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**Crohn's and
Colitis Canada**

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Crohn's and
Colitis Canada
Crohn et
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De-escalation of Therapy In IBD

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Objectives

- Understand the reasons why clinicians would/should consider a de-escalation in IBD therapies
- Recognize which patients might be suitable for de-escalation in treatment
- Review the current evidence on de-escalation of treatments for IBD



Why de-escalate?

- Risk of infections
- Risk of neoplasm
- Pregnancy
- Social Economic/
Patient preference



Concerns regarding combination therapy

Infection

TREAT REGISTRY

- 6273 CD on IFX
- Long term safety of IFX in large cohort
 - Moderate to severe disease activity
 - Narcotic
 - Prednisone
 - IFX



Infections

Corticosteroids → Candida species

Thiopurines → Viral illness

anti/-TNF → Fungi and mycobacteria



Infections

Corticosteroids → Candida species

Thiopurines → Viral illness

Anti-TNF → Fungi and mycobacteria

3x increased risk of infection



Cancer

TREAT Registry



Independent association with malignancy

- Baseline age
- Disease duration
- Smoking



No increased risk with mono or combo therapy



Economic Issues

In some countries, economic issues are limited patients access to anti-TNF where clinicians are encouraged to de-escalate doses and/or to withdraw anti-TNF when



What's the target?



Mucosal healing

Clinical
symptoms

Biomarkers



What's the target?



Mucosal healing
Deep Remission



Clinical symptoms
Sustained >1 year



Biomarkers
FCal, CRP, Hgb, WBC



Show me the...



IS + anti-TNF vs. anti-TNF monotherapy



SONIC



What did Sonic tell us?

Patients receiving IFX + AZA had significantly higher rates of CS-free clinical remission and mucosal healing as compared to those receiving either treatment alone



What about those patient who are refractory to conventional IS?

Should we continue both?

REDUCED DISEASE ACTIVITY

LESS RISK OF NEEDING TO SWITCH TO ANOTHER ANIT-TNF

GREATER ANO-FISTULA CLOSURE



De-escalation strategies

Corticosteroids

Ineffective as maintenance/minimize
expose



Immunosuppressives

Immunogenicity

MTX/Thiopurines



Anti-TNF

Dose optimization

Increase/decrease
interval



De-escalation strategies from two to one drug...

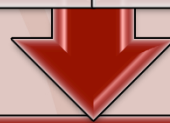
Combination IS & anti-TNF



IS Discontinuation

Van Assche et al.

81 pts/ remission
x6months



Open-label, randomized, controlled study

Dose optimization **—** Discontinuation



De-escalation strategies from two to one drug...

Combination IS & anti-TNF

Anti-TNF Discontinuation

Rheumatology

Saleem et al. 2010

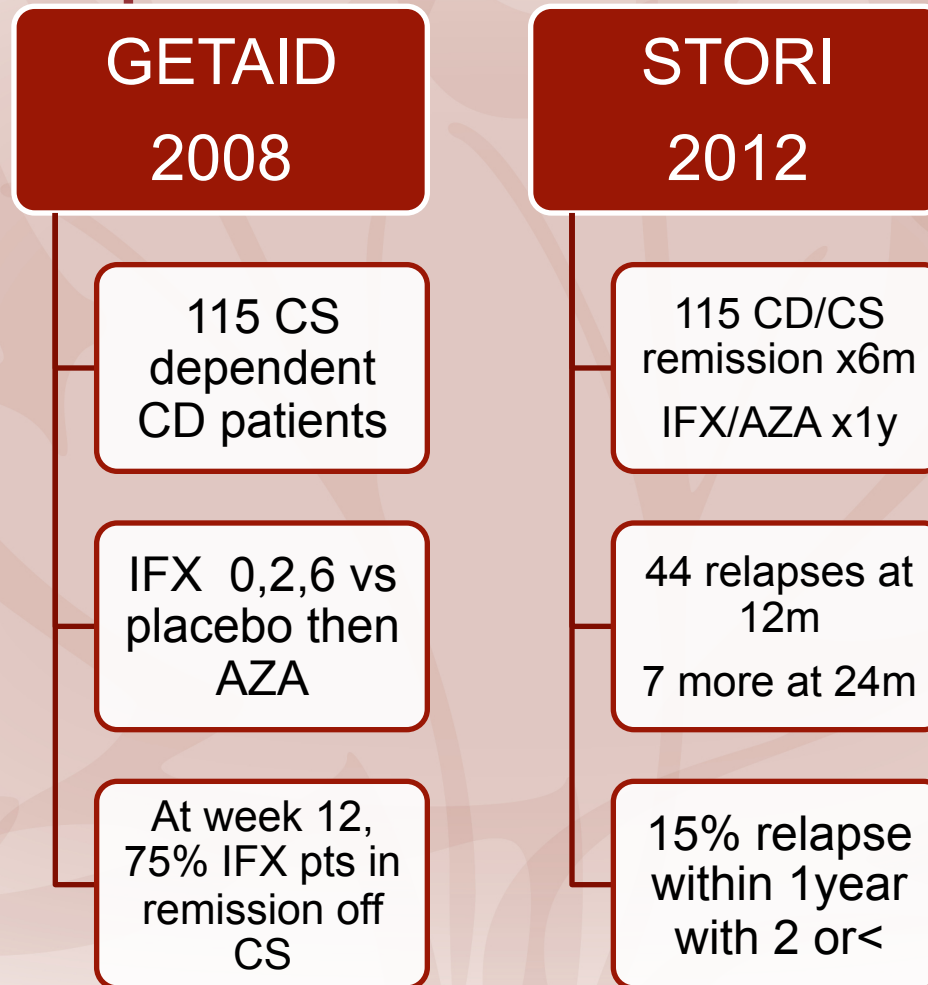
47 patients in clinical remission on MTX/IFX

Main predictor of successful withdrawal was time to
treatment from diagnosis



So what about IBD?

2 Prospective Trials



Risk for relapse

- Male
- No prior surgery
- WBC
- CRP
- FeCal
- Hgb



Summary

- Patients exposed to a combination of IS and anti-TNF have an increased risk of infection
- No clear signal for associated cancers compared to single therapy
- IS alone relapse rates at 12 months following IS cessation is close to 20% CD & 30% UC
- No IBD studies examined anti-TNF withdrawal in scheduled monotherapy



Summary

- In patients receiving IS & IFX for at least 6 months, relapse rate of IFX failure following IS cessation is near 20% at 24 months and seems to be similar to those who continued combo therapy
- Anti-TNF cessation in CD on combo-therapy shows a relapse rate close to 40% and 50% over 1 and 2 years respectively.
- Special populations: young male, pregnancy and the elderly require special consideration



De-escalation treatment strategy should be mainly considered in patients with high risk of severe adverse events and low relapse risk (patients in deep remission) after drug withdrawal.



Thank-you

