
**POSSIBLE DISCONTINUATION OF THERAPIES
IN INFLAMMATORY RHEUMATIC DISEASES**
Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology

Guest editors

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Target Audience

Rheumatologists

Course Description

This supplement for the journal *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology* is the 14th in an annual series entitled 'Contemporary Topics in Rheumatic Diseases'.

Statement of Need

The need to examine diverse reports from many sources concerning evidence for and against discontinuation of therapies, primarily focused on biological therapies, has been recognised in a survey of rheumatologists. It was chosen as the optimal topic for 2013 for the series of annual supplements of *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology*. The Supplement aims to include scholarly discussions of possible discontinuation of therapies in inflammatory rheumatic diseases, including rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, psoriatic arthritis, spondyloarthropathies, ankylosing spondylitis, and related conditions, as well as paediatric juvenile arthritis.

Educational Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- o recognise the evidence that suggests discontinuation of therapies might be considered for certain patients in whom control of severe inflammation has been achieved
- o recognise evidence that suggest discontinuation of therapies should not be considered in any patients in whom control of severe inflammation has been achieved .
- o formulate treatment plans for the use of biological therapies and possible discontinuation based on systematic knowledge of risk vs. benefit ratio rather than anecdotal considerations.

Accreditation Statement

The NYU Post-Graduate Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians

Credit Designation Statement

The NYU Post-Graduate Medical School designates this enduring material for a maximum of 10.25 *AMA PRA Category I Credits*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Method of Participation

To receive up to 10.25 CME credits, read this supplement, which should take 10.25 hours of your time, complete the evaluation and post-test and submit to the NYU Post-Graduate Medical School (instructions enclosed). A minimum passing grade of 70% is required.

This activity is valid for credit from November 1, 2013 through February 28, 2014.

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