



Efficacy and consumption of golimumab is similar with European and American dosing regimens in Ulcerative Colitis: Results of a prospective study

I. Milanez¹, S. Finderle¹, J. Hanžel^{1,2}, G. Novak^{1,2}, M. Koželj¹, N. Smrekar^{1,2}, T. Marušič³, N. Bukovnik⁴, A. Ocepek⁴, T. Polanc¹, A. Planinšek¹, C. Bobnar Sekulić¹, D. Drobne^{1,2}

¹ University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Department of Gastroenterology, Ljubljana, Slovenia

² University of Ljubljana, Medical Faculty, Ljubljana, Slovenia

³ General Hospital Izola, Department of Gastroenterology, Izola, Slovenia

⁴ University Medical Centre Maribor, Department of Gastroenterology, Maribor, Slovenia.

Correspondence: david.drobne@gmail.com

Slovenian Journal of Gastroenterology / Gastroenterolog 2025; supplement 1: 78–79

Keywords: efficacy, safety, drug consumption, dosing regimens, side effects

BACKGROUND

Golimumab maintenance dosing for patients ≤ 80 kg differs between Europe and the United States [1–4].

AIM

Our aim was to compare efficacy, safety and drug consumption of both regimens in patients ≤ 80 kg.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In this investigator initiated prospective study (ClinicalTrials.gov ID: NCT04156984) we recruited 29 consecutive patients with active ulcerative colitis. After a common induction, the first 15 patients received American regimen (100 mg every 4 weeks) and next 14 received European (50 mg every 4 weeks). In case of inadequate or loss of response (rectal bleeding score >0 or endoscopic Mayo ≥ 2), the dose was escalated to 100 mg in European group. Co-primary endpoints were endoscopic improvement (endoscopic Mayo score ≤ 1) at weeks 14 and 50 and clinical remission (rectal bleeding score = 0 and stool frequency score < 2) at weeks

14, 26, 38, and 50. Statistical analysis included Chi-square and Mann-Whitney tests.

RESULTS

Patient demographics are shown in Table 1. Endoscopic improvement, clinical remission rates, drug persistence and drug consumption are shown in (Figure 1). 8/14 (57%) of patients in European regimen needed dose escalation to 100 mg after a median of 8.6 weeks (interquartile range 6 to 14 weeks). In the American regimen 3 potentially drug-related side effects occurred.

CONCLUSIONS

In this prospective study, European and American golimumab maintenance regimens resulted in similar endoscopic improvement and clinical remission rates. Dose consumption was similar in both maintenance regimens.

References

1. Hanzel J, Drobne D. Editorial: golimumab dosing intensification effective in ulcerative colitis with no need for therapeutic drug monitoring. *Aliment Pharmacol Ther.* 2023;57:1469–70. doi: 10.1111/apt.17439
2. Stefanovic S, Detrez I, Compernelle G, *et al.* Endoscopic remission can be predicted by golimumab concentrations in patients with ulcerative colitis treated with the changed label. *Eur J Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2021;33:54–61. doi: 10.1097/MEG.0000000000001843
3. Dreesen E, Kantasiripitak W, Detrez I, *et al.* A Population Pharmacokinetic and Exposure-Response Model of Golimumab for Targeting Endoscopic Remission in Patients With Ulcerative Colitis. *Inflamm Bowel Dis.* 2020;26:570–80. doi: 10.1093/ibd/izz144
4. Fumery M, Nancey S, Filippi J, *et al.* Effectiveness of golimumab intensification in ulcerative colitis: A multicentric prospective study. *Aliment Pharmacol Ther.* 2023;57:1290–8. doi: 10.1111/apt.17421