MONOARTHRITIS or OLIGOARTHRITIS pathway

Severe large and medium sized joint monoarthritis or oligoarthritis (2 joints)

Hip, knee, ankle, shoulder, elbow

(HLA B27 positive arthritis, reactive arthritis, psoriatic, undifferentiated)

Confirmation of inflammation with imaging (US/MRI +/- Synovial fluid)

Structural and functional assessment - physical examination, imaging, HAQ-DI, SF-36, Likert scores

Treat with DMARDs, steroids (IM/IA/IV), NSAIDs

Mild disease, Good control, Good prognostic signals (good function)

Continue standard treatment

Severe disease - poor DMARDs response, poor prognostic signals (functional impairment or damage and risk of joint replacement)

Inadequate response to DMARDs (at least 2) or drug intolerance

Structural and functional reassessment

Anti-TNF therapy

Response at 3 months

No

Response

Monoarthritis: reduction in joint swelling, joint pain and reduction in Likert scale by 2 (or 50%)

Oligoarthritis: reduction in joint swelling and pain by 50% and Likert scale by 2 or 50%

2nd anti-TNF

Response at 3 months

No

STOP anti-TNF

Yes

Reassess every 6 months

In case of clinical remission consider dose reduction and withdrawal if clinically appropriate

Secondary inefficacy Side effects

Alternative anti-TNF

Reactive arthritis - stop if in remission for 6 months

Ref: G40 pathway FINAL | Version: 1.1
Review date: July 2020
(or earlier if there is significant new evidence relating to this recommendation)