TITLE: Effectiveness and safety of biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic therapy in Portuguese elderly patients with psoriatic arthritis – a multicenter retrospective cohort study with two years follow-up

AUTHORS:

- **Daniela Oliveira,** principal investigator, Rheumatology department, Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Porto; Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal; Center for Health Technology and Services Research (CINTESIS), Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal. Study design, protocol development, database management, statistical analysis, interpretation and dissemination of results.

- **Ana Martins,** Rheumatology department, Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Porto; Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal. Study design, protocol development, statistical analysis and dissemination of results.

- **Teresa Martins-Rocha**, Rheumatology department, Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Porto; Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal. Study design, protocol development, statistical analysis and dissemination for results.

- **Carlos Vaz,** Rheumatology department, Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Porto; Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal; Center for Health Technology and Services Research (CINTESIS), Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal. Study design, protocol development, statistical analysis and dissemination of results.

- **Lucia Costa**, Rheumatology department, Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Porto. Study design, protocol development, statistical analysis and dissemination of results.

- Rita Amaral, Center for Health Technology and Services Research (CINTESIS), Faculty of Medicine University of Porto; Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal (Department of Community Medicine, Information and Health Decision Sciences (MEDCIDS)) - Porto, Portugal; Porto Health School, Polytechnic Institute of Porto (Department of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences) - Porto, Portugal; Uppsala University (Department of Women's and Children's Health, Paediatric Research) - Stockholm, Sweden. Study design, protocol development, database management, statistical analysis and dissemination of results.

- **Miguel Bernardes**, Rheumatology department, Centro Hospitalar Universitário S. João, Porto; Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal. Study design, protocol development, database management, statistical analysis, interpretation and dissemination of results.

ABSTRACT

Biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic therapy (bDMARD), represent an important challenge in elderly patients with Psoriatic arthritis (PsA). Thus, little is known about effectiveness and safety of bDMARD long-term use in elderly patients with PsA. Therefore, the aims of this study are to assess the long-term effectiveness (persistence of first bDMARD and clinical response rates) and safety of bDMARD in PsA elderly patients compared with PsA adult patients. A multicentric observational retrospective cohort study with two years of follow-up will be conducted involving patients with PsA treated with bDMARD. Patients diagnosed with PsA, according to CASPAR criteria (ClASsification criteria for Psoriatic ARthritis) with at least 1 year of disease duration, treated with the first bDMARD and registered on the Rheumatic Diseases Portuguese Register (Reuma.pt) will be included. Patients will be classified into two groups: patients with age of onset of first bDMARD from 18 to 59 years old (adults patients) and patients with age of onset of first bDMARD over ≥ 65 years old (elderly patients). For each age group, sociodemographic, clinical and laboratory data will be obtained by consulting Reuma.pt. Disease activity scores, clinical responses and adverse events will be assessed at 6, 12 and 24 months. Through this study, the authors expect to characterize the Portuguese experience with bDMARD therapy in elderly patients with PsA with a relevant potential to improve the outcomes of these patients.