

0.84, $p < 0.001$, respectively). Improvements in all SF-36 subscales were observed in the GLM group at Wks 8 & 16 compared to PBO ($p < 0.01$, with the exception of the role-emotional subscale [$p = 0.058$]). The percentage of pts achieving clinically meaningful change (5 points or greater) in SF-36 PCS & MCS were higher in GLM than PBO in Wks 8 & 16 (PCS: 58.1 vs. 27.2, 67.6 vs. 35.9, respectively; MCS: 48.6 vs. 34.0, 54.3 vs. 29.1, respectively; $p < 0.05$ for all). Mean EQ-5D VAS improvements were greater ($p < 0.001$) in GLM than PBO at Wks 8 & 16 (17.61 vs. 6.63, 20.32 vs. 4.79, respectively). Greater improvements in ASQoL were observed in GLM compared to PBO at Wks 8 & 16 (-4.5 vs. -1.5, $p < 0.001$, -5.4 vs. -1.8, $p < 0.001$, respectively). By Wk 28, after PBO crossed-over to GLM, improvement in PCS, MCS, EQ-5D VAS, & ASQoL were similar between the two treatment arms.

Table: Summary of mean (standard deviation) changes in SF-36, EQ-5D, and ASQoL.

		IV GOLIMUMAB 2mg/kg	PLACEBO
Patients		105	103
Mean (SD) change from baseline in SF-36 PCS:	Week 8	6.83 (6.90) ($p < 0.001$)	2.07 (5.66)
	Week 16	8.52 (7.54) ($p < 0.001$)	2.87 (6.11)
	Week 28	9.08 (8.02)	9.29 (7.09)
Mean (SD) change from baseline in SF-36 MCS:	Week 8	5.56 (9.26) ($p = 0.006$)	1.67 (8.80)
	Week 16	6.47 (9.12) ($p < 0.001$)	0.84 (9.82)
	Week 28	6.16 (10.91)	5.60 (9.70)
Mean (SD) change from baseline in EQ-5D VAS:	Week 8	17.61 (24.02) ($p < 0.001$)	6.63 (19.881)
	Week 16	20.32 (24.59) ($p < 0.001$)	4.79 (23.47)
	Week 28	20.52 (27.86)	22.45 (23.08)
Mean (SD) change from baseline in ASQoL:	Week 8	-4.5 (4.71) ($p < 0.001$)	-1.5 (3.90)
	Week 16	-5.4 (5.01) ($p < 0.001$)	-1.8 (4.50)
	Week 28	-5.3 (5.24)	-5.3 (4.84)

Conclusions: Adult pts w/active AS treated w/IV GLM showed marked improvements in physical functioning, mental health functioning, health state, & HRQoL.

Disclosure of Interest: J. Reveille Grant/research support from: Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC., A. Deodhar Grant/research support from: Janssen, Amgen, Abbvie, GSK, Eli Lilly, Novartis, Pfizer, UCB, Consultant for: Janssen, Eli Lilly, Novartis, Pfizer, UCB, E. Chan Employee of: Janssen Global Services, LLC, S. Peterson Employee of: Janssen R&D, LLC, N. Li Employee of: Janssen R&D, LLC, E. Hsia Employee of: Janssen R&D, LLC, L. Kim Employee of: Janssen R&D, LLC, K. H. Lo Employee of: Janssen R&D, LLC, D. Harrison Employee of: Janssen R&D, LLC, C. Han Employee of: Janssen Global Services, LLC
DOI: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2017-eular.6145

AB0693 PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC INFLAMMATORY ARTHROPATHIES TREATED WITH GOLIMUMAB ACHIEVE A HIGHER SERUM LEVEL OF DRUG IF USED AS THE FIRST OR SECOND BIOLOGICAL DRUG

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Objectives: To know the influence of the order of introduction of Golimumab (GLM), on clinical efficacy in ankylosing spondylitis (AS), psoriatic arthritis (PSA) and rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

Methods: A prospective, observational study, in 46 consecutive patients with AS, APS and RA, treated with GLM. Data: epidemiological, concomitant DMARD, time of disease evolution, HLA-B27, RF and ACPA; from GLM: order of introduction, time in treatment, serum level and anti-GLM Ab. The clinical response was assessed in AS patients using BASDAI, BASFI, ASDAS-VSG. In patients with RA or peripheral APS, DAS28-VSG, DAS28-PCR and SDAI. Serum levels of GLM and anti-GLM Ab were determined by ELISA (Progenika, Grifols SA, Spain). Serum cutoff levels for serum GLM levels: 36 ng/mL and for anti-GLM Ab: UA > 20 AU/mL. Samples were extracted just prior GLM administration (trough level) and stored frozen at -80°C until analysis.

Results: Of 33 (72%) AS patients: 52% were males, mean age 53±12 years, mean BMI 28±4, disease mean evolution 16±12 years and in GLM: 1.3±1.1 years, 30% received DMARD, being GLM the first anti-TNF in 25%, second 37%, third 25% and fourth in 13%. The mean GLM level was 0.77±0.62 mg/mL and the prevalence of anti-GLM antibodies was 6%. In the 5 patients with RA and 8 with APS: 23% were men, mean age of 55±11 years, mean BMI 28±6, mean disease evolution of 10.5±8 years and in GLM of 2±1.5 years, the 85% of patients

received DMARD, being GLM the first anti-TNF in 31%, second 15%, third 31% and fourth 23%. The mean GLM level was 0.703±0.53 mg/L. No anti-GLM Ab were detected.

Table 1. Characteristics of patients with receiving GLM, according to the order of introduction

Golimumab (GLM) RA-APS (n: 13)	1°-2° anti-TNF (n: 7)	3°-4° Anti-TNF (n: 6)	p
BMI, kg/m ² : mean (SD)	28,72 (6,62)	28,93 (6,66)	0,95
Disease evolution (years): mean (SD)	10,1 (7,64)	11,53 (10)	0,78
DMARD, n (%)	7 (100)	4 (67)	0,13
Years on GLM: mean (SD)	2,27 (1,86)	2,5 (2,04)	0,84
anti-GLM Ab, U/L, n (%)	0	0	-
DAS28-VSG, mean (SD)	1,74 (0,83)	2,12 (0,94)	0,47
DAS28-PCR, mean (SD)	1,82 (0,85)	2,28 (0,93)	0,39
SDAI, mean (SD)	3,92 (5,17)	7,67 (6,58)	0,30

Golimumab (GLM) AS (n: 33)	1°-2° anti-TNF (n: 21)	3°-4° anti-TNF (n: 12)	p
BMI, kg/m ² : mean (SD)	27,46 (4,20)	29,26 (3,09)	0,16
Disease evolution (years): mean (SD)	14,25 (10,55)	20,65 (14,27)	0,21
DMARD, n (%)	8 (38%)	2 (17)	0,57
Years on GLM: mean (SD)	1,75 (1,47)	1,13 (0,89)	0,14
GLM level, mg/dL: mean (SD)	0,919 (0,63)	0,448 (0,47)	0,025
anti-GLM Ab, U/L, n (%)	0	2 (17)	-
BASDAI: mean (SD)	5,96 (2,48)	6,10 (2,23)	0,86
ASDAS: mean (SD)	2,92 (0,87)	3,79 (2,68)	0,64

Conclusions: 1. The overall prevalence of anti-GLM Ab was 6% and 17% in AS patients. Not detecting in patients with RA or PSA. 2. Serum GLM level was higher among the patients receiving it as the 1st or 2nd anti-TNF. 3. In AS GLM as 3rd or 4th anti-TNF were able to achieve clinical remission, similar to that achieved as 1st or 2nd drug.

Acknowledgements: The study was supported by a grant from the Fundación Española de Reumatología (FVR/2012) and the Asociación para la Investigación en Reumatología de la Marina Baixa (AIRE-MB).

Disclosure of Interest: None declared

DOI: 10.1136/annrheumdis-2017-eular.4308

AB0694 RHEUMATOLOGISTS' ATTRIBUTION OF PATIENT-REPORTED SYMPTOMS IN AXIAL SPONDYLOARTHRITIS (AXSPA): IMPACT ON RESPONSE TO TNF-INHIBITORS (TNFI) IN 508 PATIENTS

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Background: In axSpA, treatment decisions are mainly based on patient-reported symptoms: recommendations are to initiate TNFI in patients with active disease and with physician conviction that treatment is needed (ref). However, the attribution of symptoms to inflammation is difficult to establish in axSpA.

Objectives: The objective of the present analysis was to explore the link between physician-attributed causality for symptoms and treatment response to TNFI.

Methods: The PredictSpA study (ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT03039088) was a longitudinal observational multicenter study in France in 2015. Patients with physician-defined definite axSpA and starting a TNFI treatment were included, a TNFI was prescribed according to usual practice and efficacy was assessed at 12 weeks by BASDAI50 response. At baseline, symptoms levels including BASDAI and ASDAS were collected and the physician evaluated the causality of symptoms by answering the following 3 questions: how convinced are you that the symptoms of this patient are due to (A) inflammatory axSpA activity (B) to axSpA severity (eg syndesmophytes, kyphosis) and NOT to disease activity and (C) to other diseases and NOT axSpA. Each question was assessed 0-10 (not convinced at all to absolutely convinced). The link between a score $\geq 4/10$ on each of the 3 questions and BASDAI50 response was assessed by univariate logistic regression. Patients interrupting the TNFI before 3 months were considered as non-responders and missing data were imputed using non-responder imputation.

Results: In all, 519 patients were included and 508 had data over 3 months: mean age 41.3 (SD 11.6) years, mean disease duration 6.1 (SD 8.4) years, 237 (46.7%) were women, 424 (83.5%) satisfied the ASAS criteria for axSpA of whom 379 (74.6%) were in the imaging arm and 45 (8.9%) in the clinical arm. Symptom levels were high: mean BASDAI was 5.7 (SD 1.8) and mean ASDAS-CRP was 3.3 (SD 0.9) with only 6 (1.2%) patients in inactive disease state according to ASDAS. The physician-attributed causality of symptoms was mostly related to inflammatory activity: mean scores for (A), (B) and (C) were respectively, 7.4 (SD 2.0), 2.3 (SD 2.5) and 2.1 (SD 2.2). When physicians attributed causality to non-axSpA (score (C) $\geq 4/10$), BASDAI50 response was less frequent: 45/118 (38.4%) vs 213/390 (54.6%), odds ratio 0.5 [95% CI 0.3, 0.8].

Conclusions: In axSpA patients starting a TNFI with high symptom levels, physician-attributed causality of symptoms was mainly related to inflammatory activity of the axSpA. When physician-attributed causality was more oriented towards non-axSpA causes, BASDAI50 response after 3 months of a TNFI was lower. This confirms the validity of the ASAS-EULAR recommendations for starting a TNFI which rest on a level of symptoms but associated to physician conviction of the indication.

References:

[1] van der Heijde D, et al. 2016 update of the ASAS-EULAR management