

Spondyloarthropathy

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DISCLOSURES/ CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

Spondyloarthropathy (SpA)

OBJECTIVES

1. Diagnose, or identify patients at risk for a SpA
2. General principles of SpA management
3. Monitor for complications

SpA - Overview

- Ankylosing spondylitis (AS)
- Psoriatic arthritis (PsA)
- Enteropathic arthritis (IBD-associated SpA)
- Reactive arthritis (ReA)
- Undifferentiated SpA (ex. uveitis + HLAB27)
- ?SAPHO syndrome (association with psoriasis)
- Juvenile forms (enthesitis related JIA, juvenile AS)

axial (spine, SI joint)
enthesitis
dactylitis
HLA-B27
seronegative

Non-axial Disease

Axial Disease

non-radiographic

radiographic

ASAS Classification Criteria for Axial Spondyloarthritis (SpA)

In patients with ≥ 3 months back pain and age at onset < 45 years

Sacroiliitis on imaging*
plus
 ≥ 1 SpA feature[#]

OR

HLA-B27
plus
 ≥ 2 other SpA features[#]

[#]SpA features

- inflammatory back pain
- arthritis
- enthesitis (heel)
- uveitis
- dactylitis
- psoriasis
- Crohn's/colitis
- good response to NSAIDs
- family history for SpA
- HLA-B27
- elevated CRP

^{*}Sacroiliitis on imaging

- active (acute) inflammation on MRI highly suggestive of sacroiliitis associated with SpA
- definite radiographic sacroiliitis according to mod NY criteria

n=649 patients with back pain;
Sensitivity: 82.9%, Specificity: 84.4%
Imaging alone: Sensitivity: 66.2%. Specificity: 97.3%

Table 2 Inflammatory back pain (IBP) parameters, according to experts

Parameter	Criteria
1	Age at onset <40 years
2	Insidious onset (> 3 months)
3	Improvement with exercise
4	No improvement with rest
5	Pain at night (with improvement upon getting up)

Sensitivity 77.0% and specificity 91.7% if at least four out of five parameters are present. Note that sensitivity and specificity refer to the presence of IBP, not to diagnosis.



Modified NY Grading: 0 - normal, 1 - suspicious changes (*a*),
2 - minimal definite changes (sclerosis, erosions) without change to joint space (*b*),
3 - definite changes, joint space narrowing/pseudo-widening, partial ankylosis (*c*),
4 - ankylosis (*d*)

**In patients with ≥ 3 months back pain
(with/ without peripheral manifestations)
and age at onset < 45 years:**



Sacroiliitis on imaging plus ≥ 1 SpA feature OR **HLA-B27 plus ≥ 2 other SpA features**

- SpA features
- inflammatory back pain (IBP)
 - arthritis
 - enthesitis (heel)
 - uveitis
 - dactylitis
 - psoriasis
 - Crohn's/ ulcerative colitis
 - good response to NSAIDs
 - family history for SpA
 - HLA-B27
 - elevated CRP

In patients with peripheral manifestations ONLY:



Arthritis* or enthesitis or dactylitis
plus

- ≥ 1 SpA feature
- uveitis
 - psoriasis
 - Crohn's/ulcerative colitis
 - preceding infection
 - HLA-B27
 - sacroiliitis on imaging

OR

- ≥ 2 other SpA features
- arthritis
 - enthesitis
 - dactylitis
 - IBP ever
 - family history for SpA

*Peripheral arthritis: usually predominantly lower limb and/or asymmetric arthritis
Combined sensitivity 79.5%, combined specificity: 83.3%; n=975

Table 4 Comparison of the combined criteria for axial SpA and for peripheral SpA (set 2D), ESSG criteria and Amor criteria in the entire ASAS study population (n=975)

Sets of criteria for SpA	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)
ESSG	66.7	72.0
Modified ESSG (with MRI)*	79.1	68.8
Amor	55.6	86.7
Modified Amor (with MRI) [†]	67.5	86.7
Combination of ASAS criteria	79.5	83.3

ASAS superior to European Spondyloarthritis Study Group (ESSG) and Amor criteria, which were developed in 1990s as classification criteria for all SpA, including peripheral.

Prevalence of SpA

Total 1-1.5%

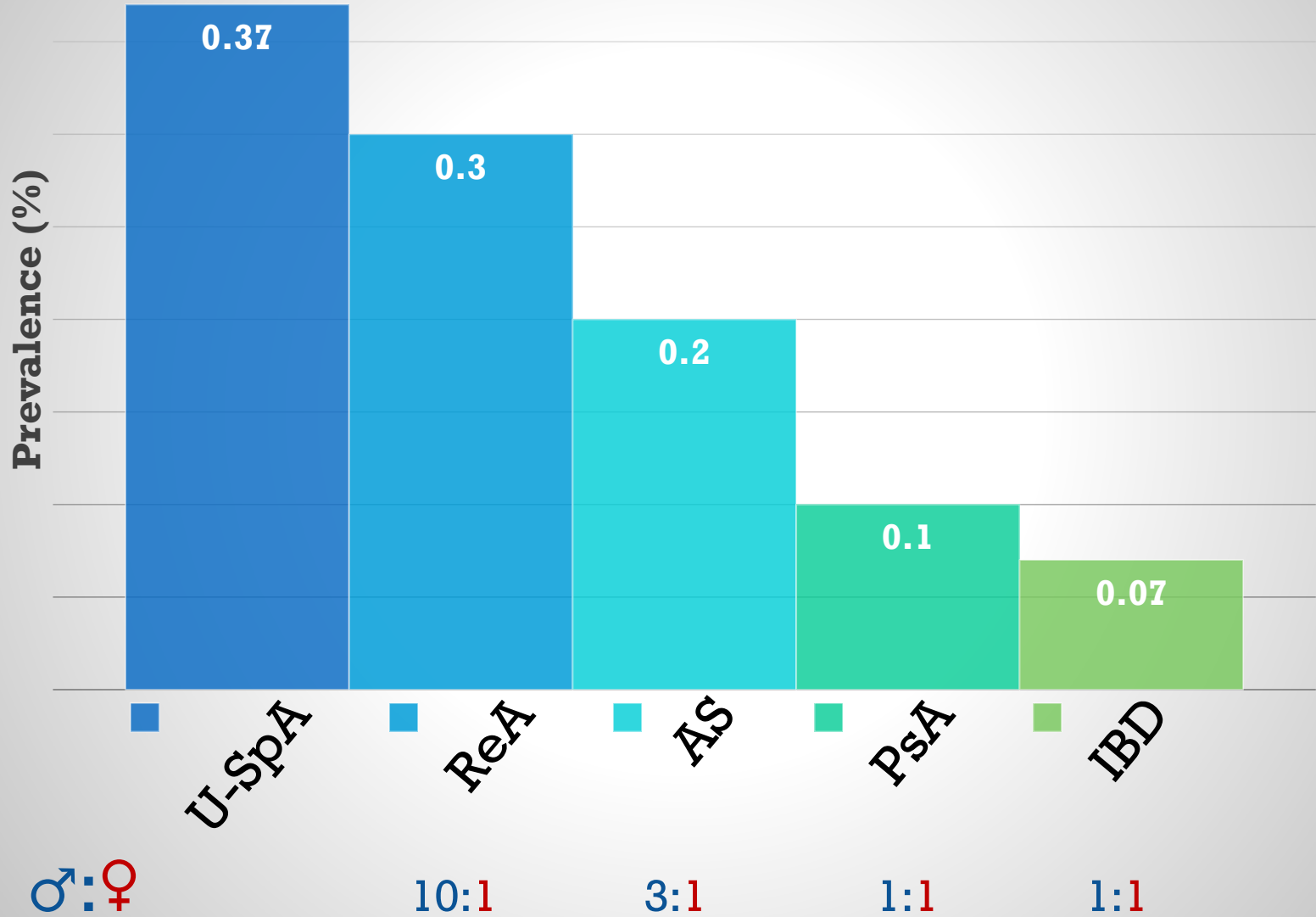


Table 1

CASPAR criteria for PsA¹⁷

To meet the CASPAR criteria for PsA, the patient should have inflammatory joint disease (peripheral, axial or enthesitis) and achieve three or more points, based on the following categories

1. Evidence of psoriasis	
Current	2 points
Personal history	1 point
Familial history	1 point
2. Psoriatic nail dystrophy	
Pitting, onycholysis, hyperkeratosis	1 point
3. Negative test result for rheumatoid factor	
	1 point
4. Dactylitis	
Current inflammation of an entire digit	1 point
History of dactylitis	1 point
5. Radiological evidence of juxta-articular new bone formation	
Well-defined ossification close to joint margins on plain radiographs of hands and feet	1 point

Sensitivity: 91%; specificity: 99%.

Psoriasis & PsA

- PsA prevalence 0.04 - 0.1%
- Psoriasis (Ps) prevalence 2-3% → arthritis in 6 - 47%
→ PsA prevalence 1%



Table 2. Classification of the study patients (N=352) according to Moll and Wright^[1] PsA subtypes*

PsA subtype	Patients, n	M/F ratio
Polyarticular	208	95/113 (1:1.2)
DIP	67	44/23 (1.9:1)
Oligoarticular	42	31/11 (2.8:1)
Spondylitis predominant	32	22/10 (2.2:1)
Arthritis mutilans	3	1/2 (1:2)



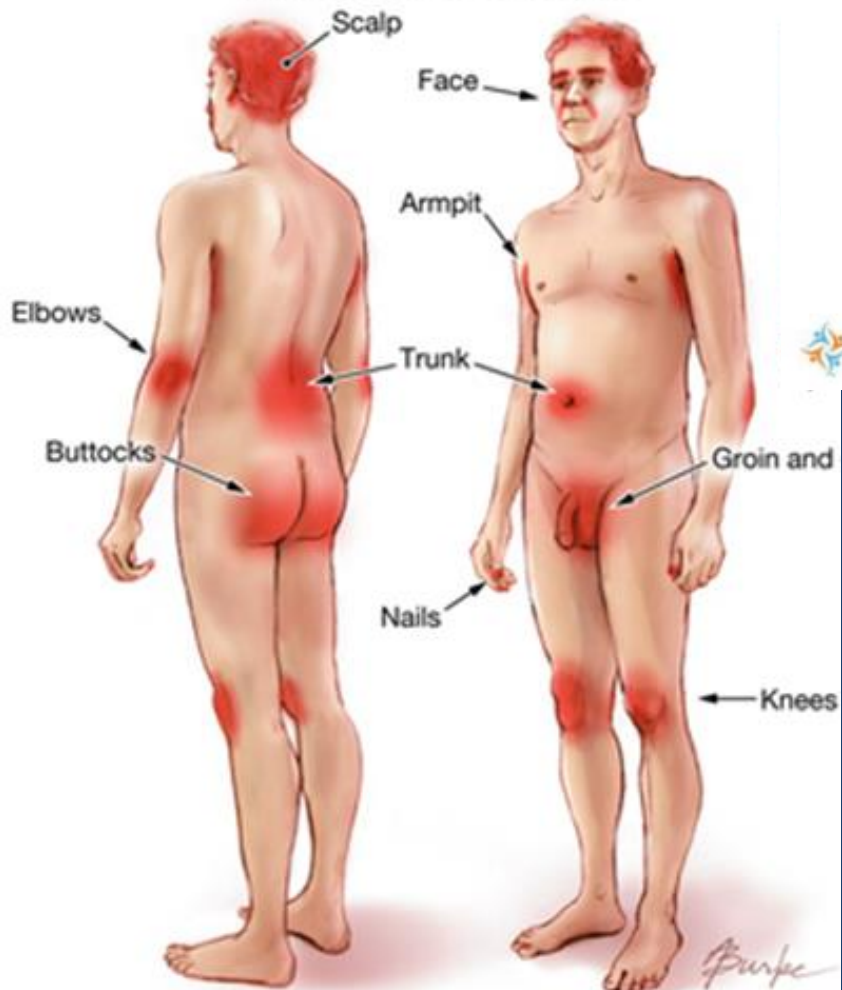
Moll JM, Wright V. *Semin Arthritis Rheum* 1973;3(1):55-78

Maharaj AB et al. *S Afr Med J* 2016;106(6):630-633

Gladman DD et al. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2005;64(Suppl II):ii14-ii17

PsA diagnosis before Ps in 15-20%,
concurrent in 10%

Common locations of psoriasis



Plaque Psoriasis



Guttate Psoriasis



Inverse Psoriasis



Pustular Psoriasis



Risk factors/Predictors of PsA

- Nail lesions - in 87% PsA patients vs. 40% Ps without arthritis
- HLA-B27 - PsA, axial disease, extra-articular manifestations
 - HLA-B38 & 39 predict peripheral arthritis; HLA-B22 protective
- More severe psoriasis (>3 sites), ?scalp & perianal involvement
- Koebner phenomenon
- Higher BMI
- Female
- Family history of Ps, PsA
- ?Trauma, infections
- Smoking – no or inverse association

Azivido V et al. *An Bras Dermatol*. 2013;88(2):233-36
Eastmond CJ, Wright V. *Ann Rheum Dis* 1979;38:226-8
Soltani-Arabshahi R et al. *Arch Dermatol* 2010;146:721-6
Eder L, et al. *Arthritis Care Res* 2011;63:1091-7

HLA-B27 & SpA

Table 2. Association of Spondyloarthropathies with HLA-B27 in White Persons*

Disease	Approximate Prevalence of HLA-B27, %
Ankylosing spondylitis	90
Reactive arthritis	40–80
Juvenile spondyloarthropathy	70
Enteropathic spondyloarthritis	35–75
Psoriatic spondyloarthritis	40–50
Undifferentiated spondyloarthropathy	70
Acute anterior uveitis (acute iritis)	50
Aortic incompetence with heart block	80

* Persons of western European extraction. The prevalence in the general healthy population is approximately 8%. 4% of African Americans, 1% of Asians

Risk of developing AS if HLA-B27+: 1 - 2%

Risk if 1st degree relative has AS: 20 - 30%

PsA: Prognosis

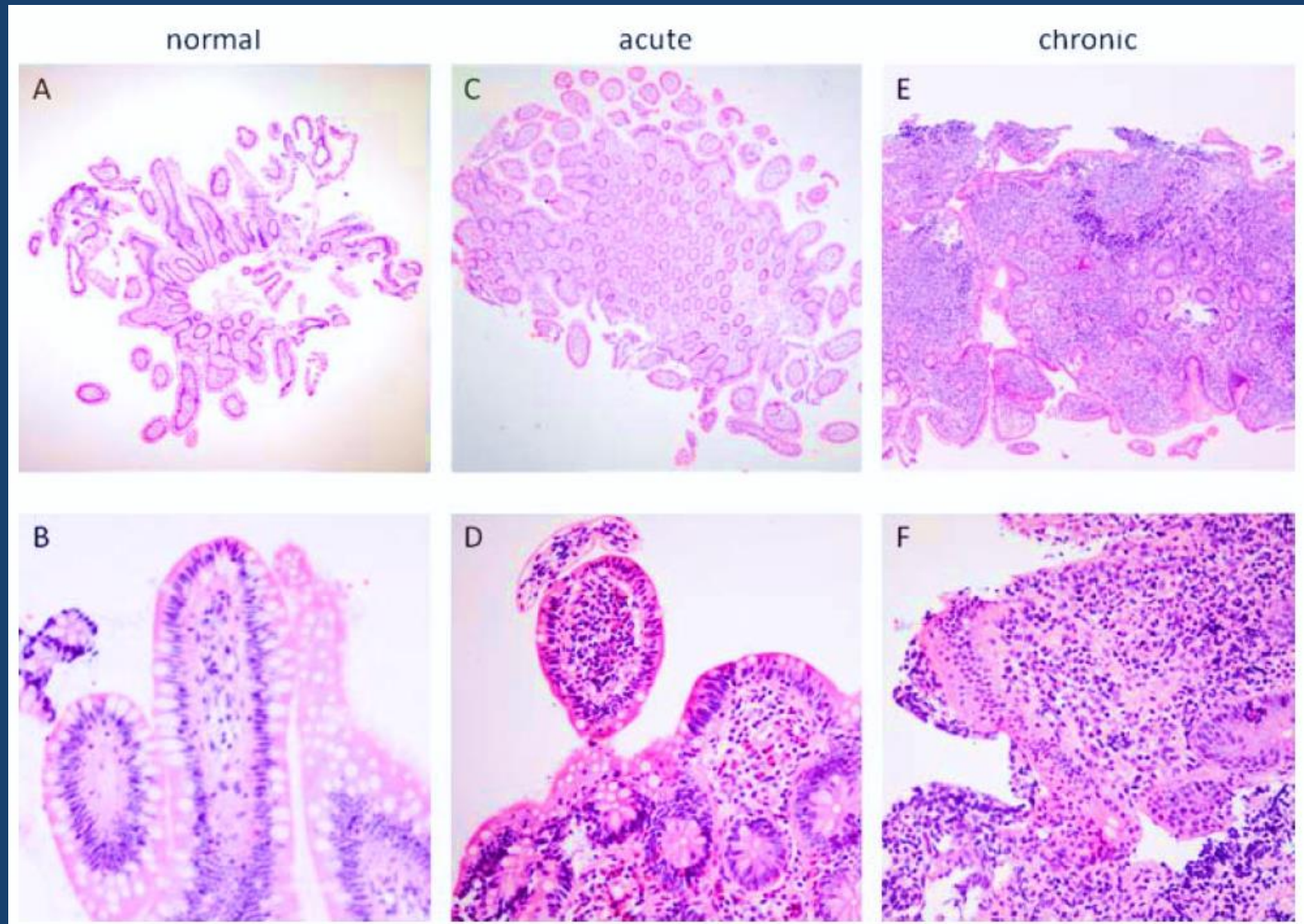
- ? not as severe/symptomatic as RA (ex. back pain reported by 19% with axial lesions on radiographs)
- 67% have erosive disease; ≥ 5 deformed joints by 10y in 55%
- Predictors of progression: polyarticular disease (≥ 5 joints), HLA-B27, female, delay in treatment
- Extra-articular manifestations in up to 40%
- Quality of life, functional capacity (HAQ, SF-36) similar to RA
- Standardized mortality ratio: 1.62 (mostly cardiovascular disease)

**SpA:
Extra-articular Manifestations**

Microscopic Colitis in SpA

- 5 – 10% with SpA have Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
- Arthritis in 9 - 53% with IBD, esp. large intestine involvement
- Microscopic colitis in 50% of SpA without GI Sx or IBD
 - 6% progress to Crohn's disease over 5 years
- Parallels bone marrow edema (SPARCC score) in axial SpA
- Joint inflammation \leftrightarrow gut inflammation
- Predicts increased need for biologicals (HR 2.5)

Microscopic Colitis in SpA



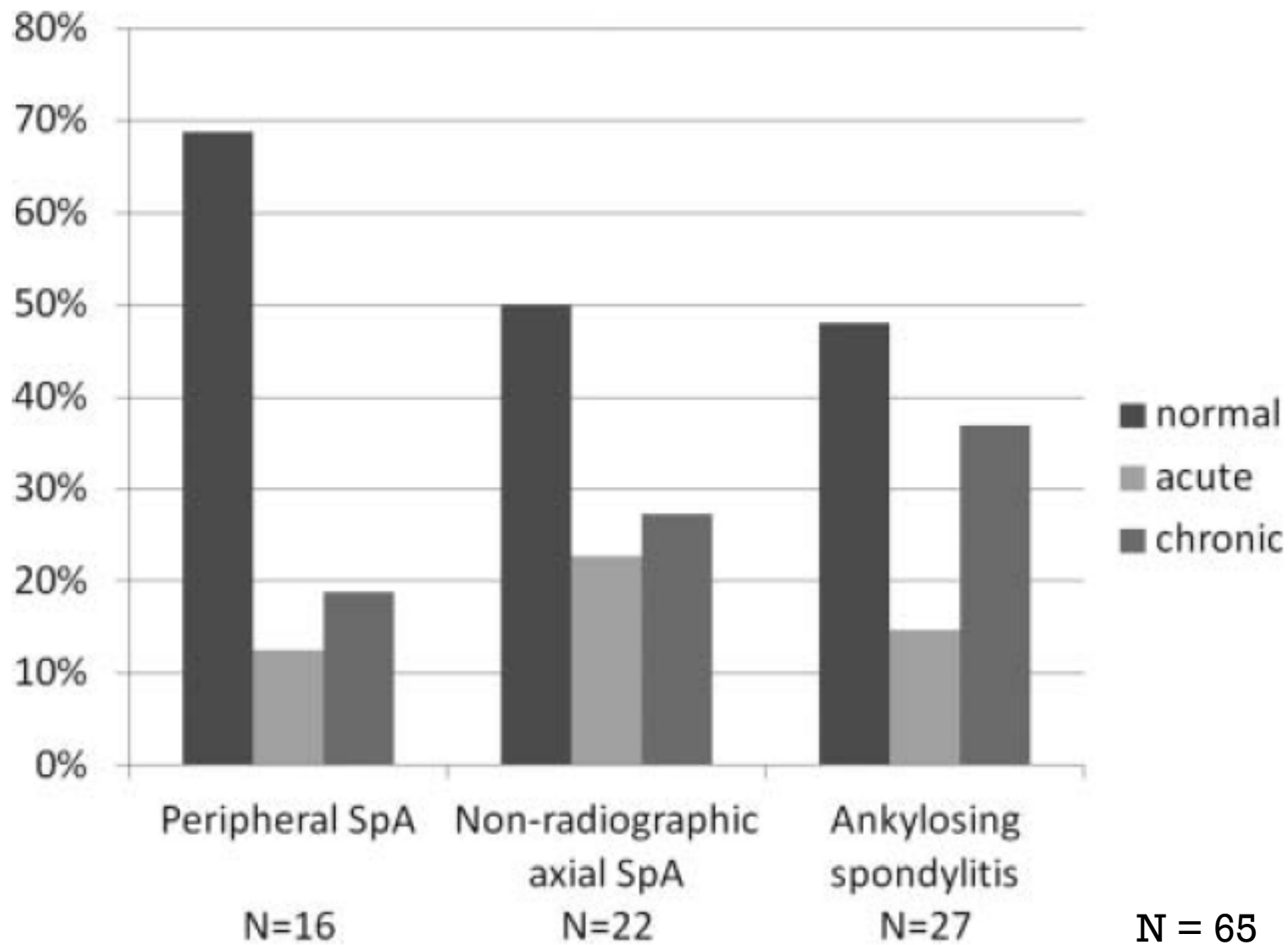


Figure 2 Prevalence of gut inflammation according to classification.

Table 2 Multivariate analysis of microscopic gut inflammation in axial SpA

Model variable	OR	CI	p Value
Age	0.85	0.75 to 0.97	0.013
Sex, male	8.90	1.18 to 67.37	0.035
BASMI	1.94	1.18 to 3.19	0.009
BASDAI	2.05	1.06 to 3.95	0.032
Presence or history of enthesitis	0.32	0.04 to 2.40	0.27

Sensitivity of 81.8% and a specificity of 78.3% for detecting microscopic gut inflammation in axial SpA.

Van Praet, L et al. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2013;72:414–417

Progression to axial ankylosing SpA associated with colitis at disease onset. Remission of joint inflammation associated with disappearance of gut inflammation.

Mielants H et al. *J Rheumatol* 1995;22:2279–84

Calprotectin as biomarker for colitis in SpA

Marker	Cut-off	Sens (%)	Spec (%)	Odds ratio for bowel inflammation	AUC (%)
CRP (mg/dl)	0.4	67.3	54.4	2.46 (p=0.019)	60.9
Serum calpro (ng/mL)	3340	60.4	61.1	2.4 (p=0.018)	60.7
Faecal calpro ($\mu\text{g/g}$)	85	64.3	73.3	4.95 (p=0.021)	68.8

CRP and serum Calprotectin
both elevated

⇒ High risk

Either serum Calprotectin
or CRP elevated

↗ Fecal calprotectin < 85µg/g ⇒ Low Risk

↘ Fecal calprotectin > 85µg/g ⇒ High Risk

CRP and serum Calprotectin
both low

⇒ Low Risk

Cypers H, et al. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2015;0:1–6

Extra-articular Manifestations

PsA

- conjunctivitis (20%), uveitis (5% -10%), mainly in axial disease
- oral aphthae; GI involvement; rarely lung fibrosis, aortitis/ AI

SpA

- Uveitis - typically acute, anterior, recurrent, but can be chronic, bilateral, & posterior with IBD & PsA; of a series of 175 patients with HLA-B27 uveitis, SpA in 50%, mostly AS
- CV – aortitis ascending aorta & arch, late in disease
- In one series of 52 patients with AS, 40% noted to have pulmonary abnormalities on CT
- Renal: amyloidosis, IgA nephropathy

SpA Management

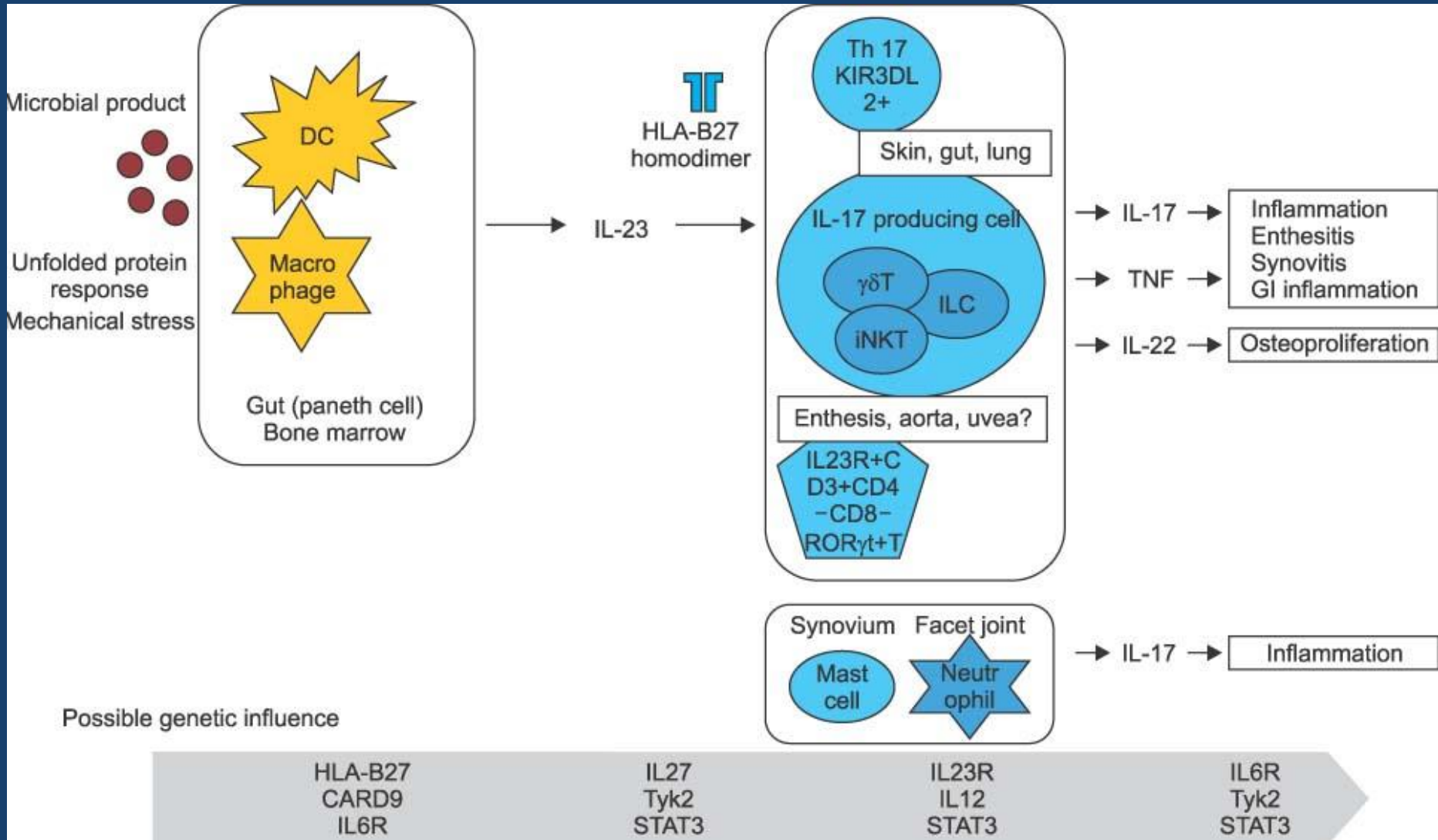
Effect of tight control of inflammation in early psoriatic arthritis (TICOPA): a UK multicentre, open-label, RCT

Coates L et al. *Lancet* 2015; 386: 2489–98

- Adults with PsA Sx <24 mos, no prior DMARD
- N=206: 101 to tight control (f/u q4 weeks, escalate Rx if minimal disease activity criteria not met); 105 to standard care (as per treating clinician, review q12 weeks)
- Outcome: Proportion achieving ACR 20 response at 48 weeks
- Analysis: ITT, multiple imputation for missing components

RESULTS:

- ACR20 response at 48 weeks higher in tight control (OR 1.91, 95% CI 1.03–3.55; p=0.04); no difference in radiographic progression
- Serious AE > in tight control (25 events in 14 vs. 8 in 6 patients)
- Tight control group also more likely to be on Rx, including biologicals



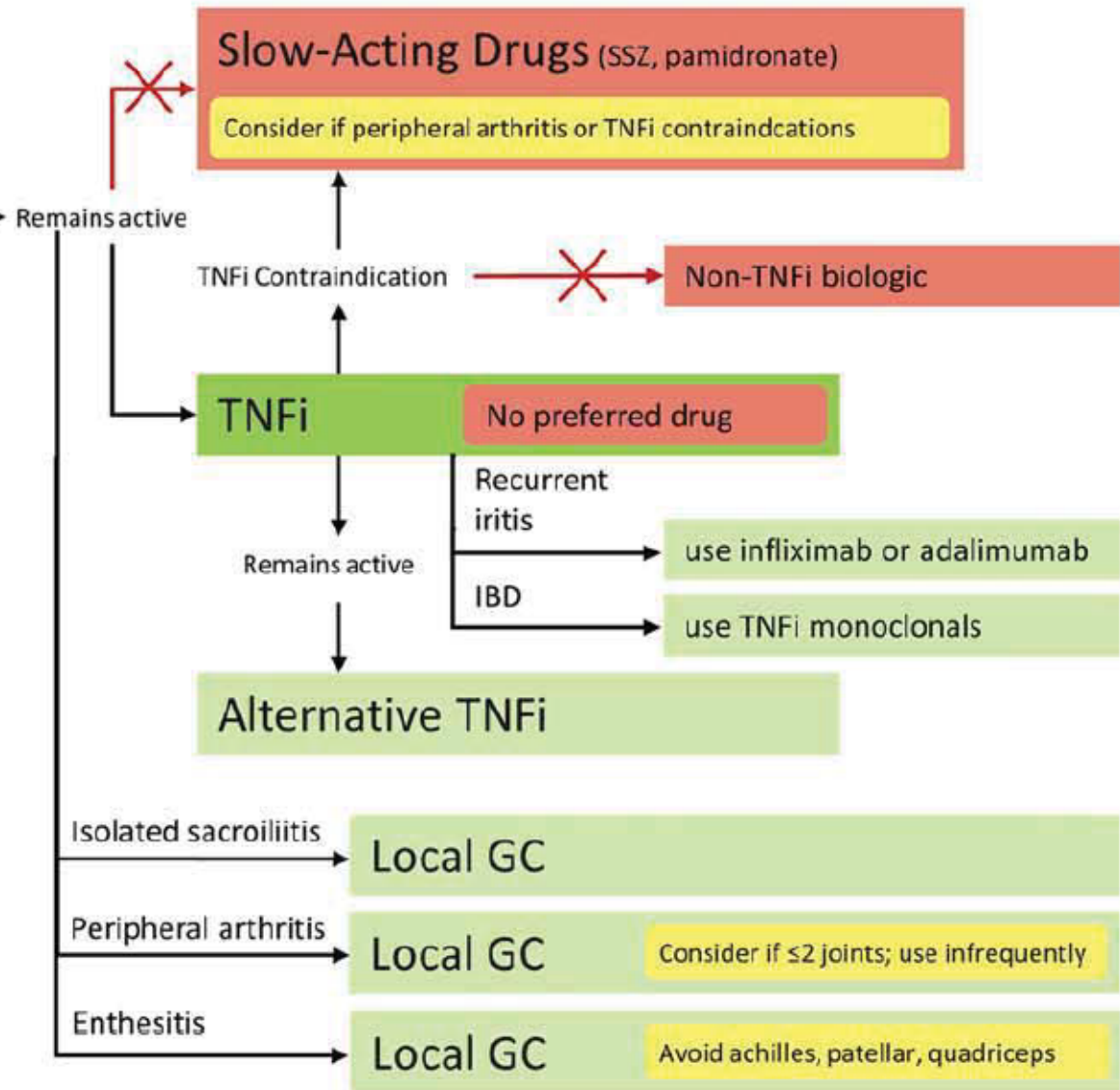
Active AS

NSAIDs Use continuously
 No preferred drug

Physical Therapy Active over passive
 Land-based over aquatic

Systemic glucocorticoids
 Consider if peripheral flare, pregnancy, IBD flare

LEGEND
 Strongly recommend
 Conditionally recommend
 Conditionally recommend against
 Strongly recommend against
 Qualifier



SpA: Pharmacotherapy

For peripheral arthritis:

- non-biological DMARDs (methotrexate, sulfasalazine, leflunamide)

For axial disease, enthesitis:

- NSAIDs
- TNFi
- IL-17i (Sekukinumab), FUTURE 1 & 2

Others:

- IL-17i (Ixekizumab)
- IL-12/23i (Ustekinumab)
- IL-17/23i (Guselkumab)
- Jak/stat pathway (Tofacitinib)

Table 5 Assessment of SpondyloArthritis international Society (ASAS) core set for symptom modifying antirheumatic drugs (SM-ARD) and physical therapy¹⁷

Domain	Instrument
Function	BASFI
Pain	NRS/VAS (last week/spine/at night due to AS) NRS/VAS-last week-spine-due to AS
Spinal mobility	Chest expansion Modified Schober Occiput to wall Cervical rotation Lateral spinal flexion or BASMI
Patient global	NRS/VAS (global disease activity last week)
Stiffness	NRS/VAS (duration of morning stiffness/spine/last week)
Fatigue	Fatigue question BASDAI

AS, ankylosing spondylitis; BASDAI, Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Disease Activity Index; BASFI, Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Functional Index; BASMI, Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Metrology Index; NRS, numerical rating scale 0–10; VAS, visual analogue scale 0–100.

SUMMARY

- SpA likely underestimated
- SpA associated with significant comorbidity & mortality
- Early treatment and treat to target beneficial
- Management includes pharmacotherapy, monitoring for complications, and managing co-morbid conditions
- Multidisciplinary team approach (GI specialists, rheumatologist, dermatologist, ophthalmologists, general practitioners)

