



PAN MERSEY AREA PRESCRIBING COMMITTEE
PRESCRIBING POLICY STATEMENT
 REF: PS62 FINAL
 FIRST APC BOARD DATE: 28 MAY 2014
 LAST APC BOARD DATE: 28 MAR 2018



Pan Mersey
 Area Prescribing Committee

ADALIMUMAB injection (Humira®) in rheumatological conditions

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The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of adalimumab injection (Humira®) for rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis, polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis and in patients fitting other criteria commissioned by Pan Mersey CCGs, as described below.

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA): The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee (APC) recommends prescribing adalimumab injection for rheumatoid arthritis in accordance with [NICE TA195](#) (August 2010), [NICE TA375](#) (January 2016), and in accordance with the [Pan Mersey Rheumatoid Arthritis Biologics pathway](#). NICE TA375 recommends adalimumab with methotrexate or as monotherapy, as a treatment option for adults with severe active rheumatoid arthritis (DAS28>5.1) who have had an inadequate response to intensive therapy with a combination of disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs). TA195 recommends adalimumab, in combination with methotrexate or as monotherapy, as a treatment option for adults with severe active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response to two or more DMARDs or have an intolerance of, other DMARDs, including at least one TNF inhibitor, and who cannot receive rituximab therapy because they have a contraindication to rituximab, or when rituximab is withdrawn because of an adverse event. The Pan Mersey RA Biologics pathway recommends adalimumab as an option in patients fitting NICE criteria who have not responded adequately to rituximab, and recommends use with non-methotrexate DMARDs as an option in patients who cannot have methotrexate.

Psoriatic arthritis (PsA): The Pan Mersey APC recommends prescribing adalimumab injection for psoriatic arthritis in accordance with [NICE TA199](#) (August 2010), and in accordance with the [Pan Mersey Psoriatic Arthritis Biologics Pathway](#). NICE TA199 recommends adalimumab as an option in psoriatic arthritis of defined severity not responding to two or more DMARDs. Pan Mersey PsA Biologics Pathway recommends alternative biologic treatment if initial biologic treatment fails.

Ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (NRASpA): The Pan Mersey APC recommends prescribing adalimumab injection for AS and NRASpA in accordance with [NICE TA383](#) (February 2016) and [Pan Mersey AS and Axial SpA pathway](#).

Polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA): The Pan Mersey APC recommends adalimumab as an option for treating polyarticular JIA, in accordance with [NICE TA373](#) (December 2015). Further details are contained in the Pan Mersey statement on [Biologic agents in management of Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis](#)

Planned conception in patients with active inflammatory arthritis: The Pan Mersey APC recommends prescribing adalimumab injection for male and female patients with rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, juvenile idiopathic arthritis or active spondyloarthritis as an option in accordance with the [criteria](#) commissioned by Pan Mersey CCGs for patients wishing to conceive.

Note: Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this policy may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy. If appropriate an exceptional funding request will be required following the usual locally defined process.