

Table 5

Mode of action, dose and common side effects of treatments for spondyloarthritis					
Drug	Spondyloarthritis	Mode of action	Dose and mode of administration	Half life	Most common side effects/complications include:
NSAIDs: COX-1/COX-2 Inhibitors	AxSpa, PsA, ReA and EA*, but caution in EA	COX-1/ COX-2 inhibition	As per individual medication	As per individual medication	Reflux, peptic ulceration, renal impairment, cardiovascular disease
Methotrexate	Peripheral spondyloarthritis (PsA, EA, ReA)	Dihydrofolate reductase and T-cell inhibitor	7.5-25 mg once weekly PO and SC	3-10 hours	Oral ulceration, nausea, fatigue, alopecia, bone marrow suppression, infections, pneumonitis, hepatotoxicity
Leflunomide	Peripheral spondyloarthritis (PsA, EA, ReA)	Inhibition of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase	10-20 mg OD PO	14 days	Hypertension, leucopenia, infections, nausea, hepatotoxicity, elevated creatine kinase
Sulfasalazine	Peripheral spondyloarthritis (PsA, EA, ReA)	Exact mechanism of action unknown	1 g BD PO	6-8 hours	Nausea, infections, headache, rash, leucopenia, fever
Apremilast	PsA	Inhibitor of phosphodiesterase 4	Titrated up to 30 mg BD	9 hours	Nausea, infections, diarrhoea, headache, depression
Adalimumab	AxSpa, PsA, ReA and EA	Anti-TNF-alpha	40 mg SC every 2 weeks	14 days	Infections, injection site reactions, headache and musculoskeletal pain
Etanercept	AxSpa, PsA, ReA and EA	Anti-TNF-alpha	50 mg SC once weekly	3 days	Injection site reactions, infections, development of autoantibodies, itching and fever
Infliximab	AxSpa, PsA, ReA and EA	Anti-TNF-alpha	5 mg/kg IV every 8 weeks after loading doses	7-9 days	Infections and headache
Certolizumab pegol	AxSpa, PsA, ReA and EA	Anti-TNF-alpha	200 mg SC every 2 weeks after loading doses	14 days	Infections, injection site reactions and rashes
Golimumab	AxSpa, PsA, ReA and EA	Anti-TNF-alpha	50 mg SC once a month	14 days	Infections
Secukinumab	AxSpa and PsA	Anti-IL-17A	150-300 mg SC once a month after loading doses	27 days	Infections, diarrhoea
Ustekinumab	PsA	Anti-IL-12 and anti-IL-23	45-90 mg SC every 12 weeks after loading doses	21 days	Infections, headaches, nausea, diarrhoea, fatigue, injection site reactions

*AxSpa = axial spondyloarthritis, PsA = psoriatic arthritis, EA= enteropathic arthritis, ReA= reactive arthritis