When the patent for the drug with the highest NHS expenditure expires...

The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust

Project aim

Switch all patients from the originator of Adalimumab (Humira) to Adalimumab Biosimilar (Imraldi / Amgevita).
Goal set by NHS England: 90% of all new patients switched within 3 months and 80%of all existing patients to be switched to a biosimilar within 12 months.

Project team

Dr Khalid Ahmed (Consultant)
Dr Sarah Farrow (Consultant)
Dr Amir Siddiqui
Dr Shameem Narikkoottungal
Sachini Amarasekera (Pharmacist)
Mona Kamal Zou (Specialist Nurse)

Timeline for delivery

From: December 2018 **To: December 2019**

Measures

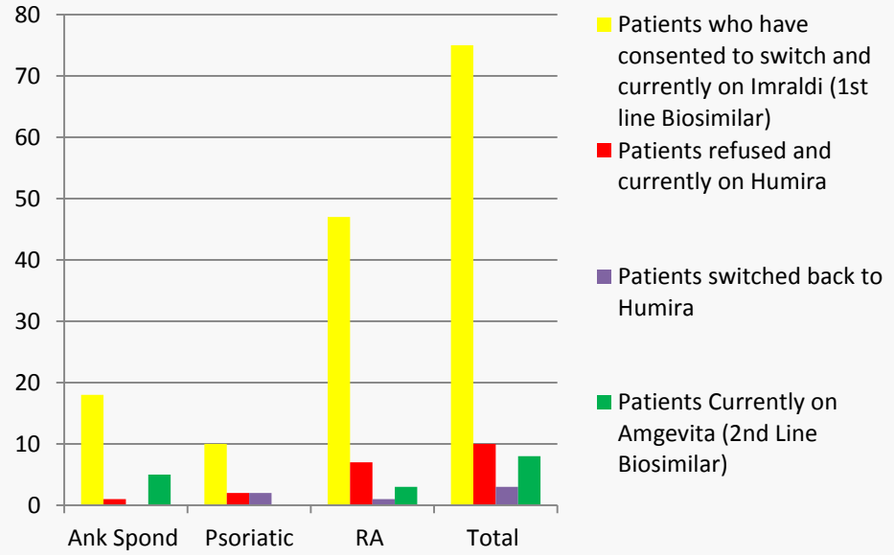
Letters sent to inform patients of the NHS mandated change due to Humira's patent expiration.
Patients invited to consent clinics for biosimilar.
Measurable, disease specific scores calculated before switch and within 3 months after switch.

Tests for change

50 new patients started on the Biosimilar between December 2018 – August 2019 generating an income of £5945.50 p/ month of treatment for the Trust.
83 existing patients remain on a biosimilar generating an income of £9994.41p/month of treatment for the Trust.

Results

83% of existing patients switched to biosimilar
100% of all new patients switched



Learning and next steps

Dealing with challenges arising with the psychological aspects of switching to a 'cheaper brand.'
Majority of patients were happy to comply with the switch in order to allow new patients to benefit from the savings made
Further audit of the success rate of patients being switched from originator to biosimialr

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