

**British Society for Rheumatology (BSR)  
Statement on Adalimumab for Psoriatic Arthritis**

It was announced on 8th August 2005 that adalimumab (Humira) has been licensed for the treatment of Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA). This adds to the choice of anti-TNF- $\alpha$  drugs available to treat patients with PsA.

The BSR recently published guidelines on the use of anti-TNF- $\alpha$  treatment for PsA which did not include advice on the use of adalimumab as the treatment had not been licensed. The forthcoming appraisal from NICE will also not include advice on adalimumab for the same reason.

The BSR has therefore decided that it would be appropriate to offer guidance on the use of adalimumab as it has with other anti-TNF- $\alpha$  drugs. We believe that there is clear evidence to support the use of adalimumab as a treatment for adult patients with active and progressive PsA, who have had an inadequate response to previous disease modifying agents, and in accordance with the current BSR guideline for the use of anti-TNF- $\alpha$  drugs in PsA. Whilst there have not been any direct comparisons between anti-TNF- $\alpha$  drugs in PsA, adalimumab appears to be as effective as other licensed agents.

BSR  
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