

SCORECARD

A SCORECARD TO ASSIST IN TALKING WITH YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT BIOSIMILARS

If you have been prescribed a biologic medicine, you may have a choice between receiving an original brand name biologic or a biosimilar. The “original biologic” is the patented drug made by the original manufacturer. A biosimilar is a “similar but not identical” copy of the original drug. This Decision Aid can help you choose whether the original biologic or the biosimilar is best for you. To learn more about original and biosimilar biologics, please read the primer and fact sheets that accompany this Decision Aid.

You may use this Decision Aid on your own or with your doctor. When you are done, add up all the “check” marks in each column and write your “score” on the bottom of each column. The scores do not decide whether you should take the original biologic or biosimilar but will help you understand how the options apply to your personal condition.

ISSUE: EVIDENCE

1	Is there good evidence that I would experience no difference in adverse effects and benefits with the biosimilar as with the original biologic?	Support Biosimilar	No Preference	Support Original Biologic
	Evidence from head to head clinical trials showing equivalent benefits and adverse events in use of biosimilar and original biologic	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Patients were just like me	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Additional long-term (> 1 year) data from real-world use shows similar benefits and harms	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Evidence from clinical trials BUT with patients different from me		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	No evidence from head-to-head clinical trials	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2	Is there good evidence I will experience no difference in adverse effects and benefits if I switch from my original biologic to a biosimilar?	Support Biosimilar	No Preference	Support Original Biologic
	Evidence from studies showing no difference in adverse effects and benefits when making one-time switch from original biologic to biosimilar and back again	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Evidence from studies showing no difference in adverse effects and benefits when switching from original biologic to biosimilar and back again	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Long-time evidence from registries showing no difference in switching from original biologic to biosimilar	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Patients in studies or registries were just like me		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Reports of differences in adverse effects or patients switching back to original biologic after use of biosimilar			<input type="checkbox"/>

ISSUE: ABILITY TO TRACK BIOSIMILAR (DISTINCT FROM ORIGINAL BIOLOGIC)

3 If I am taking a biosimilar, can I be sure that I will know if I experience the same level of benefits and no greater harms as with the original biologic?	Support Biosimilar	No Preference	Support Original Biologic
There is a patient registry with active monitoring that records the benefits and adverse effects experienced by each patient	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Biosimilar and original biologic have UNIQUE names so it is clear which drug has been prescribed and dispensed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Biosimilar company has submitted post-market monitoring study	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Biosimilars are dispensed when original biologic is prescribed without clinician or patient knowledge			<input type="checkbox"/>
There is more than one biosimilar to the same original biologic that could be dispensed to patient			<input type="checkbox"/>

ISSUE: PERSONAL BIOLOGIC EXPERIENCE

4 Can I get the biologic that I feel is best suited to me personally?	Support Biosimilar	No Preference	Support Original Biologic
I have experience with many different biologics and do not object to making a switch to a similar biologic	<input type="checkbox"/>		
My health condition fluctuates and I experience varied responses to my biologic so I have to monitor and adapt my biologic use on a regular basis. Changing to a similar biologic would make it more difficult to monitor and adapt my use			<input type="checkbox"/>
My health condition is stabilized on my current biologic and I do not want the risk of switching to a similar biologic			<input type="checkbox"/>
I have experienced or am prone to difficulties adapting to biologics (such as poor response, drug-induced immune reactions, drug-induced inhibitors, or other adverse effects) and I do not want to risk difficulties by switching to a similar biologic			<input type="checkbox"/>
If I do not respond well to a biosimilar, I am not sure that I can get access to the original biologic			<input type="checkbox"/>
I rely on my personal support program to manage my biologic and I do not object to switching to a different support program		<input type="checkbox"/>	
I rely on my personal support program to manage my biologic and it would be disruptive to switch support programs			<input type="checkbox"/>

ISSUE: CHOICE OF ORIGINAL BIOLOGIC OR BIOSIMILAR

5 | If my drug plan lists the biosimilar as the “preferred” biologic, how can I still get the original biologic?

If I am being dispensed the biosimilar only because it costs less, I am willing to pay the difference to get the original biologic

I have no or little experience with the original biologic so I do not object to starting with the biosimilar

I will be taking the biologic only for a short period of time and do not object to taking the biosimilar

I am concerned that if I take a biosimilar I could be switched to another different biosimilar which is considered similar to the original biologic but not similar to my biosimilar

I am concerned that if I am taking a biosimilar (based only on lower cost), I will not get access to improved versions of the original biologic or better biologics when they become available

I believe drug plans should make biosimilars and original biological equally available if they are similar in price

Support
Biosimilar

No
Preference

Support
Original
Biologic

Support
Biosimilar

No
Preference

Support
Original
Biologic

Total:



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