



*Prescription Pricing Division*

# **BNF Classification and Pseudo Classification Used by the PPD**

**Incorporating Changes  
up to and including  
BNF Number 54  
September 2007**

## **BNF Classification and Pseudo Classification used by the PPD**

Whilst the PPD uses a therapeutic classification system based on and closely following the BNF, there are occasions when this is not possible.

The chapter, paragraph etc headings and the classification of drugs and appliances used by the PPD for PACT, ePACT.NET, PCA and the Prescribing Toolkit has to cover all items prescribable on the NHS in England. They may therefore not always equate exactly with the British National Formulary (BNF).

### **Three potential areas of difference**

- The BNF chapter and section headings may be slightly modified, especially to cope with the limited space on the paper reports.
- Items detailed in the BNF may be classified by the PPD under pseudo BNF classifications.
- Additional Pseudo BNF chapters, sections, paragraphs etc have been created by the PPD to either reclassify items e.g. appliances which are shown in appendices of the BNF, to accommodate preparations not listed in the BNF including unlicensed medicines, or to further sub classify within existing BNF chapters, paragraphs etc.

Where products are discontinued and these result in complete paragraphs being deleted from the BNF, PPD based classification remains in order that historical data is available.

A number of products are shown in more than one chapter of the BNF. These will be shown as a single entry under the main therapeutic indication.

### **PPD Code Structure**

The structure used by the PPD encompasses four levels

- A two digit chapter heading with leading zero where required
- A two digit section heading with leading zero where required
- A two digit paragraph heading with leading zero where required
- A single digit sub paragraph heading.

Where the BNF does not extend to all these levels, the record is filled with zeros.

### **Drugs not Covered by the BNF**

Pseudo Chapter 19 headed 'Other Drugs and Preparations' includes many drugs and preparations under various paragraph headings which are occasionally prescribed either individually or as an ingredient of an extemporaneously prepared preparation. Similarly other products occasionally prescribed are classified under a number of paragraph headings e.g. 'Alcohol, wines and spirits', 'Homeopathic preparations', 'Poisoning antidotes', 'Disinfectants' and 'Lubricating jellies'.

## **Annual Amendments**

Amendments to section headings and item classifications are made once each year to take effect from prescriptions dispensed from that January. They reflect the changes, which have taken place in the two editions of the BNF issued during the previous year.

The information detailed from January 2007 therefore reflects differences up to and including BNF edition 54 issued September 2007.

## **For Further Information**

Questions relating to this booklet and the classification used by the PPD should be raised with Database Team.

Tel: 0191 2035389  
Fax: 0191 2035405  
E-mail: [PiPPA@PPA.nhs.uk](mailto:PiPPA@PPA.nhs.uk)

**BNF Chapter and Section Headings  
that have been Slightly Modified  
(Apart from abbreviations)**

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>BNF Heading</b>	<b>PPD Heading</b>
<b>01:03</b>	Antisecretory drugs and mucosal protectants	Antisecretory Drugs+Mucosal Protectants
<b>1:03:06</b>	N/A	Other Antisec Drugs+Mucosal Protectants
<b>01:07:04:0</b>	Management of anal fissures	Management of Anal Fissures
<b>02:02:04</b>	Potassium-sparing diuretics with other diuretics	Potassium-Sparing Diuretics & Compounds
<b>02:05</b>	Hypertension and heart failure	Hypertension and Heart Failure
<b>02:05:05</b>	Drugs affecting the renin-angiotensin system	Renin-Angiotensin System drugs
<b>02:06</b>	Nitrates, calcium-channel blockers & other antianginal drugs	Nit,Calc Block & other Antianginal Drugs
<b>03:02</b>	Corticosteroids	Corticosteroids (Respiratory)
<b>03:03</b>	Cromoglicate, related Therapy and Leukotriene Receptor Antagonists	Cromoglycate, Rel, Leukotriene Antagonists
<b>03:04</b>	Antihistamines, hyposensitisation and allergic emergencies	Antihist, Hyposensit & Allergic Emergen
<b>04:04:00</b>	CNS Stimulants and drugs used for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder	CNS Stimulants and drugs used for ADHD
<b>04:05:01</b>	Anti-obesity drugs acting on the gastro-intestinal tract	Gastro-Intestinal Anti-Obesity Drugs
<b>04:07:03</b>	Neuropathic pain	Neuropathic Pain
<b>05:01:06</b>	Clindamycin	Clindamycin and Lincomycin
<b>05:01:11</b>	Metronidazole and Tinidazole	Metronidazole, Tinidazole & Ornidazole
<b>06:01:05</b>	Treatment of Diabetic Nephropathy and Neuropathy	Diabetic Nephropathy & Neuropathy
<b>06:01:06</b>	Diagnostic and monitoring agents for diabetes mellitus	Screening and Monitoring agents
<b>06:03</b>	Corticosteroids	Corticosteroids (Endocrine)
<b>07:03:02:3</b>	Intra-uterine Progesterone-only device	IUD Progesterone-only Device
<b>08:01:02</b>	Anthracyclines an other cytotoxic antibodies	Anthracyclines & Cytotoxic Antibodies

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>BNF Heading</b>	<b>PPD Heading</b>
<b>09:01:04:0</b>	Drugs used in platelet disorders	N/A
<b>09:01:07:0</b>	N/A	Drugs used in Platelet Disorders
<b>09:05:01:02</b>	Hypercalcaemia + Hypercalcuria	Hypercalcaemia
<b>09:05:04</b>	Zinc	Zinc & Other Minerals
<b>10:01:03</b>	Drugs which suppress the rheumatic disease process	Rheumatic disease suppressant drugs
<b>12:01:03</b>	Removal of Ear Wax	Removal of Ear Wax and other Substances
<b>12:02:03</b>	Nasal preparations for infection	Nasal Prepn for Infection
<b>13:01</b>	Management of Skin Conditions	Vehicles and Emulsifying Agents
<b>13:01:01</b>	Vehicles	Vehicles and Emulsifying Agents
<b>13:08:01</b>	Sunscreen preparations	Sunscreening preparations
<b>13:09:00:0</b>	Shampoos and other preparations for scalp and hair conditions	Shampoo & Other Preps For Scalp & hair Cond
<b>13:11:06</b>	Oxidisers, and dyes	Oxidisers & Dyes
<b>13:13</b>	Wound management Products & elastic hosiery	Wound management Products
<b>14:03</b>	Storage and Usage	Diagnostic Vaccines
<b>15:01:07</b>	Antagonists for central and respiratory depression	Antagonists for Respiratory Depression

**Items Detailed in the BNF that have been classified  
by the PPD under Pseudo BNF Classifications**

<b>BNF Chapter</b>	<b>BNF Heading</b>	<b>PPD Chapter</b>	<b>PPD Classification</b>
<b>01:08</b>	Stoma Care	<b>23</b>	contains all stoma care appliances (DT Part IXC)
<b>03:01:05</b>	Peak Flow Meters, Inhaler devices and Nebulisers	<b>21:12</b>	Peak Flow Meters
		<b>21:01:02:03</b> <b>21:01:10:0</b>	Inhaler devices
		-	Nebulisers in BNF are not prescribable.
<b>06:01:01:3</b>	Hypodermic Equipment	<b>21:01:09</b>	Hypodermic Equipment (DT Part IXA)
<b>07:03:04</b>	Contraceptive Devices	<b>21:04:00</b>	Contraceptive Devices
<b>07:05</b>	Appliances for urinary disorders	<b>22</b>	Urinary Appliances (DT Part IXB)
<b>13:11</b>	Skin cleansers and antiseptics	<b>21:16</b>	Irrigation Fluids
<b>App 8</b>	Wound management products and elastic hosiery.	<b>20</b>	Drug Tariff Dressings
		<b>21</b>	Drug Tariff Appliances (ex Dressings)
		<b>13:13:01</b>	Medicated Stockings
		<b>13:13:02</b>	Surgical Adhesive removers
		<b>13:13:08</b>	Gel and Colloid dressings

**Pseudo BNF Chapters, Sections, Paragraphs etc which have been created by the PPD to either reclassify items, to accommodate preparations not listed in the BNF or to sub-classify within existing BNF chapters etc.**

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>PPD Title</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>01:03:00</b>	Test for Helicobacter pylori	Sub-section heading only in BNF
<b>01:03:06</b>	Other Ulcer-Healing Drugs	Original BNF chapter. Deleted version 52
<b>01:08:01:0</b>	Local Care of Stoma	Inc products previously classified as Stoma Adjuncts in the Drug Tariff Part IXC and are discontinued
<b>02:05:06</b>	Ganglion-Blocking Drugs	Original BNF chapter. Deleted version 52
<b>02:05:07</b>	Tyrosine Hydroxylase Inhibitors	Original BNF chapter. Deleted version 52
<b>02:06:02:0</b>	Buflomedil Hydrochloride	
<b>02:06:05</b>	Flosequinan	Original BNF chapter. Deleted version 33
<b>02:06:07</b>	I(F) Channel Blockers	Not used by BNF
<b>02:06:10:0</b>	Other Vasodilators for Angina	Not used by BNF
<b>02:08:02:0</b>	INR Blood Testing Reagents	More appropriate to add to this section
<b>03:03:03</b>	Other Preparations	Not used by BNF
<b>03:04:02:1</b>	Diagnostic Skin testing Agents	
<b>06:06:03</b>	Human Parathyroid Hormone	
<b>09:01:07</b>	Drugs Used in Platelet Disorders	
<b>09:05:04:1</b>	Zinc	BNF 09:05:04 – Zinc has been subdivided to cover other minerals etc.  <b>Selenium has now been added to BNF 54 in 09:05:05.</b>
<b>09:05:04:2</b>	Chromium	
<b>09:05:04:3</b>	Dolomite	
<b>09:05:04:4</b>	Kelp	
<b>09:05:04:5</b>	Manganese	
<b>09:05:04:7</b>	Selenium	
<b>09:05:04:8</b>	Other Mineral Formulations	

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>PPD Title</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>09:06:01:1</b>	Vitamin A	BNF 09:06:01 – Vitamin A has been subdivided to cover different presentations of Vitamin A
<b>09:06:01:2</b>	Beta-Carotene	
<b>09:06:01:7</b>	Other Vitamin A preparations	
<b>09:06:02:1</b>	Cyanocobalamin (B12)	BNF 09:06:02 – Vitamin B has been subdivided into different forms of Vitamin B. This also includes the various healthfood type vitamin B supplements
<b>09:06:02:2</b>	Nicotinamide (B7)	
<b>09:06:02:3</b>	Pantothenic Acid (Calc Pantotethenate)	
<b>09:06:02:4</b>	Pyridoxine Hydrochloride (B6)	
<b>09:06:02:5</b>	Riboflavine (B2)	
<b>09:06:02:6</b>	Thiamine Hydrochloride (B1)	
<b>09:06:02:7</b>	Vitamin B Compound	
<b>09:06:02:8</b>	Other Vitamin B Preparations	
<b>09:06:02:9</b>	Laetrile (Vitamin B17)	
<b>09:06:03:1</b>	Vitamin C (Ascorbic Acid)	
<b>09:06:03:2</b>	Vitamin C & Bioflavonoids	
<b>09:06:03:3</b>	Other Vitamin C Preparations	
<b>09:06:04:1</b>	Vitamin D	BNF 09:06:04 Vitamin D has been subdivided to cover healthfood type Vitamin D supplements
<b>09:06:04:8</b>	Other Vitamin D Preparations	
<b>09:06:05:1</b>	Vitamin E	BNF 09:06:05- Vitamin E has been subdivided to cover healthfood type Vitamin E supplements
<b>09:06:05:8</b>	Other Vitamin E Preparations	
<b>09:06:08</b>	Other Vitamin Formulations	
<b>09:09</b>	Foods	excludes special diets
<b>09:10</b>	Compound Vit/Mineral Formulations	
<b>09:11</b>	Health Supplements	
<b>09:11:01</b>	Amino Acids & Nutritional Agents	
<b>09:11:02</b>	Enzymes	



<b>Chapter</b>	<b>PPD Title</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>09:11:03</b>	Glandular	
<b>09:11:04</b>	Digestive Aids	
<b>09:12</b>	Other Health Supplements	Excludes those covered above in 09:11
<b>11:08:03</b>	Other Eye preparations	
<b>11:08:05</b>	Preparations for Cataracts	
<b>12:03:04:1</b>	Breath Fresheners/Disclosing preparations	
<b>13:02:03</b>	Dusting Powders	Was quoted in BNF. However when Talc Dusting Powder, Zinc Starch & Talc Dusting Powder and Zeasorb were moved, this subparagraph was deleted from BNF 37
<b>13:05:00</b>	Preparations For Eczema + Psoriasis	
<b>13:06:00</b>	Preps for Acne	
<b>13:13:01</b>	Medicated Stockings	Covered in Appendix 8 of BNF
<b>13:13:02</b>	Surgical Adhesive Removers	
<b>13:13:08</b>	Gel & Colloid Dressings	But see 20:03 for Wound management products
<b>13:15:00:0</b>	Miscellaneous Topical Preparations	
<b>15:02:01</b>	Local Anaesthetics	BNF 15:02 split into two pseudo chapters
<b>15:02:02</b>	Adjuncts to intractable pain spasticity	
<b>18</b>	Preparations used in Diagnosis	
<b>18:01</b>	Urine Testing Reagents	
<b>18:02</b>	Blood Testing Reagents	
<b>18:03</b>	X-Ray Contrast media	
<b>18:04</b>	Diagnostic Agents	
<b>18:05</b>	Special Sanctions Reagents	
<b>19</b>	Other Drugs and Preparations	

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>PPD Title</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>19:01</b>	Alcohol, Wines and Spirits	
<b>19:02:01</b>	Individually formulated preparations bought in	
<b>19:02:02</b>	Individually formulated preparations prepared Extemporaneously	
<b>19:02:03</b>	Homeopathic Preparations	
<b>19:02:05</b>	Household and other OTC lines	
<b>19:02:07</b>	Poisoning Antidotes	
<b>19:03</b>	Adjuncts to dispensing	
<b>19:04</b>	Single substances	
<b>19:05</b>	Other preparations	
<b>19:06</b>	Acids	
<b>19:06:01</b>	Concentrated waters	
<b>19:06:02</b>	Essences	
<b>19:06:03</b>	Extracts	
<b>19:06:04</b>	Infusions	
<b>19:06:05</b>	Oils	
<b>19:06:06</b>	Tinctures	
<b>19:06:07</b>	Syrups	
<b>19:07</b>	Bases/Dil/Susp Agents/Stabilisers	
<b>19:08</b>	Colouring, Flavouring & Sweetening Agents	
<b>19:09</b>	Disinfectants, Preservatives & Sterilising Agents	
<b>19:10</b>	Polysorbates & Tweens	
<b>19:11</b>	Lubricating jelly/pessaries	Not in Part IX of DT see also 21:14
<b>19:12</b>	Electrode/Ultrasonic Gels	
<b>19:13</b>	Cordials/Soft Drinks	
<b>19:14</b>	Waters	
<b>19:14:01</b>	Sterile Water	
<b>19:04:02</b>	Purified Water	
<b>19:04:03</b>	Tap Water	

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>PPD Title</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>19:04:04</b>	Spring/Mineral & Soda Waters	
<b>19:15</b>	Other Gases	
<b>20</b>	Drug Tariff Dressings	
<b>20:01</b>	Absorbant Cottons	
<b>20:02</b>	Arm Slings/Bandages	
<b>20:03</b>	Wound Management & Other Dressings	
<b>20:04</b>	Gauzes & Gauze Tissue	
<b>20:05</b>	Tracheostomy & Laryngectomy Appliances	
<b>20:06</b>	Foam	
<b>20:07</b>	Lints	
<b>20:08</b>	Plasters	
<b>20:09</b>	Stockinette	
<b>20:10</b>	Surgical Adhesive Tape	
<b>20:11</b>	Surgical Sutures	
<b>20:12</b>	Swabs	
<b>20:13</b>	Unspecified Dressing	
<b>20:14</b>	Skin Closure Strips, Sterile	
<b>20:15</b>	Skin Adhesive, Sterile	
<b>20:16</b>	Tapeless Holders	
<b>20:17</b>	Cervical Collar	
<b>20:18</b>	Cellulose Wadding BP 1988	
<b>20:19</b>	Sodium Hyaluronate	
<b>21</b>	Drug Tariff Appliances	DT Part IXA excluding Dressings
<b>21:01</b>	Other Appliances	Not covered by specified sections
<b>21:02</b>	Catheters	
<b>21:03</b>	Chiropody Appliances	
<b>21:04</b>	Contraceptive Devices	See BNF 07:03:04
<b>21:05</b>	Suprapubic appliances	
<b>21:06</b>	Trusses	
<b>21:07</b>	Elastic Hosiery	
<b>21:08</b>	Oxygen Masks	

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>PPD Title</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>21:09</b>	Special Sanction Authorisations	
<b>21:10</b>	CAPD Administration Equipment	
<b>21:11</b>	Special Authorisation in Guernsey	
<b>21:12</b>	Peak Flow Meters	See BNF 03:01:05
<b>21:13</b>	Catheter maintenance Solutions	See BNF 07:04:04
<b>21:14</b>	Lubricating Jelly	In Part IX of DT – others see 19.11
<b>21:15</b>	Saliva Stimulating Products	See BNF 12:03:05
<b>21:16</b>	Irrigation Fluids	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:17</b>	Nasal Device	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:18</b>	Vacuum Pumps For Erectile Dysfunction	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:19</b>	Oral Film Foaming Agents	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:20</b>	Venous Ulcer Compression System	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:21</b>	Dry Mouth Products	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:22</b>	Emollients	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:23</b>	Vaginal Moisturisers	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:24</b>	Nasal Drops	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:25</b>	Vaginal Dilators	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:26</b>	Leg Ulcer Wrap	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:27</b>	Lymphoedema Garments	Drug Tariff Part IXA
<b>21:28</b>	<b>Anal Irrigation System</b>	
<b>22</b>	Incontinence Appliances	DT Part IXB
<b>23</b>	Stoma Appliances	DT Part IXC

**Changes made between BNF Versions  
51/52 and 53/54 that are reflected in the current PPD  
Classification**

Version 51/52		Version 53/54	
BNF	Title	BNF	Entry
<b>01:03</b>	Ulcer-healing drugs	<b>01:03</b>	Antisecretory drugs and mucosal protectants
<b>04:04</b>	CNS stimulants and other drugs used for attention deficit hyperactivity	<b>04:04</b>	CNS stimulants and drugs used for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
<b>04:07:04:01</b>	Treatment of the acute migraine attack	<b>04:07:04:01</b>	Treatment of acute migraine
<b>05:01:09</b>	Antituberculous drugs	<b>05:01:09</b>	Antituberculosis drugs
<b>06:01:02</b>	Oral antidiabetic drugs	<b>06:01:02</b>	Antidiabetic drugs
<b>06:06:01</b>	Calcitonin	<b>06:06:01</b>	Calcitonin and parathyroid hormone
<b>07:03:01</b>	Section titled 'Emergency Contraception'	<b>07:03:05</b>	Emergency contraception
<b>08:01:02</b>	Cytotoxic antibiotics	<b>08:01:02</b>	Anthracyclines and other cytotoxic antibiotics
<b>08:02:03</b>	Rituximab	<b>08:02:03</b>	Rituximab and alemtuzumab
<b>N/A</b>	N/A	<b>09:05:05</b>	Selenium

Note, the above shows the changes made to the BNF chapters. The table should be read in conjunction with the previous tables to show variations in the headings used in the PPD database and with the notes overleaf.

Issued March 2008 by Pharmaceutical  
PPD, Bridge House, 152 Pilgrim Street,  
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6SN

Telephone: 0191 203 5389

Facsimile: 0191 203 5405