Table SIII. *Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) comparing methotrexate (MTX) with another active substance*

Author (year), country	Therapy	MTX-dose and use of FA	Dose adjustment Number of patients stopped	PASI75
Gupta et al. (40) (2005), India	I: MTX[Weinstein] vs hydroxyurea N: 20 D: 12 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: not mentioned SD: MTX[Weinstein] 15 mg/week (fixed dose)	No DA: fixed dose No stopped patients mentioned	75% at week 12
Akhyani et al. (41) (2010), Iran	I: MTX[Weinstein] vs mycophenolate mofetil N: 18 (15 analysed) D: 12 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: 1 mg/day except on the day of MTX administration SD: 7.5 mg/week[Weinstein] , then week 1: 15 mg/week, week 4: 20 mg/week	86.7% (13/15 pt) failed to increase/needed to lower the dose due to AE. 13.3% (2/15) reached 20 mg/week No stopped patients due to AE	73.3% at week 12
Ranjan et al. (38) (2007), India	I: MTX vs hydroxycarbamide N: 17 (15 analysed) D: 12 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: 5 mg/day allowed SD: week 0–4: 7.5 mg 2days/week (15 mg/week) ↑↓: week 4 < PASI25: 20 mg (in "divided dosage")	DA: 40% (6/15) had a dose increase from 15 to 20 mg/week. No stopped patients due to AE	66.7% at week 12
Ho (48) et al. (2009), China	I: MTX vs traditional Chinese medicine vs placebo N: 20 (19 analysed) D:24 weeks	TD: 2.5–5 mg/week FA: 5 mg/day SD: 10 mg/week ↑↓: 2.5 mg until "good clinical response "Max: 30mg/week	DA unclear 5% ($n=1$) stopped due to AE	63% at week 24
Heydendael et al. (32) (2003), The Netherlands	I: MTX [Weinstein] vs cyclosporine N: 43 D: 16 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: not used SD: week 0–4: 15 mg/week [Weinstein] ↑↓: if < PASI25 at week 4: 22.5 mg/week[Weinstein], tapering from week 12	DA: 9.3% ($n=4$) dose increase at week 4 27.9% ($n=12$) stopped due to AE	60% at week 16
Barker et al. (33) (2011), Europe and Canada	I: MTX vs infliximab N: 215 D: 16 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: recommended, dose not mentioned SD:15 mg/week ↑↓: 5 mg if < PASI–25 at week 6	DA: 25% ($n=54$) had at least one dose increase between week 6 and 16. 4% ($n=8$) stopped due to AE	27.0% at week 10 39.5% at week 14 41.9% at week 16
Reich et al. (34) (2011), Europe and Canada	I: MTX vs briakinumab N: 163 D: 52 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: 5 mg/week SD: 5 mg/week at week 0, 10 mg/week at week 1, 15 mg/week from week 2–9 ↑↓: increment of 5 mg/week at week 10 and 16 if PASI <75% or 6 point PGA≠ 0 or 1	DA: 10.4% ($n=17$) dose increase at week 10 to 20 mg/week. 61.3% ($n=100$) dose increase at week 16 to 25 mg/week. 6.1% ($n=10$) stopped due to AE (5 out of 10 were an SAE)	36.2% at week 12 39.9% at week 24
Saurat et al. (CHAMPION) (2011) (35), Europe and Canada	I: MTX vs adalimumab vs placebo N: 110 D: 16 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: 5 mg/week SD: Week 0–1: 7.5 mg/week, week 2–3: 10 mg/week, week 4–7: 15 mg/week ↑↓: 5mg if <PASI50 at week 8 or week 12	DA: 36.4% ($n=40$) no dose increase. 20% ($n=22$) Dose increase at week 8. 29.3% ($n=41$) Dose increase at week 8 and week 12 5.5% ($n=6$) stopped due to AE	9.1% at week 8 24.5% at week 12 35.5% at week 16
Yan et al. (43) (2011), China	I: MTX vs rhLFA3-IgFP N: 105 (92 analysed) D: 12 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: not mentioned SD: 7.5 mg/week (fixed dose)	DA: No dose increase: fixed dose 2.9% (3/105) stopped due to AE	31.5% at week 12
Flytström et al. (17) (2008), Sweden	I: MTX [Weinstein] vs cyclosporine N: 41 (37 analysed) D: 12 weeks	TD: not mentioned FA: 5 mg/day except on the day of MTX administration SD: 7.5 mg/week ↑↓: if <PASI50 → increment, max: 15 mg/week	DA unclear No stopped patients due to AE	24% at week 12
Fallah Arani et al. (16) (2011), The Netherlands	I: MTX [Weinstein] vs fumarates N: 30 (25 analysed) D: 12 weeks	TD: 5 mg/week FA: not mentioned SD: from TD 5 mg/week gradually to 15 mg/week [Weinstein] at week 12, then ↓ to 12.5 to 10 to 5 to 2.5 mg/week at week 13, 14, 15 and 16, respectively.	DA: Standard dose increase based on study protocol 16% (4/25) stopped due to AE	24% at week 12

I: intervention; N: number of patients in MTX-treated group; D: duration of therapy; TD: MTX test-dose; FA: use of folic acid; SD: MTX start-dose; ↑↓: increments; DA: dose adjustment; AE: adverse event; PASI75: Psoriasis Area and Severity Index 75; SAE: serious adverse event.