ABSTRACT NUMBER: CP-171

BIOLOGICAL DRUGS: PERSISTENCE RATE IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS AND SPONDYLARTHRITIS

M. Santoro¹, A. Semeraro², G. Giglio³, F. Digiuseppe⁴, G. Mingolla³, G. Cannarile⁴, M. Castellana³, L. D’Aprile⁵
¹School of Hospital Pharmacy, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy.
²Rheumatology Hospital Unit, “Valle d’Itria” Hospital Martina Franca, Martina Franca Taranto, Italy.
³Hospital Pharmacy, “Valle d’Itria” Hospital Martina Franca Taranto, Martina Franca Taranto, Italy.
⁴Territorial Pharmaceutical Area, Territorial Pharmaceutical Area Taranto, Taranto, Italy.
⁵Pharmacy Department, Azienda Sanitaria Locale, Bari, Italy.

Objectives:
Rheumatic diseases, such as Rheumatoid Arthritis and Spondylarthritis, are chronic autoimmune diseases that can be treated with new biological drugs. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the drug retention, as surrogate of effectiveness of biologic therapy.

Methods:
In a rheumatological center of Apulia (Italy) 210 patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) and 336 patients with Spondylarthritis (SpA) were evaluated, treated with "biologics", from 1 January 2001 to 31 May 2016. It was valued the effectiveness of biological drugs using the therapy through the Kaplan Meier drug retention curves.

Results:
RA patients: we have analyzed the data at 2, 4 and 5 years of therapy. At 2-years, the drug persistence rate: 75% etanercept, rituximab 63%, 60% adalimumab. Abatacept 50% with rapid decrease during the continuation of the therapy; infliximab 42% at 2 years, 25% at 4 years. At 5 years: 57% tocilizumab; 35% rituximab, adalimumab, etanercept, certolizumab.

SpA patients: we analyzed the data at 2 and 4 years of therapy. At 2-years, the drug persistence rate: 50-56% etanercept, and infliximab adalimumab; 35% certolizumab, golimumab 31%. Ustekinumab not statistically evaluable because it has marketing authorisation in less than 2 years. At 4 years: 44% etanercept, adalimumab 38%, 34% infliximаб, golimumab 13%. Certolizumab not statistically evaluable because it is commercially in less than 4 years for Psoriatic Arthritis.

Conclusions:
A comparison between RA and SpA allows to note that in RA patients will have a higher persistence in 2 years treatment (75-60% vs. 55-50%) than in SpA patients; at 4 years the drug persistance: 50% for RA compared to 35% of SpA. In this study it is observed that RA patients probably respond better to "biological drugs” because the biological targets are defined; in SpA targets are less known, having recently discovered the IL23/IL17 (interleukin-23/interleukin-17) etiopathogenetic way. Therefore the different clinical response and the frequent change of drugs shows that it can’t predict neither therapeutic response nor the appearance of adverse events.

Acknowledgements: We would like to thank the U.O. of Rheumatology at ASL Taranto and pharmacists at Hospital Pharmacy of ASL Taranto.