



Note 1: Therapeutic class	Drugs	Suitable for monotherapy without MTX	Review period	Patient and clinical considerations
Anti-TNF	Yuflyma® SC (Adalimumab) Remsima® IV/SC (Infliximab) Cimzia® SC (Certolizumab pegol) Benepali® SC (Etanercept) Simponi® SC (Golimumab) <i>(not if the patient has psoriasis)</i>	Yes (all)	12 weeks	Contraindications: Demyelinating disease, heart failure (etanercept cautioned for both) Yuflyma®/Remsima® are first line biologics in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Cimzia® is licenced in pregnant or lactating patients but both infliximab and adalimumab are widely used in pregnancy and may be continued to term (although ideally stopped in the third trimester) Cimzia® is contraindicated in latex allergy
JAK-I	Rinvoq® PO (Upadacitinib) Xeljanz® PO (Tofacitinib)	Yes No	12 weeks	JAK-I should not be used in patients with the following risk factors unless there are no suitable alternatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Age 65 or over - Current or past long-term smoking - Other risk factors for cardiovascular disease or malignancy Use caution when prescribing in patients with other risk factors for VTE and prescribe lower doses if possible. Carry out periodic skin examination on all patients to check for skin malignancy (<i>MHRA April 2023</i>)
Anti IL-17	Taltz® SC (Ixekizumab) Cosentyx® SC (Secukinumab) Bimzelx® SC (Bimekizumab)	Yes (all)	16 weeks	Avoid in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Cosentyx® is contraindicated in latex allergy Taltz® and Bimelx® - Note different doses required if the patient has concomitant psoriasis Cosentyx® - Dose is 150mg if anti-TNF naïve, 300mg if concomitant psoriasis or anti-TNF failure
Anti IL-23	Tremfya® SC (Guselkumab) Skyrizi® SC (Risankizumab)	Yes	16 weeks	Continuous homecare nursing service available if adherence concerns or if patients are unable to self-inject
Anti IL-12/23	Pyzchiva® SC (Ustekinumab)	Yes	24 weeks	Continuous homecare nursing service available if adherence concerns or if patients are unable to self-inject Also used in the management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease
PDE4 inhibitor	Otezla® PO (Apremilast)	Yes	16 weeks	Oral therapy requiring less monitoring than other options Cautioned in depression Note that while data suggests that apremilast is effective versus placebo, it is not as effective as anti-TNF for treating psoriatic arthritis. Clinical effectiveness results have shown it to be the least effective treatment, but the reduced monitoring required may make it acceptable to some patients