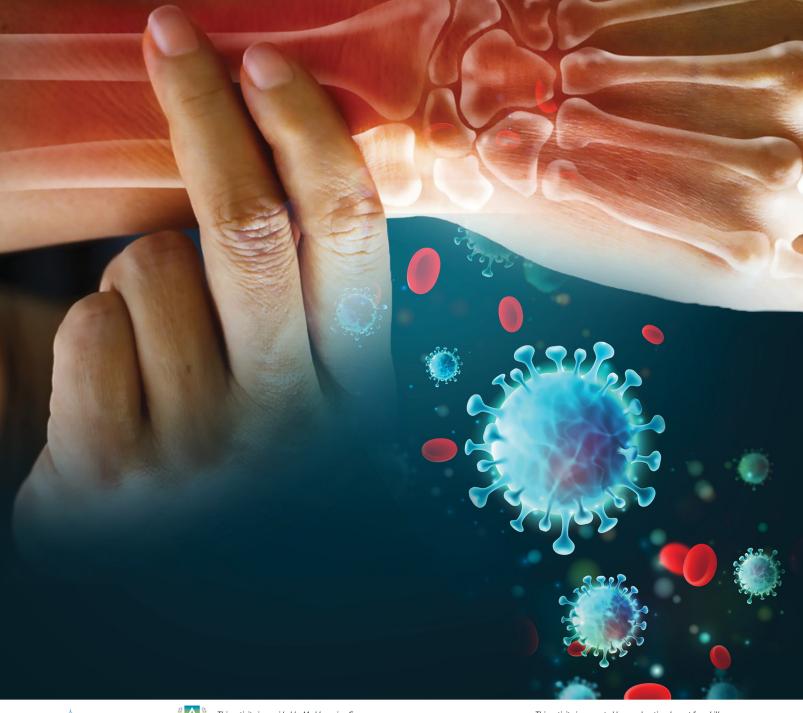


# Managing **PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS** in Specialty Practice:

New Therapies, Guidelines and Treatment Targets During the

**COVID-19 Pandemic** 





# Managing Psoriatic Arthritis in Specialty Practice: New Therapies, Guidelines and Treatment Targets During the COVID-19 Pandemic

# PROGRAM CHAIR Daniel Furst, MD

Professor of Rheumatology and Medicine University of California, Los Angeles University of Washington, Seattle, WA University of Florence, Florence, Italy

## **SPEAKER FACULTY**

Daniel George Arkfeld, MD Professor of Clinical Medicine Keck School of Medicine Los Angeles, CA	Mohamad Bittar, MD Assistant Professor The University of Tennessee Health Science Center Division of Connective Tissue Disease (Rheumatology) Memphis, TN	Jon T Giles, MD, MPH Associate Professor of Medicine Columbia University, Vagelos School of Physicians & Surgeons New York, NY
Andreas Reimold, MD Professor UT Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, TX	Elaine Tozman, MD  Associate Professor of Clinical  Medicine  Rheumatology and Immunology  University of Miami - Miller School of  Medicine  Miami, FL	

# **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

This activity will cover the treatment and management of patients with psoriatic arthritis during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **TARGET AUDIENCE**

This activity is intended for rheumatologists and rheumatology advanced practice providers (NPs and PAs) who are involved in the care and treatment of patients with psoriatic arthritis.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

On completing the program, attendees should be able to:

- Identify the risk of COVID-19-related infections in PsA, along with their impact on therapeutic choice
- Pursue strategies to optimize PsA therapy in the COVID-19 era while minimizing risks and adverse events
- Assess methods for better evaluating and communicating with patients through telemedicine and virtual platforms
- Apply new ways to initiate and manage PsA treatment, monitor PsA disease progression and address adverse events via virtual communication

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## **NURSING CREDIT INFORMATION**

Purpose: This program would be beneficial for nurses involved and/or interested in the therapeutic management of patients with psoriatic arthritis.

**CNE Credits:** 1.0 ANCC Contact Hour.

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Faculty Member	Disclosure
Daniel Furst, MD	Dr. Furst reports that he is on the speakers bureau for CME. He also serves as a consultant for Actelion, Amgen, BMS, Corbus, Galapagos Novartis, and Pfizer. He has also provided grant/research support for Actelion, Amgen, BMS Corbus, Galapagos GSK, NIH, Novartis, Pfizer, Sanofi, and Roche/Genentech.
Daniel George Arkfeld, MD	Dr. Arkfeld reports that he is on the speakers bureau for BMS, Amgen, and GSK. He also serves as a consultant for UCB.
Mohamad Bittar, MD	Dr. Bittar reports that he has no relevant relationships with a commercial entity or manufacturer.
Jon T Giles, MD, MPH	Dr. Giles reports that he serves as a consultant for Gilead, Eli Lilly, Bristol Myers Squibb, AbbVie, and UCB; and discloses a relationship with Pfizer.
Andreas Reimold, MD	Dr. Reimold reports that he has participated in a clinical trial sponsored by Pfizer.
Elaine Tozman, MD	Dr. Tozman reports that she has no relevant relationships with a commercial entity or manufacturer.

# **CME Content Review**

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The reviewer of this activity has nothing to disclose.

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- Christina Gallo, SVP, Educational Development for Med Learning Group, has nothing to disclose.
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- 1. Read the CME/CNE information and faculty disclosures
- 2. Participate in the live virtual activity
- 3. Complete posttest and evaluation form online.

You will receive your certificate as a downloadable file.

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This activity is co-provided by Ultimate Medical Academy/Complete Conference Management (CCM).

This activity is supported by an educational grant from Lilly.

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# **Program Agenda**

# Managing Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA) During the COVID-19 Pandemic

- 1. Immune dysregulation and hyperinflammation in COVID-19
- 2. Whiteboard animation: Inflammatory mediators in psoriatic arthritis
- 3. Risk of severe COVID-19-associated complications in rheumatic patients
- 4. Impact of PsA comorbidities on COVID-19 outcomes
- 5. Managing patients with PsA and COVID-19
- 6. Need for continuity of care during the COVID-19 pandemic
- 7. Strategies to increase telehealth uptake

# Treatment Options for PsA During the COVID-19 Era

- 1. Case #1: Treatment-naïve patient
- 2. 2019 ACR guidelines and their application to practice
- 3. Whiteboard animation: Mechanism of action of biologic treatment options
- 4. Case #2: Active PsA despite anti-TNF therapy
- 5. Evolving standards of treatment in the COVID-19 era
- 6. Managing PsA and psoriasis
- 7. Case #3: Comorbidities that impact treatment options
- 8. Clinical trial data on the efficacy and safety of biologic treatment options
- 9. Therapeutic considerations in COVID-19
- 10. Case #4: Patient with PsA and COVID-19
- 11. Risks and benefits of altering therapy in patients with COVID-19

# Conclusions and Q/A

# Managing Psoriatic Arthritis in Specialty Practice: New Therapies, Guidelines and Treatment Targets During the COVID-19 Pandemic

# **PROGRAM CHAIR:**

**Daniel E. Furst, MD** 

Professor of Rheumatology
University of California in Los Angeles
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
University of Florence, Florence, Italy

# **Disclosures**

- Please see Program Overview for specific speaker disclosure information
- During the course of this lecture, the presenter will discuss the use of medications for both FDA-approved and non-approved indications

This activity is supported by an educational grant from Lilly.

# **Learning Objectives**

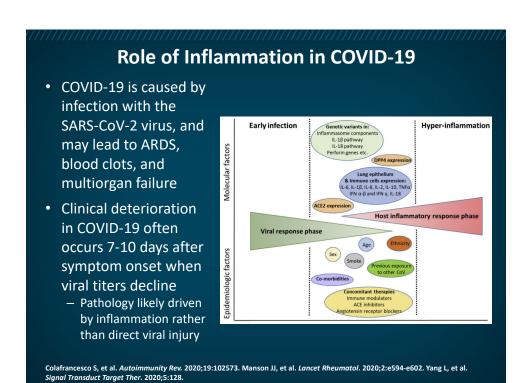
- Identify the risk of COVID-19-related infections in psoriatic arthritis (PsA), along with their impact on therapeutic choice
- Pursue strategies to optimize PsA therapy in the COVID-19 era while minimizing risks and adverse events
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- Apply new ways to initiate and manage PsA treatment, monitor PsA disease progression and address adverse events via virtual communication

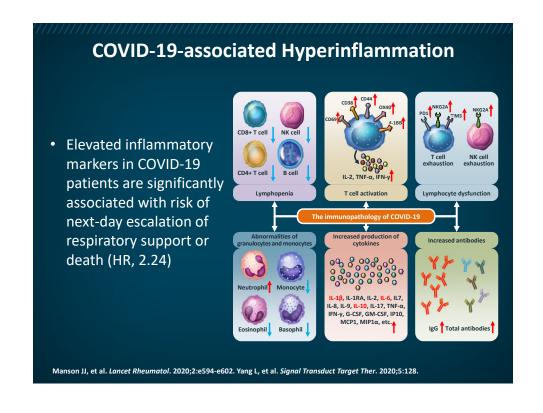
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# **Learning Objectives**

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# Managing PsA During the COVID-19 Pandemic







### **Concerns During the COVID-19 Pandemic** · Patients with PsA are not at increased risk of death, Mortality in an Observational Study of COVID-19 Cases in China (n = 72,314) invasive ventilation, ICU Deaths (%) Characteristics admission, or serious All confirmed cases 2.3 complications from COVID-19 49.0 Critical cases ≥80 years of age 14.8 Impact of PsA therapies on Cardiovascular 10.5 COVID-19 disease severity is disease unknown 8.0 70-79 years of age **Diabetes** 9.2 • Risk of poor outcomes from Chronic respiratory 8.0 disease COVID-19 appears to be Hypertension 6.0 related primarily to general Cancer 7.6 risk factors such as age and comorbidities Mikuls TR, et al. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2020;72:1241-1251. Pablos JL, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2020;79:1544-1549. Wu Z, et al. *JAMA*. 2020;323:1239-1242. Wollina U, et al. Dermatol Ther. 2020;33:e13743

# **Impact of PsA Comorbidities on COVID-19 Outcomes**

- PsA is associated with a higher incidence of CV disease, metabolic syndrome, obesity, diabetes, dyslipidemia, and IBD
- Older age, male sex, and previous comorbidity increased the risk of severe COVID-19 in patients with rheumatic disease and nonrheumatic disease
  - Diabetes and CV disease were associated with a significantly increased risk of severe COVID-19 in rheumatic patients compared to nonrheumatic patients

	Relative ris	k (95% CI)	
Variable	Non-rheumatic cohort	Rheumatic cohort	P value
Age over 60 years	3.70 (1.99 to 6.93)	4.04 (2.30 to 7.08)	0.841
Male sex	2.16 (1.39 to 3.35)	1.58 (1.09 to 2.29)	0.286
Obesity	1.22 (0.72 to 2.06)	1.62 (1.10 to 2.36)	0.393
Diabetes	0.95 (0.53 to 1.70)	1.93 (1.34 to 2.79)	0.038
Hypertension	1.64 (1.07 to 2.53)	2.27 (1.49 to 3.46)	0.290
CV disease	1.44 (0.90 to 2.33)	2.92 (2.04 to 4.17)	0.020
Lung disease	1.57 (1.00 to 2.46)	1.74 (1.19 to 2.55)	0.723

CV = cardiovascular; IBD = inflammatory bowel disease. Pablos JL, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 2020;79:1544-1549.

# **ACR Recommendations: Managing PsA and COVID-19**

### Treatment of Rheumatic Disease in the Absence of COVID-19 Infection or Exposure HCQ/CQ, SSZ, MTX, LEF, Continue therapy immunosuppressants (tacrolimus CSA, MMF, AZA), biologics, JAK inhibitors, NSAIDs May be started if clinically indicated (<10 mg prednisone equivalent/day) Low-dose corticosteroids Following SARS-CoV-2 Exposure HCQ/CQ, SSZ, NSAIDs May be continued Immunosuppressants (tacrolimus, Stop therapy temporarily, pending a CSA, MMF, AZA), non-IL-6 biologics, JAK inhibitors negative COVID-19 test or 2 weeks of symptom-free observation IL-6 inhibitors May be continued in select circumstances Documented or presumptive COVID-19 нсо/со May be continued Withhold or stop therapy SSZ. MTX. LEF. non-IL-6 biologics, immunosuppressants, and JAK inhibitors NSAIDs Should be stopped in patients with severe respiratory symptoms

- All recommendations based on very low quality of evidence and moderate to high consensus
- Recommendations are for rheumatic disease in general and are not subdivided by patient disease. There are no specific recommendations for PsA.
  - May reinitiate therapy within 7-14 days of symptom resolution for those with mild COVID-19
  - Consider reinitiating therapy in 10-17 days after positive PCR results if asymptomatic COVID-19
  - Timing of reinitiating therapy after severe COVID-19 should be made on case-by-case basis

ACR = American College of Rheumatology; AZA = azathioprine; CSA = cyclosporine A; CQ = cloroquine; HCQ = hydroxychloroquine; IL = interleukin; JAK = Janus kinase; LEF = leflunomide; MMF = mycophenolate mofetil; MTX = methotrexate; NSAID = nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug; SSZ = sulfasalazine.

Mikuls TR, et al. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2020;72:1241-1251.

# **Corticosteroid Use During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

- A case series of 600 patients found prednisone ≥10 mg/day was associated with increased odds of hospitalization (OR, 2.05)
- A study in patients with inflammatory bowel disease and COVID-19 found steroids increase the risk of severe COVID-19 (aOR, 6.0)

Glucocorticoids should be used at the lowest possible dose to control rheumatic disease, regardless of exposure or infection status

Glucocorticoids should not be abruptly stopped, regardless of exposure or infection status

OR = odds ratio; aOR = adjusted odds ratio.
Gianfrancesco M, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2020;79:859-866. Brenner EJ, et al. *Gastroenterology*. 2020;159:481-491. Mikuls TR, et al. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2020;72:1241-1251.

# Need for Continuity of Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic

- In a study of 1,517 patients in the US with PsA, RA, SpA, or SLE, 14.9% stopped using their DMARD between March-May 2020
- Of the patients who stopped their DMARDs, what percentage of these interruptions were NOT recommended by a physician?
  - 78.7%
- 29.5% of patients used telehealth services
  - Treatment interruption was more common among patients who reported that telehealth was not available (25.4% vs 13.1%, respectively)

DMARD = disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug; RA = rheumatoid arthritis; SLE = systemic lupus erythematosus; SpA = spondyloarthritis.

George M, et al. J Rheumatol. 2020. doi:10.3899/jrheum.201017.

# **Incorporating Telehealth into Your Practice**

- Schedule enough time. Telehealth consults often take longer than expected to find the required information
- Train staff in triaging symptom burden. Identify patients with unstable symptoms who require an in-person appointment
- Educate on self-management. Patients may not come in for a follow-up appointment for weeks or months.
  - Teach about warning signs that require prompt evaluation
  - Educate about how to manage symptoms remotely
  - Ensure patients have enough medication
- Clarify expectations of what can or cannot be done remotely
  - Recognize patients who require in-person evaluation

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/telehealth.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/telehealth.html</a>). Landewe RBM, et al. Ann Rheum Dis. 2020;79:851-858.

# **Strategies to Increase Telehealth Uptake**

- Prescreen patients with disease activity scales and request in-person visit if scores are high
- Use technology that allows you to send and receive patientreported outcomes scales
- Offer flexibility in platforms that can be used for video consultation, and non-video options to serve patients with limited technology and connectivity
- Postpone regular blood monitoring and face-to-face consultations in patients with stable disease and therapy without signs of drug toxicity
- Communicate with insurers/payers to understand availability of covered telehealth services

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/telehealth.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/telehealth.html</a>). Landewe RBM, et al. Ann Rheum Dis. 2020;79:851-858.

# Treatment Options for PsA

# **Case Study 1: Samuel**

- Samuel is a 48-year old man who presents with 8 months of pain in bilateral 5 DIPs, left knee, and left ankle.
  - He has pain in his right Achilles insertion and just below the right elbow on pressure, indicative of enthesitis
  - His left knee is swollen
  - CDAI: 16
- He has a five year history of psoriasis.
  - Plaques found on his scalp, shins, elbows (PASI: 9)
  - Pitting nails
  - Moderate lower back pain

CDAI = Clinical Disease Activity Index; DIP = distal interphalangeal.

# **Case Study 1: Lab Results**

- CBC and CMP are normal
- ESR = 22 mm/hr
- MRI reveals sacroiliac erosions on the left and some classical psoriatic DIP erosions

# How would you manage Samuel?

- A. Methotrexate
- B. Cyclosporine A
- C. Adalimumab
- D. Sulfasalazine

CBC = complete blood count; CMP = comprehensive metabolic panel; ESR = erythrocyte sedimentation rate; MRI = magnetic resonance imaging.

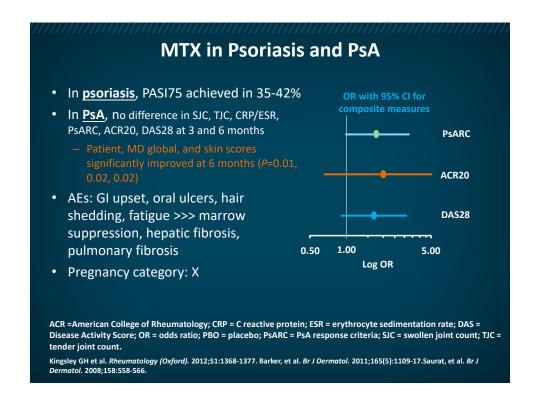
# Would MTX, CSA, or SSZ be appropriate for this patient?

Drug	RCTs (N)	Patients in RCTs (N)	Other studies (N)	Main results
Methotrexate (MTX)	3	93	7	Some efficacy with skin lesions and globals X-rays: no data
Sulfasalazine (SSZ)	7	666	2	Some efficacy on joints Skin: no efficacy X-rays: no data
Leflunomide (LEF)	1	190	3	Mild efficacy on joints Skin: limited efficacy X-rays: no data
Cyclosporine (CSA)	3	206	6	Efficacy on joints and skin X-rays: no data

Not FDA approved for PsA.

RCT = randomized controlled trial.

Ash Z, et al. Ann Rheum Dis. 2012;71:319-26. Mease P. Ann Rheum Dis. 2011;70(1):i77-i84. Wilsdon TD, et al. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2019; CD012722.



# **CSA** in Psoriasis and PsA

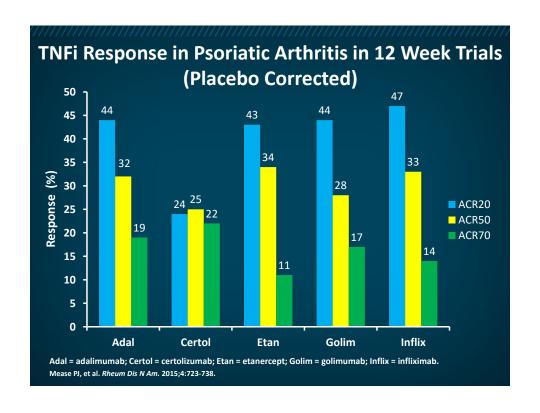
- CSA 2.5-5 mg/kg/day yielded PASI75 response in 28% to 97% of patients
- Remission could be maintained at CSA dose of at least 3mg/kg/day
- More than 50% of patients treated with CSA may have an increase in serum creatinine value >30% of baseline if treatment is prolonged for 2 years

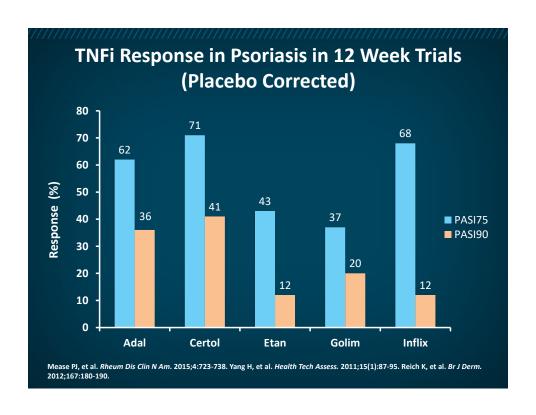
24 Week Randomized, Open NSAID\*
Controlled Study of Cyclosporine A in PsA
(N=99)

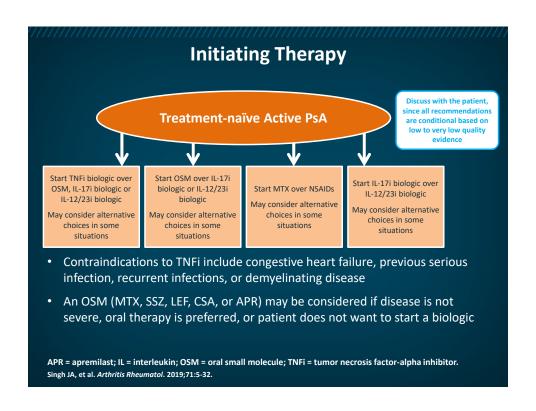
	P- value	Significance CSA vs NSAID*
ACR50	0.02	+
ACR70	0.05	+
Swollen Joint Count	0.05	+
<b>Tender Joint Count</b>	0.01	+
Pain	0.002	+
Patient Global improved ≥1 point	0.04	+
MD Global improved ≥1 point	0.01	+

\*NSAID +/- prednisone 5 mg daily +/- analgesics

Salvanarani C, et al. *J Rheum*. 2001;28:2274-2282. Maza J-H, et al. *JEADV*. 2011;25(2):19-27.









# **Patient 2: Linda's Presentation**

- Linda is a 34-year old woman who presents simultaneously with:
  - Mild psoriasis involving the scalp, elbows, and knees (PASI: 8)
  - Pain in her wrist, right hand, right knee, and lower back (CDAI: 16)
- X-ray shows sacroiliac joint lesions on both sides of joint and DIP joint narrowing with erosion





# Case Study 2: Linda

- Normal lab results: CBC, CMP, ESR (16 mm/hr), and CRP 0.6 mg/dL
- Patient is prescribed:
  - Diclofenac 150 mg QD for 6 weeks
  - Adalimumab 40 mg Q2W for 12 weeks
- After 12 weeks, CDAI increased from 16 to 20 and PASI increased from 8 to 10

# **Case Study 2: Linda**

- How would you manage Linda?
  - A. Infliximab
  - B. IL-17i (Secukinumab or ixekizumab)
  - C. Ustekinumab
  - D. Guselkumab

# Is infliximab an option for this patient?

- Enthesitis → ~60–75% improvement
- Dactylitis → ~60% improvement
- Function
  - Significant improvement achieved as assessed by HAQ
- QoL
  - Significant improvements in SF-36, PsAQoL, DLQI, EQ-5D
- Fatigue
  - Significant improvement observed, eg, with FACIT

Conclusion: TNFi work in multiple aspects of PsA. Infliximab has an ACR20 of 40-45%.

MASES = Maastricht Enthesitis Index; HAQ = Health Assessment Questionnaire; SPARCC = Spondyloarthritis Research Consortium of Canada; PsAQoL = PsA quality of life; DLQI = Dermatology Life Quality Index; EQ-5D = EuroQol 5-domain; FACIT = Functional Assessment of Chronic Illness Therapy.

Mease PJ. Ann Rheum Dis. 2011;70(Suppl 1):i77-i84. Mease PJ. Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken). 2011:63(Suppl 11):S64-S85.

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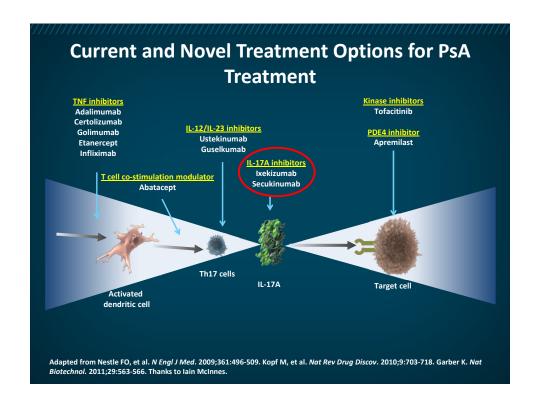
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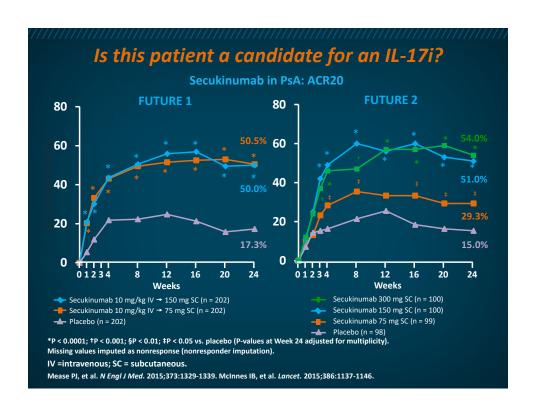
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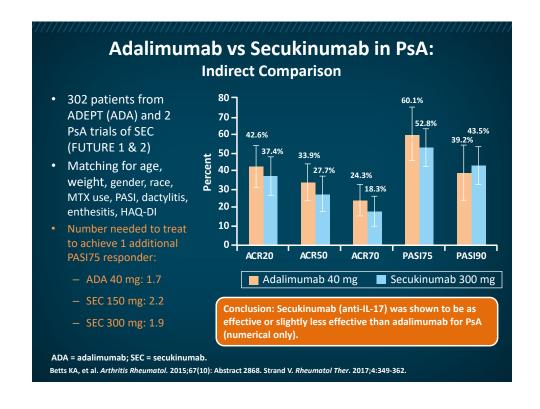
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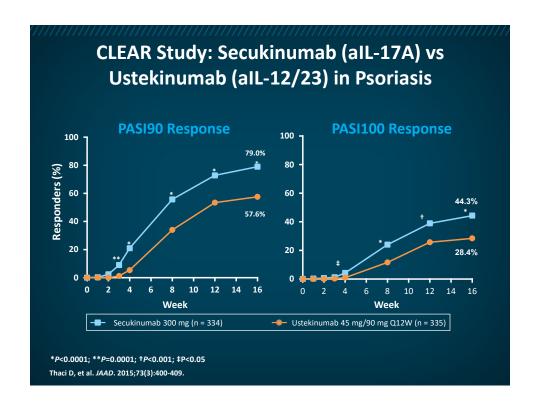
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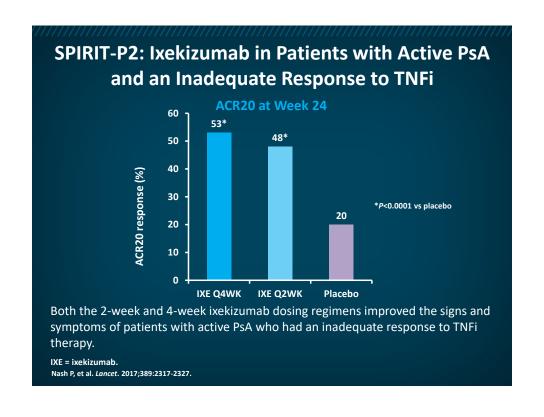
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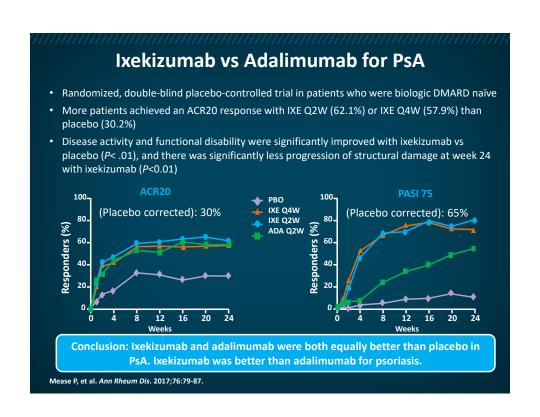


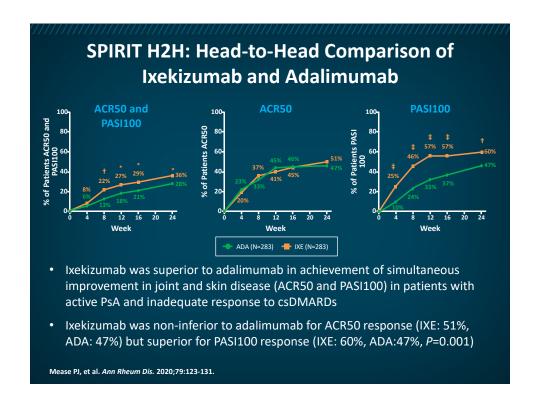


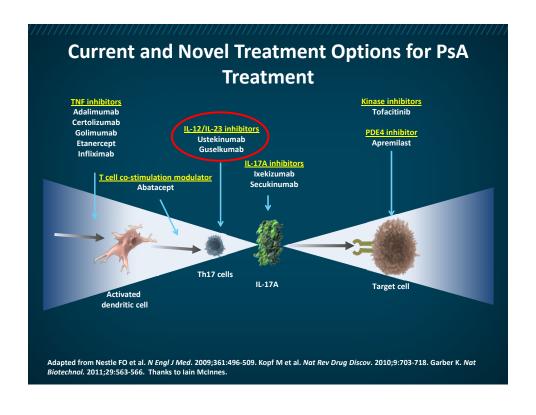


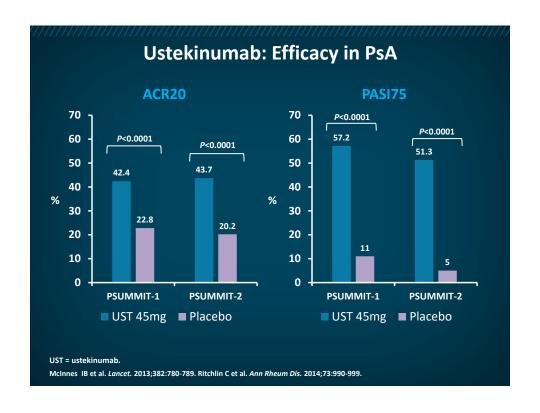


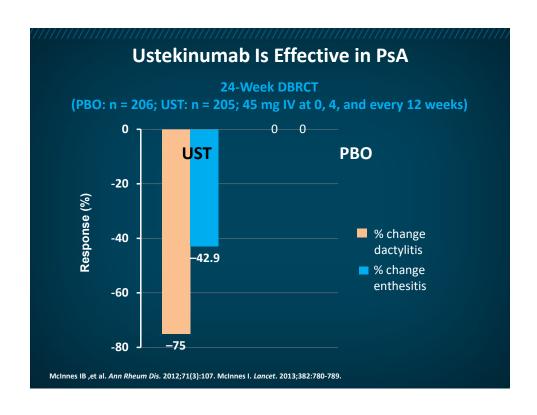


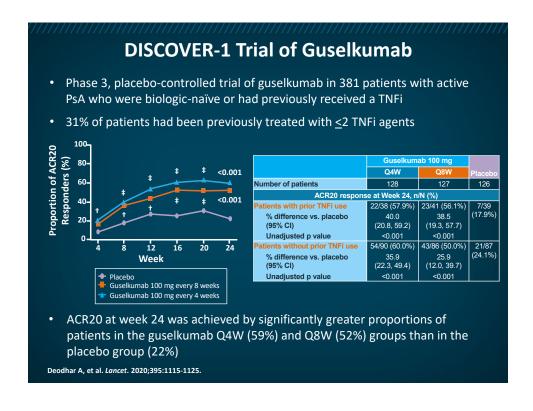


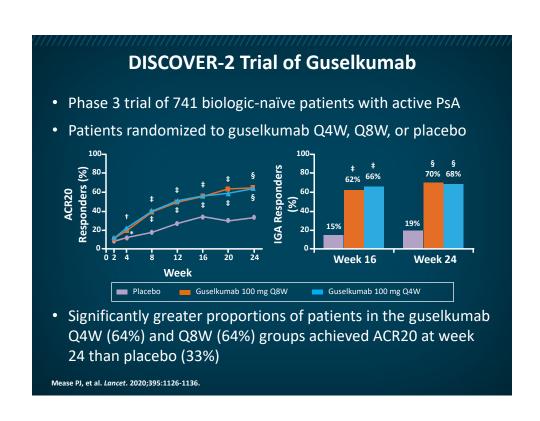


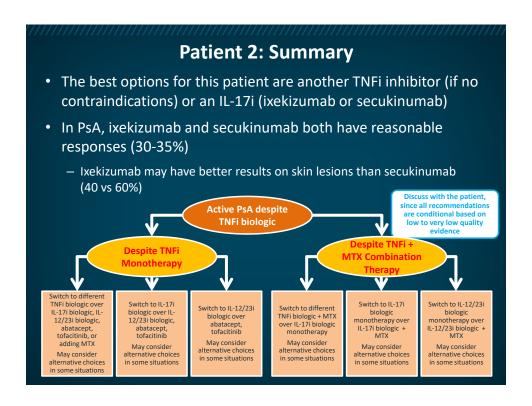












# Patient 3: Tina

- Tina is a 47-year old woman who presents with swelling of her left wrist, and lower back pain, bilateral shoulder pain, left wrist and right elbow pain, bilateral 3 PIP and right 3, 4 DIP pain
  - CDAI: 18 (above TJC and SJC, patient global: 6.0, MD global: 5.0)
  - 2+ edema to mid-calf
- Significant skin involvement (PASI:14)

TJC = Tender Joint Count; SJC = Swollen Joint Count.

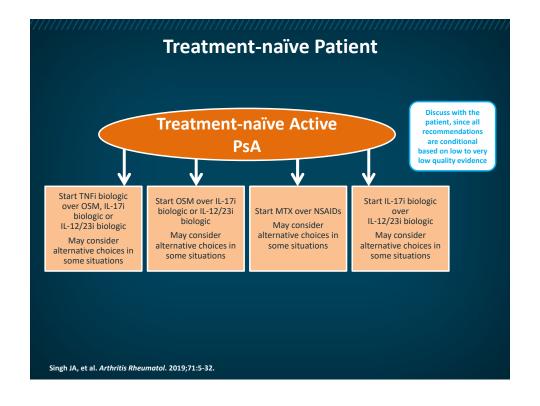
# **Patient 3: Tina's Past Medical History**

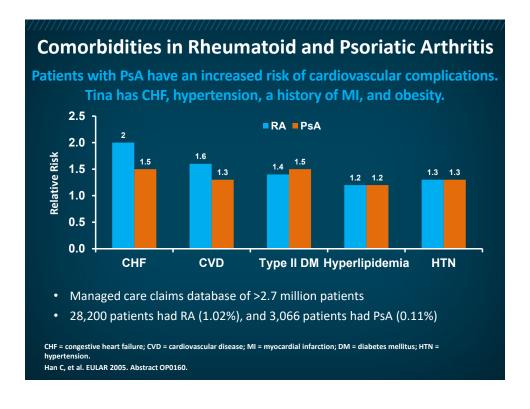
- Congestive heart failure
- Obesity (BMI: 32)
- Hypertension (160/95 mmHg)
- History of MI three years ago
- Family history positive for MI

# **Case Study 3: Tina's Lab and Imaging Results**

- Lab results:
  - Hemoglobin: **10.0** g/dL (normal: 12-16)
  - WBC: 5.2 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L (normal: 4.0-11.0)
  - Platelets: 285 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L (normal: 150-400)
  - ESR: 32 mm/hr (normal: 0-29 mm/hr)
  - Remainder of CBC and CMP are normal
- Imaging results:
  - Radiographs of the knees shows osteoarthritis on the right
  - Chest film shows cardiomegaly

# How Would You Manage Tina? A. Adalimumab or infliximab B. Secukinumab or ixekizumab C. Ustekinumab D. Methotrexate or cyclosporine E. Apremilast





# Is a TNFi an option for Tina? TNFi Adverse Events

A TNFi is relatively contraindicated in patients with congestive heart failure.

Therefore, a TNFi is not a good option for Tina.

INFECTIONS	Overall	Comment
Tuberculosis	Rare	IFX>ETA=Adal
Opportunistic	VR	IFX>ETA=Adal
Bacterial	UC	2.7/100 pt yrs
Hepatitis B	-	Not increased
Hepatitis C		Not increased

	Overall	Comment
Lymphoma	R	IFX>ETA=Adal (active disease)
CHF (EF <30)	R	OR: 1.26
Hematologic	VR	.0001 (.01%)
Hepatotoxicity	VR	IFX>ETA>Adal
AST/ALT >2x	UC	.006 (.6%)
Demyelinating disease	R	ETA>IFX=Adal
Antinuclear antibodies (ANA)	С	FDA PI

C = common  $\ge$ 10%; UC = uncommon: OR : 2.3; R = rare  $\le$  0.001 (0.1%); VR = very rare  $\le$  0.0001 (0.01%); EF = ejection fraction, FDA PI = Food and Drug Administration prescribing information.

Khanna D, et al. *Drug Safety*. 2004;27(5):307-324. Calabrese L ,et al. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2006;65(8):983-989. Baecklund E, et al. *Arthritis Rheum*. 2003;48(6):1543-1550. Krueger GG, et al. *N Eng J Med*. 2007;356:580-592. Lee WJ ,et al. *Rheum*, 2018;57(2):273-282. Cannizzaro MV, et al. *Psoriasis (Auckl)*. 2017;7:35-60.

# Is an IL-17i an option for Tina? Secukinumab: Adverse Events

Comm	on Adverse	e Events <sup>1</sup>	
	SEC 300 mg	SEC 150 mg	Placebo
URI	4 (4%)	8 (8%)	7 (7%)
Nasopharyngitis	6 (6%)	4 (4%)	8 (8%)
Diarrhea	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	3 (3%)
Headache	7 (7%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)
Nausea	3 (3%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)
Sinusitis	1 (1%)	2 (2%)	1 (1%)
Psoriatic arthropathy	0	3 (3%)	2 (2%)
Urinary tract infection	2 (2%)	4 (4%)	4 (4%)
Hematuria	2 (2%)	3 (3%)	1 (1%)
Vomiting	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	1 (1%)

# Warnings<sup>2</sup>

- 1. Infection
- 2. Tuberculosis
- 3. Hypersensitivity reactions
- 4. New or worsening inflammatory bowel disease

URI = upper respiratory tract infection.

1. McInnes IB et al. Lancet. 2015;386:1137-1146 2. Secukinumab (Cosentyx®) prescribing information (www.pharma.us.novartis.com/sites/ www.pharma.us.novartis.com/files/cosentyx.pdf).

# Is an IL-17i an option for Tina? Ixekizumab: Adverse Events

lxekizumab /	Adverse Eve	ents
	IXE 80 mg (n=1167)	Placebo (n=791)
Injection site reactions	196 (17%)	26 (3%)
Upper Resp Infection	163 (14%)	101 (13%)
Nausea	23 (2%)	5 (1%)
Tinea Infections	17 (2%)	1 (<1%)

Adverse events occurring in  $\geq$  1% of IXE group, and more frequently than placebo.

# Warnings

- L. Infection
- 2. Tuberculosis
- 3. Hypersensitivity reactions
- 4. Inflammatory bowel disease

Ixekizumab and secukinumab are good options for Tina. An IL-17i or IL-12/23i may be used in patients with severe psoriasis, those who have contraindications or experience serious adverse events with a TNFi, or if TNFi therapy fails. An IL-17i is preferred over IL-12/23i unless the patient has inflammatory bowel disease.

Singh JA, et al. Arthritis Rheumatol. 2019;71:5-32. Ixekizumab (Taltz®) prescribing information (https://pi.lilly.com/us/taltz-uspi.pdf).

# Is ustekinumab an Option for Tina?

- Meta-analysis of 30 RCT of 16 week duration in 9626 patients
- AEs and SAEs include infections, cough, headache, URI, nausea, ISR, CV event, cancer, death

# **Ustekinumab Adverse Events**

Adverse events	UST	Placebo	P value
Infections	1210 (19.7%)	588 (17.1%)	<0.01
Nasopharyngitis	318 (5.2%)	162 (4.7%)	0.31
Cough Upper respiratory tract infection	21 (2.3%) 150 (3.2%)	25 (4.8%) 201 (7.1%)	0.01 <0.001
Nausea Headache	113 (4.8%) 302 (6.1%)	58 (5.0%) 141 (5.1%)	0.80 0.06
Infusion/Injection site reaction (ISR)	149 (3.9%)	44 (2.0%)	<0.001
Malignancy	3 (0.1%)	5 (0.2%)	0.16
Death	5 (0.1%)	1 (0.1%)	0.43
cv	7 (0.2%)	4 (0.2%)	1.00

Ustekinumab would be a safe and effective option for Tina. An IL-17i or IL-12/23i may be used in patients with severe psoriasis, those who have contraindications or experience serious adverse events with a TNFi, or if TNFi therapy fails. An IL-17i is preferred over IL-12/23i unless the patient has inflammatory bowel disease.

Rolston VS, Kimmel J et al Drug Dis and Science. 2020. Singh JA, et al. Arthritis Rheumatol. 2019;71:5-32.

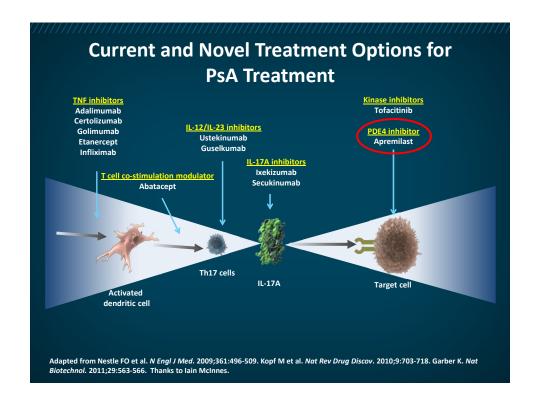
# Are Methotrexate or Cyclosporine Good Options for Tina?

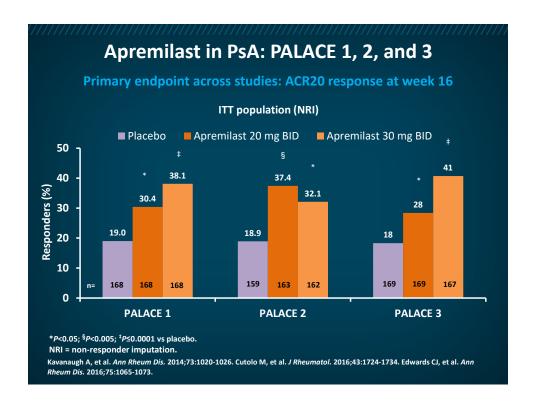
# **Limitations of Conventional Systemic Therapies**

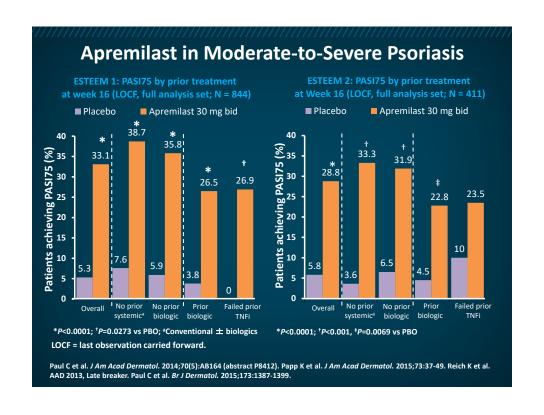
Agent	Safety
Methotrexate	Nausea, diarrhea, stomatitis, fatigue, elevated liver enzymes, myelosuppression, pneumonitis, increased risk of infection
Cyclosporine	Nausea, abdominal pain, nephrotoxicity, hypertension

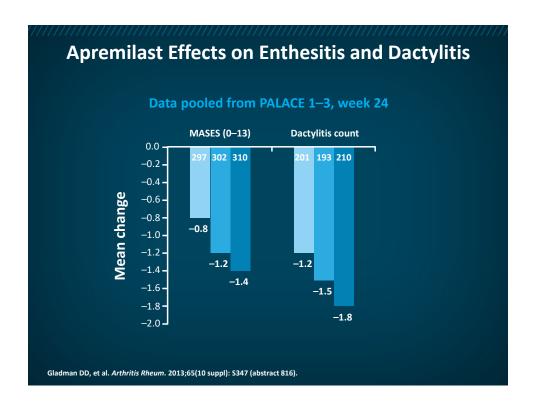
Tina has hypertension and mild anemia. These agents are not good options for Tina given their toxicity profile and relatively poor comparative efficacy.

Cuchacovich R, et al. Ther Adv Chronic Dis. 2012;3:259-269.

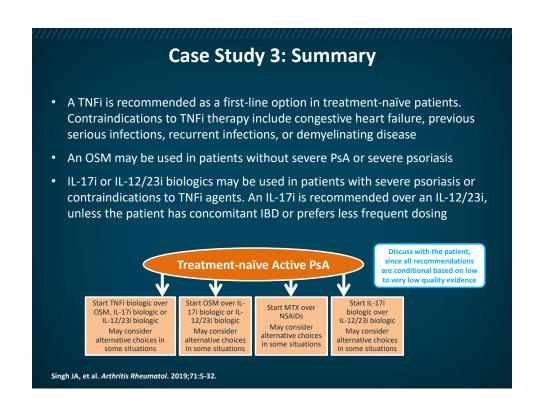








Adverse Events	Placebo (N = 159)	APR 30 BID (24 weeks) (N = 162)	APR 30 BI (52 weeks (N = 234)
Diarrhea	8 (5.0)	24 (14.8)	32 (13.7)
Nausea	3 (1.9)	26 (16.0)	32 (13.7)
Headache	7 (4.4)	19 (11.7)	23 (9.8)
URI	6 (3.8)	11 (6.8)	22 (9.4)
Nasopharyngitis	6 (3.8)	8 (4.9)	10 (4.3)
Hypertension	7 (4.4)	5 (3.1)	13 (5.6)
Laboratory values			
ALT >150 u/L	1/158 (0.6)	2/160 (1.3)	3/230 (1.3)
Creatinine elevation	0/158 (0.0)	1/160 (0.6)	2/230 (0.9)
<ol> <li>Depressio</li> <li>Weight lo</li> </ol>	Warnings n and suicidal ss		



### Case Study 4: Teresa

- A 43-year-old overweight woman presents with a 6-year history of PsA principally involving the back. She has difficulty carrying groceries up one flight of stairs due to her back pain. She reports morning stiffness lasting up to 1 hour.
- She also complains of joint pain in her right ankle, right knee, left DIP, and left shoulder.
- Her past medical history is significant for:
  - Type 2 diabetes. HbA1c of 7.6 despite long acting insulin and metformin therapy.
  - Hypertension. Blood pressure of 152/92 mmHg despite lisinopril and furosemide.

## **Case Study 4: Teresa's Examination**

- Patient pain today: 4.5; Patient global today: 5.0;
   MD global: 5.0
- Tender bilateral SI joints. <u>Bilateral Achilles insertional pain</u>. <u>Bilateral talocalcaneal pain</u>. <u>L23 and 34 pain</u>. Pain of both shoulders, both wrists, right 3 PIP, bilateral 2 4 DIP pain with mild swelling, right knee, right talus pain for a <u>joint tenderness count of 6/28 and 13/68</u>. Swelling of right wrist and right knee for a <u>joint swelling count of 2/28 and 2/66</u>. <u>CDAI:18</u>.
- Scaling and mild erythema posterior scalp, thick scaling with mild erythema of both elbows, right intertriginous area and both knees for a PASI: 8.

# **Case Study 4: Prior Treatment**

- Teresa is prescribed secukinumab
  - CDAI improved from 18 to 8
  - Mild pain noted in left wrist, DIPs, and right knee only
  - Dactylitis of the right toes
  - PASI improved from 8 to 3
  - Scalp and elbow lesions remain
- Lab results show neutropenia with WBC of 1.4 and PMNs of 0.9
  - Her secukinumab therapy is stopped
  - Within 3 weeks, her WBC is 3.2 and PMNs are 2.0

WBC = white blood cell count; PMN = polymorphonuclear cells

## **How Would You Manage Teresa?**

- A. Ixekizumab
- B. Ustekizumab
- C. Tofacitinib
- D. Guselkumab

# **Long-term Safety of Secukinumab**

 Pooled data from 18 RCTs and post-marketing safety surveillance data of secukinumab in psoriasis and PsA

**Exposure Adjusted Incidence Rate** 

	Psoriasis	PsA
No. of patients, N	5181	1380
No. of RCT, N	15	3
Upper respiratory tract infection	1.4%	1.9%
Inflammatory bowel disease	0.01%	0.05%
MACE	0.3%	0.4%
Neutropenia	0.3%	0.2%

 Given the development of neutropenia with secukinumab, switching to a non-IL-17i should be considered

MACE = major adverse cardiovascular events Deodhar A, et al. *Arthritis Res Ther*. 2019;21.

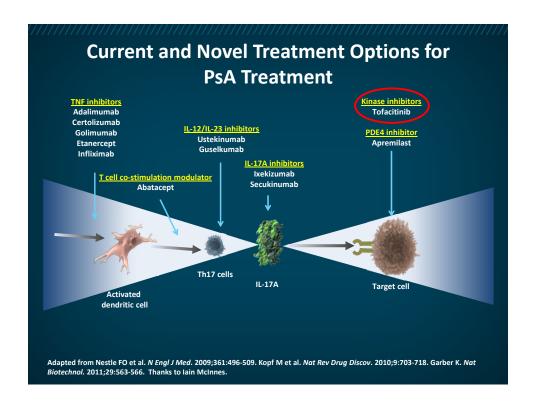
# **Ustekinumab Adverse Events**

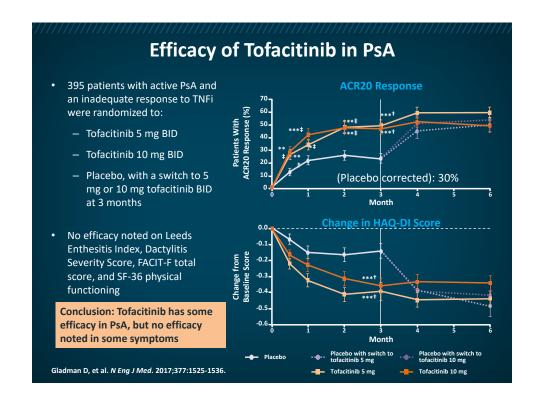
- Meta-analysis of 9626 patients in 30 RCT of 16 weeks duration
- AEs and SAEs include infections, cough, headache, upper respiratory tract infection, nausea, injection site reactions, CV event, cancer, and death

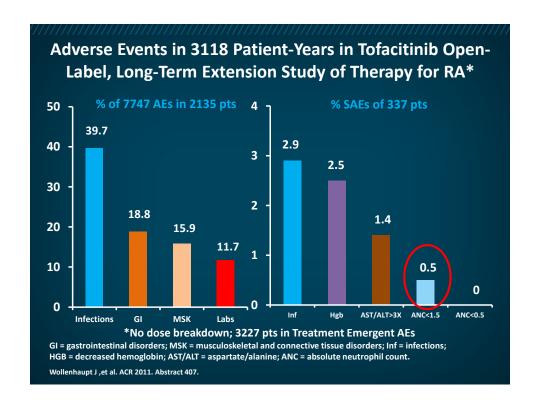
Adverse events	UST	Placebo	P value
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Cough	21 (2.3%)	25 (4.8%)	0.01
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infection	113 (4.8%)	58 (5.0%)	0.80
Nausea	302 (6 1%)	141 (5 1%)	0.06
Headache	149 (3.9%)	44 (2.0%)	<0.001
Infusion/Injection site	3 (0.1%)	5 (0.2%)	0.16
reaction	5 (0.1%)	1 (0.1%)	0.43
Malignancy	7 (0.2%)	4 (0.2%)	1.00
Death			
CV			

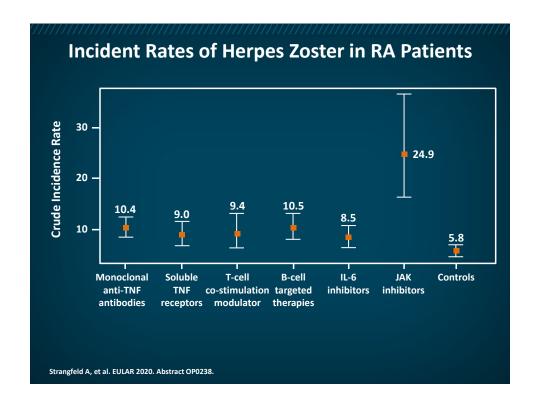
Rolston VS, et al. *Dig Dis Sci.* 2020. doi:10.1007/s10620-020-06344-w.

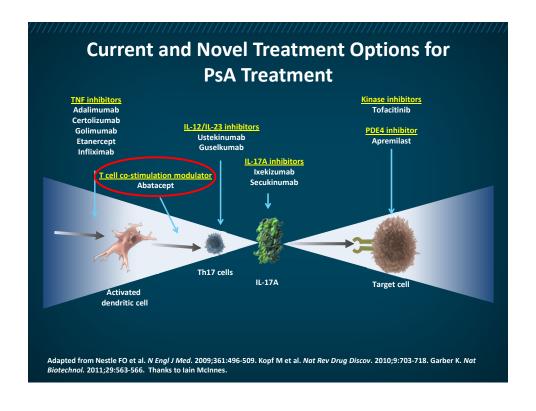
	РВО	GUS	
		100 mg Q8W	100 mg Q4W
Patients with ≥1 AE (%)	60%	54%	55%
SAE (%)	4%	3%	0%
Discontinuation due to AE (%)	2%	2%	1%
Infections (%)	25%	26%	24%
Alanine aminotransferase increase	2%	6%	4%
Aspartate aminotransferase increase	2%	7%	2%
Nasopharyngitis	6%	13%	5%
Upper respiratory tract infection	6%	6%	9%

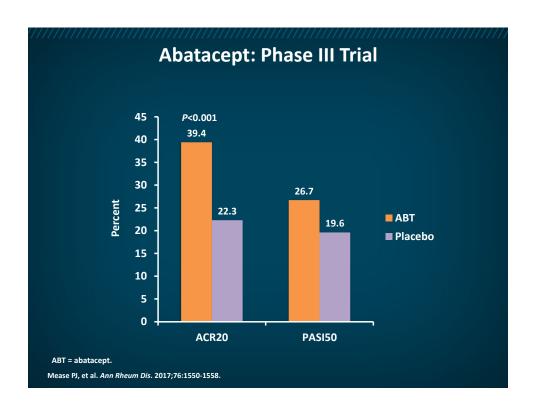






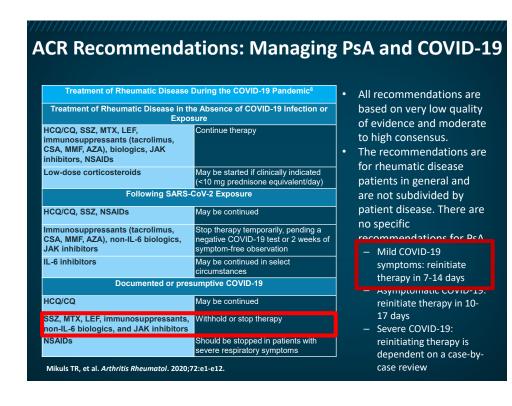






## Case Study 4: Teresa's COVID-19 Diagnosis

- Teresa's therapy is switched to ustekinumab. Three weeks later, she schedules a telemedicine appointment and reports her recent COVID-19 diagnosis. She experiences shortness of breath, fever, and cough. She would like to know if she should continue taking her PsA medications.
- How would you manage Teresa's PsA?
  - A. Decrease the frequency of ustekinumab dosing
  - B. Initiate prednisone
  - C. Switch to adalimumab
  - D. Consider holding PsA therapy and reinitiating 7-14 days after symptom resolution
  - E. Stop therapy and reinitiate 1 month after negative COVID-19 test



# Final Remarks Pharmacologic treatment of PsA is only 1 part of the picture. Other factors to consider include: Patient goals Improve quality of life, function, and social participation Control symptoms and inflammation (enthesitis, dactylitis, joint pain) Prevent joint damage Starting treatment early Minimizing associated comorbidities. Multidisciplinary care: Physical therapy, occupational therapy, management of comorbidities by dermatologists, endocrinologists, cardiologists, etc.



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# Managing Psoriatic Arthritis in Specialty Practice: New Therapies, Guidelines and Therapeutic Targets During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Resource	Address
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hyperinflammation and escalation of patient care:	
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Mikuls TR, et al. American College of Rheumatology	https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32349183/
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Disease in Adult Patients During the COVID-19	
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Pablos JL, et al. Clinical outcomes of hospitalised	https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32796045/
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<b>19 pandemic</b> [published online ahead of print, 2020	
Nov 15]. <i>J Rheumatol</i> . 2020;jrheum.201017.	
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Strand V, et al. Comparative effectiveness of	https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28762213/
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adjusted indirect comparison. Rheumatol Ther.	
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Thaçi D, et al. Secukinumab is superior to	https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26092291/
ustekinumab in clearing skin of subjects with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis: CLEAR, a	
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specific monoclonal antibody, for the treatment of	nttps://pubmed.nebi.mm.mm.gov/27333214/
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2020;10.1007/s10620-020-06344-w.	https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23769296/
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arthritis: 1 year results of the phase 3, multicentre,	
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T-cell modulator, in a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase III study in psoriatic arthritis. <i>Ann Rheum Dis</i> . 2017;76:1550-1558.	inceps.// pasifica.ficbi.fillifillifiligov/2047.5425/