

The standard dose of baricitinib (BAR) is 4 mg for patients with normal renal function, however, there are many cases in which a dose reduction to 2mg is necessary for economic reasons due to its high cost. We here report cases of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients with normal renal function who were treated with 2mg of BAR. The total number of cases were was 17, consisting of (three males and 14 females). The mean age was 57.5 years, the mean disease duration was 12.6 years, rheumatoid factor (RF) was positive in 78.5% of the cases, anti-citrullinated protein antibody was (ACPA) positive in 80% of the cases, and the mean estimated eGFR-glomerular filtration rate was 90.8mL/min/1.73 m². The drugs used were as follows: MTCX in 14 cases (82.4%), other conventional synthetic disease modifying antirheumatic drugs (csDMARD) in 9 cases (52.9%), and the combination use of steroid was were used in 3 cases (17.6%). In addition, there were five treatment naive-naive cases (29.4%). The mean clinical disease activity index score was 19.3 and the mean CRP-C-reactive protein was 1.09 mg/dL at the start of BAR treatment. The changes in CDAI scores after starting BAR treatment were 9.5 at 2 weeks, 7.8 at 4 weeks, 8.3 at 8 weeks, 8.5 at 12 weeks, 8.8 at 16 weeks, and 7.3 at 2, 4, 8, 12, 16, and 24 weeks, respectively by the last observation carried forward (LOCF) method. The outcome at 24 weeks were as follows: resolution of symptoms and discontinuation of BAR in one case, remission in 3 cases, low disease activity in 6 cases, moderate disease activity in two cases, discontinued due to adverse event in one case, termination due to ineffectiveness in 0 cases, dose increase to 4 mg in one case, and drop out in 3 cases. In 10 cases of 14 cases (71.4%), excluding drop-out cases, disease activity was controlled to low or below. Altogether, it was indicated that treatment with half-dose BAR administration is can be an option for RA patients with normal renal function in cases where normal dose BAR administration is difficult due to conditions such as economic situations.

www.ulatus.com

Comment 1 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Abbreviations][SDI]
A term should be abbreviated at the first instance if it has been used subsequently in the text.

Comment 2 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Other Language][LAN]
The edit was introduced as the acronym has not been used in the text further

Comment 3 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Spelling/ Typo][LAN]
Spelling error was rectified

Comment 4 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Technical word choice][SME]
As "eGFR" refers to "estimated glomerular filtration rate, the error was rightly rectified

Comment 5 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Other SME][SME]
The correct acronym as per the context was used. In this case "Methotrexate" is "MTX"

Comment 6 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Redundancy/ Repetition][LAN]
The edit was done to avoid redundancy and repetition of "weeks"

Comment 7 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Omission][ULA]
A critical omission error was fixed

Comment 8 [Checker]: [Level 2]

[Mistranslation][ULA]
The meaning change error was rectified.