

Number Needed to Treat and Associated Costs per-Additional-responder of Dupilumab Versus Tralokinumab in Adult Patients with Moderate-to-Severe Atopic Dermatitis

Atopic dermatitis

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Background

- Dupilumab and tralokinumab are European Medicines Agency-approved biologics for treating patients (aged ≥12 years) with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis (AD), who are candidates for systemic therapy. Dupilumab is also approved in children (aged 6 months to 11 years) with severe AD, who are eligible for systemic therapy.^{1,2}
- Both biologics have been shown to be efficacious as a monotherapy and in combination with topical corticosteroids (TCS) in placebo-controlled phase 3 trials; however, there are no head-to-head comparisons to evaluate the relative efficacy of both biologics.³
- A recent network meta-analysis (NMA) showed dupilumab in combination with TCS to be associated with greater efficacy, vs. tralokinumab.³
- Hence, the number-needed-to-treat (NNT) and cost per-additional responder (CPR) analysis could help the clinicians and payers to contextualise the clinical and economic benefits of dupilumab and may assist in the informed treatment and reimbursement decisions.⁴

Objective

- To compare the NNT of dupilumab and tralokinumab, both in combination with TCS, vs. placebo and the CPR (derived from NNT) for dupilumab + TCS vs. tralokinumab + TCS in adult patients with moderate-to-severe AD from the England's National Healthcare Service (NHS) perspective.

Conclusions

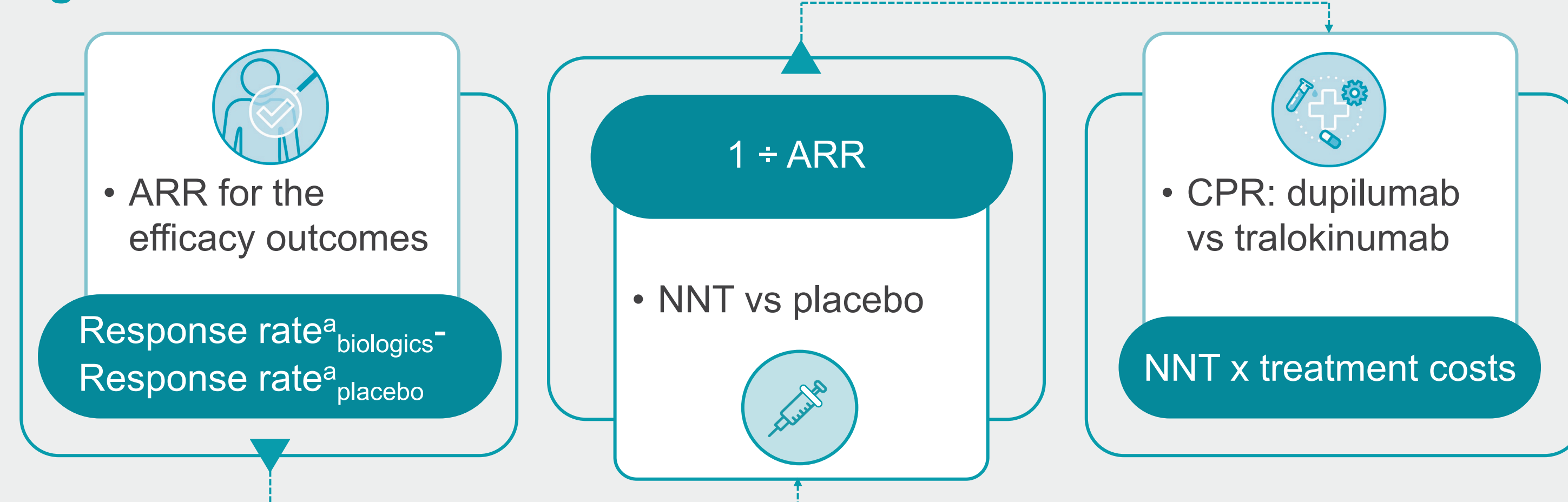
- Dupilumab + TCS had a lower NNT than tralokinumab + TCS vs. placebo; the CPR for dupilumab + TCS was lower compared to tralokinumab + TCS in patients with moderate-to-severe AD even with a list price of 15% higher than tralokinumab.
- Between both biologic treatments, dupilumab shows a better value proposition for patients and England's NHS.
- Using NMA rather than a randomised controlled trial for deriving efficacy outcomes and using list prices which may differ from the net prices by a wider margin than those tested in sensitivity analyses, were key limitations of this analyses

Methods and Results

NNT model

- An Excel-based NNT model was developed to estimate the NNT to achieve one additional responder after a 16-week treatment (NHS stopping rule) with dupilumab and tralokinumab, both in combination with TCS.
- The model required efficacy and drug costs, from the NHS perspective, as inputs (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Model structure.



^aResponse rate was derived from the published NMA and was measured as the proportion of patients achieving EASI-75 or IGA 0/1 with biologic (dupilumab or tralokinumab) or placebo treatment. ARR, absolute risk reduction; CPR, cost per-additional responder; EASI, Eczema Area and Severity Index; IGA, Investigator's Global Assessment; NMA, network meta-analysis; NNT, number needed to treat.

Efficacy outcomes and data sources

- The response rates considered were the proportion of patients achieving 75% reduction from baseline in Eczema Area and Severity Index (EASI-75) or an Investigator's Global Assessment score of 0 or 1 (IGA 0/1) at week 16.
- The relative efficacy data were derived from a published NMA comparing the available systemic therapies for the treatment of patients with moderate-to-severe AD.³ When only odds ratio are reported, data from dupilumab trials were used on top of the NMA data to estimate the relative efficacy.⁵

Treatment costs and data sources

- CPR analysis considered drug acquisition costs as per the list prices of dupilumab (£1,265) and tralokinumab (£1,070) in England from the British National Formulary, 2022.
- The treatment cost was calculated based on the approved dosing schedule (once every 2 weeks) for a treatment duration of 16 weeks.
- Sensitivity analyses (SA) with a 10% discount rate for tralokinumab were performed to assess the robustness of the analysis.

Results

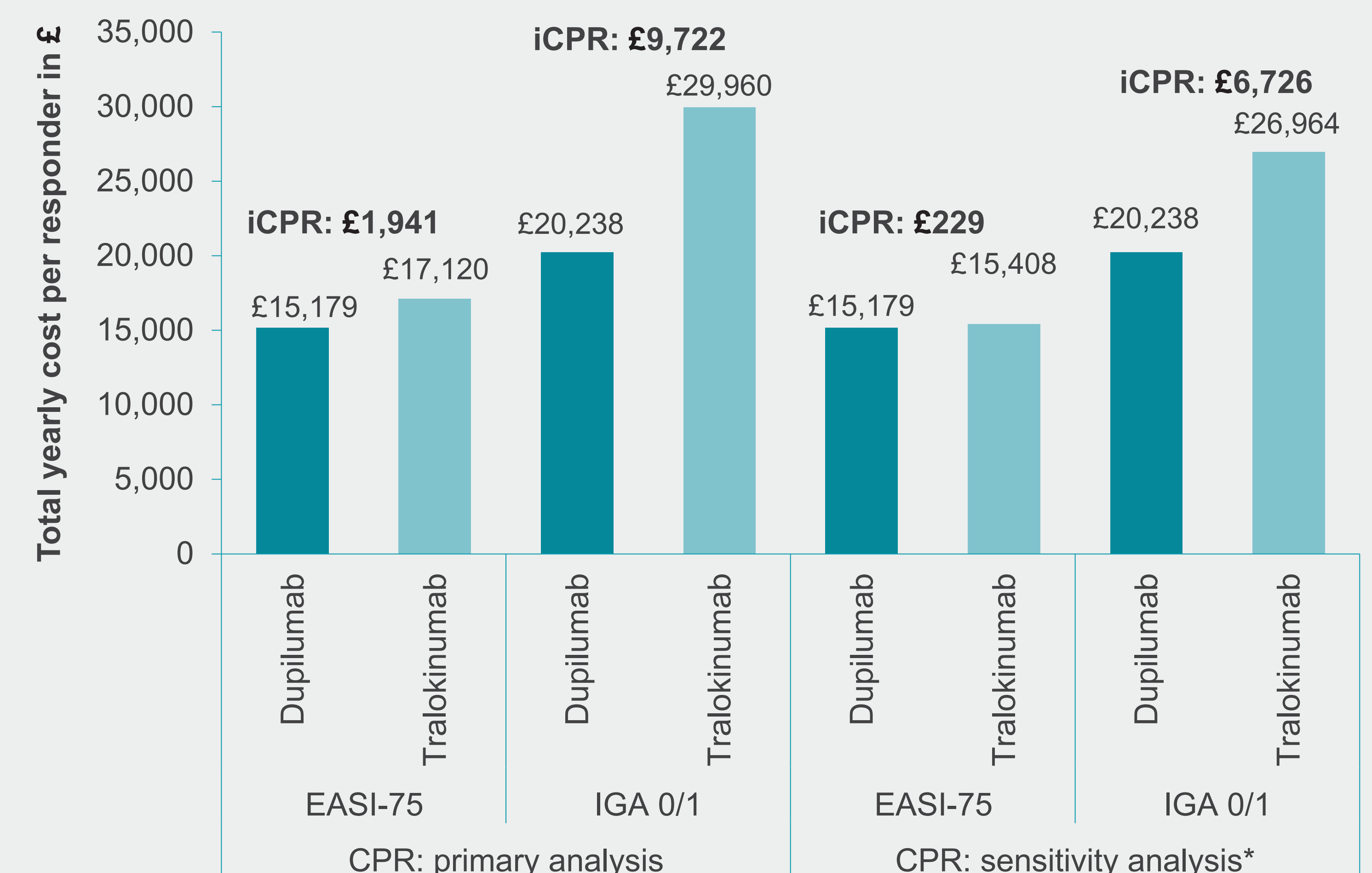
- The NNT to achieve one additional responder was lower for dupilumab + TCS vs. placebo than that for tralokinumab + TCS vs. placebo for both EASI-75 (3 and 4) and IGA 0/1 (4 and 7) (Figure 2).
- The total yearly CPR for EASI-75 (£15,179 vs. £17,120) and IGA 0/1 (£20,238 vs. £29,960) were lower for dupilumab than for tralokinumab with an incremental CPR of £1,941 and £9,722, respectively (Figure 3).
- Similar findings were also observed in the SA with a 10% discounted rate for tralokinumab (Figure 3).

Figure 2. Dupilumab + TCS showed a lower NNT than tralokinumab + TCS, vs. placebo to achieve one additional responder.

Efficacy endpoint	Response rate in % (95% CI)	NNT vs. Placebo
EASI-75	Dupilumab: 65.0 (60.0, 69.0)	3
	Tralokinumab: 52.0 (36.0, 68.0)	4
	Placebo: 27.0 (23.0, 30.0)	
IGA 0/1	Dupilumab: 38.5 (30.1, 46.8)	4
	Tralokinumab: 26.9 (8.9, 60.7)	7
	Placebo: 12.5 (10.8, 13.8)	

CI, confidence interval; EASI-75, Eczema Area and Severity Index Improvement by at least 75%; IGA 0/1, Investigator's Global Assessment 0 or 1; NNT, number-needed-to-treat; TCS, topical corticosteroids.

Figure 3. Dupilumab + TCS showed lower total yearly CPR than tralokinumab + TCS to achieve one additional responder.



*Sensitivity analysis with a 10% discounted price for tralokinumab. CPR, cost-per-additional responder; iCPR, incremental CPR; EASI-75, Eczema Area and Severity Index Improvement by at least 75%; IGA 0/1, Investigator's Global Assessment 0 or 1; TCS, topical corticosteroids.

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