



The impact of overweight on the response to Tnf Alpha inhibitors in patients treated for Axial Spondyloarthritis

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INTRODUCTION :

- Treatment with TNF alpha inhibitors drugs have revolutionized the management of axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA).
- The aim of our work was to compare the response to TNF alpha inhibitor in a population of patients with overweight and those with normal body mass index (BMI).

METHODS:

- Retrospective study conducted in the Rheumatology Department, including 75 patients followed for axSpA on TNF alpha inhibitors therapy.
- Patients meeting ASAS 2009 classification criteria were included.
- Data analysis was performed using SPSS version 22 software, and the significance value of p was 0.05.
- Therapeutic response was defined as a 50 % improvement in initial BASDAI at 3 months and/or 6 months.

RESULTS:

The general characteristics of the patients are summarized in the following table:

Variables	Characteristics
Mean age ( years)	39,11
Male gender (%)	64
Mean BMI ( kg/m2)	24.5
Extra-articular manifestations (%)	50.7
Uveitis (%)	12
Mean initial BASDAI	5.32
Mean age of onset of symptoms (years)	29.9
Mean duration of disease’s course (years)	9.35

Table 1: General characteristics

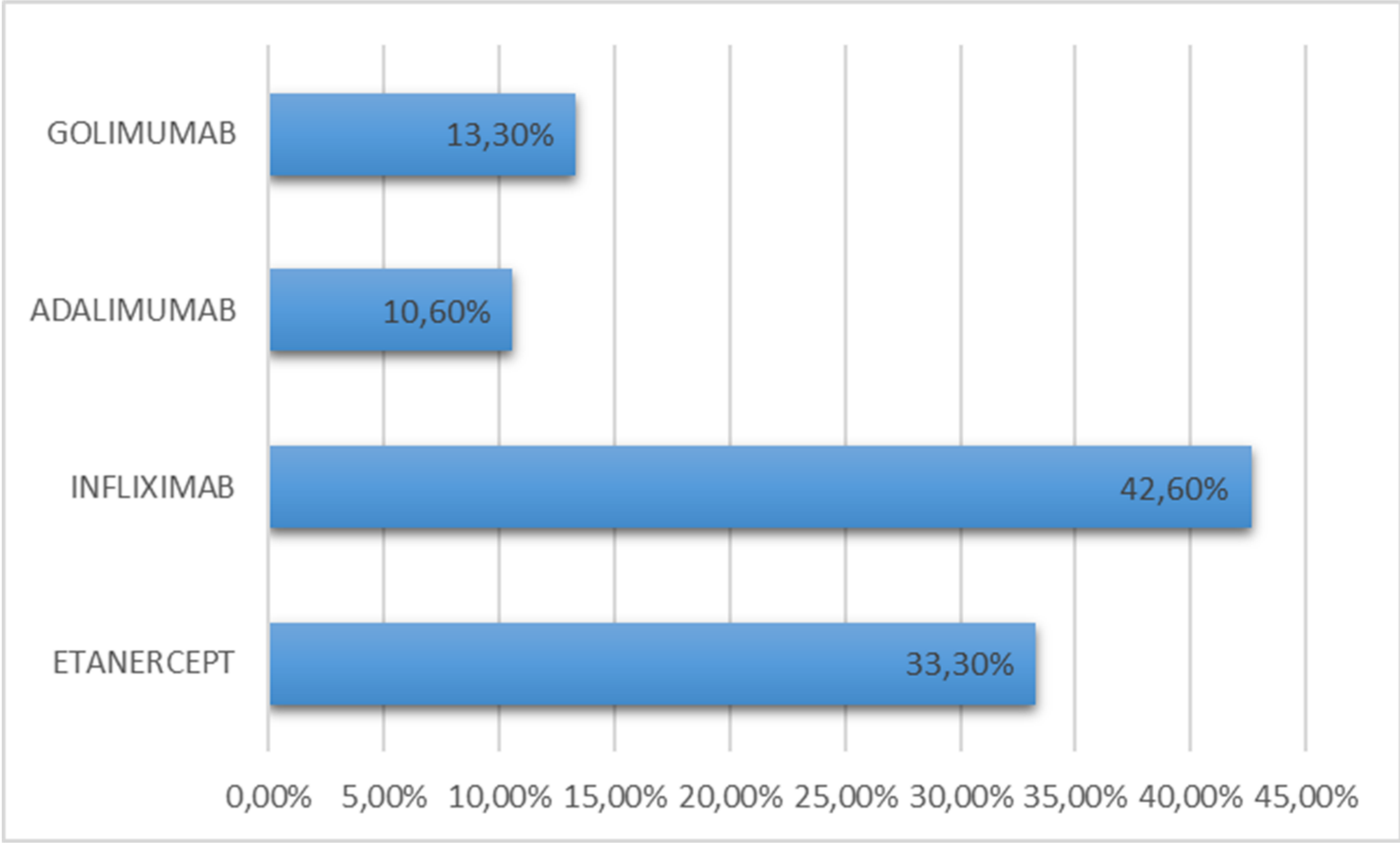


Figure 1: Biological treatments used by patients

- Sixty-six percent of patients (50 patients) responded to TNF alpha inhibitors , with a mean BASDAI at 6 months of **1.85**.
- Response to TNF alpha inhibitors was compared between group 1 (axSpA with a BMI < 25 kg/m2 ) and group 2 (axSpA patients with a BMI> 25 kg/m2 ), and the results are presented in the following table 2:

	Group 1	Group 2	P value
Intial BASDAI	5.23	5.77	0.3
Average 3-month BASDAI	2.8	4.09	0.041
Average 6-month BASDAI	1.9	3.6	0.02

Table 2: Comparison of TNF alpha inhibitors response between two groups

CONCLUSION :

In our study, the group of axial spondyloarthritis patients with a BMI<25kg/m2 had a statistically significant higher response rate to TNF alpha inhibitors than the overweight group.