

Què podem fer quan la colitis ulcerosa crònica contínua se'ns resisteix? I què podrem fer?

Ingrid Ordás
Hospital Clínic Barcelona

INTRODUCTION

- ✧ **Chronic active** UC is associated with:
 - ✧ significant **morbidity**
 - ✧ increased **CCR risk**
 - ✧ **disability**, loss of **productivity** and increased **cost**
- ✧ Up to **18%** of patients suffer **chronic active** disease
- ✧ **30%** requiring **colectomy** at 10 years
- ✧ Management of these patients is **challenging**

Optimize Management

- ✧ Ensure maximal **dose** and **correct topical** formulation
- ✧ **Combine** oral and topical 5-ASA
- ✧ Appropriate **CS tapering** regime (prevent relapse)
- ✧ Adequate **weight-based** dose **thiopurines**
- ✧ Is there a role for **methotrexate / leukocytapheresis**?
- ✧ Anti-TNF Therapy: **Drug Levels** | Antidrug **Antibodies**

Principle of managing chronic unremitting UC

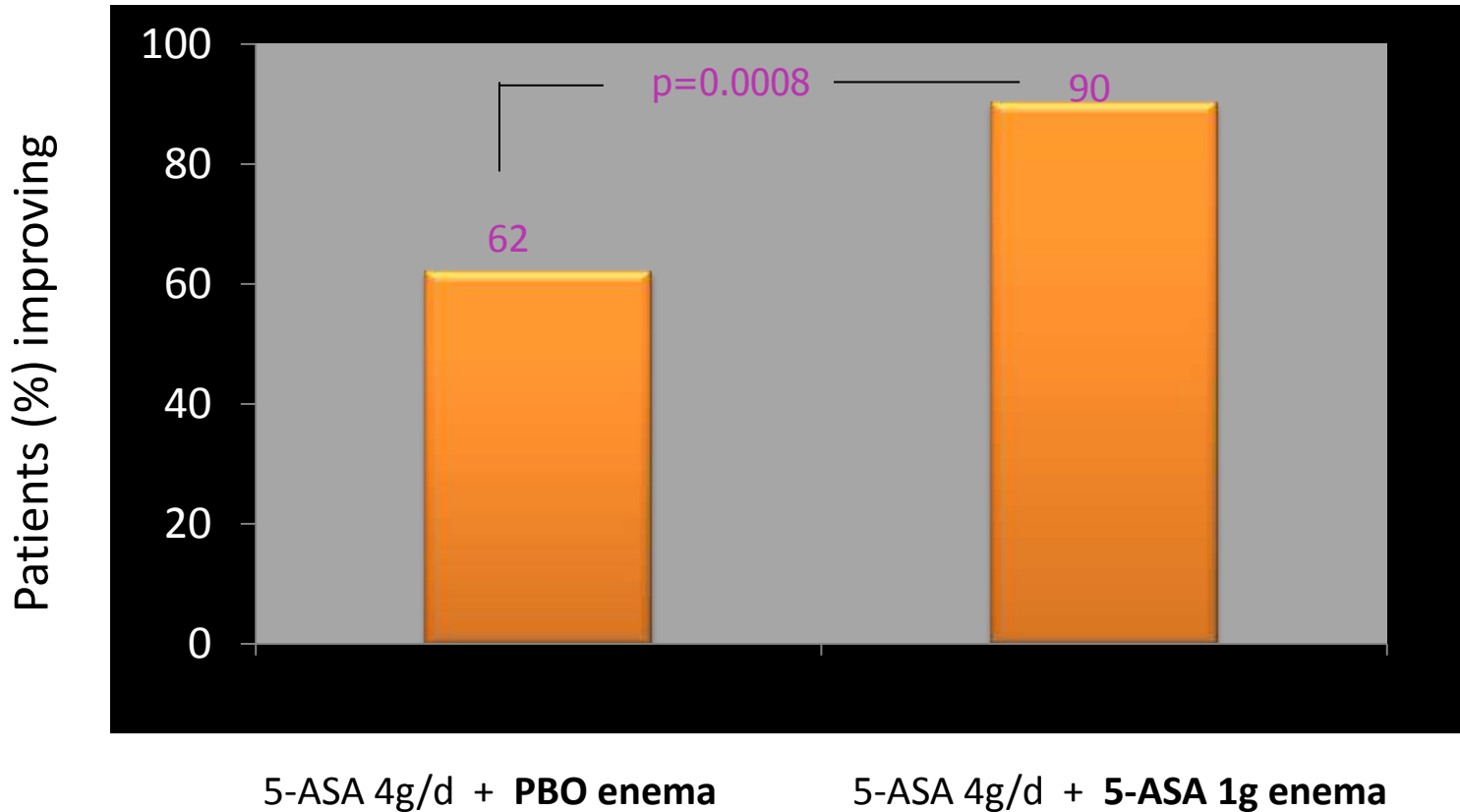
It should be standard practice to **confirm**
disease activity **endoscopically before**
considering **treatment escalation**

Adherence

- ✧ Adherence rates to mesalazine 60-70%
- ✧ **Non-adherence** is associated with
 - ✧ increased **risk of relapse**
 - ✧ **reduced quality of life**
- ✧ **Risk factors** for non-adherence
 - ✧ **male** (67%vs 52%, $p < 0.05$)
 - ✧ **single** (68%vs 53%, $p = 0.04$)
 - ✧ disease limited to the **left side** vs pancolitis (83%vs 51%, $p < 0.01$)

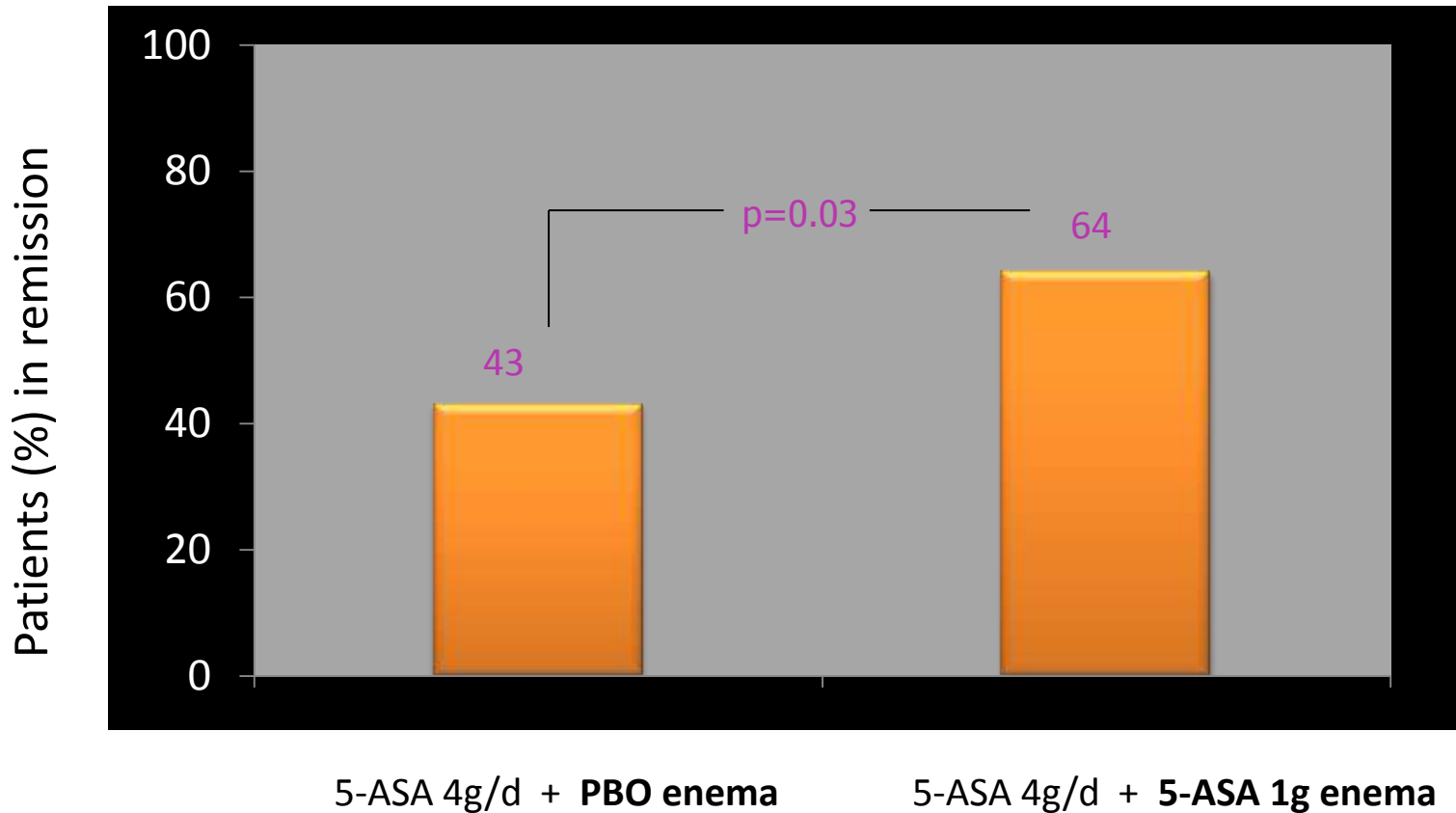
Optimizing Therapy in Extensive Mild/Moderate UC

Benefit of Combining Oral and Topical 5-ASA



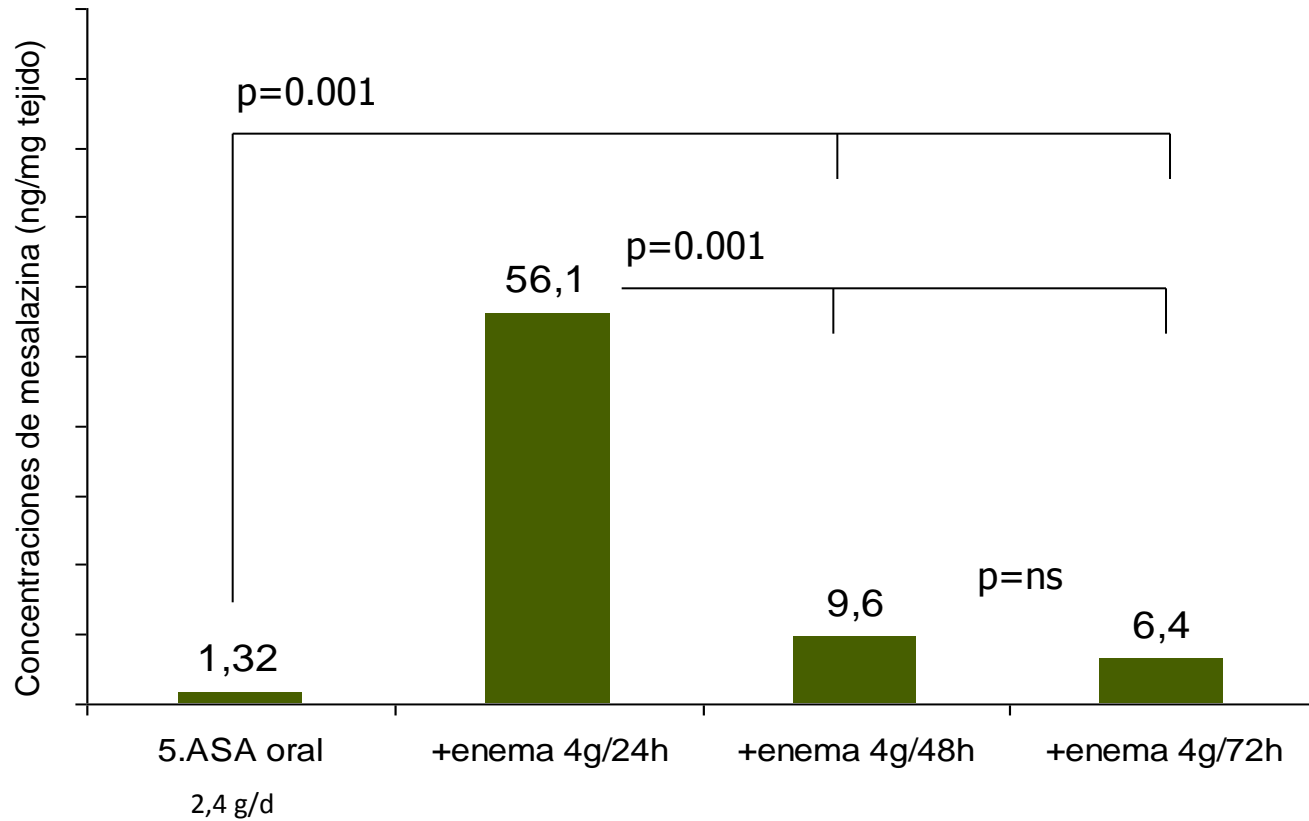
patients (%) with **clinical improvement** after 4 weeks of treatment

Optimizing Therapy in Extensive Mild/Moderate UC Benefit of Combining Oral and Topical 5-ASA



patients (%) achieving **clinical remission** after 8 weeks of treatment

[Mesalazine] in rectal mucosa in UC patients treated with 5-ASA oral monotherapy vs. combined with 5-ASA enema



Methotrexate in UC

- ✧ MTX proved efficacy in CD (25 mg/week i.m.)
- ✧ Data in UC is scarce
- ✧ One RCT has been negative with **oral** MTX
 - ✧ MTX 12,5 mg/week (N=30)
 - ✧ PBO (N=37)

Methotrexate in UC

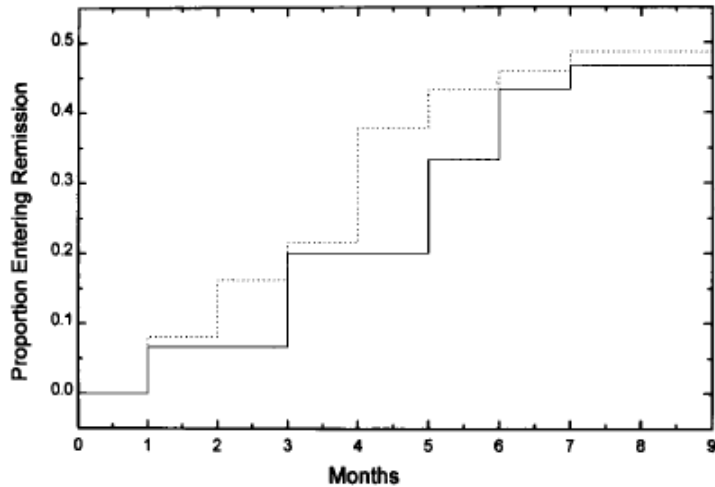
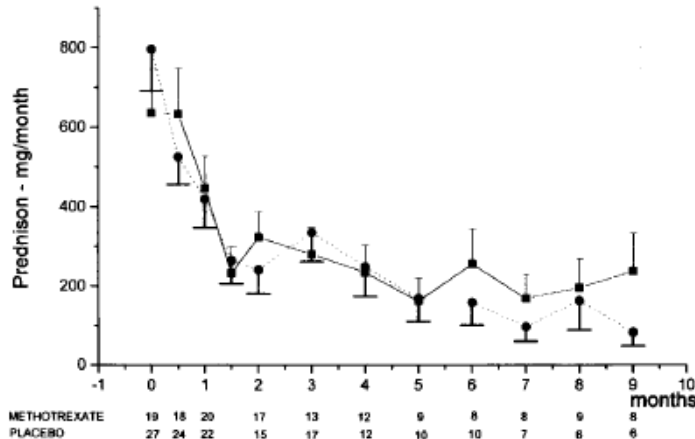


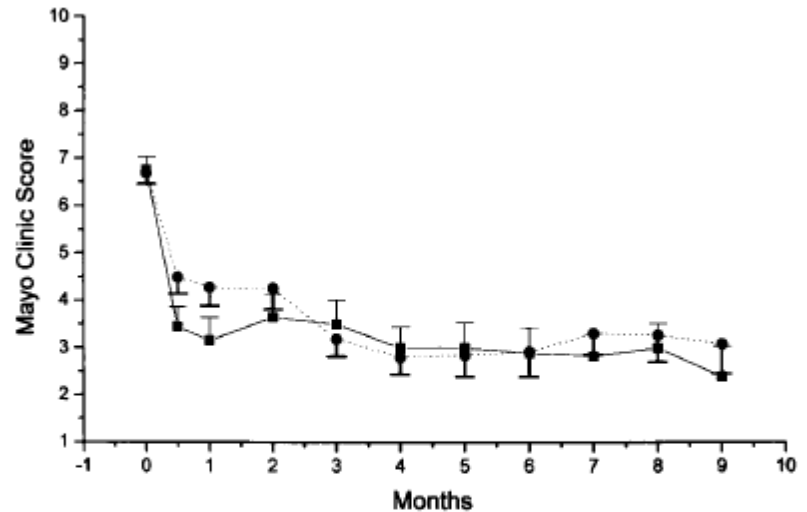
Table 2. Follow-up During Study

	Placebo group	Methotrexate group	P value
Completed the 9 months of study	25	23	0.411
Dropouts	9 (0.5, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 5, 6)	2 (1, 7)	0.052
Treatment failure	2 (3, 3)	3 (3, 5, 8)	0.476
Withdrawal because of side effects	1 (0.5)	2 (2, 5)	0.465
Total	37	30	

Cumulative proportion of patients entering remission in both groups; MTX group (....), PBO (---)



Monthly steroid dose throughout the study (■MTX ●PBO)



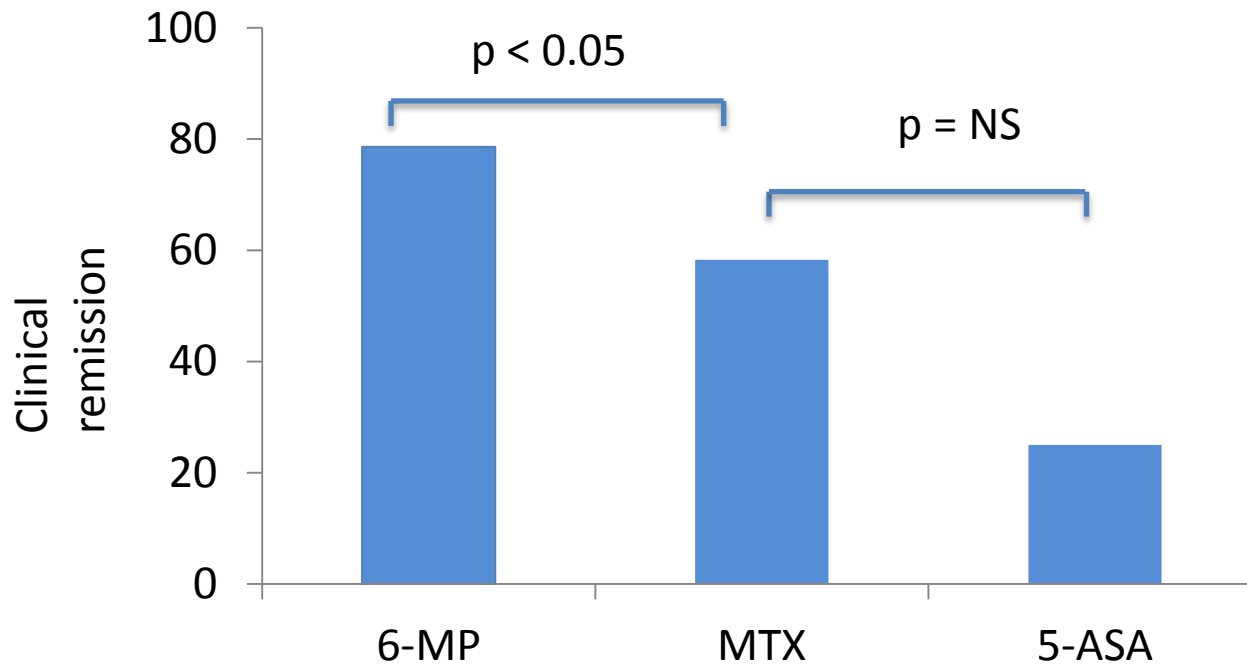
Monthly clinical disease activity (Mayo clinical score) (■MTX ●PBO)

Methotrexate in UC

34 UC patients receiving treatment with PDN

Randomly assigned (2:2:1) to additionally receive, orally (30 weeks):

6-MP [1.5 mg/kg/day] vs. MTX [15 mg/week] vs. 5-ASA [3 g/day]



Spanish Multicentric Study on Clinical Use and Efficacy of MTX in UC

- **AIM:** To evaluate the efficacy and safety of MTX in UC patients.
- **PATIENTS AND METHODS:** 40 patients (70% steroid-dependency, 27% steroid refractoriness)
Therapeutic success was defined as the **absence** of UC-related **symptoms, steroid withdrawal** and **no** requirement of **rescue therapies** within the first **6 months after** starting MTX
- **RESULTS:**
 - Previously treated with Thiopurines 87,5%
 - Median dose for induction 25mg/wk parenterally
 - **45%** met criteria for **therapeutic success**
 - Cumulative probability of maintaining **steroid-free** clinical **remission**
 - **60%** (6 months), **48%** (12 months), **35%** (24 months) after starting MTX
 - **27.5%** experienced **adverse events** (MTX discontinuation in only 8)
- **CONCLUSIONS:** MTX appears to be **effective to maintain clinical remission in UC** (at least in the short-term) with an acceptable safety profile.

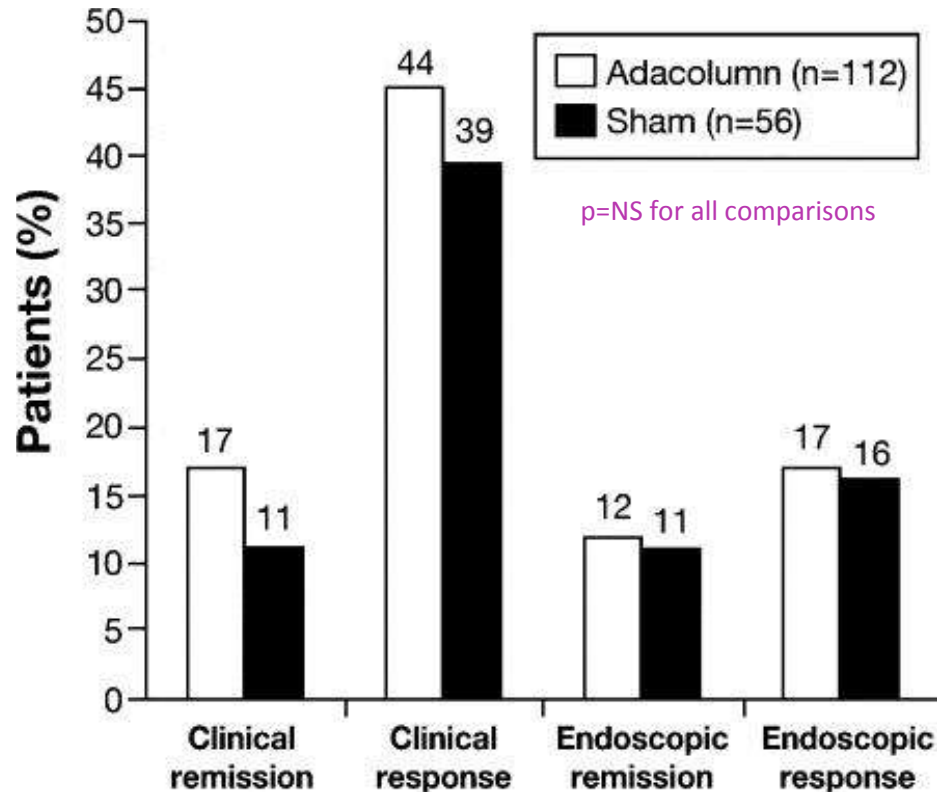
Controlled, Randomised, Double-Blind, Multicenter Study, Comparing **Methotrexate vs Placebo** in Steroid-Dependent UC (METEOR)

- **PHASE II** | Multicenter, **randomized**, double-**blind** study
- **INCLUSION CRITERIA:** Steroid-dependent ulcerative colitis
- **OBJECTIVES:** To show **superiority of MTX** vs PBO in inducing steroid-free remission in steroid-dependent UC
- **STUDY TREATMENTS:** **MTX 25 mg i.m./week** vs **PBO 1 i.m./week**
- **NUMBER** of patients: **55** patients in **each group**, i.e. a total of 110 patients
- **EVALUATION CRITERIA:** **Remission** without steroids at **16 and 24 weeks** of ttx

A randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled study of **granulocyte/monocyte apheresis** for active ulcerative colitis

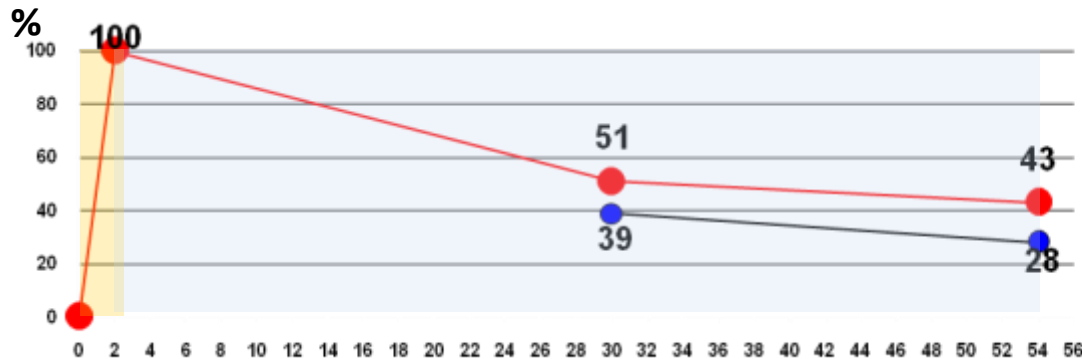
- **BACKGROUND & AIMS:** To evaluate the efficacy of granulocyte/monocyte apheresis in patients with active **moderate-to-severe UC**
- **METHODS:**
 - **Randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled trial**
 - Community-based and tertiary care centers.
 - Granulocyte/monocyte apheresis (**Adacolumn** Apheresis System) vs. **sham apheresis**
 - 2:1 ratio for **9 weeks** of treatment
 - **North American** pivotal study (**N = 168**)
 - Smaller study of identical design conducted in **Europe and Japan (N = 47)**

A randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled study of granulocyte/monocyte apheresis for active ulcerative colitis



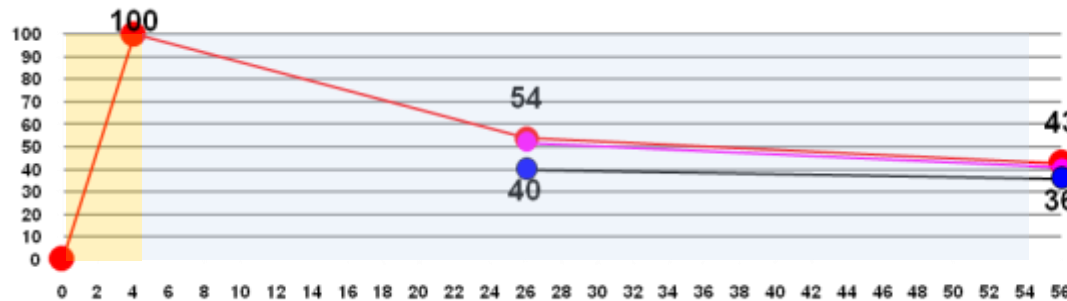
CONCLUSIONS: granulocyte/monocyte apheresis was well tolerated but **did not demonstrate efficacy** for induction of clinical remission or response in patients with moderate-to-severe UC.

Anti-TNFs: High Rates of Loss of Response



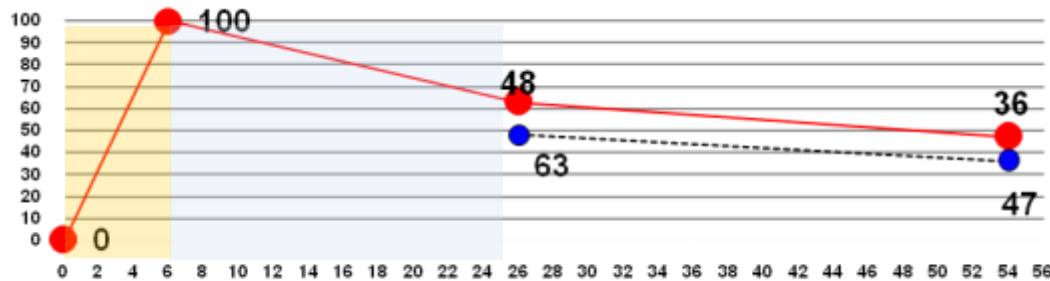
● $\Delta 70$
● Remission

**Infliximab
ACCENT 1
(5 mg/kg/8s)**



● $\Delta 70$
● $\Delta 100$
● Remission

**Adalimumab
CHARM*
(40 mg/2s)**



● $\Delta 100$
● Remission

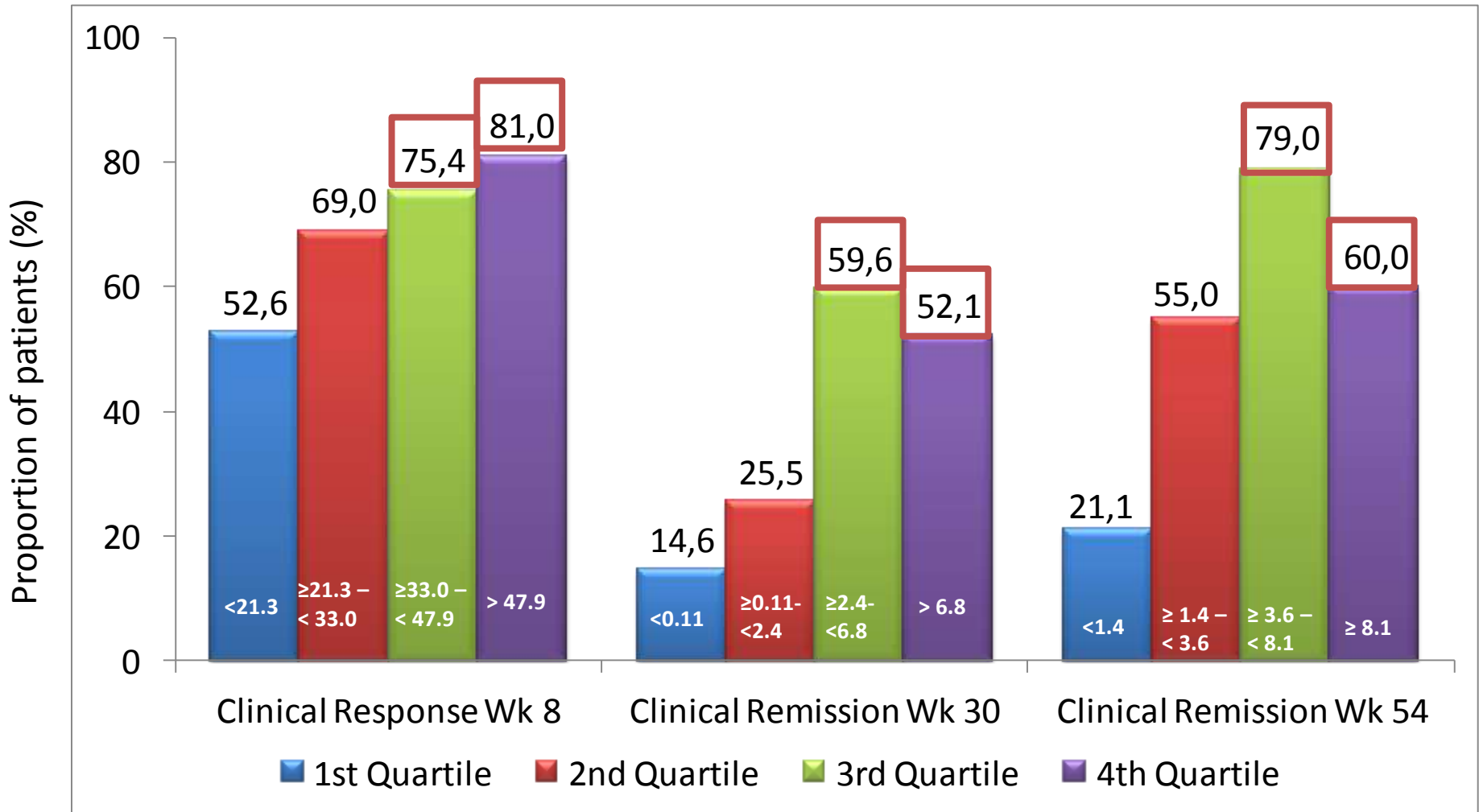
**Certolizumab
PRECISE 2
(400 mg/4s)**

Factors Affecting the PK of TNF-antagonists

	IMPACT on PK
Presence of ADAs	Decreases serum [mAbs] Three fold-increased clearance Worse clinical outcomes
Concomitant use of IS	Reduces ADAs Increases serum [mAbs] Decreases mAbs clearance Better clinical outcomes
High Baseline [TNF-α]	May decrease [mAbs] by increasing clearance
Low Albumin	Increases clearance Worse clinical outcomes
High Baseline CRP	Increases clearance
Body size	High BMI may increase clearance
Gender	Males have higher clearance

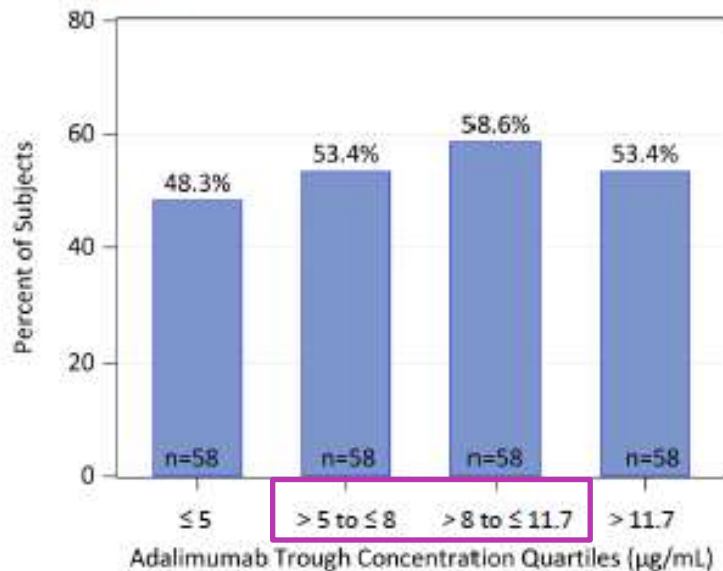
ADAs: Anti-drug antibodies

Proportions of Patients with Ulcerative Colitis Achieving Efficacy Endpoints by Serum Infliximab Concentrations (ACT1/ACT2)

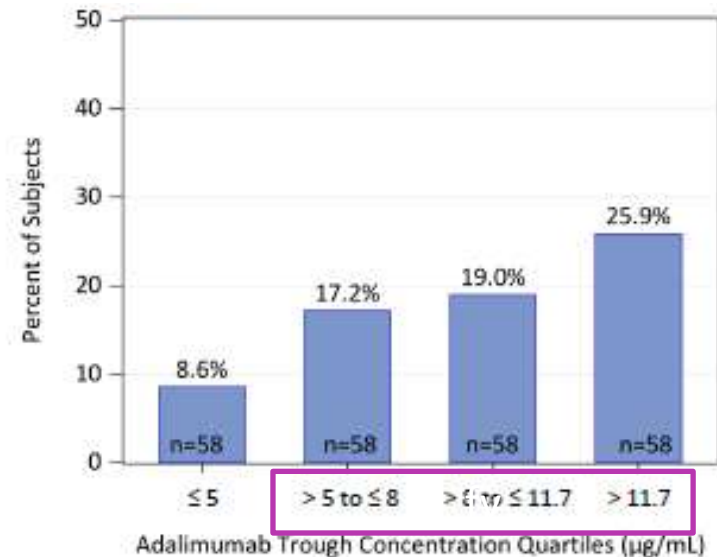


Exposure-Efficacy Relationship for Adalimumab during Induction Phase of Treatment of Patients with Moderate to Severe UC

- Aim:** to characterize the **relationship** between **trough [ADA]** and clinical **remission** and **response** per Full Mayo Score (n=258) at induction (160-80 mg)



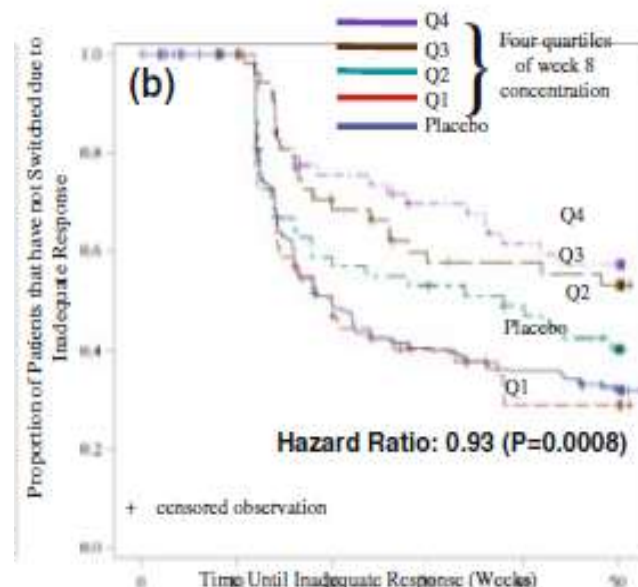
Exposure-Efficacy Relationship for Response at week 8



Exposure-Efficacy Relationship for Remission at week 8

Assessment of Adalimumab Dose Selection for Adult UC using Exposure-Response Analysis

- **Higher wk 8 trough [adalimumab]** are associated with:
 - (1) **greater** % patients achieving **clinical remission** at week 8
 - (2) **increased duration** of clinical remission
- Given the modest effect size of ADA for induction of remission (ADA 16.5% vs. PBO 9.3%) a **higher dose** for the **induction** of remission may provide **greater benefit** to UC patients



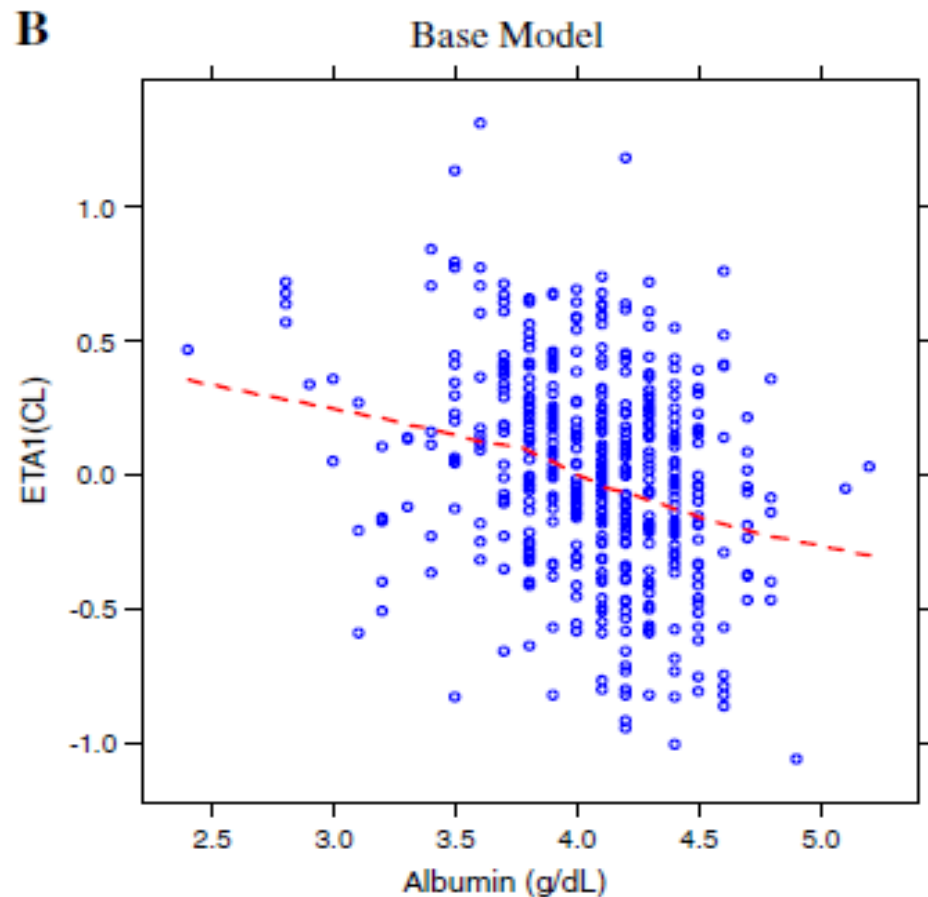
Factors Affecting the PK of TNF-antagonists

	IMPACT on PK
Presence of ADAs	Decreases serum [mAbs] Three fold-increased clearance Worse clinical outcomes
Concomitant use of IS	Reduces ADAs Increases serum [mAbs] Decreases mAbs clearance Better clinical outcomes
High Baseline [TNF- α]	May decrease [mAbs] by increasing clearance
Low Albumin	Increases clearance Worse clinical outcomes
High Baseline CRP	Increases clearance
Body size	High BMI may increase clearance
Gender	Males have higher clearance

ADAs: Anti-drug antibodies

Population Kinetics of IFX from ACT 1 and ACT 2

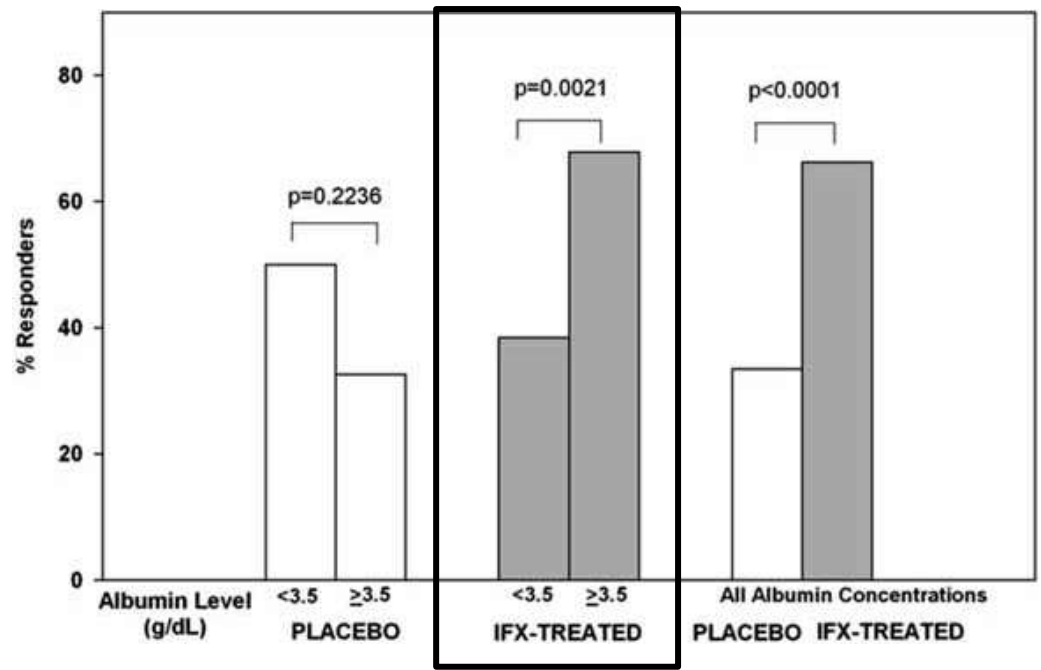
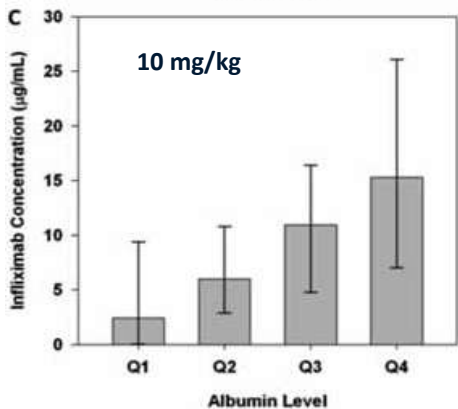
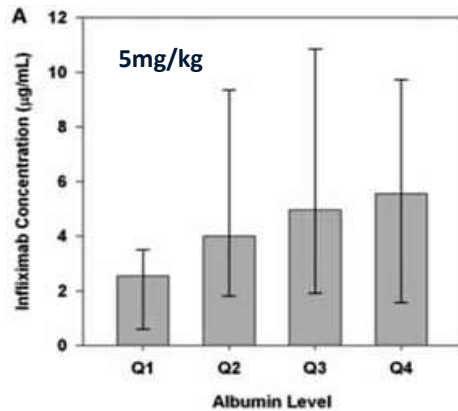
- Albumin concentration was inversely proportional to the clearance of infliximab



Serum Albumin Concentration Predicts PK and Clinical Response in Patients with Ulcerative Colitis

Higher SAC - Higher [IFX],
lower CL and longer $T_{1/2}$

Patients with **Albumin below normal** had
a **lower response rate**



Pharmacokinetics of Adalimumab in Adult Patients with Moderately to Severely Active Ulcerative Colitis

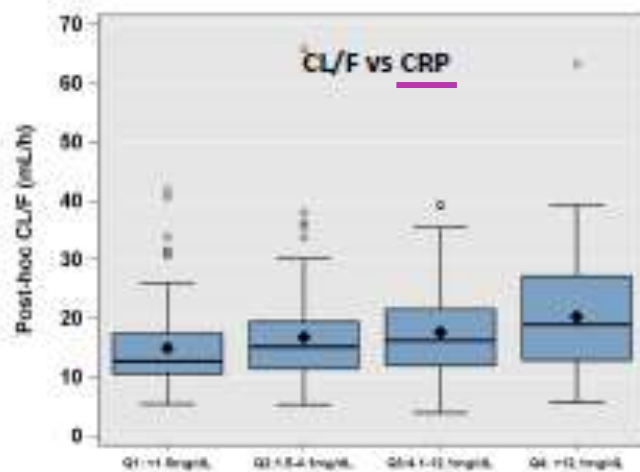
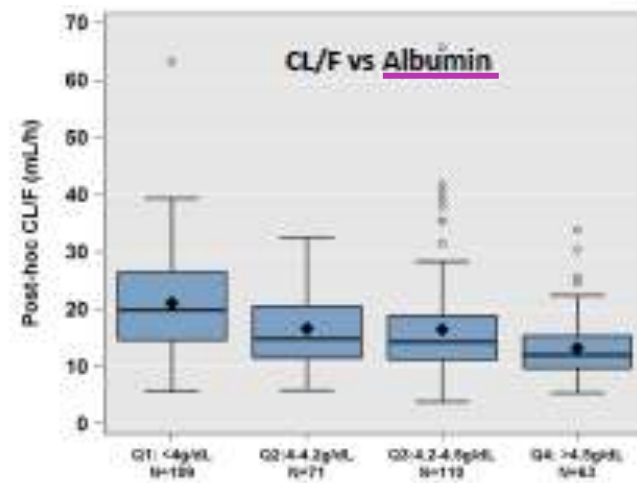
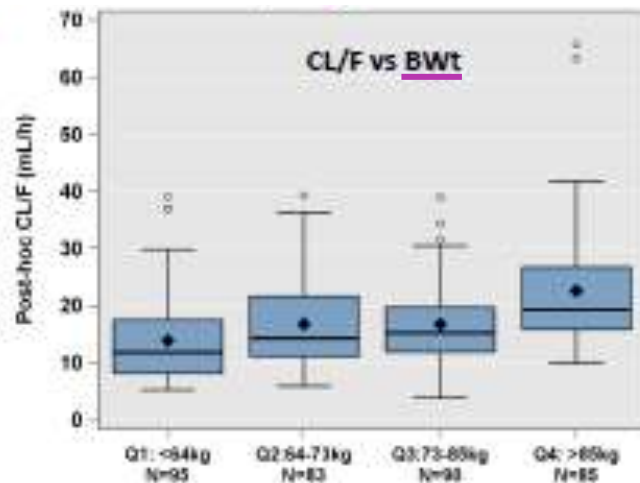
Aim: to characterize the PK of ADA in moderate-to-severe UC

- Randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled, 52-week study
 - Serum [ADA] trough at Weeks 0, 2, 4, 8, 32 and 52
 - Serum Anti-Adalimumab Antibody (AAA) at Weeks 0, 8, 32 and 52
 - Effect of Baseline covariates on ADA PK
-
- Only **body weight** and plasma **albumin** were found to be statistically **significant covariates**; (explained 4.9% and 3.7% of the total PK variability, respectively)

 - A **combination of multiple covariates** (body weight, albumin, age, sex, CRP and concomitant IMM) **explain 13% of the total variability in PK**

Pharmacokinetics of Adalimumab in Adult Patients with Moderately to Severely Active Ulcerative Colitis

Effect of **Body weight**, **Albumin** and **CRP** on Adalimumab **Clearance**



Mean **ADA Clearance** increased slightly **with**

- **increasing body weight and CRP**
- **decreased with increasing albumin**

(substantial overlap between quartiles)

Future

✧ The light on the ...horizon...?

- ✧ Budesonide MMX
- ✧ Golimumab (anti-TNF)
- ✧ Tofacitinib (Jak inhibitor)
- ✧ Vedolizumab ($\alpha 4\beta 7$)



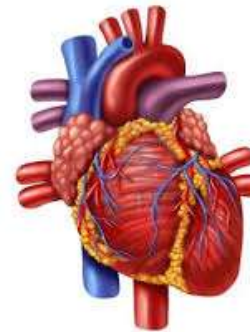
Budesonide MMX

- Releases budesonide throughout **colon**
- Enteric coat dissolves at pH 7
- Proposed **indication**: **induction** of remission of active **mild-to-moderate UC**

Oral budesonide



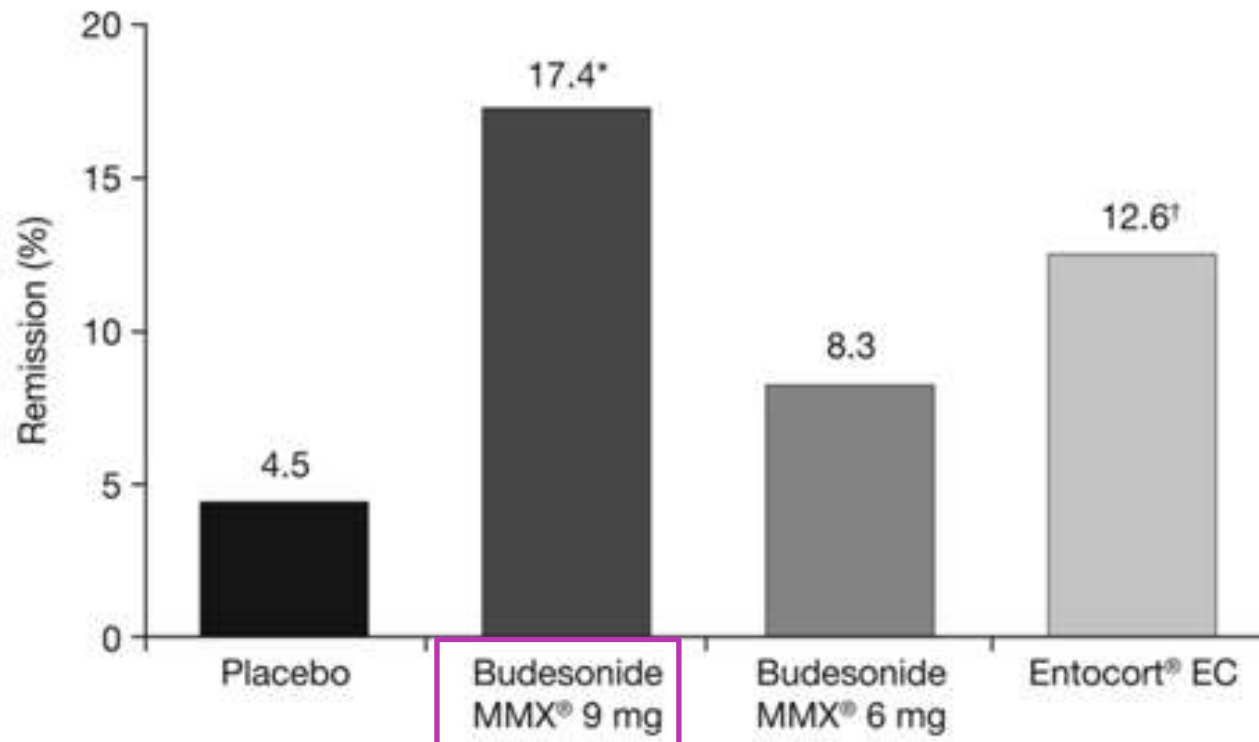
90% metabolism
in the liver



10 % systemic

Once-daily budesonide MMX in active, mild-to-moderate UC: results from the randomised CORE II trial

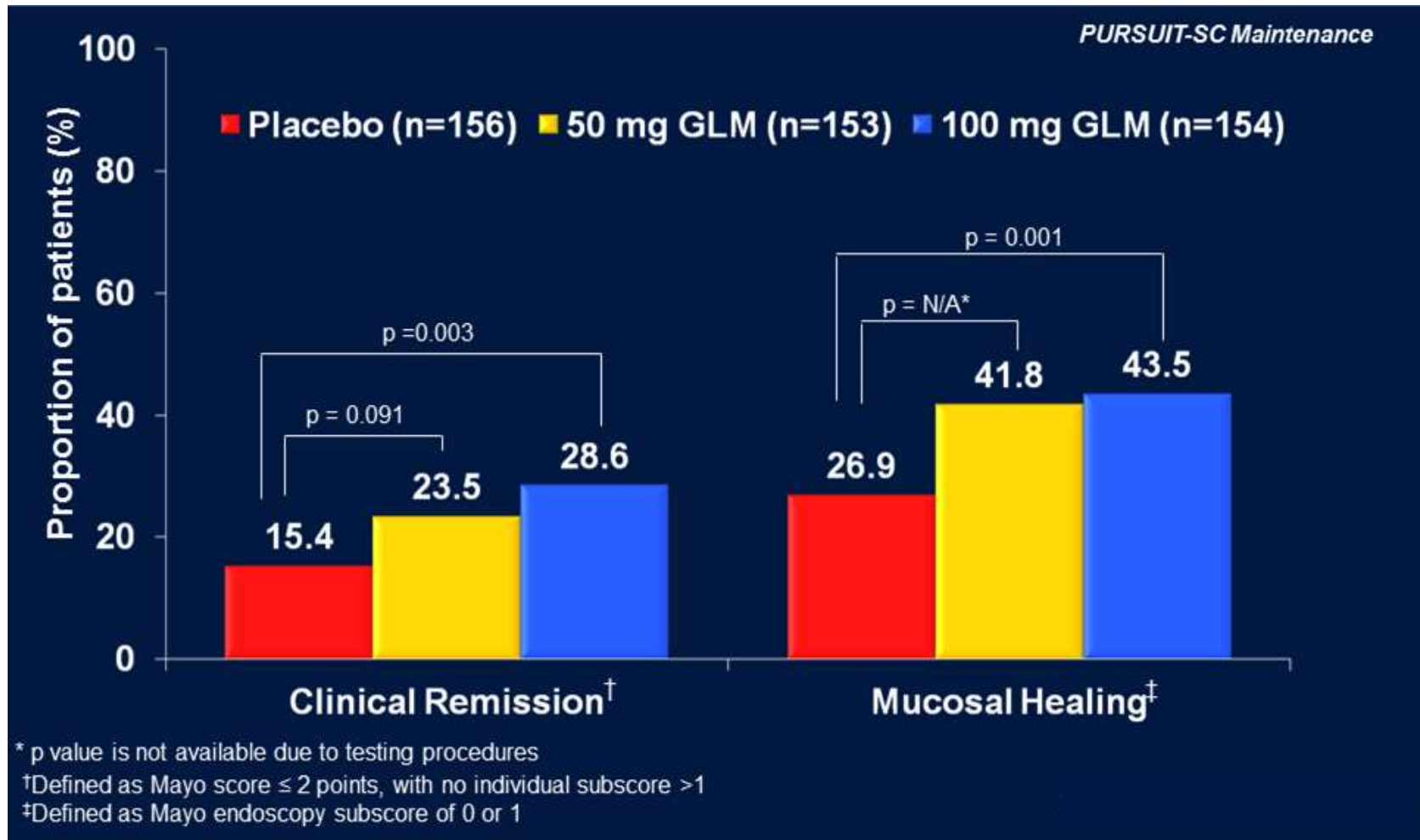
Primary endpoint: combined **clinical and endoscopic** remission at week 8 (n=410)



Subcutaneous Golimumab Induces Clinical Response and Remission in Moderate-to-Severe UC

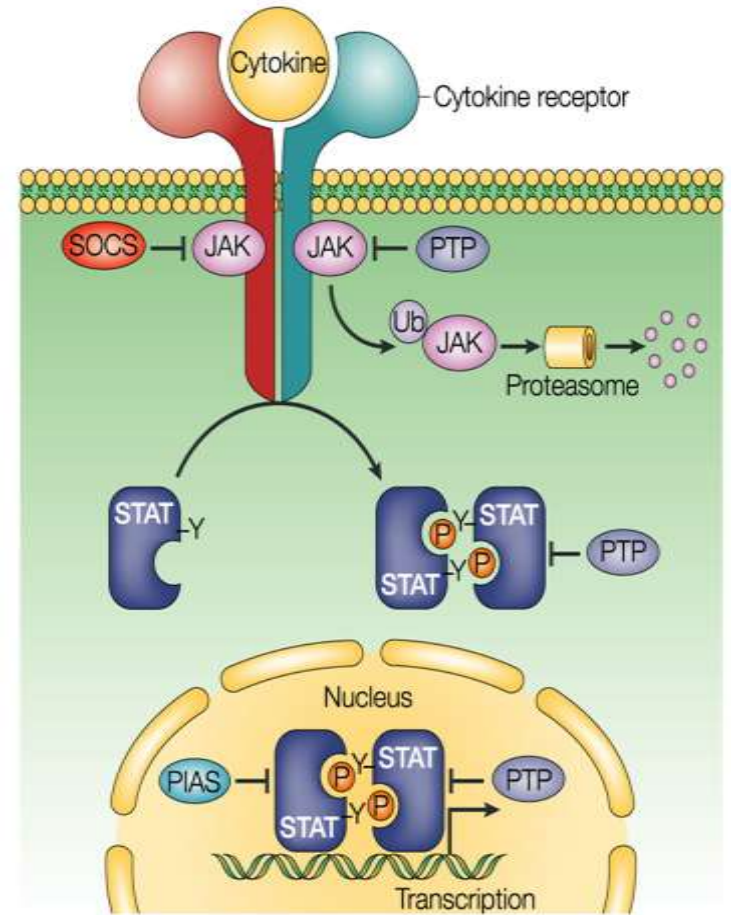
- Phase III double-blind randomized
- Two phases
 - Induction (n=774; efficacy & safety week 6)
 - PBO
 - Golimumab 400, 200 mg/eow
 - Golimumab 200, 100 mg/eow
 - Maintenance (n=464; wk 52)
 - PBO
 - Golimumab (50 mg or 100 mg)/4 weeks

Clinical Remission and Mucosal Healing at both Week 30 and 54: Randomized Patients in Clinical Response to Golimumab Induction



Tofacitinib

- Small molecule (oral)
- JAK kinase inhibitor
 - Affinity for JAK 1 and 3
 - Inhibits cytokine signaling
- Metabolized by liver (CYP3A4)
- Phase 2 clinical trial suggests efficacy in UC

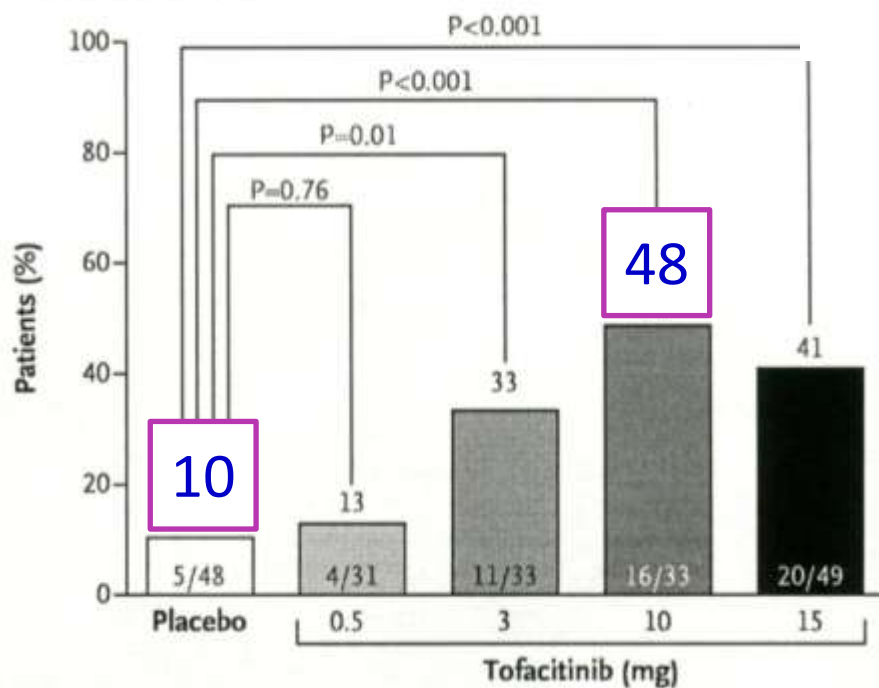


Tofacitinib, an Oral Janus Kinase Inhibitor, in Active Ulcerative Colitis

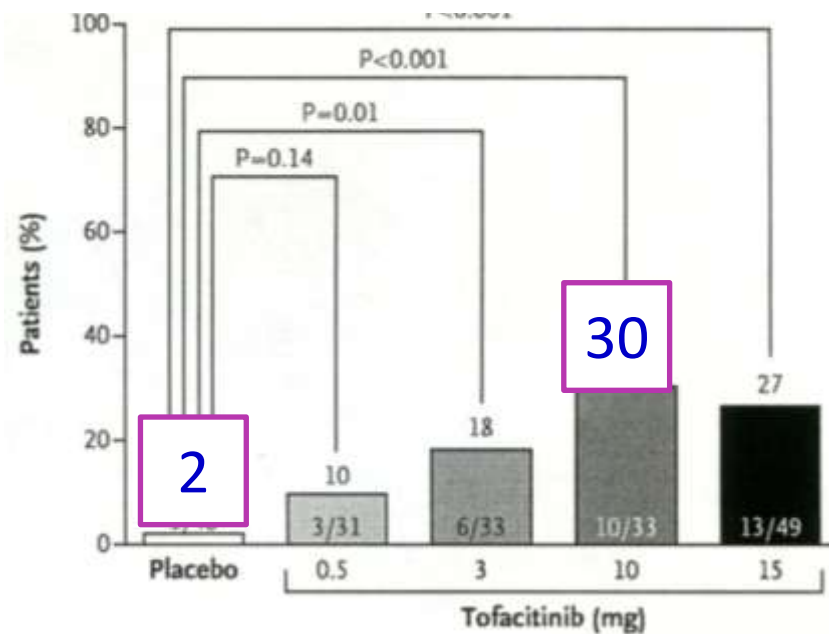
- Phase 2 placebo RCT (n=194)
- Mayo 6-12 (endoscopy ≥ 2) | 40% IMM failure | 30% prior anti-TNF
- Treatment arms:
 - PBO (n=48)
 - Tofacitinib 0,5 mg (n=31)
 - Tofacitinib 3 mg (n=33)
 - Tofacitinib 10 mg (n=33)
 - Tofacitinib 15 mg (n=33)
- Short term trial – 2 months

Tofacitinib

Clinical Remission

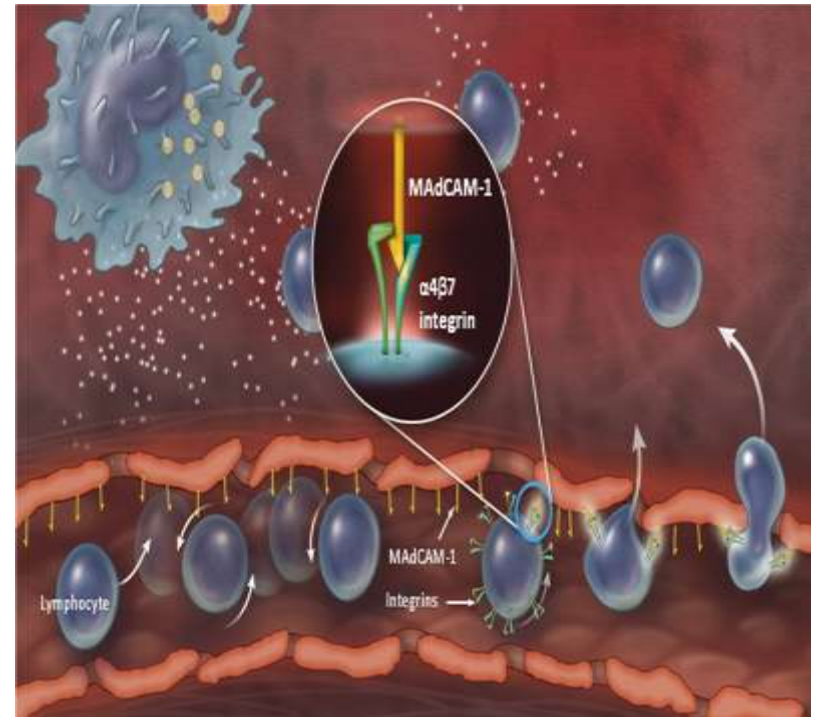


Endoscopic Remission



Vedolizumab

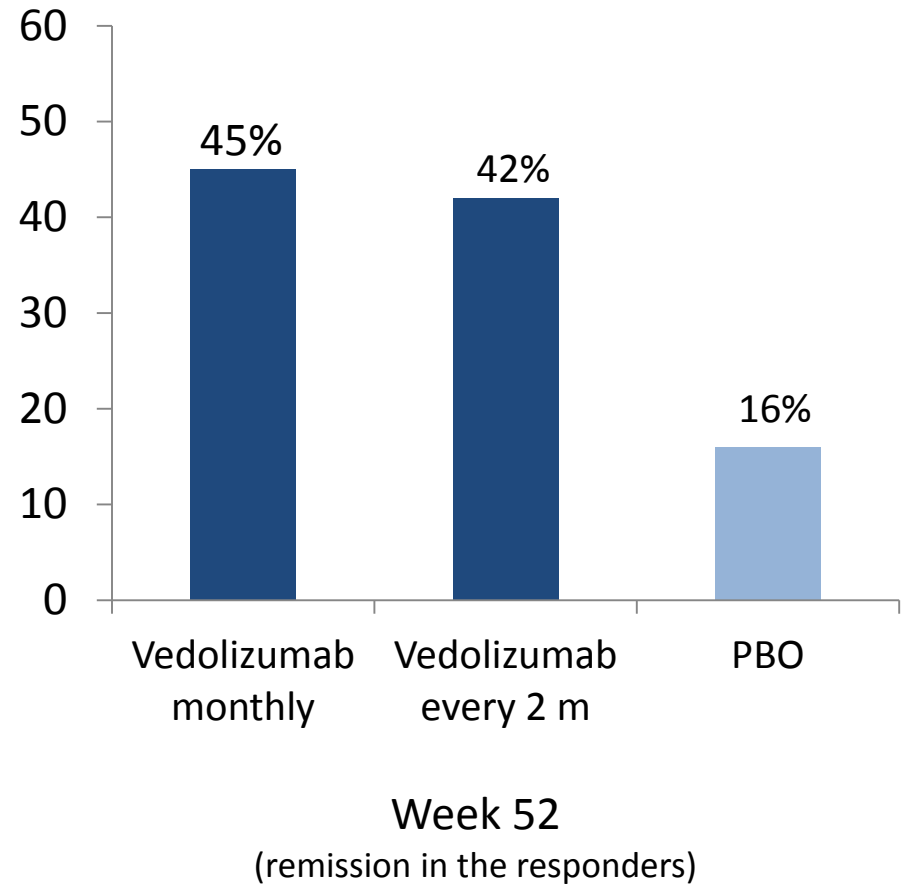
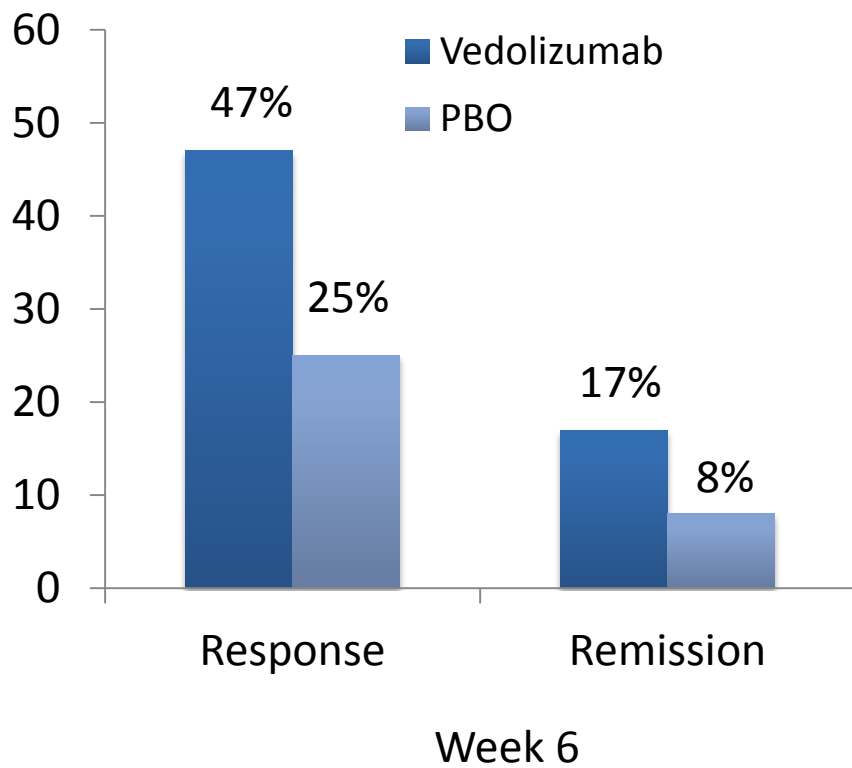
- Humanized IgG 1 monoclonal antibody to $\alpha 4\beta 7$ integrin
- Modulates gut, but **NOT** brain lymphocyte trafficking
- Less risk of PML compared to natalizumab



Vedolizumab as Induction and Maintenance Therapy for UC

- Combination PBO controlled and open-label trial
 - 374 patients – vedolizumab or placebo
 - 521 patients – open label vedolizumab
- Active UC (Mayo 6-12, endoscopy subscore 2)
- Induction – two doses – week 0 and 2
- Maintenance: responders continued on active drug, or randomized to PBO

Vedolizumab - Results



Final Remarks

- Chronic unremitting UC is relatively frequent
- Optimization of available therapies is crucial to achieve better outcomes
- With regard to anti-TNF therapies, a better knowledge of their PK profile is needed
- In the forthcoming years new therapies will be available