

The standard dose of baricitinib (BAR) is 4 mg for patients with a normal renal function; however, there are many cases in which a dose reduction to 2mg is necessary for economic reasons because of its high cost. We here report cases of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients with a 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 Concomitant drugs used were as follows: MEX in 14 cases (82.4%), other conventional synthetic disease modifying antirheumatic drugs (sDMARD) in 9 nine cases (52.9%), and the combination use of steroid was were used in 3 three cases (17.6%). In addition, there were five treatment naive-naive cases (29.4%). The mean clinical disease activity index (CDAI) 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, using 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 three cases, low disease activity in 6 six cases, moderate disease activity in two cases, discontinued due to adverse event in one case, termination due to ineffectiveness in 0 zero cases, dose increase to 4 mg in one case, and drop out in 3 three cases. In 10 cases of 14 cases (71.4%), excluding drop-out cases, the disease activity was below the level of controlled to low or below. Altogether, it was indicated that Thus, treatment with half-dose BAR administration is can be an option for RA patients with a normal renal function in cases where normal dose BAR administration is difficult due to conditions such as economic situations.

Comment [Editor1]: [Level 5]

[Article][GRA]

The indefinite article is used here

Comment [Editor2]: [Level 5]

[Other Grammar][GRA]

“because of” is used as it describes the verb “reduction”

Comment [Editor3]: [Level 5]

[Redundancy/ Repetition][LAN]

Edit made to improve avoid the redundancy

Comment [Editor4]: [Level 5]

[Word Choice][LAN]

A better word choice edit was made as per the context

Comment [Editor5]: [Level 5]

[Abbreviation][SDI]

Term is abbreviated as it has been used in the file further

Comment [Editor6]: [Level 5]

[Consistency][SDI]

The numerical data is made consistent

Comment [Editor7]: [Level 5]

[Clarity][LAN]

Improved readability by rephrasing