

## REVIEWS

### **Y. Sheytanov, I. Sheytanov and Ts. Petranova. USE OF HUMIRA (ADALIMUMAB) IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS**

**Summary.** Humira (Adalimumab) is a representative of the so called biological agents. It is a recombinant human monoclonal antibody directed towards TNF, a key cytokine in the pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Humira neutralizes its biological function by blocking its interaction with the TNF receptors on the cell surface. In this review, the international experience of Humira use in patients with active rheumatoid arthritis is presented. Its therapeutic efficacy and safety in combined use with Methotrexate and other disease-modifying antirheumatic agents as well as in monotherapy are shown. Presented are the therapeutic effect of this biological drug on the main clinical manifestations and the inflammatory activity in patients with RA, the influence on the roentgenologic features, and the physical function. It is concluded that Humira (Adalimumab) is an efficient and reliable therapeutic alternative in patients with inadequate response to the standard antirheumatic treatment.

**Key words:** Adalimumab, TNF, rheumatoid arthritis, therapeutic efficacy

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