

Inflammatory Bowel Disease (Crohn's Disease) - Pathway 3 - Immunosuppressants for use in Adults

High Risk or steroid refractory IBD

Discuss TNF-alpha inhibitor therapy with thiopurine as top down approach at MDT

Steroid dependent Inflammatory Bowel Disease i.e. 2nd Course of steroid within 12 months

Thiopurine (low dose or full dose) **OR** methotrexate.

Discuss treatment choices from the three options below with the patient Measure thiopurine methyltransferase enzyme (TPMT) (adjust doses according to TPMT activity)

Methotrexate

(intra muscular, subcutaneous or Oral)

Low dose thiopurine with allopurinol

(azathioprine or 6- mercaptopurine)

Full dose thiopurine

(azathioprine or 6-mercaptopurine)

Good Response?

Poor response (evaluate at/after 12 weeks) OR side effects?

Good Response?

Poor response (evaluate at/after 12 weeks) OR side effects?

Good Response?

Poor response (evaluate at/after 12 weeks) OR side effects?

Full dose thiopurine (azathioprine or 6-mercaptopurine) **OR**

Low dose thiopurine with allopurinol (azathioprine or 6-mercaptopurine) **OR**

Progress to Biologic treatment in line with NICE guidance and local pathways

If azathioprine used initially switch to 6-mercaptopurine with allopurinol **OR**

Methotrexate (IM or oral) **OR**

Progress to Biologic treatment in line with NICE guidance and local pathways

If azathioprine used initially switch to 6-mercaptopurine **OR**

Methotrexate (IM or oral) **OR**

Low dose thiopurine with allopurinol (azathioprine or 6-mercaptopurine) **OR**

Progress to Biologic treatment in line with NICE guidance and local pathways

CONSIDER TRANSFER OF CARE DISCUSS WITH PRIMARY CARE PRESCRIBER & PATIENT

6 monthly review—Reinforce need for skin care and blood monitoring & appropriate vaccinations

FLARE OR SIDE EFFECTS CONSULT WITH IBD SERVICE.

References:

1. NICE CG152: Crohn's disease: management (October 2012)
2. Guidelines for the management of inflammatory bowel disease in adults . Mowat C, Cole A, Windsor A, et al. Gut (2011). doi:10.1136/gut.2010.224154
3. A practical guide to thiopurine prescribing and monitoring in IBD. BMJ Journals, Warner B, et al. Frontline Gastroenterology 2018;9:10-15 doi:10.1136/flgastro-2016-100738