

**ANALYSIS OF ASSORTMENT OF MEDICINES
FOR TREATMENT OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS
ON THE PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET OF UKRAINE**

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Introduction. Rheumatoid arthritis is a systemic inflammatory autoimmune disease characterized by chronic inflammation of the synovial shell of the joints, progressive destruction of the cartilaginous and bone tissue. Rheumatoid arthritis is one of the most common diseases of the human musculoskeletal system. This disease is registered in all regions of the world without a clear geographical or climatic influence. In addition to the prevalence, the medico-social significance of the rheumatoid arthritis is also due to unfavorable prognosis (due to untimely and inadequate therapy), reduced disability of patients, and the need for prolonged (and often-permanent) intake of medications, usually in various combinations.

According to the Ukrainian unified clinical protocol, providing medical care to rheumatoid arthritis patients, representatives of the following groups may be prescribed for pharmacotherapy of the disease depending on the clinical situation: disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (methotrexate, cyclosporine, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide, leflunomide, sulfasalazine, hydroxyquinoline), biological agents (infliximab, adalimumab, etanercept, tocilizumab, rituximab), glucocorticosteroids (betamethasone, dexamethasone, methylprednisolone, prednisolone, triamcinolone), nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic drugs (diclofenac, etorikoksib, ibuprofen, meloxicam, naproxen, parecoxib, rofecoxib, celecoxib), analgesics and antipyretics (acetylsalicylic acid, lysine acetylsalicylate, acetylsalicylic acid + paracetamol + caffeine, metamizole sodium, metamizole sodium + paracetamol + caffeine- sodium benzoate + phenobarbital + codeine, paracetamol, paracetamol + ibuprofen, paracetamol + dicyclvirin, paracetamol

+ diclofenac, nefopam), proton pump inhibitors (omeprazole, lansoprazole, pantoprazole, rabeprazole, esomeprazole).

The purpose of this study is an analysis of the assortment of medicines for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis on the pharmaceutical market of Ukraine in 2017.

Methods of research. Structural-logical, comparative and marketing methods were used to achieve the goal of the study. Prices of medicines were taken from the company Morion information system “Pharmexplorer” (December 2017).

Results of research. The 602 trade names of 40 international non-proprietary names of medicines for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis were presented in Ukraine in 2017. Most of them are representatives of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic drugs (252 trade names) and analgesics-antipyretics (116 trade names).

The share of medicines of domestic production is 38 % (232 trade names). The number of offers on the market of imported medicines exceeds the supply of domestic producers by almost 1.6 times. Preparations of domestic manufacturers prevailed only among analgesics-antipyretics. Disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs were presented in 2017 in Ukraine with only 1 trade name of domestic production, and biological agents were represented only by trade names of imported production.

The price range for packaging of medicines was wide: the disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs – from 47.30 to 3979.84 UAH; biological agents – from 2071.55 to 44389.75 UAH, glucocorticosteroids – from 3.84 to 2170.16 UAH, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory and antirheumatic drugs – from 2.25 to 1716.95 UAH, analgesics and antipyretics – from 2.62 to 342.11 UAH, proton pump inhibitors – from 8.96 to 514.12 UAH. This makes it possible to conduct, if necessary, replacement of the generic medicines, and can significantly affect the cost of treatment.

Conclusion. Medicines for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis were presented in Ukraine in 2017 in a wide range sufficient for the selection of medicines, taking into account its effectiveness, safety and cost, individual patient characteristics and severity of the disease.