

## DISCONTINUATION OF ETANERCEPT DUE TO ADVERSE EVENTS IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATIC DISEASES

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### BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

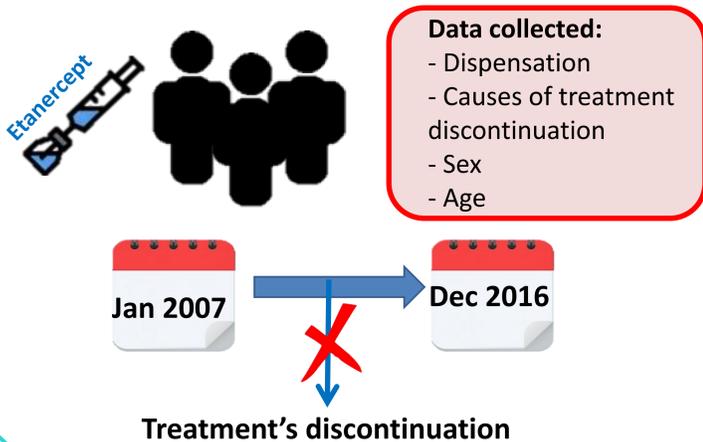
Etanercept is a fusion protein composed by p75 receptor of tumoral necrosis factor (TNF) and Fc portion of human immunoglobulin. Etanercept acts blocking the TNF, which is increased in rheumatic diseases, like rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis and psoriatic arthritis, reducing its characteristic inflammatory pattern.

### AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Analyze the causes of treatment discontinuation for etanercept due to adverse events.

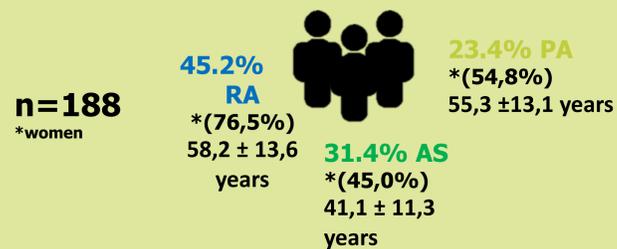
### MATERIAL AND METHODS

A retrospective study was performed, in which all patients diagnosed of rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis and psoriatic arthritis treated with etanercept at some point (between 2007-2016) were included. Data of etanercept's dispensations, causes of treatment discontinuation, sex and age of patients were collected. We used Excel<sup>®</sup> to analyse the data.



### RESULTS

A total of 85 patients diagnosed of rheumatoid arthritis (RA), 59 of ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and 44 of psoriatic arthritis (PA) treated with etanercept were included.



A total of 132 patients (70%) discontinued treatment with etanercept due to different reasons. The main cause was the adverse events representing 28% of the total. Other causes were: secondary failure (27%), primary failure (22%), patient's reasons (5%) and remission (4%). Among adverse events, about 50% were dermatological reasons: 27,8% related to injection site, 22,2% skin reactions and 44,4% due to hypersensitivity. Other causes were infection (21,6%), diarrhoea (5,4%) and neutropenia (2,7%) among others.

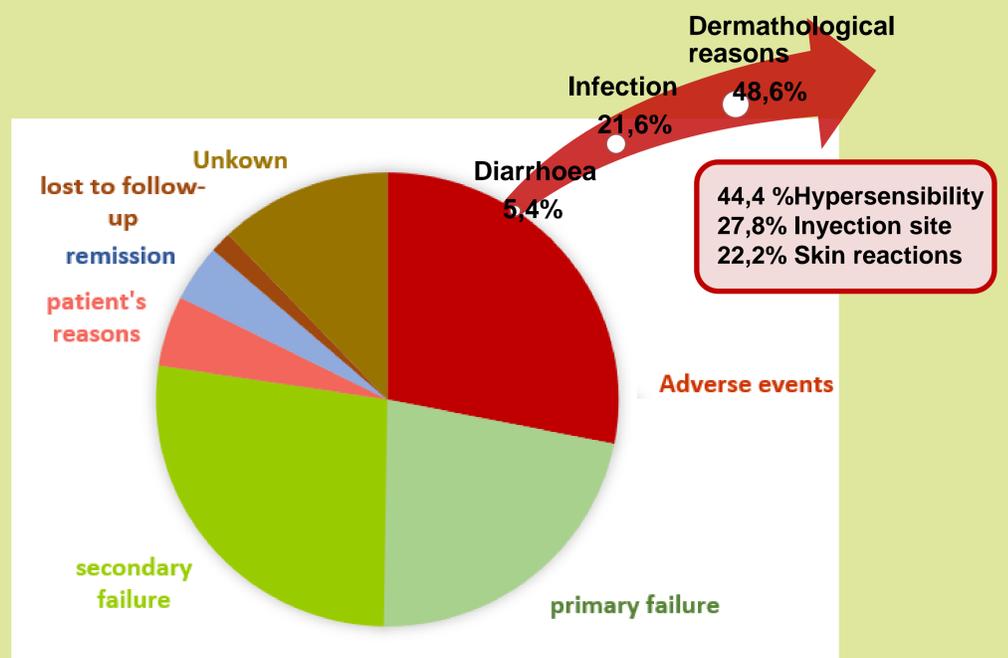


Figure 1. Reasons for etanercept treatment discontinuation.

### CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

Etanercept is the most anti-TNF biological drug commonly used to treat rheumatological diseases. Among the different reasons for treatment discontinuation with etanercept, adverse effects were the main cause (28%). Concretely allergic reactions or skin reactions were the most common causes among them.

#### References and/or Acknowledgements

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