

MODERATE TO SEVERE PLAQUE PSORIASIS BIOLOGIC TREATMENT PATHWAY IN ADULTS

Patients must be treated by a consultant dermatologist and the psoriasis must have failed to respond to standard systemic therapies including: ciclosporin, methotrexate and PUVA or the patient is intolerant as per [NICE CG 153 \(updated Sept 17\)](#). Identify comorbidities (CV risk assessment). Offer / sign post to advice healthy lifestyle information, lipid modification, smoking cessation, weight management, increase in physical activity or treatment of depression in addition to offering medication. See overleaf for local resources.

The treatment options below are all approved to be used under certain criteria as set out by NICE. For some patients the choice of biologic will be driven by co-morbidities such as heart failure, demyelination, pregnancy & infection risk. **If patients and their clinicians consider that there is a range of suitable options, the least expensive option should be chosen.**

Severe Disease: PASI ≥ 10 and DLQI ≥ 10

PREFERRED 1ST LINE INJECTABLE OPTION:

ADALIMUMAB BIOSIMILAR TNF inhibitor Prefilled syringe 40mg HOME CARE PAS discount NICE [TA 146](#)
Dose: 80mg loading then 40mg every other week 16 wk review
1st line unless contraindicated e.g. Hypersensitivity, heart failure, TB/active infection, demyelinating disorder

PREFERRED 2ND/3RD LINE INJECTABLE OPTIONS:

ETANERCEPT BIOSIMILAR TNF inhibitor	TILDRAKIZUMAB IL23	RISANKIZUMAB IL23	BIMEKIZUMAB IL17AF inhibitor	GUSELKUMAB IL23	BRODALUMAB IL17RA	CERTOLIZUMAB TNF inhibitor
Prefilled syringe 100mg Dose: 100mg OR 200mg (severe disease/>90kg) wks 0, 4 then every 12 wks HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 103	Prefilled syringe 100mg Dose: 100mg OR 200mg (severe disease/>90kg) wks 0, 4 then every 12 wks HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 575	Prefilled syringe 150mg Dose: 150mg weeks 0, 4 and then every 12 weeks HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 596	Prefilled syringe 160mg Dose: 320mg weeks 0,4,8,12,16 then every 8 weeks* HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 723	Prefilled syringe 100mg Dose: 100mg weeks 0, 4 and then every 8 weeks. HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 521	Prefilled syringe 210mg Dose: 210mg weeks 0, 1 and 2, then every 2 weeks. HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 511	Prefilled syringe 200mg Dose: 400mg weeks 0, 2 and 4, then 200mg every 2 weeks. HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 574
12 wk review	28 wk review	16 wk review	16 wk review	16 wk review	12 wk review	16 wk review

SECOND LINE INJECTABLE TREATMENT: For patients who do not respond to a 1st line injectable treatment (1^o or 2^o failure) an alternative 2nd line treatment may be considered (use the least expensive biologic that suits the patient) where patient meets the NICE eligibility criteria.

THIRD LINE INJECTABLE TREATMENT ONWARDS: For adults in whom there is an inadequate response to a 2nd biological drug, seek supra-specialist advice from a clinician with expertise in biological therapy (CG153).

Use of ORAL biological agents after injectable biologics: NICE TA475 for dimethyl fumarate states that this drug is cost-effective when used in patients where biologics and apremilast are not effective or not tolerated (i.e. where best supportive care is the only option). NICE TA419 for apremilast states that this drug is a cost-effective for people for whom best supportive care is the only option, that is, if biological therapies are not tolerated or have failed.

Assessing response: If a 75% reduction in the PASI score from when treatment started (PASI 75) OR a 50% reduction in the PASI score (PASI 50) AND a 5-point reduction in DLQI from when treatment started is NOT achieved then **DISCONTINUE** treatment.

Dose escalation: Dose escalation or increase in frequency of administration outside of NICE will need approval by the commissioner via IFR. The only exceptions are:

Adalimumab 40mg weekly- This is outside of NICE, but within license. Does not require an IFR as it does not generate an additional cost to the commissioner. **Please note the additional cost pressure will lie with the prescribing Trust, seek agreement from your individual Pharmacy teams before prescribing.**

Ustekinumab from 45mg to 90mg 12 weekly- This is not within the license for pts under 100kg, but as the 45mg and 90mg vial are the same price, this would be the recommended dose strategy for unresponsive pts (as per British Assoc. Dermatologists). This does not require an IFR.

***Bimekizumab dose escalation (320 mg every 4 wks)** at 16wks in patients >120kg to achieve PASI100 is NOT commissioned.

OTHER OPTIONS (use after above options tried/failed/contra-indicated):

IXEKIZUMAB IL17A	SECUKINUMAB IL17A	USTEKINUMAB IL12 & 23
Prefilled syringe 80mg Dose 160mg wk 0 then 80mg every 2 wks to wk 12. Then 80mg monthly HOMECARE PAS discount NICE TA 442	Prefilled syringe 150mg Dose: 300mg (2 x 150mg) at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4, then monthly HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 350	Prefilled syringe 45mg/90mg Dose: 45mg OR 90mg loading dose at 0 & 4 weeks then 12 weekly HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 180
12 wk review	12 wk review	16 wk review

ORAL OPTIONS: Can be used PRE or POST injectable biologics. (Less effective and cheaper than injectable biologics.)

Dimethyl Fumarate (Skilarence®) Fumaric Acid Ester Tablets	APREMILAST PDE-4 inhibitor Tablets
wk 1: 30mg OD wk 2: 30mg BD wk 3: 30mg TDS wk 4: 120mg OD wk 5-10: Increase by 120mg per week, max 720mg/day. NICE TA 475	Dose: 10mg daily increase to 30mg twice daily over 5 days HOME CARE PAS discount NICE TA 419
Review after 16 weeks	

Very severe disease: PASI ≥ 20 & DLQI ≥ 18

INFLIXIMAB BIOSIMILAR TNF inhibitor
IV Infusion Dose: 5mg/kg IV infusion initially and at 2 and 6 weeks then every 8 weeks. PAS discount NICE TA 134
10 wk review

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Weight loss services/referrals:

Wiltshire 'Healthy weight in adults' – resources and information : <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1514/Healthy-weight-in-adults>

BaNES 'Healthy Weight Strategy' – resources and information:

<https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/public-health/public-health-strategies-and-policies/healthy-weight>

Swindon 'Live Well' – resources and information: https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20139/live_well_swindon_hub/923/leading_an_active_lifestyle/2

Stop smoking services:

Wiltshire – smokefree Wiltshire: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1411/Smokefree-Wiltshire>

BaNES stop smoking support: <https://bathneshealthandcare.nhs.uk/wellness/stop-smoking-support/>

Swindon stop smoking service: https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20139/live_well_swindon_hub/921/stop_smoking_service

Psychological support self-referral courses:

Wiltshire: <https://iapt-wilts.awp.nhs.uk/>

BaNES: <https://iapt-banes.awp.nhs.uk/resources/useful-links/>

Swindon: <https://lift-swindon.awp.nhs.uk/>

Links for CCG Prior approval forms & Individual Funding Requests:

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group: <https://www.bswccg.nhs.uk/your-health/what-we-do-and-don-t-fund>

NICE resources: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/conditions-and-diseases/skin-conditions/psoriasis>

Please note that this will be regularly updated as & when new NICE TAs are published for other drugs indicated for psoriasis.