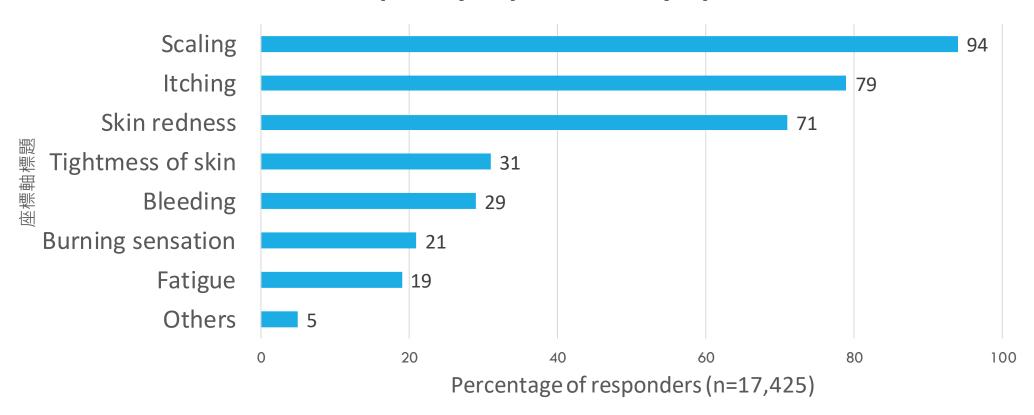


#### What is psoriasis?

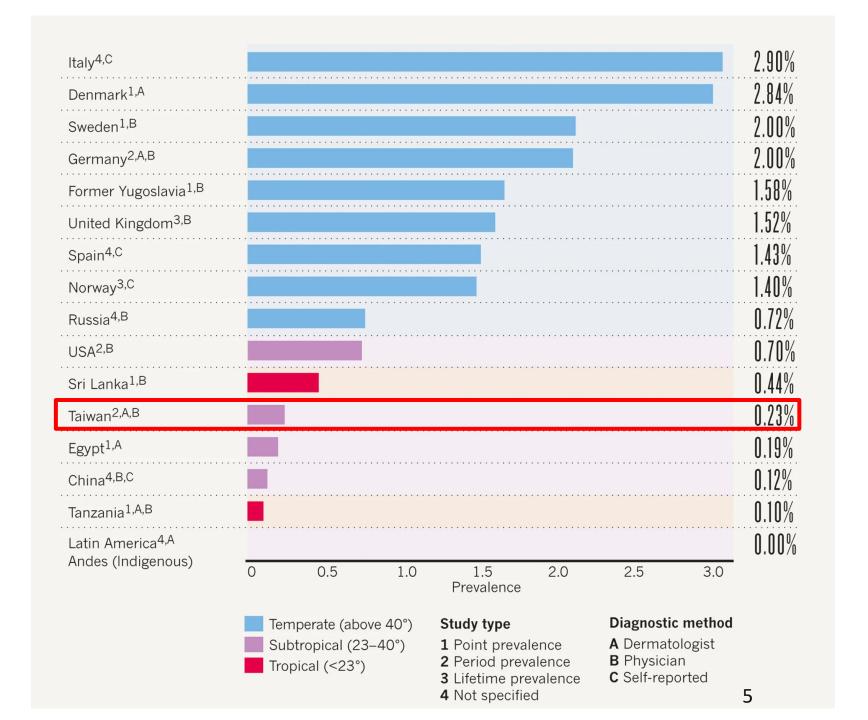
 Psoriasis is a chronic cutaneous inflammatory disease manifesting as erythematous, raised, well-demarcated plaques with adherent scales

#### **Symptoms of Psoriasis**

#### Most frequently experienced symptoms



# **Epidemiology** of Psoriasis



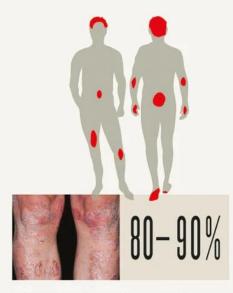
#### **Risk Factors of Psoriasis**

- Genetic factors appear to play a strong role
- Environmental factors
  - Medications: beta blockers, lithium
  - Obesity
  - Infection?
  - Stress?

#### **Chronic Plaque Psoriasis**

- The most common form of psoriasis
- Characterized by raised patches called lesions or plaques which are covered by silvery white scale
- Scalp, extensor elbows, knees, and gluteal cleft

#### **Classification of Psoriasis**



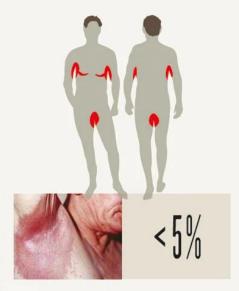
Chronic plaque psoriasis

Red, scaly plaques in discrete patches. The extent of body surface area covered varies widely from patient to patient.



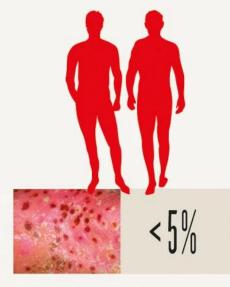
**Guttate psoriasis** 

Multiple small, red spots, usually on the trunk and limbs.



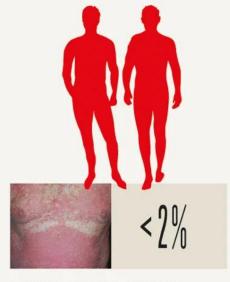
Inverse/flexural psoriasis

Very red scale-free lesions that form in skin folds.



#### Pustular psoriasis

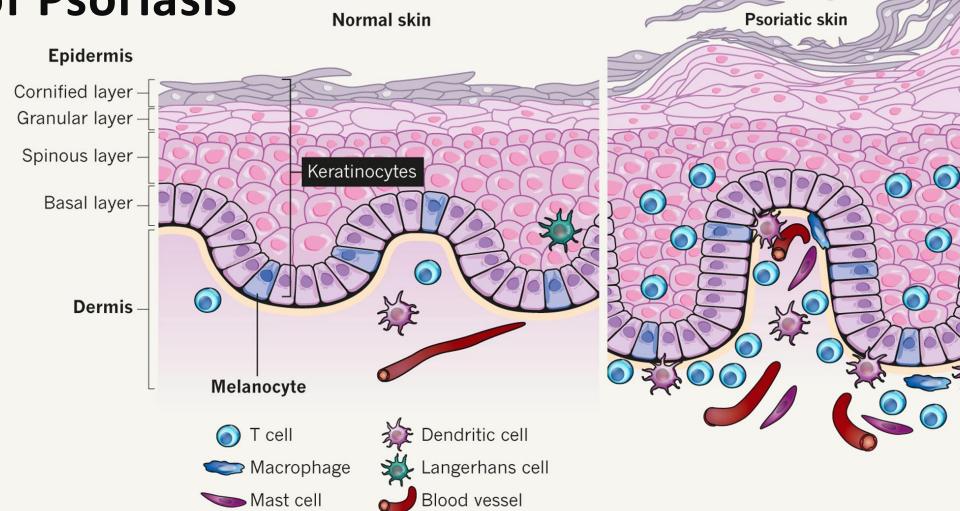
White blisters surrounded by red skin, which may be localized to a particular area, but which can also cover the whole body.



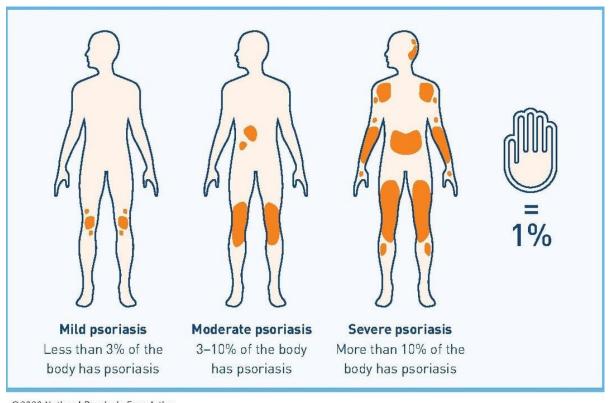
#### **Erythrodermic psoriasis**

Severe red inflammation and skin shedding covering most of the body. A rare but dangerous form of the disease that can cause patients to lose excessive amounts of heat through the skin.

# Pathogenesis of Psoriasis



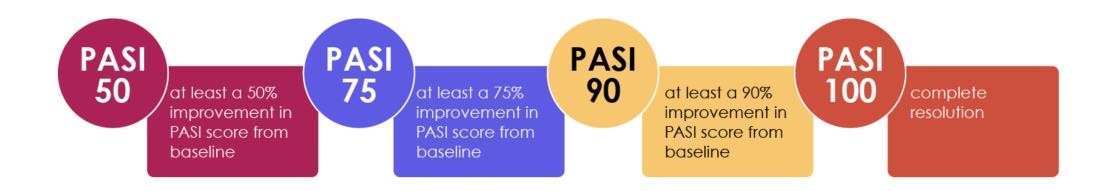
- Body surface area (BSA)
  - ☐ Mild-to-moderate: <5%
  - Moderate-to-severe: ≥5%; hands, feet, face, or genitals
  - 80% mild to moderate disease
  - 20% moderate to severe disease



©2020 National Psoriasis Foundation

- Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI)
  - Used in clinical trials to assess efficacy of treatment
  - Measure of overall psoriasis severity and coverage
    - ✓ body surface area (BSA)
    - erythema
    - ✓ induration
    - ✓ Scaling
- Score ranges from 0 (no disease) to 72 (maximal disease)

Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI)



- Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI)
  - Questionnaire used to assess the impact of a skin condition on quality of life
  - Moderate-to-severe: >10, regardless of the PASI score

DLQI score	Impact on QoL <sup>6</sup>
0-1	No effect at all
2-5	Small effect
6–10	Moderate effect
11-20	Very large effect
21-30	Extremely large effect



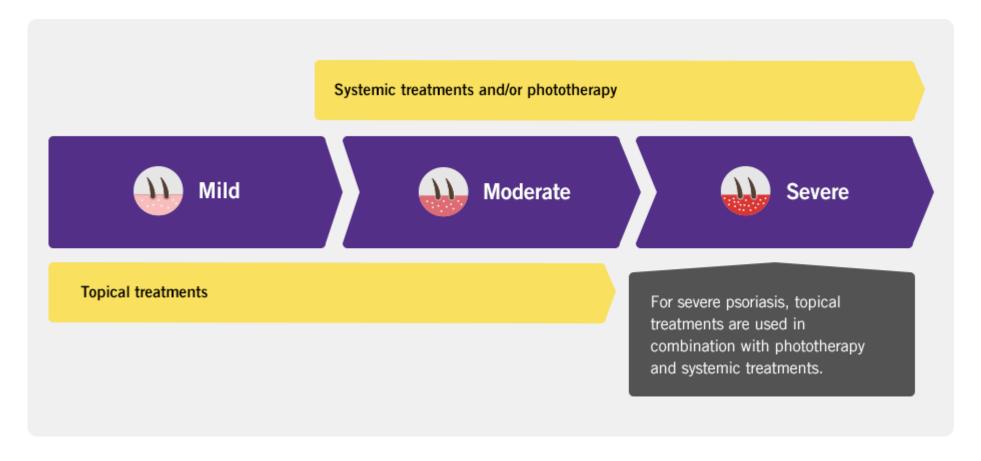
### **Goal of Treatment**

- Primary goal is control of disease rather than cure
- Minimize extent and severity of psoriasis
- Prevent substantial disruption of patient's quality of life
- Identify and treat psoriatic arthritis and other comorbid diseases

### **Treatment Overview**

- Stewardship approach
- Consider patient preferences, severity of disease, and ability to adhere to treatment

#### **Pharmacologic Therapy**



#### **Treatment Options for Psoriasis**

- Topical therapy
  - Topical corticosteroids
  - Vitamin D analogs
- Phototherapy
- Systemic therapy
  - Methotrexate, Cyclosporine, Acitretin
  - Biologic agents
  - Small molecule inhibitor: Apremilast

#### **Topical Therapy**

- Topical corticosteroids
  - Mainstay of topical psoriasis treatment
  - Consider application site
    - ✓ Scalp → Solution, foam
    - ✓ Face and intertriginous → low potency
  - Minimize adverse effects
    - Transition to less potent agents after clinical improvement, intermittent usage

#### **Topical Therapy**

- Topical vitamin D analogs
  - Hypoproliferative effect on keratinocytes
  - Enhance the efficacy of topical corticosteroids
  - ☐ Calcipotriene: <100g/week
  - ☐ Calcitriol: <200g/week
  - Minimal side effect; hypercalcemia

#### **Phototherapy**

- Indicated for generalized psoriasis (BSA >10%) and in pregnancy
  - Narrowband UVB (311-320 nm) > broadband UVB
  - Systemic Psoralen Plus Ultraviolet A (PUVA)
- Typically takes 15-20 treatments to achieve clearance
- Photoaging; increased risk of skin cancer after prolonged treatment

#### **Agents for the Treatment of Severe Psoriasis**

<b>Treatment Modality</b>	Advantages	Disadvantages
Methotrexate	Effective for both skin lesions and arthritis	Hepatotoxicity; bone marrow toxicity; folic acid protects against stomatitis; contraindicated during pregnancy and lactation
Cyclosporine	Toxicities and short-lived remissions; used in patients with extensive disease who are unresponsive to other agents	Renal impairment; suppressive therapy; increased risk of skin cancer, lymphomas, and solid tumors; hypertension, hyperuricemia, hyperkalemia, acute infections
Acitretin	Not as effective as other systemic agents; efficacy enhanced if given with PUVA or UVB	Teratogenic (contraception required); contraindicated with liver or renal dysfunction, hypertriglyceridemia



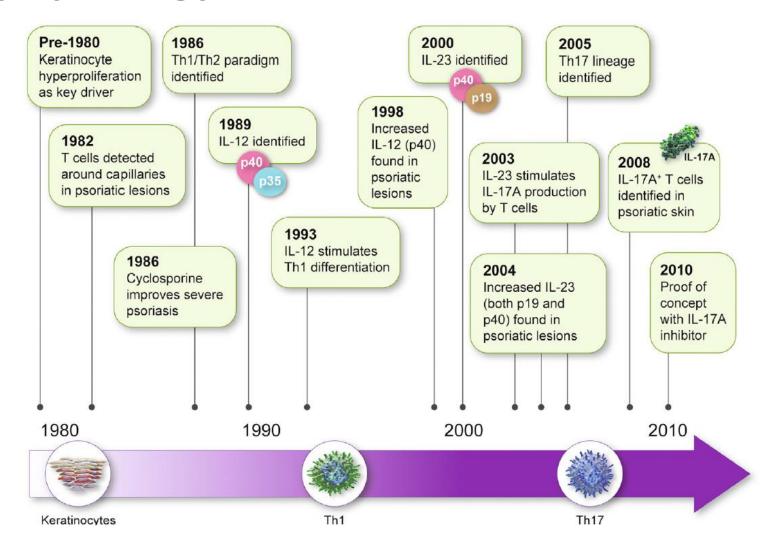
**Table 1.** Summary of various national guidelines for consideration of biologic agents for moderate-to-severe psoriasis

psoriusis		
American Academy of Dermatology <sup>2</sup>	BSA ≥5%	
British Association of Dermatologists <sup>9</sup>	BSA > 10% or PASI > 10 + DLQI > 10 + Unable to use or failed standard	systemic Rx
European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology <sup>10</sup>	DLQI >10 + Unable to use or failed standard	BSA >10%
Malaysian Clinical Practice Guidelines <sup>11</sup>	Criteria A (Severe Disease): 1. PASI ≥20 OR 2. BSA ≥30% OR 3. DLQI ≥18 +	PSAI >10 DLGI >10%
Singapore Clinical Practice Guidelines <sup>12</sup>	Criteria B (Clinical Categories): 1. Contraindications to standard 2. Intolerance to standard system 3. Failed standard systemic treat  Moderate-to-severe psoriasis an failure of phototherapy or stand unstable life-threatening disease	soles, flexures and genitals
	("standard systemic therapy" is de kg/day for 12 weeks, methotrexo weeks, acitretin 25-50 mg daily f	ate 15 mg-25 mg weekly for 12

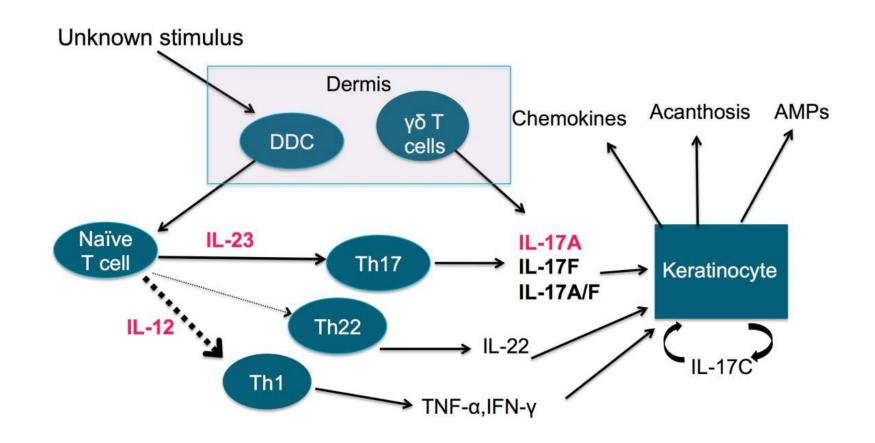
### **Biologic Agents in Plaque Psoriasis**

Class/target pathway	Generic drug name	Year of approval for psoriasis by FDA
TNF-α inhibition	Etanercept (Enbrel® 恩博)	2004
	Infliximab (Remicade®類克)	2006
	Adalimumab (Humira® 復邁)	2008
IL-12/23 inhibition	Ustekinumab (Stelara® 喜達諾)	2008
Direct inhibition of IL-17	Secukinumab (Cosentyx® 可善挺)	2015
	Ixekizumab (Taltz® 達癬治)	2017
	Brodalumab (Lumicef® 立美西膚)	2017
IL-23 blocker	Guselkumab (Tremfya®特諾雅)	2017
	Risankizumab (Skyrizi®喜開悅)	2020

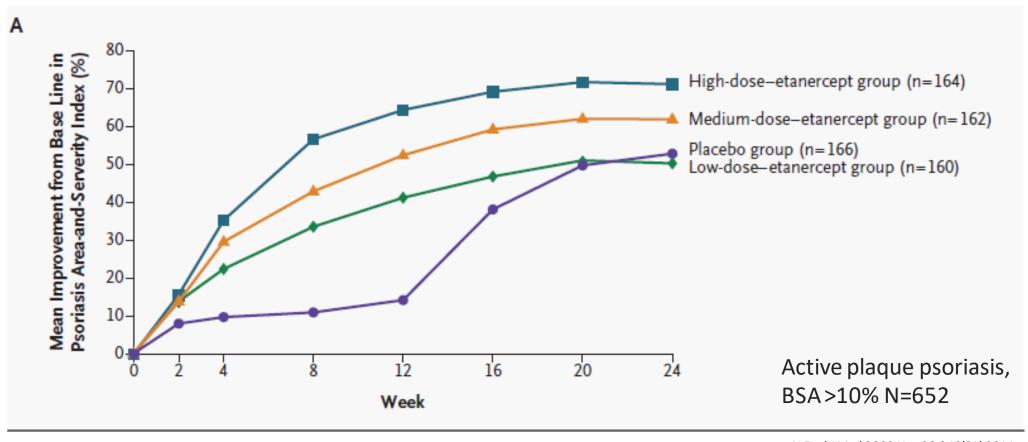
# Timeline of Evolving Concepts in Psoriasis Pathophysiology



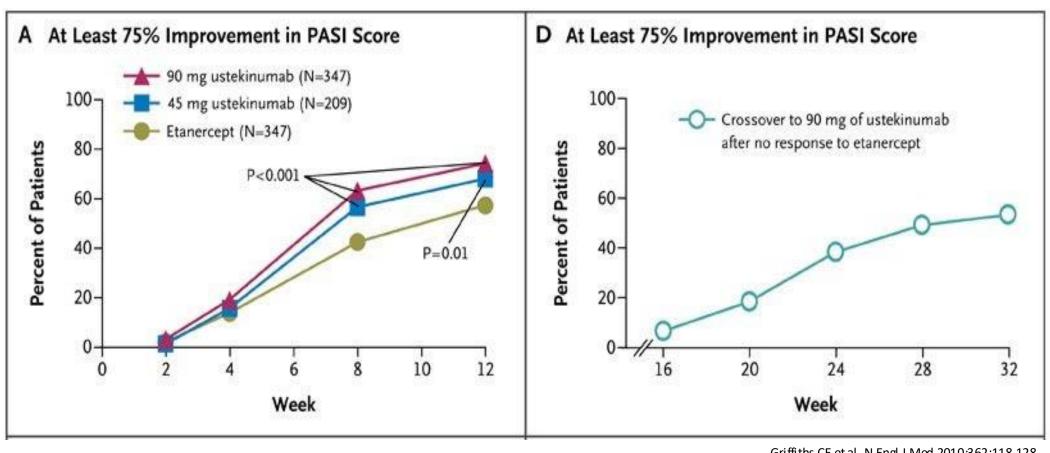
### Pathogenesis of Psoriasis



#### **Etanercept Reduces Psoriasis Severity over a Period of 24 Weeks**

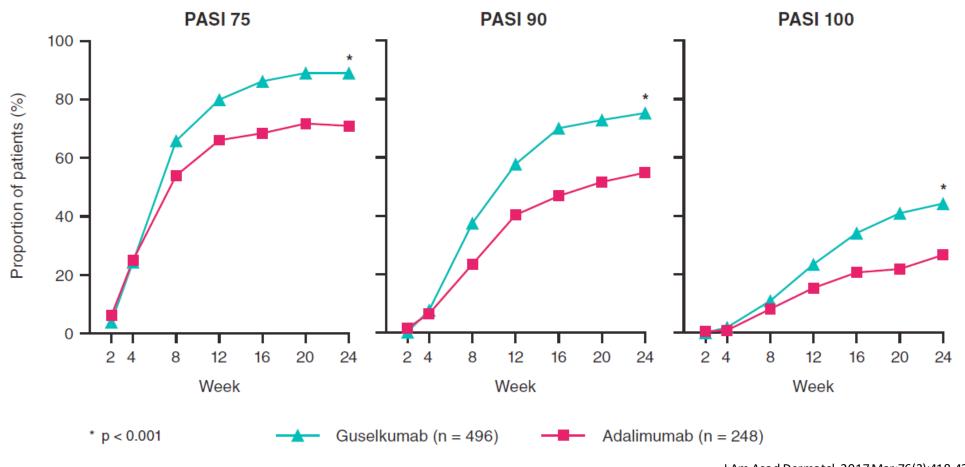


#### **Efficacy of Ustekinumab is Superior to Etanercept**

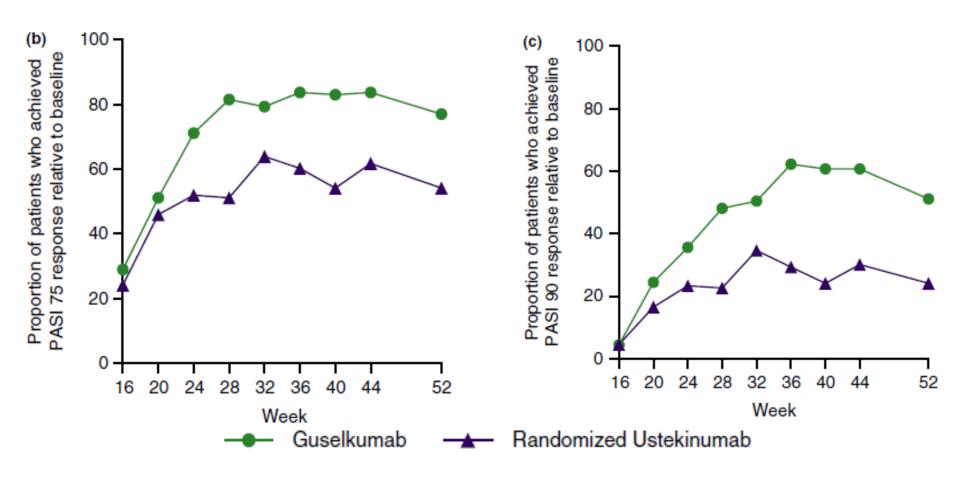


Griffiths CE et al. N Engl J Med 2010;362:118-128.

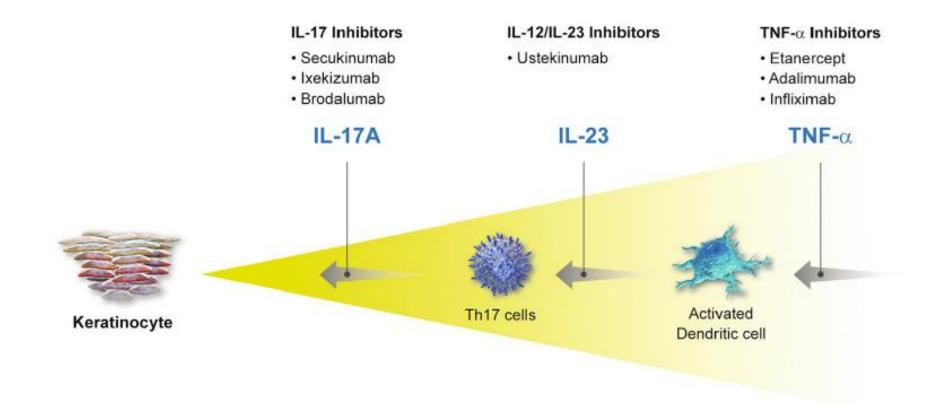
### **Guselkumab Reduces Psoriasis Severity Compared to Adalimumab**



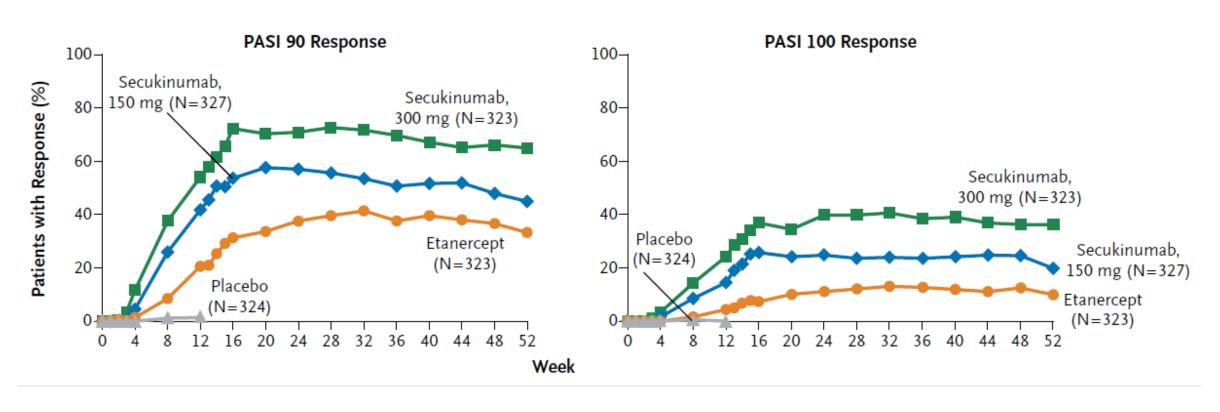
## Guselkumab Reduces Psoriasis Severity in Patients with Inadequate Response to Ustekinumab



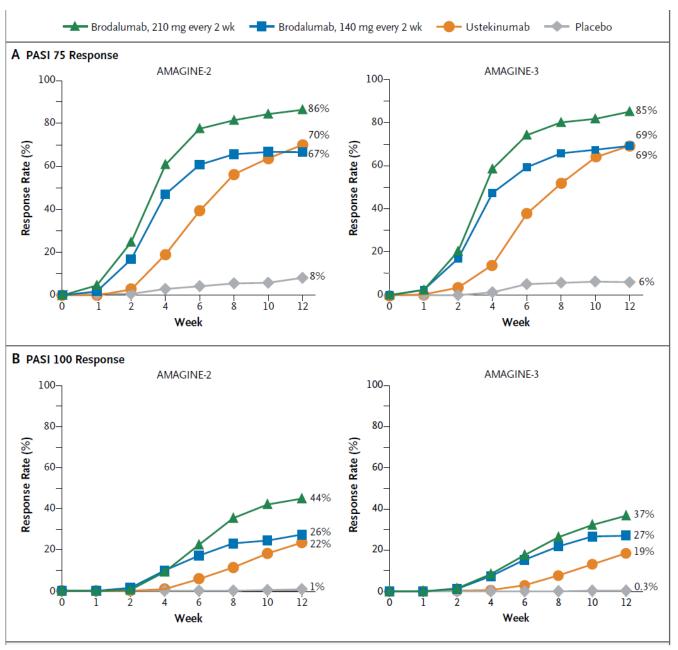
#### **Key Cytokine Targets in Psoriasis**



## Secukinumab Reduces Psoriasis Severity Compared to Etanercept in Poor Disease Control

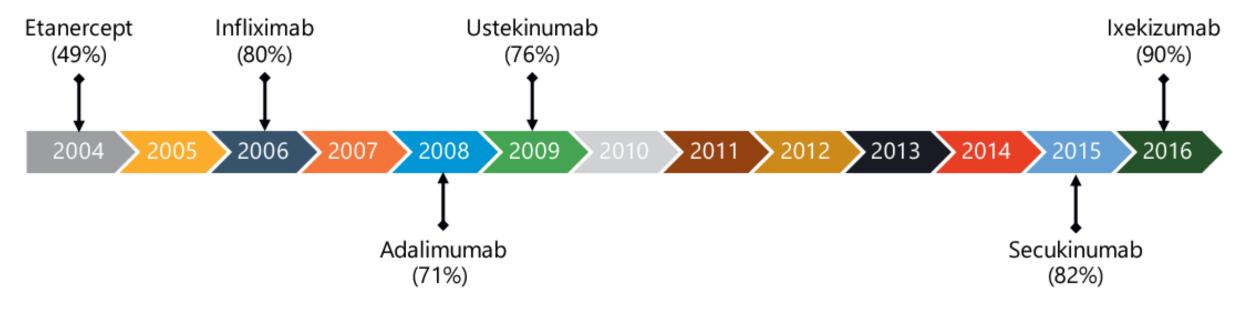


#### Brodalumab Improves Moderate-to-severe Plaque Psoriasis

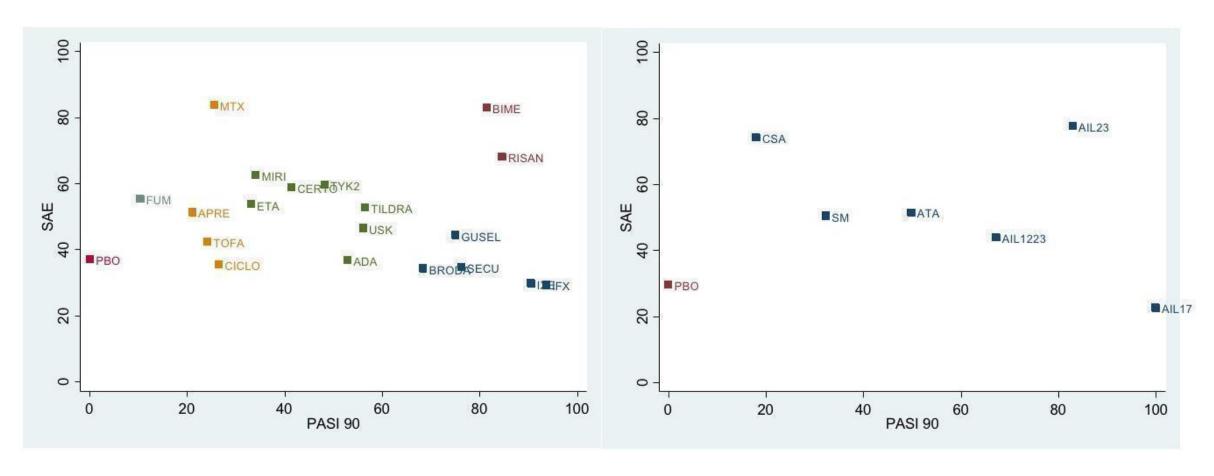


#### **Timeline of Approved Biologics**

Approved biologics for adult plaque psoriasis (PASI 75 response rate) at approximately 3 month endpoint



# Comparisons of Systemic Pharmacological Treatments by Network Meta-analysis

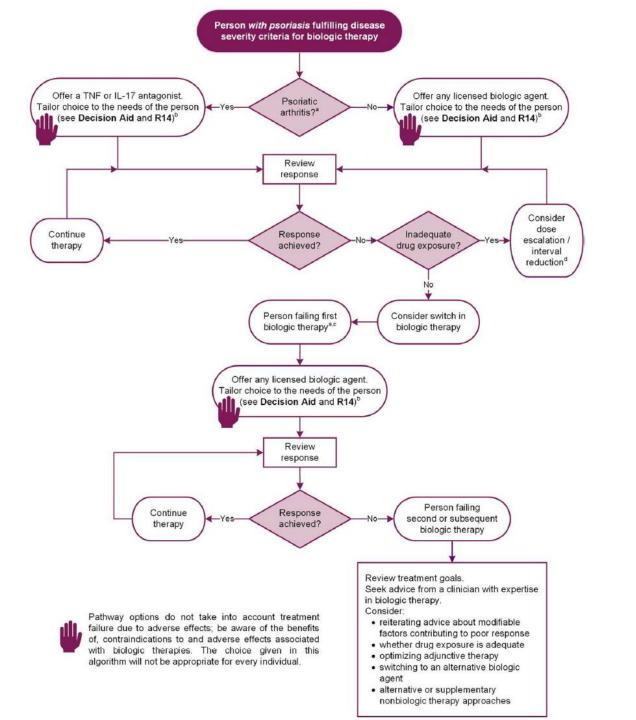


### **Adverse Events of Biologic Agents**

- Serious infection
- Hepatitis B and C virus reactivation
- Immunogenicity

#### **Adverse Events of Biologic Agents**

- TNF-a inhibitors
  - Reactivation of latent TB infection
  - Malignancies
- IL-12/23 inhibitors
  - Major adverse cardiovascular event
- IL-17 inhibitors
  - Candidiasis
  - Neutropenia
  - Inflammatory bowel disease
  - Depression and risk of suicide (Brodalumab)



Br J Dermatol. 2020 Oct;183(4):628-637

#### **Consideration of Selecting Biologic Agents**

Situations	Consider
Psoriatic arthritis	TNF antagonist; IL-17 antagonist (except for Brodalumab)
Severe disease and rapid onset required	Infliximab
Children and young people	Adalimumab (age ≥ 4 years), etanercept (≥ 6 years) or ustekinumab (≥ 12 years)