



# IRA e-bulletin

Newsletter For Health Professionals in Rheumatology

Editor: Dr. Banwari Sharma

From the  
Editor's  
Desk



## From the Editor's Desk

Dear Colleagues,

In this issue we have included articles related to periodontitis, smoking, air-pollution and anti-CCP in unaffected first degree relatives of rheumatoid patients. All these articles are helpful in understanding etiopathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis. Single infusion rituximab (D1 only) shows similar efficacy to current approved two 1-g infusions given 2 weeks apart in a randomized controlled prospective trial and efficacy of triple therapy in RA is similar to biologic therapy in head to head (RACAT) trial, these two articles will have significant economic impact in our practice. Tocilizumab monotherapy is better than adalimumab monotherapy for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (ADACTA) results of phase 4 trial is discussed. In early active spondyloarthritis, results of INFAST-1 and INFAST-2 studies are discussed.

Treatment of lupus nephritis without oral steroids in rituxilup cohort, this is a single center prospective observational study but if confirmed in future trials than will change the treatment approach in Lupus nephritis.

Some very important news from EULAR is also included. Revised EULAR guidelines keeps conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) as the only first-line interventions and leveling of the role for tocilizumab and abatacept alongside the several TNF inhibitors are the two most important news from recent EULAR.

In expert opinion section we are discussing psoriatic arthritis. In 'Do You Know' section we are discussing outcome of pregnancies after accidental methotrexate exposure.

Hope you will enjoy this issue.

Best wishes

Dr. Banwari Sharma

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