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**The Role of B-Cell–
Targeted Therapy in the
Treatment of Patients
With Rheumatoid Arthritis
(#EM0516C)**

*Continuing Medical Education
Posttest*

1. Targets for biologic therapy in RA include all of the following EXCEPT:
 - A. Inhibition of heat-shock protein
 - B. Inhibition of B-cell activities
 - C. Inhibition of T-cell activation
 - D. Inhibition of proinflammatory cytokines
2. All of the following are true about the role of B cells in patients with RA EXCEPT:
 - A. B cells appear to secrete proinflammatory cytokines
 - B. B cells may inhibit nuclear factor-KB DNA-binding activity and expression
 - C. B cells play a role in presenting antigen to T cells and induce T-cell activation
 - D. B cells play a role in producing autoantibodies
3. Which of the following is NOT an example of B-cell surface molecules that may serve as therapeutic targets for RA?
 - A. BCMA
 - B. BAFF
 - C. B7/BB1-activating factor on dendritic cells
 - D. BR3
4. Which of following is an approach to targeting B cells that is being investigated for the treatment of RA?
 - A. Agents that target B-cell–specific surface molecules
 - B. Agents that target B-cell survival and activation factors
 - C. Both A and B
 - D. Neither A nor B

5. Which of the following is incorrectly matched with its mechanism of action or biologic target?

- A. Atacicept (TACI-Ig) fusion proteins targets BLYS/BAFF and APRIL and affects B-cell survival by inhibiting BLYS/BAFF- and APRIL-mediated signaling
- B. Epratuzumab targets CD22 and inhibits BCR-mediated signals
- C. Belimumab is an antibody targeted to soluble BLYS/BAFF and leads to neutralization of BLYS/BAFF
- D. All of the above are correctly matched

6. Which of the following is correctly identified with an approved indication for RA?

- A. Rituximab is currently indicated in combination with methotrexate for those patients with moderate-to-severe RA who have "failed" one or more anti-TNF therapies
- B. Belimumab is currently indicated for those patients with moderate-to-severe RA who have "failed" one or more anti-TNF therapies
- C. Both A and B
- D. Neither A nor B

7. All of the following are true about the available clinical data for rituximab in the treatment of RA EXCEPT:

- A. Greater tolerability is seen for rituximab in combination with cyclophosphamide than in combination with methotrexate
- B. Background methotrexate therapy in conjunction with rituximab leads to a more sustained clinical response
- C. Patients achieve similar ACR20, ACR50, and ACR70 responses with repeat courses of rituximab versus those patients receiving only a single course.
- D. Rituximab has been shown to decrease joint damage, compared with placebo, as evidenced by less joint space narrowing, less joint erosion, and better SHARP scores

8. Which of the following is TRUE about adverse events associated with B-cell-targeted therapies?

- A. The adverse events associated with one B-cell therapy generally apply across the class
- B. Infusion reactions are more common with subsequent rather than initial infusions
- C. Monitoring for risks for serious adverse events and opportunistic infections, as well as the impact on vaccinations is recommended
- D. All of the above are true

9. Which of the following is a potential treatment option for a patient who is no longer achieving an adequate response from use of a single anti-TNF therapy + oral methotrexate?

- A. Increase methotrexate dose if not at maximum
- B. Decrease the dosing frequency of the anti-TNF agent
- C. Switch to another anti-TNF agent and continue methotrexate
- D. Switch to rituximab or abatacept and continue methotrexate
- E. All of the above are options

EVALUATION

The Role of B-Cell-Targeted Therapy in the Treatment of Patients With Rheumatoid Arthritis

(#EM0516C)

Please circle one option for each of the following questions.

1) The overall quality of this activity and its educational content was excellent.

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

2) Upon completion of this activity I am better able to:

Describe the role of B-cells in the pathophysiology of RA and inflammation

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

List approved and investigational B-cell-targeted therapies for the treatment of RA and their relative mechanisms of action

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

Summarize available clinical data for the efficacy of B-cell-targeted therapies

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

List the most common, known adverse events associated with B-cell-targeted therapies and their relative severity and management

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

3) The information given was without promotional or commercial bias.

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

4) The scientific articles provided something new that I will apply to my practice.

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
- e) Strongly disagree

5) The content met my educational needs.

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
e) Strongly disagree

6) I would recommend this activity to others.

- a) Strongly agree b) Agree c) Undecided d) Disagree
e) Strongly disagree

Suggestions/comments regarding this material, or recommendations for future presentations:

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