25 intervention and 53 control GPs

Identification of dispensed prescriptions (1st January through 31st March 2001 and 2003) from National Prescription Register
- Antihypertensives (ATC code C02)
- Diuretics (C03)
- Peripheral vasodilators (C04)
- Beta-blocking agents (C07)
- Calcium channel blockers (C08)
- Agents acting on the RAAS (C09)

Data for each prescription
- ATC code 5th level
- Generic preparation
- Disease number code (Code for Special Refund)
- Patient information (patient code, gender and age)

Patient specific data
1. Combination drugs were recoded into separate chemical subgroups
2. Duplicate purchases deleted if at least one prescription
   - Antihypertensives (C02)
   - Diuretics (C03)
   - Peripheral vasodilators (C04)
   - Beta-blocking agents (C07)
   - Calcium channel blockers (C08)
   - Agents acting on the RAAS (C09)

Analysis in patient subgroups
1) Hypertension only
   - No redeemed prescriptions for diabetes (ATC A10)
   - or under the special refund for CHD
2) Hypertension and CHD
   - Redeemed prescriptions under the special refund for CHD
     and
   - No redeemed prescriptions for diabetes (ATC A10)
3) Hypertension and diabetes
   - Redeemed prescriptions for diabetes (ATC A10)