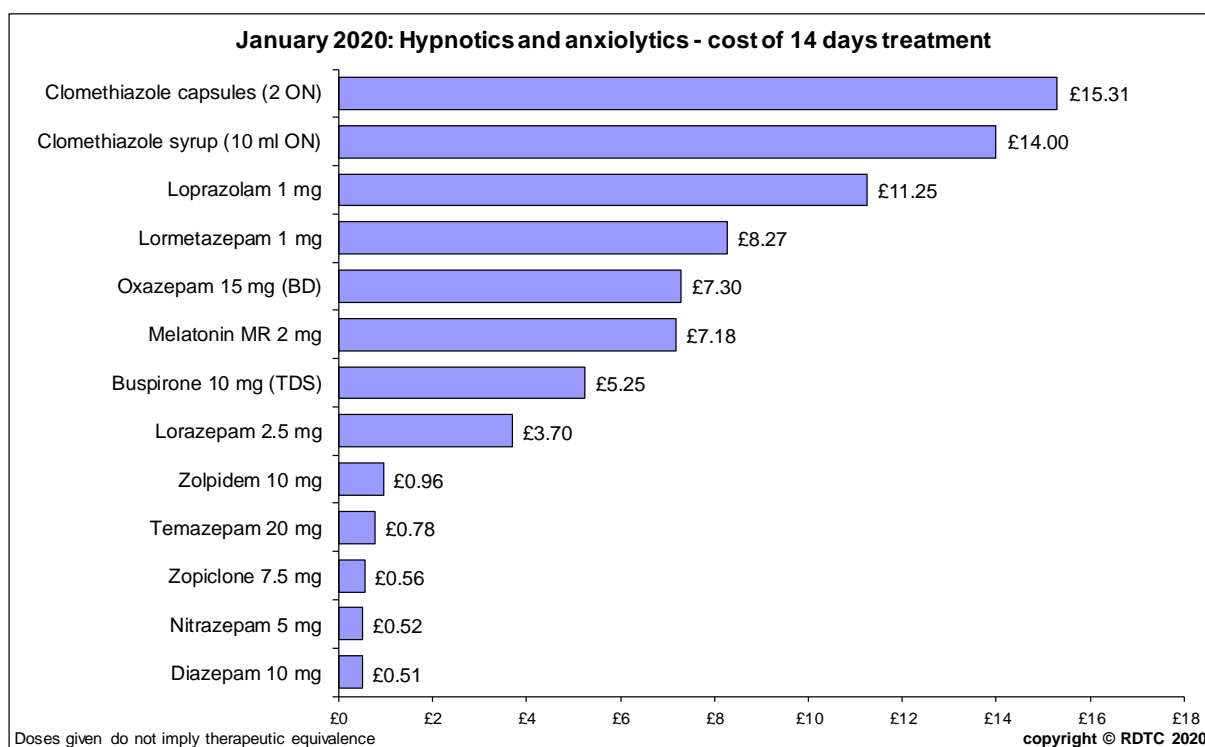
#### 3.4.1 Antihistamines



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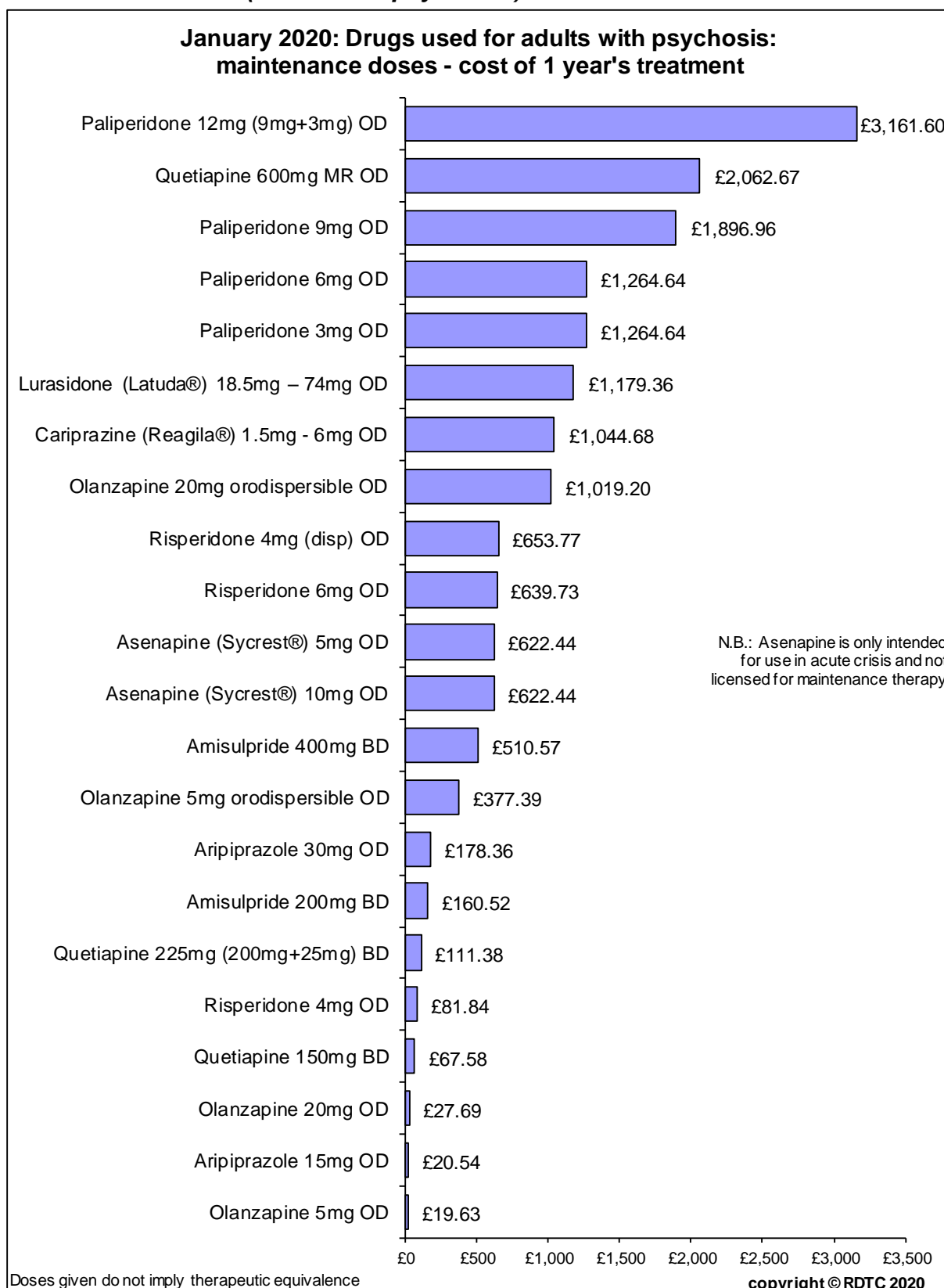


## 4.1.1/4.1.2 Hypnotics/Anxiolytics



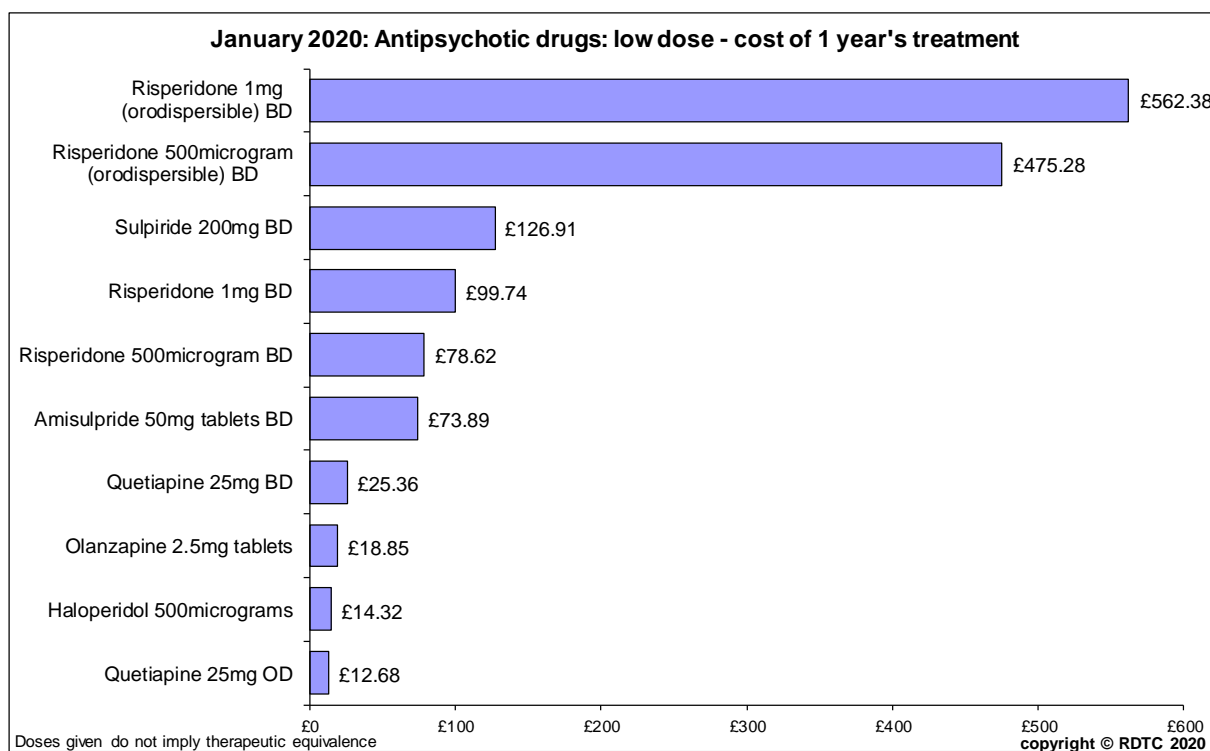
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**4.2.1/4.2.3 Antipsychotic drugs and drugs used for mania and hypomania: maintenance doses (adults with psychosis)**



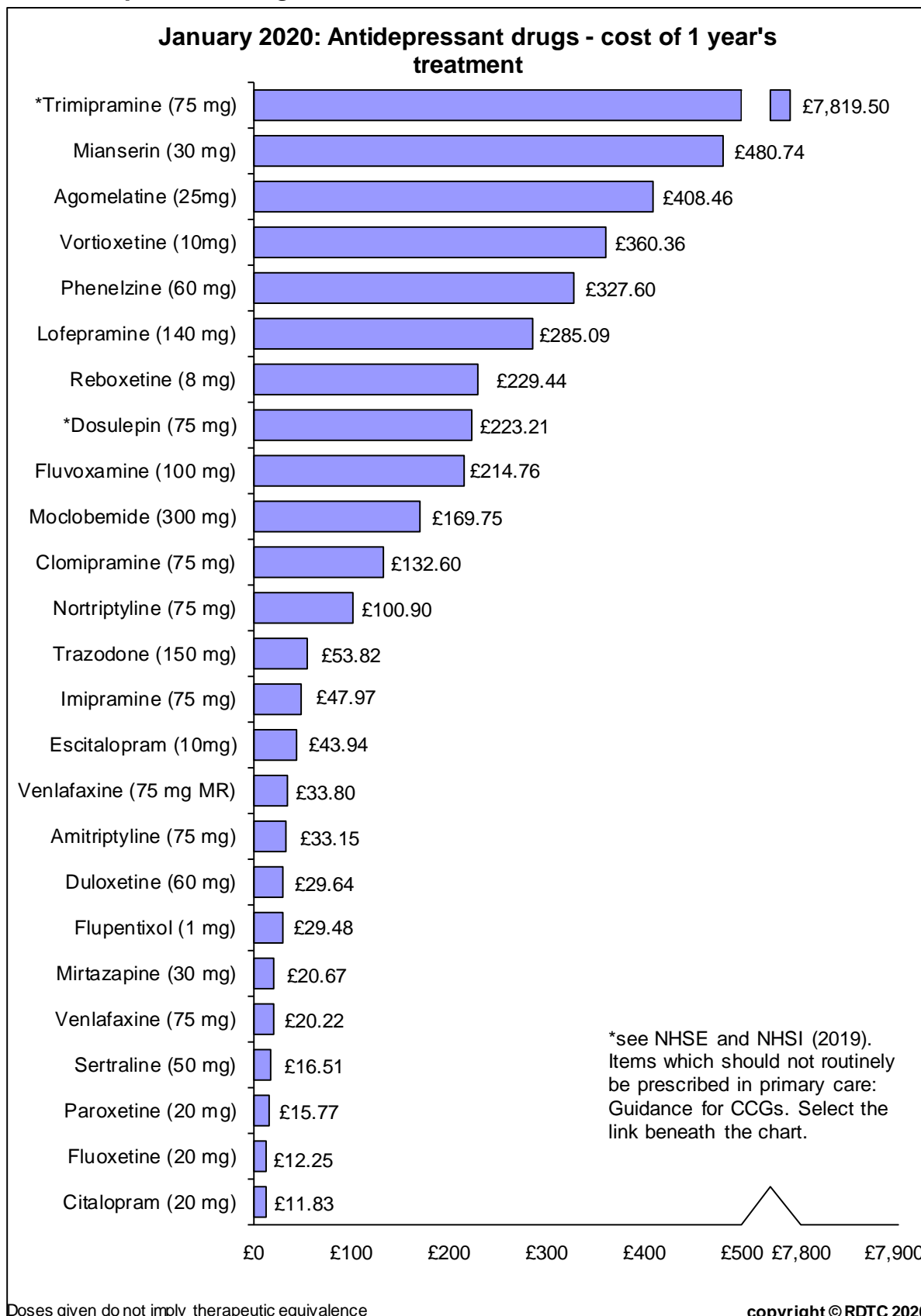
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### 4.2.1 Antipsychotic drugs: low dose



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### 4.3 Antidepressant drugs

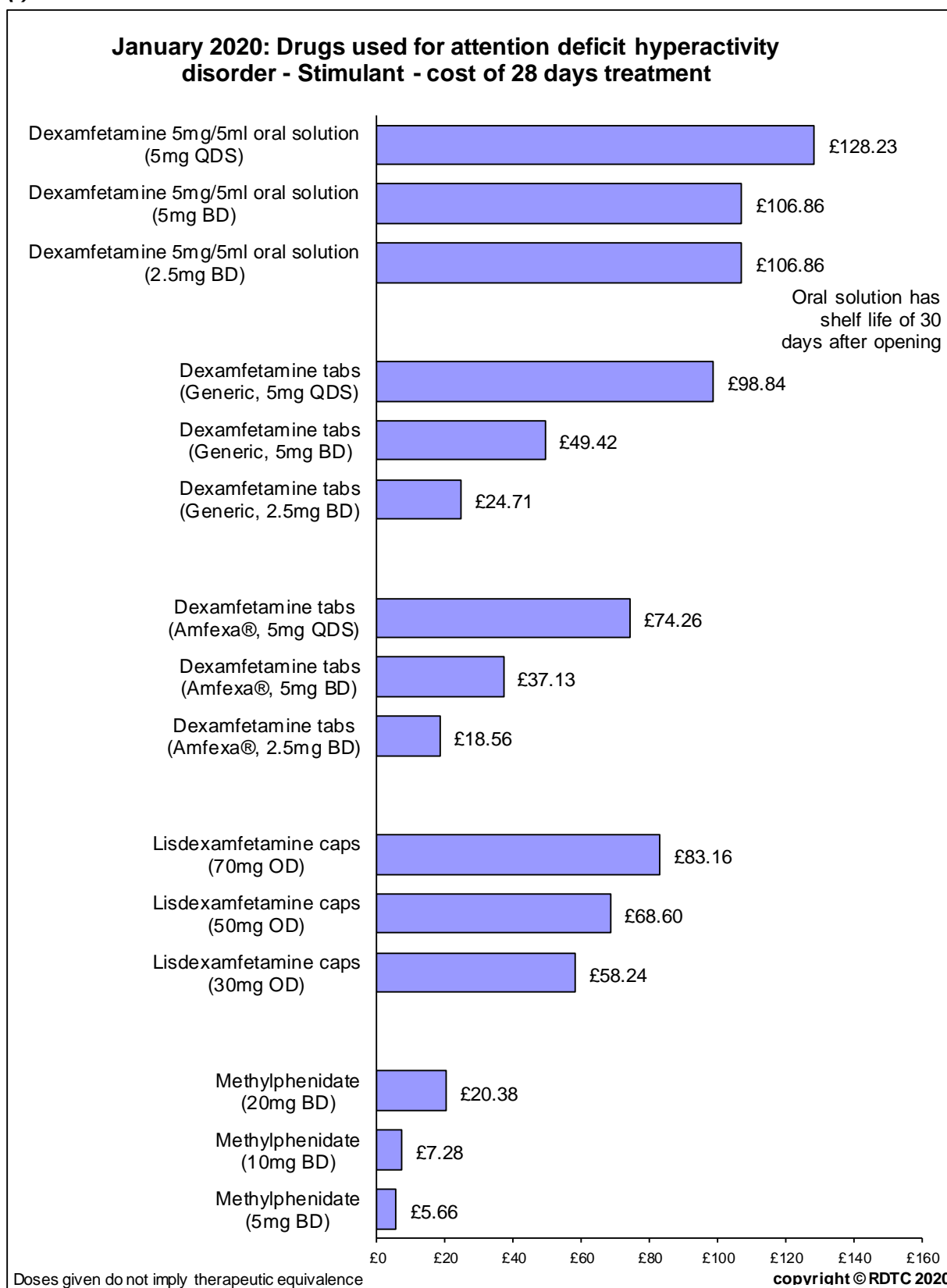


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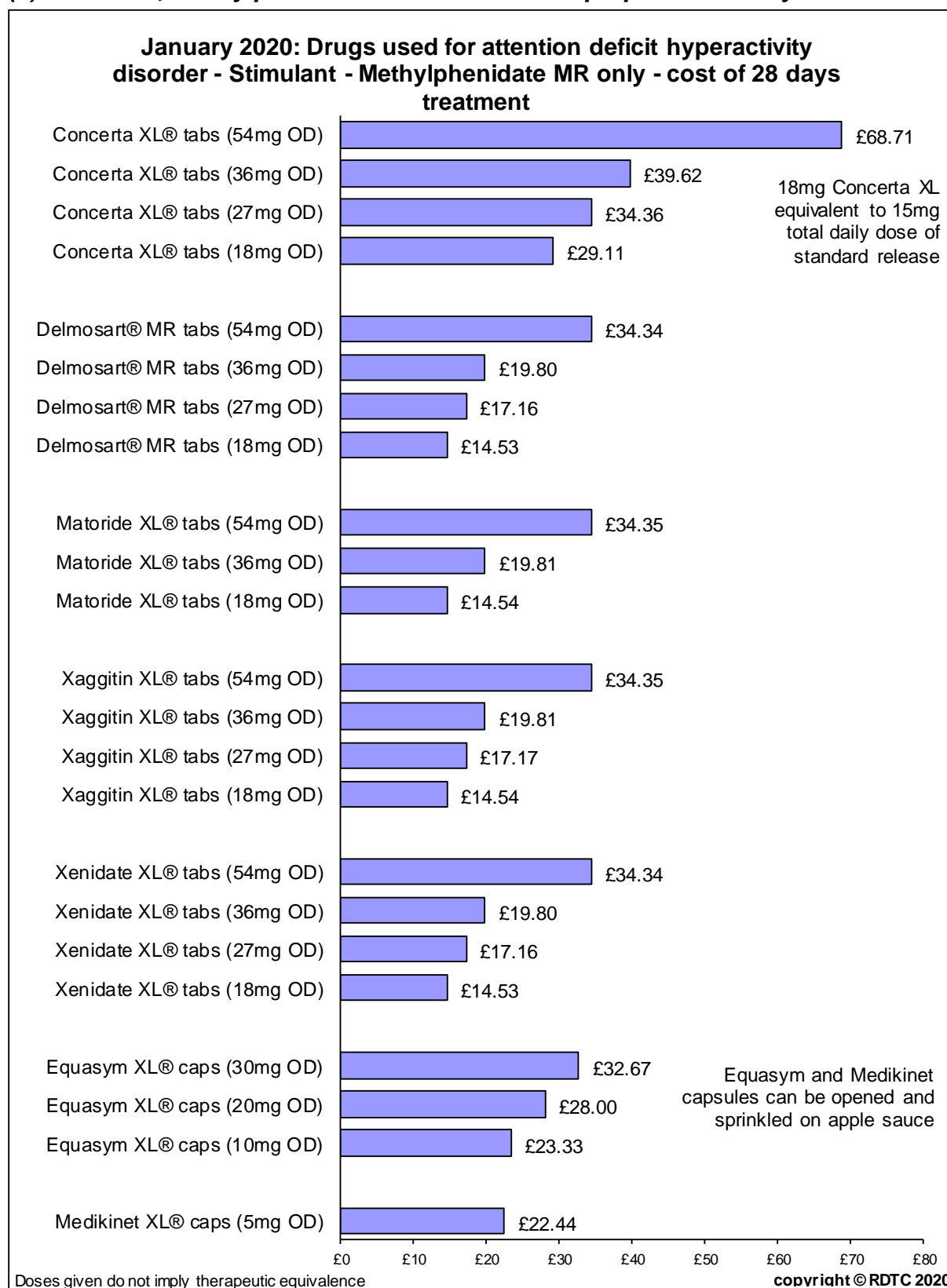
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#### 4.4 CNS stimulants and drugs used for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: (i) stimulant



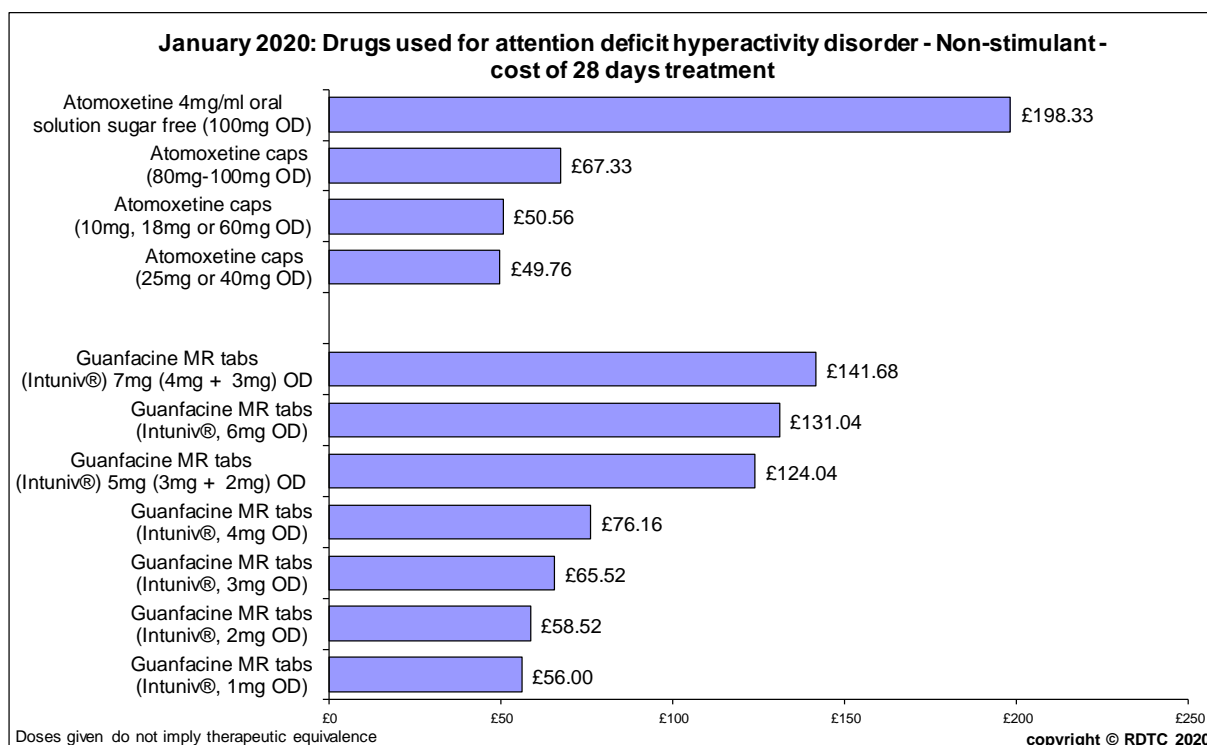
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#### 4.4 CNS stimulants and drugs used for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: (ii) stimulant; methylphenidate modified release preparations only



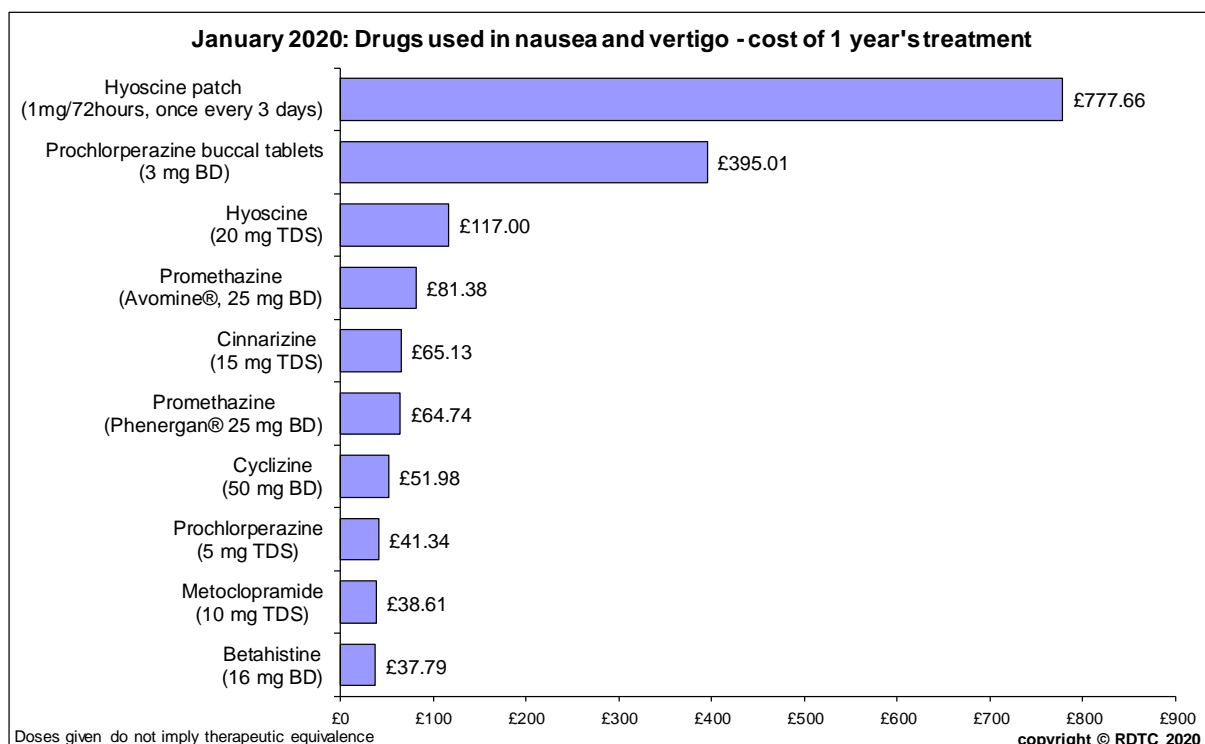
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#### 4.4 CNS stimulants and drugs used for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: (iii) non-stimulant



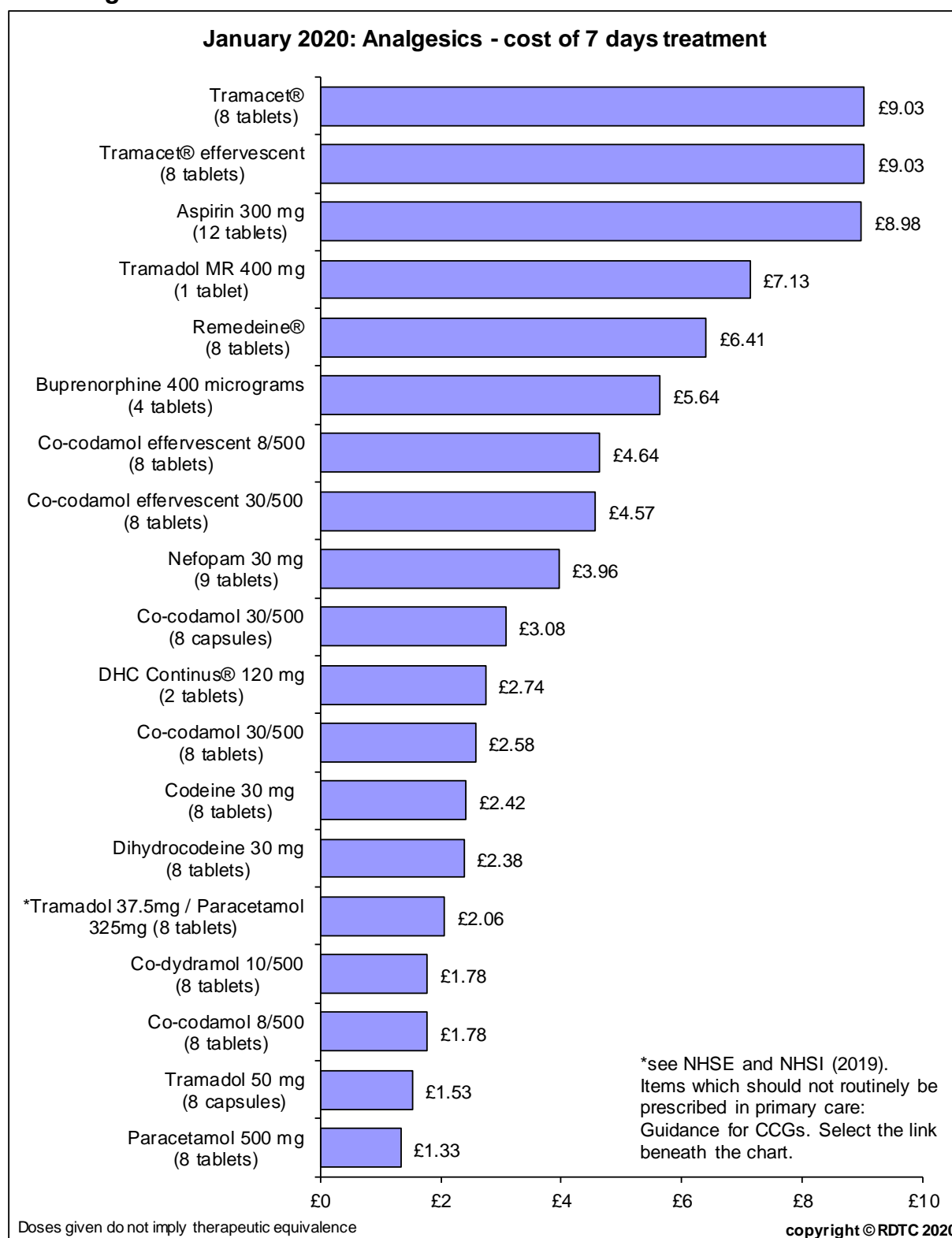
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#### 4.6 Drugs used in nausea and vertigo



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## 4.7 Analgesics

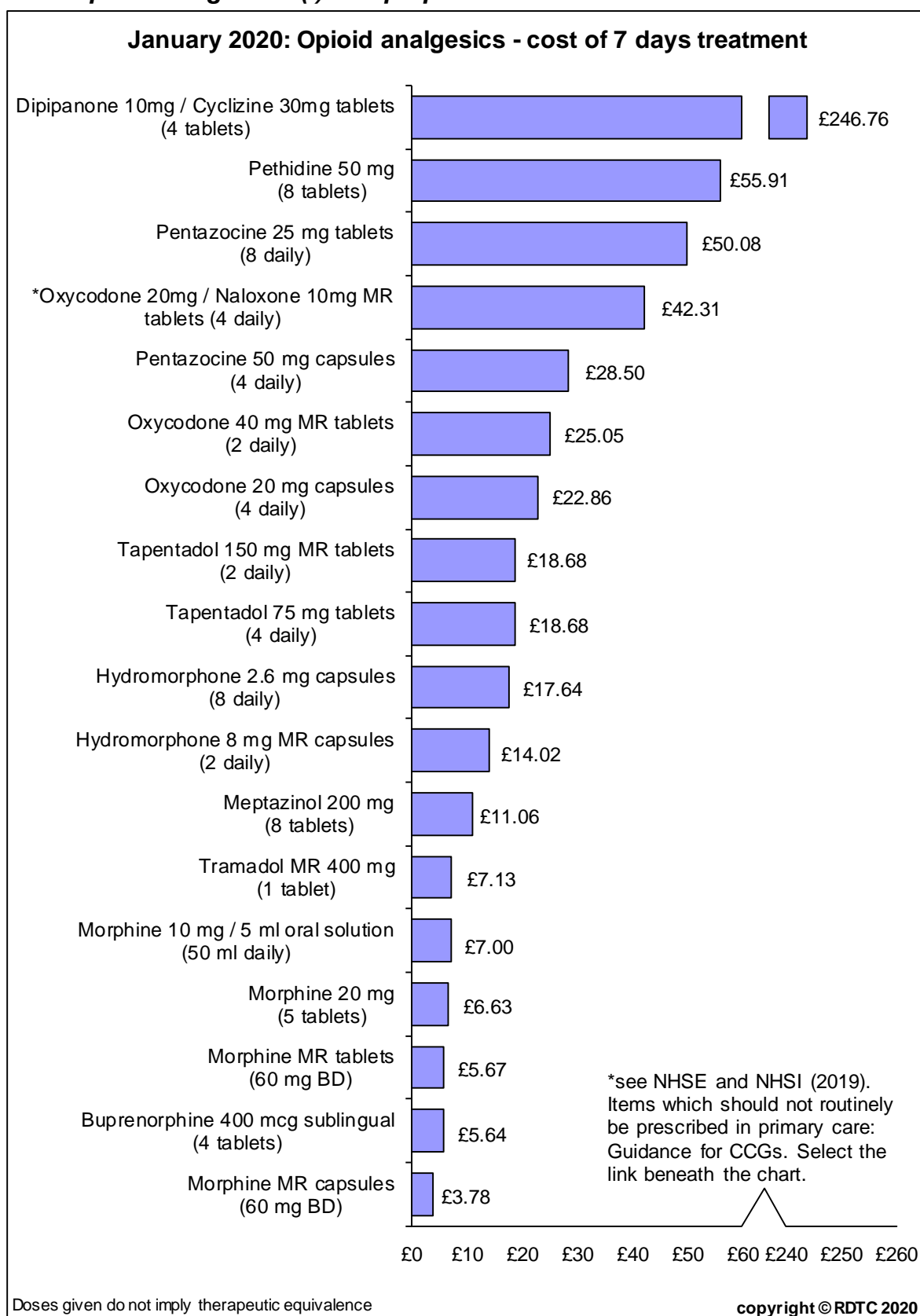


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4.7.2 Opioid analgesics: (i) oral preparations

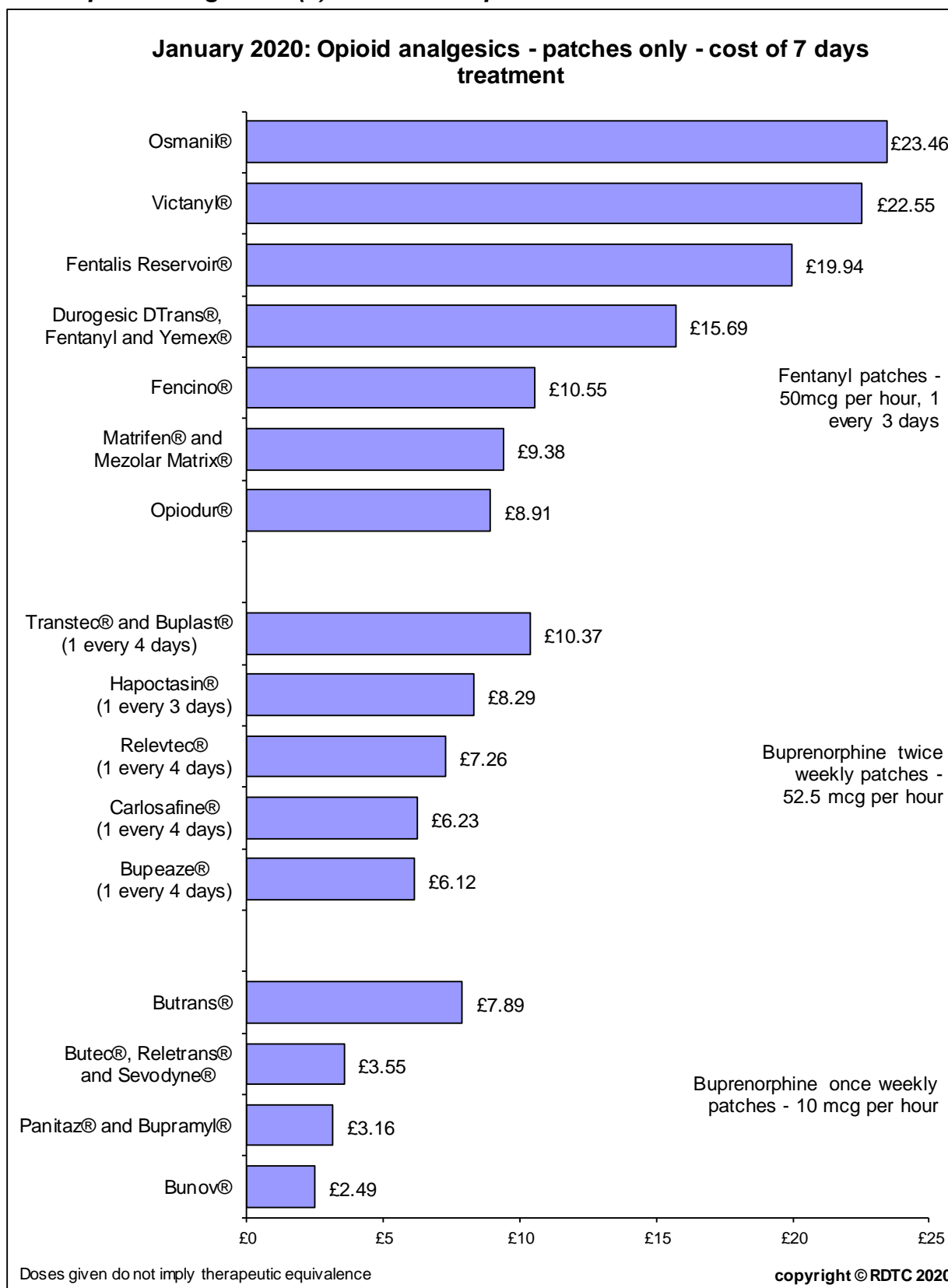


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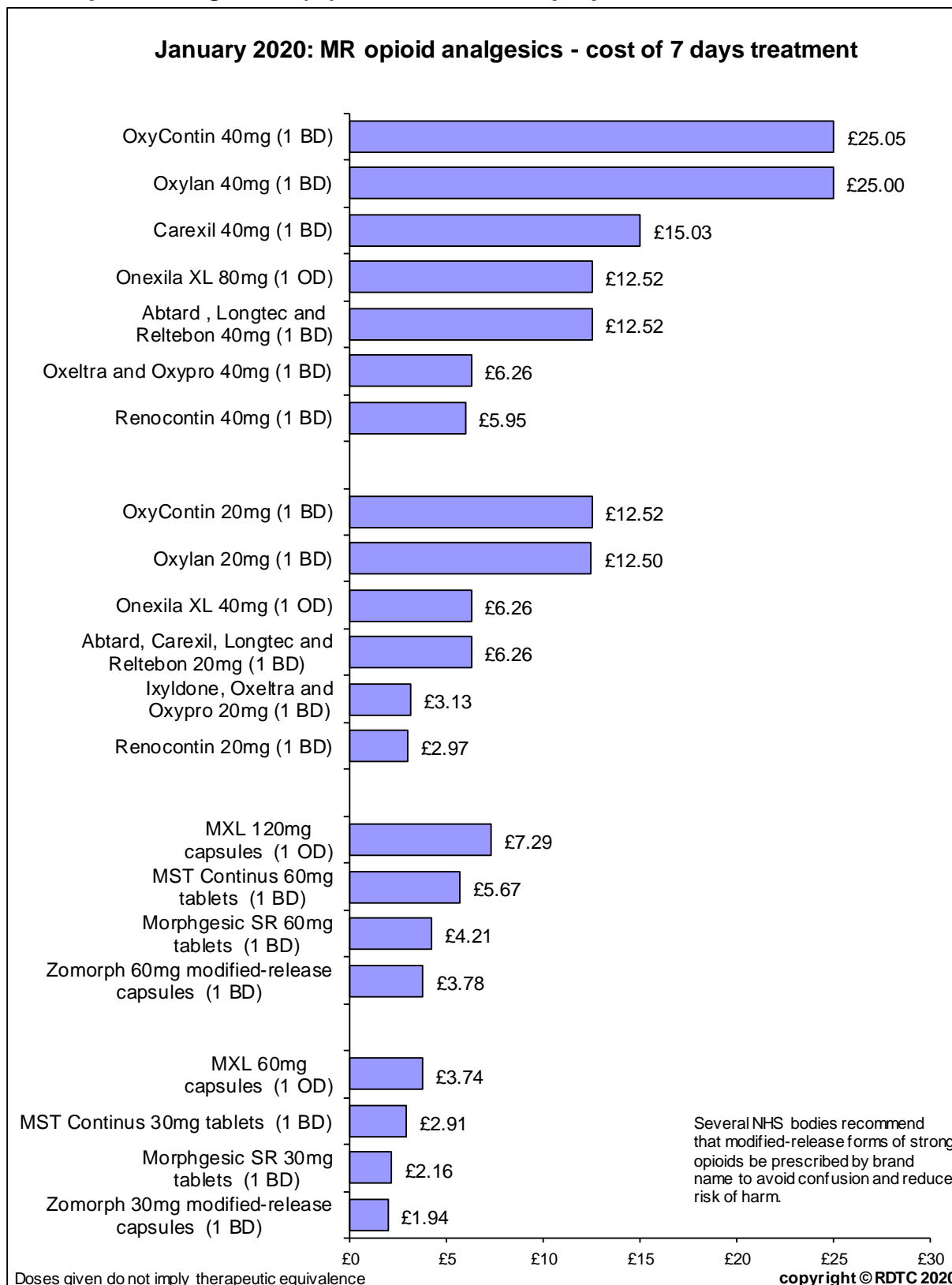
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4.7.2 Opioid analgesics: (ii) transdermal patches



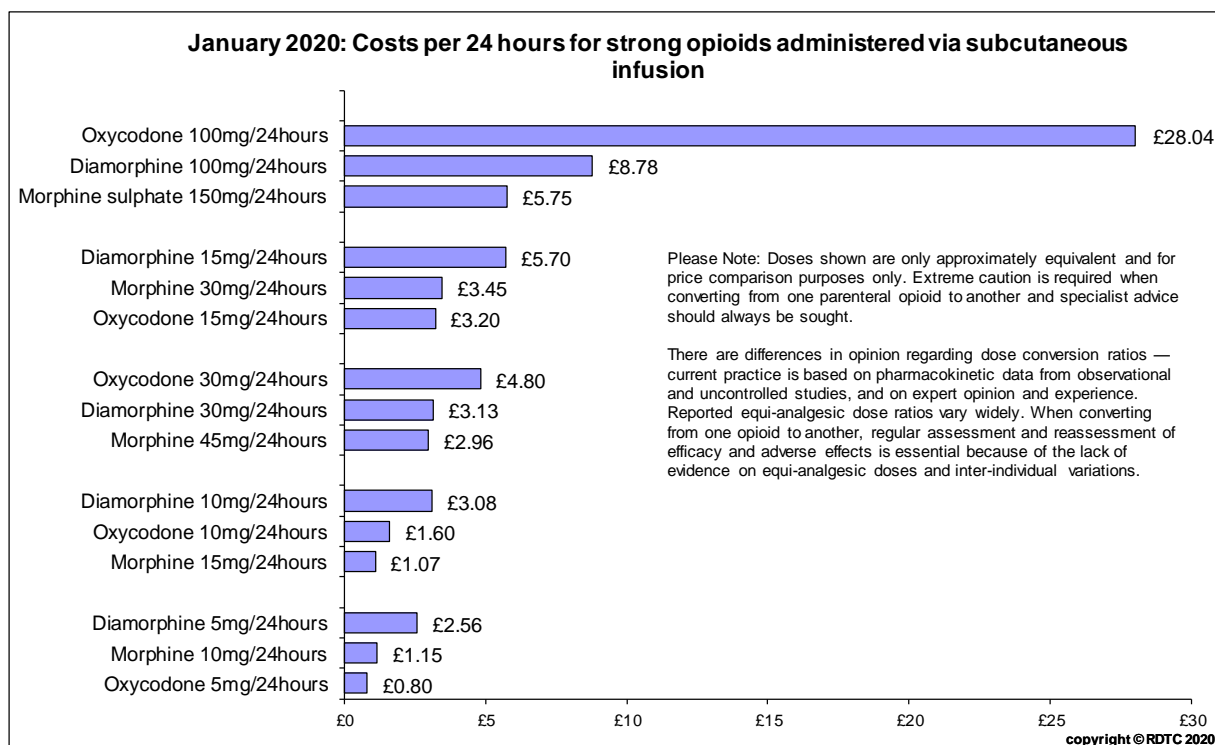
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4.7.2 Opioid analgesics: (iii) modified release preparations



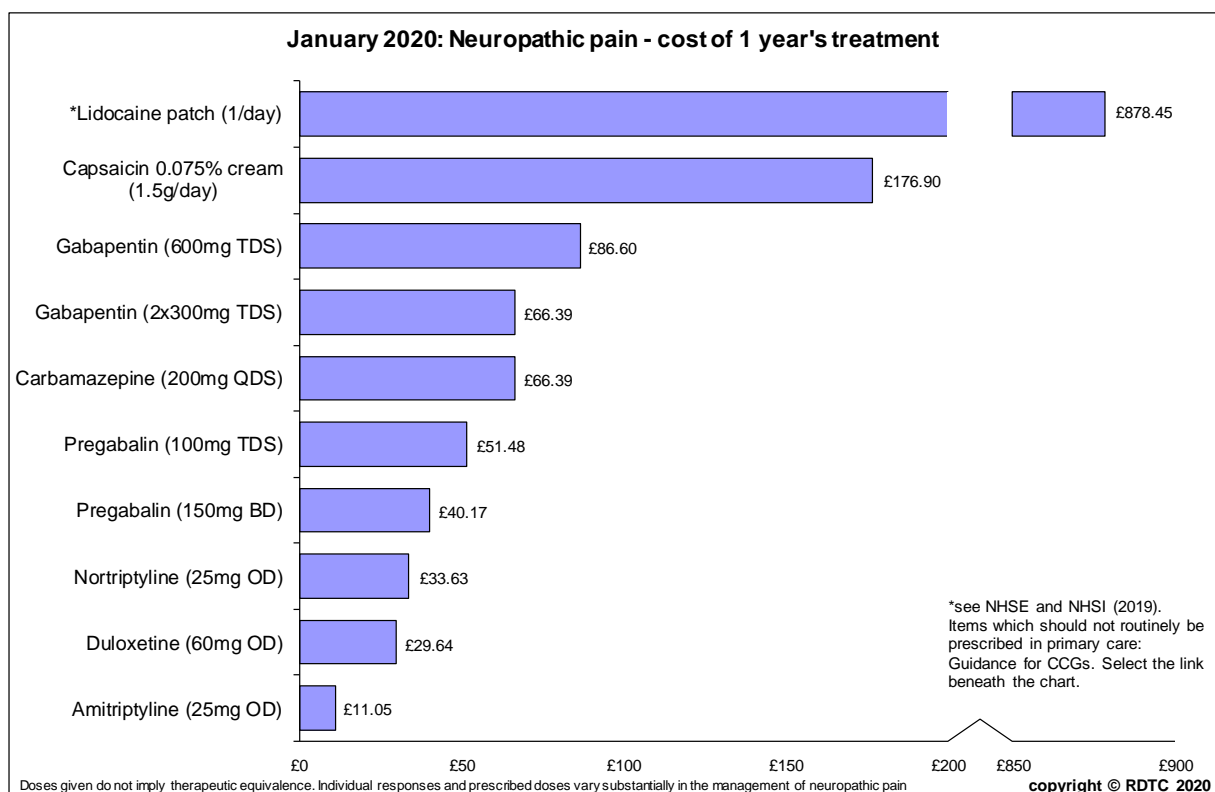
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### 4.7.2 Opioid analgesics: (iv) subcutaneous infusion; strong opioids



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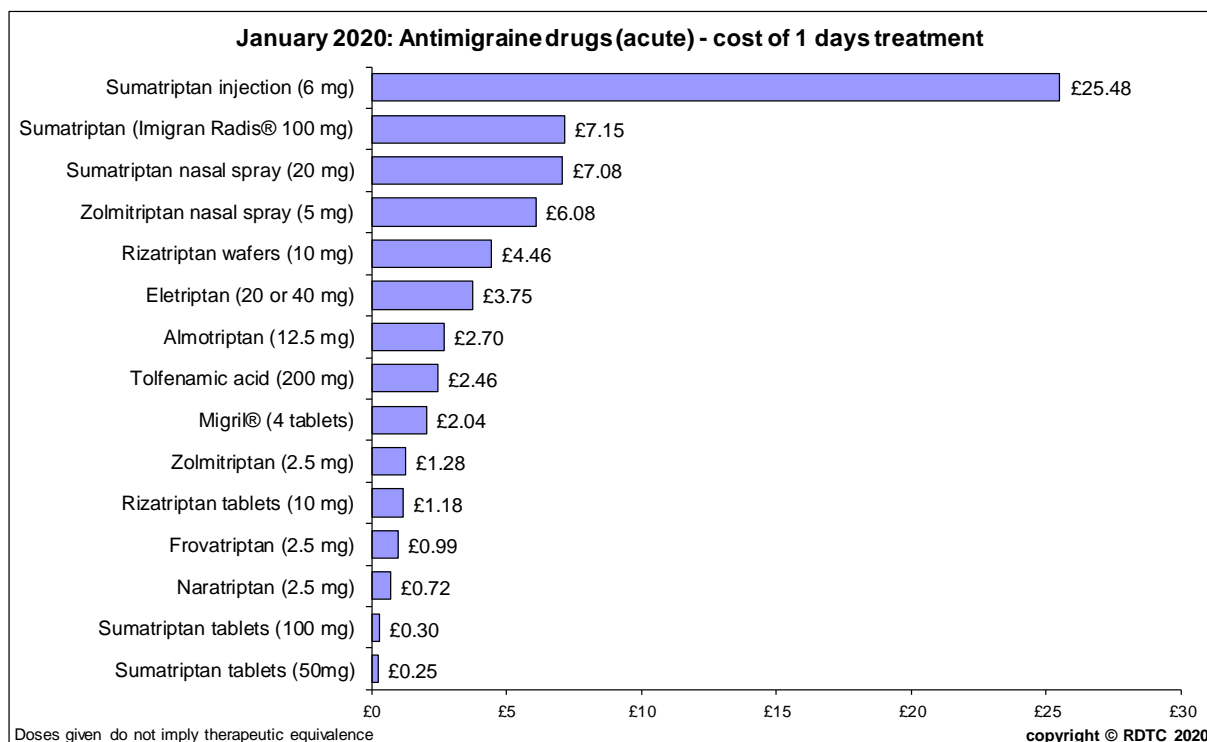
### 4.7.3 Neuropathic pain



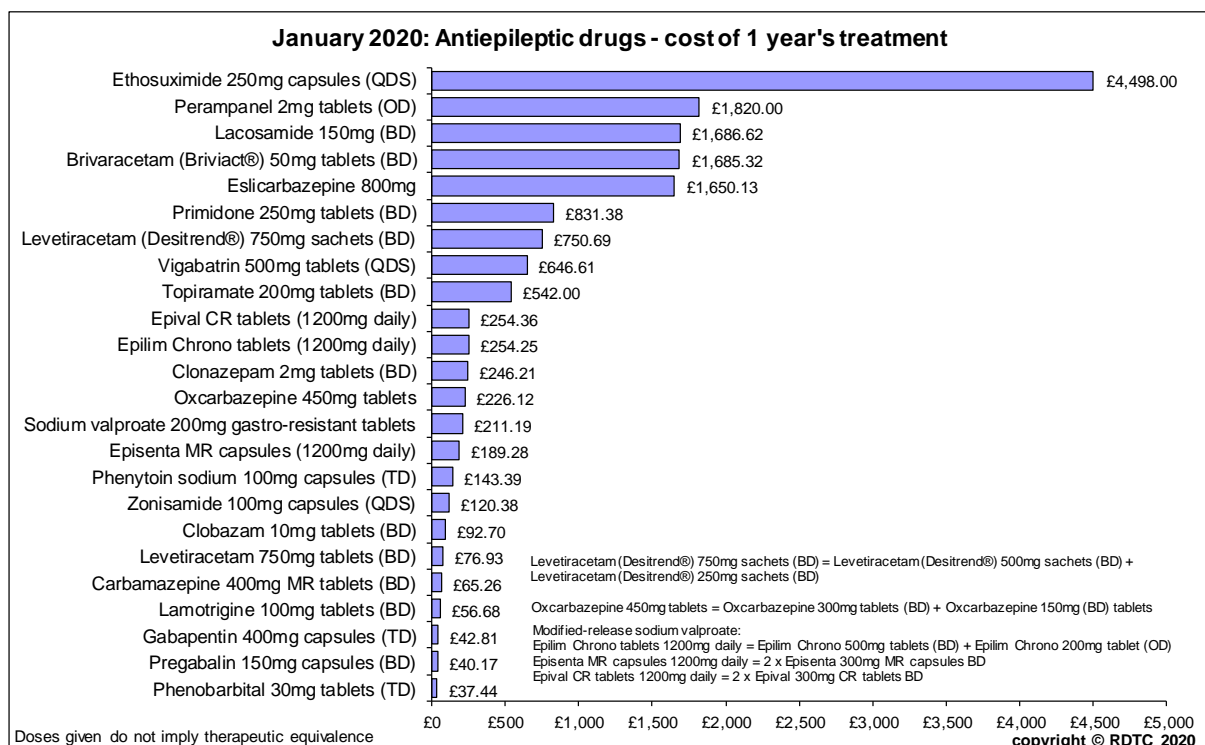
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## 4.7.4.1 Treatment of acute migraine

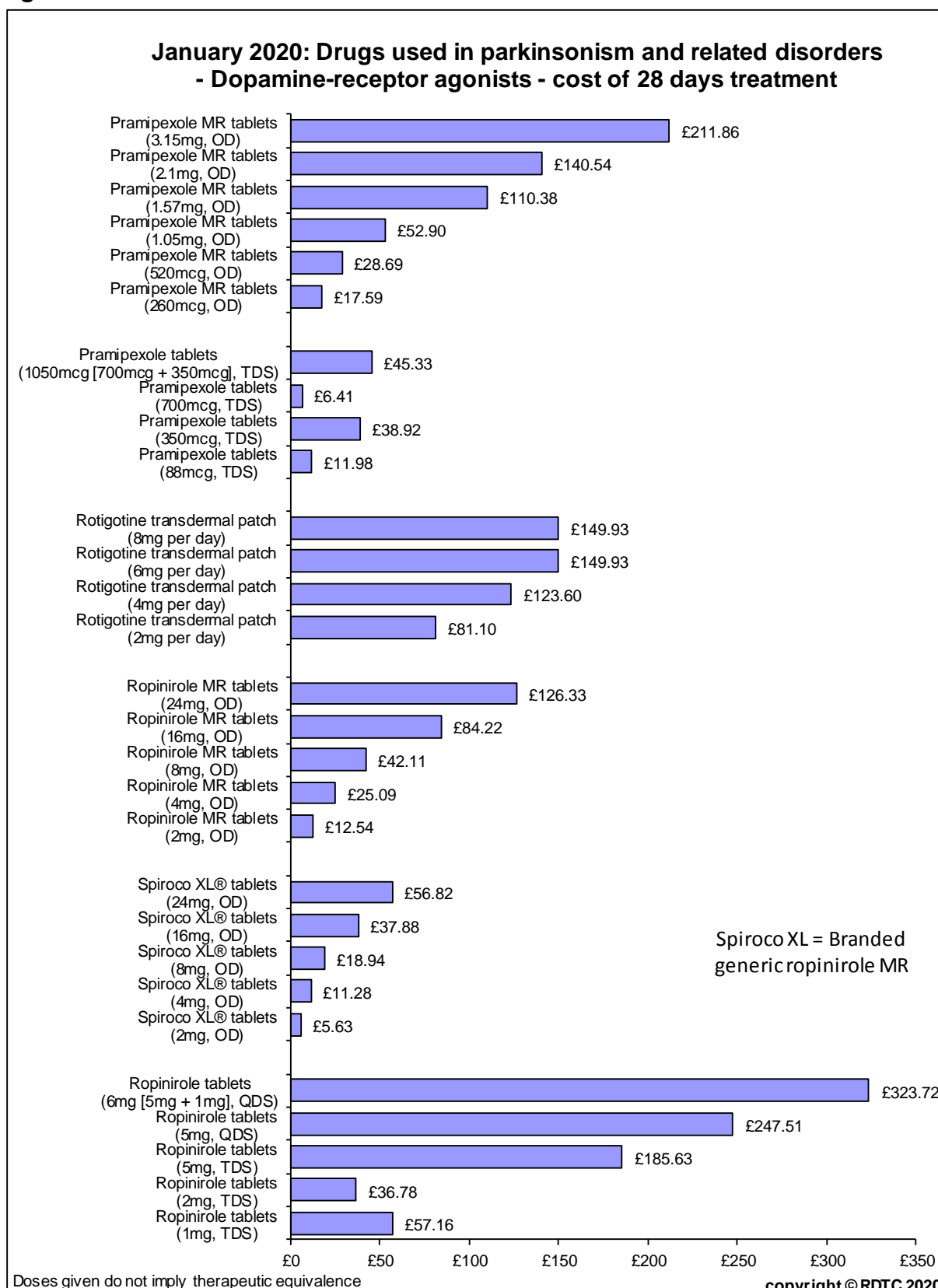

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## 4.8 Antiepileptic drugs


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4.9.1 Dopaminergic drugs used in Parkinson's disease: (i) dopamine receptor agonists



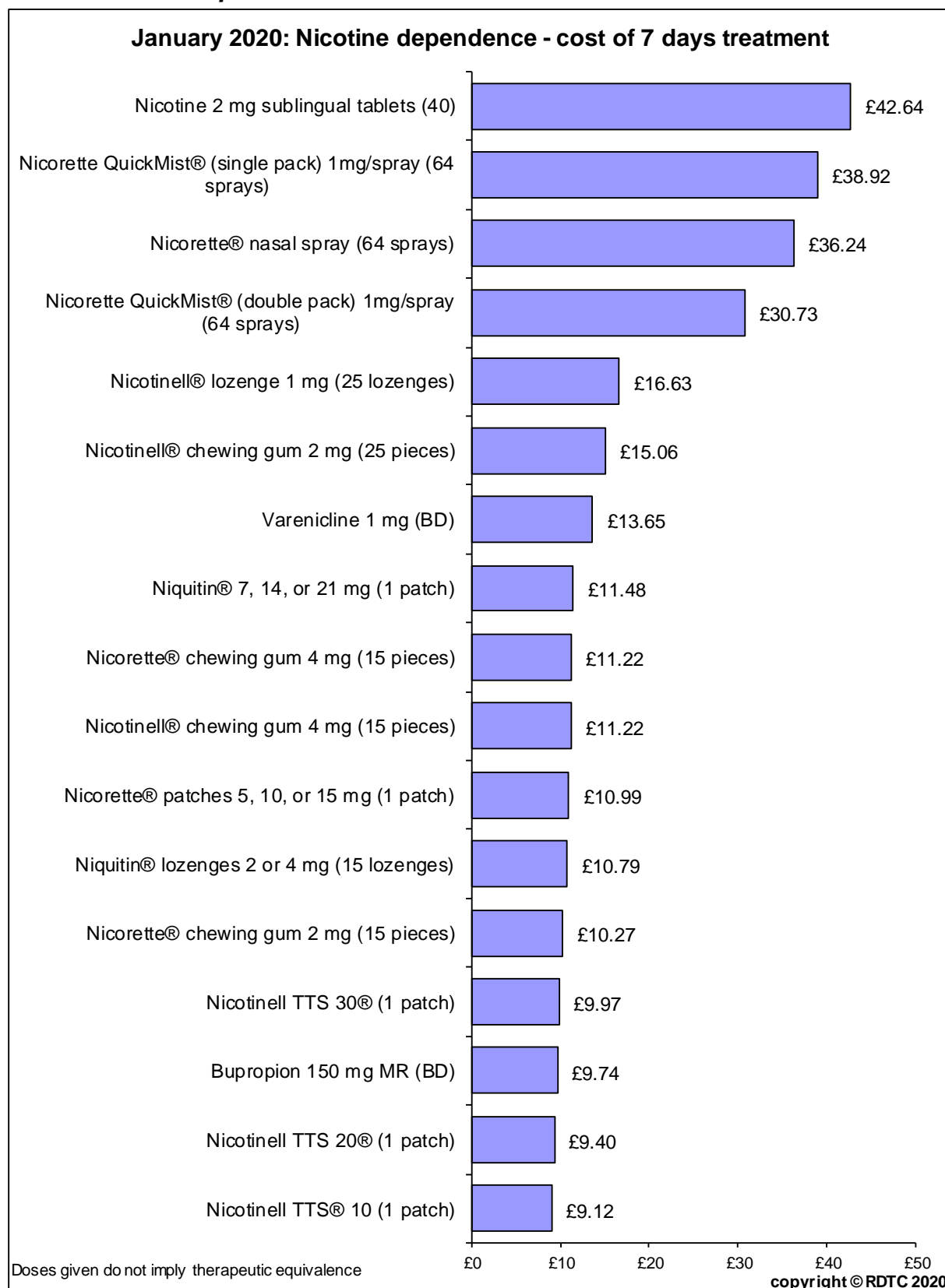
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**4.9.1 Dopaminergic drugs used in Parkinson's disease: (ii) levodopa, COMT and MAO-B inhibitors**



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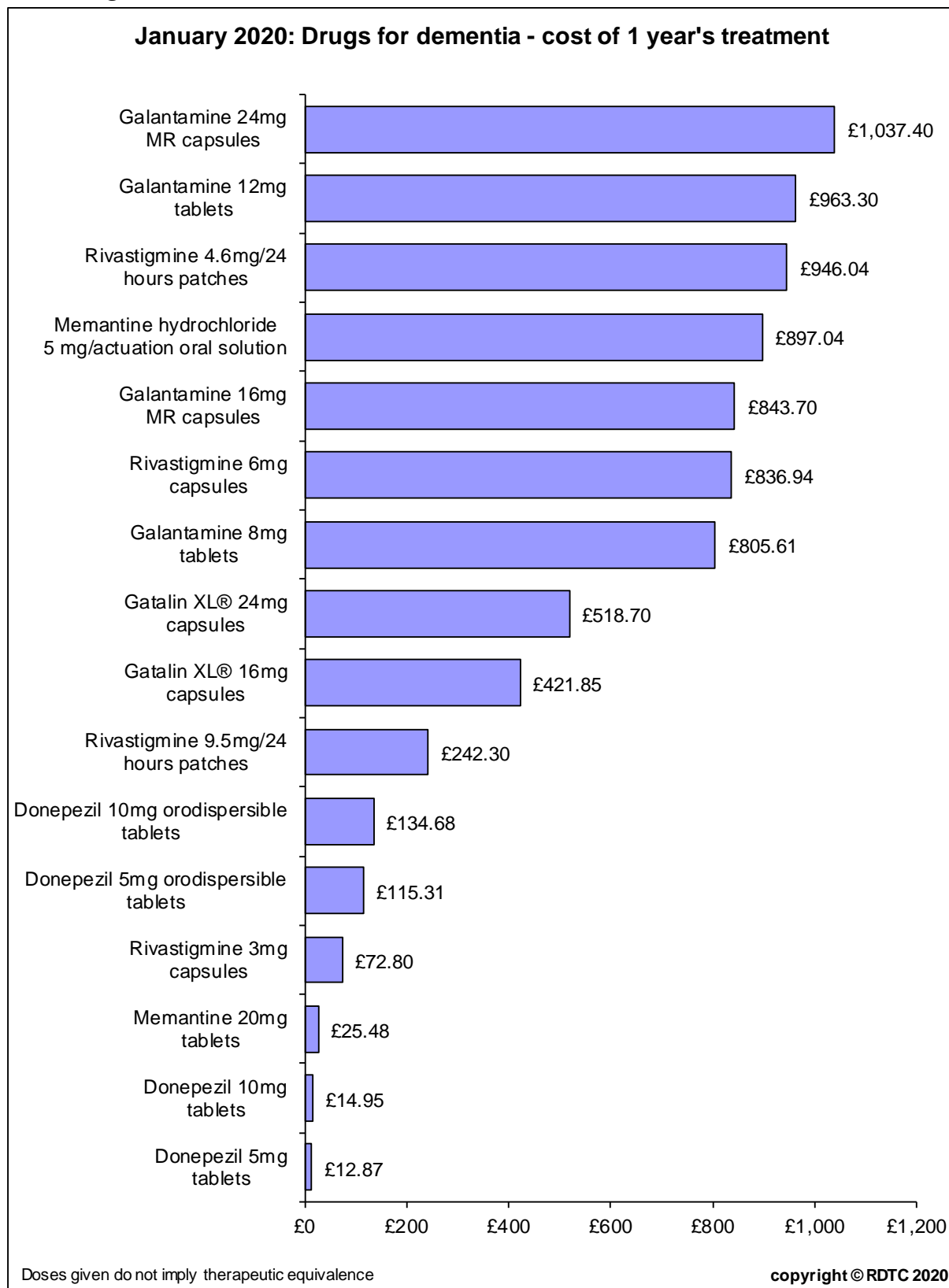
## 4.10.2 Nicotine dependence



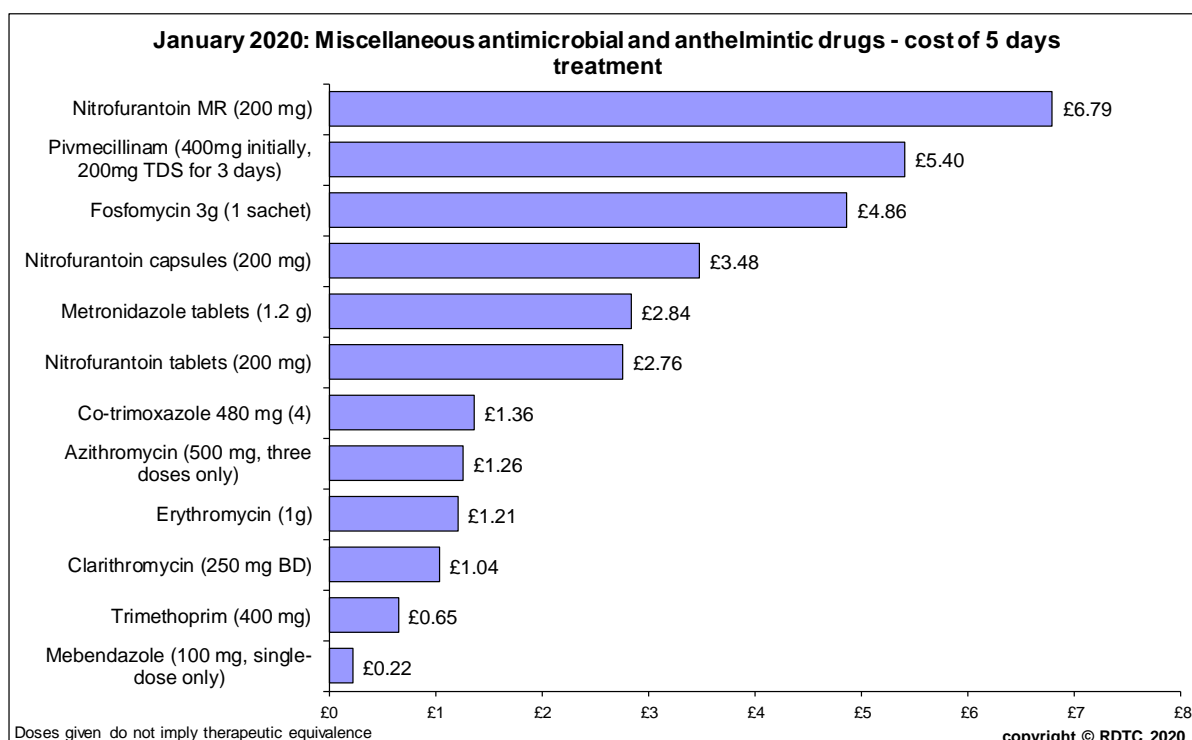
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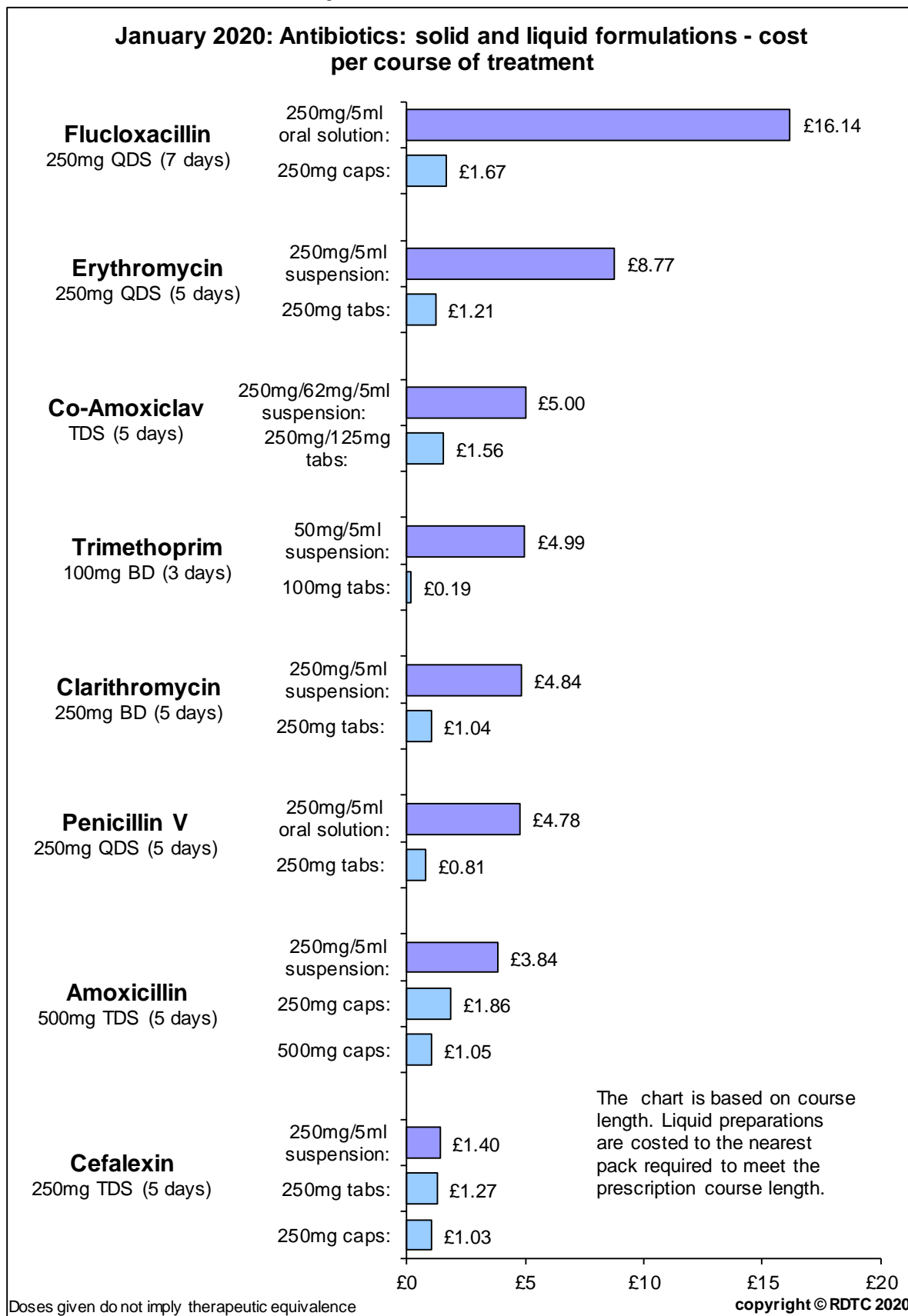
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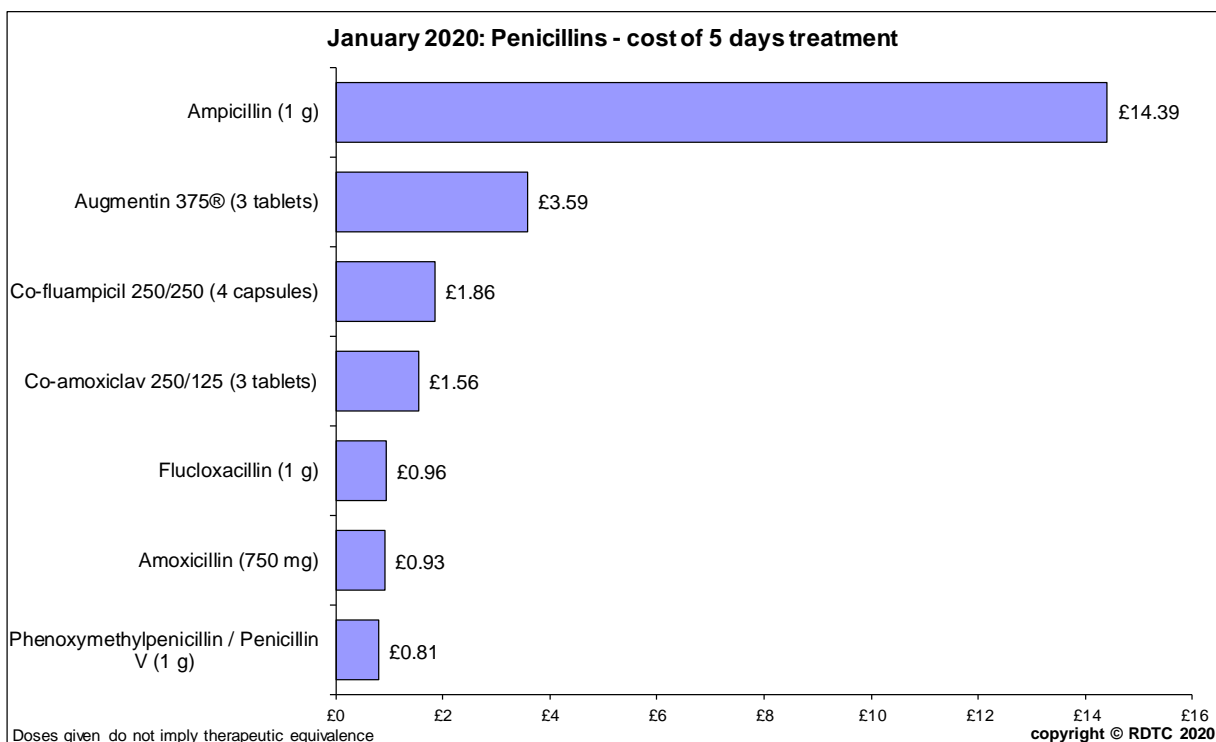
5.1 Antibiotics: solid and liquid formulations



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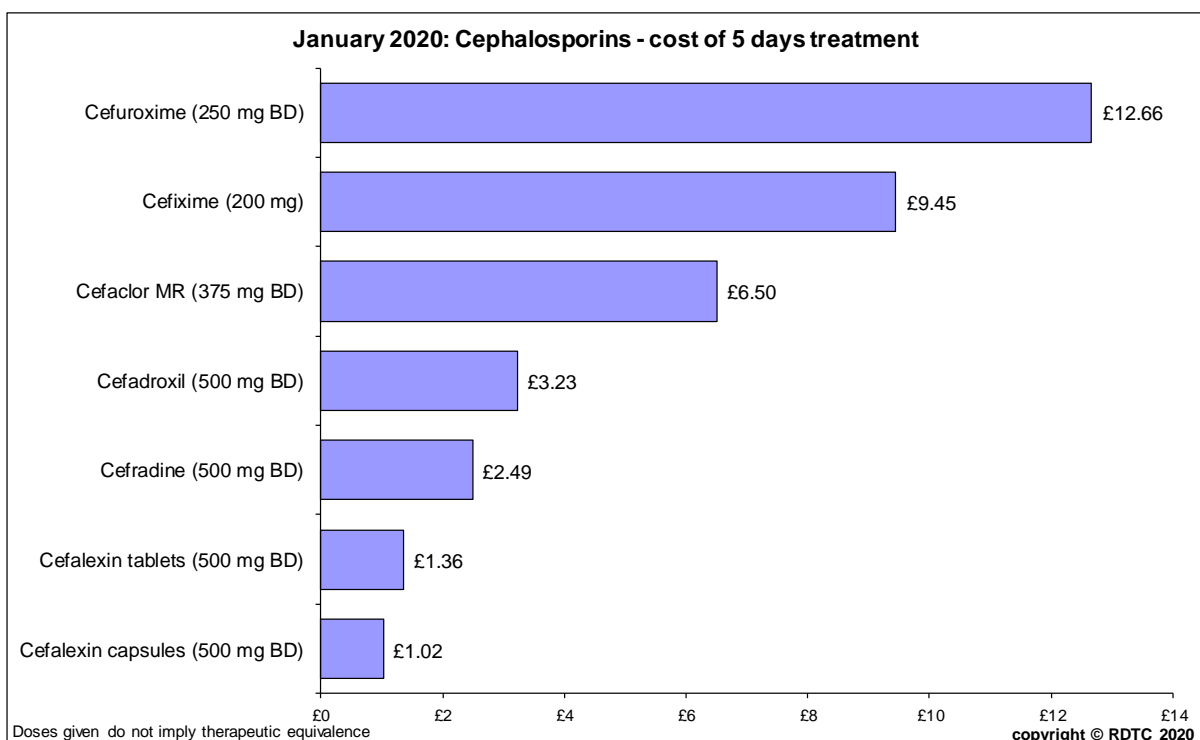
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### 5.1.1 Penicillins



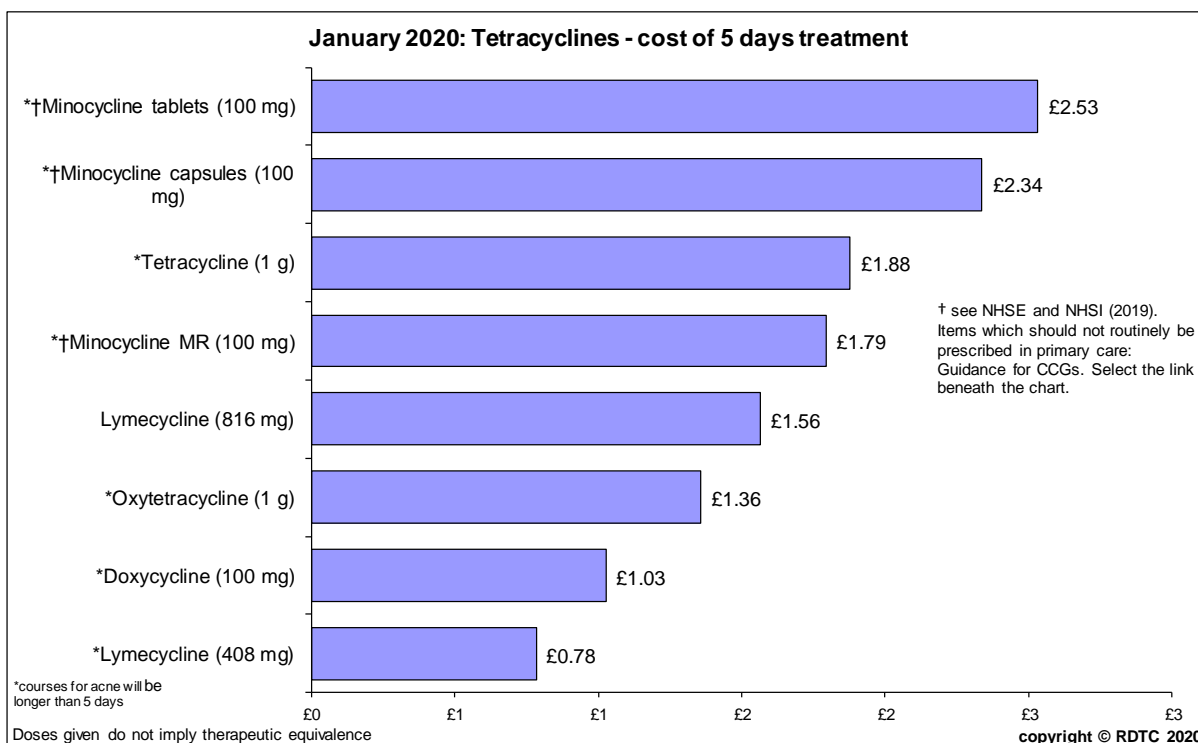
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### 5.1.2 Cephalosporins



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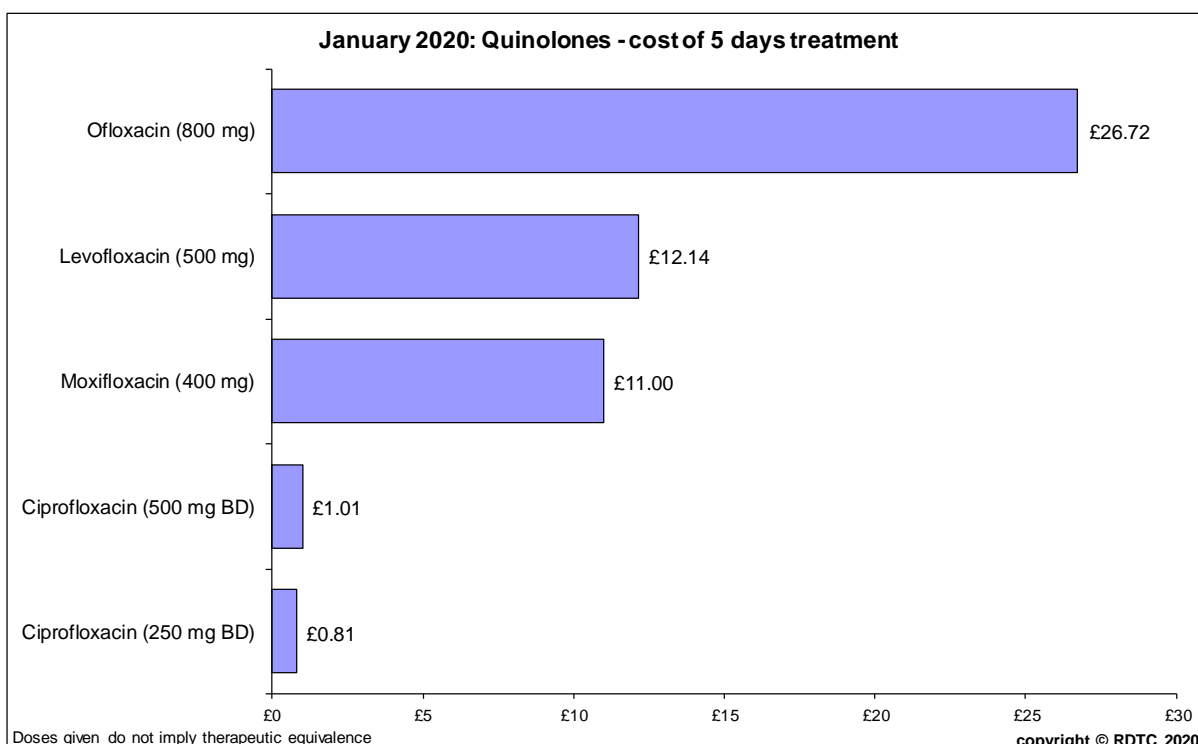
### 5.1.3 Tetracyclines



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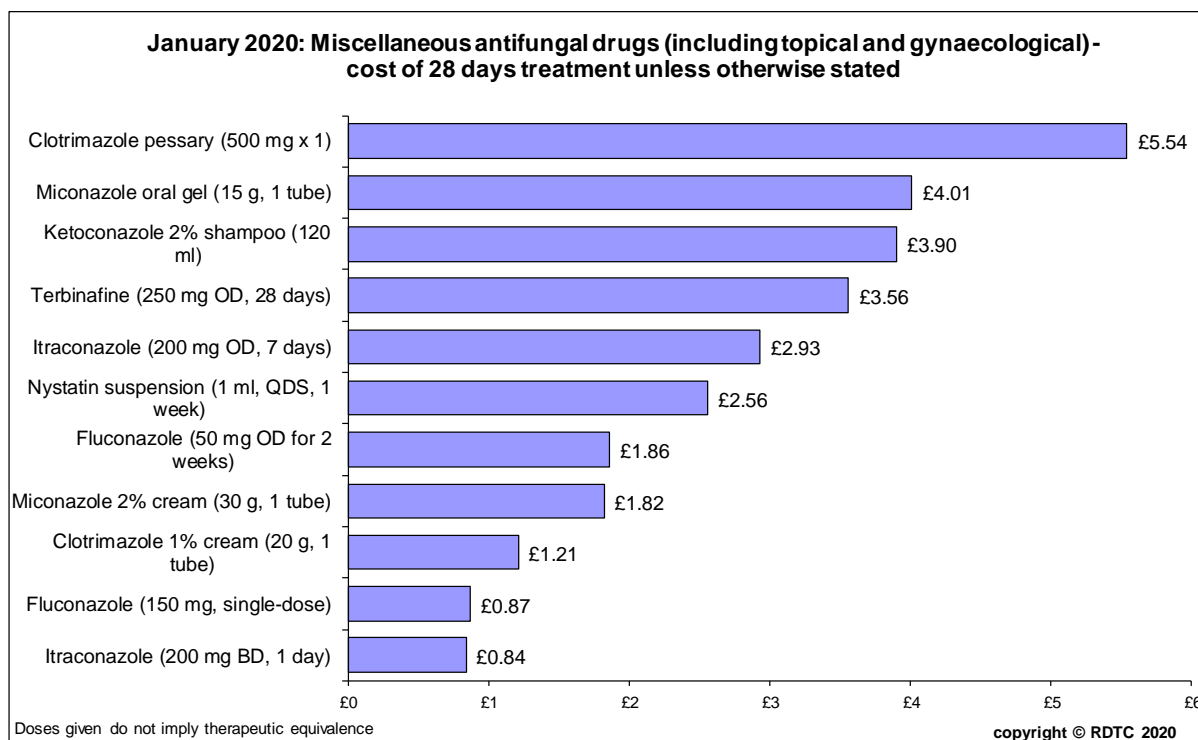
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### 5.1.12 Quinolones



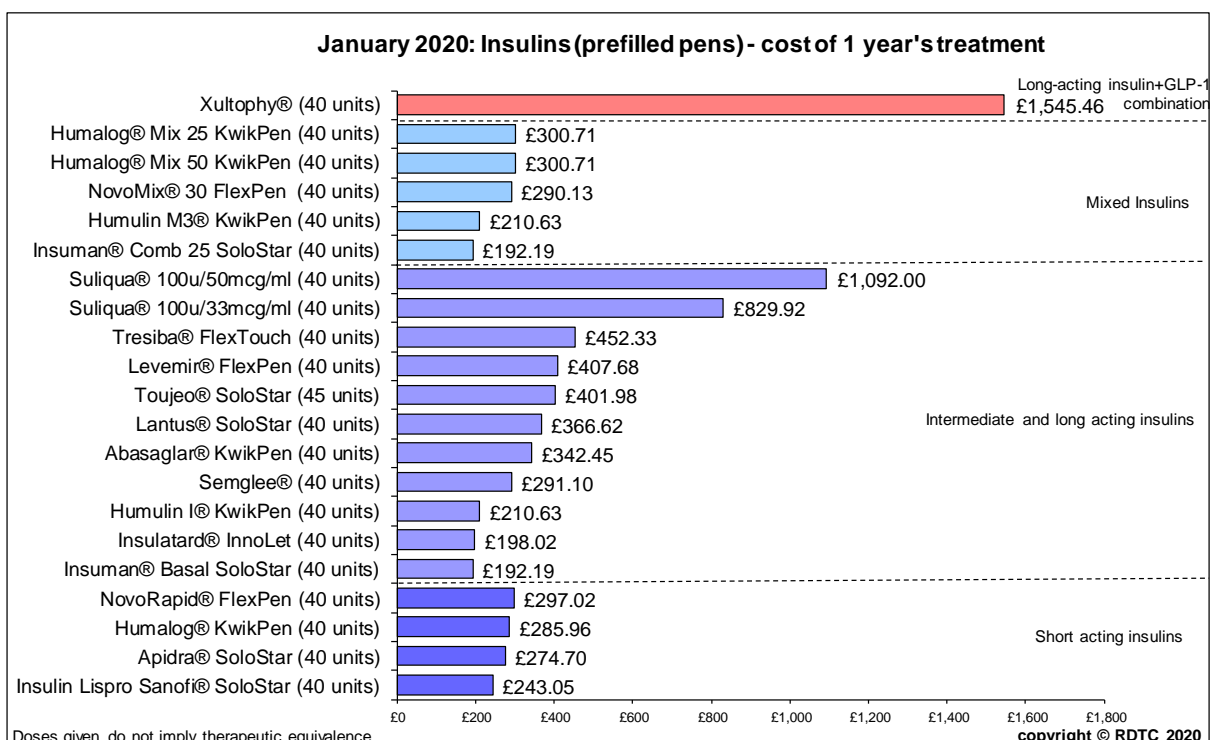
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## 5.2 Antifungal drugs: miscellaneous, including topical and gynaecological

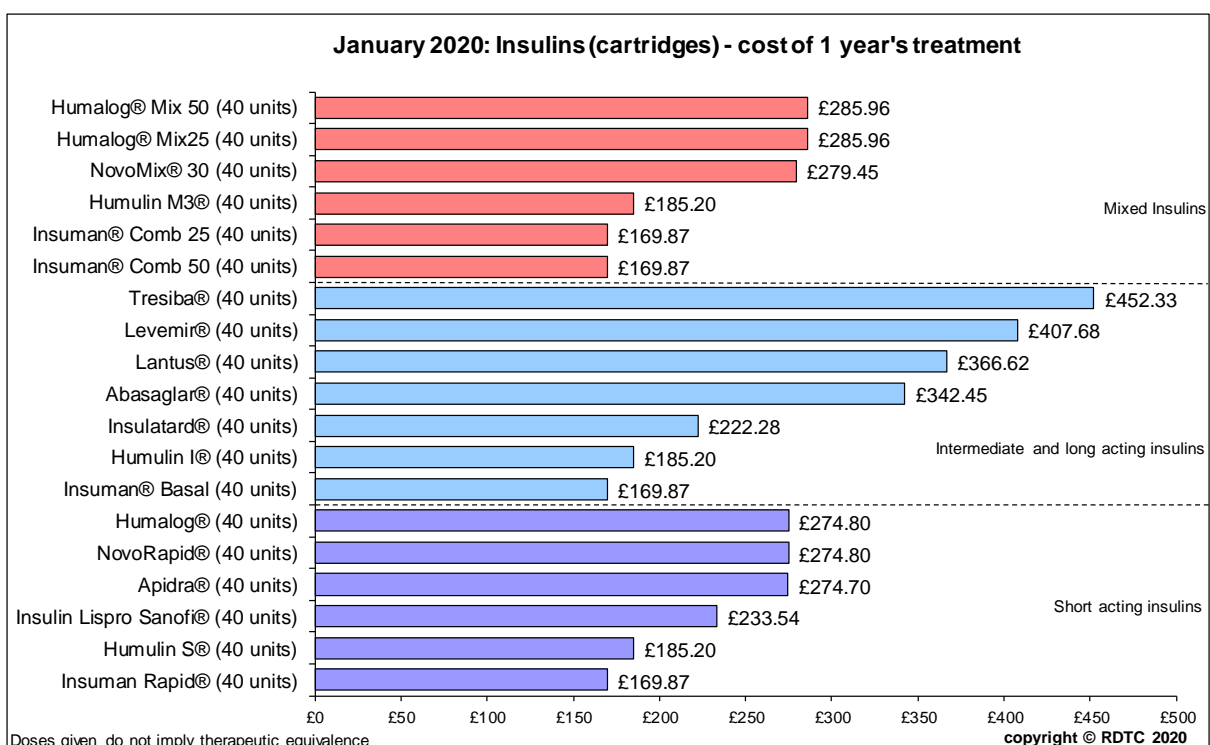


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6.1.1 Insulin: prefilled (PF) pens and cartridges

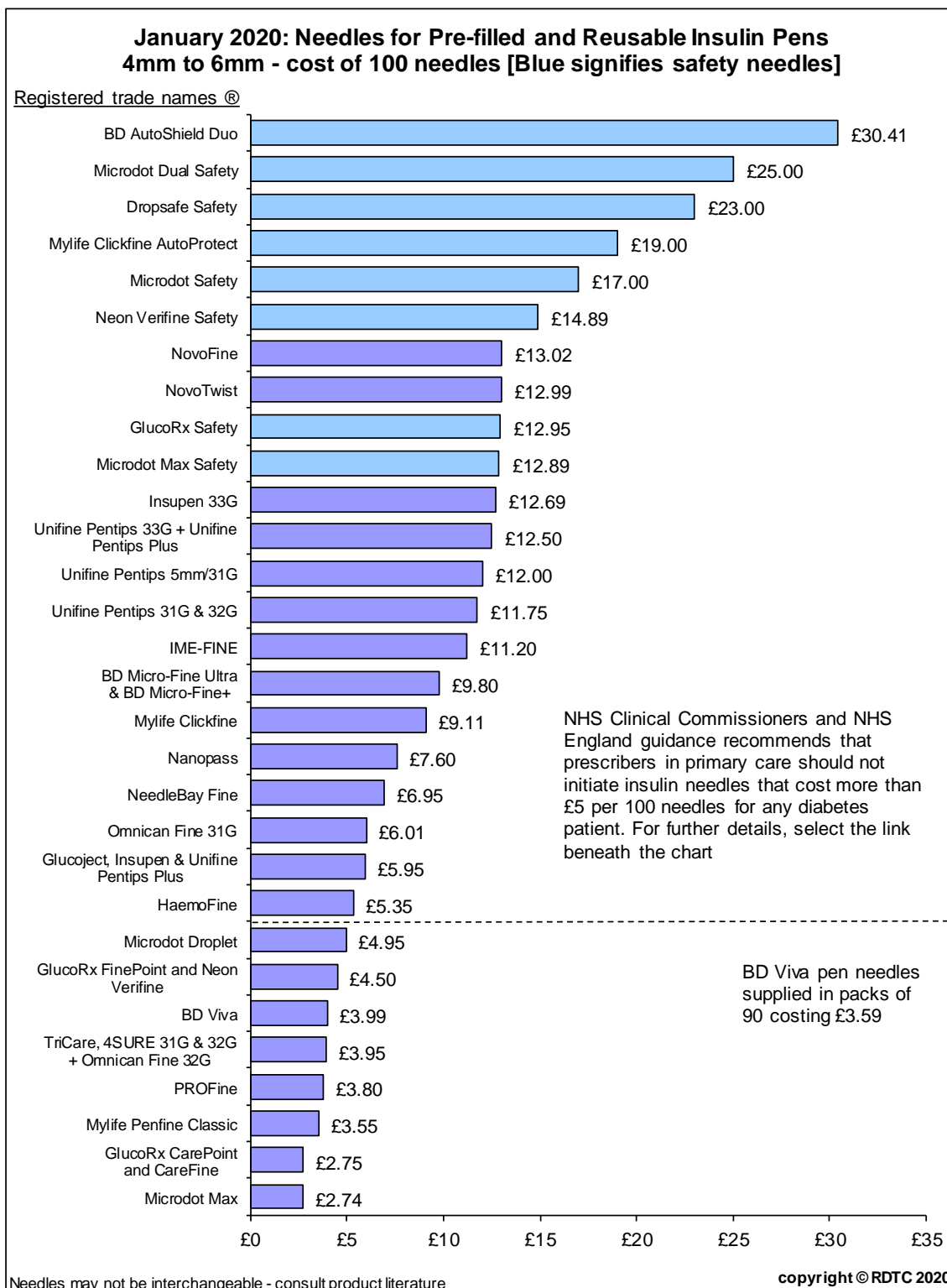


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**Hypodermic equipment: (i) needles for PF and reusable insulin pens (4mm to 6 mm)<sup>4</sup>**

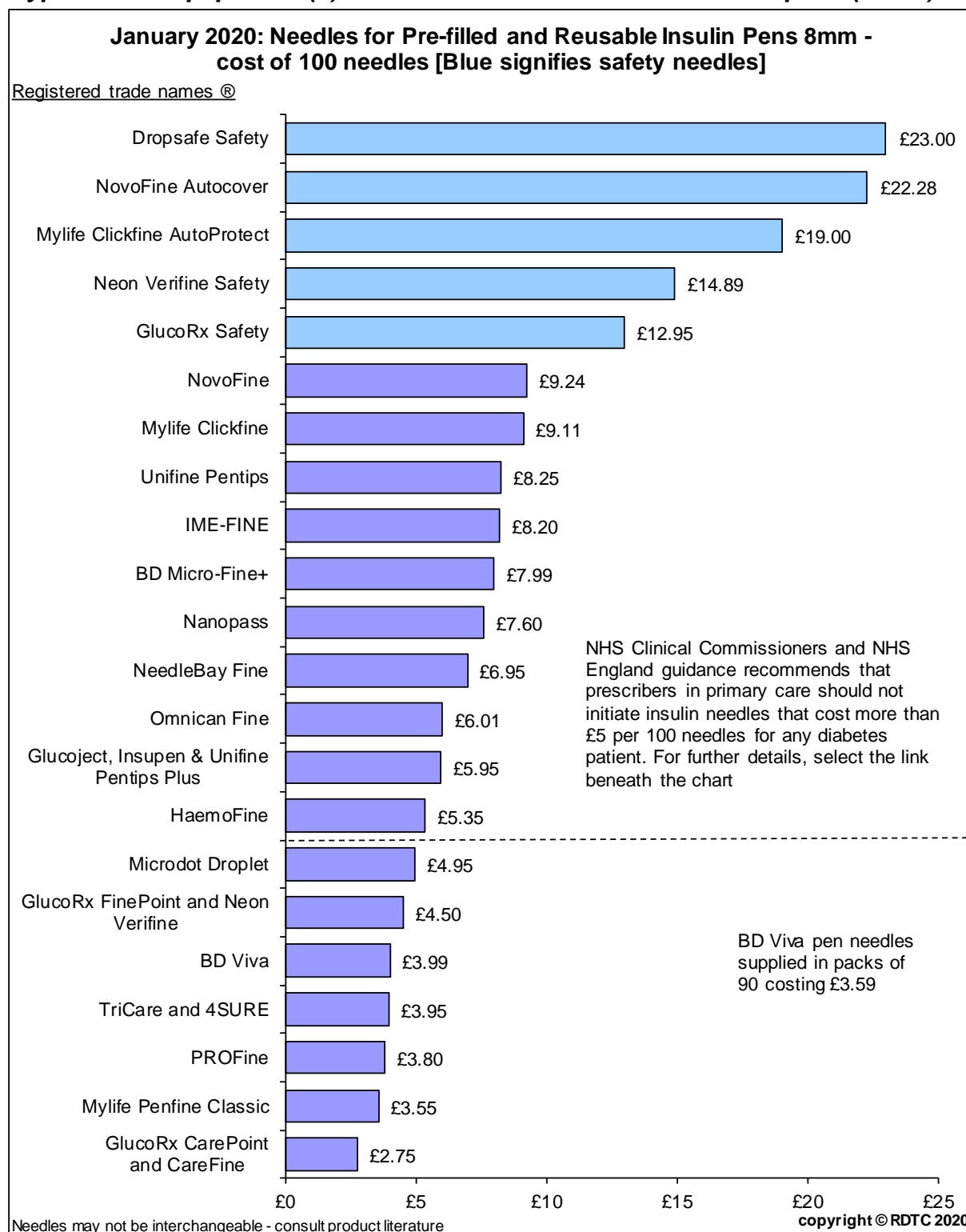


[Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs](#)  
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<sup>4</sup> NHS BSA Drug tariff, Part IXA: Appliances



**Hypodermic equipment: (ii) needles for PF and reusable insulin pens (8 mm)<sup>4</sup>**

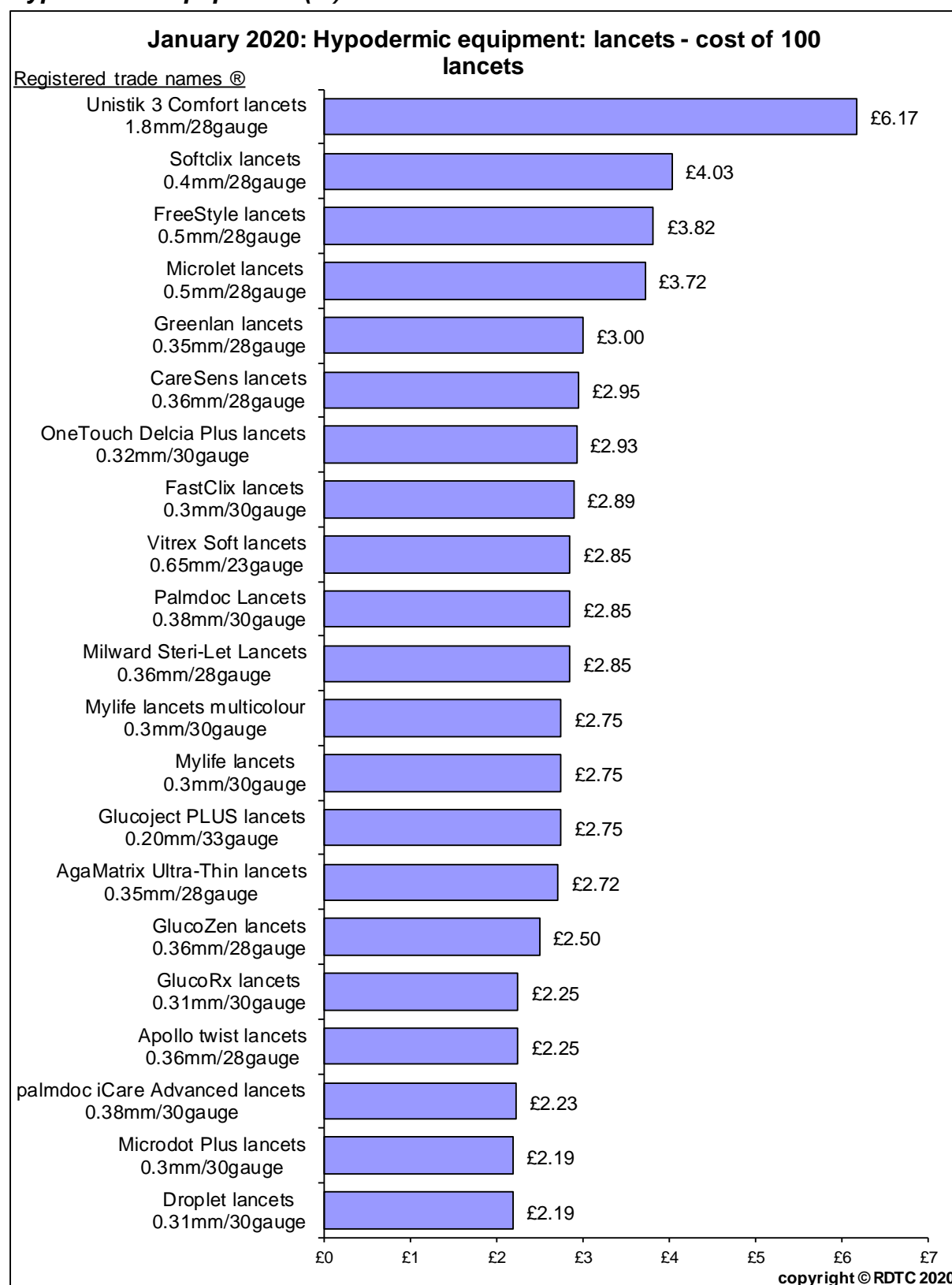


[Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs](#)

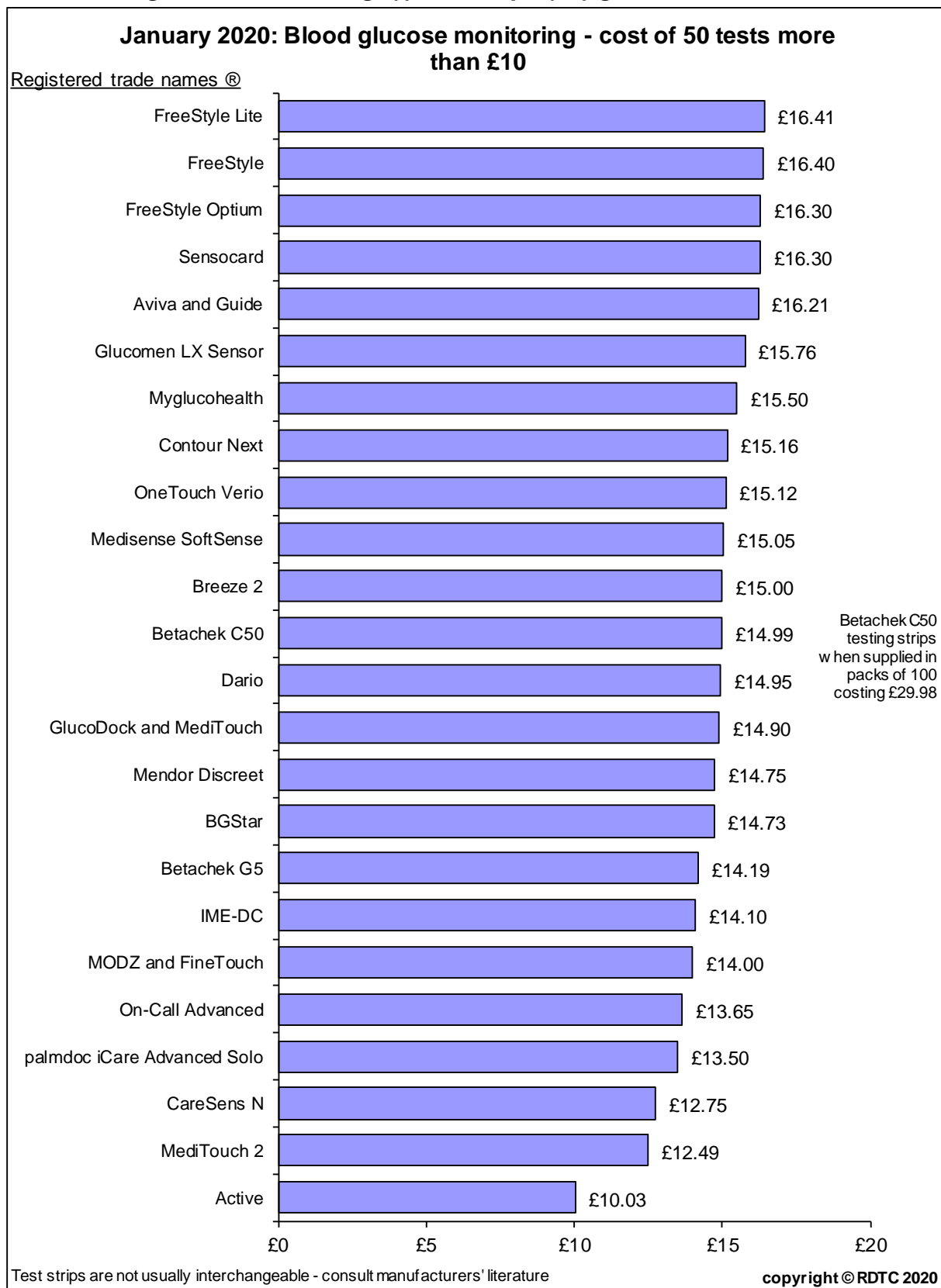
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<sup>4</sup> NHS BSA Drug tariff, Part IXA: Appliances

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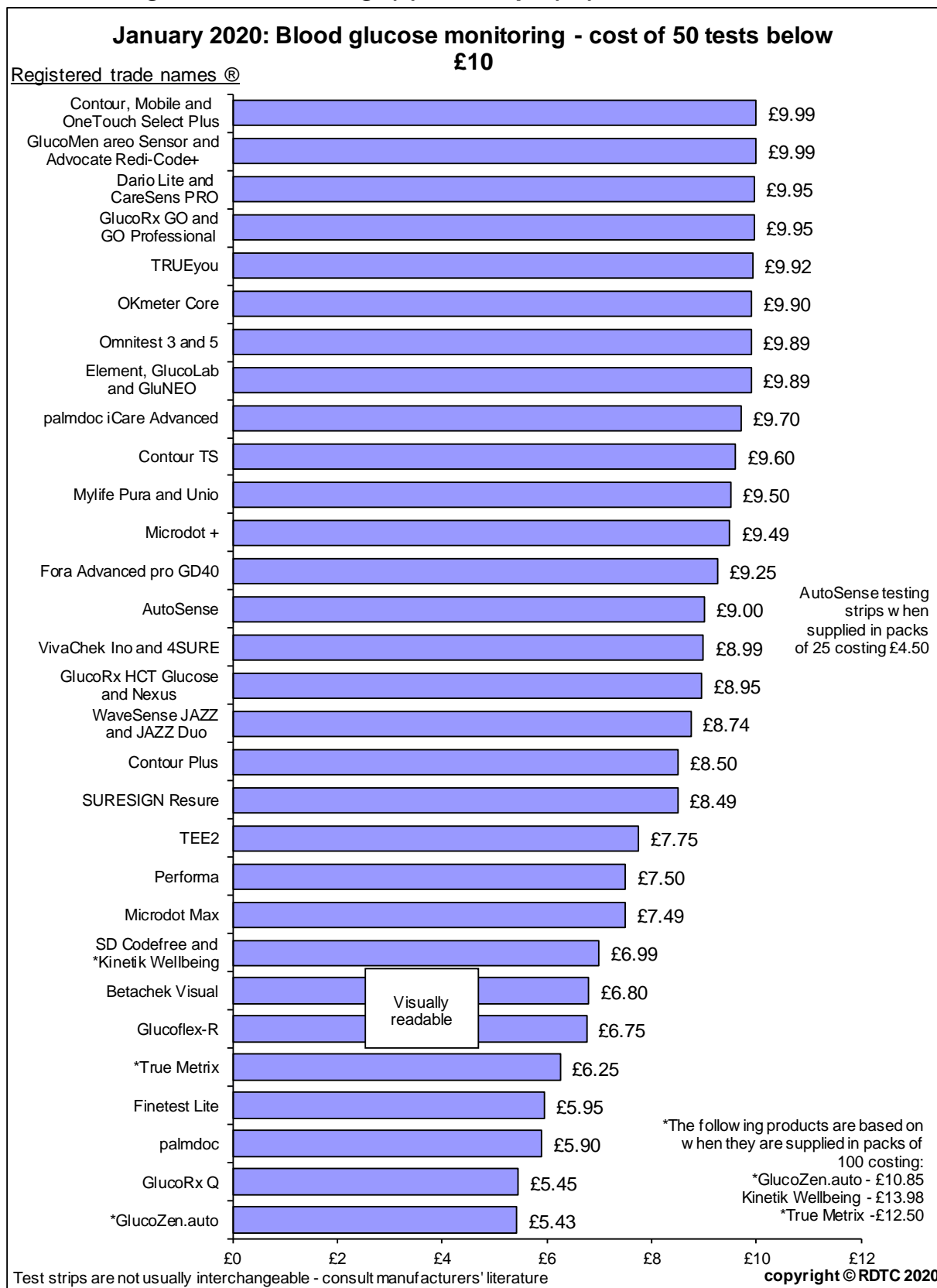
**Hypodermic equipment: (iii) lancets<sup>4</sup>**[Contents](#)<sup>4</sup> NHS BSA Drug tariff, Part IXA: Appliances

6.1.6 Blood glucose monitoring: (i) test strips (50) greater than £10



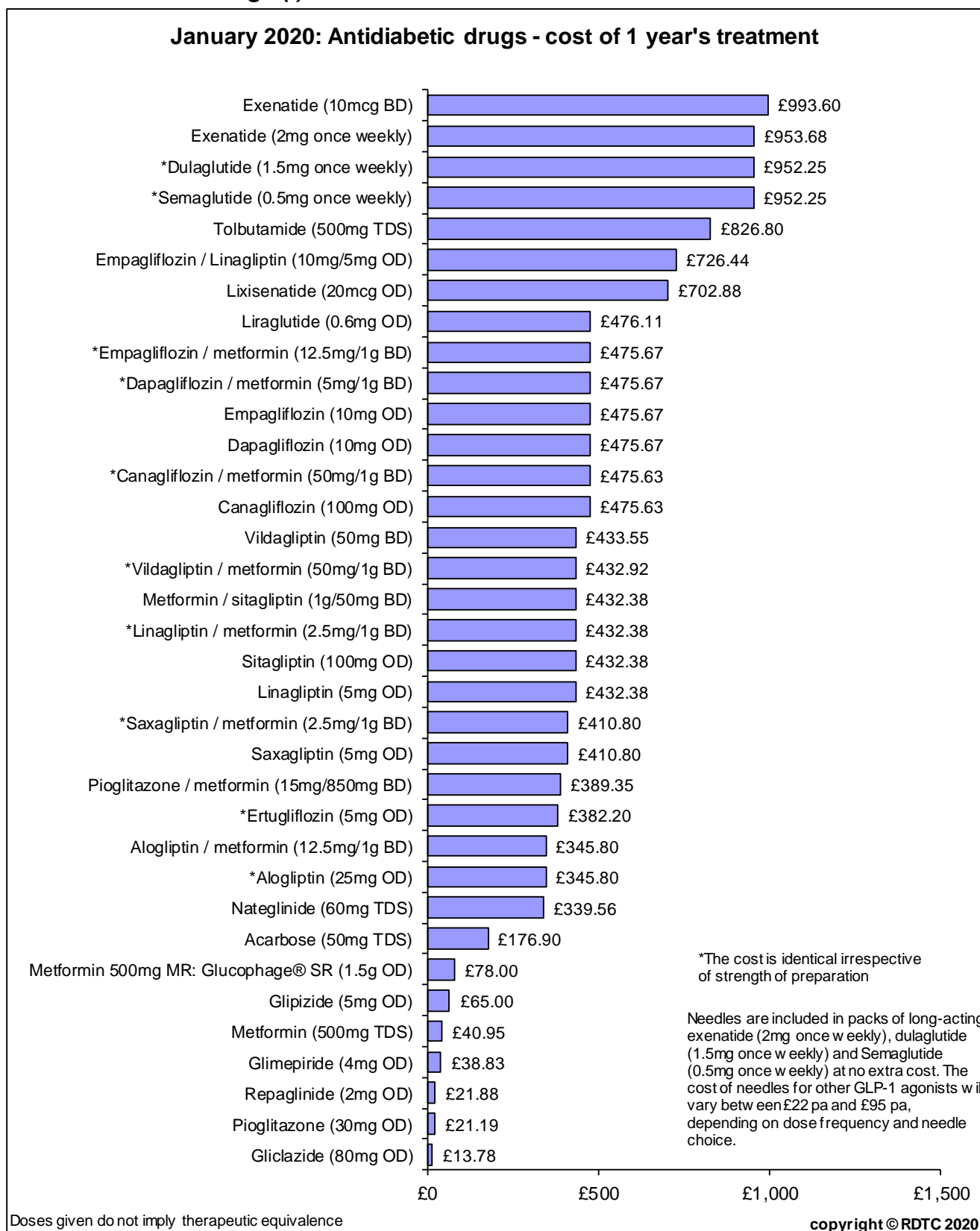
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6.1.6 Blood glucose monitoring: (ii) test strips (50) less than £10

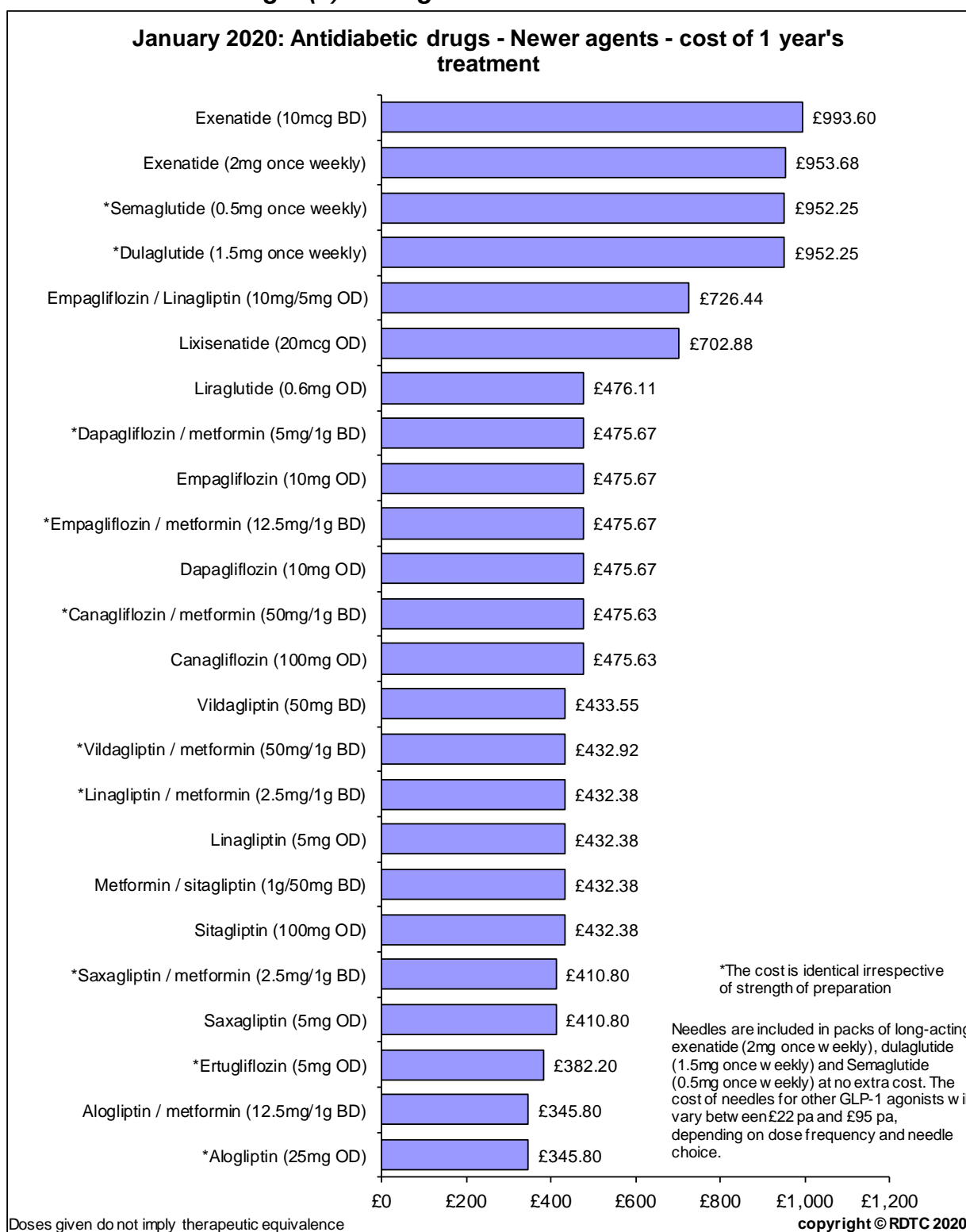


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6.1.2 Antidiabetic drugs (i)

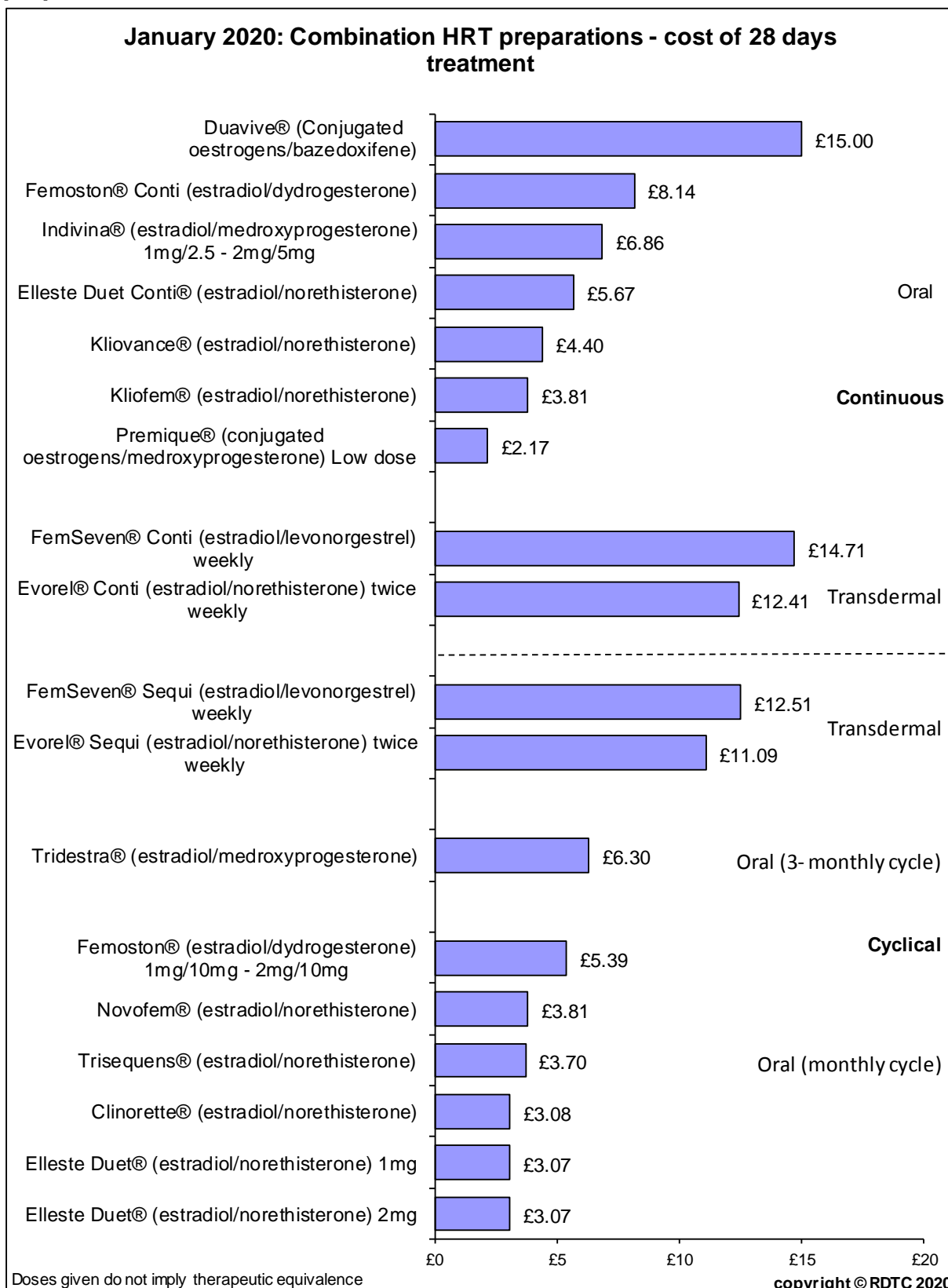


6.1.2 Antidiabetic drugs: (ii) new agents



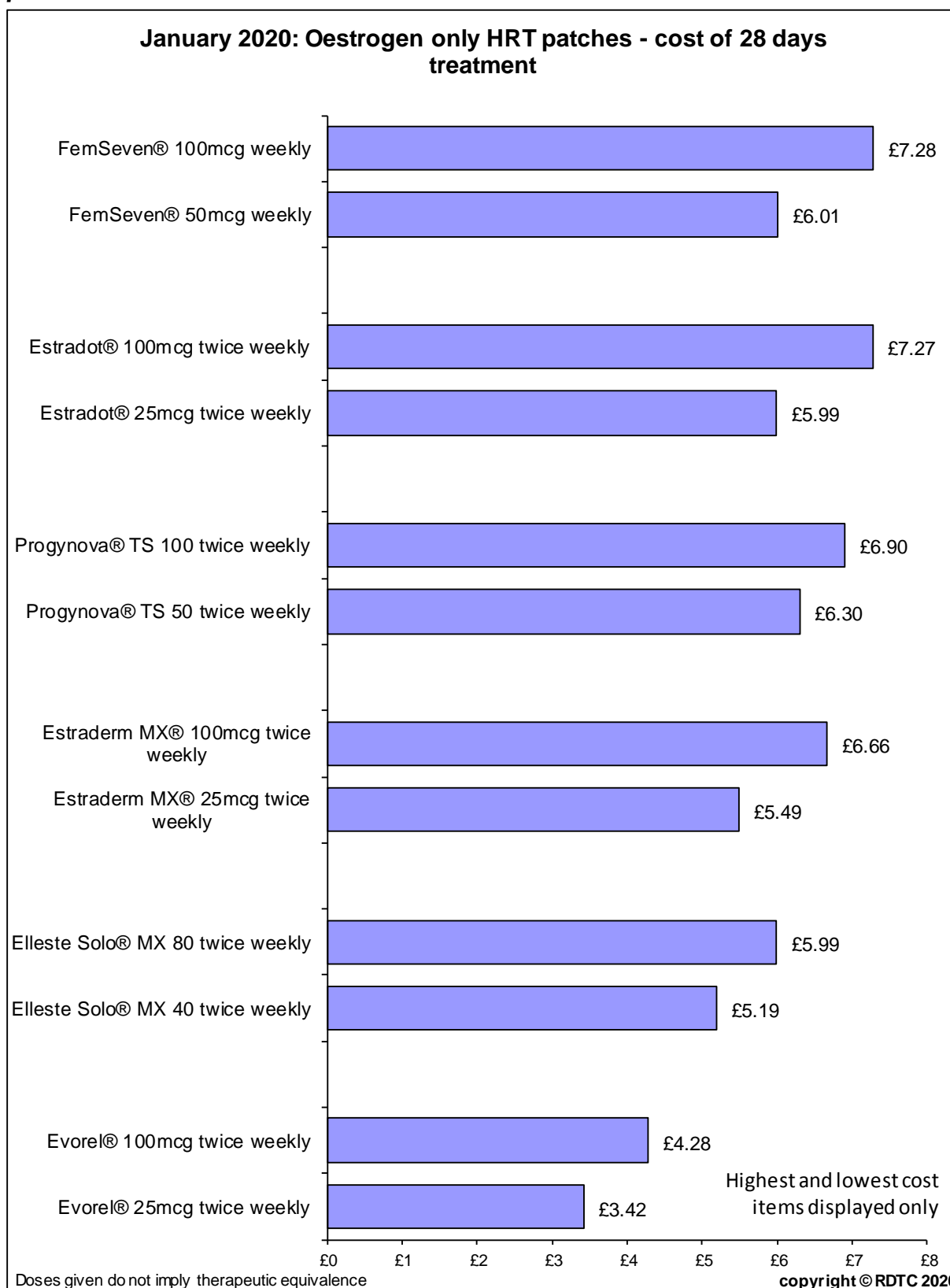
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**6.4.1 Female sex hormones and their modulators: (i) combination HRT preparations**



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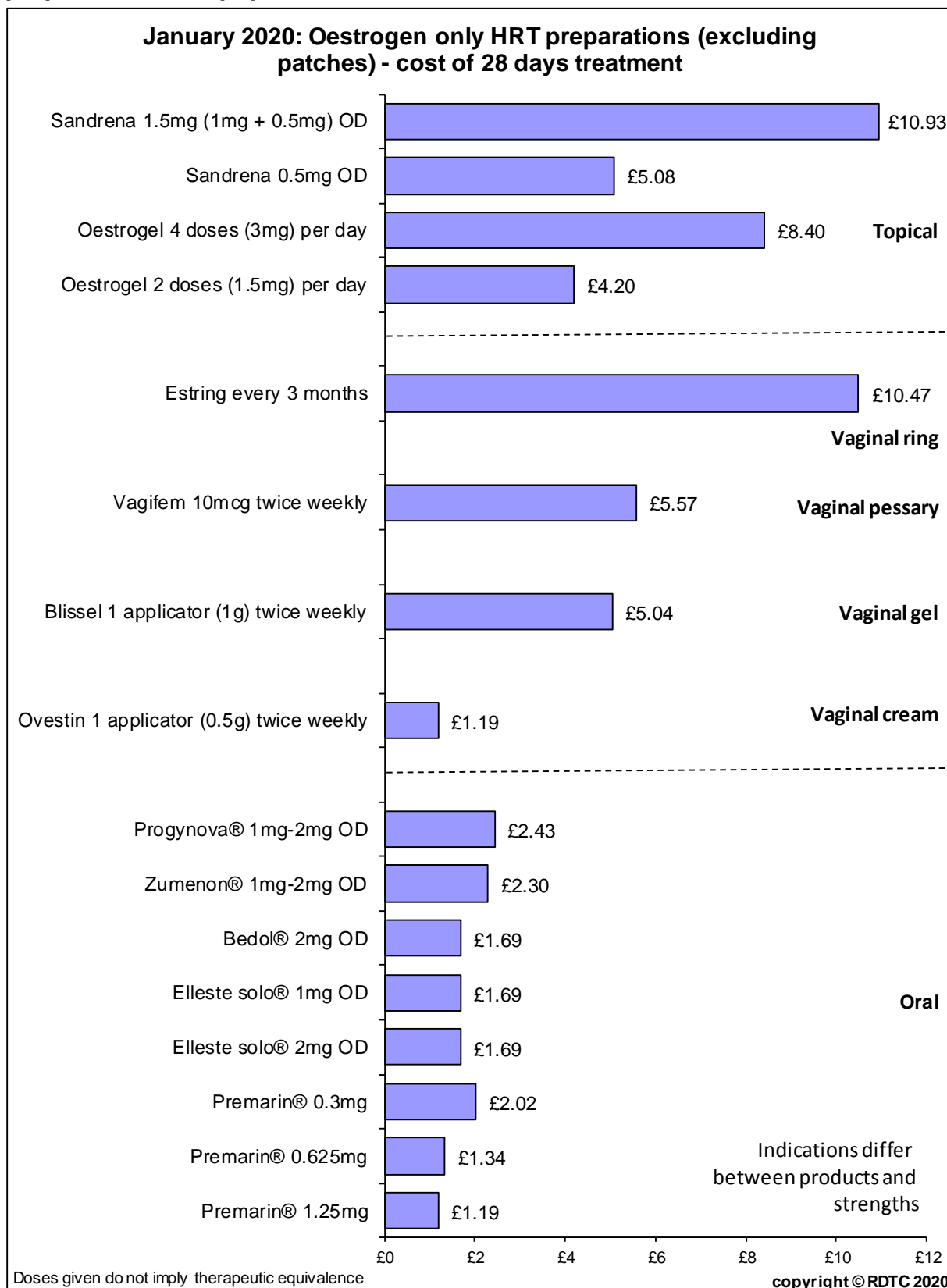
**6.4.1 Female sex hormones and their modulators: (ii) oestrogen only HRT patches**



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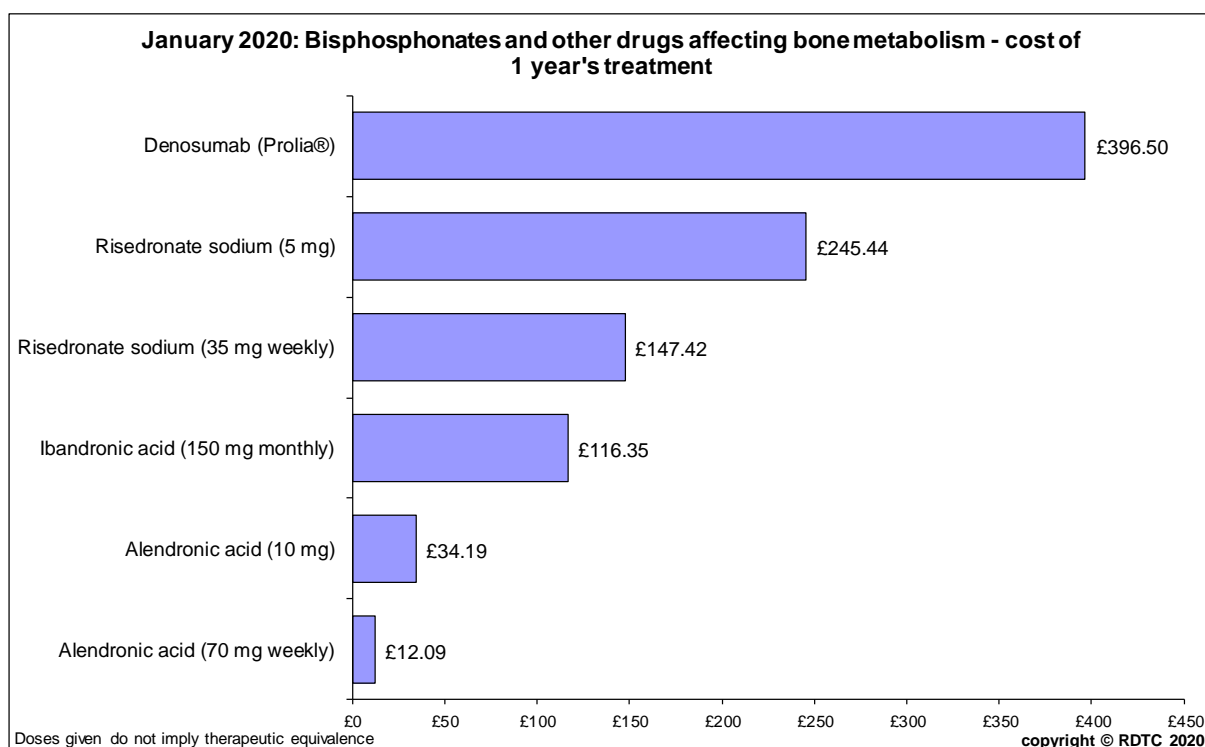


**6.4.1 Female sex hormones and their modulators: (iii) oestrogen only HRT preparations except patches**

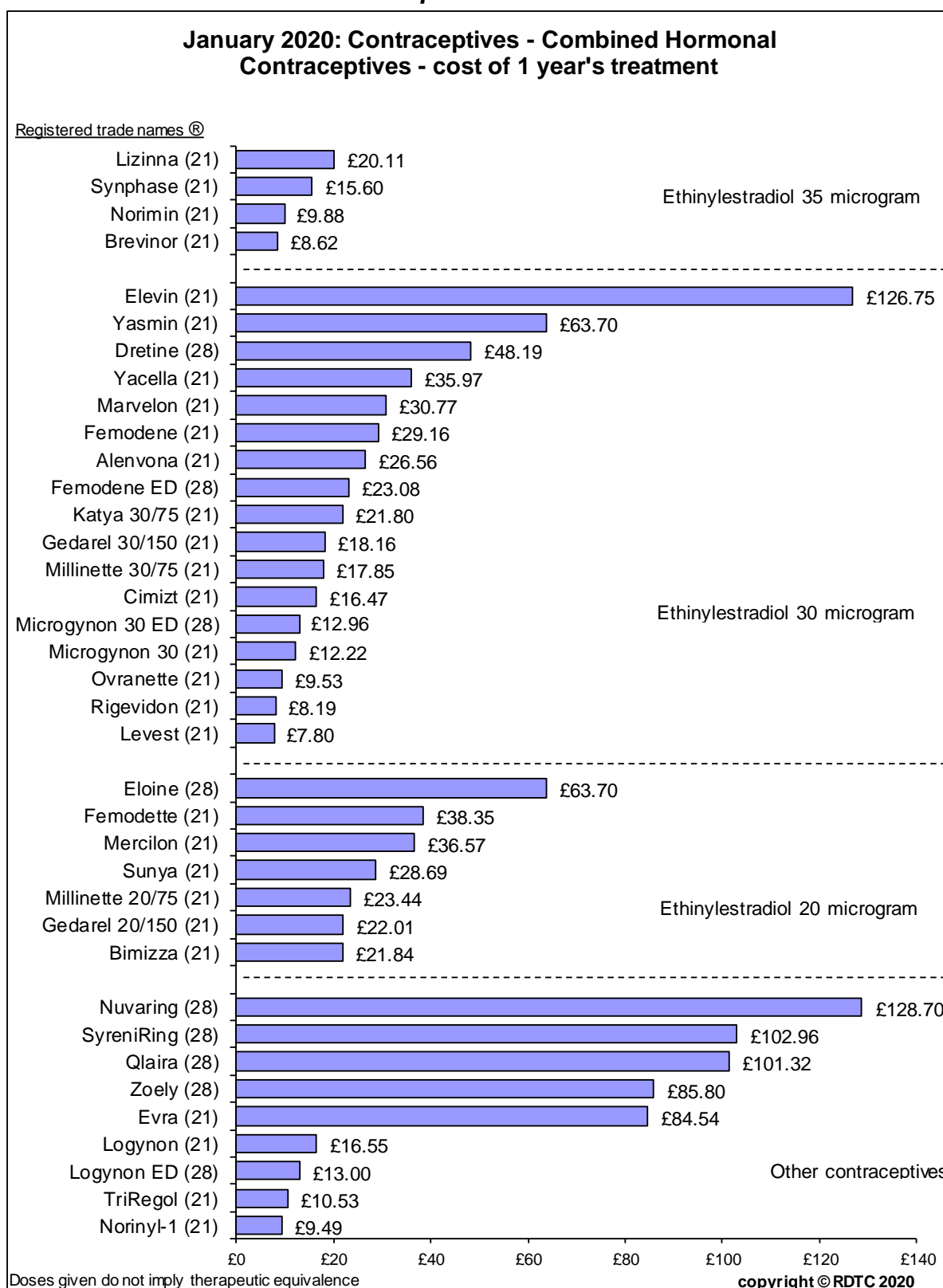


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### 6.6.2 Bisphosphonates and other drugs affecting bone metabolism

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7.3.1 Combined hormonal contraceptives

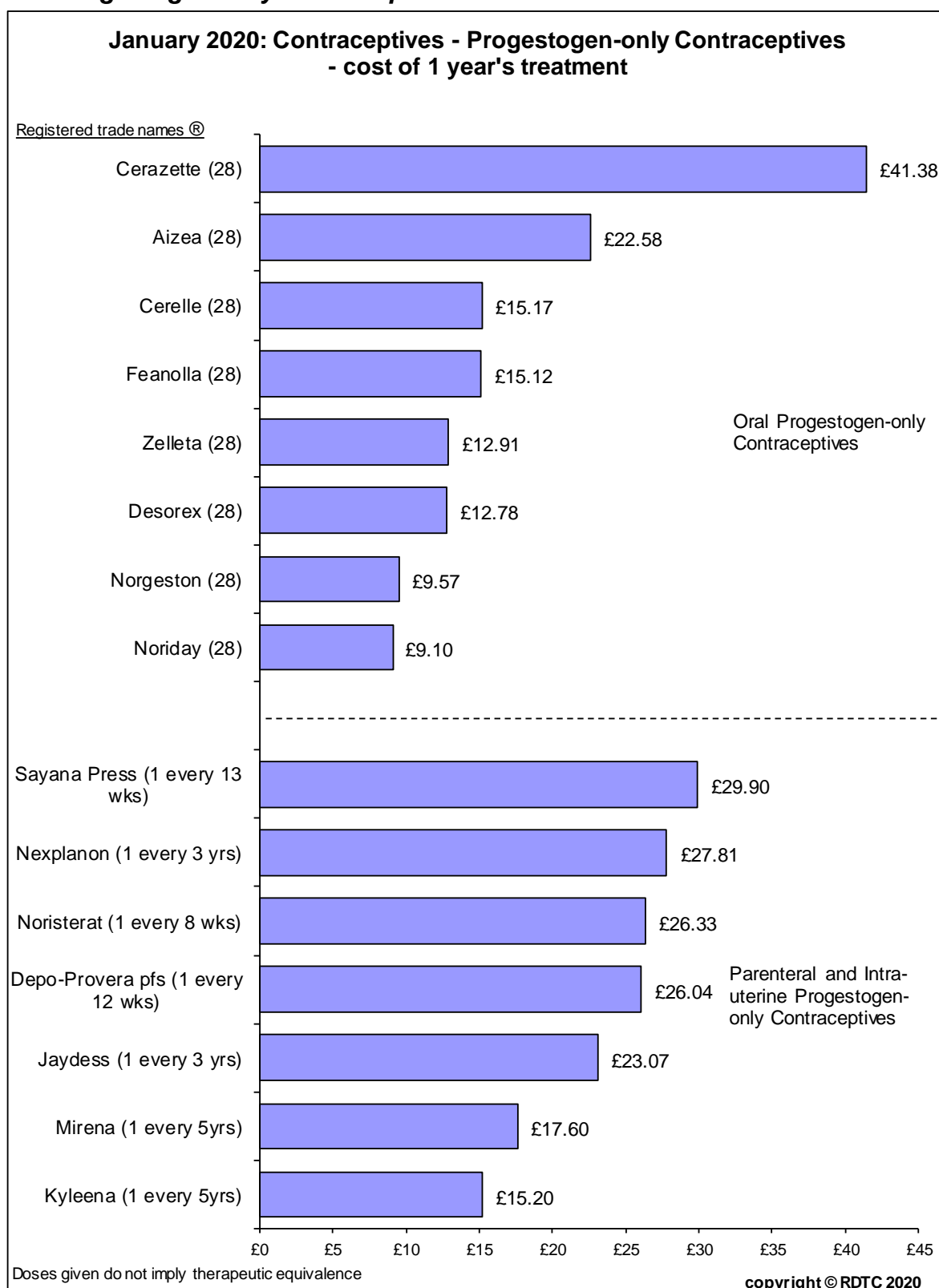


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For a more detailed comparison of contraceptives, access the excel version of the cost comparison charts via the RDTC website (link available via the title page). This is available to stakeholders only under password protection

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7.3.2 Progestogen-only contraceptives

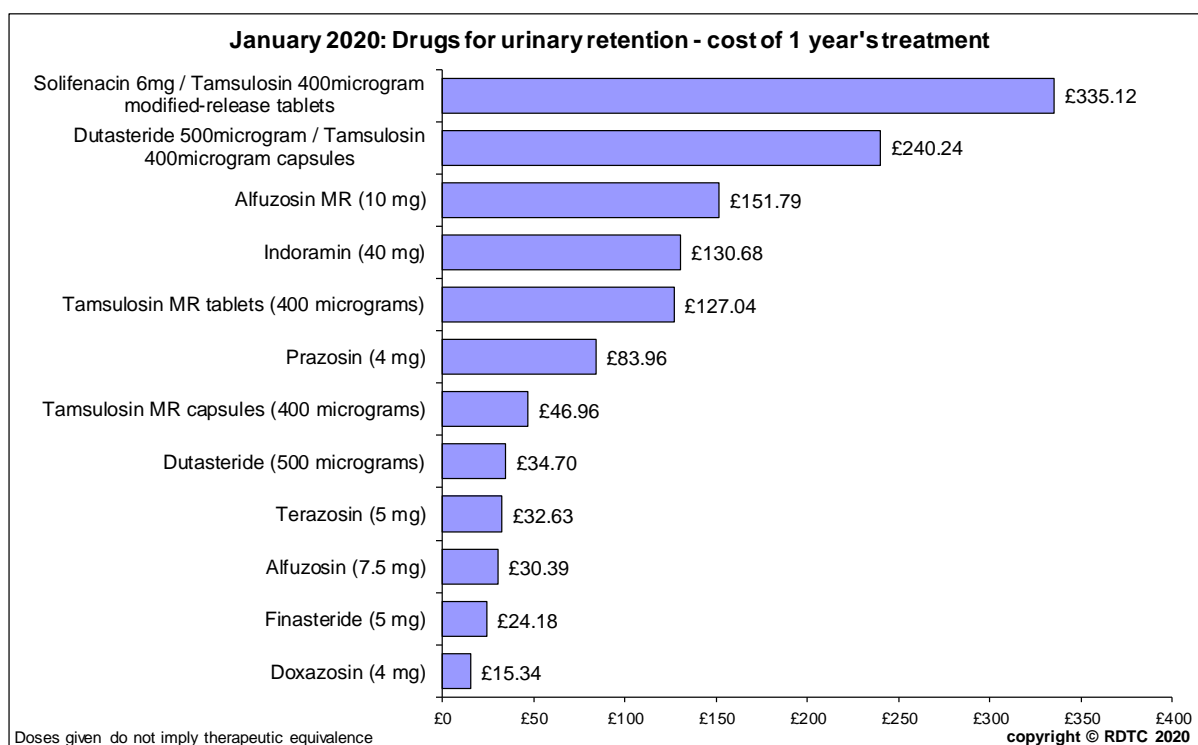


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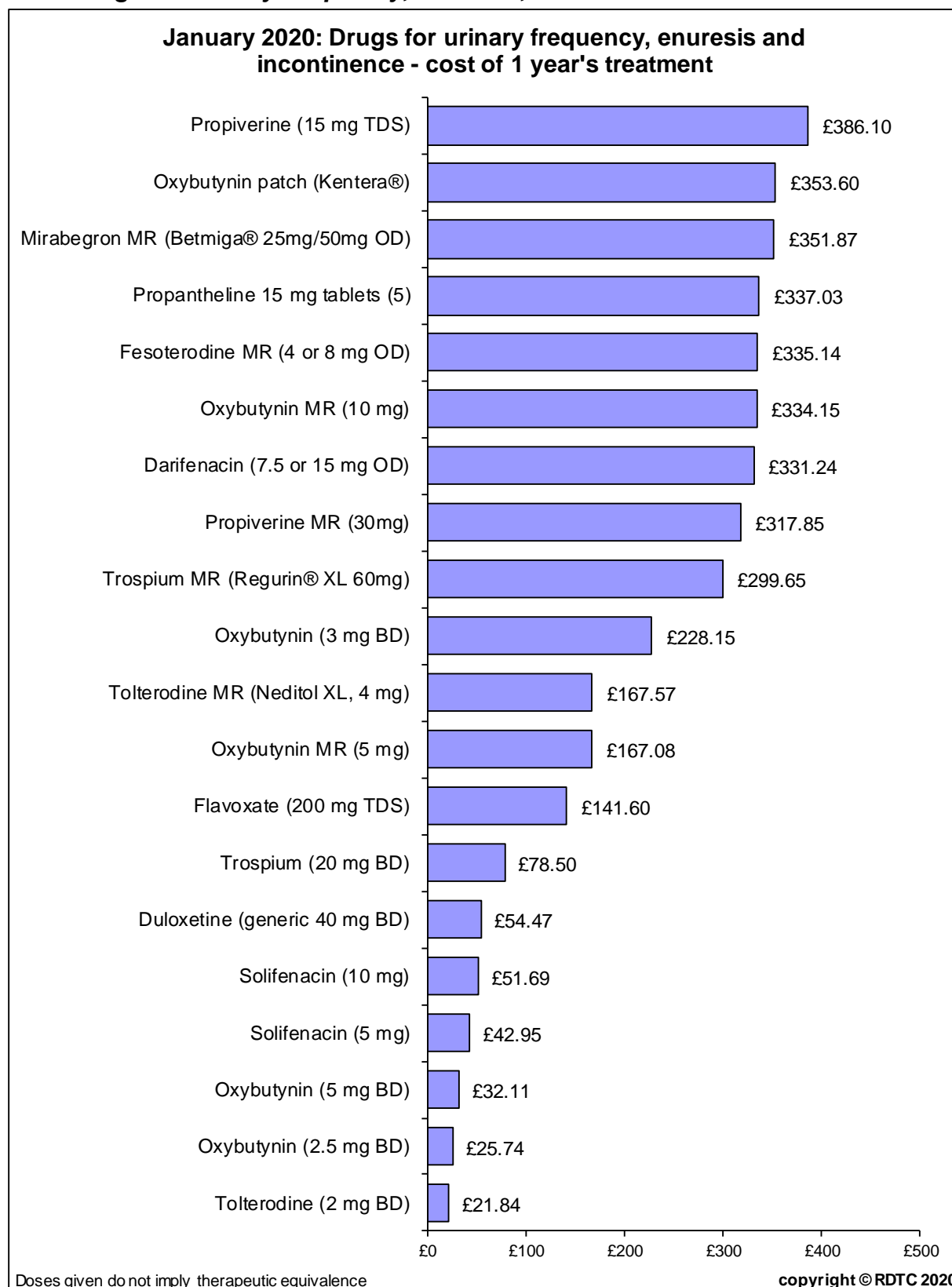
For a more detailed comparison of contraceptives, access the excel version of the cost comparison charts via the RDTC website (link available via the title page). This is available to stakeholders only under password protection

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## 7.4.1 Drugs for urinary retention

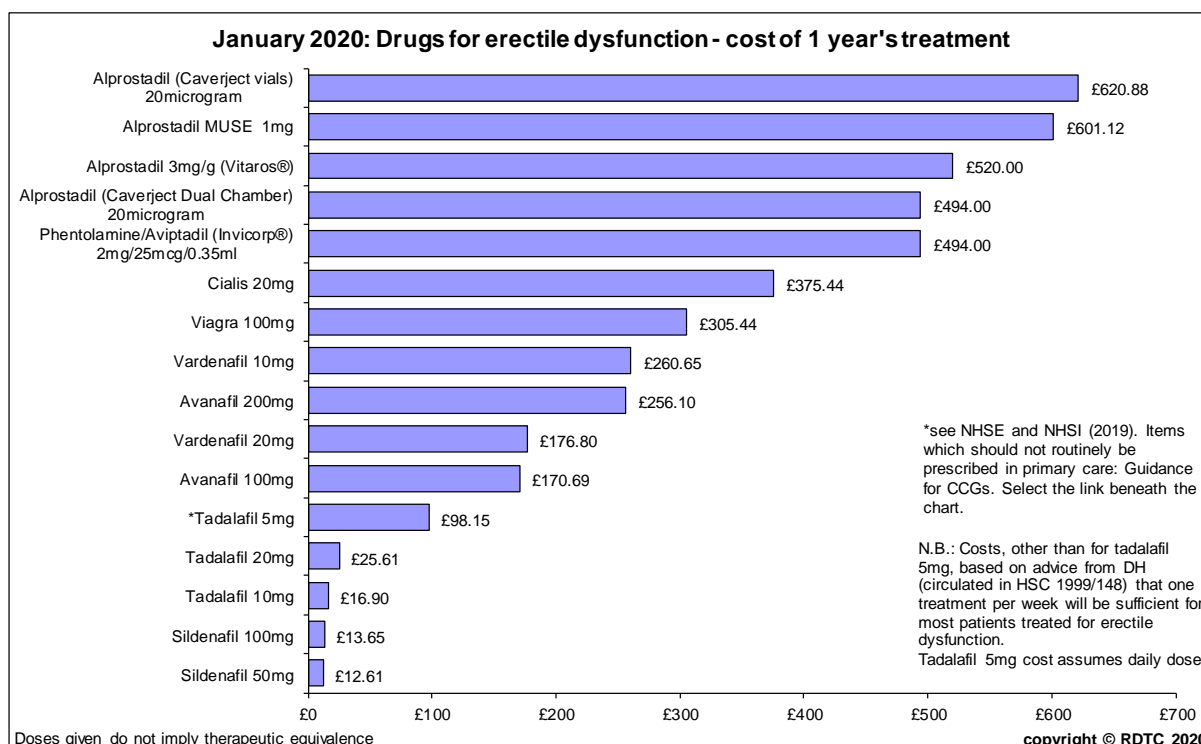

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## 7.4.2 Drugs for urinary frequency, enuresis, and incontinence



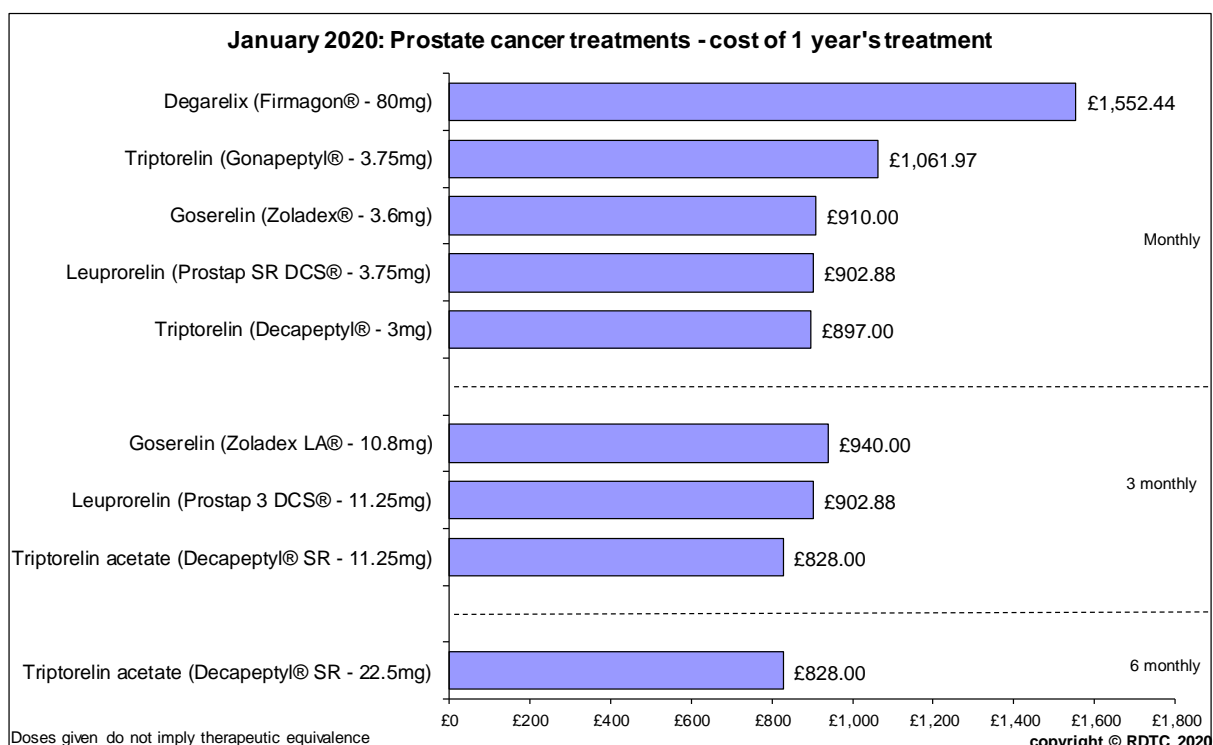
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### 7.4.5 Drugs for erectile dysfunction



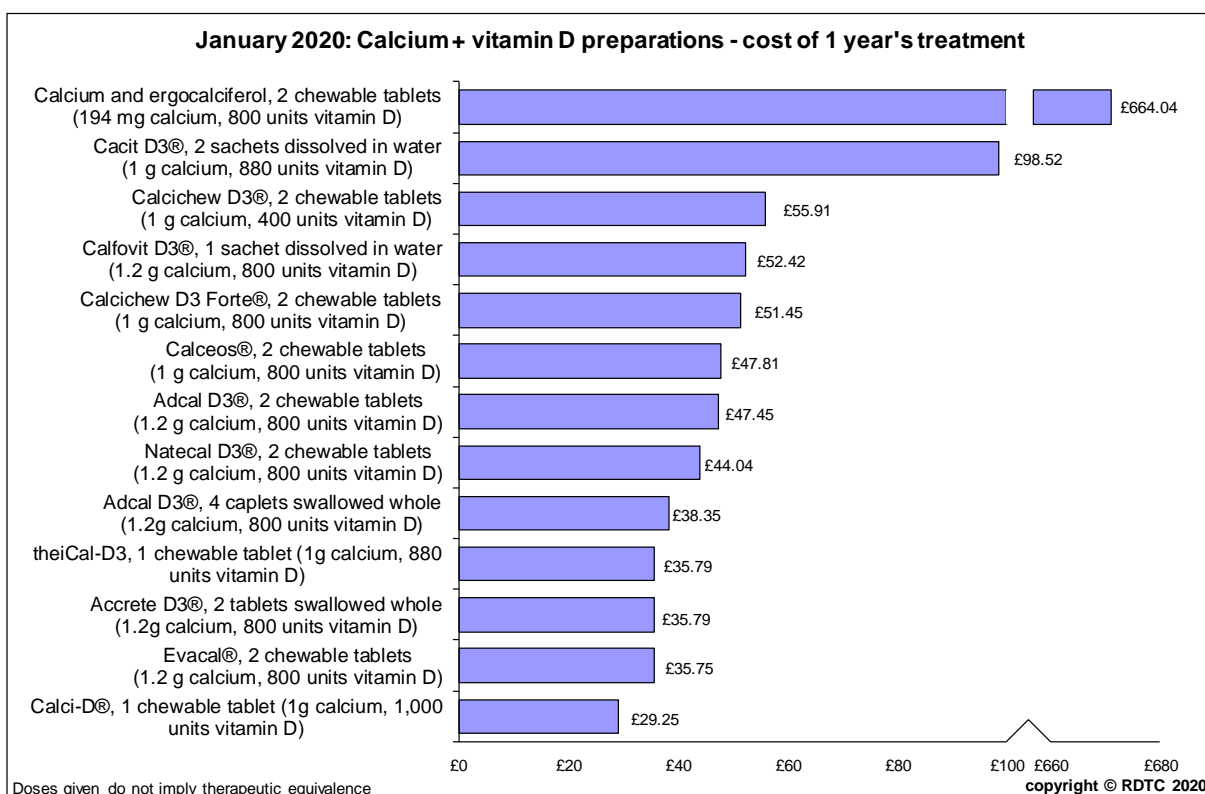
[Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs](#)

### 8.3.4.2 Gonadorelin analogues: prostate cancer indication

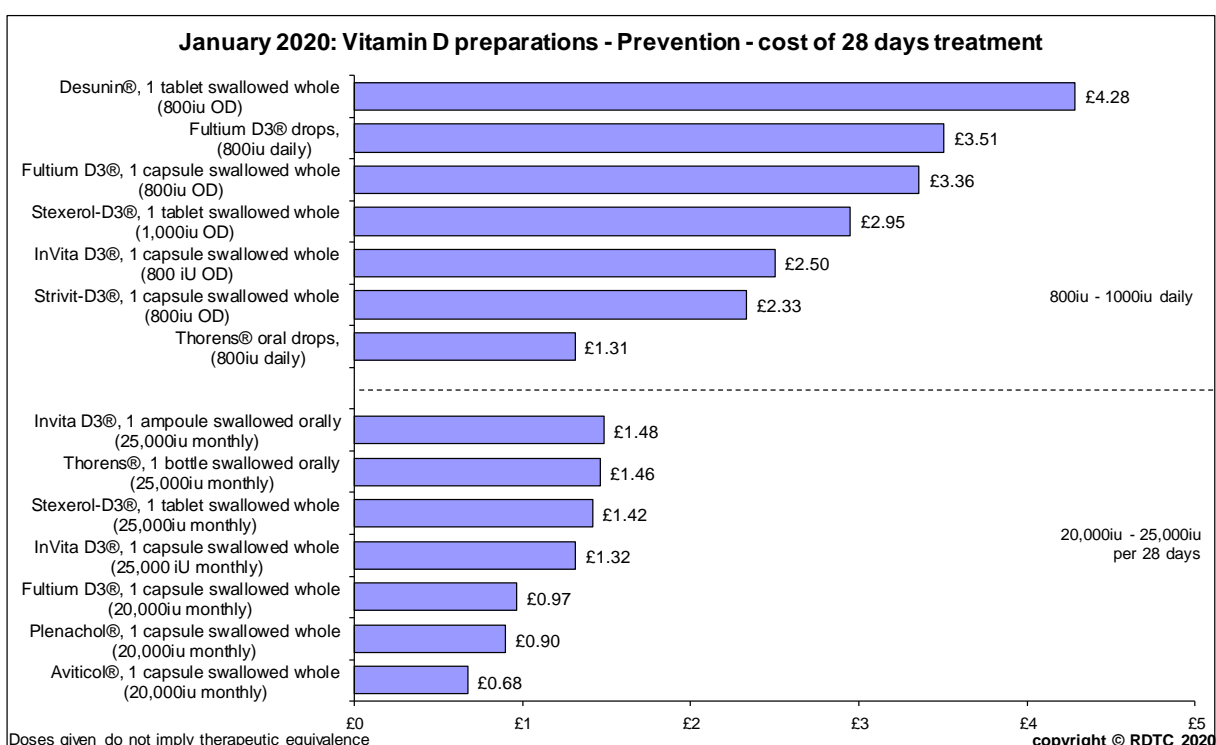


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**9.6.4 Vitamin D: (i) calcium and vitamin D combination products**



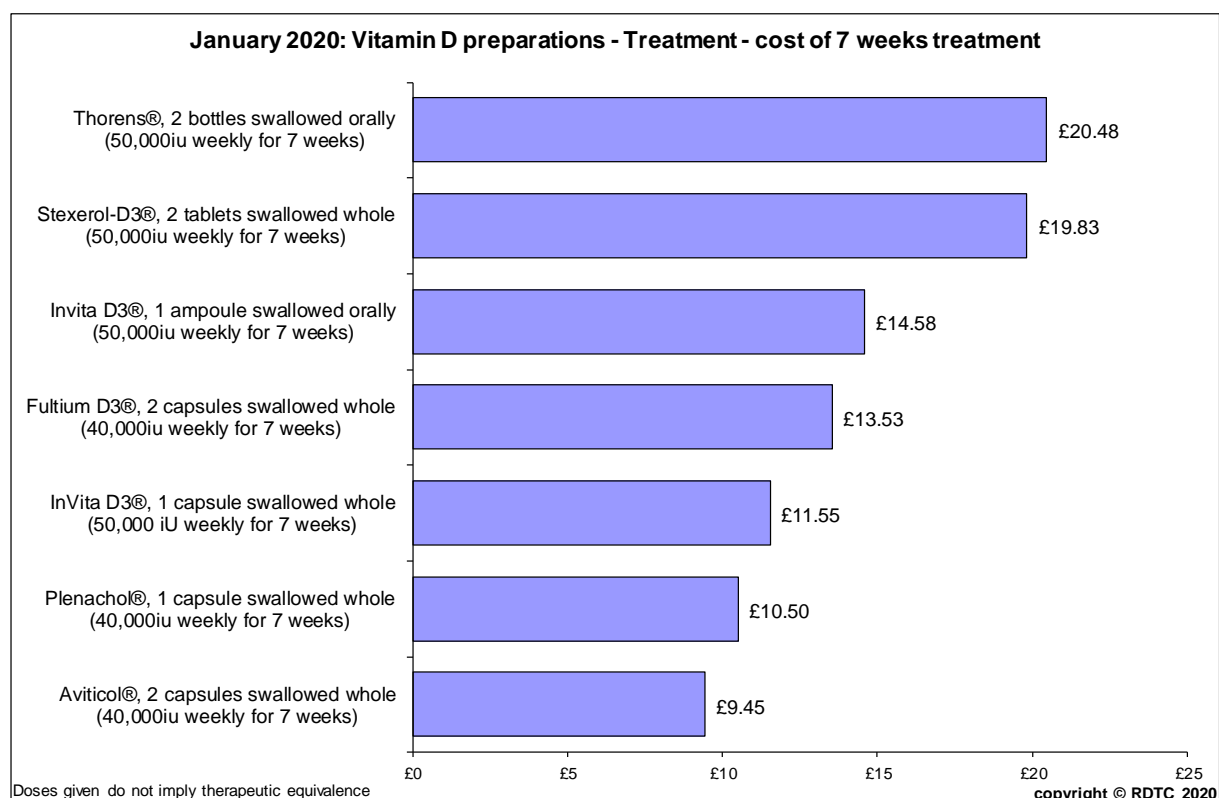
**9.6.4 Vitamin D: (ii) prevention of deficiency**



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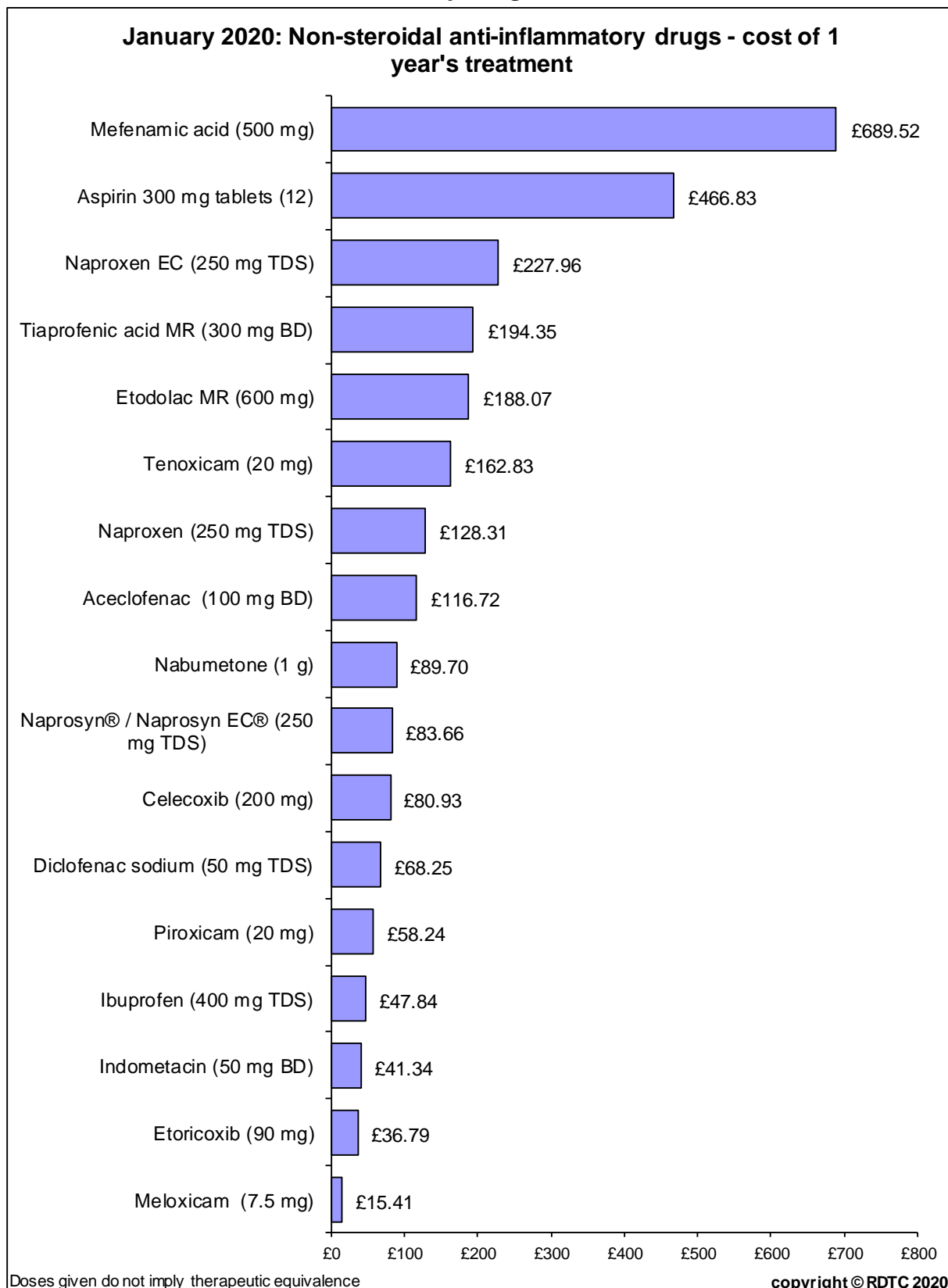


## 9.6.4 Vitamin D: (iii) treatment of deficiency



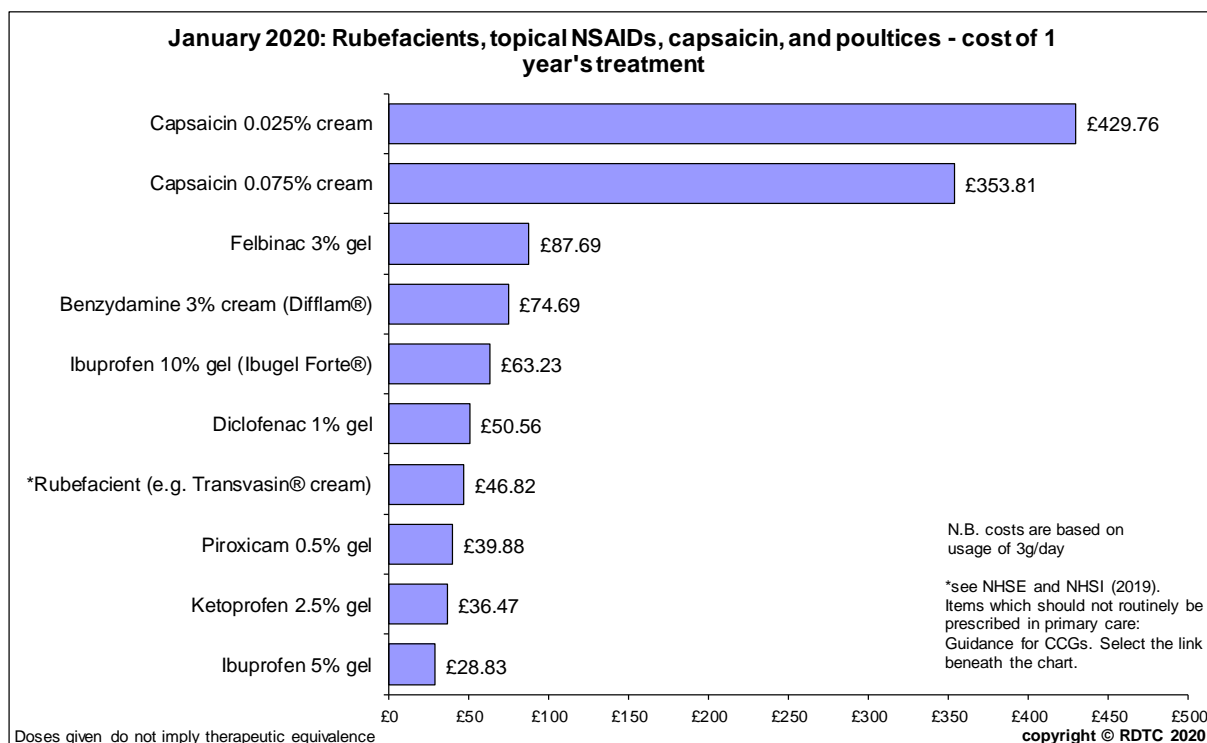
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## 10.1.1 Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs



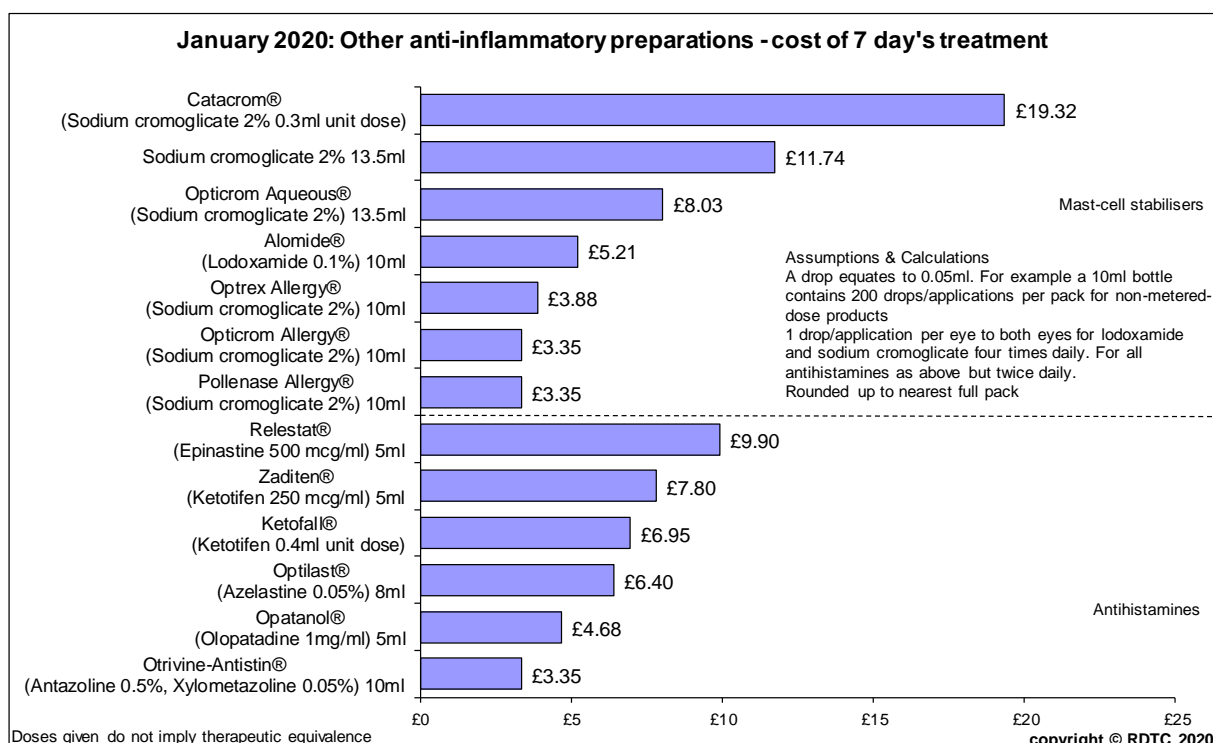
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### 10.3.2 Rubefaciants, topical NSAIDs, capsaicin, and poultices



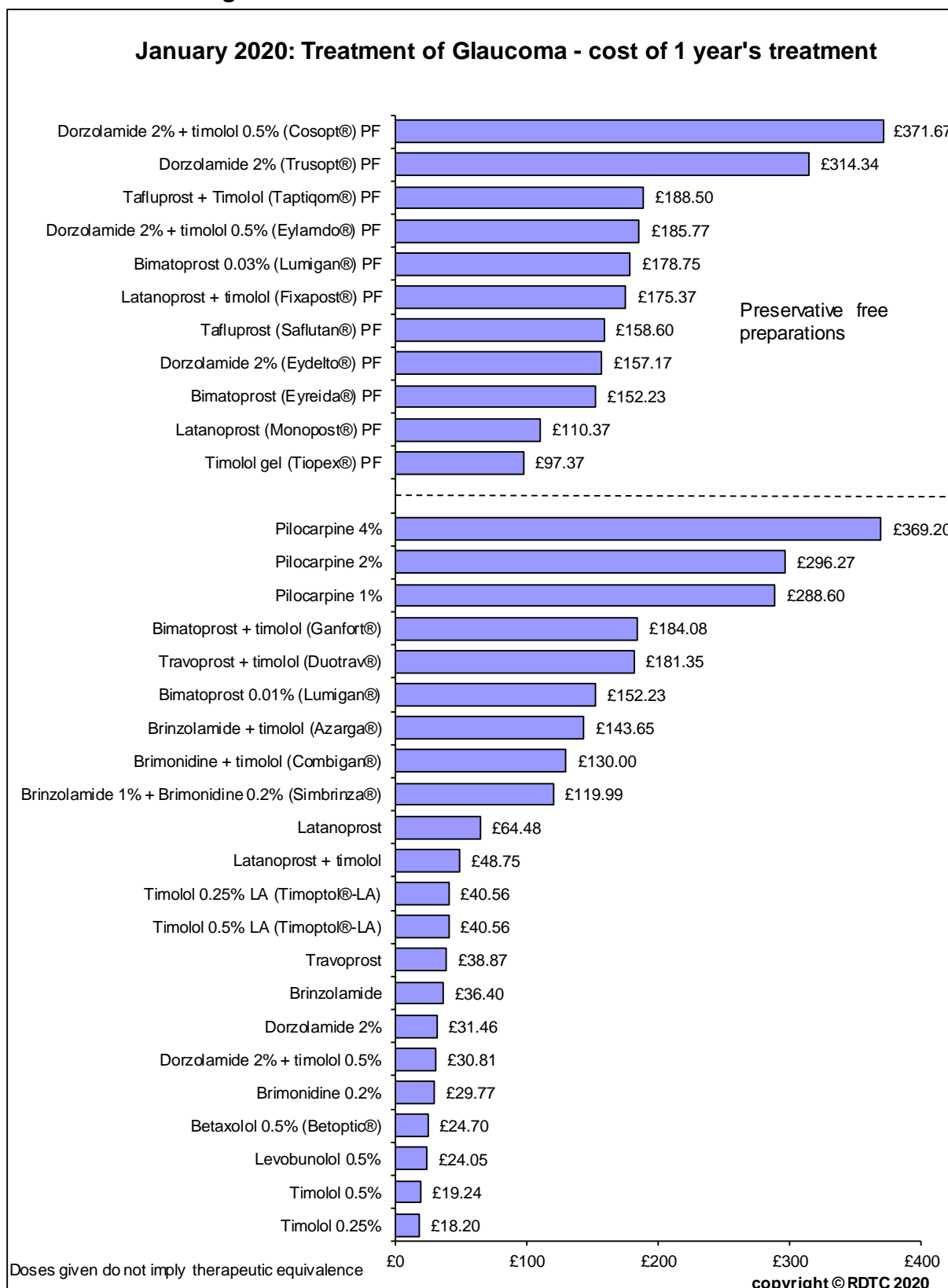
[Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs](#)

### 11.4.2 Eye: other anti-inflammatory preparations



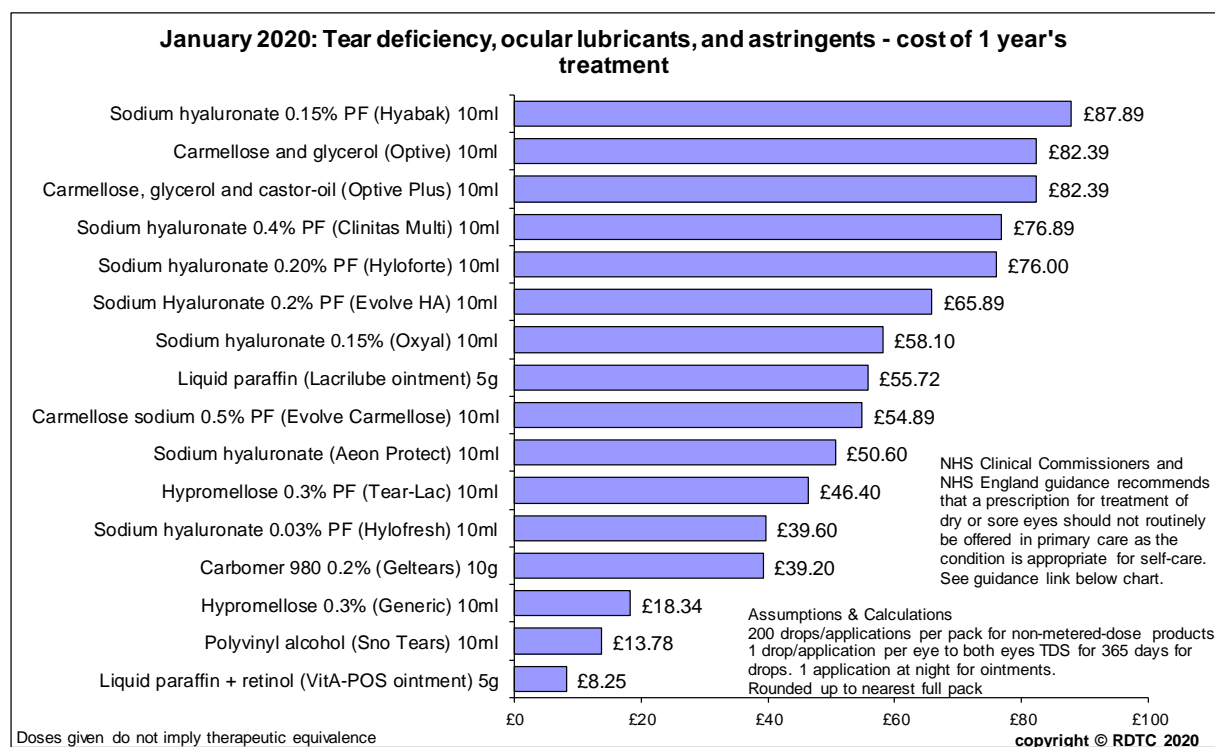
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11.6 Treatment of glaucoma



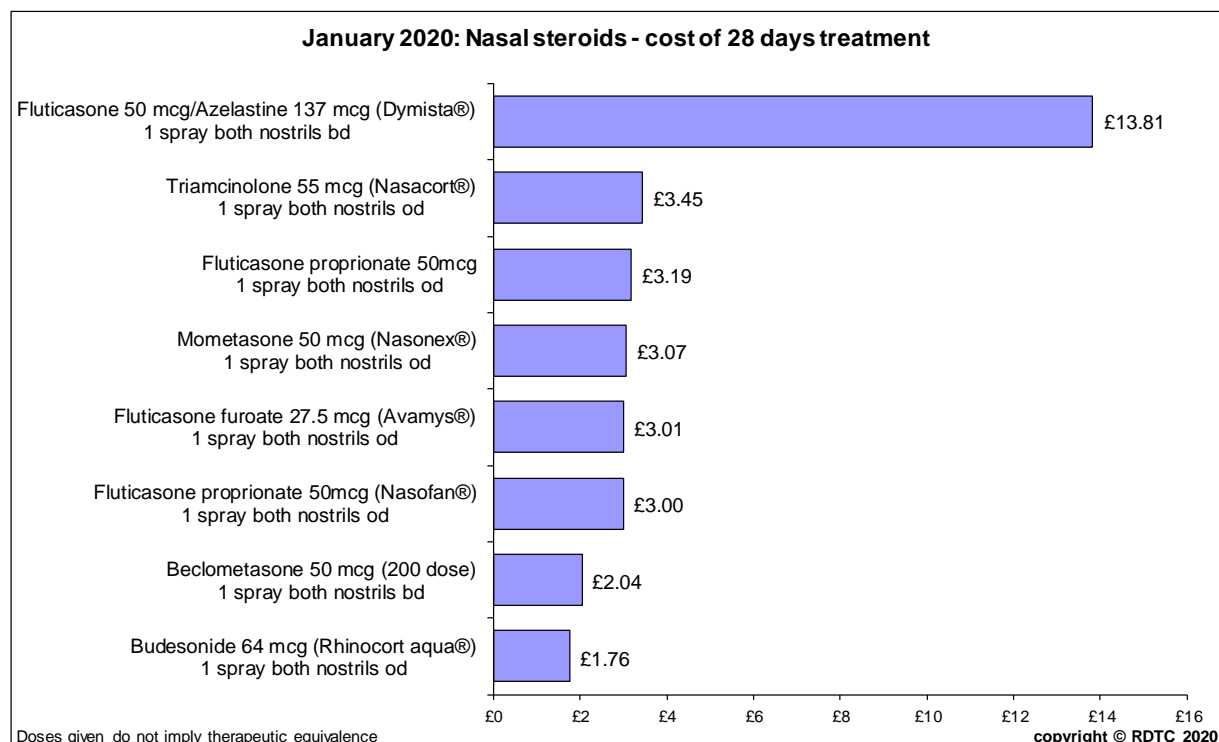
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## 11.8.1 Tear deficiency, ocular lubricants, and astringents



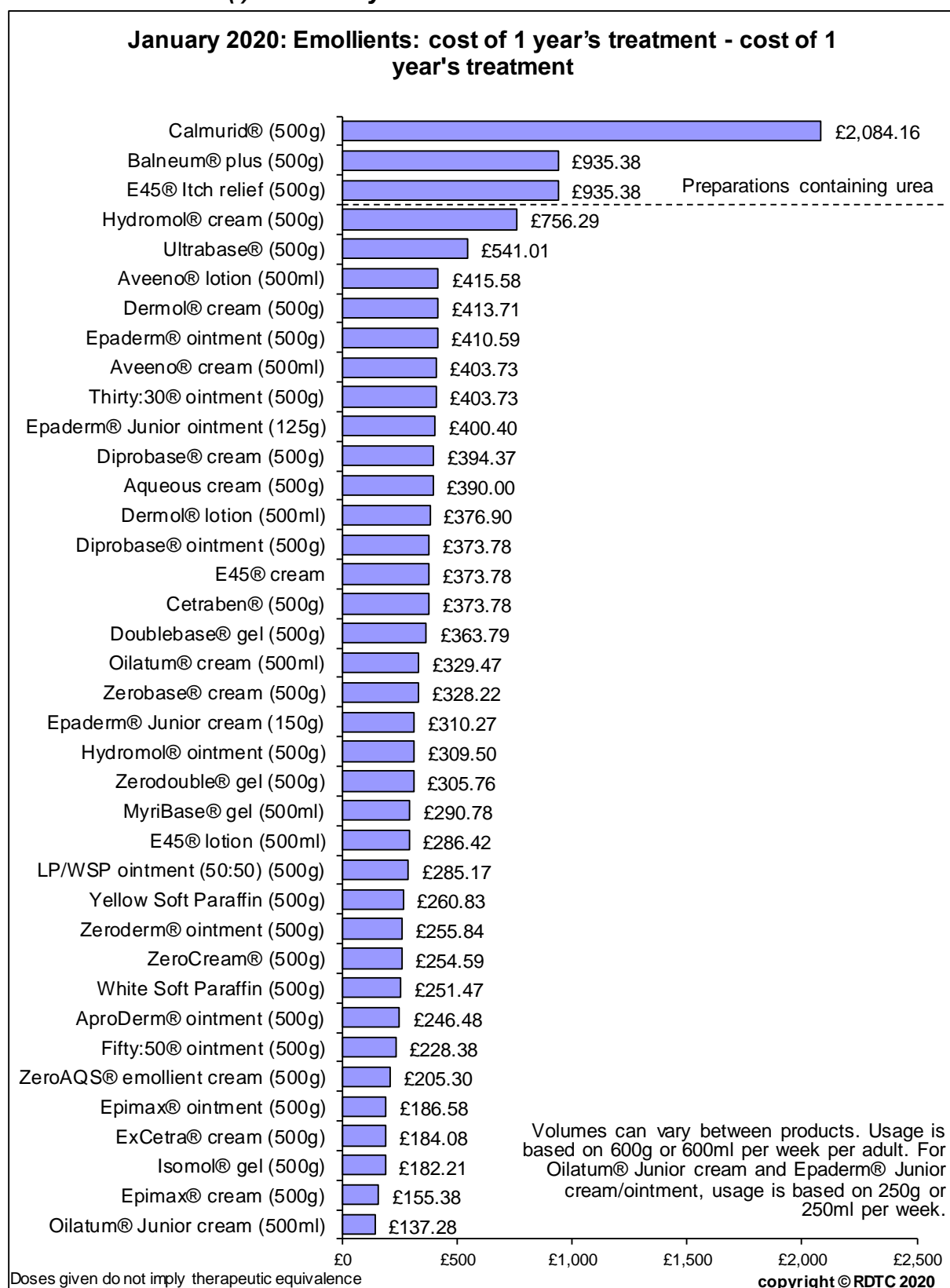
[Conditions for which over the counter items should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs. \(2018\)](#)

## 12.2.1 Drugs used in nasal allergy: corticosteroids

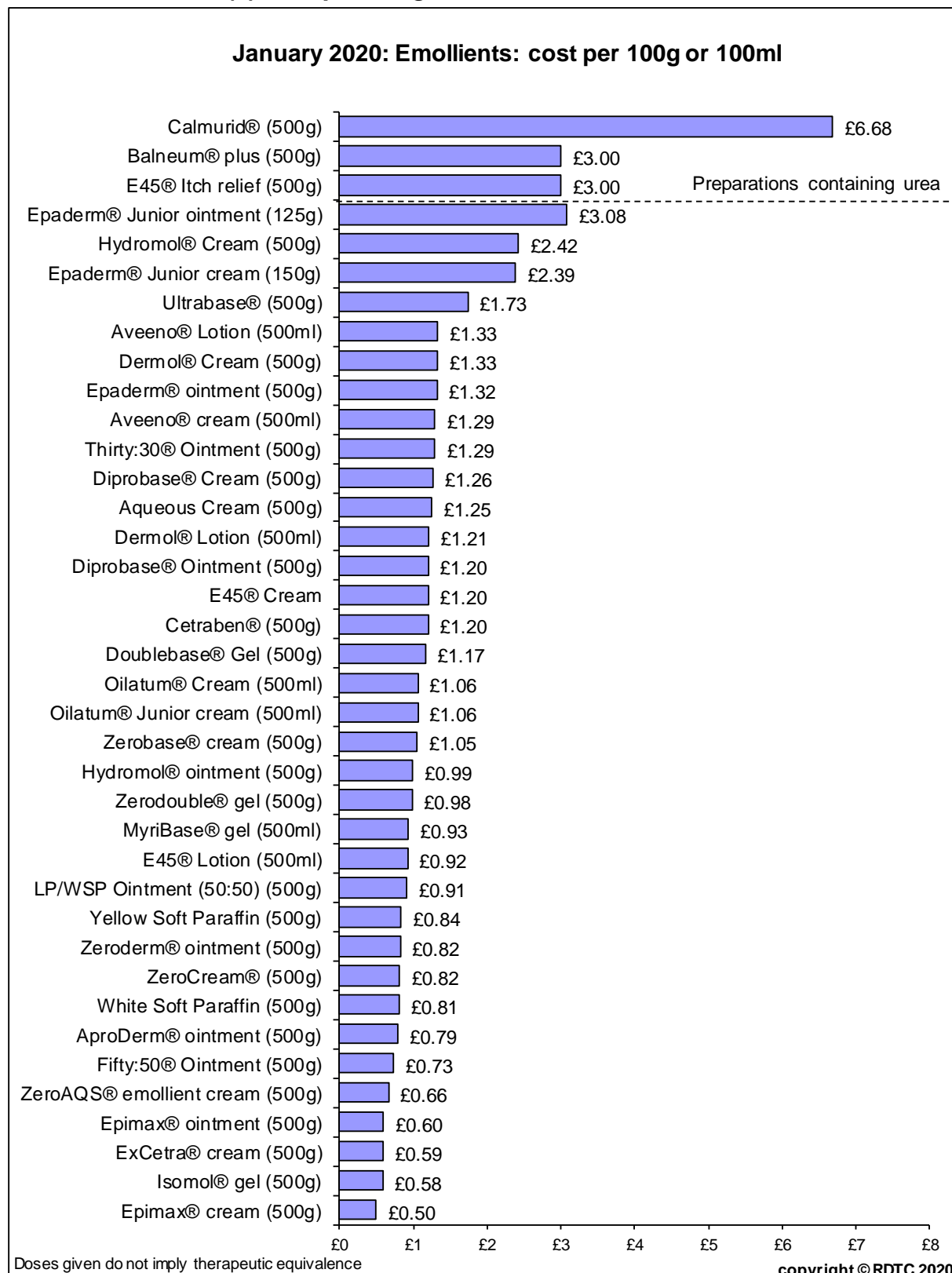


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## 13.2.1 Emollients: (i) cost of 1 year's treatment

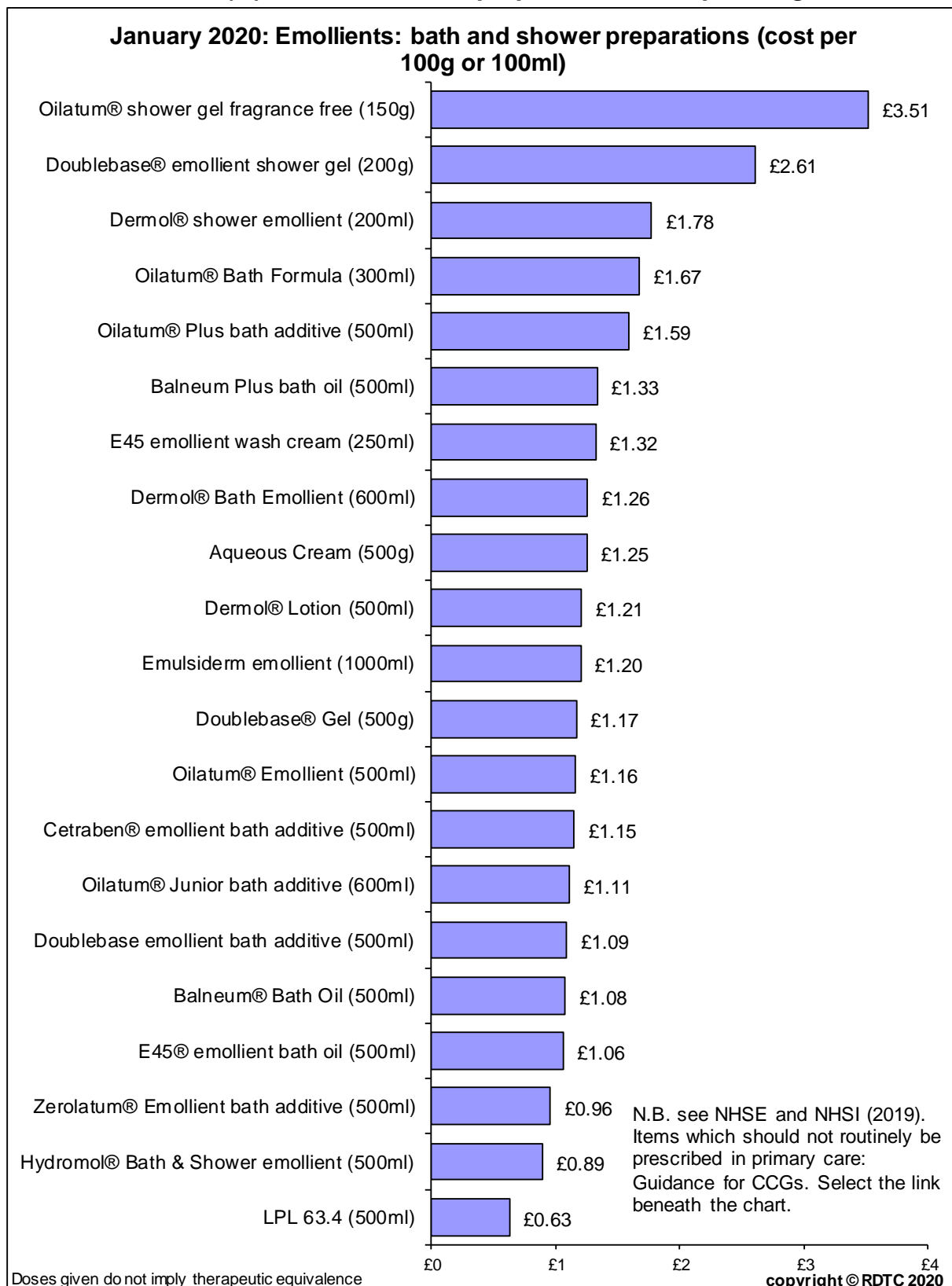

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## 13.2.1 Emollients: (ii) cost per 100g or 100ml



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## 13.2.1 Emollients: (iii) bath and shower preparations, cost per 100g or 100ml

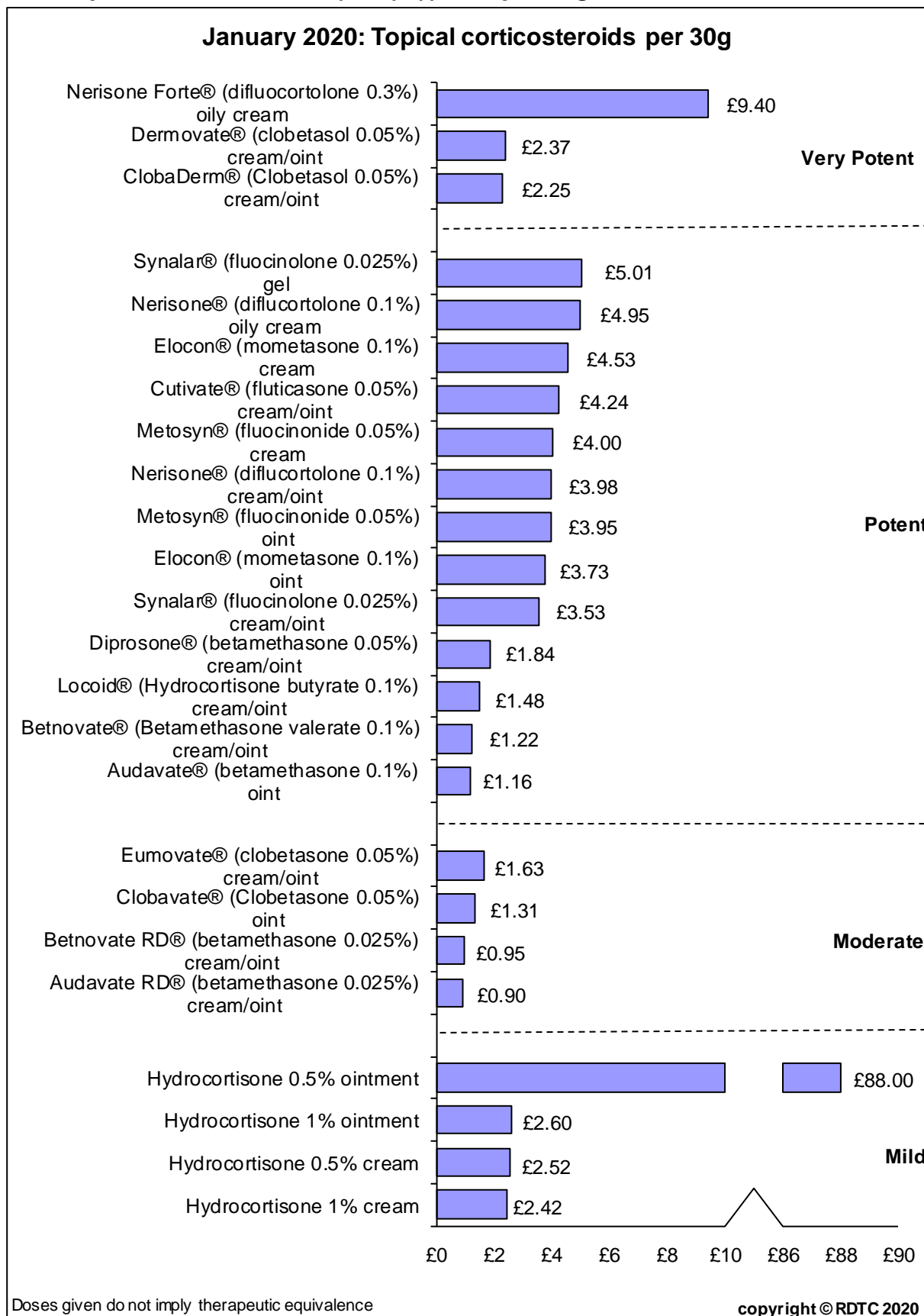


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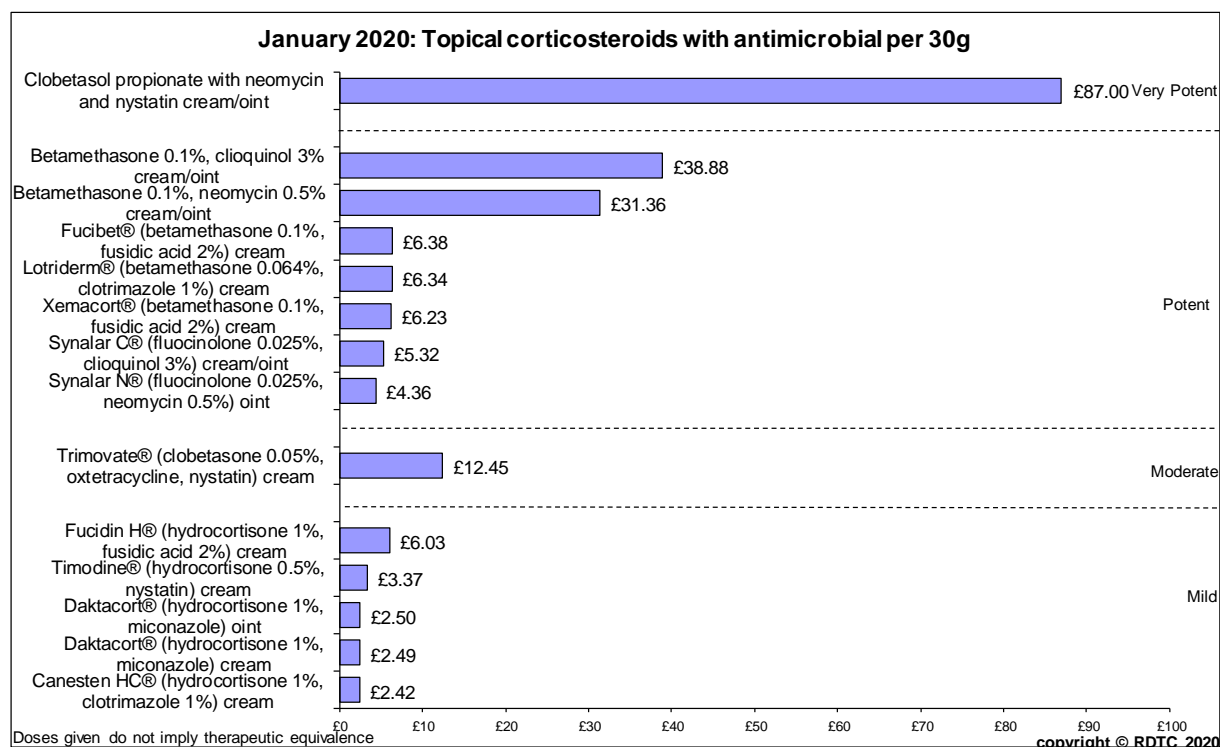
13.4 Topical corticosteroids (skin): (i) cost per 30g



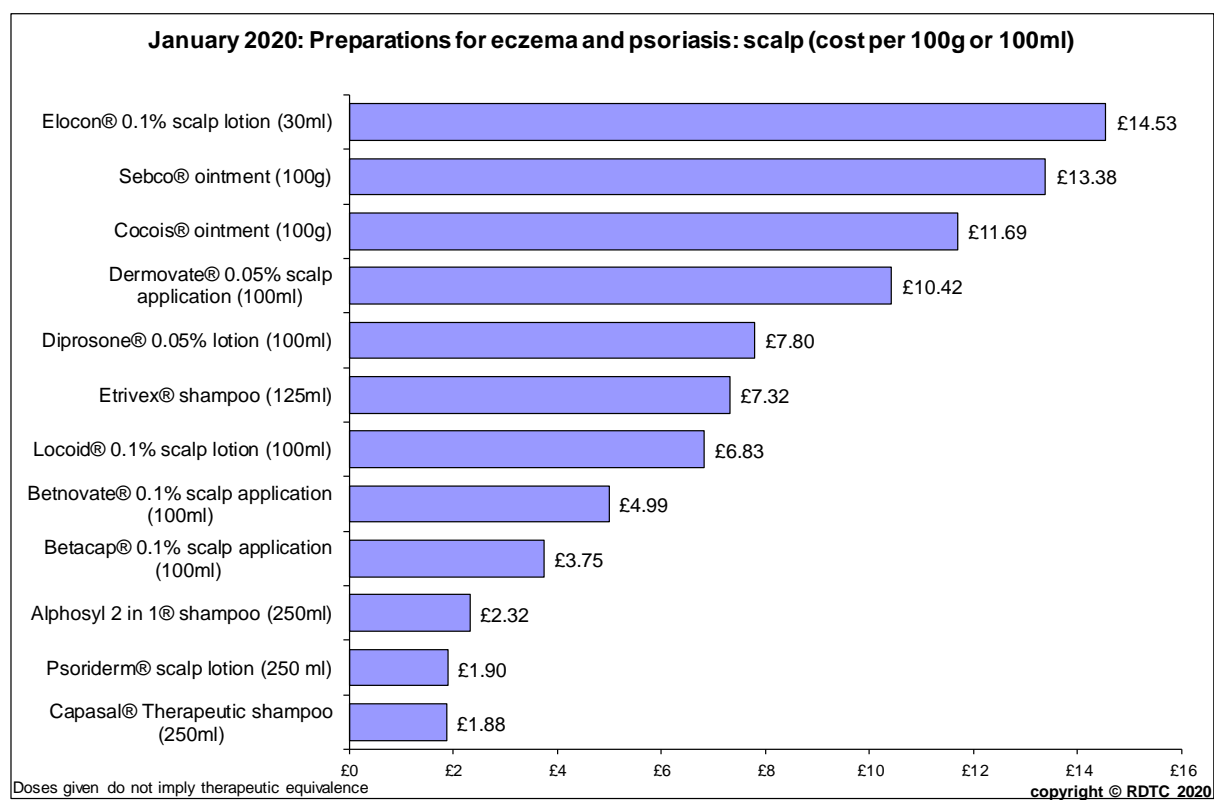
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### 13.4 Topical corticosteroids (skin): (ii) combination corticosteroid and antimicrobial products

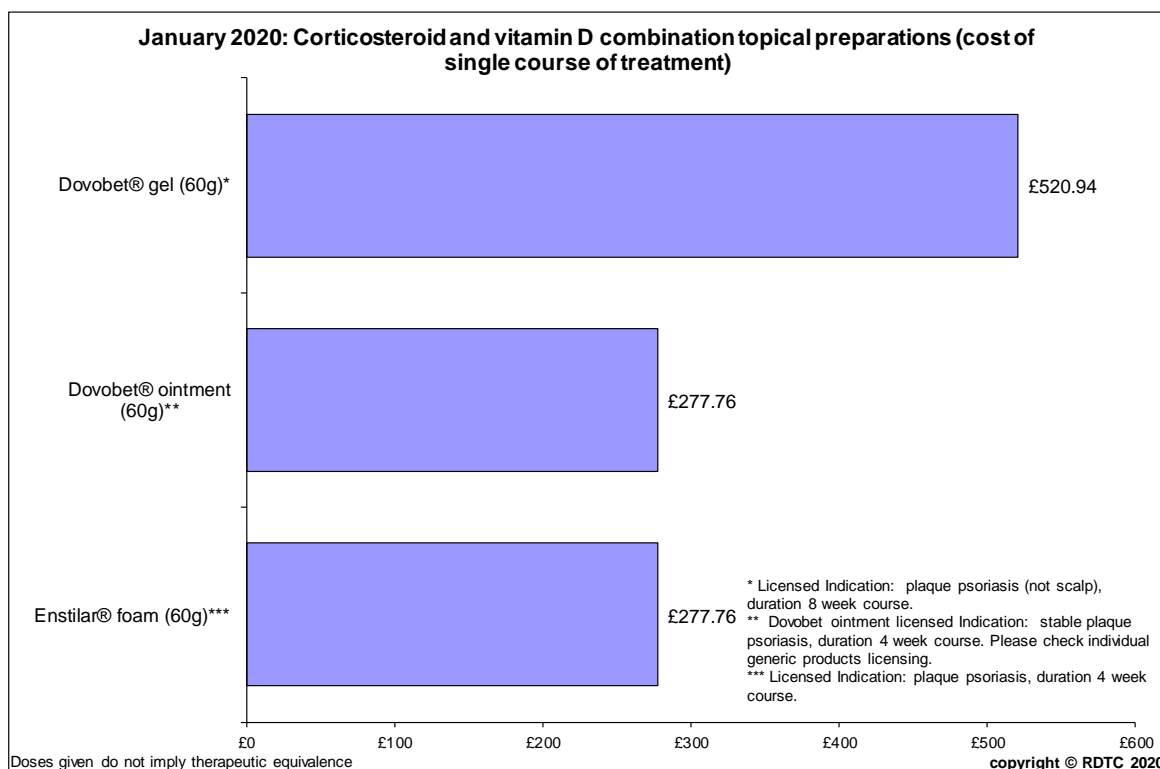


### 13.5 Preparations for eczema and psoriasis: scalp

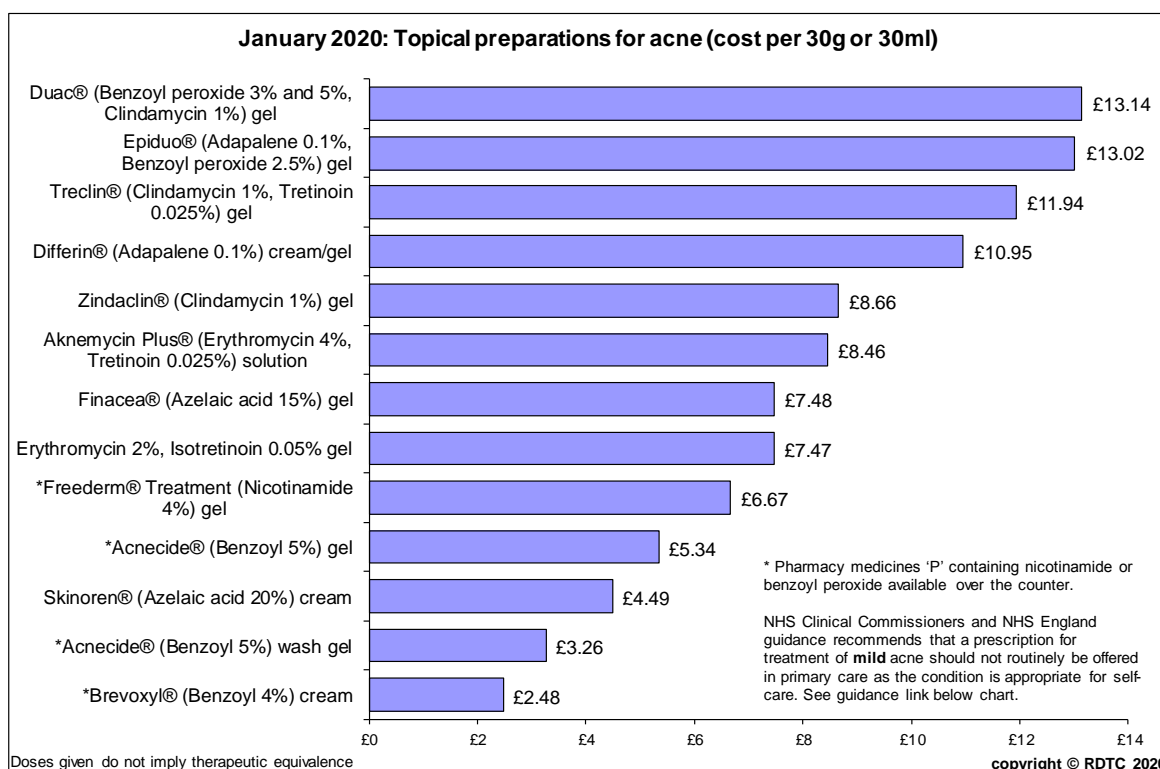


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### 13.5.2 Preparations for psoriasis: corticosteroid and vitamin D combination topical preparations

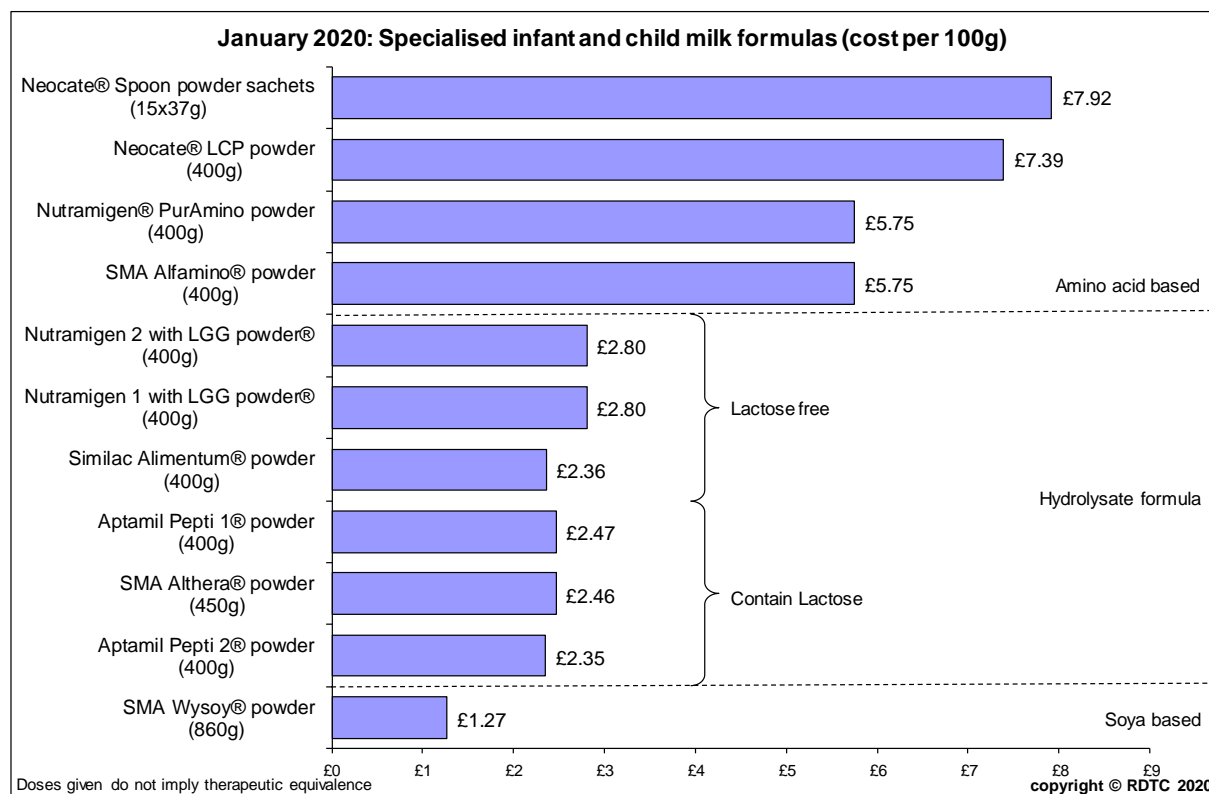


### 13.6.1 Topical preparations for acne

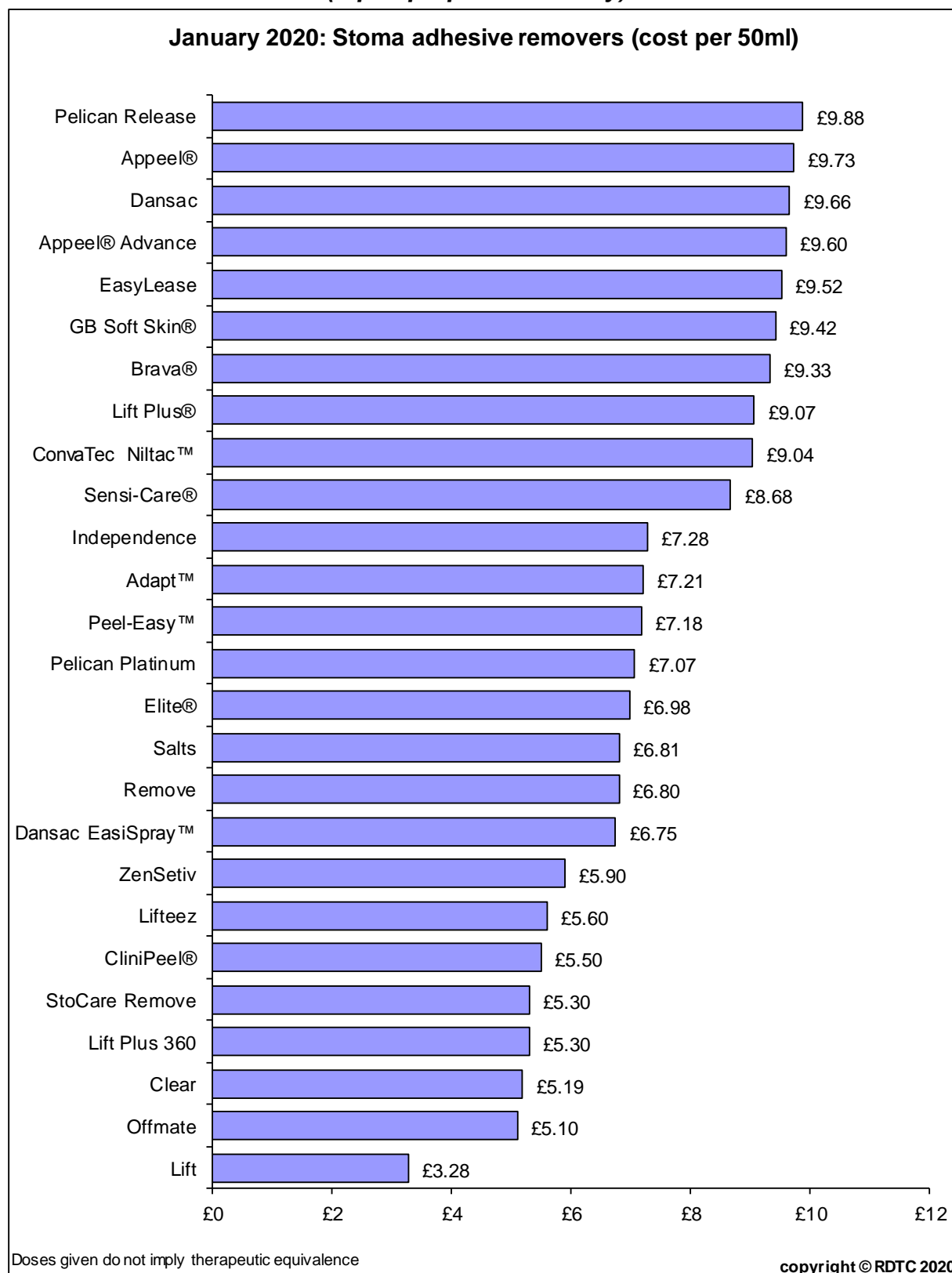


[Conditions for which over the counter items should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs. \(2018\)](#)

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**Specialised infant and child milk formulas<sup>5</sup>**[Contents](#)

<sup>5</sup> BNF for Children. Borderline substances.

**Stoma adhesive removers (liquid preparations only)<sup>6</sup>**

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<sup>6</sup> NHS BSA Drug tariff, Part IXC: Stoma appliances.

**Patent expiry table January 2020 to December 2020**

Expiry dates below take account of the SPC and any paediatric extension. The table also indicates where a licence for a generic/biosimilar product is in the latter stages of the EU licensing process or is already available in the EU. However, it does not follow that a generic/biosimilar product will be available in the UK as patent issues differ between countries. Patent legislation is complex and the information below should be used as a guide only.

Note that patent expiries are subject to change when new licence extensions (SPC or paediatric) are granted to the originator product or if court decisions alter the patent status of a drug. In addition, the patent expiries detailed only cover the basic, manufacturing patent. Additional patents on formulations and uses can influence when a generic or biosimilar becomes available commercially.

Patent expiry date may not give an accurate date as to when a generic version will actually be marketed in the UK, once a generic has been granted a product licence.

Drug	BNF	Patent expiry date * = UK patent only, no SPC	Date includes paediatric extension	Generic or biosimilar available/ in development	Commissioning route
Melatonin (controlled release - Circadin®)	4	2020 Jan	-		CCG
Asenapine	4	2020 Feb	-		CCG
Ziconotide	4	2020 Feb	--		NHSE
Dexrazoxane	8	2020 Mar	-		NHSE
Erlotinib HCl	8	2020 Mar	-	Yes	NHSE
Aliskiren	2	2020 Apr	-		CCG
Cinacalcet	9	2020 Apr	Yes	Yes	NHSE
Eculizumab	9	2020 Apr	-		NHSE
Temsirolimus	8	2020 Apr	-		NHSE
Tipranavir	5	2020 May	-		NHSE
Bevacizumab	8	2020 Jun	Yes	Yes	NHSE
C1-esterase inhibitor	3	2020 Jul	-		NHSE
Natalizumab	8	2020 Jul	Yes		NHSE
Tapentadol	4	2020 Jul	-		CCG
Fosaprepitant	4	2020 Aug	Yes		NHSE
Micafungin	5	2020 Sep	-		NHSE
Ambrisentan	2	2020 Oct	-	Yes	NHSE
Tocilizumab	10	2020 Dec	Yes		Depends on indication

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