

Rheumatoid Arthritis in 21<sup>st</sup>  
century  
Where are we heading?

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Rheumatic Disease Associates

# What this talk is about

- How we reached in to the biologic era
- Why is there a need for biologic therapy
- What are the targets of biologic therapy
- Measures of clinical and radiological activity
- Clinical and radiological remission is it “Reality or Fiction”
- What if anti TNF therapy fails
- Looking beyond joints and impact on society
- Weighing risk and benefits of treatment
- Surveillance of co morbidities
- Summary

# How we reached in to the biologic era

## The History of RA Treatment

Willow tree bark first used

1763

Salicylic acid first used

1876

Aspirin synthesized

1897

Gold salts used for arthritis

1929

Cortisone used to treat arthritis

1949

Prednisone introduced

1955

NSAIDs introduced

1960s–1970s

Penicillamine

1970s

First RA genetic marker (HLA-DR4)

1977

Oral gold, MTX, azathioprine, cyclosporine, SSZ, approved for RA

1984–1995

HTLV-3/HIV Discovery, Role of CD4 T-cells in RA leads to first targeted biologics (Anti-CD4)

Mid 1980s

More aggressive paradigm for RA Rx -rapid dose escalation, combo therapy, “inversion of treatment pyramid”

Mid 1990s

# Into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Leflunomide approved  
1998

TNF inhibitors Etanercept and Infliximab  
approved for RA  
1998/1999

COX-2 inhibitors for OA and RA  
1999/2000

Anakinra (first IL-1 blocker )  
2001

Adalimumab approved  
2002

Abatacept approved  
2005

Rituximab approved  
2006

Golimumab approved  
2009

Certolizumab approved  
2009

Tocilizumab approved  
2010

# What this talk is about

- Why is there a need for biologic therapy

# Case Study

- Laura came into my office for an urgent appointment more than a year ago. A bright, 25 years old woman, a university student with a bright future . Healthy until recently when suddenly one morning, she could not get out of bed and was unable to dress because her fingers and wrists were swollen, tender, and stiff.
- She had spent some days in bed, then moved back to her parents because she was unable to manage on her own. When I first saw her, she had been ill for about two months, and was just getting worse and worse day-by-day. She had lost 3 kg and was pale, desperate, and tired.

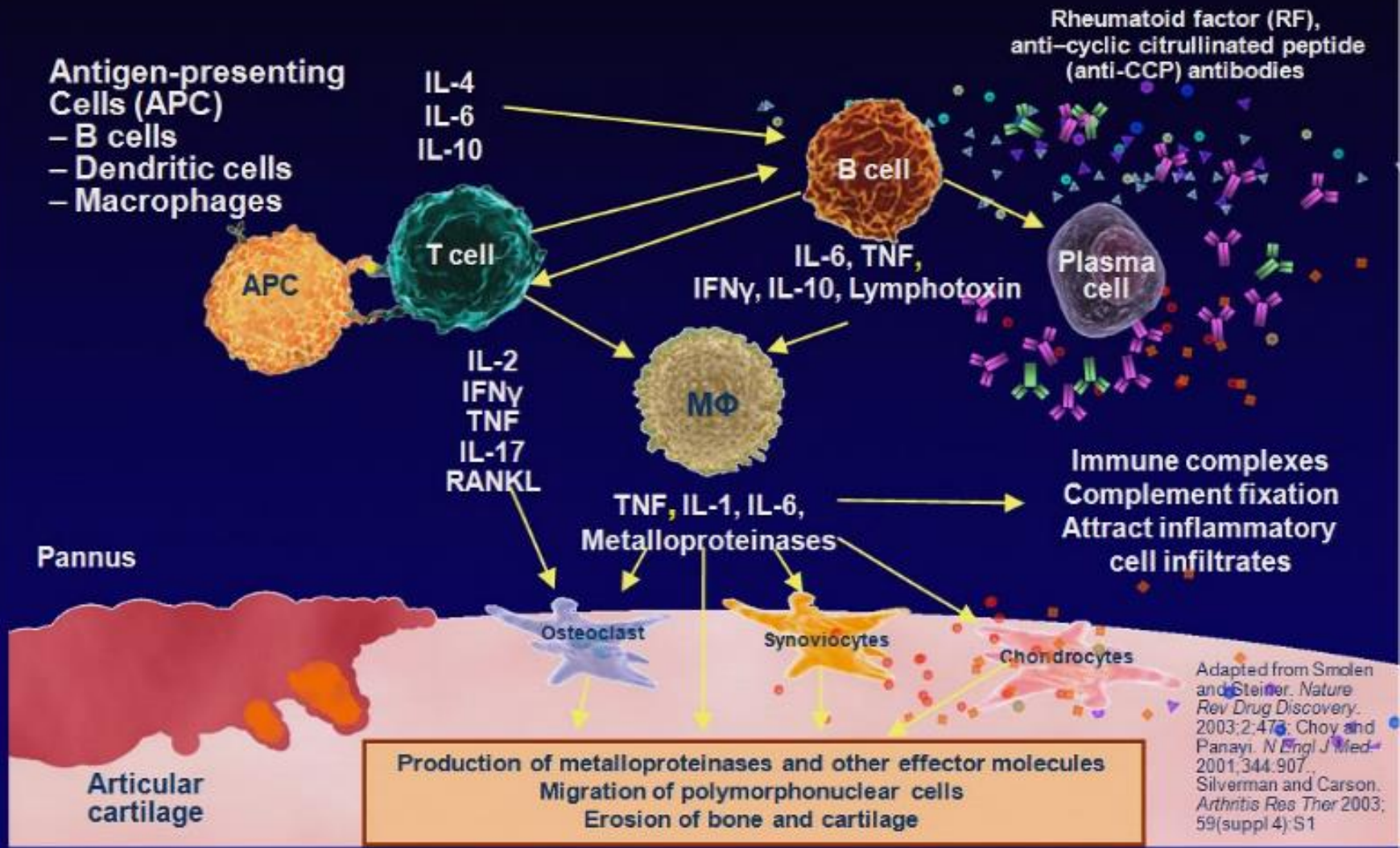
- It was obvious she had rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Tender synovitis in several joints of the hands. She was rheumatoid factor positive, had elevated C-reactive protein and slight anemia. Erosions appeared on her initial ultrasound exam.
- Without delay, she was started on prednisone and methotrexate (MTX) 7.5 mg per week. Two weeks later, when I saw her in the clinic, she was smiling and had returned to the university. She got an injection in a swollen finger joint and I increased the dosage of MTX to 15mg. I assured her she can get appointment within 2 days in case of any swollen joints needs to be injected.

- Six months later she had graduated from university but her condition became worse. She was facing sick leave in her new job. She was she was started on Etanercept in combination with MTX. It worked. She went into remission again.
- For the whole year, there is no progression of joint damage but recently her disease flared again. Many joints are affected causing severe problems in her daily life. She is switched to infliximab (Remicade) which is efficacious for now but what if arthritis showed its ugly face again.

# What this talk is about

- What are the targets of biologic therapy

# RA Pathobiology



Adapted from Smolen and Steiner. *Nature Rev Drug Discovery*. 2003;2:473; Choy and Panayi. *N Engl J Med*. 2001;344:907; Silverman and Carson. *Arthritis Res Ther* 2003; 59(suppl 4):S1

# What this talk is about

- Measures of clinical and radiological activity

## Review

# Improving the Routine Management of Rheumatoid Arthritis: The Value of Tight Control

PHILIP J. MEASE

Table 1. Elements of the Simplified Disease Activity Index (SDAI), the Clinical Disease Activity Index (CDAI), the Disease Activity Score (DAS), and the 28-joint DAS (DAS28)\*<sup>24</sup>.

Elements	SDAI	CDAI	DAS	DAS28
No. of swollen joints	Simple count (0–28)	Simple count (0–28)	More extensive joint counts (0–2.86)	Simple count, square root transformed (0–1.48)
No. of tender joints	Simple count (0–28)	Simple count (0–28)	Ritchie Index: graded joint counts; square root transformed (0–4.77)	Simple count, square root transformed (0–2.96)
Acute-phase reactants	CRP, mg/dl (0.1–10.0)	—	ESR, log transformed (0.23–1.51)**	ESR, log transformed (0.49–3.22)**
Patient global health	—	—	VAS, mm (0–0.72)**	VAS, mm (0–1.40)**
Patient global disease activity	VAS, cm (0–10.0)	VAS, cm (0–10.0)	—	—
Evaluator global disease activity	VAS, cm (0–10.0)	VAS, cm (0–10.0)	—	—
Total index	No immediate scoring due to CRP; simple calculation possible (0.1–86.0)	Immediate scoring due to CRP; simple calculation possible (0.1–76.0)	No immediate scoring due to ESR; simple calculator required (0.23–9.87)	No immediate scoring due to ESR; simple calculator required (0.49–9.07)



# Prognostic Factors for Radiographic Damage in Early Rheumatoid Arthritis

A Multiparameter Prospective Study

Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)

C-reactive protein level

IgM and IgA rheumatoid factor positivity  
Antiperinuclear antibody positivity

Radiologic scores

Duration of morning stiffness

RA-associated HLA–DRB1p04 genes

# Genetic predisposition

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Table 4. HLA-DRB1 genotype and radiographic progression during 3 years

	No progression (n = 97)	Progression (n = 70)
DRB1*04/04†	4 (4.1)	8 (11.4)
DRB1*04/01	5 (5.2)	9 (12.9)
DRB1*04/X	29 (29.9)	27 (38.6)
DRB1*01/01	1 (1.0)	2 (2.9)
DRB1*X/X	32 (33.0)	17 (24.3)
DRB1*01/X	26 (26.8)	7 (10.0)

\* Values are the no. (%) of patients.  $P = 0.013$  between groups, by chi-square test.

† DRB1\*04 includes DRB1\*0401, 0404, 0405, and 0408.

Table 6. Stepwise logistic regression analysis of predictive factors of high (>4) Sharp score at 3 years\*

	Coefficient	SE	OR	95% CI
Constant	-3.074	0.747		
Initial Sharp score	3.438	0.564	31.1	10.2-95.0
IgM RF positivity	1.065	0.583	2.90	0.9-9.2
DRB1*04 positivity†	1.057	0.521	2.88	1.0-8.0
Pain $\geq 59$ mm‡	0.881	0.511	2.41	0.8-6.6

\* Initial Sharp score, IgM rheumatoid factor (RF) positivity and DRB1\*04 positivity were entered as categorical variables (0 = low or absent; 1 = high or present). Four is the median value of the total Sharp score at 3 years. OR = odds ratio; 95% CI = 95% confidence interval.

† DRB1\*04 includes DRB1\*0401, 0404, 0405, and 0408.

‡ Median value at baseline (on a visual analog scale of 0-100).

# Remember joint damage is progressive

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM

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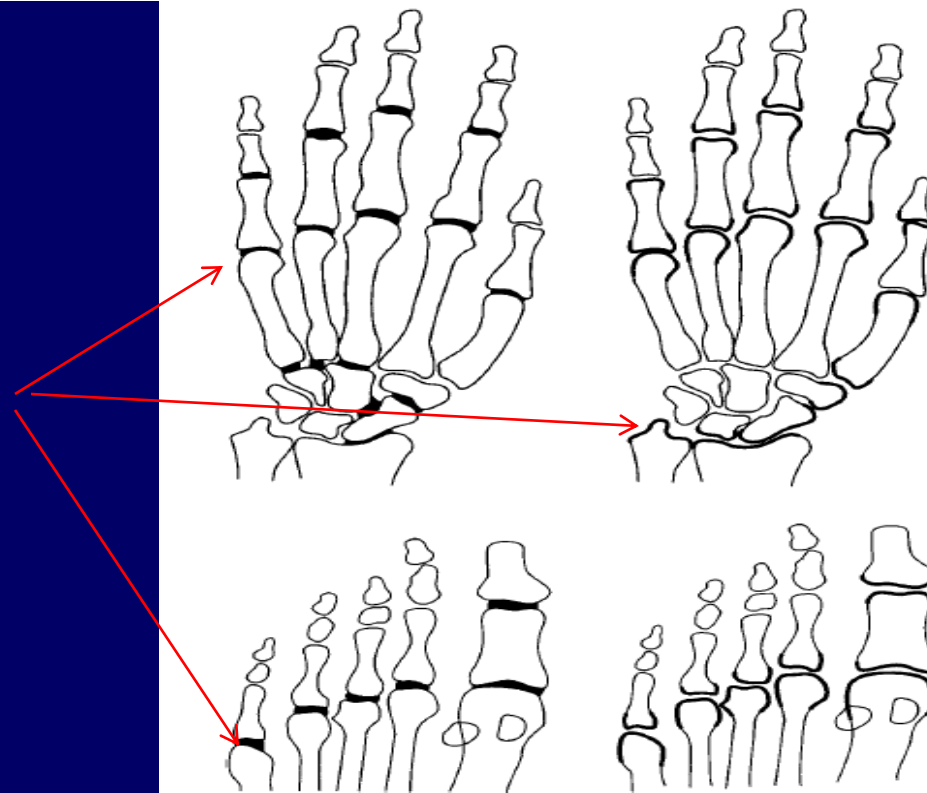
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## THE COURSE OF RADIOLOGIC DAMAGE DURING THE FIRST SIX YEARS OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

***Conclusion.* Radiologic damage progresses at a constant rate. In advanced disease, monitoring the progression of previously existing damage is as important as assessing new abnormalities in previously undamaged joints. Radiographs of the feet should be included in assessments of radiologic damage that are used in clinical intervention trials and daily practice.**

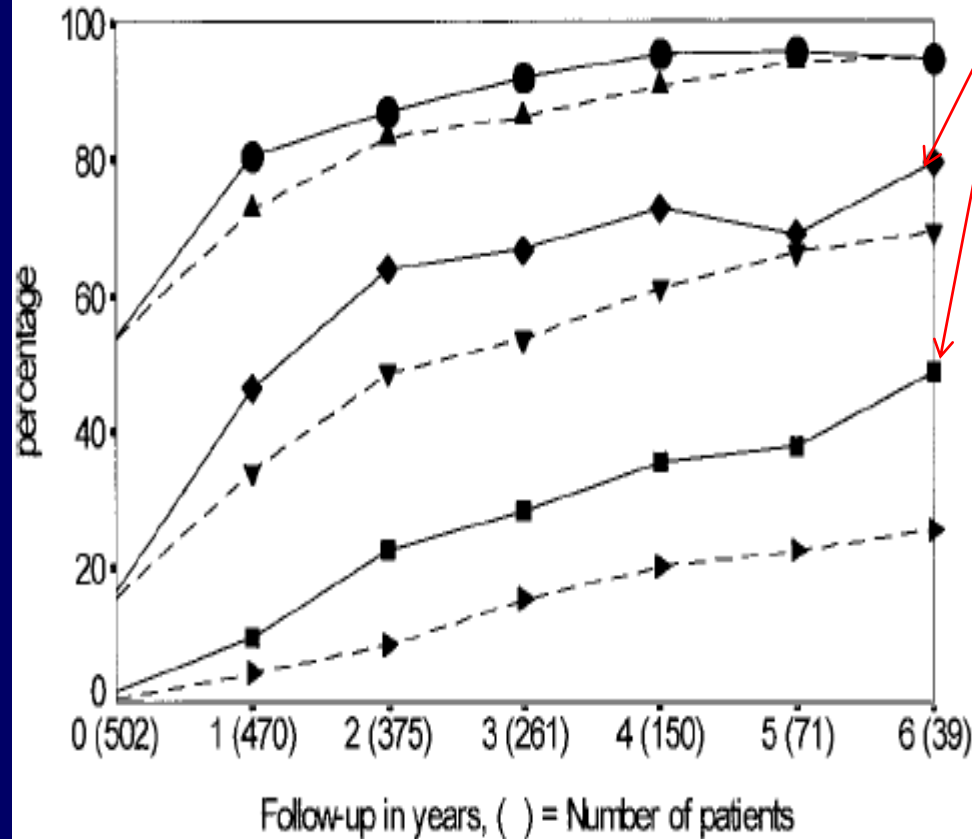
## RADIOLOGIC DAMAGE DURING THE FIRST SIX YEARS OF RA



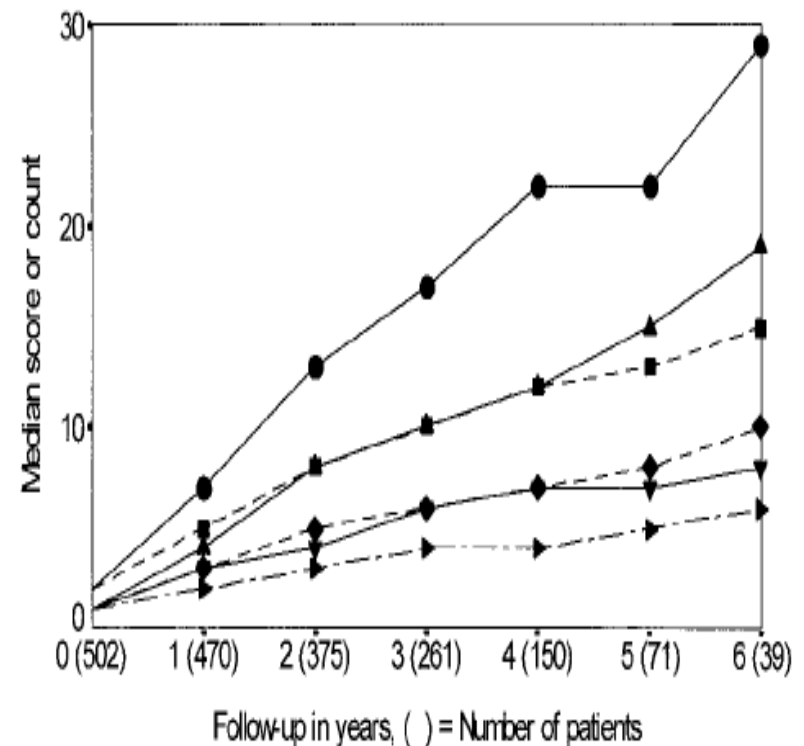
**Figure 1.** Joints and joint areas (boldfaced areas) scored for joint space narrowing (left) and erosions (right) using the van der Heijde modification of the Sharp scoring method.

**Study population and entry criteria.** The study population consisted of patients with early RA, according to the American College of Rheumatology (formerly, the American Rheumatism Association) 1987 criteria (32), who had participated in a randomized trial begun in 1990 comparing the effectiveness and toxicity of therapeutic strategies at 6 rheumatology centers in the Utrecht region of The Netherlands. Patients entering the study were randomized to undergo treatment with hydroxychloroquine (400 mg/day), aurothioglucose (50 mg/week), or methotrexate (7.5–15 mg/week).

# Progressive Joint Damage



**Figure 2.** Percentages of patients with erosions (—) and joint space narrowing (---) at different cutoff points. Erosion score cutoffs were  $\geq 1$  (●),  $\geq 5$  (◆), and  $\geq 20$  (■); narrowing score cutoffs were  $\geq 1$  (▲);  $\geq 5$  (▼), and  $\geq 20$  (▶).



**Figure 3.** Radiologic progression of rheumatoid arthritis, as indicated by scores (—) and counts (---). The median Sharp score as modified by van der Heijde (●), erosion score (▲), and narrowing score (▼) suggest a linear course of development of radiologic abnormalities. Rates of progression of the Sharp count (■), erosion count (◆), and narrowing count (▶) show a tendency toward a decrease over time. See Patients and Methods for details.

# Ultrasonographic assessment

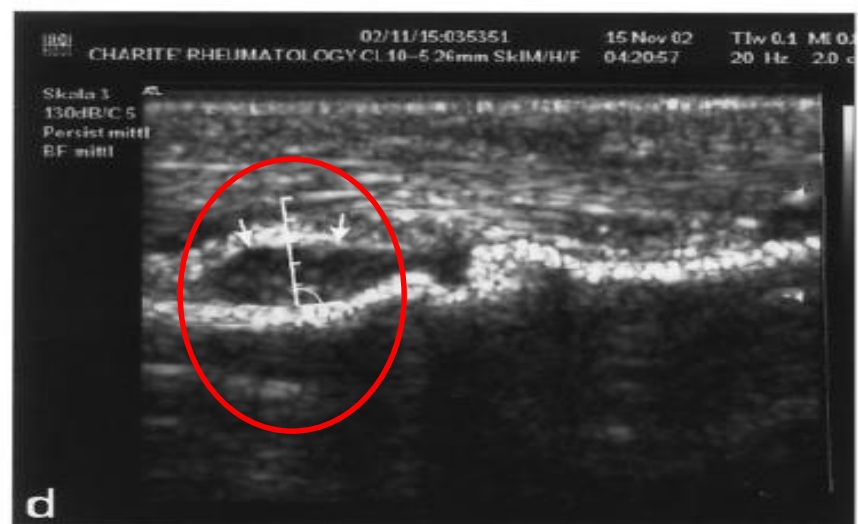
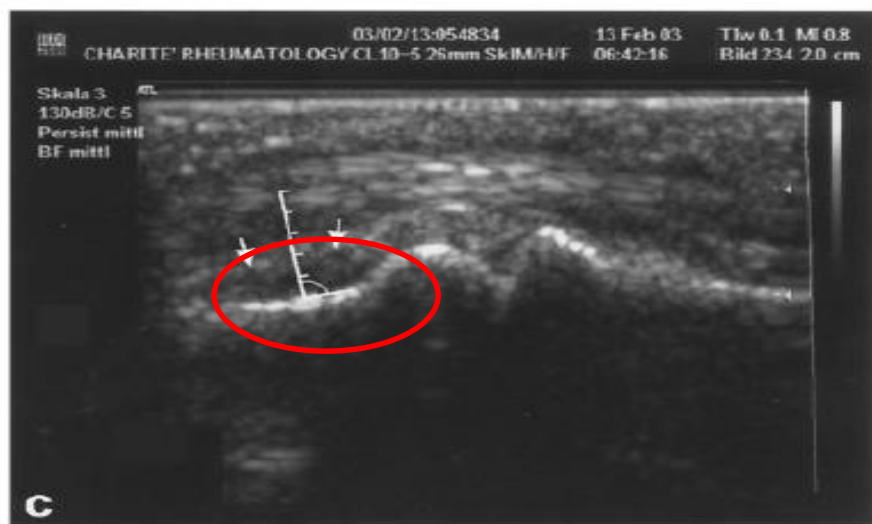
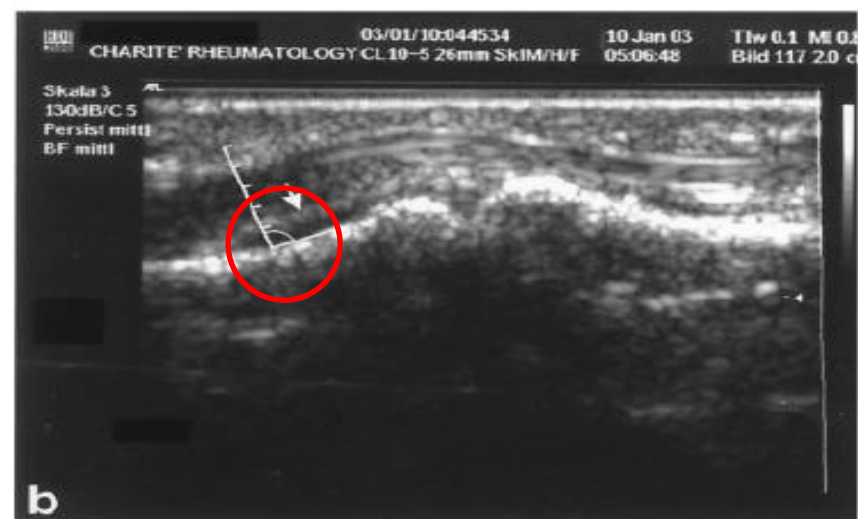
**Table 1.** Synovial intraarticular recesses and periarticular sites at each joint evaluated by power Doppler ultrasonography

Joints (bilateral)*	Synovial sites
Shoulder	Posterior recess, axillar recess, biceps tendon sheath, subdeltoid bursa
Elbow	Anterior recess, posterior recess
Wrist	Dorsal carpal recesses, volar carpal recesses, extensor tendon sheaths, flexor tendon sheaths
Knee	Suprapatellar recess, medial parapatellar recess, lateral parapatellar recess
MCP and PIP of hands	Dorsal recess, palmar recess, flexor tendon sheaths

\* MCP = metacarpophalangeal; PIP = proximal interphalangeal.

## A Novel Ultrasonographic Synovitis Scoring System Suitable for Analyzing Finger Joint Inflammation in Rheumatoid Arthritis

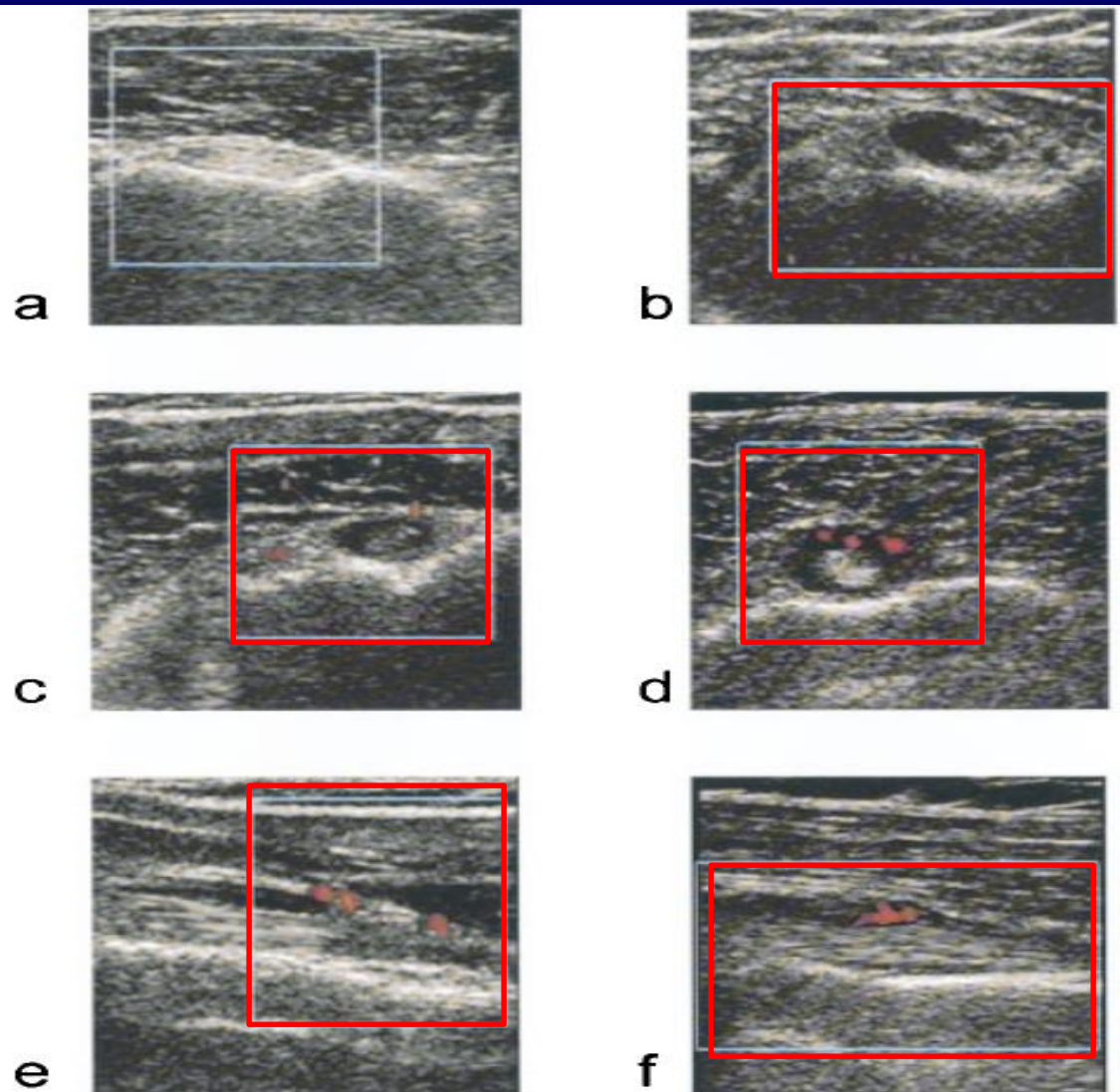
***Conclusion.*** US evaluation of finger joint synovitis can be considerably simplified by focusing on the palmar side and by applying semiquantitative grading instead of quantitative measurements. For evaluation of treatment efficacy based on synovitis in RA patients, we recommend using the “sum of 3 fingers” method in longitudinal trials.



**Figure 1.** Ultrasound images of the second proximal interphalangeal (PIP) joints of rheumatoid arthritis patients with different stages of synovitis. No erosions are visible in any of the images. Images were taken from the palmar side; the left side of the image is the proximal side of the hand and the right side the distal side. Effusion and synovitis of varying extents can be seen. Inflammation is seen mainly at the palmar proximal side of the PIP joint. All images were graded semiquantitatively with regard to the degree of inflammation, interpreted based on effusion and synovitis, as follows: 0 = none (**a**); 1 = little (**b**); 2 = moderate (**c**); and 3 = high (**d**). Measurements were performed in a standardized manner, at the proximal site perpendicular to the bone surface at the diaphysis at the point where the most synovitis was seen (on scale bars in **b–d**, hatch marks are 0.5 mm apart). **Arrows** indicate the margins of the synovitis.

Doppler Sonographic Findings in the  
Long Bicipital Tendon Sheath in Patients With  
Rheumatoid Arthritis as Compared With Patients  
With Degenerative Diseases of the Shoulder

***Conclusion.* PDS demonstrates vascularity in the long bicipital tendon sheath of patients with RA, but not in those with degenerative shoulder disorders.**

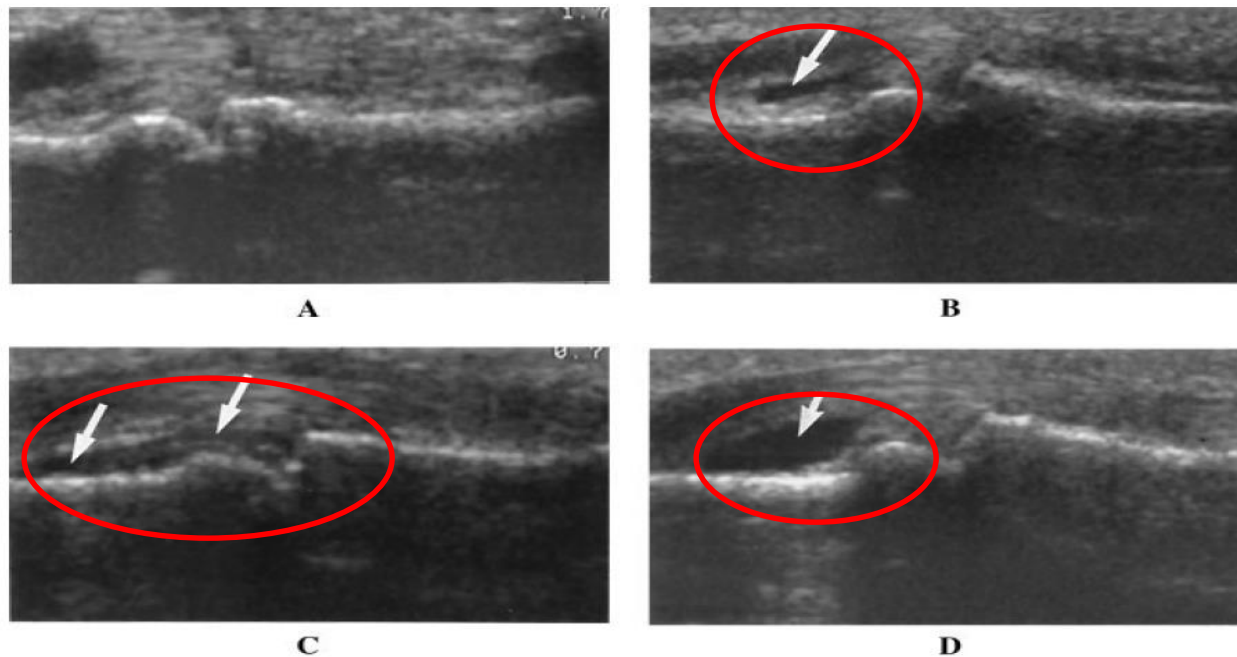


**Figure 1.** a–d, Ventral transverse and e and f, longitudinal ultrasonographic scans of the shoulder, demonstrating the long bicipital tendon with its tendon sheath. a, Tendon sheath without effusion or power Doppler signal (PDS). b, Tendon sheath with marked effusion, without PDS. c and e, Effusion inside the tendon sheath, and PDS outside. d and f, Effusion and PDS inside the tendon sheath.

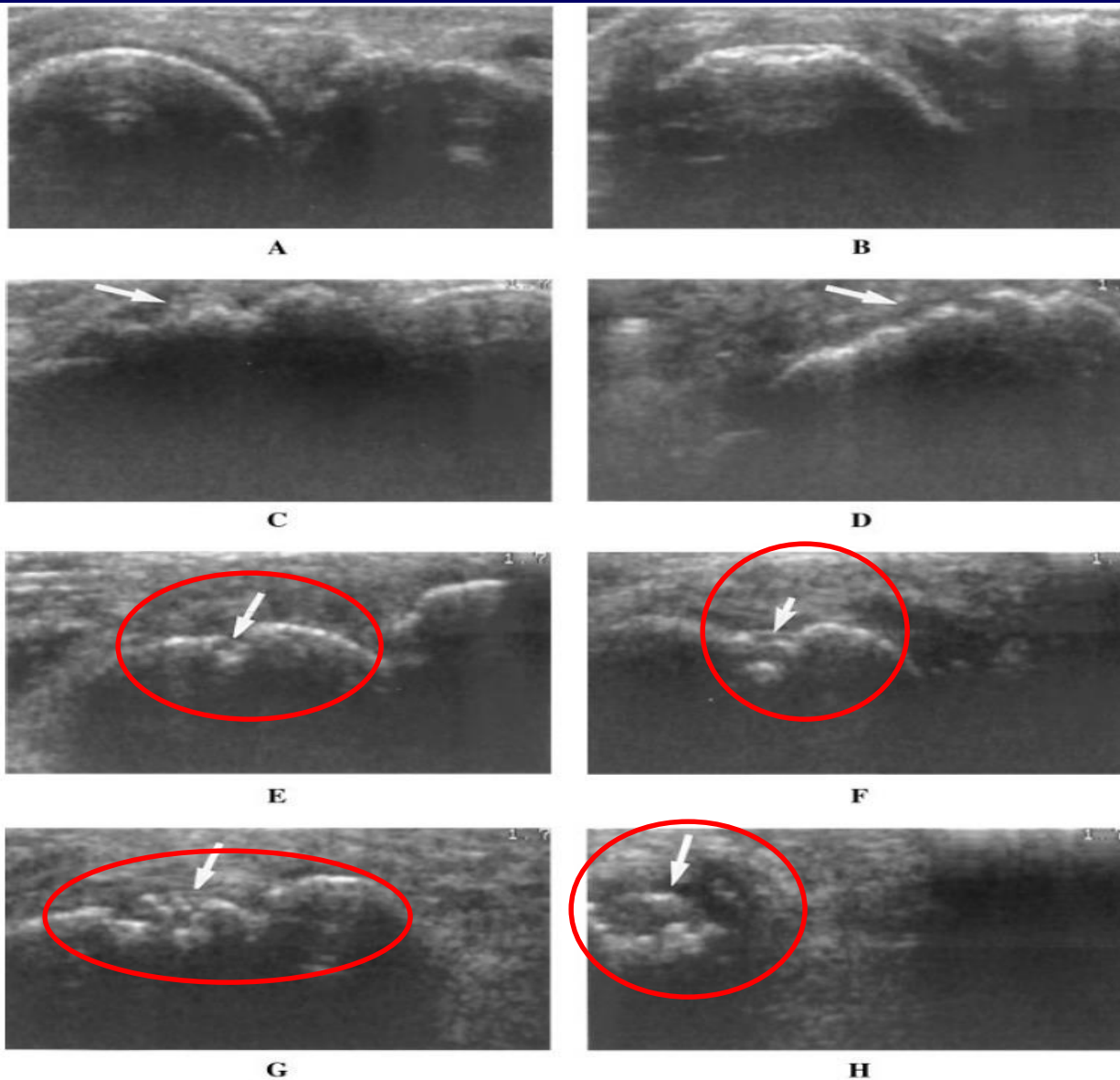
## Interobserver Agreement in Ultrasonography of the Finger and Toe Joints in Rheumatoid Arthritis

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**Figure 1.** Joint effusion on ultrasonography. **A**, Grade 0 = no fluid; **B**, grade 1 = minimal amount of fluid (arrow); **C**, grade 2 = moderate amount of fluid (without distension of the joint capsule) (arrows); **D**, grade 3 = extensive amount of fluid (with distension of the joint capsule) (arrow).

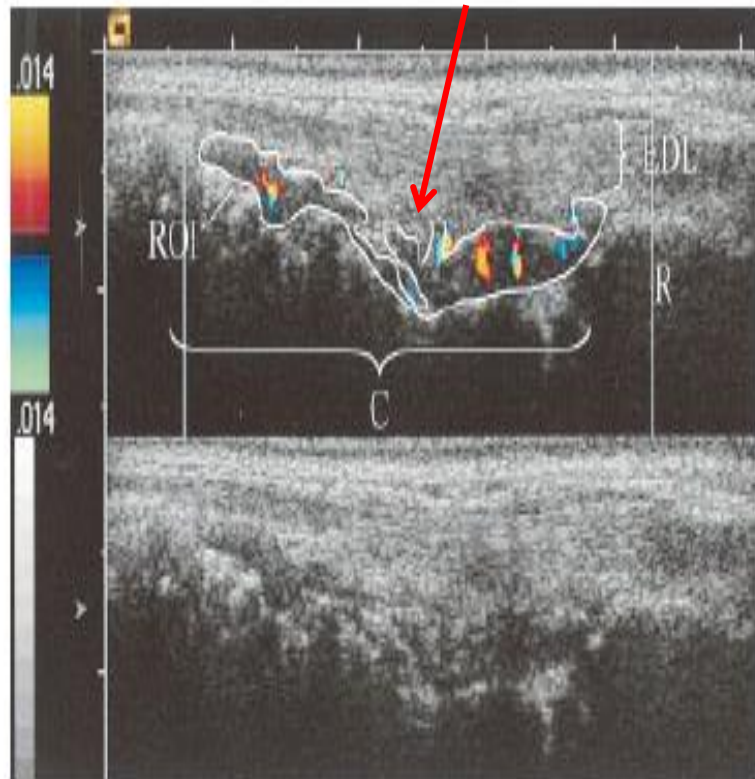


**Figure 3.** Bone changes scored with ultrasonography, with each joint visualized in 2 planes (longitudinal and transverse). A and B, Grade 0 = regular bone surface; C and D, grade 1 = irregularity of the bone surface without formation of a defect seen in 2 planes (arrow); E and F, grade 2 = formation of a defect in the surface of the bone seen in 2 planes (arrow); G and H, grade 3 = bone defect creating extensive bone destruction (arrow).

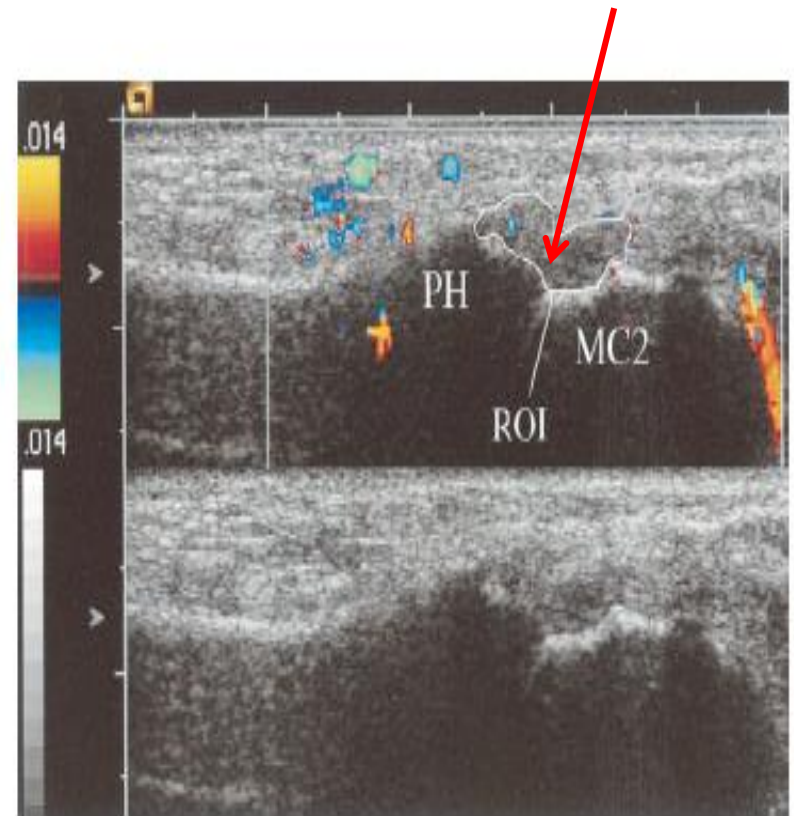
# Doppler Ultrasound and Magnetic Resonance Imaging of Synovial Inflammation of the Hand in Rheumatoid Arthritis

## A Comparative Study

***Conclusion.* Estimates of synovial inflammatory activity by Doppler US and postcontrast MRI were comparable. Estimation of synovial inflammatory activity by the RI and color fraction parameters of US appears to be a promising method of detecting and monitoring inflammatory activity in patients with RA.**



**Figure 1.** Appearance of inflammation in the wrist on color Doppler ultrasound. Longitudinal scan in the middle of the right wrist. **Top**, Color Doppler activity in the synovium (the region of interest [ROI], which is outlined), covering the eroded carpal bones (C), indicating the presence of inflammation. The surface of the radius (R) and the extensor digitorum longus (EDL) tendon are indicated on the right. **Bottom**, Corresponding gray-scale image from which the color Doppler information has been removed.



**Figure 4.** Appearance of inflammation in the metacarpophalangeal (MCP) joint on color Doppler ultrasound. Longitudinal scan in the frontal plane on the radial side of the right second MCP joint. **Top**, Color Doppler activity in the synovium (i.e., the region of interest [ROI], which is outlined). The single minute spot of color indicates the presence of inflammation. The head of the metacarpal bone (MC2) and the base of the proximal phalanx (PH) are indicated. **Bottom**, Corresponding gray-scale image from which the color Doppler information has been removed.

# What this talk is about

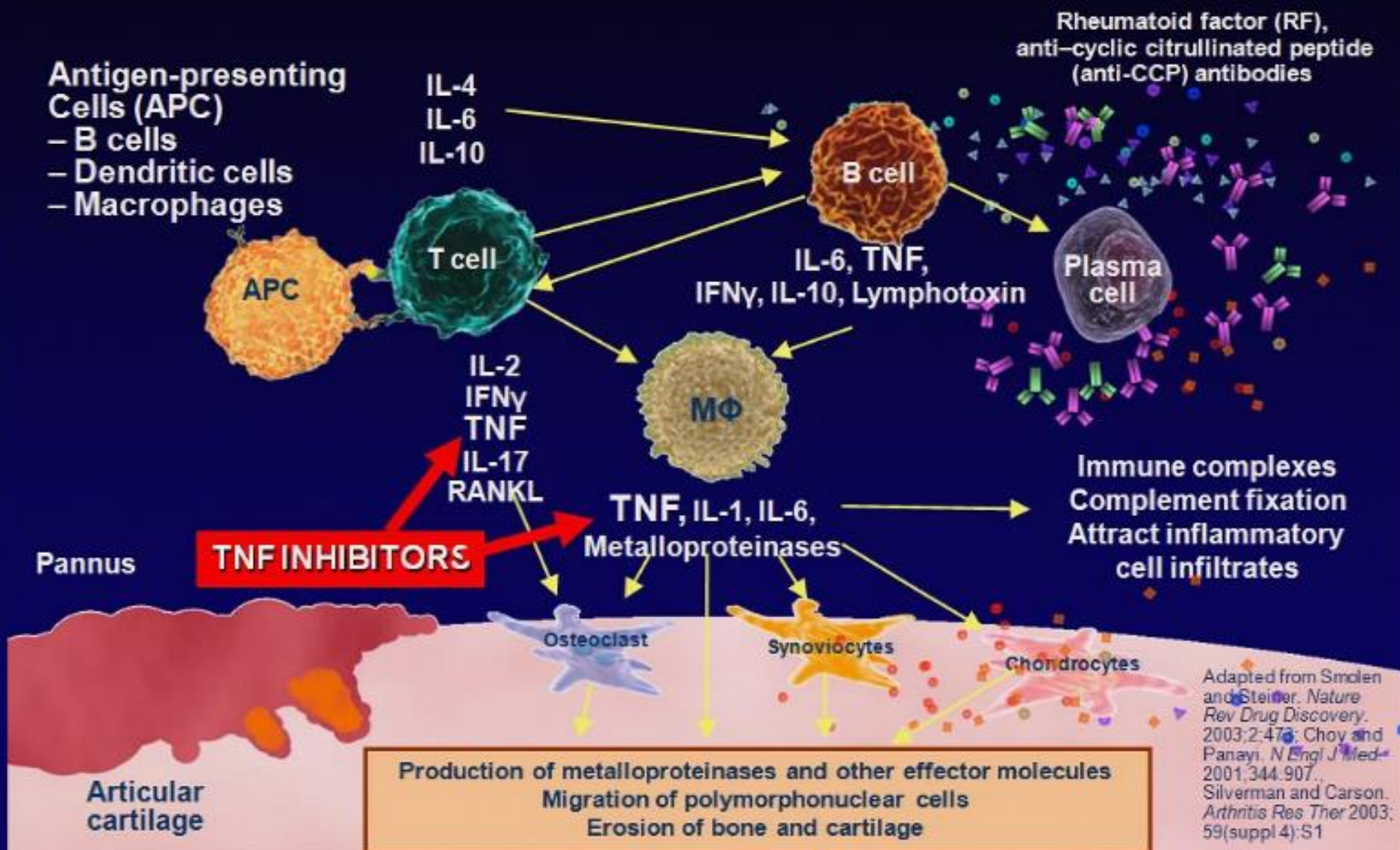
- Clinical and radiological remission : is it Reality or Fiction?

# Introduction to Biologic Therapy

## Achieve goals of treatment

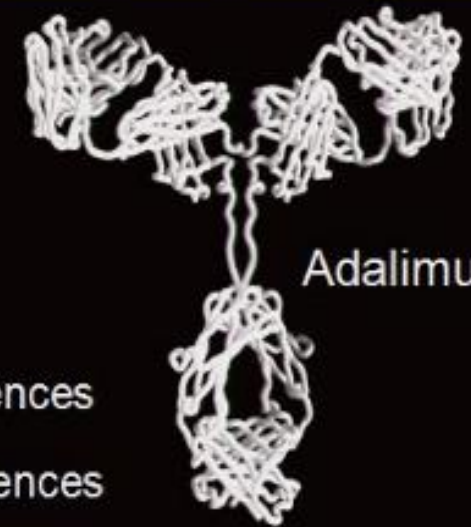
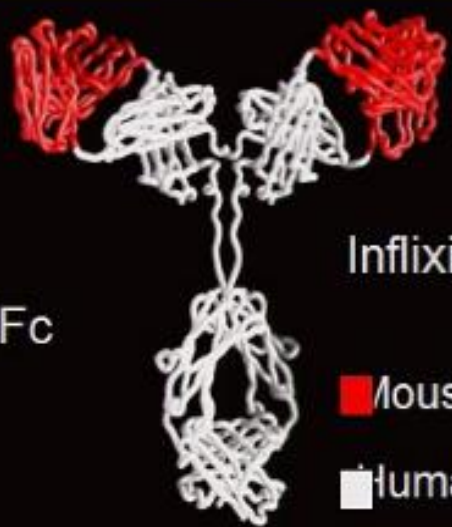
- Individualize treatment options
- Initiate treatment early
- Induction and maintenance of remission
- Use biologic as steroid and DMARD sparing agents
- Plan ahead for failure and withdrawal of therapy

# Targets of Therapy in RA

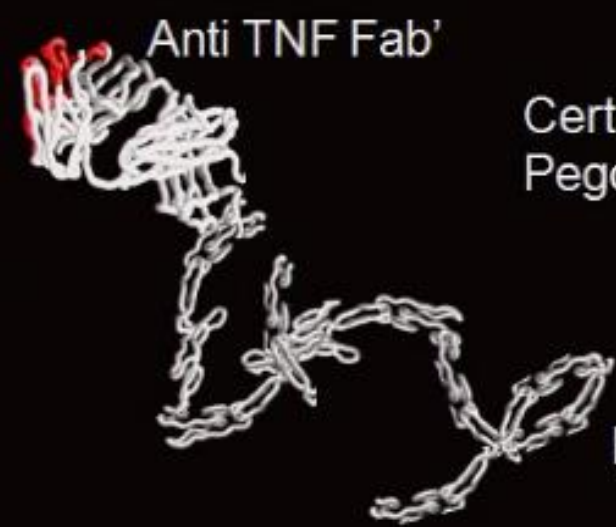


Adapted from Smolen and Steiner. *Nature Rev Drug Discovery*. 2003;2:473; Choy and Panayi. *N Engl J Med*. 2001;344:907; Silverman and Carson. *Arthritis Res Ther* 2003; 59(suppl 4):S1

# Inhibitors of TNF



■ mouse sequences  
■ human sequences



Certolizumab  
Pegol

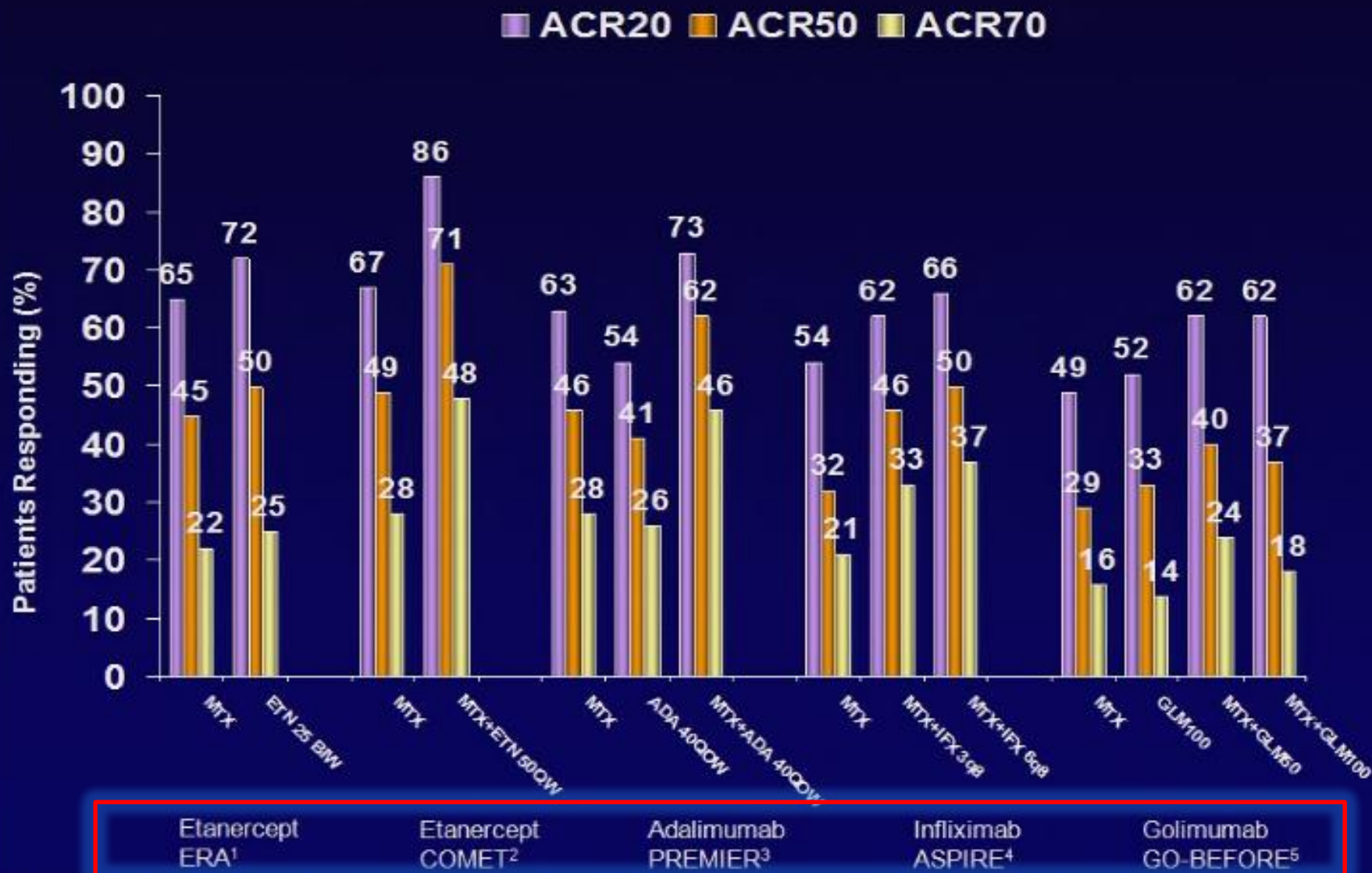
PEG

# Characteristics of TNF Antagonists

Drug	Construct	Half-Life	Administration/ Dosing	Mechanism of Action
Adalimumab	Human monoclonal anti-TNF antibody	2 weeks	SC 40 mg every 2 wk (or every wk)	Binds soluble and cell bound TNF
Certolizumab pegol	Humanized, pegylated anti-TNF Fab' antibody	≈ 14 days	SC 400 mg, 0, 2, & 4 wk, then 200 mg q 2 wk or 400 mg q 4 wk	Binds to soluble and cell bound TNF
Etanercept	Soluble human p75 TNF receptor: Fc construct	102 ± 30 hrs	SC 50 mg q wk	Binds to soluble TNF; binds LT-α
Golimumab	Human monoclonal anti-TNF antibody	≈ 2 wk	SC 50 mg q month	Binds to soluble and cell bound TNF
Infliximab	Chimeric anti-TNF antibody	7.7 – 9.5 days	IV 3 mg/kg, 0, 2, 6 wk, then q 8 wk (including to 10 mg/kg up to every 6 wk)	Binds to soluble and cell bound TNF

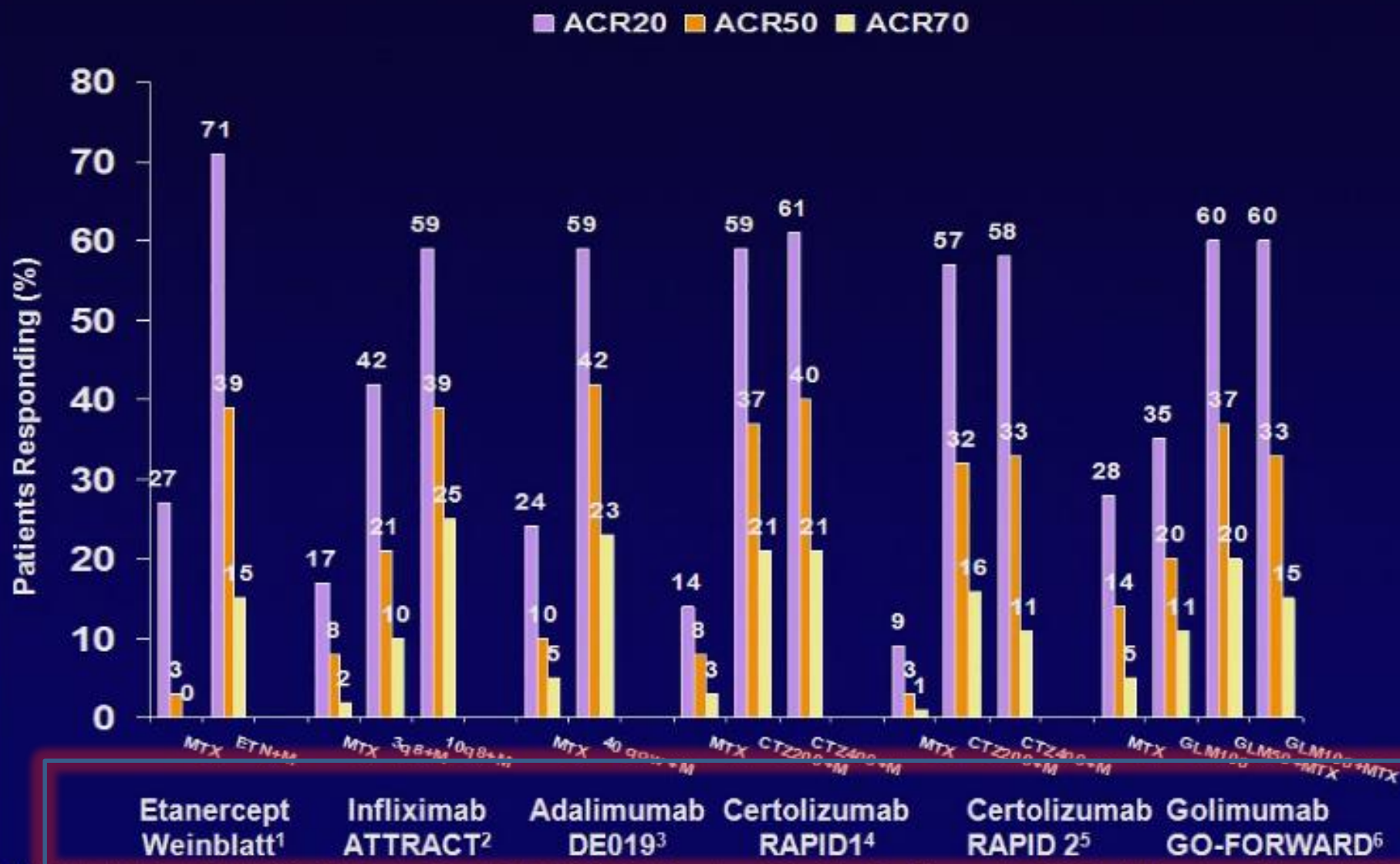
Source: Prescribing information for these agents.

# TNF Antagonists in Early RA



1. Bathon JM et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2000;343:1586-1593. 2. Emery P et al. *Lancet.* 2008;372:375-382. 3. Breedveld FC, et al. *Arthritis Rheum.* 2006;54:26-37. 4. St Clair EW et al. *Arthritis Rheum.* 2004;50:3432-3443. 5. Emery P et al. *Arthritis Rheum.* 2009;60:2272-2283.

# TNF Antagonists Added to MTX: IRs



1. Weinblatt ME. *NEJM* 1999; 2. Lipsky PE. *NEJM* 2000; 3. Keystone EC. *Clin Exp Rheumatol* 2003; 4. Keystone EC. *Arthritis Rheum* 2008; 5. Smolen JS. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2009. 6. Keystone E *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2009.

# The Effectiveness of Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy in Preventing Progressive Radiographic Joint Damage in Rheumatoid Arthritis

A Population-Based Study

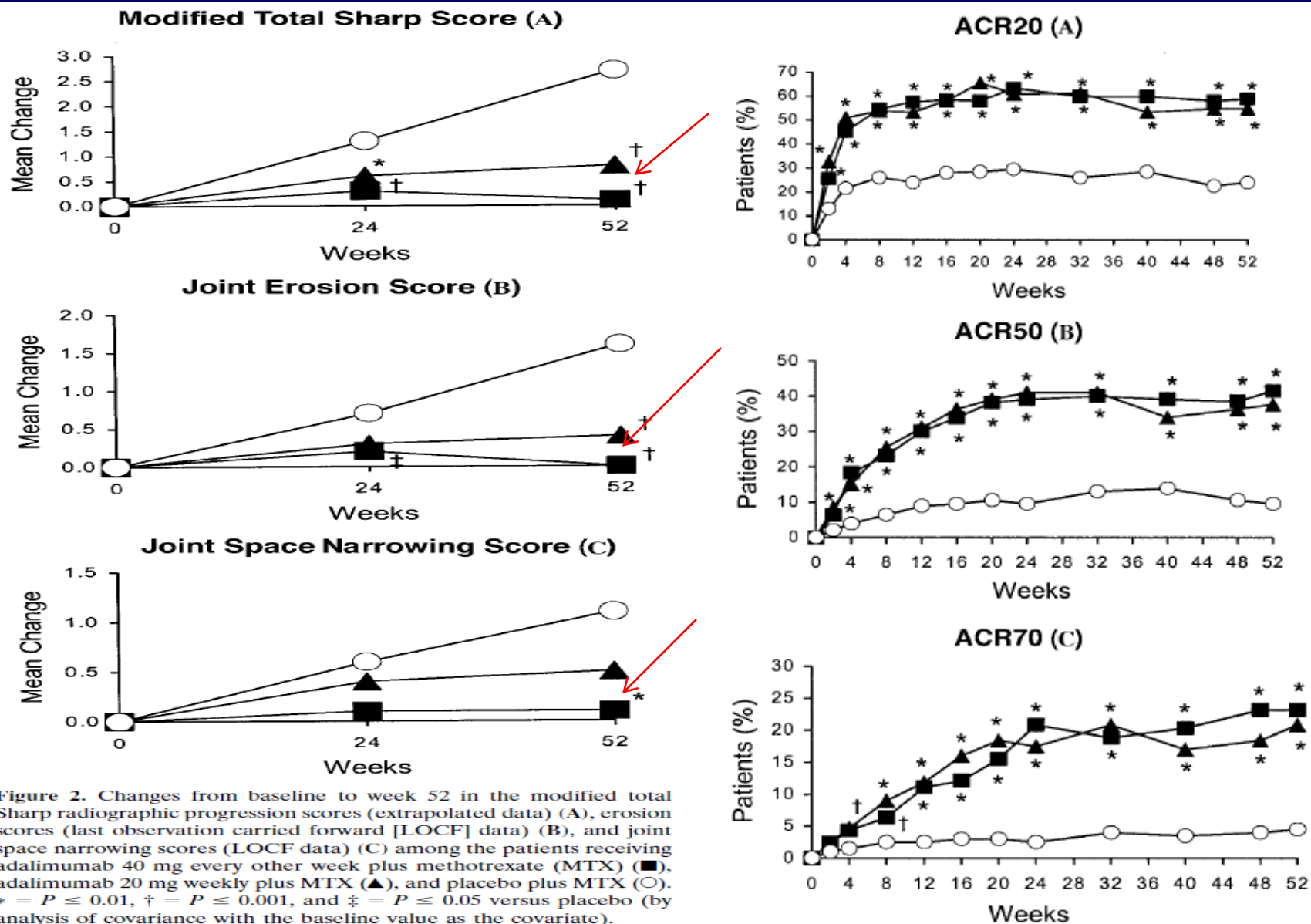
***Conclusion.* When combined with traditional DMARDs, both etanercept and infliximab appear to offer similar protection against progressive structural joint damage, and combination therapy with either of these agents appears to be more effective than treatment with etanercept alone.**

# Radiographic, Clinical, and Functional Outcomes of Treatment With Adalimumab (a Human Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Monoclonal Antibody) in Patients With Active Rheumatoid Arthritis Receiving Concomitant Methotrexate Therapy

A Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, 52-Week Trial

***Conclusion.* In this 52-week trial, adalimumab was more effective than placebo at inhibiting the progression of structural joint damage, reducing the signs and symptoms, and improving physical function in patients with active RA who had demonstrated an incomplete response to MTX.**

# Optimizing the dosage



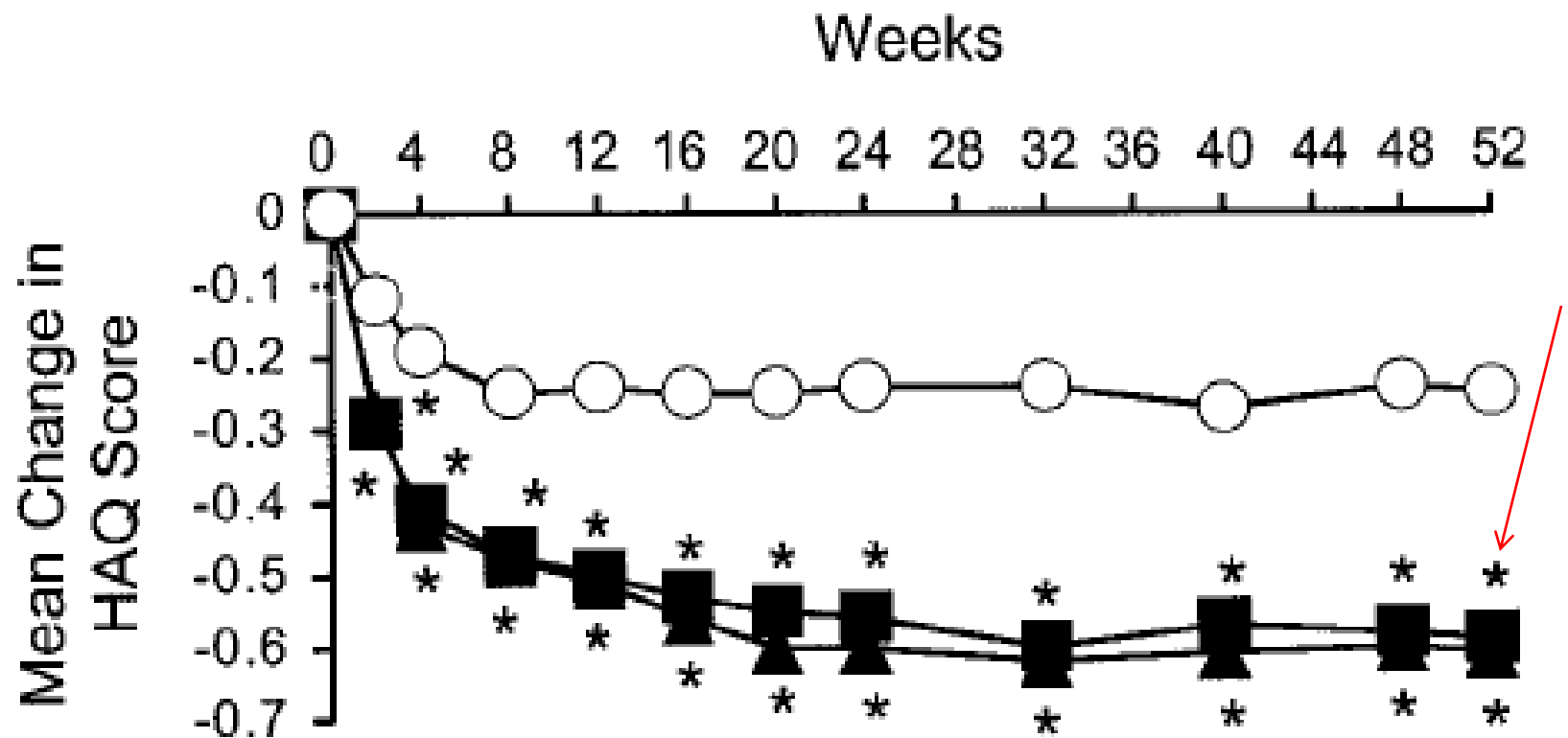
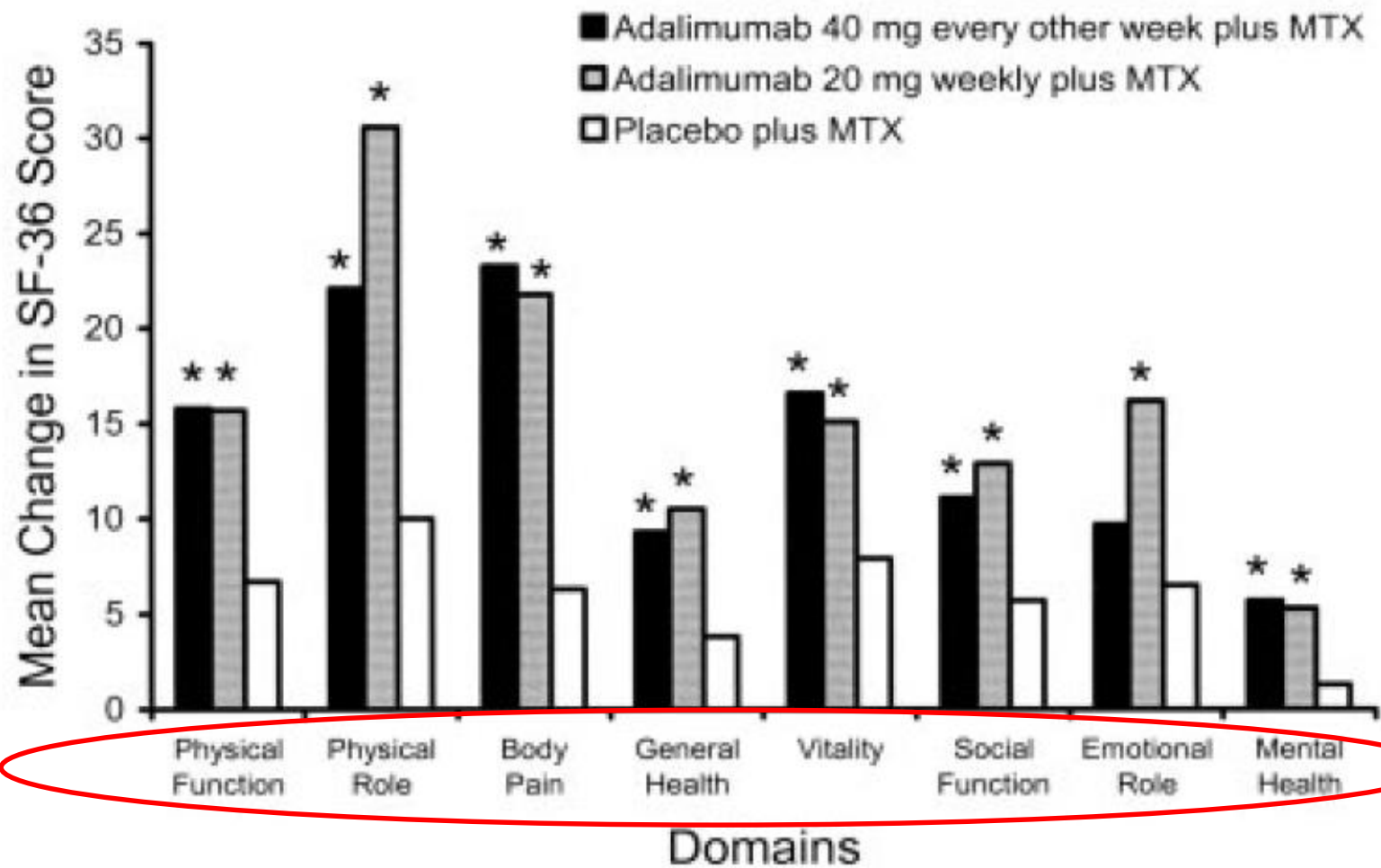


Figure 4. Changes in the Health Assessment Questionnaire (HAQ) scores (last observation carried forward data) among the patients receiving adalimumab 40 mg every other week plus methotrexate (MTX) (■), adalimumab 20 mg weekly plus MTX (▲), and placebo plus MTX (○). \* =  $P \leq 0.001$  versus placebo (by analysis of covariance with the baseline value as the covariate).



**Figure 5.** Changes in the Medical Outcomes Study Short Form 36-item health survey (SF-36) scores (last observation carried forward data). \* =  $P \leq 0.05$  versus placebo (by analysis of covariance with the baseline value as the covariate). MTX = methotrexate.



## Very Early Treatment With Infliximab in Addition to Methotrexate in Early, Poor-Prognosis Rheumatoid Arthritis Reduces Magnetic Resonance Imaging Evidence of Synovitis and Damage, With Sustained Benefit After Infliximab Withdrawal

Results From a Twelve-Month Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial

Table 1. Baseline demographics of the treatment groups\*

	Infliximab plus MTX (n = 10)	Placebo plus MTX (n = 10)
Age, mean $\pm$ SD years	51.3 $\pm$ 9.5	53.1 $\pm$ 13.7
Symptom duration, mean $\pm$ SD months	7.4 $\pm$ 4.6	6 $\pm$ 3.7
RF positive, %	70	60
CRP, mean $\pm$ SD mg/liter	47 $\pm$ 27.9	37 $\pm$ 38.8
HAQ score, median (IQR)	1.3 (0.875)	1.3 (0.97)

\* MTX = methotrexate; RF = rheumatoid factor; CRP = C-reactive protein; HAQ = Health Assessment Questionnaire; IQR = interquartile range.

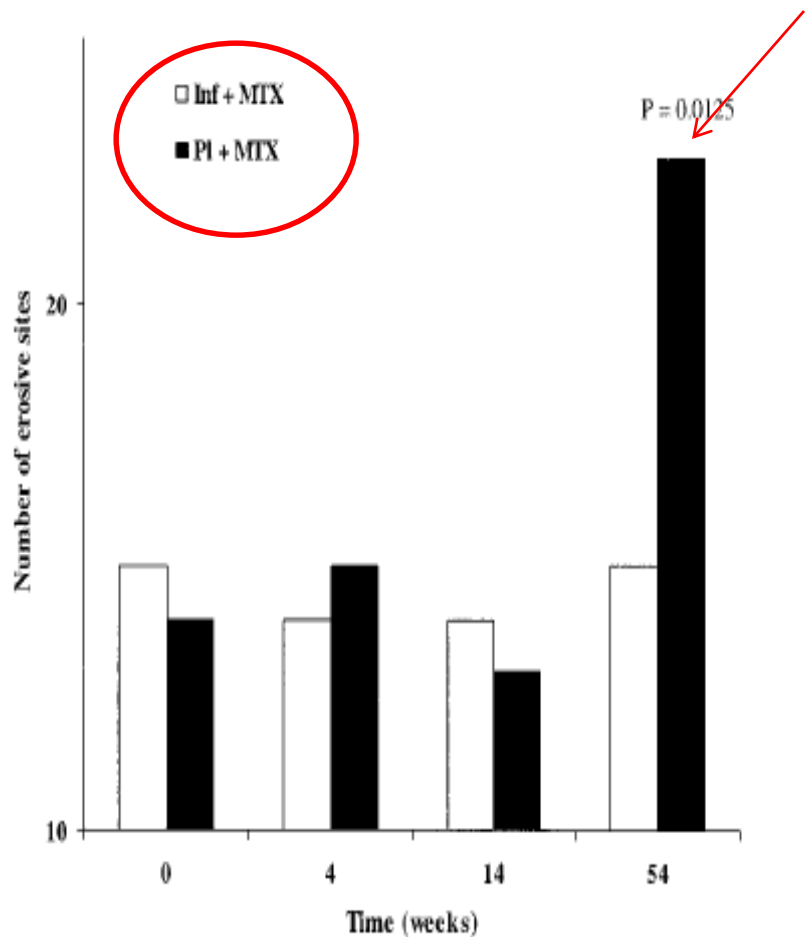


Figure 1. Comparison of metacarpophalangeal joint erosions identified by magnetic resonance imaging in the infliximab (Inf) plus methotrexate (MTX) group and the placebo (Pl) plus MTX group from baseline to week 54.

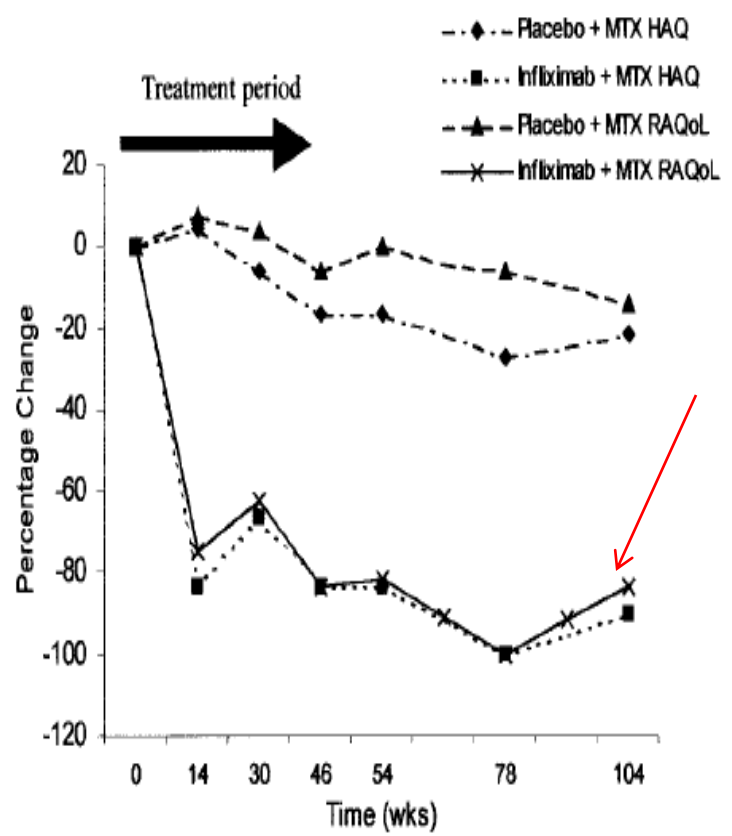


Figure 4. Percentage change in the median functional (by Health Assessment Questionnaire [HAQ]) and quality of life (by the Rheumatoid Arthritis Quality of Life [RAQoL] questionnaire) scores over time in the infliximab (Inf) plus methotrexate (MTX) group and the placebo (Pl) plus MTX group.

## EARLY TREATMENT WITH INFLIXIMAB IN POOR-PROGNOSIS RA

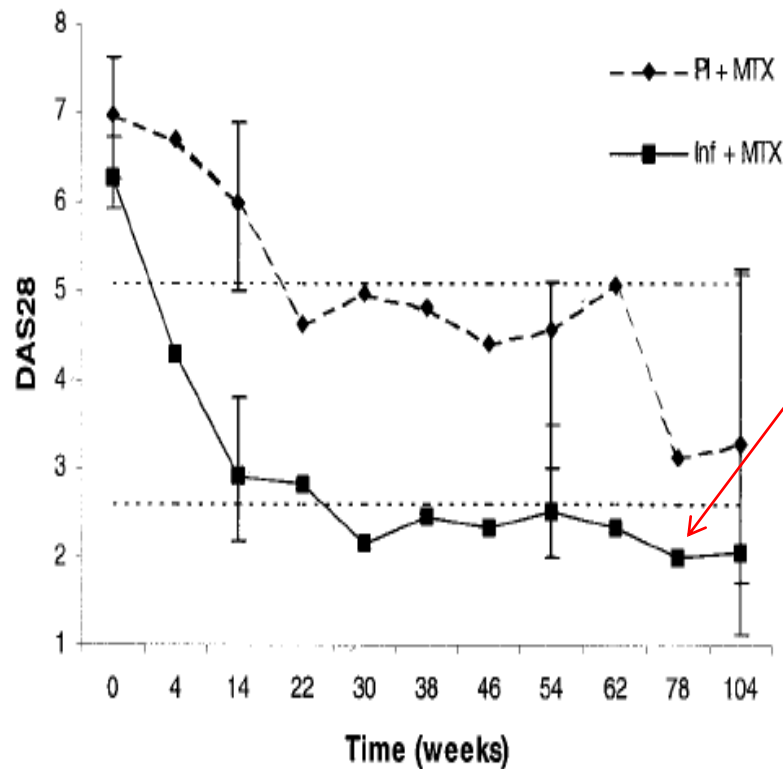


Figure 2. Changes in the Disease Activity Score in 28 joints (DAS28) over time in the infliximab (Inf) plus methotrexate (MTX) group and the placebo (PI) plus MTX group. Values are the median and interquartile range.

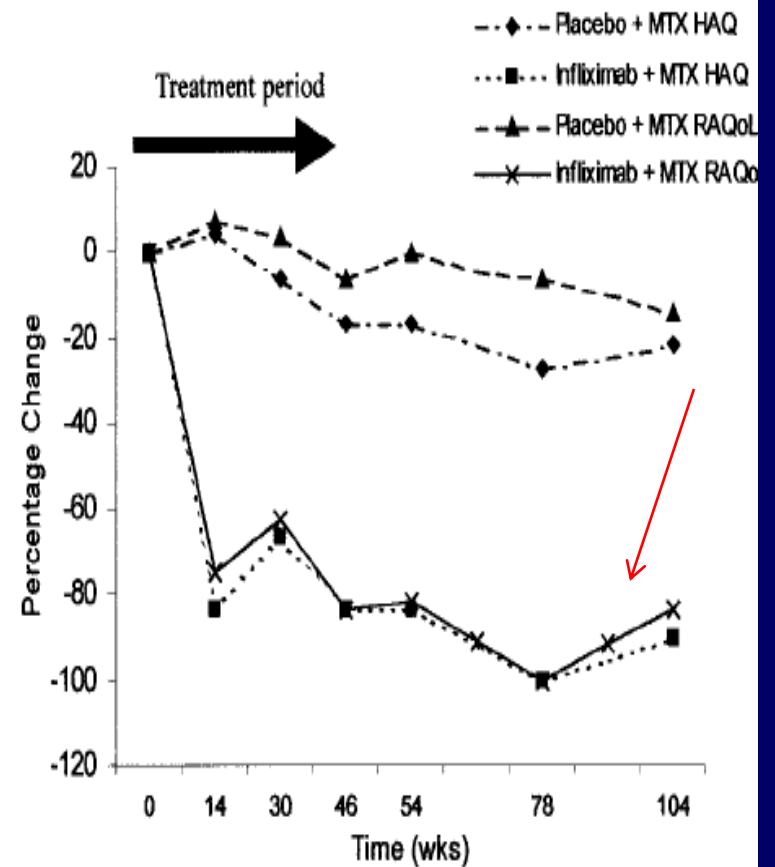


Figure 4. Percentage change in the median functional (by Health Assessment Questionnaire [HAQ]) and quality of life (by the Rheumatoid Arthritis Quality of Life [RAQoL] questionnaire) scores over time in the infliximab (Inf) plus methotrexate (MTX) group and the placebo (PI) plus MTX group.

# Maintenance of remission

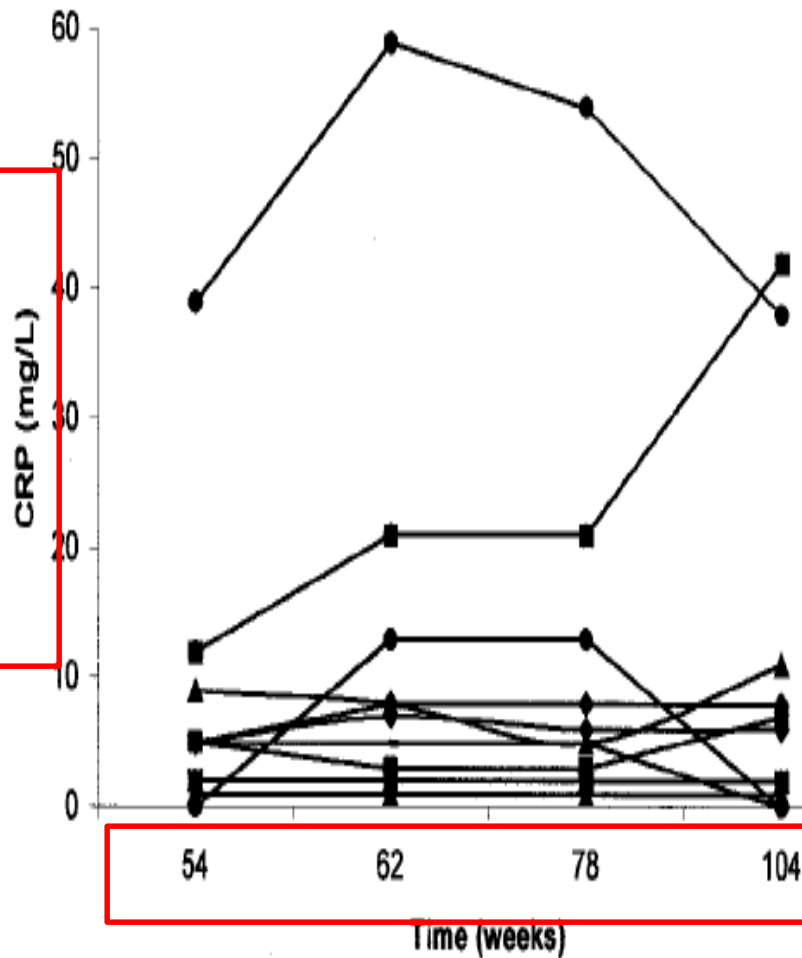


Figure 5. Levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) in individual patients treated with infliximab plus methotrexate after withdrawal of infliximab at 54 weeks.

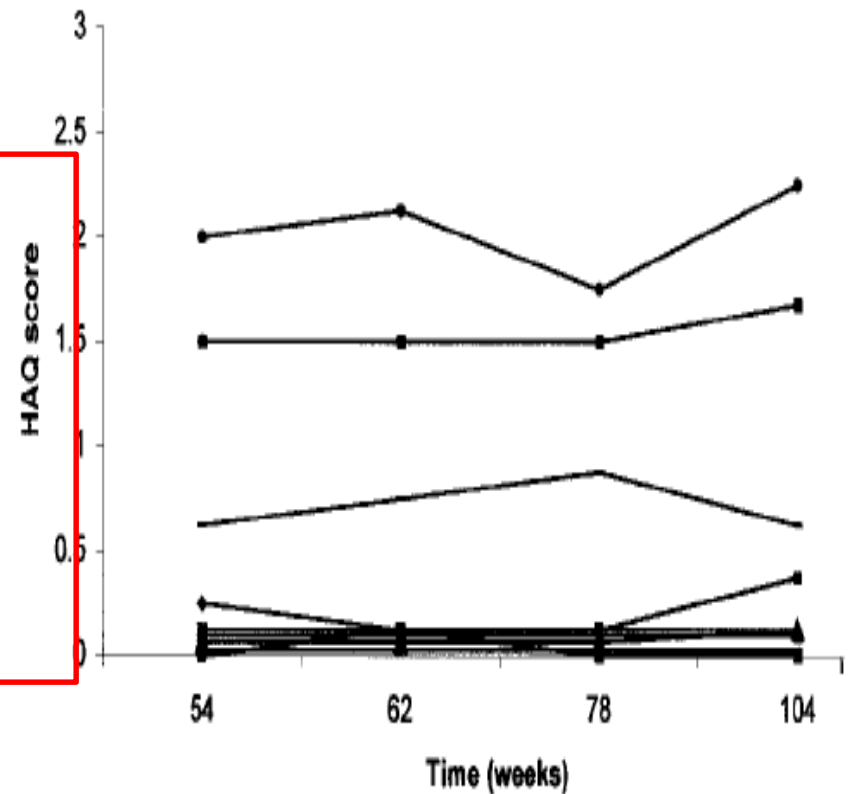


Figure 7. Health Assessment Questionnaire (HAQ) scores in individual patients treated with infliximab plus methotrexate after withdrawal of infliximab at 54 weeks.

# Introduction of Ultrasound

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM  
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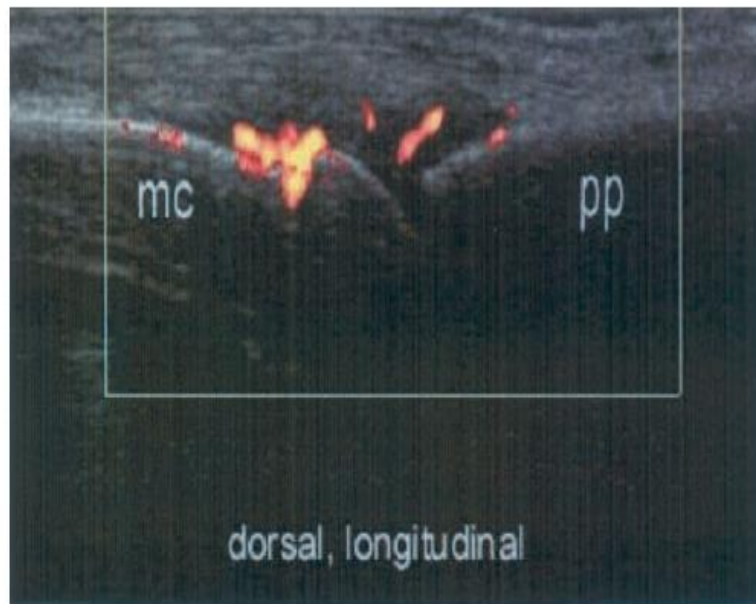
## Power Doppler Ultrasonographic Monitoring of Response to Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy in Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis

***Conclusion.* These findings indicate that PDUS is a valid method for monitoring response to anti-TNF therapy in RA; results obtained by PDUS are reproducible and sensitive to change. PDUS findings may have predictive value in relation to radiologic outcome.**

# Detecting Neovascularization

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NAREDO ET AL



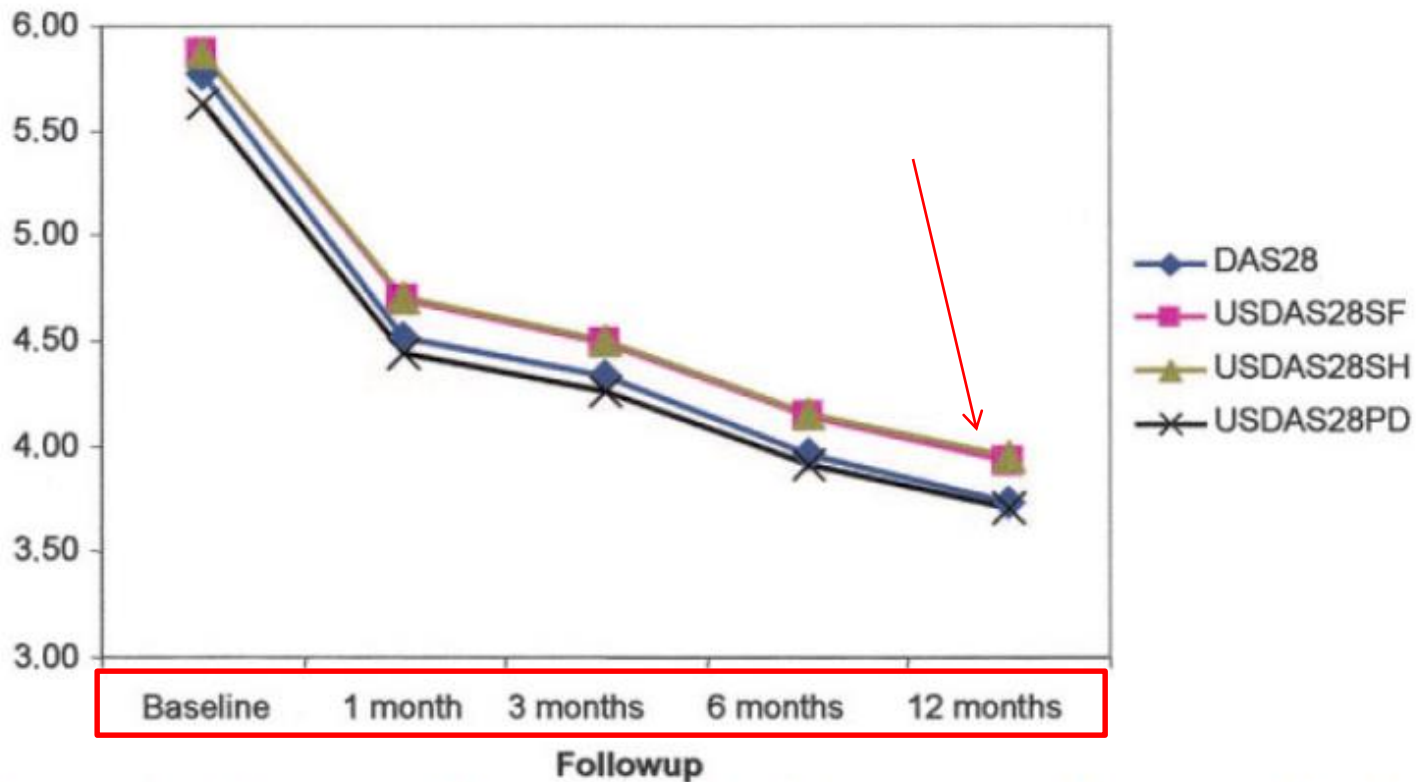
A



B

**Figure 2.** Ultrasound (US) images of a metacarpophalangeal joint obtained at baseline (A) and after 1 month of anti-tumor necrosis factor therapy (B). US performed before the initiation of therapy showed moderate synovial fluid, synovial hypertrophy, and synovial power Doppler signal, whereas after 1 month of therapy the joint appeared normal, with resolution of the earlier pathologic findings. mc = metacarpal bone; pp = proximal phalanx.

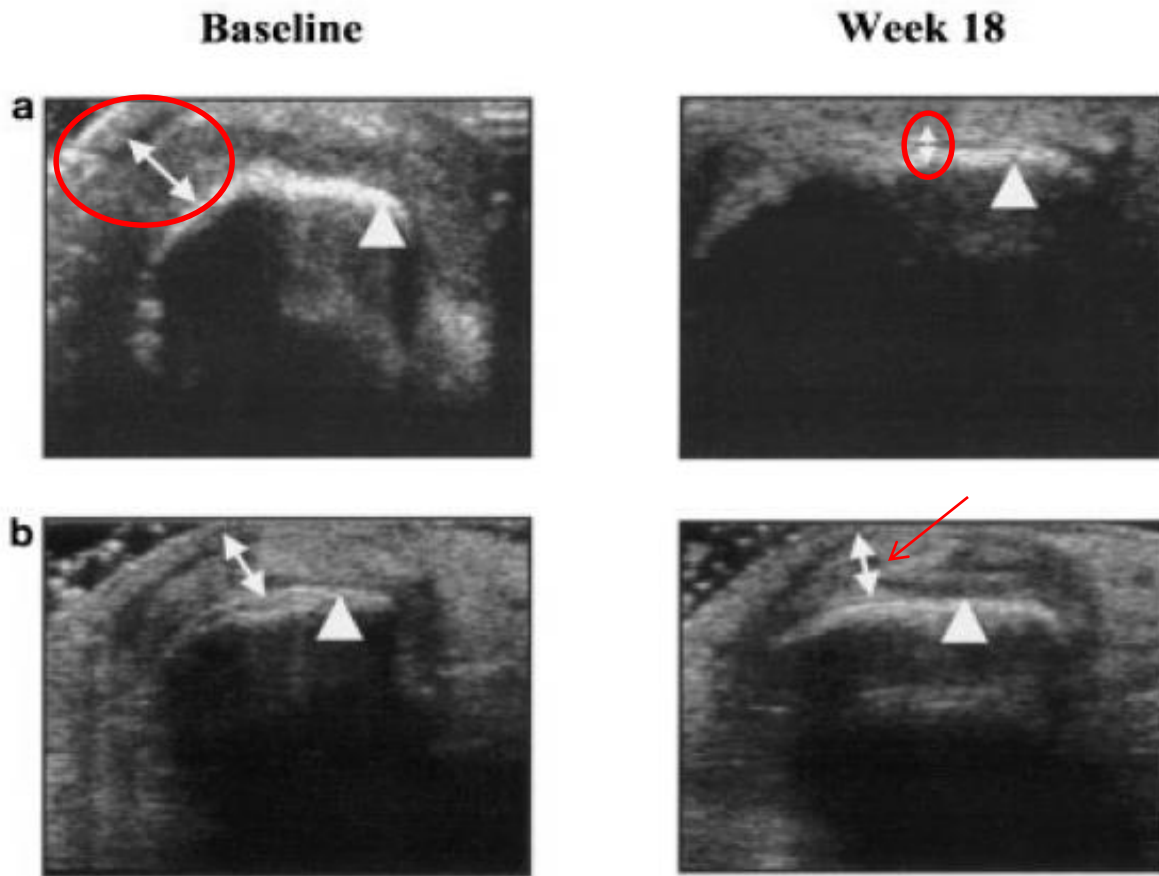
Mean value



**Figure 1.** Changes in the Disease Activity Score in 28 joints (DAS28) and the modified ultrasonographic DAS28 with synovial fluid, synovial hypertrophy, and power Doppler signal (USDAS28 SF, USDAS28 SH, and USDAS28 PD, respectively) throughout the followup period, in 278 rheumatoid arthritis patients receiving anti-tumor necrosis factor therapy.

## Comparison of Ultrasonographic Assessment of Synovitis and Joint Vascularity With Radiographic Evaluation in a Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Study of Infliximab Therapy in Early Rheumatoid Arthritis

***Conclusion.* The delay or reversal of inflammatory and joint-destructive mechanisms in patients with early RA was already apparent following 18 weeks of treatment with infliximab + MTX and was reflected in radiologic changes at 54 weeks.**



**Figure 2.** High-frequency ultrasound images of the second metacarpophalangeal joint in the transverse plane, depicting examples of **a**, good and **b**, poor responders with respect to changes in synovial thickening. Synovium is represented by an anechoic or a hypoechoic region over the dorsum of the joint (double-headed arrows). Arrowheads indicate the metacarpal head.

# What this talk is about

- What if anti TNF therapy fails

# Identify non responders

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**Table 1.** Clinical characteristics at baseline and after 2 years of followup\*

	Responders (n = 67)	Patients requiring continued infliximab treatment (n = 23)	Patients in whom treatment failed (n = 30)	Overall <i>P</i>
DAS, mean ± SD				
Baseline	4.1 ± 0.7	4.3 ± 1	4.6 ± 0.9	0.04†
2 years	1.4 ± 0.6	2.2 ± 0.8	2.7 ± 0.8	<0.01‡
HAQ, mean ± SD				
Baseline	1.3 ± 0.7	1.2 ± 0.5	1.7 ± 0.6	<0.01§
2 years	0.3 ± 0.4	0.5 ± 0.5	0.9 ± 0.6	<0.01§
SHS, mean ± SD				
Baseline	6.9 ± 10.6	5.4 ± 5.6	7.8 ± 11.3	0.89
2 years	8.3 ± 11.2	7.9 ± 9.4	12.7 ± 14.6	0.29
SHS, median (IQR)				
Baseline	3.8 (1–7.1)	3.0 (1.5–7)	4.0 (0.9–10.6)	0.89
2 years	4.5 (1.5–11)	4.3 (0.8–13.1)	6.0 (2–24.5)	0.29
Change in SHS, mean ± SD	1.5 ± 3.4	2.9 ± 4.8	5.0 ± 6	0.01†
Change in SHS, median (IQR)	0.5 (0–2)	1.5 (0–4.4)	2.5 (0–7)	0.01†
% of patients with SHS greater than or equal to the SDC after 2-year followup	9.4	20	37	<0.01†

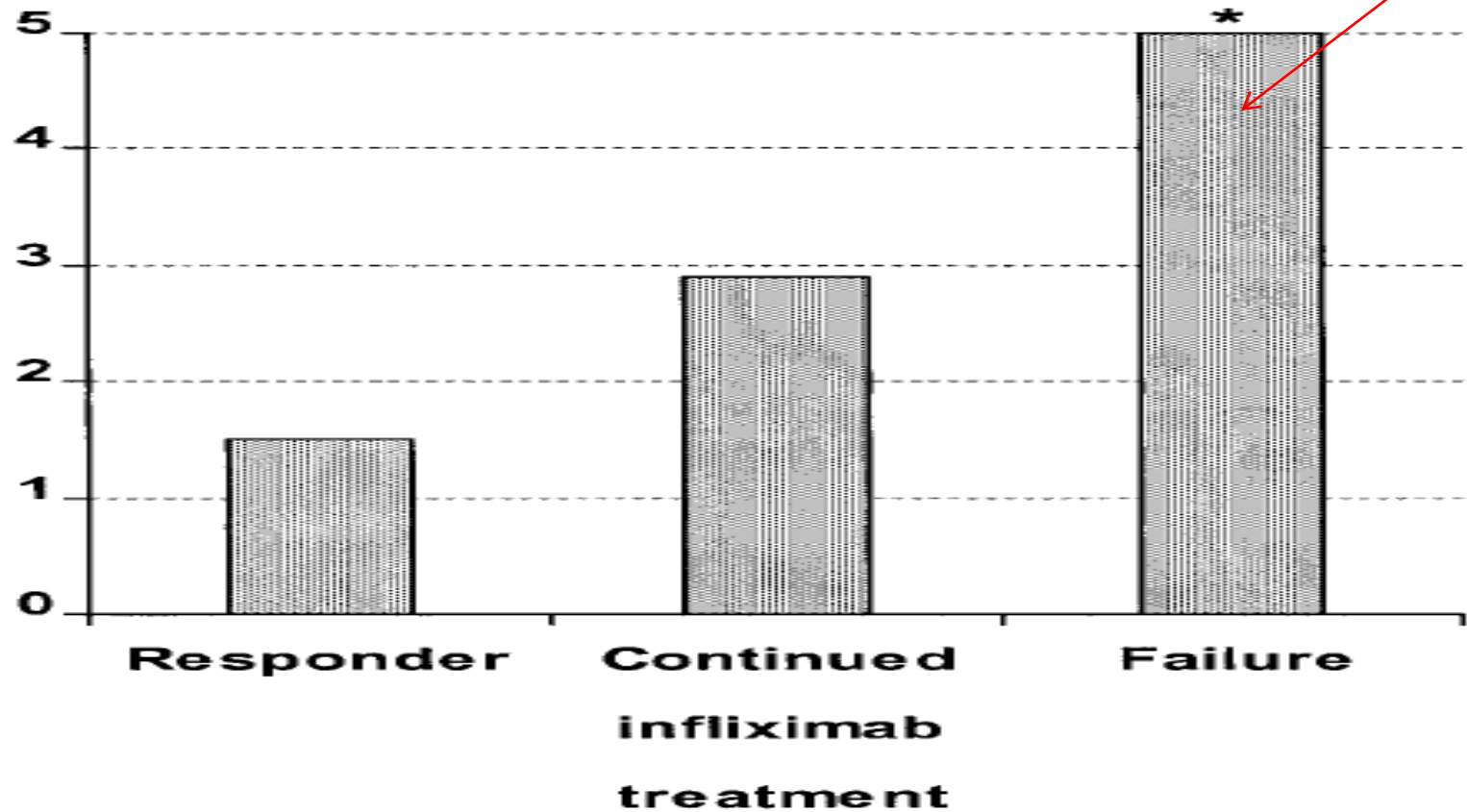
\* DAS = Disease Activity Score; HAQ = Health Assessment Questionnaire; SHS = modified Sharp/van der Heijde score; IQR = interquartile range; SDC = smallest detectable change.

† = *P* = 0.01, responders versus patients in whom treatment failed, by Mann-Whitney U test.

‡ = *P* < 0.01, responders versus continued infliximab treatment group and versus patients in whom treatment failed, by Mann-Whitney U test.

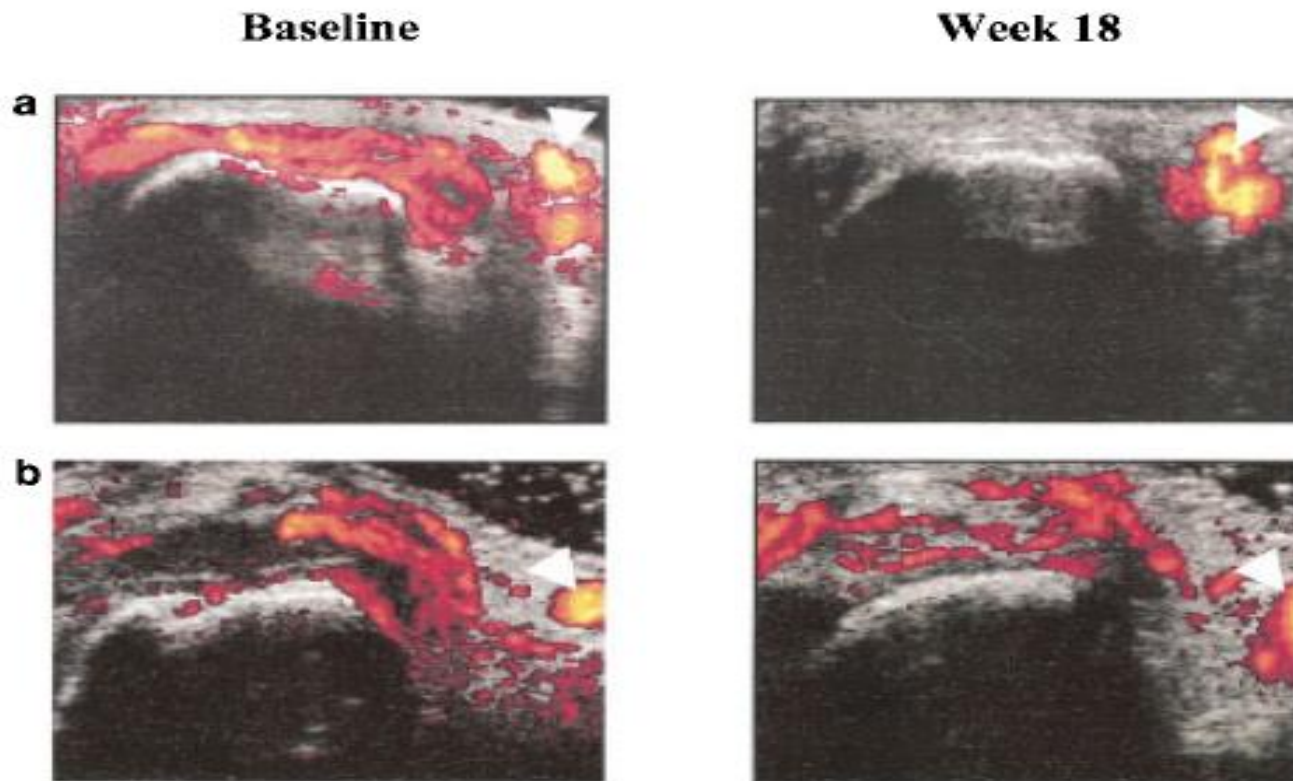
§ = *P* < 0.01, patients in whom treatment failed versus continued infliximab treatment group and versus responders, by one-way analysis of variance.

# Joint damage even with anti TNF



**Figure 2.** Mean change in the modified Sharp/van der Heijde score after 2 years of followup, showing greater progression of joint damage in the patients whose rheumatoid arthritis failed to respond to infliximab compared with those who were responders. \* =  $P < 0.01$  versus responders.

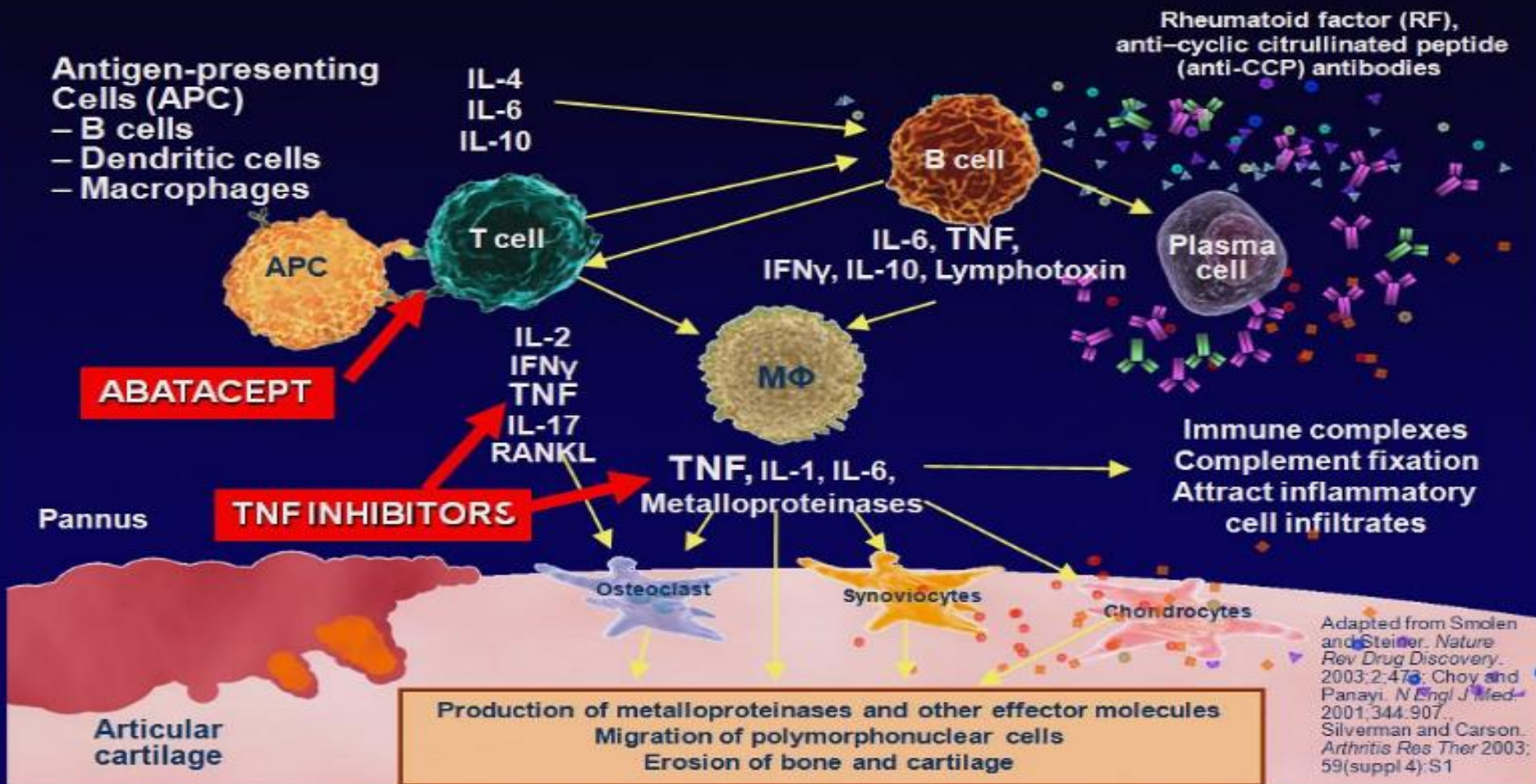
# Sonographic Doppler flow in non responder



**Figure 3.** Power Doppler images of the second metacarpophalangeal joint in the transverse plane, depicting examples of **a**, good and **b**, poor responders with respect to changes in the color Doppler area. The strong vascular signal (arrowheads) represents a digital vessel.

# Options for Anti TNF failures

## Targets of Therapy in RA



# Other Biologic Agents

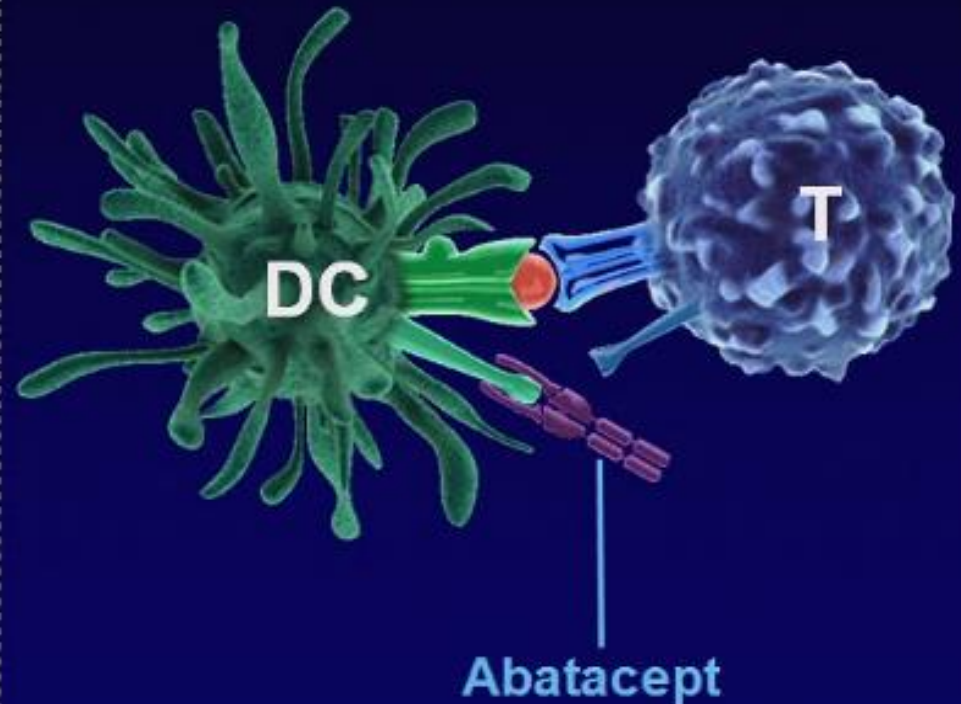
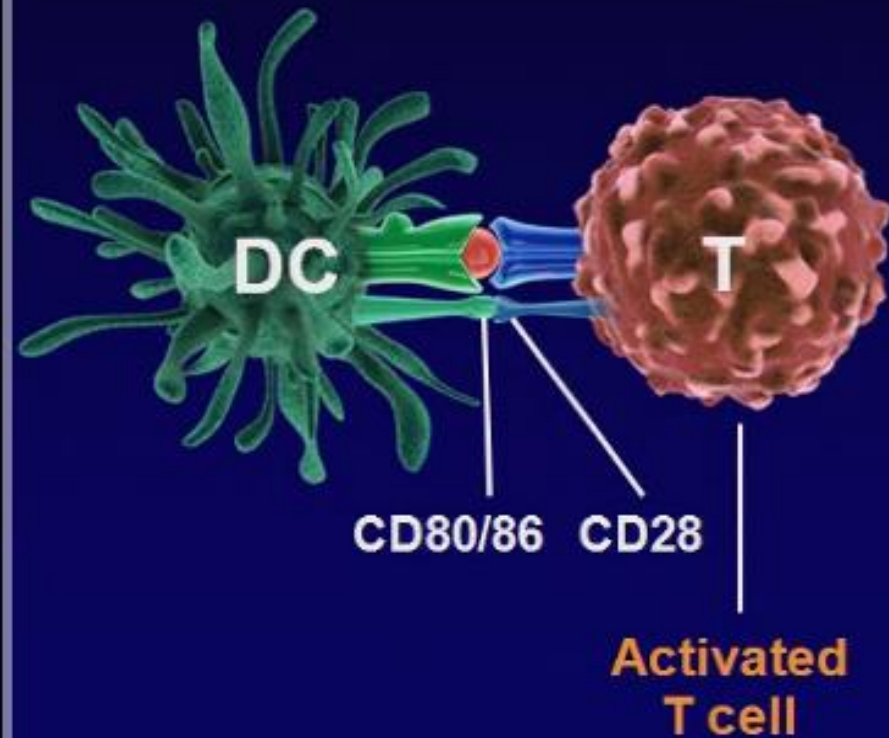
Drug	Construct	Target	Administration	Dosing Frequency
Abatacept	Soluble receptor: Fc	T cell costimulation (CD80/86-CD28)	IV	0, 2, 4 wk then q 4wk
Rituximab	Chimeric monoclonal antibody	B cells (CD20)	IV	0 and 2 wk then q 6 mo or prn
Tocilizumab	Humanized monoclonal antibody	IL-6 receptor	IV	q 4 wk
Anakinra	Receptor antagonist	IL-1 receptor	SC	Daily

Source: Prescribing information for these agents.

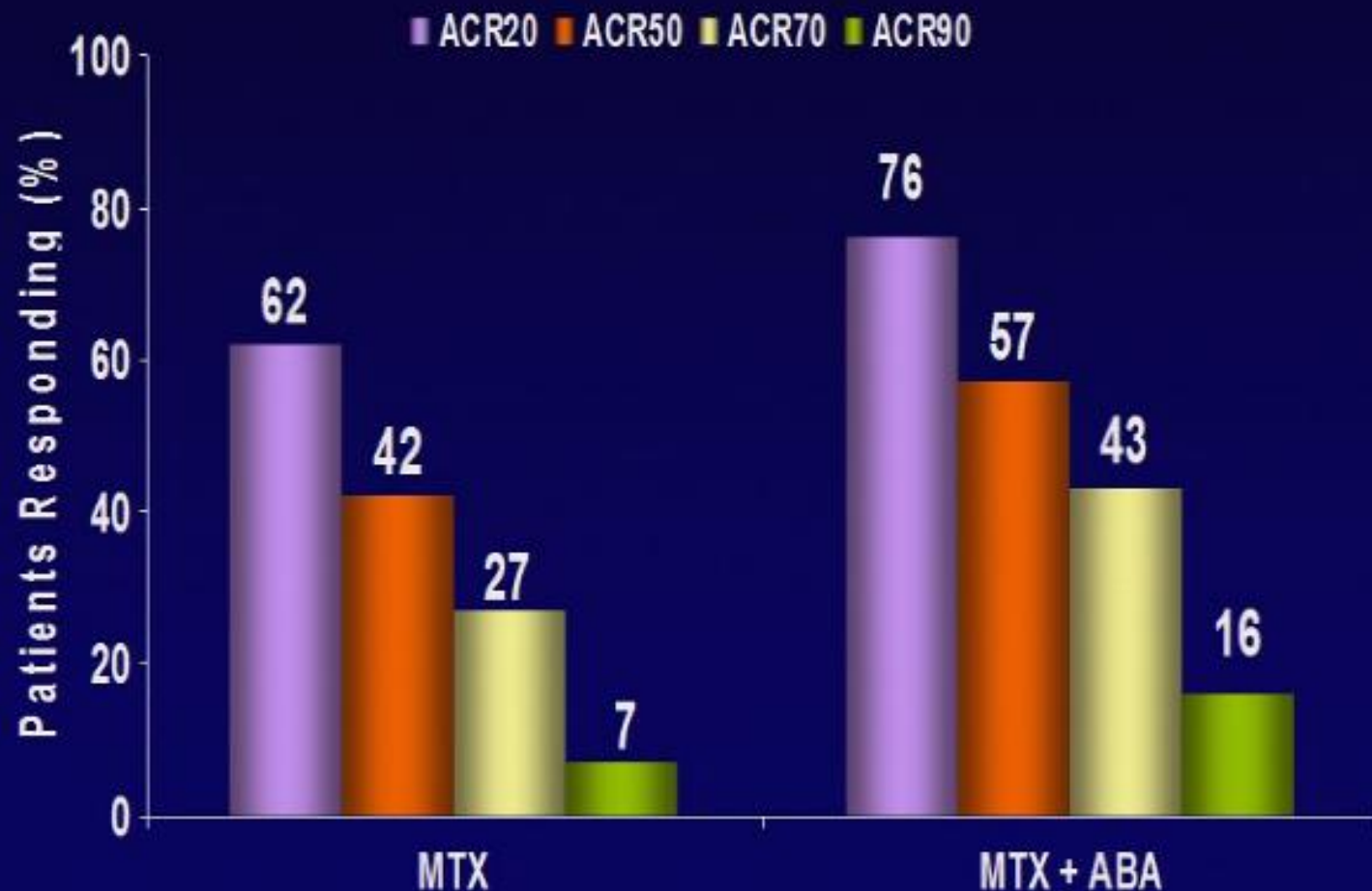
# Mechanism of Action of Abatacept Inhibiting T-Cell Co-stimulation

Without Abatacept

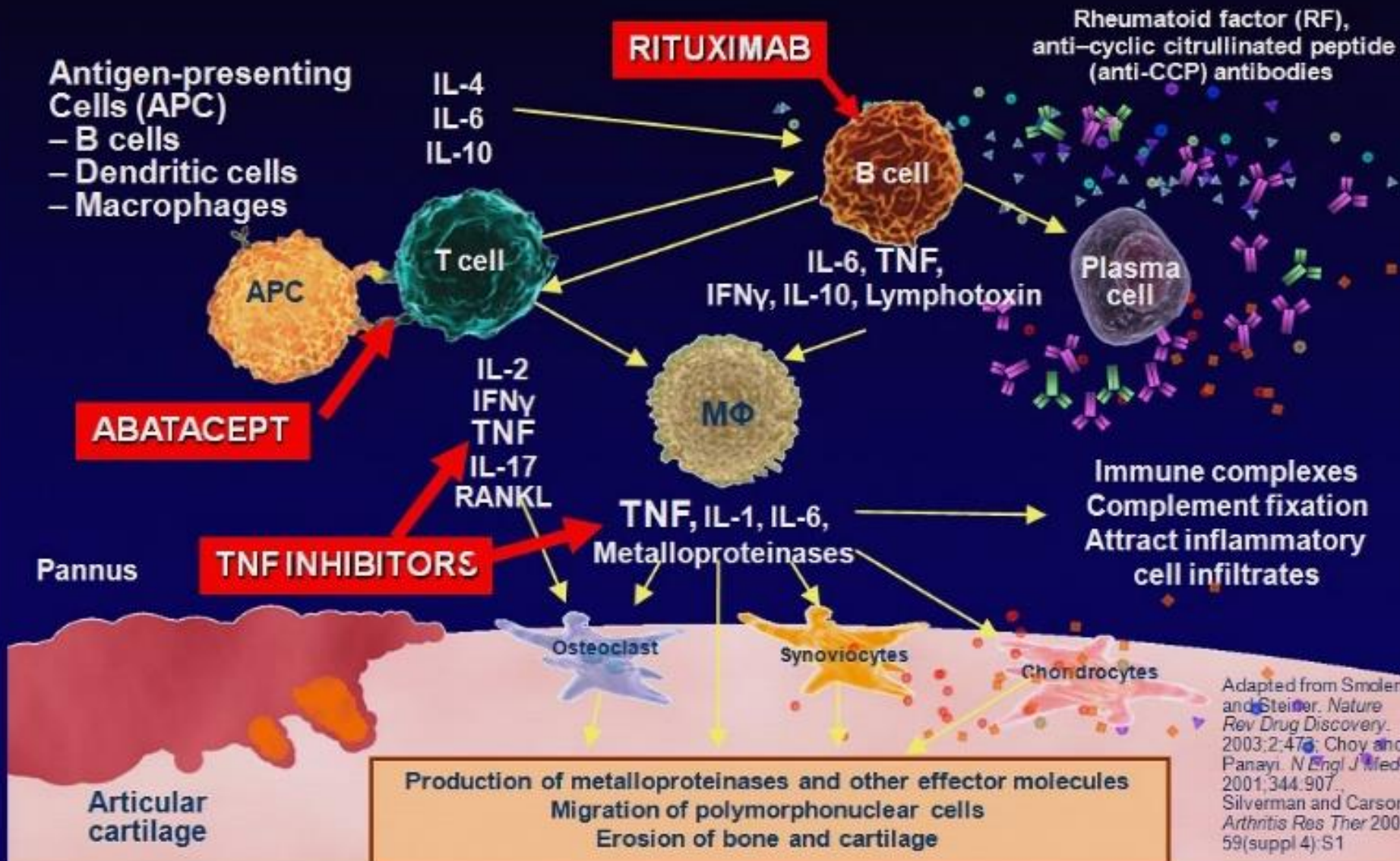
With Abatacept



# Costimulatory Blockade: Abatacept in Early RA (AGREE)

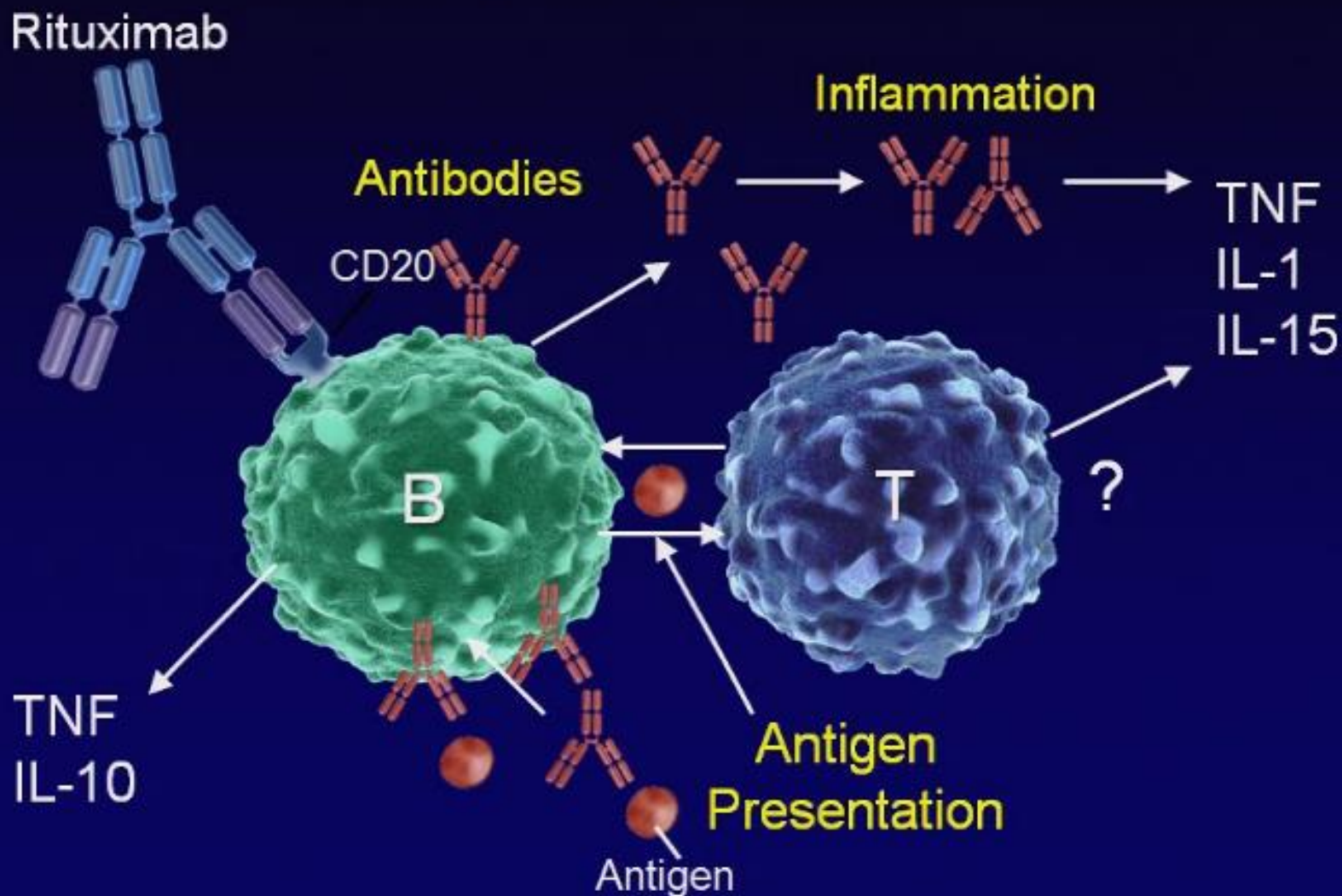


# Targets of Therapy in RA

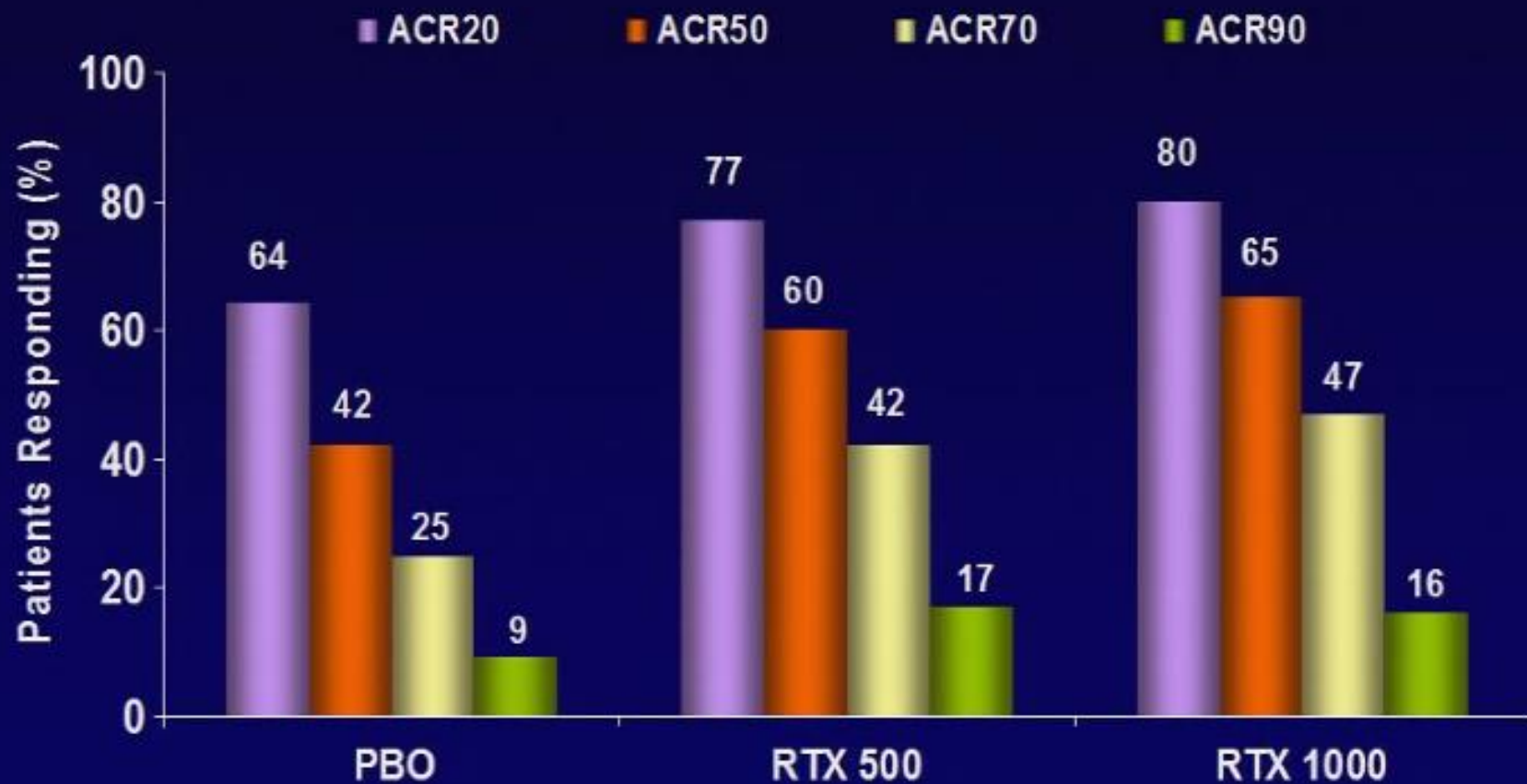


Adapted from Smolen and Steiner, *Nature Rev Drug Discovery*. 2003;2:473; Choy and Panayi, *N Engl J Med*. 2001;344:907; Silverman and Carson, *Arthritis Res Ther* 2003; 59(suppl 4): S1

# Mechanism of Action of Rituximab Targeting B Cells



# B Cell Inhibition: Rituximab in Early RA (IMAGE)

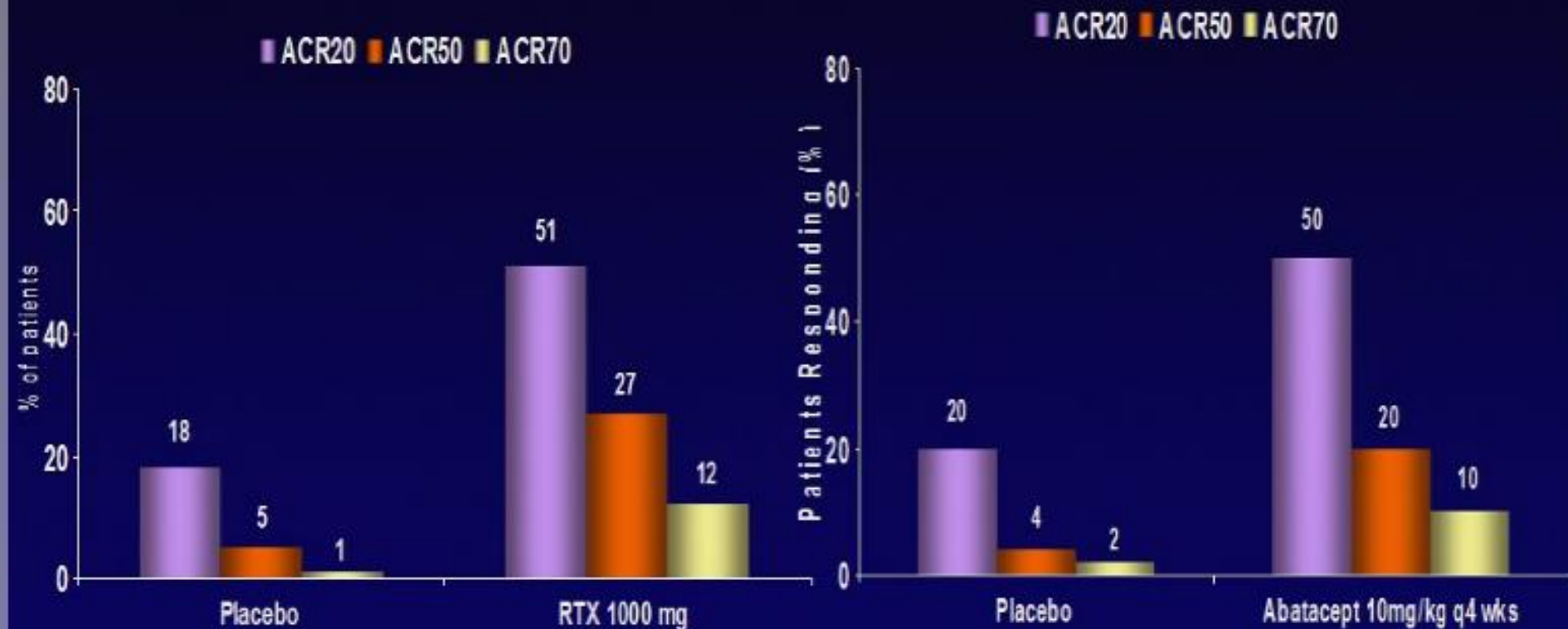


# TNF Antagonist IRs:

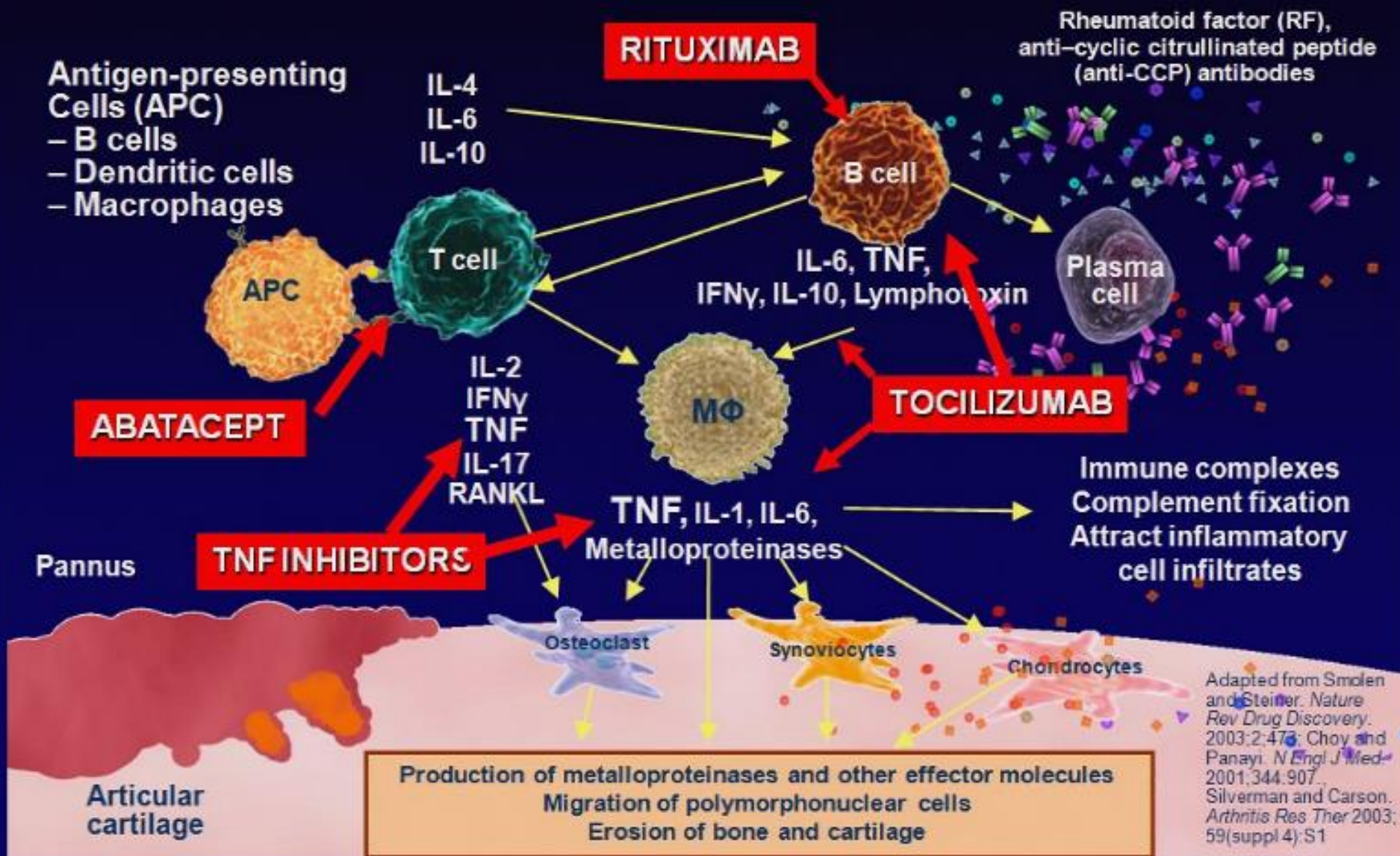
## Rituximab and Abatacept: 6-Month Data

### Rituximab<sup>1</sup> (REFLEX) 6 Months

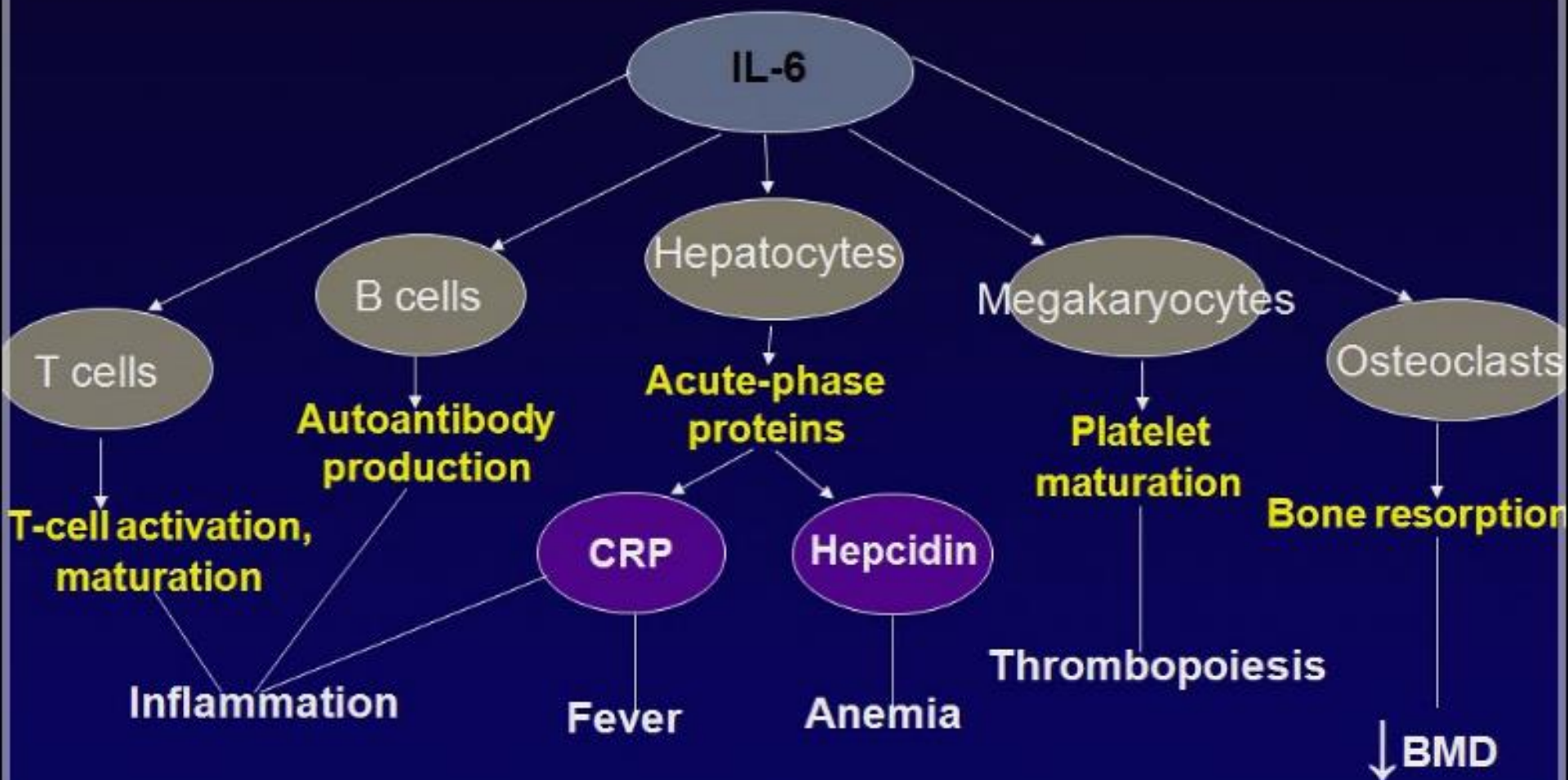
### Abatacept<sup>2</sup> (ATTAIN) 6 Months



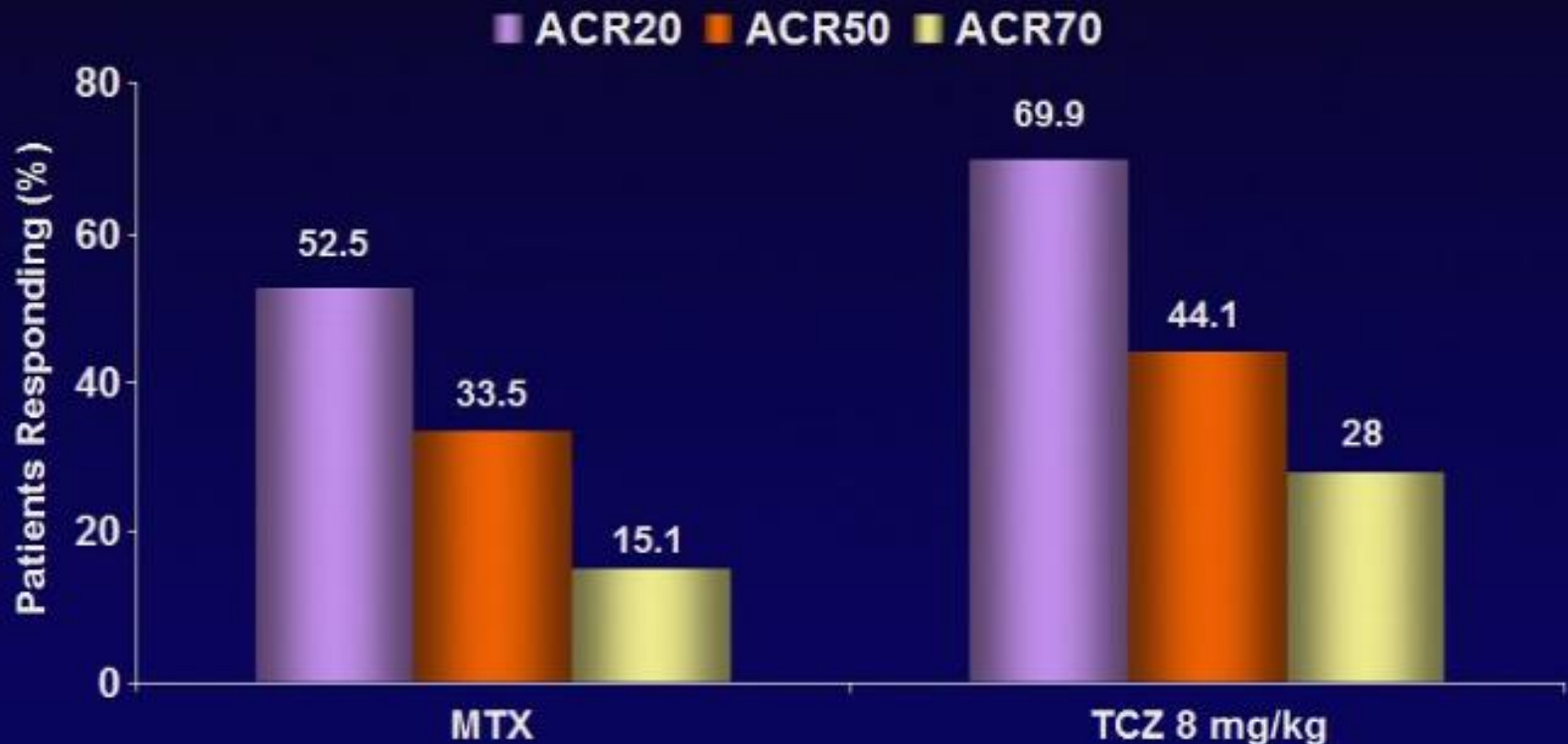
# Targets of Therapy in RA



# Potential Roles of IL-6 in RA



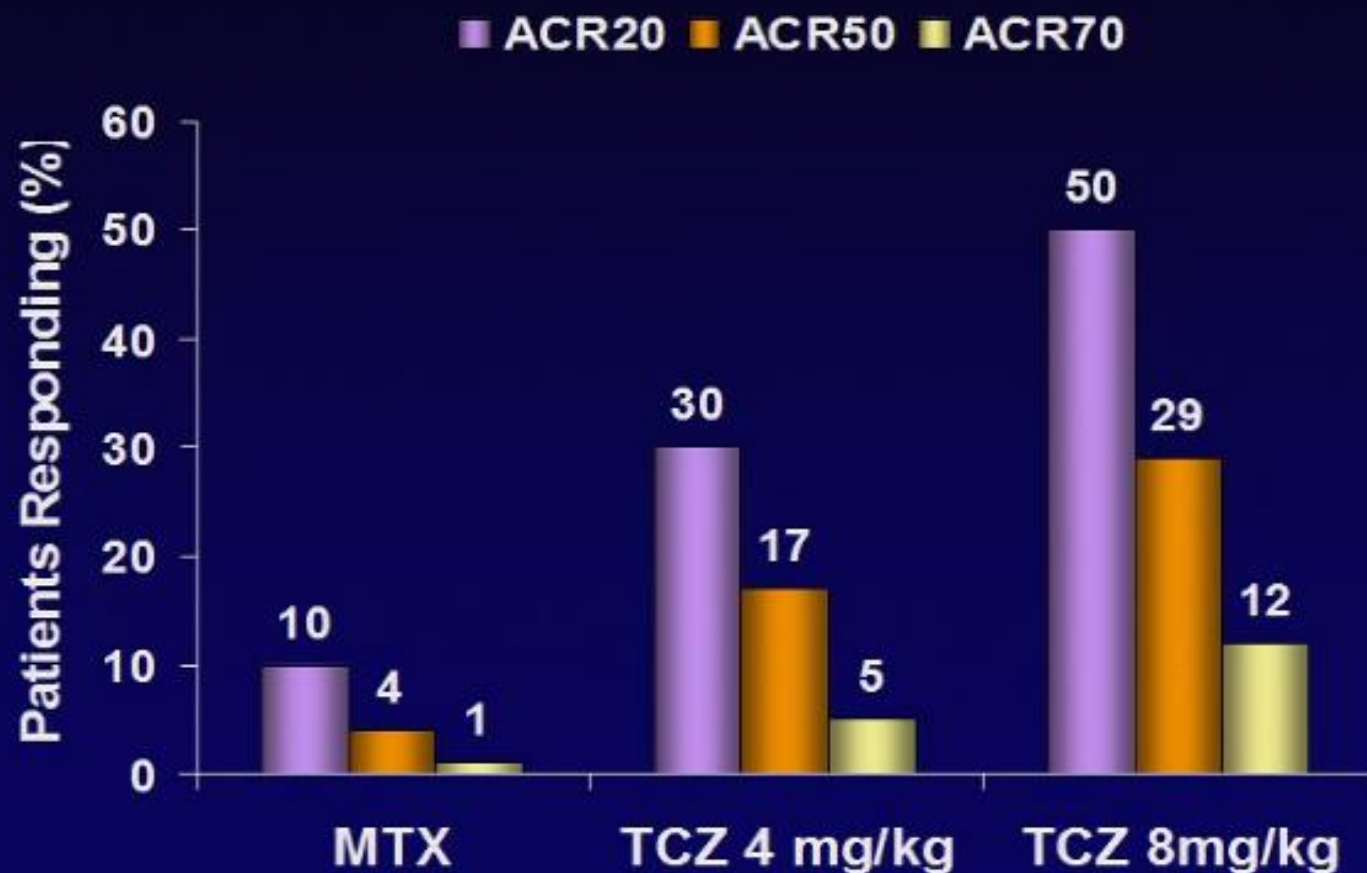
# Tocilizumab MonoRx (MTX-Naïve) AMBITION



Jones G, Ann Rheum Dis 2010 69: 88-96

*Tocilizumab is not FDA approved for the treatment of patients with early RA*

# TNF Antagonist IRs: Tocilizumab (RADIATE)



# What this talk is about

- Looking beyond joints and impact on society

# RA impacts work capacity

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM  
Vol. 52, No. 1, January 2005, pp 36–41  
DOI 10.1002/art.20716  
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## Early Suppression of Disease Activity Is Essential for Maintenance of Work Capacity in Patients With Recent-Onset Rheumatoid Arthritis

Five-Year Experience From the FIN-RACo Trial

***Conclusion.* Prompt induction of remission translates into maintenance of work capacity. At 6 months, an ACR50 response is no better than an ACR20 response with regard to future productivity, while failure to achieve an ACR20 response carries a high risk for work disability.**

## Association Between Etanercept Use and Employment Outcomes Among Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis

***Conclusion.* Among all persons who were employed at the time of RA diagnosis, having been in the etanercept clinical trials was associated with higher employment rates in 1999 and a greater number of hours per week of work in that year, suggesting that a randomized trial to establish the relationship between treatment and employment outcomes is now warranted.**

## Infliximab Treatment Maintains Employability in Patients With Early Rheumatoid Arthritis

***Conclusion.* The actual employment rates among patients in the 2 treatment groups were not different. However, patients with early RA who were treated with MTX plus infliximab had a higher probability of maintaining their employability compared with those who were treated with MTX alone.**

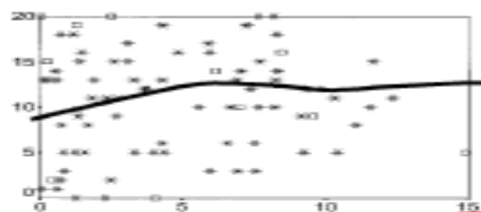
Patients Seen for Standard Rheumatoid Arthritis Care Have  
Significantly Better Articular, Radiographic, Laboratory and  
Functional Status in 2000 Than in 1985

***Conclusion.*** Patients receiving standard care for RA in this setting had significantly better status, including radiographic scores, in 2000 than in 1985, associated with aggressive treatment strategies, prior to the introduction of biologic agents.

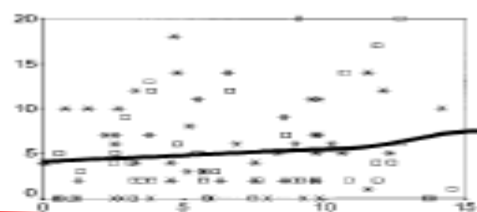
Table 4. Twenty-eight-joint Disease Activity Scores (DAS28) in the 1985 cohort and the 2000 cohort\*

DAS28	Disease activity level	2000 cohort		
		1985 cohort, DAS28 without patient global status	DAS28 without patient global status	DAS28 with global status
<2.6	Remission	3 (2.5)	14 (13.6)	14 (13.6)
2.6-3.19	Mild	5 (4.2)	12 (11.7)	15 (14.6)
3.2-5.09	Moderate	29 (24.4)	46 (44.7)	43 (41.7)
>5.1	Severe	82 (68.9)	31 (30.1)	31 (30.1)
Total		119 (100.0)	103 (100.0)	103 (100.0)

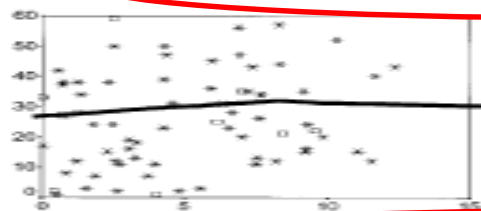
1985 SWOLLEN JOINT COUNT



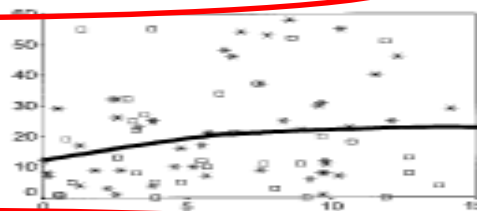
2000 SWOLLEN JOINT COUNT



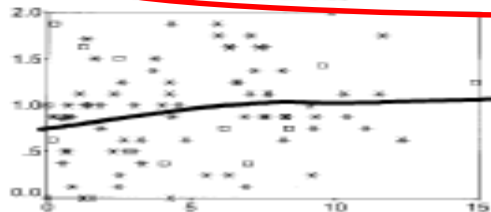
1985 ESR



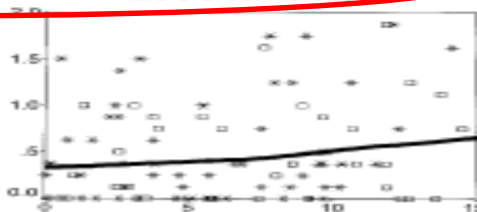
2000 ESR



1985 MHAQ



2000 MHAQ



## Direct Medical Costs and Their Predictors in Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis

A Three-Year Study of 7,527 Patients

***Results.*** The mean total annual direct medical care cost in 2001 for a patient with RA was \$9,519. Drug costs were \$6,324 (66% of the total), while hospitalization costs were only \$1,573 (17%). Approximately 25% of patients received biologic therapy. The mean total annual direct cost for patients receiving biologic agents was \$19,016 per year, while the cost for those not receiving biologic therapy was \$6,164. RA patients who were in the worst quartile of functional status, as measured by the Health Assessment Questionnaire,

# Direct Medical Costs and Their Predictors in Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis

experienced direct medical costs for the subsequent year that were \$5,022 more than the costs incurred by those in the best quartile. Physical status as determined by the Short Form 36 physical component scale had a similar large effect on RA costs, as did comorbidity. Medical insurance type played a more limited role. However, those without insurance had substantially lower service utilization and costs, and health maintenance organization patients had lower drug costs and total medical costs. Increased years of education, increased income, and majority ethnic status were all associated with increased drug costs but not hospitalization costs. Costs in all categories decreased after age 65 years.

# RA impacts cardiovascular health

ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM

Vol. 56, No. 9, September 2007, pp 2905–2912

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## Reduction in the Incidence of Myocardial Infarction in Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis Who Respond to Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor $\alpha$ Therapy

Results From the British Society for Rheumatology Biologics Register

***Conclusion.*** These results indicate that RA patients treated with anti-TNF $\alpha$  do not have a lower incidence of MI compared with RA patients treated with traditional DMARDs. However, the risk of MI is markedly reduced in those who respond to anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy by 6 months compared with nonresponders. This finding supports the notion that inflammation plays a pivotal role in MI.

# What this talk is about

- Weighing risk and benefits of treatment

## Frequency of Infection in Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis Compared With Controls

### A Population-Based Study

***Results.* The 609 RA patients and 609 non-RA infections, infections requiring hospitalization, and any documented infection in patients with RA were 1.70 (95% confidence interval [95% CI] 1.42–2.03), 1.83 (95% CI 1.52–2.21), and 1.45 (95% CI 1.29–1.64), respectively, after adjustment for age, sex, smoking status, leukopenia, corticosteroid use, and diabetes mellitus. Sites of infection with the highest risk ratios were bone, joints, skin, soft tissues, and the respiratory tract.**

## Predictors of Infection in Rheumatoid Arthritis

**Increasing age, presence of extraarticular manifestations of RA, leukopenia, and comorbidities (chronic lung disease, alcoholism, organic brain disease, and diabetes mellitus), as well as use of corticosteroids, were strong predictors of infection ( $P < 0.004$ ) in both univariate and multivariate analyses. Notably, use of disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs was not associated with increased risk of infection in multivariate analyses, after adjustment for demographic characteristics, comorbidities, and disease-related variables.**

# Rates of Serious Infection, Including Site-Specific and Bacterial Intracellular Infection, in Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients Receiving Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy

Results From the British Society for Rheumatology Biologics Register

***Conclusion.* In patients with active RA, anti-TNF therapy was not associated with increased risk of overall serious infection compared with DMARD treatment, after adjustment for baseline risk. In contrast, the rate of serious skin and soft tissue infections was increased, suggesting an important physiologic role of TNF in host defense in the skin and soft tissues beyond that in other tissues.**

## Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor $\alpha$ Therapy and the Risk of Serious Bacterial Infections in Elderly Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis

***Conclusion.*** In a large cohort of patients with RA, we found no increase in serious bacterial infections among users of anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy compared with users of MTX. **Glucocorticoid use** was associated with a dose-dependent increase in such infections.

## Treatment for Rheumatoid Arthritis and the Risk of Hospitalization for Pneumonia

Associations With Prednisone, Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs, and  
Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy

*Results.* After adjustment for covariates, prednisone use increased the risk of pneumonia hospitalization (hazard ratio [HR] 1.7 [95% confidence interval 1.5–2.0]), including a dose-related increase in risk ( $\leq 5$  mg/day HR 1.4 [95% confidence interval 1.1–1.6],  $> 5$ –10 mg/day HR 2.1 [95% confidence interval 1.7–2.7],  $> 10$  mg/day HR 2.3 [95% confidence interval 1.6–3.2]). Leflunomide also increased the risk (HR 1.2 [95% confidence interval 1.0–1.5]). HRs for etanercept (0.8 [95% confidence interval 0.6–1.1]) and sulfasalazine (0.7 [95% confidence interval 0.5–1.0]) did not

reflect an increased risk of pneumonia. HRs for infliximab, adalimumab, and methotrexate were not significantly different from zero.

*Conclusion.* There is a dose-related relationship between prednisone use and pneumonia risk in RA. No increase in risk was found for anti-tumor necrosis factor therapy or methotrexate. These data call into question the belief that low-dose prednisone is safe. Because corticosteroid use is common in RA, the results of this study suggest that prednisone exposure may have important public health consequences.

## Serious Infection Following Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor $\alpha$ Therapy in Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis

Lessons From Interpreting Data From Observational Studies

**Results.** When the at-risk period was defined as “receiving treatment”, the adjusted incidence rate ratio comparing patients receiving anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy with patients receiving DMARD therapy was 1.22 (95% confidence interval [95% CI] 0.88–1.69). Limiting followup to the first 90 days, however, revealed an adjusted incidence rate ratio of 4.6 (95% CI 1.8–11.9). Rates of infection were increased in the 90 days immediately following drug discontinuation and beyond, explained by selection factors for drug discontinuation.

## Effectiveness of Recommendations to Prevent Reactivation of Latent Tuberculosis Infection in Patients Treated With Tumor Necrosis Factor Antagonists

**Results.** Active TB developed in 34 patients, of whom 32 started taking TNF antagonists prior to the official recommendations on latent TB infection (pre-OR) and 2 began treatment after the recommendations

**Conclusion.** Strategies to treat latent TB infection that are tailored to the at-risk population can effectively and safely lessen the likelihood of active TB in patients treated with TNF antagonists.

## Lymphoma in Rheumatoid Arthritis

The Effect of Methotrexate and Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy  
in 18,572 Patients

**Lymphoma was associated with increasing age, male sex, and education.**

**Conclusion.** Lymphomas are increased in RA. Although the SIR is greatest for anti-TNF therapies, differences between therapies are slight, and confidence intervals for treatment groups overlap. The increased lymphoma rates observed with anti-TNF therapy may reflect channeling bias, whereby patients with the highest risk of lymphoma preferentially receive anti-TNF therapy. **Current data are insufficient to establish a causal relationship between RA treatments and the development of lymphoma.**

## The Effect of Methotrexate and Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Therapy on the Risk of Lymphoma in Rheumatoid Arthritis in 19,562 Patients During 89,710 Person-Years of Observation

**Results.** Of the 19,591 participants, 55.3% received biologic agents and 68.0% received MTX while enrolled in the NDB. The lymphoma incidence rate was 105.9 (95% confidence interval [95% CI] 86.6–129.5) per 100,000 person-years of exposure. Compared with the SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End-Results) lymphoma database, the standardized incidence ratio was 1.8 (95% CI 1.5–2.2). The odds ratio (OR) for lymphoma in patients who received anti-TNF therapy compared with patients who did not receive anti-TNF therapy was 1.0 (95% CI 0.6–1.8 [ $P = 0.875$ ]). The OR for lymphoma in patients who received anti-TNF plus

MTX therapy compared with patients who received MTX treatment alone was 1.1 (95% CI 0.6–2.0 [ $P = 0.710$ ]). Infliximab and etanercept considered individually also were not associated with a risk of lymphoma.

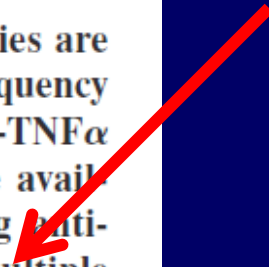
**Conclusion.** In a study of lymphoma in 19,591 RA patients over 89,710 person-years of followup, which included exposure to anti-TNF therapy in 10,815 patients, we did not observe evidence for an increase in the incidence of lymphoma among patients who received anti-TNF therapy.

## Demyelination Occurring During Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor $\alpha$ Therapy for Inflammatory Arthritides

**Results.** Nineteen patients with similar neurologic events were identified from the FDA database, 17 following etanercept administration and 2 following infliximab administration for inflammatory arthritis. All neurologic events were temporally related to anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy, with partial or complete resolution on discontinuation. One patient exhibited a positive rechallenge phenomenon.

**Conclusion.** Further surveillance and studies are required to better define risk factors for and frequency of adverse events and their relationship to anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapies. Until more long-term safety data are available, consideration should be given to avoiding anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy in patients with preexisting multiple sclerosis and to discontinuing anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapy im-

mediately when new neurologic signs and symptoms occur, pending an appropriate evaluation.



## Increased Risk of Coccidioidomycosis in Patients Treated With Tumor Necrosis Factor $\alpha$ Antagonists

**Results.** **Thirteen cases** of documented coccidioidomycosis were associated with TNF $\alpha$  antagonist therapy. Twelve cases were associated with the use of infliximab and 1 case with etanercept. Among the cohort of patients from a single medical center, 7 of the 247 patients receiving infliximab and 4 of the 738 patients receiving other therapies developed symptomatic coccidioidomycosis (relative risk 5.23, 95% confidence interval 1.54–17.71;  $P < 0.01$ ).

**Conclusion.** Patients with inflammatory arthritis who are undergoing treatment with infliximab appear to be at higher risk for developing symptomatic coccidioidomycosis as compared with those not receiving infliximab.

REVIEW

## Viral Infection and Reactivation in Autoimmune Disease

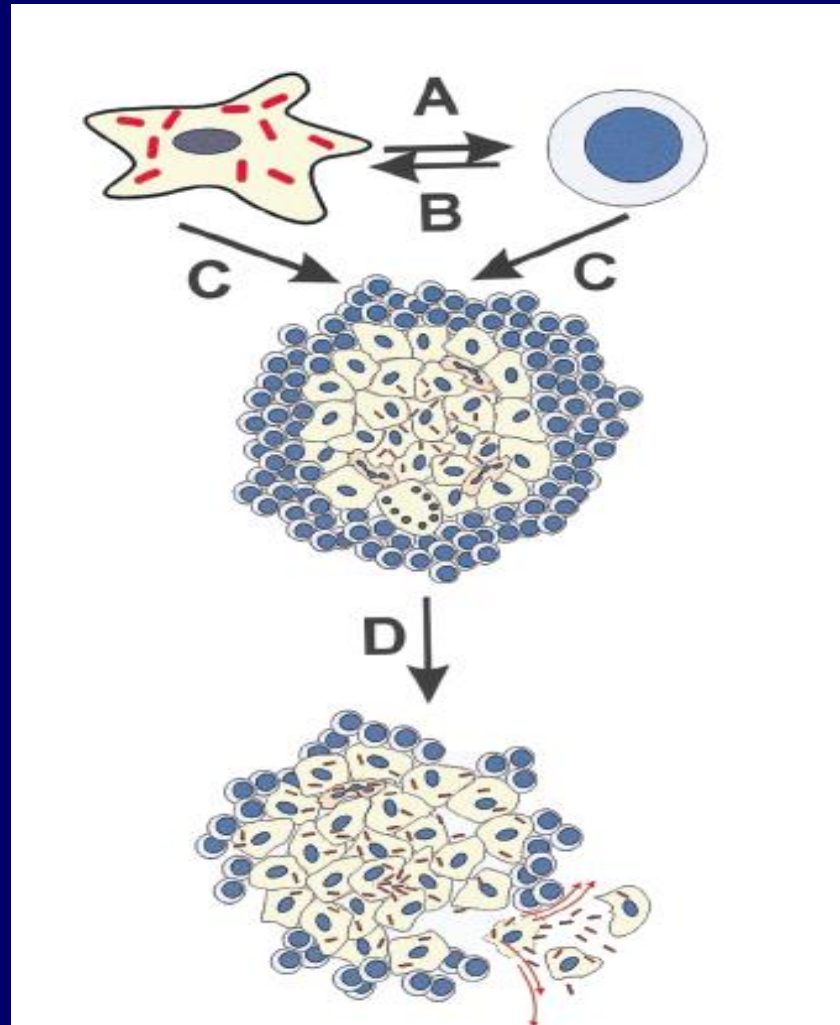
**Table 1.** Case reports of reactivation of hepatitis B virus (HBV) in autoimmune disease

Treatment, author, year (ref.)	Diagnosis	Treatment	Outcome
<b>Biologic therapy</b>			
Ostuni et al, 2003 (39)	RA*	Infliximab, methotrexate, prednisone	Infliximab and methotrexate stopped; successfully treated with lamivudine
Wendling et al, 2005 (40)	Spondylarthritis	Infliximab	Successfully treated with lamivudine
Esteve et al, 2004 (34)	Crohn's disease	Azathioprine, infliximab†	1 recovered, 1 died
Madonia et al, 2007 (38)	Crohn's disease	Infliximab, prednisone	Successfully treated with lamivudine
Millonig et al, 2006 (82)	Crohn's disease	Infliximab	Successfully treated with lamivudine
<b>Nonbiologic therapy</b>			
Flowers, 1990 (83)	RA	Methotrexate†	Liver transplant
Hagiyama et al, 2004 (84)	RA	Methotrexate	Died
Ito et al, 2001 (85)	RA	Methotrexate, prednisolone†	Died
Narvaez et al, 1998 (86)	RA	Methotrexate†	Died
Nakanishi et al, 1998 (87)	Polymyositis	Prednisolone	Treatment with interferon alfa and cyclosporin A progressively reduced transaminase and HBV DNA levels, leading to recovery

# What this talk is about

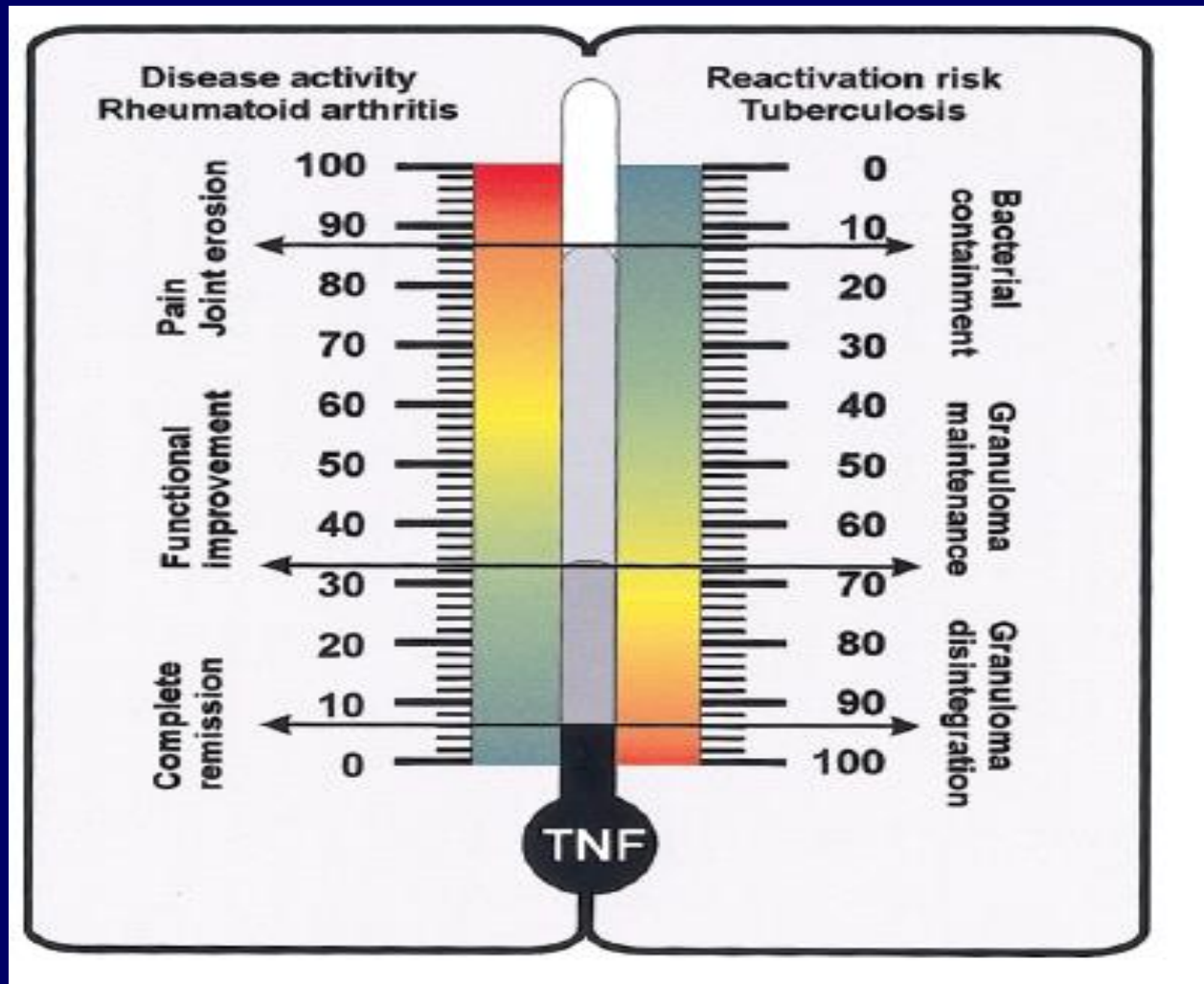
- Surveillance of co morbidities

# Role of TNF in controlling infection



# “TNF-o-meter”

## Finding the right balance



# List of recommended vaccines

Vaccine	Routine (not immunocompromised)	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	Severely immunocompromised (non-HIV related) <sup>†</sup>	Post-solid organ transplant or chronic immunosuppressive therapy
Hepatitis B	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated
Hib	Not recommended	Consider <sup>§</sup>	Recommended	Recommended
Influenza (inactivated)	Recommended if $\geq 50$ y of age	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended
Influenza (LAIV)	Use if indicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated
MMR (MR/M/R)	Use if indicated	Recommended/consider <sup>¶</sup>	Contraindicated	Contraindicated
Meningococcal	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated
Pneumococcal (PPV)	Recommended if $\geq 65$ y of age	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended
Td	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended
Varicella	Use if indicated	Contraindicated	See note <sup>†</sup>	Contraindicated

# List of Contraindicated vaccines

Vaccine	No immunocompromised	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	Severely immunocompromised (non-HIV related) <sup>†</sup>	Post–solid organ transplant or chronic immunosuppressive therapy
<b>Live vaccines</b>				
BCG	Use if indicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated
Typhoid, Ty21a	Use if indicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated
Vaccinia	Use if indicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated
Varicella (adults)	Use if indicated	Contraindicated	See note <sup>‡</sup>	Contraindicated <sup>§</sup>
Yellow fever <sup>¶</sup>	Use if indicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated	Contraindicated
<b>Killed (inactivated) vaccines</b>				
Anthrax	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated
Polio (IPV)	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated
Rabies	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated
Typhoid, inactivated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated	Use if indicated

# Summary

- Early diagnosis and treatment
- Aggressive monitoring to prevent joint damage
- Aim for maintenance of remission and functional capacity
- Surveillance of infections and comorbidities