

Project Overview



Therapy Selection in RA: From Clinical Trials to Effectiveness in Practice - Project Key Aspects

- Blended-learning, 4-part educational initiative
 - Designed by University of California, San Diego, in partnership with Medscape Education
 - Course Director: Arthur Kavanaugh, MD, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Division of Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology
 - Live and web-based interventions structured to improve community-based clinician knowledge and performance in the care of patients with RA
 - Advanced assessments
 - Review article submission to the *Journal of Clinical Rheumatology*
- Total Physician Learners: 7619
 - Total Rheumatologists: 2002
 - Total Primary Care Physicians: 3255
 - Total Orthopaedists/Surgeons: 907
 - Total Other Physicians: 1455

Intervention #1: Clinical Guide (online)



- Strategies for Achieving Treatment Goals in RA
<http://www.medscape.org/viewarticle/825359>
- Teaching aim: Improve foundational knowledge and acquire skills to synthesize data from multiple sources
 - Launched 5/30/14
 - Total Physician Learners: 2693
 - Total Rheumatologists: 379
 - Total Primary Care Physicians: 1508
 - Total Orthopaedists/Surgeons: 101
 - Total Other Physicians: 705
 - Intent to modify treatment plan
 - Rheumatologists: 43%
 - Primary Care Physicians: 44.7%
 - Orthopaedists/Surgeons: 30.2%
 - Other Physicians: 42.9%

From Medscape Education Rheumatology

Strategies for Achieving Treatment Goals in Rheumatoid Arthritis

Arthur Kavanaugh, MD, Faculty and Disclosures
CME Released: 05/30/2014, Valid for credit through 05/30/2015

Supported by an independent
educational grant from
Pfizer Inc

CME Information

Editor's Note: This expert interview featuring Dr. Arthur Kavanaugh is the first part in a 4-part blended-learning educational initiative designed by the University of California, San Diego under the leadership of Dr. Kavanaugh. It is intended to help enable practicing rheumatologists and other clinicians involved in the care of patients with RA to best select appropriate treatments based on better comprehension and application of evidence-based data on effectiveness of DMARDs in real-life practice settings. The initiative includes both live and web-based interventions that will address identified loco-regional and national clinician educational needs with the aim of improving knowledge and self-reported performance in the clinical care for patients with RA. Perspectives from community-based practitioners will contribute to the common themes that will be integrated within each activity in the curriculum. In this manner, learners participating in all or select interventions are exposed to foundational knowledge and clinical-practice application techniques.

INTRODUCTION

The European League against Rheumatism (EULAR) recently updated their 2010 recommendations for the management of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) with synthetic and biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs),^[1] and the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) is in the process of updating their 2012 guidelines.^[2] Although these guidelines are useful, the recommendations are broad, and clinicians may still have challenges selecting from among the many treatment options for individual RA patients in the real-world practice setting. With results from numerous clinical trials published during the past few years, it can be challenging to wade through the large amounts and different types of data to know how to compare benefits and limitations to choose the right treatment for a patient at different stages of RA.

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Intervention #2: Live Workshop and Focus Group

- Therapy Selection in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Practical Strategies to Achieve Therapeutic Goals

<https://cme.ucsd.edu/ra/>

- Teaching aim: Improve foundational knowledge and develop ability to apply knowledge
- Focus group held post conference to identify and address barriers specific to the community practitioner. Information gained was used in the development of content for interventions #3 and #4. A total of seven physicians and 2 pharmacists attended the focus group.
- Held June 28, 2014
- Total Learners: 31
 - Total Rheumatologists: 12
 - Total Primary Care Physicians: 5
 - Total Non Physicians: 14
- Confidence in making changes in practice as a result of attending this activity: 92% of responders
- Course had positive impact on increasing confidence in treatment selection for patients with rheumatoid arthritis: 100% of responders

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Therapy Selection in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Practical Strategies to Achieve Therapeutic Goals

June 28, 2014
La Jolla, California

Home Faculty Agenda Accreditation Location Registration Contacts

The **Therapy Selection in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Practical Strategies to Achieve Therapeutic Goals** course will offer practical strategies for monitoring disease activity and treatment selection in rheumatoid arthritis. The presentations will include foundational material as well as case-based discussions.

Participants are invited to submit personal case studies and questions in advance of the workshop as a part of their registration. This feedback will be incorporated into the presentations to gain expert opinion and facilitate peer consultation.

Target Audience

Physicians and allied health care professionals specializing in rheumatology.

Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Synthesize and analyze factors for the benefits and risks of mono- versus combination DMARD therapy in the management of patients with RA
- Interpret recent evidence-based data from patient registries and pragmatic clinical trials in RA regarding mono- versus combination strategies to inform decision-making in practice
- Identify practical strategies for monitoring disease activity and for achieving target goals of therapy using available DMARDs in patients with RA

Intervention #3: Video Curbside Consult (online)

- Practice Points from RA Registries and Pragmatic Trials
<http://www.medscape.org/viewarticle/831029>
 - Teaching aim: Develop ability and competency to apply knowledge in practice
 - Launched: 9/25/14
 - Total Physician Learners: 1871
 - Total Rheumatologists: 690
 - Total Primary Care Physicians: 586
 - Total Orthopaedists/Surgeons: 272
 - Total Other Physicians: 323
 - Intent to modify treatment plan
 - Rheumatologists: 31.3%
 - Primary Care Physicians: 42%
 - Orthopaedists/Surgeons: 44.8%
 - Other Physicians: 38.5%

From Medscape Education Rheumatology
Practice Points From RA Registries and Pragmatic Trials
Gregg Middleton, MD, Adrian Jaffer, MD, Faculty and Disclosures
CME Released: 09/25/2014 | Valid for credit through 09/25/2015

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Intervention #4: Video Panel Discussion (online)



- Viewpoints of Practicing Rheumatologists and Case Discussions in RA
<http://www.medscape.org/viewarticle/831030>

- Teaching aim: Reinforce foundational concepts and strategize approaches for clinical application
- Launched: 9/26/14
- Total Physician Learners: 3038
 - Total Rheumatologists: 921
 - Total Primary Care Physicians: 1156
 - Total Orthopaedists/Surgeons: 534
 - Total Other Physicians: 427
- Intent to modify treatment plan
 - Rheumatologists: 38.1%
 - Primary Care Physicians: 44.6%
 - Orthopaedists/Surgeons: 34.5%
 - Other Physicians: 31.1%

From Medscape Education Rheumatology
Viewpoints of Practicing Rheumatologists: Case Discussions in RA
Yusuf Yazici, MD; Adrian Jaffer, MD; Gregg Middleton, MD Faculty and Disclosures
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Medscape EDUCATION
Viewpoints of Practicing Rheumatologists: Case Discussions in RA

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THUMBNAILS
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