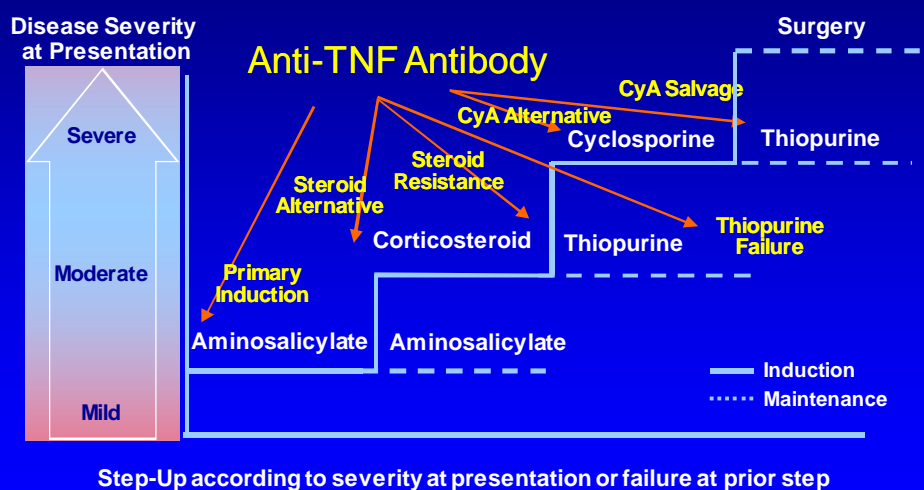


# Positioning Biologics in Ulcerative Colitis

Bruce E. Sands, MD, MS  
 Acting Chief, Gastrointestinal Unit  
 Massachusetts General Hospital  
 Associate Professor of Medicine  
 Harvard Medical School

## Sequential Therapies for UC



## Possible Positioning of Biologics in UC

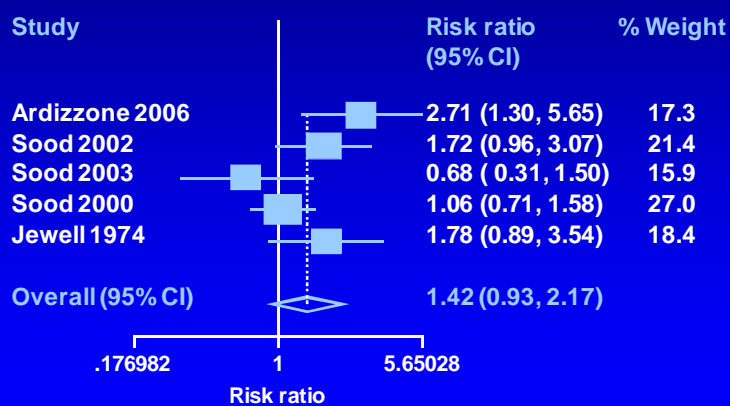
- Thiopurine failure
- Steroid resistance
- Steroid alternative
- Cyclosporine alternative
- Cyclosporine salvage
- Primary induction

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## Estimate of Efficacy of AZA for Treatment Success in UC Patients: Meta-Analysis

### Pooled RR Estimate Across 5 Trials



Leung Y et al. *Dig Dis Sci.* 2008;53:1455.

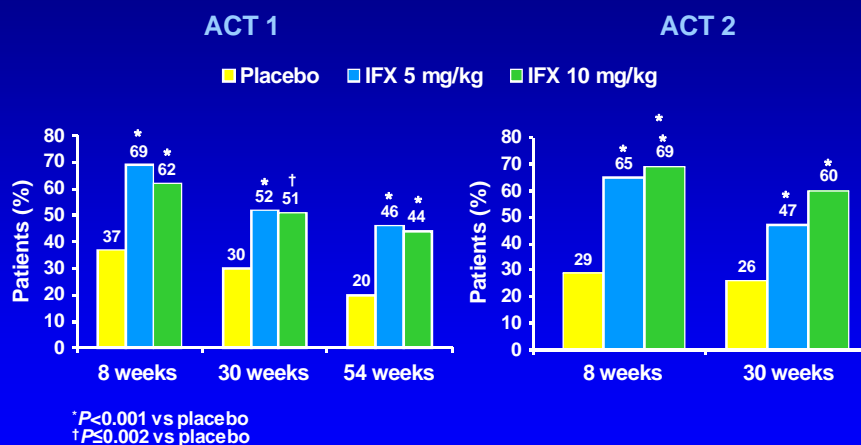
## ACT 1 & 2 Baseline Characteristics

	ACT 1			ACT 2		
	Placebo (N=121)	5 mg/kg (N=121)	10 mg/kg (N=122)	Placebo (N=123)	5 mg/kg (N=121)	10 mg/kg (N=120)
Duration of disease — yr	6.2±5.9	5.9±5.4	8.4±8.1	6.5±6.7	6.7±5.3	6.5±5.8
Mayo score‡	8.4±1.8	8.5±1.7	8.4±1.4	8.5±1.5	8.3±1.5	8.3±1.6
Concomitant medication — no. (%)						
Corticosteroids	79 (65.3)	70 (57.9)	73 (59.8)	60 (48.8)	60 (49.6)	66 (55.0)
≥20 mg/day	54 (44.6)	45 (37.2)	46 (37.7)	43 (35.0)	40 (33.1)	47 (39.2)
5-Aminosalicylates	85 (70.2)	82 (67.8)	86 (70.5)	89 (72.4)	92 (76.0)	91 (75.8)
Immunosuppressants	53 (43.8)	66 (54.5)	59 (48.4)	54 (43.9)	52 (43.0)	50 (41.7)
Corticosteroid-refractory disease	38 (31.4)	36 (29.8)	38 (31.1)	36 (29.3)	35 (28.9)	34 (28.3)

## ACT 1 & 2 Baseline Characteristics

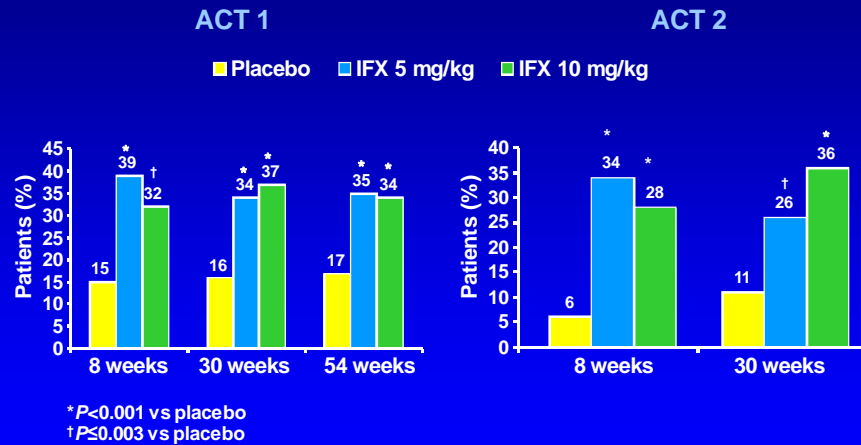
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## Infliximab in Patients With Ulcerative Colitis: Clinical Response



Rutgeerts P et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2005;353:2462.

## Infliximab in Patients with Ulcerative Colitis: Clinical Remission



Rutgeerts P et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2005;353:2462.

## Possible Positioning of Biologics in UC

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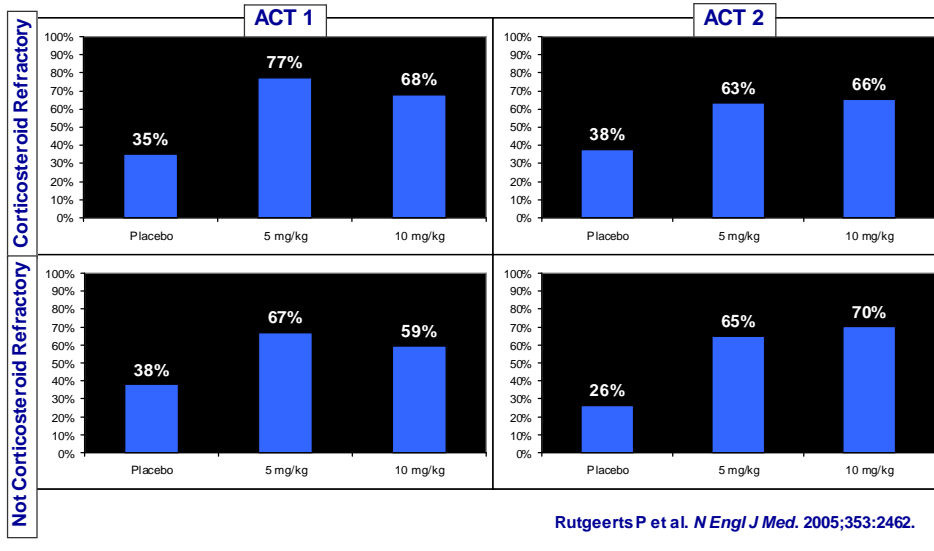
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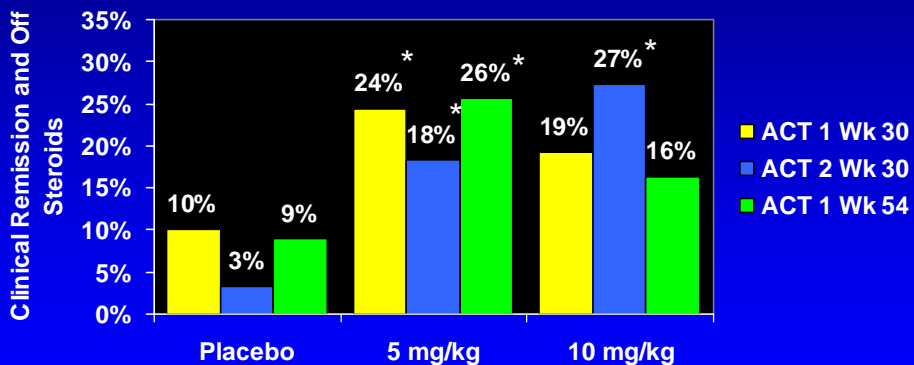
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## ACT 1 & 2 Response Rate, Corticosteroid Refractory vs. Not Corticosteroid Refractory



## ACT 1 & 2 Clinical Remission and Off Steroids



\*P value <0.05

Rutgeerts P et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2005;353:2462.

## Possible Positioning of Biologics in UC

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## Infliximab vs. Steroids for Severe Ulcerative Colitis in the Hospital Setting

Study	N	Infliximab dose	Outcome measure	Response	
				Infliximab	Steroid
Ochsenkuhn 2004	13	5 mg/kg × 3	↓ Lichtiger score ≥5 to <10 at 3 and 13 weeks	83%	86%
Armuzzi 2004	20	5 mg/kg × 3	Sutherland score ≤2 at 2 weeks	100%	100%

Ochsenkuhn T et al. *Eur J Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2004;16:1167.  
Armuzzi A et al. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci*. 2004;8:231.



## Possible Positioning of Biologics in UC

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## Meta-analysis of intravenous corticosteroids in severe ulcerative colitis

- Cohort studies and controlled trials published between 1974–2006 that reported the short-term colectomy rate in severe UC or reported variables that could predict treatment failure
- 581 of 1991 patients required **colectomy (weighted mean 27% [95% CI, 26%–28%])**
- 22 died (**1% mortality rate**; 95% CI, 0.7%–1.5%)
- **No dose-colectomy response of methylprednisolone therapy beyond 60 mg daily ( $R^2 < 0.01$ ,  $P = 0.98$ )**
- Predictors of medical failure: **disease extent, stool frequency, temperature, heart rate, C-reactive protein, albumin, and radiologic assessment.**

Turner D, et al. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2007;5:103–110

## Cyclosporine for Severe Ulcerative Colitis in the Hospital Setting

Study	N	CyA dose	Outcome measure	Response			
				CyA 4 mg/kg	Placebo	Steroids	CyA 2 mg/kg
Lichtiger 1994	20	4 mg/kg IV	↓ Lichtiger score to <10 for 2 days	82%	0%	—	—
D'Haens 2001	30	4 mg/kg IV	↓ Lichtiger score ≥3 to <10 on days 7 and 8	64%	—	53%	—
Van Assche 2003	73	4 or 2 mg/kg IV	↓ Lichtiger score ≥3 to <10 on day 8	84%	—	—	86%

Lichtiger S et al. *N Engl J Med.* 1994;330:1841.  
 D'Haens G et al. *Gastroenterology.* 2001;120:1323.  
 Van Assche G et al. *Gastroenterology.* 2004;125:1025.

## Meta-analysis of intravenous corticosteroids in severe ulcerative colitis

- **Cyclosporine** was used in only 100 patients, with a **51% (95% CI, 41%–60%) short-term success rate**

Turner D, et al. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 2007;5:103–110

## Serious Infections and Death From High-Dose IV Cyclosporine for IBD

- Mt. Sinai
  - 111 patients (2 deaths, 1.8%)
  - *Pneumocystis carinii*, 1 patient
  - Septic shock, 1 patient
- University of Chicago
  - 74 patients (1 death, 1.4%)
  - *Pneumocystis carinii*, 1 patient
- University of Leuven
  - 142 patients (4 deaths, 2.8%)
  - *Pneumocystis carinii*, 1 patient
  - Systemic aspergillosis, 2 patients
  - CML, 1 patient

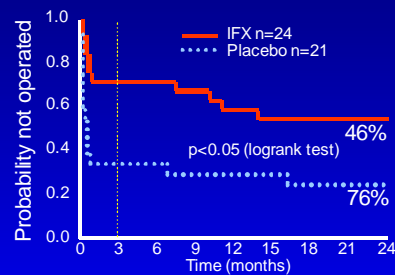
Sternthal MB et al. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2008;103:937.  
 Stein R et al. *Gastroenterology*. 1997;112:A1096.  
 Moskovitz DN et al. *Clin Gastroenterol/Hepatol*;4:760.

## Infliximab for Severe Ulcerative Colitis in the Hospital Setting

Study	N	Infliximab dose	Outcome measure	Response	
				Infliximab	Placebo
Sands 2001	11	5, 10, 20 mg/kg x 1	↓ Lichtiger score ≥5 to <10 at 2 weeks	50%	0%
Jarnerot 2005	45	5 mg/kg x 1	No colectomy at 90 days	71%	33%

Sands BE et al. *Inflamm Bowel Dis*. 2001;7:83.  
 Jarnerot G et al. *Gastroenterology*. 2005;128:1805.

## Infliximab for severe, steroid refractory UC: Two year follow-up of colectomy rate



Pts at risk, n	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
IFX	24	17	17	14	13	13	13	13	13
Pbo	21	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	5

Cyclosporine: 30–43%  
Cohen 1999  
Moskovitz 2006  
Campbell 2005

- IFX group 13/15 initial responders started on AZA vs 3/7 in placebo group
- Only 4/24 received more than one IFX infusion

Gustavsson A, et al. *Gastroenterology* 2007;132(4 Suppl 2):A146-7

## Infliximab for ulcerative colitis: Long-term outcomes

- Retrospective cohort of **30 pts** treated at Oxford from 2000-06
- Sixteen (**53%**) **came to colectomy** a median of 140 days after their first infusion (range 4-607)
- No difference in colectomy between those receiving infliximab for acute severe ulcerative colitis failing intravenous steroids (8/14) and outpatients with steroid-refractory ulcerative colitis (8/16)
- Only **17% (5/30)** achieved a **steroid-free remission** after a median follow-up of **13 months** (range 2-72).

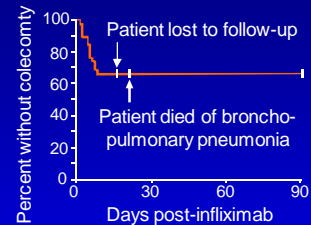
Jakobovits SL, et al. *Aliment Pharmacol Ther.* 2007;25:1055-60.

## Infliximab as rescue therapy in acute severe UC

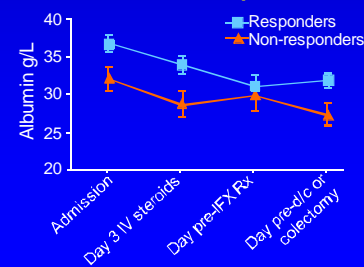
- Inclusion criteria: **Hospitalization for acute UC, failure to respond to IV steroids, IFX therapy during acute admission**
- Results (N=39 patients):
  - 26/39 (66.6%) patients avoided urgent colectomy at hospital discharge
  - 17/24 initial responders off steroids at 90d
  - 1 death (*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*)
  - Serum albumin but not CRP or stool frequency predicted response to IFX (Pts with albumin <34g/L on d3 more likely to undergo colectomy)

Lees CW, et al. DDW 2007: S1136

### Influence of IFX on colectomy



### Albumin levels and response to IFX



## Colectomy rates after infliximab for refractory UC (Leuven)

- N=130 from January 2000 – October 2006
  - 62% extensive – 47% Mayo score  $\geq 3$
  - 31% received induction
- 43% complete short term response
- 20% partial short term response
- 37% did not respond
- 18% required colectomy in 2.5 years of follow up

Ferrante M et al. DDW 2007. #960

## Impact of Infliximab on Post-Surgical Complications in UC

Author (year)	Diagnosis	N (IFX)	N (non-IFX)	Increase in complications (yes/no)
Schluender 2007	UC	17	134	no
Selvasekar 2007	UC	47	254	yes
Mor 2008	UC	46	46	yes

Mor et al, Dis Colon Rectum 2008  
 Selvasekar et al, J Am Coll Surg 2007

## Anastomotic Leak Rates: UC

Center	Infliximab	Non-infliximab
Cleveland Clinic	17.4%	2%
Mayo Clinic	9%	2%
MGH	3%	2.9%

## Risk Factors for Mortality With Colectomy for UC

- **Nationwide Inpatient Sample (1995-2004)**
  - 6502 discharges for UC patients who underwent a total abdominal colectomy
- **Postoperative mortality: 2.3%**
- **Emergently admitted patients whose surgery was performed after 11 days in hospital were at higher risk of**
  - **Death: aOR 3.18 (1.59-6.34)**
  - **Complications: aOR 1.42 (1.05-1.93)**

Kaplan GG et al. *Gastroenterology*. 2008;134:680.

## Possible Positioning of Biologics in UC

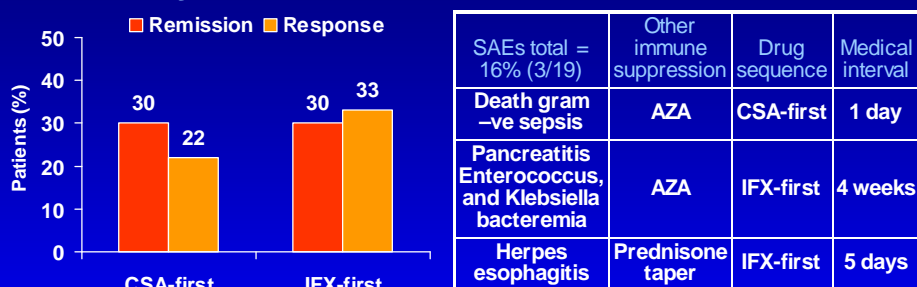
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## Cyclosporine (CSA) and IFX as acute salvage therapies for each other in severe steroid refractory UC

Salvage information	CSA-first (n=10)	IFX-first (n=9)
Avg IFX infusions	3	1.9
Avg CSA duration	3 months	6.2 months
Avg interval between drugs	17 days (range 1-30)	21 days (range 3-31)
Concomitant use of IMM	77% (7/9)	66% (6/9)
Colectomy within 1 y	33.3% (3/10)	44.4% (4/9)

Maser EA et al. DDW 2007. S1132

## Cyclosporine (CSA) and IFX as acute salvage therapies for each other in severe steroid refractory UC



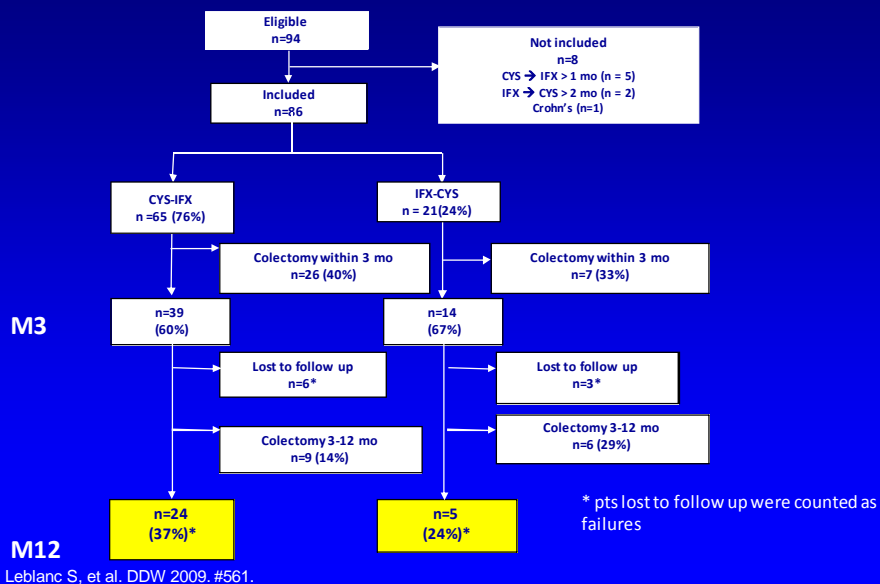
SAEs total = 16% (3/19)	Other immune suppression	Drug sequence	Medical interval
Death gram -ve sepsis	AZA	CSA-first	1 day
Pancreatitis Enterococcus, and Klebsiella bacteremia	AZA	IFX-first	4 weeks
Herpes esophagitis	Prednisone taper	IFX-first	5 days

- The likelihood of achieving steroid-free remission, in severe steroid-refractory UC patients who fail CSA or IFX, is low and similar despite which drug is used first
- Incidence of a SAE of 13%, including 1 fatality, suggest the risks outweigh the benefit of acute salvage therapy

Maser EA et al. DDW 2007. S1132



## Successive treatment with cyclosporine and infliximab in severe ulcerative colitis



## Successive treatment with cyclosporine and infliximab in severe ulcerative colitis

Adverse Events	N	CIS-IFX (n=65)	IFX-CIS (n=21)	Steroids (n=74)	AZA/MP (n=63)	Non op. (n=37)	Before surgery (n=49)	After surgery (n=49)
Death <sup>1</sup>	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1
Infection	17	14	3	11	13	6	6	5
Renal	6 <sup>2</sup>	4	2	6	4	1	4	1
Hepatic	3 <sup>2</sup>	2	1	3	3	2	1	-
SB obstruction	2	2	-	2	2	-	-	2
Cardiac	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
Pulmonary	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1
Rash	1 <sup>2</sup>	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
<b>Total events</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Pts</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>% Pts</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>18%</b>

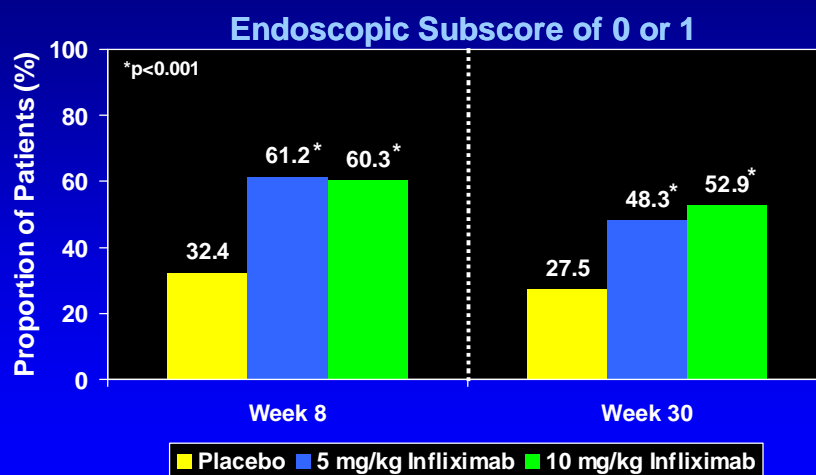
<sup>1</sup> postoperative death due to thromboembolism in a 40 year-old man  
<sup>2</sup> n=4, n=3 and n=1 were related to cyclosporine, respectively

Leblanc S, et al. DDW 2009. #561.

## Possible Positioning of Biologics in UC

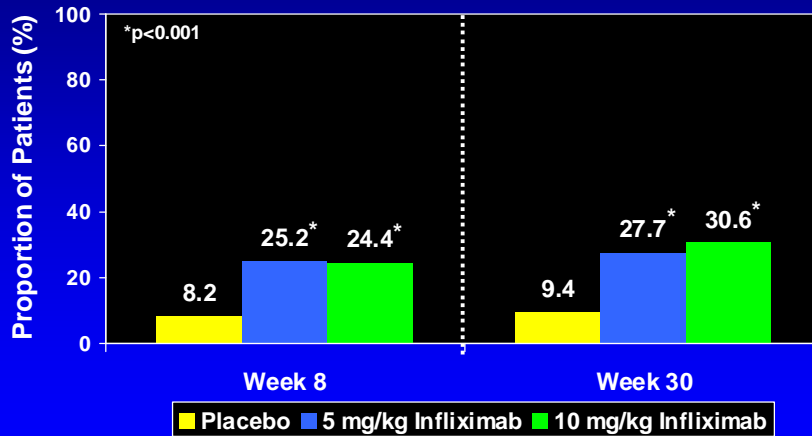
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## ACT 1 & 2: Mucosal Healing



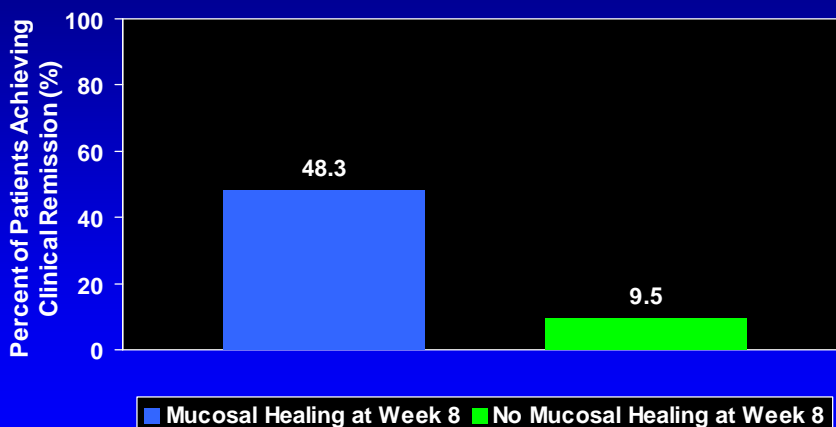
Rutgeerts P et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2005;353:2462.

## ACT 1 & 2: Endoscopy Subscore of 0



Rutgeerts P et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2005;353:2462.

## ACT 1 & 2 Clinical Remission at Week 30 by Mucosal Healing Status at Week 8



Rutgeerts P et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2005;353:2462.

## Possible Positioning of Biologics in UC

- **Thiopurine failure:** Yes
- **Steroid resistance:** Yes
- **Steroid alternative:** Insufficient evidence
- **Cyclosporine alternative:** Yes; ?increased risk for surgical complications
- **Cyclosporine salvage:** Probably not
- **Primary induction:** No evidence