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BL characteristics were balanced between treatment groups in each disease severity category. M3 efficacy was significantly greater with tofacitinib 5 and 10 mg BID vs placebo, regardless of BL disease severity. As expected, larger proportions of tofacitinib-treated pts with moderate vs severe BL RA achieved LDA by either DAS28 (32.3-36.7% vs 13.8-19.1%) or CDAI (49.2-55.0% vs 26.0-31.7%). Similarly, a higher proportion of pts achieved remission in the moderate vs severe BL groups by DAS28 (20.0-22.8% vs 6.2-9.0%) or CDAI (11.5-12.1% vs 5.1-6.7%). A greater proportion of pts achieved HAQ-DI <0.5 with moderate vs severe RA classified by BL DAS28 (45.0-60.6% vs 24.5-30.0%) or BL CDAI (40.8-52.4% vs 24.7-30.4%). Greater improvements from BL in disease activity and HAQ-DI were seen for pts with severe vs moderate RA classified by BL DAS28 (Table), and by BL CDAI (Tofacitinib 5/10 mg BID △CDAI: -21.1/-23.0 vs -8.1/-9.4; \triangle HAQ DI: -0.5/-0.6 vs -0.3/-0.4).

Conclusions: Tofacitinib 5 and 10 mg BID demonstrated efficacy in treating pts with moderate and severe RA with >7 years' mean disease duration. By M3, pts with severe vs moderate BL disease activity had greater improvements in disease activity and physical functioning; higher proportions of pts with moderate vs severe BL disease activity achieved remission, LDA or normal physical functioning. Interpretation of this post hoc analysis may be limited by the smaller sample size of the moderate disease group and the combining of mono- and combination-therapy results.

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AB0437

EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF LONG-TERM ANALGESIC THERAPY WITH ETORICOXIB FOR PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATIC DISEASES

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Background: There are some data in literature on decompensation of arterial hypertension and other chronic diseases during the treatment with coxibs which in practice unfortunately limits their administration for patients with comorbidities. Objectives: To evaluate the efficacy of analgesic effect of etoricoxib and frequency of comorbidities exacerbation on such treatment.

Methods: 58 patients with rheumatoid arthritis (34,4%), osteoarthritis (29,2%), ankylosing spondylitis (19%), gout (14%), psoriatic arthritis (3,4%) at the age of 25 to 75 years (the average age, 52,9±13,03 years) were included. 79,3% patients had comorbidities (diseases of digestive system - 37,9%, arterial hypertension - 53,4% (including 3,2% with decompensated hypertension), bronchial asthma - 1,7%). All the patients before the appointment had taken NSAIDs (diclofenac, nimesulid, ketoprofen, meloxicam, aceclofenac, ibuprofen) with lack of effect (84,4%) or minimal effect (15,6%). Etoricoxib was administered in 100% cases. Pain severity according to visual analogue scale (VAS), comorbidities exacerbation and blood pressure were assessed at the beginning and during the first month of treatment.

Results: The average time period between 2 appointments was 20,72±9,3 days. By the second appointment 98,2% patients were taking etoricoxib regularly, and good tolerability of the medication was noted (63,8% excellent, 36,2% good). The average VAS score at the first appointment was 7,27±1,04, at the second appointment - 2,75±1,12, in the meantime VAS score improvement was noted mostly in the group of patients with long disease duration (more than 3 years). At the time of second examination total relief of back pain was revealed in 16,7%, in knee joint - 35,5%, in hip joint - 68,1%, in the neck - 61,9%, in small joints -30,8%, of shoulder blade pain - 82,4%. No comorbidities exacerbation was noted. There were also no cases of sudden blood pressure increase on the administered therapy, including patients with arterial hypertension.

Conclusions: Etoricoxib administration leads to significant decrease of pain syndrome and its relief without increasing blood pressure and exacerbations of chronic comorbidities.

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AB0438 RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS DRUG THERAPY IN THE PERIOPERATIVE PERIOD OF LARGE JOINTS ARTHROPLASTY, ITS IMPACT ON THE LONG-TERM RESULTS OF SURGERY

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Objectives: To analyze the results of large joints arthroplasty depending on the received rheumatoid arthritis (RA) drug therapy

Methods: Knee and hip joints arthroplasty was performed for 54 RA patients (48

women, 6 men), mean age 51,4±12,8 years. At the time of the operation disease duration was 11,8±3,8 years, high activity (DAS28) - in 26%, moderate - in 55.5%, the low - at 18.5% patients. At the time of surgery 39 (72.2%) pts continued to take basic anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs) (methotrexate at a dose of 10-20 mg per week - 32, leflunomide (20 mg daily) -5). Corticosteroids (prednisone at a dose of 5-15 mg, an average of 7.1 mg per day) - 25 (46.2%) patients, of which in combination with DMARDs - 10 (18.6%). Before the operation, and after the 6 months joint pain (VAS), disease activity - DAS28, functional ability HAQ index were evaluated. In 32 patients, these same indexes were estimated after

Results: The reduction of pain intensity VAS was observed in the first month after a joint arthroplasty, after 6 months VAS fell almost to 31.8 mm (p<0.05). Activity of the disease decreased (high - 11.2%, moderate - 44.4%, low - 44.4%), HAQ from 1,61 \pm 0,41 to 1,09 \pm 0,26 (p<0, 05). After 12 months HAQ - 1,01 \pm 0,28.

The analysis showed that in patients not receiving corticosteroids (n=29) arthroplasty was conducted in 13,6±3,2 years after RA onset, and receiving long-term steroids (n=25) significantly earlier (p<0,05) - through 9,9±3,5 years. The functional capacity of patients in the group receiving DMARDs without corticosteroids (n=29) (the HAQ 6 months - 0,9±0,24, 12 months - 0 81±0,16) was significantly (p<0.05) higher compared with patients receiving corticosteroids (n=25) without the basic treatment (HAQ 6 months -1.13±0.21, over 12 months-1,24±0,19)

Conclusions: Large joints arthroplasty is an effective method to improve the functional capacity of patients with RA. For patients receiving corticosteroids need of arthroplasty arises a few years earlier. The function of the joints after surgery and in the remote period is better when patients continuously receive DMARDs compared to steroid therapy, the dose should be reduced to a reasonable minimum for the time of surgical treatment.

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AB0439 EFFICACY AT THREE YEARS OF DAILY CLINICAL USE OF **IGURATIMOD IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS**

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Background: Iguratimod (IGU) is a small-molecule antirheumatic drug that was developed in Japan and is currently only approved for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in Japan and China. IGU suppresses tumor necrosis factor-alphainduced production of interleukin (IL)-6, IL-8 and monocyte chemoattractant protein 1 via the inhibition of nuclear factor-kappa B activation in cultured human synovial cells and human acute monocytic leukemia cells. There are some reports about the efficacy and safety of IGU in patients with RA. However, the assessment about efficacy of the clinical use of IGU has mainly been restricted to short-term (within one year) outcome.

Objectives: The purpose of this study was to assess the efficacy of IGU in 3 vears

Methods: Sixty-nine RA patients (14 males and 55 females, mean age of 63.9 years, mean disease duration of 14.9 years) were enrolled in this study. The clinical course of RA was evaluated during 3 years. The patients who discontinued the IGU therapy were analyzed by the last observation carried forward method.

Results: The survival rate at 3 years was 49.3%, and 8 patients discontinued the IGU therapies due to insufficient response, 12 patients due to adverse events such as exanthema, pneumonitis or hepatic disorder, and other patients based on their requests. The DAS28-CRP, DAS28-ESR, SDAI and CDAI significantly decreased at 6 months, 1, 2, 3 years compared with baseline. The low DAS28-CRP at 3 months and younger age were associated to the continuation of IGU. Furthermore, 27 patients (39.1%) were in remission at 3 years. In the remission achievement group, the DAS28-CRP and the usage rate of prednisolone at baseline were significantly lower and patients' age was younger. A logistic regression analysis revealed the low DAS28-CRP and low usage rate of prednisolone at baseline were significant factors contributing to the achievement of a clinical remission at

Conclusions: We assessed middle-term outcome of the clinical use of iguratimod therapy in RA patients. The low DAS28-CRP and low usage rate of prednisolone at the initiation of IGU were significant factors of clinical remission achievement at 3 years.

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