

(median [interquartile range] from 10.2 [6.5–17.1] to 6.0 [3.9–15.6] mg/L;  $p=0.02$ ), but not in the control group (from 8.7 [5.2–17.2] to 13.2 [7.9–20.1] mg/L;  $p=0.70$ ). A similar trend was seen for serum calprotectin ( $p=0.065$  in intervention versus  $p=0.31$  in control), but not for ESR. In addition, ASDAS-CRP ( $p=0.02$ ), BASDAI ( $p=0.04$ ), SF-36 physical component score ( $p=0.01$ ), EQ-5D ( $p=0.049$ ), and EQ-5D VAS ( $p=0.02$ ) decreased significantly in the intervention group, but not the control group.

**Conclusions:** This proof-of-concept study in axSpA revealed a significant decrease in serum CRP levels upon add-on training program, in the absence of safety signals. Together with the significant improvement in disease activity and quality of life, these findings warrant full-scale randomised controlled trials of this novel therapeutic approach in patients with axSpA and other inflammatory conditions.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None declared

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**SAT0285 EFFICACY OF EARLY VERSUS DELAYED INITIATION OF ANTI-TNF-ALPHA TREATMENT IN AXIAL SPONDYLOARTHRITIS. DATA FROM THE CZECH REGISTRY ATTRA**

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**Background:** Anti-TNF- $\alpha$  agents are the mainstay of pharmacotherapy for patients with axial spondyloarthritis (AxSpA) who failed treatment with NSAIDs. A little is known about the influence of early versus delayed treatment initiation on their clinical efficacy.

**Objectives:** To compare change of disease activity in AxSpA patients on anti-TNF- $\alpha$  therapy based on symptom duration prior to treatment initiation.

**Methods:** Baseline demographic data and efficacy parameters of patients starting their first anti-TNF- $\alpha$  treatment  $\leq 10$  years (EARLY) or  $> 10$  years (DEALYED) after first symptoms of AxSpA from the Czech national registry ATTRA were compared. Mean  $\pm$ SD and absolute/relative frequencies were used to describe continuous and categorical variables, respectively. P-value of Fisher's exact test and Mann-Whitney test is given when assessing difference between groups in categorical and continuous variables. ATTRA is a centralised prospective computerised registry of patients receiving bDMARD therapy for rheumatic diseases collecting data on efficacy, safety and quality of life of all patients treated in the Czech Republic. Anti-TNF- $\alpha$  therapy was indicated for patients with AxSpA who have failed treatment with NSAIDs with CRP  $\geq 1$  mg/dl and BASDAI score  $\geq 4$ .

**Results:** Data from 1290 axSpA patients were available for analysis. 618 patients started treatment  $\leq 10$  years (EARLY) and 672  $> 10$  years (DEALYED) after the onset of AxSpA symptoms. There was no significant difference in gender distribution (71.4 vs 72.5% males;  $p=0.67$ ) or age at AxSpA diagnosis ( $33.3 \pm 10.4$  vs  $33.5 \pm 10.4$ ;  $p=0.68$ ) between the two groups. At the time of anti-TNF- $\alpha$  initiation EARLY patients were significantly younger ( $36.4 \pm 10.6$  vs  $44.0 \pm 11.2$  years;  $p < 0.001$ ) with shorter symptom duration ( $5.5 \pm 2.7$  vs  $18.9 \pm 8.1$ ;  $p < 0.001$ ), but disease activity assessed by BASDAI ( $6.3 \pm 1.8$  vs  $6.3 \pm 1.6$ ;  $p=0.81$ ) and serum CRP levels ( $2.6 \pm 2.5$  vs  $2.4 \pm 2.0$  mg/dL;  $p=0.34$ ) were comparable in both groups. Mean change of BASDAI scores from baseline during anti-TNF- $\alpha$  therapy was significantly greater in the EARLY group at all time-points ( $3.7 \pm 2.5$  vs  $3.4 \pm 2.2$  at month 3,  $4.2 \pm 2.5$  vs  $3.8 \pm 2.3$  at month 6,  $4.4 \pm 2.5$  vs  $4.0 \pm 2.3$  at month 12 and  $4.4 \pm 2.5$  vs  $4.0 \pm 2.4$  at month 24;  $p < 0.05$  for all) suggesting better treatment response. The difference in survival on therapy between the two groups was not statistically significant.

**Conclusions:** AxSpA patients starting anti-TNF- $\alpha$  therapy more than 10 years after onset of symptoms have significantly worse response to treatment compared to patients with earlier treatment initiation.

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**SAT0286 RETENTION RATE AND SAFETY DATA OF BIOSIMILAR CT-P13 IN ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS PATIENTS: DATA FROM THE KOREAN COLLEGE OF RHEUMATOLOGY BIOLOGICS REGISTRY**

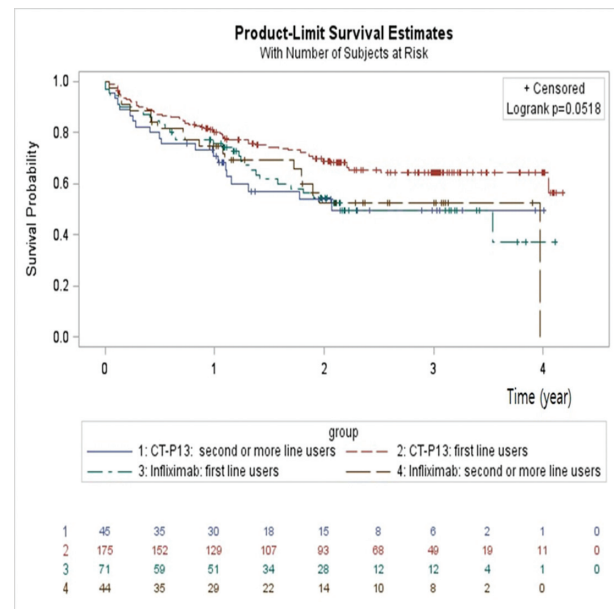
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**Background:** CT-P13 is a biosimilar prescribed in a number of countries for indications approved for the reference infliximab (RINF), including ankylosing spondylitis (AS), rheumatoid arthritis, and inflammatory bowel diseases. Clinical data of CT-P13 have been analysed in previous clinical trials, demonstrating equivalence of efficacy and pharmacokinetic profile to RINF. However, there are few studies showing long-term data of its drug survival or safety.

**Objectives:** To investigate the drug retention rate and safety data of biosimilar CT-P13 in Korean AS patients.

**Methods:** Subjects were AS patients enrolled in the Korean College of Rheumatology biologics registry (KOBIO). Data from patients who received RINF and CT-P13 were included in the analysis<sup>Dec 2012 ~ Dec 2017</sup>. Discontinuation was defined as switching or stopping the biologic agent. Kaplan-Meier curve and Cox proportional hazard model were used for further analysis. Reason for RINF or CT-P13 discontinuation was also assessed.

**Results:** Data from 399 AS patients (CT-P13; 256, RINF; 143) were analysed. The mean age of patients was 39.0 in the CT-P13 group, and 73% were males. The mean disease duration was 4.1 years. Eighty percent of patients were first-time biologic users. Discontinuation of CT-P13 occurred in 30.9% (switching in 17.6%) of patients during follow-up. The drug retention rate of first-line users of CT-P13 was marginally higher compared with second or more ( $\geq 2$ )-line users of CT-P13, first-line users of RINF, and  $\geq 2$  line users of CT-P13 in Korean AS patients ( $p=0.0518$ ). The reason of discontinuation was inefficacy (42.7%), adverse events (20.2%), clinical improvement (7.9%), and others (18.0%) in the CT-P13 group. The incidence of adverse events of CT-P13, including infusion reaction ( $n=10$ ), mycobacterial infection ( $n=2$ ), and skin eruption ( $n=1$ ) was comparable to that of RINF.



**Conclusions:** Our study demonstrates that the drug retention rate of CT-P13, especially in first-line users was relatively higher than that of RINF, [H1] and CT-P13 showed a reasonable long-term safety profile in Korean AS patients.

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