

# Risk of serious infections with bDMARDs in psoriasis/psoriatic arthritis patients: a large-scale cohort study using the Italian VALORE Project distributed database

**First published:** 16/06/2023

**Last updated:** 13/03/2025

Study

Ongoing

## Administrative details

### EU PAS number

EUPAS105426

### Study ID

106605

### DARWIN EU® study

No

### Study countries

☐ Italy

### Study status

Ongoing

## Research institutions and networks

## Institutions

Pharmacology Unit - Veneto Pharmacovigilance  
Centre (Pharmacol UNIVR), University Hospital  
Verona

☐ Italy

**First published:** 25/10/2022

**Last updated:** 13/03/2025

**Institution**

**Educational Institution**

**Hospital/Clinic/Other health care facility**

**ENCePP partner**

Sezione di Farmacologia, Dipartimento di  
Diagnostica e Sanità Pubblica

Several regions Italy

## Contact details

### Study institution contact

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**Study contact**

[gianluca.trifiro@univr.it](mailto:gianluca.trifiro@univr.it)

## Primary lead investigator

Gianluca Trifirò

Primary lead investigator

## Study timelines

### Date when funding contract was signed

Actual: 01/01/2021

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### Study start date

Actual: 01/04/2023

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### Date of final study report

Planned: 31/12/2023

## Sources of funding

- Other

## More details on funding

AIFA

## Study protocol

[Protocollo\\_Severe\\_Infectious\\_Diseases\\_In\\_Dermatology\\_final.pdf](#) (412.73 KB)

## Regulatory

### **Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

No

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### **Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

Not applicable

## Methodological aspects

### Study type

#### Study type list

##### **Study type:**

Non-interventional study

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##### **Scope of the study:**

Assessment of risk minimisation measure implementation or effectiveness

Disease epidemiology

Drug utilisation

##### **Main study objective:**

To evaluate the association between the use of individual bDMARDs approved for PsO/PsA treatment and the occurrence of severe infection risk in an Italian

real-world setting in the years 2010-2021 among different drug class (TNF-alpha inhibitors, IL inhibitors, T cell modulator), using the large-scale “VALORE” project distributed database network.

## Study Design

### **Non-interventional study design**

Cohort

## Study drug and medical condition

### **Study drug International non-proprietary name (INN) or common name**

ADALIMUMAB

INFLIXIMAB

ETANERCEPT

CERTOLIZUMAB

GOLIMUMAB

BRODALUMAB

IXEKIZUMAB

SECUKINUMAB

BIMEKIZUMAB

GUSELKUMAB

RISANKIZUMAB

TILDRAKIZUMAB

USTEKINUMAB

ABATACEPT

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### **Medical condition to be studied**

Psoriasis

## Population studied

### Age groups

- Term newborn infants (0 – 27 days)
  - Infants and toddlers (28 days – 23 months)
  - Children (2 to < 12 years)
  - Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)
  - Adults (18 to < 46 years)
  - Adults (46 to < 65 years)
  - Adults (65 to < 75 years)
  - Adults (75 to < 85 years)
  - Adults (85 years and over)
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### Estimated number of subjects

15000

## Study design details

### Outcomes

To assess the incidence of severe infection between bDMARDs in monotherapy and in combination therapy with csDMARDs and/or systemic corticosteroids.

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### Data analysis plan

The study aims to describe the characteristics of incident users of biologic Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drugs (bDMARDs) using means, standard deviations, and frequencies. Differences between bDMARDs users are assessed using standardized difference (d), t-tests, and Chi-Square or Fisher tests. The

primary objective is to estimate the incidence of severe infections between different bDMARD classes (TNF alpha vs IL-inhibitors/Selective Immunosuppressive agents) using Propensity Score matching and Cox Proportional-Hazards models. The incidence will be reported per 100 person-years. Two additional objectives involve estimating the effect of bDMARD classes and combinations (bDMARDs alone vs with corticosteroids or csDMARDs) on the incidence of serious infections requiring hospitalization. These will also use Cox models, both in unmatched and matched cohorts. Sensitivity analyses will treat drug exposure as a time-dependent variable without censoring for drug switches or discontinuation

## Data management

### ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

## Data sources

### Data sources (types)

[Administrative healthcare records \(e.g., claims\)](#)

[Disease registry](#)

[Other](#)

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### Data sources (types), other

Prescription event monitoring

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

### **CDM mapping**

No

## Data quality specifications

### **Check conformance**

Unknown

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### **Check completeness**

Unknown

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### **Check stability**

Unknown

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### **Check logical consistency**

Unknown

## Data characterisation

### **Data characterisation conducted**

No