

BIOSIMILARS

— A Podcast Series —



The New Era of Management in
Gastroenterology and Rheumatology

The Practical Use of Biosimilars in Gastroenterology APP Practice

Host:

Gabriella McCarty, NP

Guest:

Sharon Dudley-Brown, NP

Learning Objective	Podcast Discussion Summary
Interpret the AGA Biosimilar Roundtable Meeting Report and the CCF Biosimilars Position Statement	<p>The AGA Biosimilars Roundtable Meeting Report was published in 2018 and summarizes the discussion that took place at a meeting of stakeholders in the field of biosimilars and gastroenterology. The meeting participants concluded that biosimilars have the potential to improve access to affordable treatment for IBD patients. However, they also noted that there is still some uncertainty about the long-term safety and efficacy of biosimilars. They recommended that more research be done in this area. The meeting's participants also emphasized the importance of education and communication about biosimilars. The CCFA believes that biosimilars are a safe and effective treatment option for patients with Crohn's disease. They are not opposed to patients switching from the originator biologic to a biosimilar, as long as the patient is in clinical remission. However, they are opposed to multiple switches between the originator biologic and biosimilars due to the lack of data on the safety and efficacy of this treatment strategy. The CCFA also advocates for a patient-centered approach to treatment decision making, with the patient and healthcare provider working together to choose the best treatment.</p>
Discuss the Use of Biosimilars in the Treatment of Gastrointestinal Diseases	<p>The use of biosimilars in the treatment of gastrointestinal diseases, particularly in conditions like inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), offers a cost-effective alternative to expensive biologics without compromising efficacy and safety. These biosimilars, which are highly similar to their reference biologic drugs, have undergone rigorous testing to ensure their effectiveness in managing symptoms and inducing remission. Their increasing adoption in clinical practice is driven by the potential for reduced healthcare costs and increased accessibility of treatment for patients.</p>
Produce Strategies for Implementing the Use of Biosimilars in Gastroenterology Practice	<p>To effectively implement biosimilars in gastroenterology practice, it's crucial to focus on comprehensive education for both healthcare providers and patients, highlighting the biosimilars' efficacy, safety, and cost benefits. Establishing clear communication channels to address concerns and misconceptions is essential for patient acceptance and adherence. Additionally, integrating a robust monitoring system to track treatment outcomes and potential side effects can ensure the safe and effective use of biosimilars in managing gastrointestinal diseases.</p>