

## Rinvoq® (upadacitinib) – New indication

- On April 29, 2022, [AbbVie announced](#) the FDA approval of **Rinvoq (upadacitinib)**, for the treatment of adults with active ankylosing spondylitis who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more tumor necrosis factor (TNF) blockers.
  - Use of Rinvoq in combination with other Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors, biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs), or with potent immunosuppressants such as azathioprine and cyclosporine, is not recommended.
- Rinvoq is also approved for rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, atopic dermatitis, and ulcerative colitis.
- The approval of Rinvoq for the new indication was based on two randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled studies in patients 18 years of age or older with active ankylosing spondylitis. Trial AS-I was a 14-week study in 187 ankylosing spondylitis patients with an inadequate response to at least two nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) or intolerance to or contraindication for NSAIDs and had no previous exposure to biologic DMARDs. Trial AS-II was a 14-week study in 420 ankylosing spondylitis patients with an inadequate response to 1 or 2 biologic DMARDs. The primary endpoint in both studies was the proportion of patients achieving an Assessment of SpondyloArthritis international Society 40 (ASAS40) response at week 14.
  - In Trial AS-I, 50.5% and 25.5% of patients treated with Rinvoq and placebo achieved ASAS40 response, respectively (treatment difference 25, 95% CI: 12, 38).
  - In Trial AS-II, 44.5% and 18.2% of patients treated with Rinvoq and placebo achieved ASAS40 response, respectively (treatment difference 26, 95% CI: 18, 35).
- Rinvoq carries a boxed warning for serious infections, mortality, malignancy, major adverse cardiovascular events, and thrombosis.
- The recommended dose of Rinvoq for the treatment of ankylosing spondylitis is 15 mg orally once daily.
  - Refer to the Rinvoq drug label for dosing for all its other indications.