

	Adalimumab (Humira®)	Etanercept (Enbrel®)	Golimumab (Simponi®)	Certilizumab (Cimzia®)	Infliximab (Remicade®)
How the medicine works?	People with AS have too much tumor necrosis factor (TNF) in their blood and joints. TNF is a protein that causing inflammation and pain. These medications block the action of TNF and are known as ‘TNF – alpha blockers’ or ‘biologics’.				
Dose?	40 mg	50 mg	50 mg	200mg or 400 mg	3 – 6 mg/kg
Frequency?	Every 2 weeks	Once a week	Once a month	200 mg every 2 weeks or 400 mg once a month	Every 8 weeks.
How does the medicine get into your body?	Injection (by needle). This can be done either by yourself or by a nurse that comes to your home.				Intravenous (IV needle) This is done by a nurse at a special clinic you visit every 8 weeks
When will it start working?	All TNF-alpha blockers manage symptoms of AS in a similar way. Most improvement is seen within 8 to 12 weeks and sometimes even sooner.				
Side effects?	<u>Not common</u> (fewer than 10 out of 100 people): higher chance of infection. <u>Rare</u> (fewer than 5 out of 100 people): injection site reaction, worsening of congestive heart failure or multiple sclerosis				