

EULAR
02.06.22
11.05AM CEST
Kilchberg,
Switzerland

MACE RATES IN THE RABBIT REGISTRY LOWER THAN THOSE REPORTED IN ORAL SURVEILLANCE

New real-world data presented at the EULAR Congress

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In 2021, the EMA and FDA issued warnings about the cardiovascular safety of the Janus kinase inhibitor (JAKi) tofacitinib, and required changes in labelling. These actions were based on results of Oral Surveillance – a post-authorisation safety trial. Data released at the 2022 EULAR Congress now show the rate of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE) in patients receiving JAKi in a real-world setting is lower than that reported for tofacitinib in Oral Surveillance.

RABBIT (Rheumatoide Arthritis: Beobachtung der Biologika-Therapie) investigates disease and therapy courses of more than 21,000 patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) treated in Germany.

At the EULAR Congress, Dr Yvette Meissner presented an analysis of RA patients enrolled in RABBIT. The aim was to show MACE in patients treated with JAKi, tumour necrosis factor inhibitors (TNFi) or conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (csDMARDs).

In total, 28 incident MACE were reported. Patients under treatment with JAKi, TNFi, and csDMARD showed comparable incidence rates for MACE – ranging from 0.26 and 0.41 events per 100 patient-years.

The majority of events were reported in the first year after treatment initiation. In adjusted analyses, JAKi and csDMARDs did not show a significantly increased risk for MACE compared with TNFi in RA patients. Selecting patients with a higher cardiovascular risk according to the Oral Surveillance inclusion criteria was also not associated with a risk increase.

The authors conclude that the rates of MACE in patients receiving JAKi in this real-world setting was lower than that reported for tofacitinib in the Oral Surveillance study. There was no evidence of an increased risk of MACE with JAKi compared to TNFi, although patients in the JAKi group were older and had longer disease duration.

Source

Meissner Y, et al. Risk of cardiovascular events under Janus kinase inhibitors in patients with rheumatoid arthritis: observational data from the German RABBIT register. Presented at EULAR 2022; abstract OP0135.

About EULAR

EULAR – the European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology – is the European umbrella organisation representing scientific societies, health professional associations and organisations for people with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases (RMDs). EULAR aims to reduce the burden of RMDs on individuals and society and to improve the treatment, prevention and rehabilitation of RMDs. To this end, EULAR fosters excellence in education and research in the

field of rheumatology. It promotes the translation of research advances into daily care and fights for the recognition of the needs of people with RMDs by the EU institutions through advocacy action.

About the EULAR European Congress of Rheumatology

Since its introduction in 2000, the annual EULAR European Congress of Rheumatology has become the primary platform for exchange of scientific and clinical information in Europe. It is also a renowned forum for interaction between medical doctors, scientists, people with arthritis/rheumatism, health professionals and representatives of the pharmaceutical industry worldwide. The EULAR congress is usually held in June in one of the major cities in Europe.

The scientific programme covers a wide range of topics on clinical innovations, clinical, translational and basic science. Meetings set up by associations of people with arthritis/rheumatism, health professionals and the health care industry complement the programme. The poster sessions, offering lively interaction between presenters and participants, are regarded by many as the heart of the congress.

Over the years, the EULAR Congress has gained a reputation of being a most innovative platform for the practicing physician particularly with respect to the acquisition of information on novel clinical research. The congress attracts more than 18,000 delegates from more than 130 countries.

The aim of the EULAR European Congress of Rheumatology is to provide a forum of the highest standard for scientific, both clinical and basic, educational, and social exchange between professionals involved in rheumatology, liaising with patient organisations, in order to achieve progress in the clinical care of people with rheumatic diseases.

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