Rheumatology Evidence Update
August 2015
Produced by the UHL Clinical Librarian Service

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NICE Guidance

Secukinumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis

Ustekinumab for treating active psoriatic arthritis (rapid review of technology appraisal guidance 313)

New and Updated Cochrane Systematic Reviews

1) Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for axial spondyloarthritis (ankylosing spondylitis and non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis)

Authors’ conclusions: High to moderate quality evidence indicates that both traditional and COX-2 NSAIDs are efficacious for treating axSpA, and moderate to low quality evidence indicates harms
may not differ from placebo in the short term. Various NSAIDs are equally effective. Continuous NSAID use may reduce radiographic spinal progression, but this requires confirmation.

2) **Treatment for inclusion body myositis**

**Authors’ conclusions:** Trials of interferon beta-1a and MTX provided moderate-quality evidence of having no effect on the progression of IBM. Overall trial design limitations including risk of bias, low numbers of participants, and short duration make it difficult to say whether or not any of the drug treatments included in this review were effective. An open trial of ATG combined with MTX versus MTX provided very low-quality evidence in favour of the combined therapy based on the percentage change data given. We were unable to draw conclusions from trials of IVlg, oxandrolone, and AZA plus MTX versus MTX. We need more randomised controlled trials that are larger, of longer duration, and that use fully validated, standardised, and responsive outcome measures.

**Horizon Scanning Centre Output**

3) **Certolizumab (Cimzia) For Early Rheumatoid Arthritis – First Line**

4) **Baricitinib For Moderate To Severe Rheumatoid Arthritis**

**Practice changing research, sourced from Dynamed**

**Combination therapies for rheumatoid arthritis**

Updated 29 Jul 2015: In patients achieving remission with combination methotrexate plus abatacept, abatacept dose reduction may not increase relapse rate compared to dose maintenance (Ann Rheum Dis 2015 Mar) [view update]

**Ankylosing spondylitis** [view updates] Updated 20 Jul 2015:

EULAR recommendations on use of imaging in diagnosis and management of spondyloarthritis (Ann Rheum Dis 2015 Jul)

**Topical NSAIDs**

Updated 13 Jul 2015: Topical NSAIDs that may increase clinical success in patients with acute musculoskeletal pain include diclofenac, ketoprofen, ibuprofen, piroxicam, and indomethacin (Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2015 Jun 11) [view update]

**Fibromyalgia**

Updated 10 Jul 2015: SSRIs might improve pain in adults with fibromyalgia (Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2015 Jun 5) [view update]

**UpToDate:** [What’s new in Rheumatology](https://www.uptodate.com)
Good Quality Systematic Reviews

5) Meta-analysis of tumor necrosis factor inhibitors and glucocorticoids on bone density in rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis trials.

6) Meta-analysis of the association between angiotension-converting enzyme I/D polymorphism and susceptibility to children with Henoch-Schönlein purpura or Henoch-Schölein purpura nephritis

Other Sources

7) Apremilast in Patients With Active Rheumatoid Arthritis: A Phase II, Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study.

8) The first double-blind, randomised, parallel-group certolizumab pegol study in methotrexate-naive early rheumatoid arthritis patients with poor prognostic factors, C-OPERA, shows inhibition of radiographic progression.

9) Recommendations for the management of autoinflammatory diseases.

Leicester Publications:

10) Patients' adherence-related beliefs about methotrexate: A qualitative study of the role of written patient information

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