

### Prescribing a biosimilar? Think BSRBR-RA!

BSRBR-RA has now opened recruitment to patients with RA starting therapy with a **BIOSIMILAR** (currently the Infliximab biosimilars – Remsima and Inflectra). They can be recruited if the biosimilar is first line therapy, or if the patient is switching from another biologic **including a switch from Remicade**.

Please remember to approach patients starting a biosimilar to ask if they would like to be involved in the study as it is important that we capture data on these patients.

Must have diagnosis of RA	<b>Biosimilar cohort</b> New patients must be registered within 6 months of first dose of <b>biosimilar</b>	Can be re-registered if already on the study		<p><b>Do you have a follow-up form backlog?</b></p> <p>Please see page 2 for information on what to do!</p>
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### Recruitment Update

Between 01 January 2015 and 30 June 2015, **328** participants were registered on the BSRBR-RA database from **96** different hospitals across the UK, which is fantastic, thank you!

**Table 1:** Recruitment figures by Clinical Research Network region - 01 January 2015 to 30 June 2015

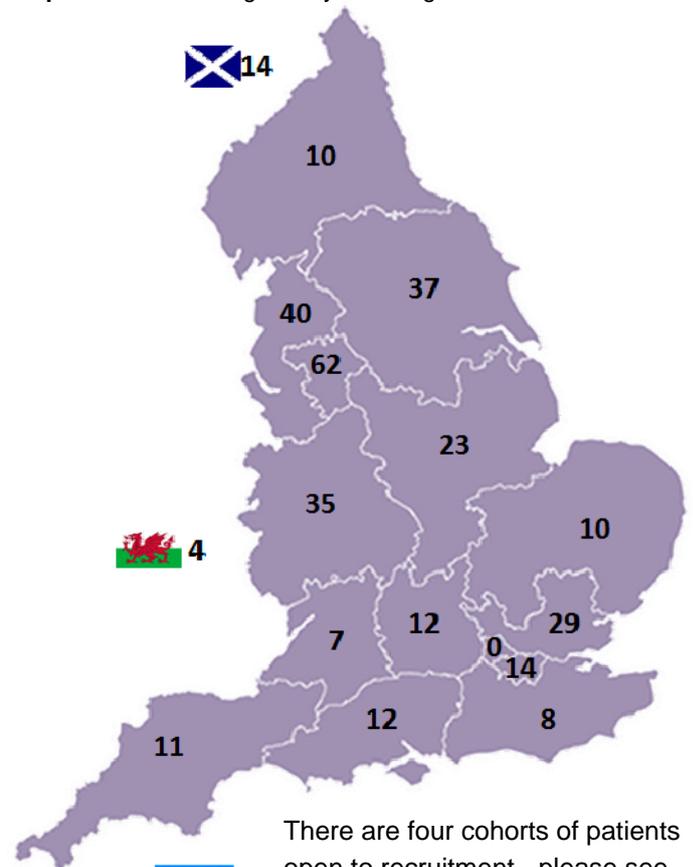
CRN Region	Number recruited between 01/01/2015 - 30/06/2015
Greater Manchester	62
North West Coast	40
Yorkshire and Humber	37
West Midlands	35
North Thames	29
East Midlands	23
South London	14
Thames Valley and South Midlands	12
Wessex	12
South West Peninsula	11
Eastern	10
North East and North Cumbria	10
Kent, Surrey and Sussex	8
West of England	7
North West London	0

Devolved Region	Number recruited between 01/01/2015 - 30/06/2015
Scotland	14
Wales	4
Northern Ireland	0

Thank you to all of the centres who have recruited participants to the BSRBR-RA in the first half of 2015!

Congratulations in particular to those centres who are within the Greater Manchester Clinical Research Network region, which has recruited the highest number of patients to the study between January and June 2015.

**Map 1:** Recruitment figures by CRN region in the first half of 2015



There are four cohorts of patients open to recruitment - please see overleaf for details.

Please remember to approach all who are eligible for recruitment!

## Update from Rheumatology 2015



L: Southend Hospital – Dawn Gayford, Research Nurse

R: Queen Alexandra Hospital – Paula White (Clinical Nurse Specialist) collected by Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist Rheumatology Colin Beevor.

BSRBR-RA had a very successful conference in Manchester in April 2015, thank you to all who attended talks, poster presentations and visited the stand.

Data was presented on topics such as fatigue, risk of pneumonia, and drug-induced lupus. The BSRBR-RA abstracts from Rheumatology 2015 can be viewed here:

[http://rheumatology.oxfordjournals.org/content/54/suppl\\_1.toc](http://rheumatology.oxfordjournals.org/content/54/suppl_1.toc)

### Recruitment awards.

At the conference, the BSR gave out recruitment awards to centres who have performed particularly well in recruitment to the RA register, with first prize winning a £100 voucher, and second winning a £50 voucher. The highest recruitment award for 2014 went to Queen Alexandra Hospital, with Southend Hospital being a close runner up. Congratulations to Paula, Dawn and their respective teams. Next year, it could be you!



## Follow-up form amnesty - what to do if you have a data backlog

If you have more than one follow-up form for the same patient due to a delay or data backlog, please complete the most recent one (i.e., the one with the highest FUP number on the first page) with information from the date we last received information from you. This date will be printed on the follow-up form. You can attach any preceding forms to this form and leave them blank, as all information we require will be collected on the most recent form.

We hope that this will help centres to feel less overwhelmed if there is a data backlog.

If you have any queries please contact the team directly who will be happy to help - details below.

## Which patients can be recruited to BSRBR-RA? See our handy reminder guide!

### Cimzia

- Diagnosis of RA
- Recruited within approx. 6 months of start date
- Does not need to be first exposure to bio therapy

### Biosimilar

- Diagnosis of RA
- Recruited within approx. 6 months of start date
- Does not need to be first exposure to bio therapy
- Can recruit if switching from another biologic, including Remicade.

### Actemra/RoActemra

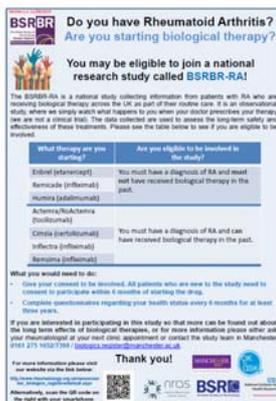
- Diagnosis of RA
- Recruited within approx. 6 months of start date
- Does not need to be first exposure to bio therapy

### Remicade / Humira / Enbrel

- Diagnosis of RA
- Recruited within approx. 6 months of start date
- Must be biologic naive

If you would like any recruitment reminder literature/posters, please contact the team (details below) who can email or post these to you.

## Poster for patient waiting rooms - how to request a copy



There is a poster to be placed in clinic waiting rooms, which aims to promote the BSRBR-RA to any potential participants. This has recently undergone a non-substantial change to add in the information about biosimilar recruitment, and you should receive hard copies in the post in the next few weeks. If you would like any additional copies, please contact the team (details below) who will be happy to send some to you.

In addition, if you would like any BSRBR-RA branded pens or post-it notes for use in your hospital, please do get in touch. These have our contact details on and are a handy reminder to approach eligible patients for recruitment to the study.

## Contact us!

This newsletter is published by the University of Manchester for the BSRBR-RA. If you have any questions or comments about the study, please do not hesitate to contact the project team.

**E:** [biologics.register@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:biologics.register@manchester.ac.uk)

**T:** 0161 275 1652/7390

**Twitter:** @BSRBR\_RA

**Web:** <http://bit.ly/1Txb2Yd>

If there is anything you would like to see in a future newsletter, please get in touch!



Members of the BSRBR-RA team, University of Manchester