

NSAID Toxicity Criteria and Severity Descriptors for the listing of TNF-alpha antagonists for Ankylosing Spondylitis on the PBS

ULN = upper limit of normal

Adverse event	Brief description of minimum grade	NIH common toxicity criteria grade
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Blood / Bone Marrow

Anaemia	Haemoglobin < 80 g/L	3 (or higher)
Haemolysis	Evidence of red cell destruction and $\geq 20\text{g/L}$ drop in Hb, no transfusion required	2 (or higher)
Leukopaenia	Total WCC < $3 \times 10^9/\text{L}$	2 (or higher)
Neutropaenia	Neutrophils < $1.0 \times 10^9/\text{L}$	3 (or higher)
Thrombocytopaenia	Platelets < $50 \times 10^9/\text{L}$	3 (or higher)

Cardiovascular

Arrhythmia	Symptomatic and requiring therapy	3 (or higher)
Cardiac LV function	Congestive cardiac failure responsive to treatment	3 (or higher)
Hypertension	Recurrent / persistent rise of > 20 mmHg diastolic BP or rise to > 150/90 on two occasions if BP previously normal	2 (or higher)
Myocardial ischaemia / infarction	Unstable angina or myocardial infarction	3 (or higher)
Oedema	Symptomatic, limiting function, unresponsive to therapy or requiring drug discontinuation	3 (or higher)

Coagulation

Prothrombin Time (PT)	PT > 2 x ULN	3 (or higher)
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Dermatology / Skin

Alopecia	Pronounced hair loss	2 (or higher)
Photosensitivity	Painful erythema and/or bullae	2 (or higher)
Pruritis	Intense or widespread and poorly controlled despite treatment	3 (or higher)
Rash / desquamation	Scattered macular or papular eruption or erythema with pruritis or other associated symptoms covering < 50% of body surface or localised desquamation or other lesions covering < 50% of body	2 (or higher)
Urticaria	Requiring topical, oral or I.V. medication for < 24 hours	2 (or higher)

Gastrointestinal

Abdominal pain	Moderate pain, interfering with function	2 (or higher)
Anorexia	Oral intake significantly decreased	2 (or higher)
Constipation	Requiring use of laxatives and enemas	3 (or higher)
Diarrhoea	Increase of 4-6 stools/day over pre-treatment	2 (or higher)
Dyspepsia	Moderate / severe, unresponsive to standard therapy, recurs on rechallenge	2 (or higher)
Nausea	Oral intake significantly decreased	2 (or higher)
Pancreatitis	Abdominal pain with pancreatic enzyme elevation	3 (or higher)
Peptic ulcer	Requiring medical management	2 (or higher)
Stomatitis	Painful erythema, oedema or ulcers but able to eat or swallow	2 (or higher)
Vomiting	2 or more episodes per 24 hours over pre-treatment	2 (or higher)

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Haemorrhage

Melena / GI bleeding	Requiring transfusion	3 (or higher)
Purpura	Generalised purpura	3 (or higher)

Hepatic

Bilirubin	> 1.5 x ULN	2 (or higher)
Transaminases	ALT and/or AST > 2.5 x ULN or ALT and/or AST > 1.5 x ULN on three occasions over a three month period	2 (or higher)

Neurology / Senses

C.N.S. cerebrovascular ischaemia	T.I.A. or C.V.A.	3 (or higher)
Decreased level of consciousness	Somnolence or sedation interfering with function but not interfering with activities of daily living	2 (or higher)
Headaches (severe)	Severe pain: pain or analgesics severely interfere with activities of daily living	3 (or higher)
Inner ear / hearing	Tinnitus or hearing loss not requiring hearing aid or treatment	2 (or higher)
Insomnia	Frequent difficulty sleeping interfering with activities of daily living	3 (or higher)
Mood alteration	Moderate mood alteration interfering with function but not interfering with activities of daily living	2 (or higher)
Neuropathy - Sensory	Objective sensory loss or paraesthesia interfering with function but not interfering with activities of daily living	2 (or higher)
Vertigo	Interfering with activities of daily living	3 (or higher)
Vision	Symptomatic and interfering with function but not interfering with activities of daily living	2 (or higher)

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Pulmonary

Asthma	Moderate	2 (or higher)
Cough (severe)	Severe cough or coughing spasm, poor control or unresponsive to treatment. Evidence of reversal on cessation of treatment.	3 (or higher)
Pneumonitis / pulmonary infiltrates	Radiographic changes, Respiratory Function Test abnormalities and requiring steroids or diuretics	2 (or higher)

Renal

Haematuria	Macroscopic haematuria	2 (or higher)
Hyperkalaemia	> 6.0 mmol/L	3 (or higher)
Proteinuria	> 1.0g / 24 hours, elevated urine protein/creatinine ratios > 100mg/mmol, (dipstick protein ++ or greater), confirmed on two separate occasions	2 (or higher)
Renal impairment	Creatinine > 1.5 ULN or creatinine clearance < 30mL/min	2 (or higher)

Other

Allergic reaction / hypersensitivity	Urticaria, drug fever > 38°C and/or bronchospasm	2 (or higher)
Fatigue, malaise	Severe, loss of ability to perform some activities	3 (or higher)
Infection	Severe, systemic infection, requiring I.V. antimicrobial treatment or hospitalisation	3 (or higher)