

## 1st Gulf Coast Symposium Omni Royal Hotel New Orleans, Louisiana October 15, 2022



# State of the Art in Drug and Disease Monitoring

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Patient with CD on infliximab 5 mg/kg due to prior disease breakthrough. Recent colonoscopy shows deep remission. Trough is 2.1 mcg/mL with low antibody titer detected. You are considering the next steps



# State of the Art in Drug and Disease Monitoring

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# **Disclosures**

Anita Afzali, MD, MPH, MHCM – Planner/Moderator/Course Director/Presenter Research Ed Support – AbbVie, Janssen, Takeda, BMS, Pfizer Advisory Board – Gilead, TLL Pharma, AbbVie, Janssen, Takeda, BMS, Pfizer Consultant – Gilead, DiaSorin, Arena, AbbVie, Janssen, Takeda, BMS, Pfizer Board Member and Co-Founder – IBD Horizons, Scrubs & Heels

# Why Do We Need to Understand Therapeutic Drug Monitoring?

- To improve management of our patients with IBD
- To understand the heterogeneity of drug and patient characteristics which results in variation in drug
  - o Delivery,
  - o Metabolism,
  - $\circ$  Efficacy
  - Safety
- To provide insight into primary and secondary non-response
- To assist in treatment selection for each individual patient

# **Factors Impacting Pharmacokinetics**

|  | Drug Clearance |  | ADA Formation |  |
|--|----------------|--|---------------|--|
|  |                |  |               |  |
| Gender (male)                          |                |  |               |  |
| BMI (high)                             |                |  |               |  |
| Albumin concentration (low)            |                |  |               |  |
| Baseline CRP* concentration (high)     |                |  |               |  |
| Baseline TNF concentration (high)      |                |  |               |  |
| Concomitant immunomodulator use        |                |  |               |  |
| Presence of antidrug antibodies (ADAs) |                |  |               |  |
| Deep ulcerations on endoscopy          |                |  |               |  |

# Fecal Loss of IFX Resulting in Lack of Response



- Does fecal loss of IFX contribute to failure to respond to induction therapy in severe colitis?
- Fecal samples collected within 14d following IFX 5mg/kg, n=30
- Non-responders (compared to responders) to IFX:
  Higher fecal IFX conc at day 1 (p=0.02)
  Lower serum IFX conc day 14 (p=0.03)

IBDH

# **Principles of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring in IBD**

## We CAN Assess Drug or Metabolites:

- Thiopurines
- Biologics
  - Anti-TNF therapy
  - Vedolizumab
  - Ustekinumab

## We DO NOT Assess Drug or Metabolites:

- Methotrexate
- $\circ$  5-ASA
- $_{\odot}$  JAK inhibitors
- S1P receptor modulators

## REACTIVE

- Most common approach
- Await a bad occurrence (classically LOR) then attempt to fix it

## PROACTIVE

 Preemptively change drug dosing prior to onset of bad occurrence to prevent a LOR

# **Commercially Available Drug Assays**

| Туре                                   | Methods  | Drug Assays Available         |  |  |
|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Prometheus (Anser) <sup>1</sup>        | Can measure drug concentration and antibody level simultaneously (drug tolerant assay)   | IFX, ADA, CZP, VEDO, UST      |  |  |
| ARUP Labs <sup>2</sup>                 | Test measures bioactivity using reported cells<br>Method - Cell culture / Stimulated cell function assay / Chemiluminescent<br>immunoassay, quantitative and semi-quantitative | IFX, ADA                      |  |  |
| Mayo Medical Laboratories <sup>3</sup> | Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS)  | IFX, ADA, CZP, VEDO           |  |  |
| Inform Diagnostics <sup>4</sup>        | ELISA: Can measure drug concentration and antibody level   | IFX, ADA, CZP, GOL, VEDO, UST |  |  |
| Esoterix (Labcorp) <sup>5</sup>        | Electrochemiluminescence Assay (note different units of results for antibody titers – ng/mL)   | IFX, ADA, CZP, GOL, VEDO, UST |  |  |

https://www.prometheuslabs.com/anser/about-the-tests/
 http://www.aruplab.com/
 https://www.mayocliniclabs.com/index.html
 http://www.informdx.com/
 http://www.esoterix.com

# **Phases of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring**

**Treatment Selection** 

**Prediction of Ongoing Response** 

**Assessment of Loss of Response** 

# **Phases of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring**



#### **Prediction of Ongoing Response**

#### **Assessment of Loss of Response**

## **Pre-Treatment Considerations Related to TDM: Thiopurines**

#### TPMT

| Frequency | Enzyme Activity | Allele                               |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 89%       | Normal to High  | TPMT <sup>H</sup> /TPMT <sup>H</sup> |
| 11%       | Intermediate    | TPMT <sup>H</sup> /TPMT <sup>L</sup> |
| 0.33%     | Low to Absent   | TPMT <sup>L</sup> /TPMT <sup>L</sup> |

Beaugerie L, et al. Lancet. 2009;374(9701):1617-25.

#### NUDT15

#### p.Arg139Cys Allele Frequency

Chinese: 13% Koreans: 10.4% Japanese: 7% Mixed American: 2%

## **Recommended:**

 TPMT testing prior to dosing thiopurines for IBD

### Suggested:

• NUDT15 testing in some individuals

**Practical guidance:** 

• Early CBC (1-2 weeks) prior to dose increase of thiopurine

IBD

Yang SK, et al. Nat Genet. 2014 Sept;46(9): 1017–1020.

## Pre-Treatment Considerations Related to TDM: Can we predict immunogenicity to Anti-TNF?



# HLA-DQA1\*05 Carriage Associated With Immunogenicity to Infliximab and Adalimumab

- N = 1240
- Biologic-naïve CD patients starting infliximab or adalimumab
- Genome wide study
- HLA-DQA1\*05 allele, significantly increased the rate of immunogenicity

(HR 1.90; 95%CI 1.60-2.25)





**Dotted** lines: anti-TNF monotherapy **Solid** lines: combination therapy with immunomodulators **Red**: carriers of the HLA-DQA1\*05 allele (1 or 2 copies) **Blue**: non-carriers

IBDH

## **Unanswered Questions: Immunogenicity to Anti-TNFs**

- Did your patient already develop anti-drug antibodies (ADA) on a prior anti-TNF?
- Related to HLA DQ1\*05:
  - **o If negative: would you use monotherapy with anti-TNF?**
  - **o If positive: would you not consider proactive TDM or stopping IMM?**

### **Recommended:**

 If prior ADAs to anti-TNF, and going to second anti-TNF use combination therapy and/or proactive TDM

## **Consider:**

• HLA DQ1\*05 testing in the future (?)

## **Combination Therapy with Anti-TNF is better Than Monotherapy**



1. Colombel JF, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2010;362(15):1383-95. 2. Panaccione R, et al. *Gastroenterol*. 2014;146(2):392-400.

# **Combination Therapy NOT Always Necessary**

- SONIC post-hoc: infliximab levels more important than combination therapy<sup>1,2</sup>
- Ustekinumab does NOT benefit from combination therapy<sup>3,7</sup>
- Vedolizumab does NOT benefit from combination therapy<sup>4-7</sup>
- 5-ASA not helpful when escalating to advanced therapies<sup>8-9</sup> (nor cost-effective)<sup>10</sup>

#### **Recommended:**

- Monotherapy of vedolizumab and ustekinumab
- Stopping 5-ASA after treatment escalation in UC (and CD) Possible in the future:
- Optimized monotherapy of anti-TNF to avoid IMM use





10. Shaffer S, et al. Am J Gastroenterol. 2021; 116:125-133.

## **Phases of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring**

#### **Treatment Selection**

**Prediction of Ongoing Response** 

**Assessment of Loss of Response** 

- Proactive TDM
- Helps prevent risk of relapse
- Reduces risk of hospitalizations and surgery

# Infliximab Levels Associated with Specific Outcomes of Interest



# **Proactive Monitoring to Optimize IFX Maintenance and Durability**



- Single physician, retrospective cohort study of pts in clinical remission
- Optimized IFX dose to trough (5-10µg/mL) n=48
- No dose optimization n=78
- Conclusion: Dose optimization probability to remain on IFX in 5 years

## **Randomized Prospective Trials of TDM Infliximab in IBD**



DIS1: dose increases (2 maximum) in steps of 2.5 mg/kg based on clinical symptoms and biomarker analysis and/or serum infliximab concentrations

DIS2: dose increase from 5 to 10 mg/kg based on the same criteria; CONTROL: dose increase to 10 mg/kg based on clinical symptoms alone



# **Evolution of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring for Anti-TNF Therapies**

**Treatment Selection** 

**Prediction of Ongoing Response** 

**Assessment of Loss of Response** 

- Primary/Secondary non-response
- Reactive TDM

## **Proposed Approach to Therapeutic Drug Monitoring with Anti-TNFs**



# **Suggested Target Trough Concentrations Reactive TDM**



# **Immunogenicity and Combination Therapy**





Immunomodulators Decrease Risk of immunogenicity: IFX or ADL Thiopurines or Methotrexate both work well

Kennedy et al Lancet Gastro 2019.

## **Evolution of ADAs by HLA DQA1\*05 Genotype & IMM Use**

## (ADA titre ≥10AU/ml at any time)





- O copies of DQA1\*05, immunosuppressants on Visit 1
- •••••• 0 copies of DQA1\*05, no immunosuppressants on Visit 1
- ≥1 copy of DQA1\*05, immunosuppressants on Visit 1
- $\sim \geq 1$  copy of DQA1\*05, no immunosuppressants on Visit 1

Sarkoz et al Gastro 2019.

# Patients at Risk for Anti-Drug Antibodies and Role for Combination IMM

- Patient receiving episodic therapy
  - $\circ$  Intentional
  - Unintentional: break in therapy due to coverage issues or complication
- "Pseudo-episodic therapy"
  - Sub-therapeutic serum drug levels
  - Patient with high drug clearance between doses
- Patient who developed anti-drug antibodies previously
- High BMI, Smoking
- HLA DQA1\*05

## **Recommendation:**

- For anti-TNF only
- This is not helpful if there is no drug detectable!
- Remember to follow-up with additional levels to show that your approach worked

# **Proactively Monitor Disease and Reactively TDM**

Subclinical Relapse (the asymptomatic patient) and Inform TDM



## **Summary: Drug and Disease Monitoring**

- TPMT, NUDT15 prior to thiopurines
- Role of HLA DQ1\*05 evolving
- REactive drug monitoring is helpful with anti-TNF, the downside is waiting until the drug has failed the patient and patient is symptomatic
- PROactive drug monitoring, prospective randomized data for anti-TNF overall do not support this approach, but makes sense for some high-risk patients
- Vedolizumab and ustekinumab have low immunogenicity and no proven benefit of combination therapy or established need for serum concentration measurements
- Monitor disease Proactively, test drug levels Reactively for TDM
  - Can detect subclinical relapse or lack of response and then consider reactive TDM and dose optimization

# IBDHorizons

### Panel Discussion Moderator: Anita Afzali, MD Gary Lichtenstein, M.D. Bincy Abraham, MD Brian Feagan, MD Casey Chapman, M.D.

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