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## Background

Anti-TNF monoclonal antibodies such as infliximab effectively treat inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). Currently they are recommended after failure or contraindication of corticosteroid/immunosuppressive therapy. The use of infliximab's biosimilars is an important question due to the economy of health cost and in the objective of improving health care

## Objectives

- Evaluate the patients treated by the reference product's knowledge about biosimilars
- Assess the number of patients who would accept switching to a biosimilar
- Realize an economic analysis about the switch

## Methods

Evaluate the patient's knowledge about biosimilar

Give them the missing information

Collect the patient's opinion about the switch

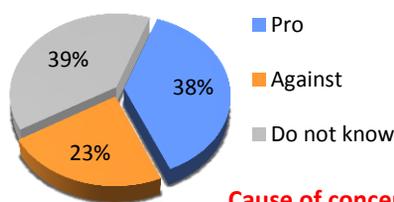
Transmission of the information to the prescribers

Follow-up of the prescriptions during the next cures

Economic analysis of the data

## Results

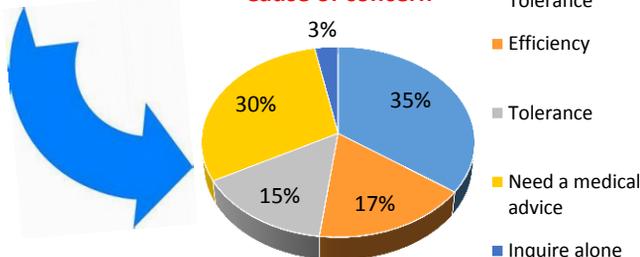
### Patient's opinion about switching to biosimilar



- Interviewed population : 33 women / 31 men (average age 44 years old)
- 92 % of patients had never received any information about biosimilars
- Among 64 patients, 15 were against a switch to biosimilar, 25 had no opinion and 24 were favourable to the switch

**However, in only 6 of the 24 patients in favor of the switch, the therapeutic modification was carried out by the doctor**

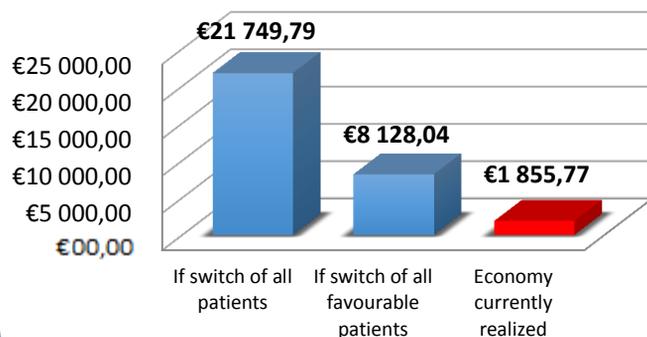
### Cause of concern



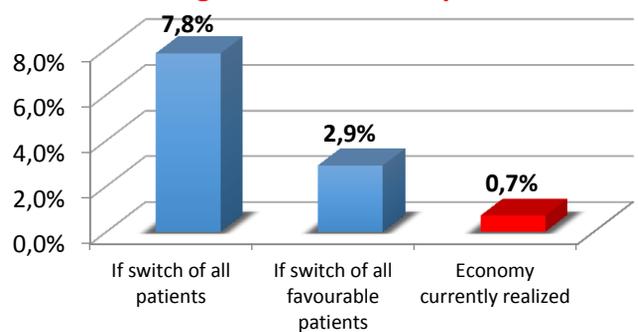
### Concerning the doubts emitted by the patients:

- 68% relating to the efficiency and / or the tolerance of the biosimilar compared to the Reference product
- 30% want to talk to their doctor
- 1 patient decided to inquire by himself

### Potential cost saving in € per year



### Praticable economy in % of the budget assigned to Reference product



- Over the year, the achieved switches allowed to save 1,856 € (out of 8,128 € possible if the patient's opinions were respected), or 0.7% of the Reference product service budget.
- If all patients switched to biosimilar, a saving of 21,750 € could be realized

## Discussion and Conclusions

- The investment of the pharmacy in the daycare clinic of the gastroenterology allowed a saving of 1,856 € per year, or 0,7% of the budget devoted to the reference product.
- That said : More than a third of the patients were favorable to a biosimilar relay → possible savings of € 8128 per year, or 2.9% of the budget dedicated to biosimilars. An explanation for this is the lack of transmission of information to the prescriber.
- Finally, concerning patients who are reluctant or undecided about the relay, the main reasons given concern the tolerance and / or efficiency of the biosimilar. This encourages us to increase our efforts to inform patients about these new specialties and to consider setting up a pharmacist position in this service to provide specific information.

