## Appendix 2 (as supplied by the authors)

Characteristics	Urate-lowering	Urate-lowering	Standardised
	therapy unexposed	therapy exposed	difference *
	N=15,661	N= 15,661	
Mean Age at urate-lowering therapy	65.3 (14.1)	65.3 (14.1)	0.001
exposure (S.D.)			
Male	11,834 (75.6)	11,834 (75.6)	0.000
Median follow-up after urate-lowering	3.3 (1.6-6.1)	4.5 (2.3-7.5)	0.121
therapy (IQR)			
Median time with gout before urate-	1.9 (0.8-3.9)	1.08 (0.6-3.3)	-0.281
lowering therapy (IQR)			
Body mass index			
Normal (18.5-24.9)	3391 (21.7)	2,497 (15.9)	0.238
Underweight (<18.5)	189 (1.2)	142 (0.9)	
Overweight (25.29.9)	6,067 (38.7)	5,819 (37.2)	
Obese (>30)	5,001 (31.9)	6,555 (41.9)	
Missing	1,013 (6.5)	648 (4.1)	
Smoking status			
Never/Ex-smoker	13,877 (88.6)	14,489 (92.5)	0.134
Current smokers	1,784 (11.4)	1,172 (7.5)	
Charlson index (IQR)			
0	6,092 (38.9)	4,923 (31.4)	-0.219
1-2	4,719 (30.1)	4,447 (28.4)	
3-4	2,789 (17.8)	3,167 (20.2)	
>5	2,061 (13.2)	3,124 (20.0)	
Deprivation			
1 (Least deprived)	4,014 (25.7)	3,357 (22.6)	0.084
2	3,904 (25.0)	3,878 (24.9)	
3	3,194 (20.4)	3,262 (20.9)	
4	2,679 (17.2)	2,829 (18.1)	
5 (Most deprived)	1,857 (11.9)	2,136 (13.7)	
Hypertension	5,196 (33.1)	6,271 (40.0)	0.143
Diabetes	1,683 (10.8)	2,212 (14.1)	0.103
Aspirin	4,389 (28.0)	5,255 (33.6)	0.120
Thiazides	5,150 (32.9)	5,864 (37.4)	0.09
Alcohol consumption		, ,	
Never/Ex-drinker	1,815 (11.6)	1,925 (12.3)	0.028
Current (<10 units/week)	6,340 (40.5)	6,364 (40,8)	
Current (≥10 units/week)	5,417 (34,6)	5,364 (34.3)	
Missing	2,089 (13,3)	1,986 (12.7)	

<sup>\*</sup>Standardized difference = difference in means or proportion divided by standard error; imbalance defined as absolute value greater than 0.10 (small effect size).