

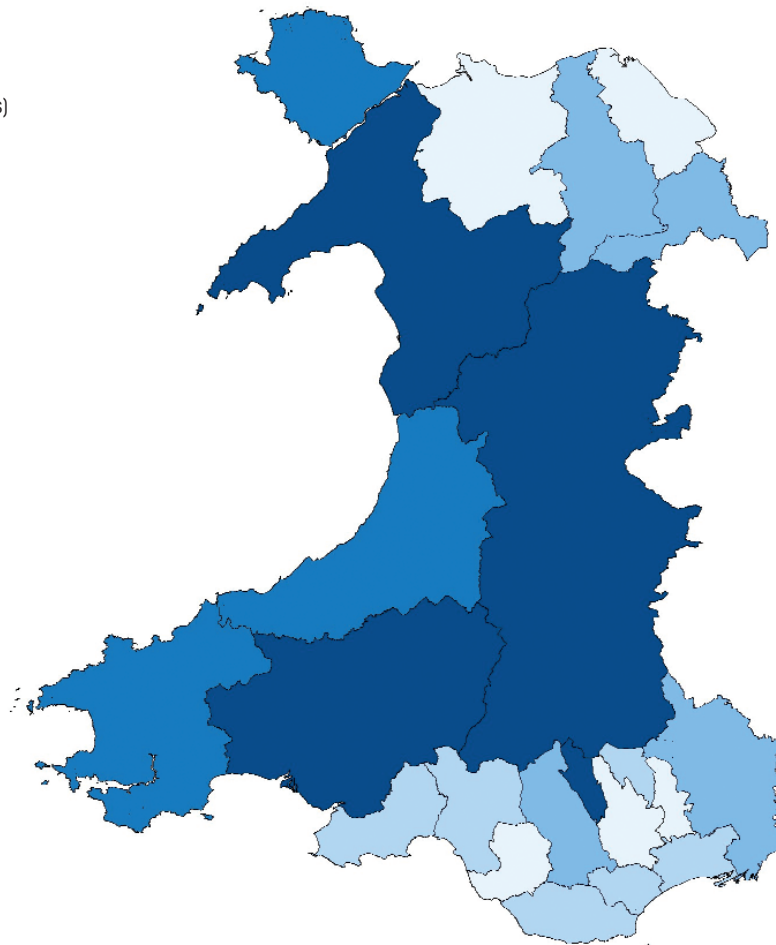
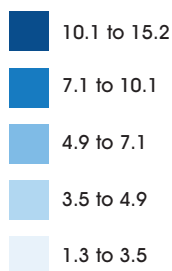
Co-proxamol prescribing

Source

Comparative Analysis System for
Prescribing Audit (Health Solutions Wales)

September 2005

Cost (£) per 1000 prescribing units (PUs)



Cessation of co-proxamol prescribing

- ◆ The All Wales Medicines Strategy Group has stated that co-proxamol prescribing should be reduced to zero by March 2006.
- ◆ In January 2005, the CSM advised that the benefits of taking co-proxamol do not outweigh the risks in any patient group and that the drug should be withdrawn from the market.
- ◆ There is evidence that fatal toxicity can occur with relatively small increases over the recommended dose. Combination with alcohol or CNS depressants is particularly hazardous.
- ◆ In England and Wales around 300 to 400 self-poisoning deaths each year involve co-proxamol, approximately one-fifth of which are considered to be accidental.
- ◆ Despite these warnings, 11 713 prescriptions for co-proxamol were dispensed in Wales during September 2005.