



A R A D
Australian Rheumatology Association Database

6 monthly report (October 2009) – Australian Rheumatology Association Database (ARAD).

A study of the long-term effects of arthritis and its treatments in Australia

This report provides a summary of the data collected from participants enrolled in ARAD up to October 2009.

To 1st October 2009, 3559 patients across Australia have enrolled in ARAD and 213 rheumatologists are participating.

The mean HAQ and AQL scores for all ARAD patients taking biologics are shown in Table 1.

The number of patient-reported severe infections in patients on biologics is reported in Table 2.

The frequency of patient-reported reasons for discontinuation of biologics is outlined in Table 3.

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Table 1 HAQ and AqoL scores for all ARAD patients receiving biological therapy from commencement of bDMARDs

	HAQ score (0-3, 0 = no disability)	AqoL score (0.00 = death; 1.00 = full health)
	<i>All ARAD patients (n = 2319)</i>	<i>All ARAD patients (n = 2319)</i>
Age in most recent questionnaire mean (SD)	54.6 (14.5) years	
Proportion of females (%)	64.4%	
Timepoint since starting biologics	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)
Entry questionnaire (0 months)	1.245 (0.725) n = 1,746	0.494 (0.240) n = 1,755
6 months	1.081 (0.751) n = 1,522	0.548 (0.244) n = 1,519
12 months	1.034 (0.754) n = 1,359	0.558 (0.243) n = 1,362
18 months	1.023 (0.754) n = 1,229	0.557 (0.241) n = 1,224
24 months	1.068 (0.772) n = 1,153	0.550 (0.242) n = 1,154
30 months	1.084 (0.780) n = 981	0.536 (0.251) n = 982
36 months	1.142 (0.794) n = 819	0.527 (0.254) n = 811
42 months	1.157 (0.809) n = 682	0.526 (0.251) n = 682
48 months	1.184 (0.771) n = 479	0.531 (0.250) n = 482
54 months	1.235 (0.822) n = 389	0.517 (0.254) n = 390
60 months	1.326 (0.795) n = 274	0.497 (0.255) n = 274
66 months	1.297 (0.786) n = 185	0.486 (0.256) n = 186
72 months	1.199 (0.816) n = 85	0.506 (0.268) n = 86
78 months	1.100 (0.799) n = 60	0.498 (0.266) n = 62
84 months	1.193 (0.804) n = 39	0.501 (0.267) n = 40
90 months	1.303 (0.822) n = 26	0.474 (0.217) n = 26

Patients with a diagnosis of AS or JCA (<= 16 yrs old) have a HAQ-S or HAQ-C score respectively calculated. HAQ scores: 0-3, 0= no disability, 3 = worst function, being unable to perform most daily activities; AqoL scores: negative scores indicate a state worse than death; 0.00 is death; 1.00 is full health; NB improvements in HAQ and AqoL are in different direction

Table 2 Number of self reported severe infections* in those who received biologic therapy

<i>Type of infection</i>	<i>Number reported</i>						
	<i>baseline</i> <i>n=1045</i>	<i>12</i> <i>months</i> <i>n=1136</i>	<i>24</i> <i>months</i> <i>n=1085</i>	<i>36</i> <i>months</i> <i>n=785</i>	<i>48</i> <i>months</i> <i>n=471</i>	<i>60</i> <i>months</i> <i>n=275</i>	<i>72</i> <i>months</i> <i>n=85</i>
Skin or nail	24	24	18	12	8	5	4
Eye, ear, nose or throat	25	35	30	14	7	5	-
Heart	-	3	3	1	2	-	1
Chest or lung	27	27	38	17	16	12	2
Stomach, gut, gall bladder or liver	17	7	12	7	3	-	-
Kidney, bladder or urine	16	15	18	11	3	1	1
Bone, joint or muscle	19	18	16	14	7	2	-
Artificial joint or muscle	1	8	2	1	-	3	-
Brain or spinal cord	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Blood	2	6	12	7	1	3	-
Viral	16	20	15	10	5	2	2
Other	7	8	9	6	5	-	-
Total severe infections	155	171	174	103	57	33	10

* An infection is severe if: it caused a major change in activities; a patient saw a doctor; prescription medication gave only partial relief; if a drug or treatment was responsible it may have been stopped

Table 3 Summary of reasons for discontinuation of biological therapy

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Etanercept n=584</i>	<i>Infliximab n=220</i>	<i>Adalimumab n=491</i>	<i>Anakinra n=36</i>	<i>Rituximab n=45</i>	<i>Abatacept n=16</i>
Lack of efficacy	229	89	211	13	24	7
Side effect (i-xi)	140	45	117	5	5	3
i) Allergic reaction	19	12	17	1	1	-
ii) General	26	12	26	1	-	1
iii) Skin	40	10	35	3	3	1
iv) Eye/Ear/Nose/Throat	15	1	4	-	-	-
v) Stomach/Bowel/Liver	13	2	8	-	1	-
vi) Lungs	11	4	8	-	2	-
vii) Cardiovascular	12	9	8	-	-	-
viii) Neurological & psychological	9	4	10	-	-	1
ix) Infections	30	3	21	-	-	1
x) Abnormal tests	19	5	10	1	-	1
xi) Other	1	1	-	-	-	-
Arthritis improved	7	3	7	-	5	-
Too sick from other illness	24	7	20	2	1	2
Failed PBS criteria	24	10	17	2	2	-
Preparing for surgery	14	-	11	-	-	2
Planning pregnancy	13	3	9	-	2	-
Clinical trial finished	-	8	-	9	1	-
Did not like it	7	2	5	-	-	-
Other	3	1	6	-	1	-
Started new drug	106	49	81	3	3	2
Unknown	17	3	7	2	1	-

Data in this table represent the frequency of nominal responses selected by patients for therapy discontinuation for each bDMARD.