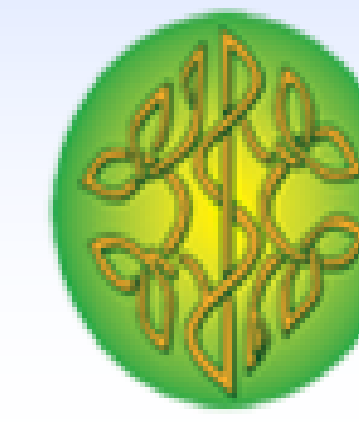


A SURVEY OF RHEUMATOLOGY PATIENT'S SATISFACTION WITH BIOSIMILAR SWITCH IN RHEUMATOLOGY CLINIC MATER MISERICORDIAE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (MMUH)



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Introduction:

- Biological products are complex proteins that are manufactured by using living cells and processes.
- They are FDA approved products used to treat chronic disabling diseases like rheumatoid arthritis [1,2].
- A biosimilar is a biological medicine comparable to another already approved biological medicine [3,4].
- Biosimilars are approved according to the same standards of pharmaceutical quality, safety and efficacy that apply to all biological medicines.
- The major switch from originator to biosimilar medicine due to cost issue might bring impact to patients.
- We would like to conduct a survey regarding patients' satisfaction to biosimilar switch amongst patients with inflammatory arthritis.

Objective:

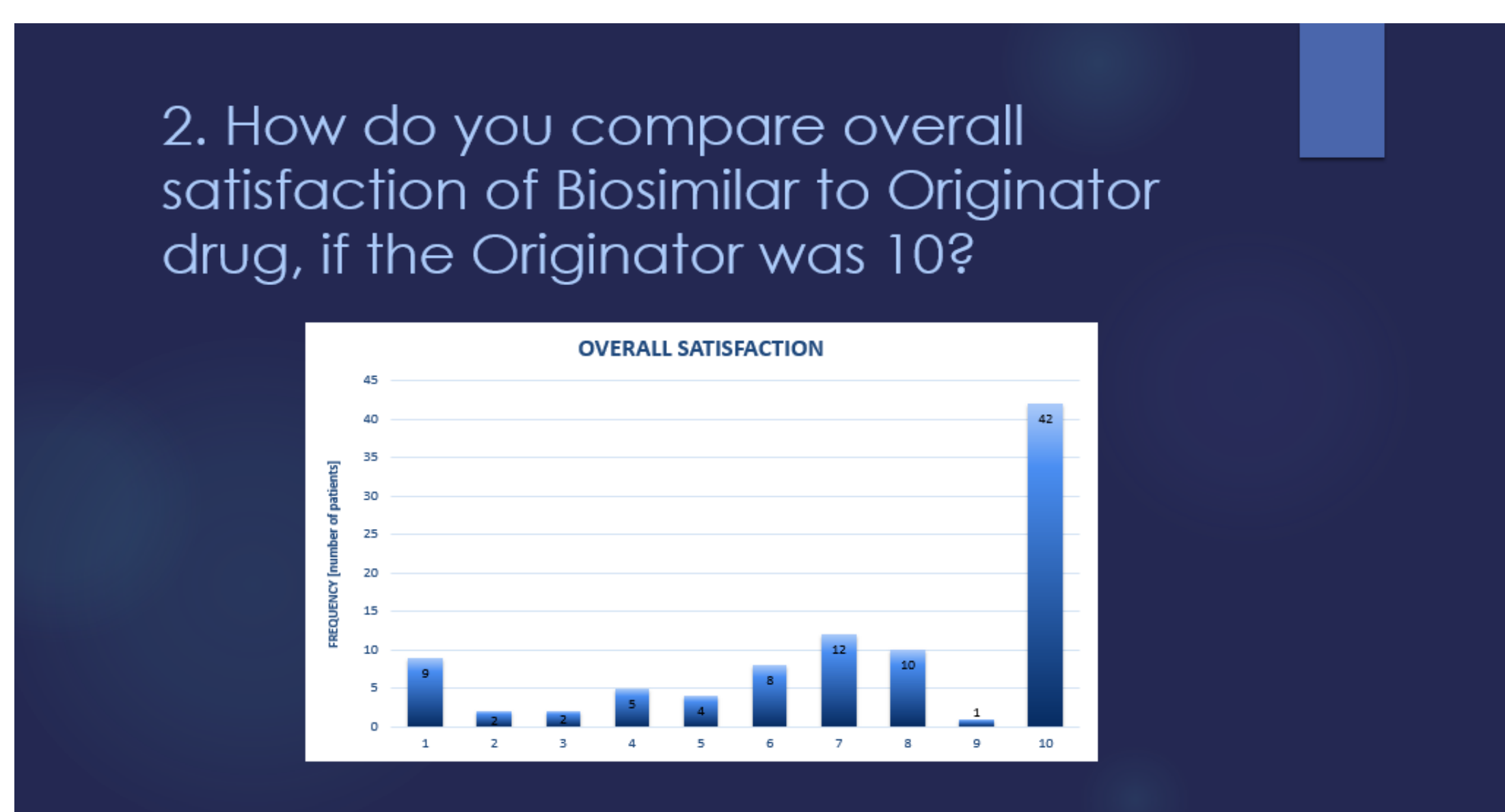
- To assess patients' satisfaction and response after switching from originator (Humira/ Enbrel) to it's biosimilar (Amgevita/ Benepali) and to describe the efficacy, side effects and reactions to biosimilar.

Material and Methods:

- Patients with inflammatory arthritis who underwent biosimilar switch (usage for more than 3 months) were identified via HighTech prescriptions system.
- Participants were invited to take part voluntarily via phone survey which consisted of 4 questions (satisfaction with the response to the new medication; overall satisfaction with biosimilar drug; adverse effects; new device).

Results:

- 95 patients were identified with majority of them are having rheumatoid arthritis followed by seronegative spondyloarthritis [RA: 58 ; PSA: 18; AS: 16; reactive arthritis :1, enteropathic arthritis :1 and JIA:1].
- 56 of them were female with an average age was 56.
- 48 of them were switched from Humira to Amgevita. 12 of them switched back to originator (Humira:5, Enbrel :7).
- The usage of pen and syringe was 86 and 9 respectively.
- Majority of them were satisfied with the response of new drug as showed in the pie chart below:



	General	Amgevita	Benepali
Very dissatisfied	1.2	13%	12%
Dissatisfied	3.4	10%	7%
Neutral	5	13%	4%
Satisfied	6.7,8	28%	32%
Very satisfied	9,10	36%	45%

- 10 from Amgevita group experienced local reactions (pain, bleeding and skin reaction) whereas 1 from Benepali group complained of local pain.
- 5 from Amgevita group and 7 from Benepali group experienced systemic side effects (tiredness, headache, nausea, skin rashes, hair loss, muscle ache, tongue swelling, mood swing, dizzy, nose bleed, erectile dysfunction, hypertension, hemoptysis and red sclera).
- 11 from Benepali group complained that the new medication is less effective/ineffective compared to 6 from Amgevita group.
- Only 21% of them find the new device difficult to use.

Conclusion:

- 69% from Amgevita group and 60% from Benepali group were satisfied with the switch.
- Amgevita reported more minor side effects than Benepali.
- Less than 25% of the patients found the new device difficult to use.

References

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