

# Discontinuation Causes of Biological Therapies: Over a Five-Year Period. BIOBADASAR

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## Background/Purpose

To analyze discontinuation causes of biologic therapies (bDMARDs) in patients who are registered in **BIOBADASAR** database (Argentinian Registry for Adverse Events with Biologic Treatments in Rheumatology.)

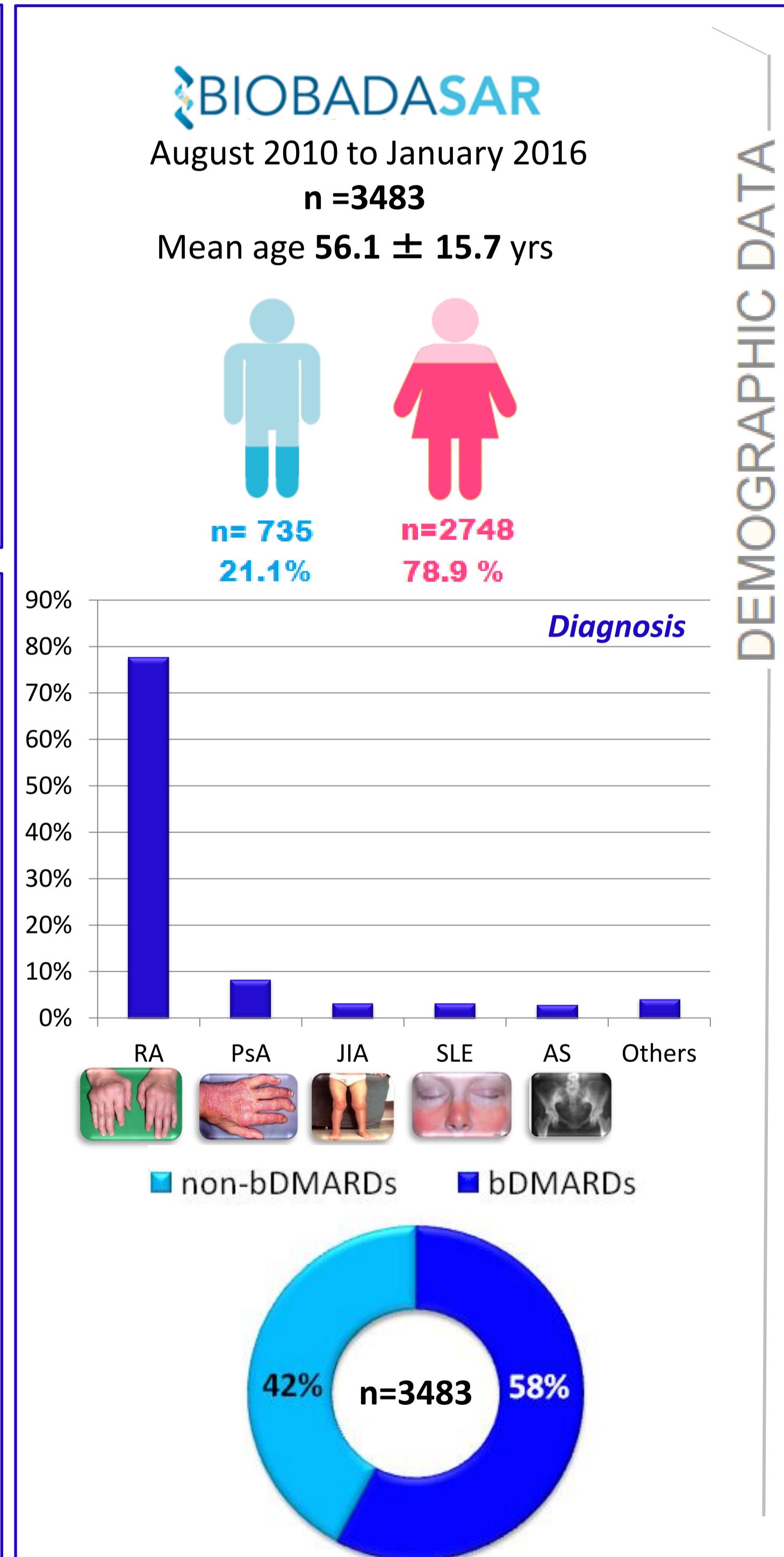
The importance of this register is to show local data because it could be different from other countries.

## Methods

Database included patients with rheumatic diseases (diagnosis according to accepted criteria), type and duration of treatments and clinical information of adverse events.

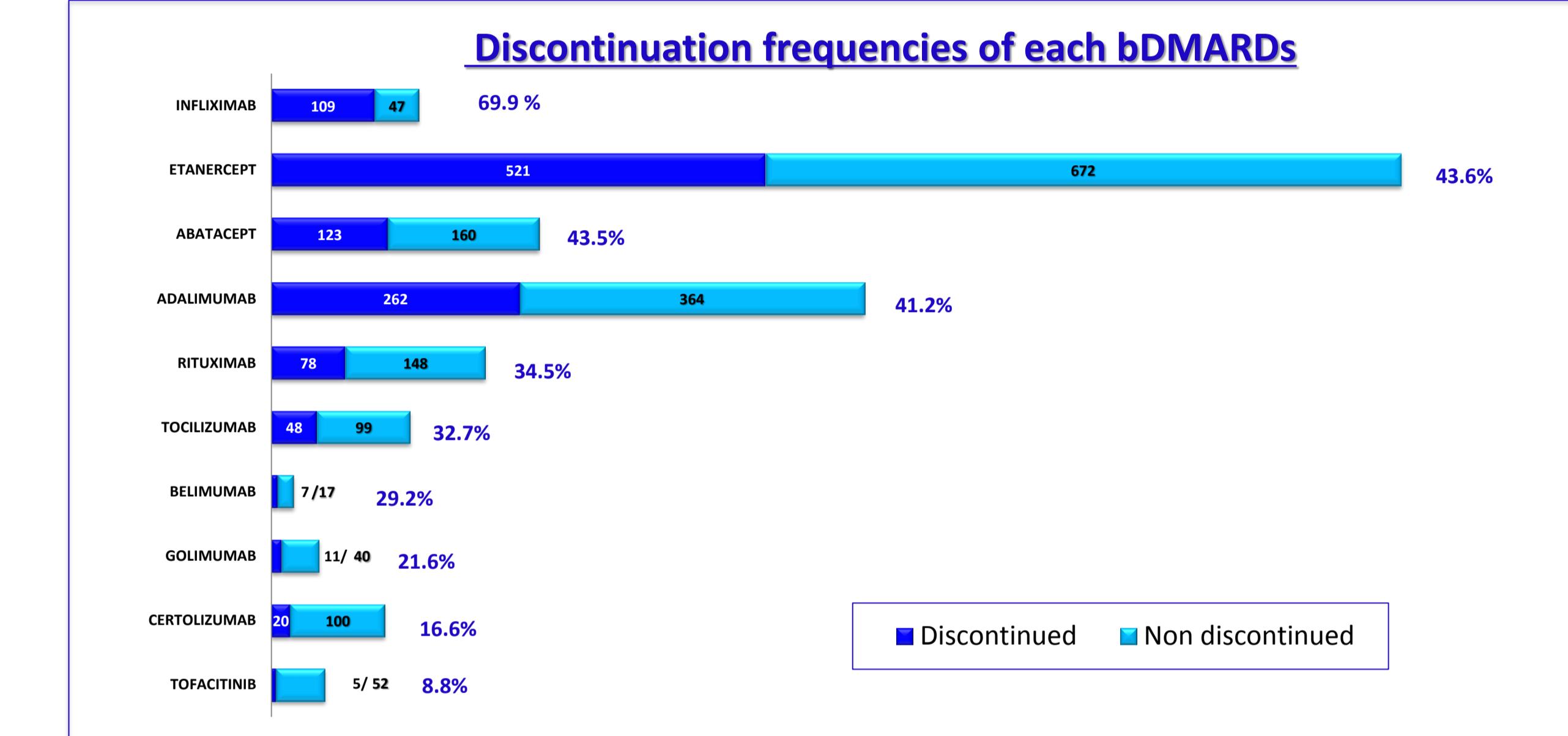
A control group was incorporated for comparison, consisting of patients not treated with bDMARDs but similar demographic features.

Values are expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation, median (ranges), and frequencies (percentages), as appropriate. Student's t-test and the chi-squared test were applied. Fisher's exact test was used where necessary. Multivariate cause-specific regression models were used to measure the association with discontinuation. Values of  $p < 0.05$  were considered to be statistically significant.



## Results

Different **bDMARDs** were used in 2011(57.7%) patients for a total of 2883 treatments cycles (1.43/patients). Of these, 1184 (41 %) were discontinued.



### Main reasons for bDMARDs discontinuation

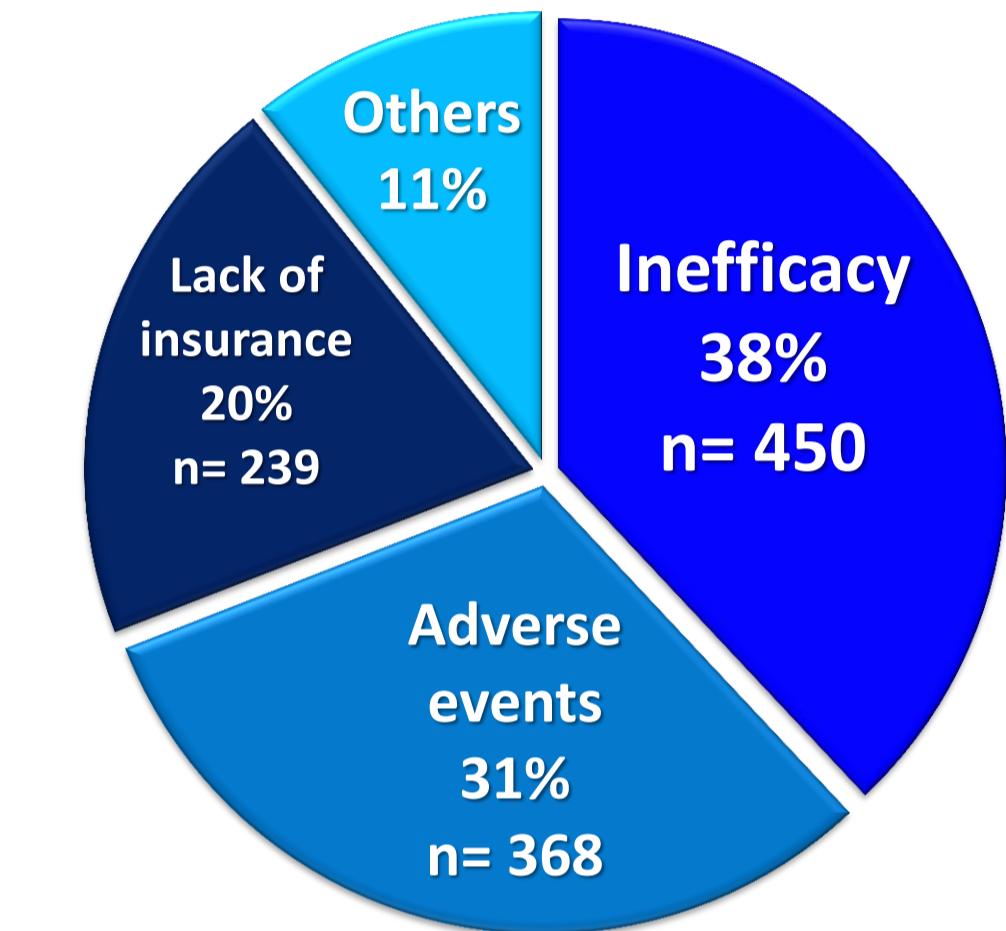


Table 1. Reasons for discontinuation of biologics therapies in BIOBADASAR

	Abatacept	Adalimumab	Belimumab	Certolizumab	Etanercept	Golimumab	Infliximab	Rituximab	Tocilizumab	Tofacitinib
<b>Inefficacy, n (%)</b>	53(43.1)	106(40.5)	3(42.9)	8 (40)	192(36.9)	4(36.4)	55(50.5)*	16(20.5)	13(27.1)	0(0)
<b>Adverse event, n (%)</b>	32(26)	86(32.8)	1(14.3)	8 (40)	152(29.2)	5(45.5)	34(31.2)	28(35.9)	18(37.5)	4 (80)*
<b>Lack of cover, n (%)</b>	29(23.6)	44(16.8)	0(0)	2(10)	121(23.2)	1(9.1)	9(8.3) *	19(24.4)	14(29.2)	0(0)
<b>Lost of follow-up, n (%)</b>	7(5.7)	18(6.9)	0(0)	0(0)	33(6.3)	0(0)	7(6.4)	6(7.7)	0(0)	0(0)
<b>Pregnancy, n (%)</b>	0(0)	3(1.2)	1(14.3)	2(10)	10(1.9)	0(0)	0(0)	1(1.3)	0(0)	1 (20)
<b>Remission, n (%)</b>	1(0.8)	2(0.8)	2(28.6)*	0(0)	5(1)	0(0)	3(2.8)	5(6.4)	2(4.2)	0(0)
<b>Unknown, n (%)</b>	1(0.8)	3(1.2)	0(0))	0(0)	8(1.5)	1(9.1)	1(0.9)	3(3.9)	1(2.1)	0(0)

\* p values <0.05

Table 2. Predictors associated with discontinuation of biologics therapies. Logistic regression model

	OR (95% CI)	p
<b>Use of infliximab</b>	2.17 (1.53-3.08)	<0.001
<b>Corticosteroids concomitant use</b>	1.72 (1.44-2.04)	<0.001
<b>Older age</b>	1.01 (1.01-1.02)	<0.01

	OR (95% CI)	p
<b>Tofacitinib</b>	0.14 (0.04-0.48)	<0.01
<b>Certolizumab</b>	0.21 ((0.11-0.39)	<0.01
<b>Golimumab</b>	0.34 (0.15-0.8)	<0.01

**CONCLUSIONS:** The main reason for bDMARDs discontinuation was inefficacy. Discontinuation was significantly associated with infliximab therapy, corticosteroid use and older age.