

BACKGROUND

- Biological medicines for the treatment of rheumatological diseases require a high budget in our hospital as the number of patients and drugs involved increase each year, making essential to implement containment policies. Our pharmacy service has promoted biosimilar's prescription in order to improve the efficiency of our health system.
- Aim: Evaluate the economic impact on the cost /patient of the use of biological products in the area of rheumatology since the implementation of the biosimilar drugs prescription.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Retrospective analysis of pharmaceutical expenditure in biological drugs prescribed for rheumatologic pathologies.
- Study period: January 2016-December 2018.
- Data collected: budget, biological therapies and number of patients treated.

RESULTS

1,704 patients received biological drugs prescribed by rheumatology service → supposed an expenditure of 13,904,349.46€

THERAPIES PRESCRIBED

ETANERCEPT
(36,06%)

ADALIMUMAB
(18,99%)

GOLIMUMAB
(14,43%)

TOCILIZUMAB
(12%)

INFLIXIMAB
(9,31%)

CERTOLIZUMAB
(6,24%)

ABATACEPT, USTEKINUMAB, RITUXIMAB, ANAKINRA
(<1%)

In 2017, the biosimilar prescription in rheumatology was promoted in such way that the beginning of treatment (naive patients) had to be performed with a biosimilar medicine. This strategy began with infliximab and etanercept, and supposed a growth in the percentage of prescribed biosimilars. This strategy began with infliximab and etanercept, and supposed a growth in the percentage of prescribed biosimilars.

In 2018 vs 2017 the % of infliximab biosimilar was 35% vs. 18%. In 2018 vs 2017 the % of etanercept biosimilar was 55% vs 21%. By the end of 2018, adalimumab biosimilar started to be prescribed, reaching 2% of the all adalimumab's prescription.

2018 VS. 2017:

- Infliximab biosimilar 35% vs. 18%
- Etanercept biosimilar 55% vs. 21%

By the end of 2018:

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EVOLUTION ON BIOLOGICS EXPEDITURE

	2016	2017	2018
BUDGET	4,888,129.59€	4,526,851.82€	4,489,368.05€
PATIENTS	617	704	819
COST/PATIENT/MONTH	607.07€	535.95€	456.79€

CONCLUSIONES

Biosimilar prescription strategies in rheumatology have led to an increase in the number of patients treated with a cost/patient/month reduction of approximately 25%. More patients have been treated each year with the same annual budget which reinforces the importance of the biosimilar prescription.

