



**PAN MERSEY AREA PRESCRIBING COMMITTEE  
PRESCRIBING POLICY STATEMENT  
REF: PS64 FINAL  
FIRST APC BOARD DATE: 28 MAY 2014  
LAST APC BOARD DATE: 28 MAR 2018**



**Pan Mersey**  
Area Prescribing Committee

**ETANERCEPT injection (including biosimilars)  
in rheumatological conditions**

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**The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of etanercept injection for rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis, polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis and adult-onset Still's disease, as well as in patients fitting other criteria commissioned by Pan Mersey CCGs, as listed below.**

**Rheumatoid arthritis (RA):** The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee (APC) recommends prescribing etanercept injection for rheumatoid arthritis in accordance with [NICE TA195](#) (August 2010), [NICE TA375](#) (January 2016), and in accordance with the [Pan Mersey Rheumatoid Arthritis Biologics Pathway](#). NICE TA375 recommends etanercept with methotrexate or as monotherapy, as a treatment option for adults with severe active rheumatoid arthritis (DAS28>5.1) who have had an inadequate response to intensive therapy with a combination of disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs). TA195 recommends etanercept, in combination with methotrexate or as monotherapy, as a treatment option for adults with severe active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response to two or more DMARDs or have an intolerance of, other DMARDs, including at least one TNF inhibitor, and who cannot receive rituximab therapy because they have a contraindication to rituximab, or when rituximab is withdrawn because of an adverse event. The Pan Mersey RA biologics pathway recommends etanercept as an option in patients fitting NICE criteria who have not responded adequately to rituximab, and recommends use with non-methotrexate DMARDs as an option in patients who cannot have methotrexate.

**Psoriatic arthritis (PsA):** The Pan Mersey APC recommends prescribing etanercept injection for psoriatic arthritis in accordance with [NICE TA199](#) (August 2010), and in accordance with the [Pan Mersey Psoriatic Arthritis Biologics Pathway](#). NICE TA199 recommends etanercept as an option in psoriatic arthritis of defined severity not responding to two or more DMARDs. The Pan Mersey PsA Biologics Pathway recommends alternative biologic treatment if initial biologic treatment fails.

**Ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (NRAxSpA):** The Pan Mersey APC recommends prescribing etanercept injection for AS and NRAxSpA in accordance with [NICE TA383](#) (February 2016) and [Pan Mersey AS and Axial SpA pathway](#).

**Polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA):** The Pan Mersey APC recommends etanercept as an option for treating polyarticular JIA, in accordance with [NICE TA373](#) (December 2015). Further details are contained in the Pan Mersey statement on [Biologic agents in management of Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis](#)

**Adult-onset Still's disease (AOSD):** The Pan Mersey APC recommends etanercept as an option for treating AOSD within the [criteria](#) commissioned by Pan Mersey CCGs.

**Planned conception in patients with active inflammatory arthritis:** The Pan Mersey APC recommends prescribing etanercept injection for male and female patients with rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, adult-onset Still's disease or active spondyloarthritis as an option in accordance with the [criteria](#) commissioned by Pan Mersey CCGs for patients wishing to conceive.

**Note:** Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this statement may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy. In this situation, follow locally defined processes.

**This recommendation has been designated suitable for inclusion on the Pan Mersey APC static list and so will only be reviewed if significant new evidence becomes available**

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STATIC**