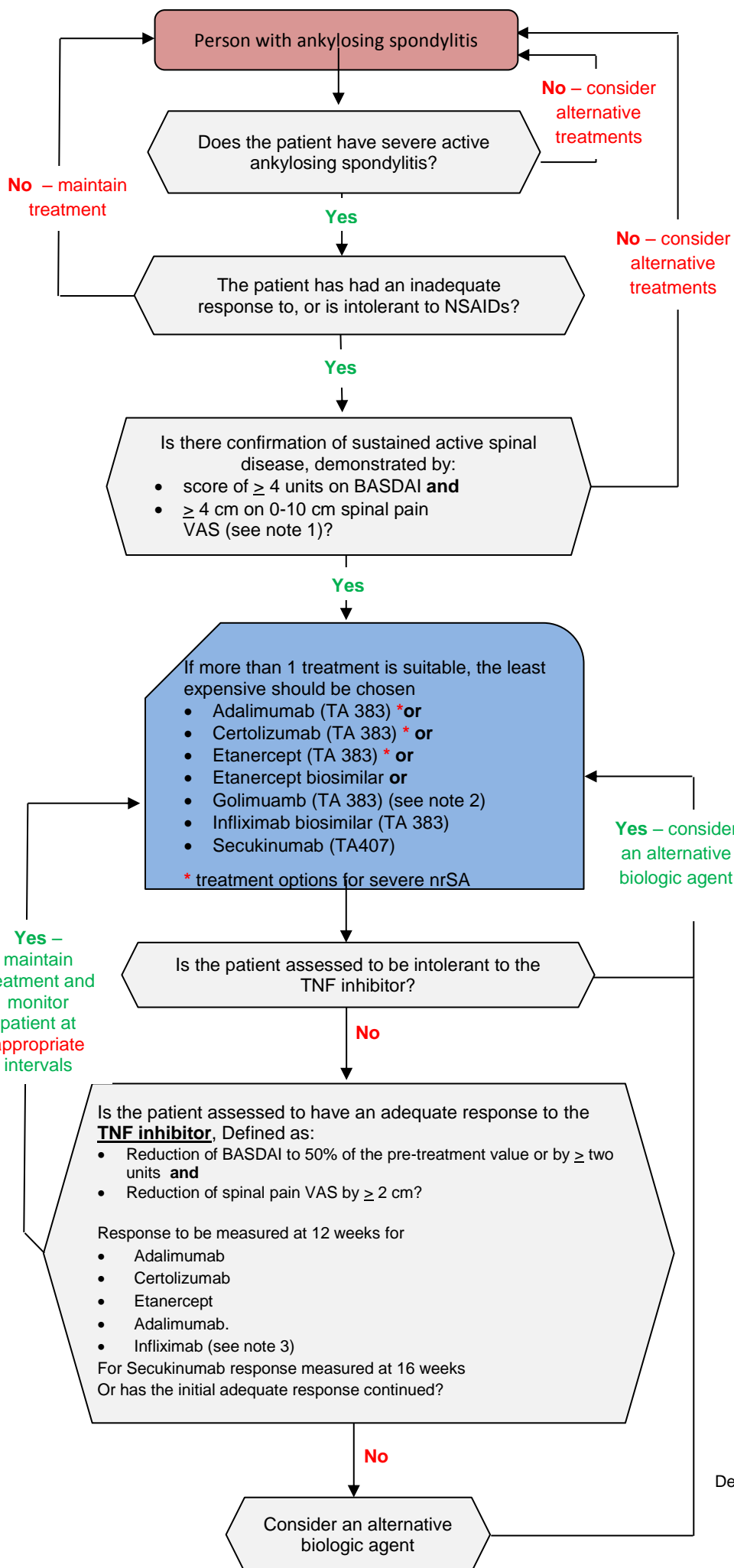


Derbyshire commissioning guidance on biologic drugs for the treatment of Ankylosing Spondylitis



Key to terms:

BASDAI: Bath ankylosing spondylitis disease activity score
NSAID: Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
TA: NICE technology appraisal guidance
TNF: Tumour necrosis factor
VAS: Visual analogue scale

Note 1

There are circumstances in which it may not be appropriate for healthcare professionals to use a patient's BASDAI and spinal pain VAS scores to inform conclusions about the presence of sustained active spinal disease. These are:

1. where the tools are not clinically appropriate to inform a clinician's conclusion because of a patient's learning disability, other disabilities, linguistic or other communication difficulties **or**
2. where it is not possible to administer the tools in a language in which the patient is sufficiently fluent or there are similar exceptional reasons why they are inappropriate.

Note 2:

If the manufacturer provides the 100 mg dose of golimumab at the same cost as the 50 mg dose in accordance with the patient access scheme.

Note 3:

NICE TA383 states that if there is no response by 6 weeks (after 2 doses) with infliximab, no additional treatment with infliximab should be given. Response to be measured at 12 weeks thereafter.