

The Patient Perspective on Biosimilars

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Why Does This Matter for People With Arthritis?

- Many people with arthritis rely on biologic medications to stay healthy
- 7 biosimilars have been approved for arthritis, and 2 are currently on the market
- Out-of-pocket costs always rank high on our surveys of top health care challenges
- Biosimilars hold promise for reducing costs, thereby increasing access



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What do Arthritis Patients Think About Biosimilars?

From a 2017 survey:

- Less than half are **familiar** with biosimilars, and 27% had never heard the term
- There is **confusion** about the difference between a biologic and a biosimilar
- A little over half of respondents would be **confident** using a biosimilar knowing they have been approved by the FDA
- They care deeply about the **provider-patient relationship** and want decisions about switching to be made at the provider-level

Champion of Yes



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Why Would an Arthritis Patient NOT Take a Biosimilar?

Based on our surveys and focus groups:

- They don't know about them
- Their doctor has not talked about biosimilars as a treatment option
- They fear they will not work as well and have concerns about interchangeability
- They may not have easy access through their formulary OR the out-of-pocket cost is not significantly lower

Champion of Yes



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Where do Patients Turn for Information on Biosimilars?

- Their health care provider (this is both the most popular and the preferred source for information)
- The FDA is another trusted source
- Many arthritis patients learn about biosimilars from the internet (46% in our 2017 survey)

Champion of Yes



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What Are We Doing With These Insights?

- Enhancing our patient education to “normalize” the term biosimilars in our materials and activities
- Working with provider groups on patient education
- Working with the FDA on their patient education materials
- Working with a broad group of stakeholders to address barriers to biosimilars uptake
- Continuing to survey and focus group our patients

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