

Table 1: Characteristics of Infliximab and Etanercept

Characteristic	Infliximab (Remicade)	Etanercept (Enbrel)
molecular description	chimeric monoclonal antibody, human constant and murine variable regions	recombinant human protein, ligand binding portion of 75 kilodalton TNFR fused to Fc portion of IgG1
molecular weight	149 kilodaltons	150 kilodaltons
mechanism of TNF- α inhibition	binds to TNF- α and prevents infliximab-bound TNF- α from binding with TNFR	decoy receptor for TNF- α
association constant	10^{10} M^{-1}	(not described in product labeling)
affinity for TNF- β (lymphotoxin α , which also binds to TNFR)	NO	YES
lysis of cells expressing transmembrane TNF- α	YES, in vitro	NO
elimination half-life	210 hours	115 hours
clinical indication	moderate to severe or fistulizing Crohn's disease; adjunctive use with methotrexate in rheumatoid arthritis refractory to methotrexate alone	moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis, second line therapy in moderate to severe polyarticular juvenile rheumatoid arthritis
dosage and administration in RA	3 mg/kg (intravenous) initially and at 2 and 6 weeks, then every 8 weeks thereafter	0.4 mg/kg (25 mg in adults) twice weekly (3 to 4 days apart) as a subcutaneous injection
dosage and administration in CD	5 mg/kg as a single intravenous infusion; in fistulizing disease, repeat doses at 2 and 6 weeks	(not a labeled indication in CD)
patients treated, worldwide*	147,000 (10/1998 - 3/2001, 29 months)	102,000 (11/1998 - 4/2001, 29 months)
patients treated, US	121,000 (82% of worldwide)	96,000 (94% of worldwide)
patients treated, non-US	26,000 (18% of worldwide)	6,000 (6% of worldwide)

*manufacturers' estimates