

## STARA CLINICAL TRIAL

Dear Patient,

We would like to invite you to consider joining our research study that will explore whether rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients in remission can safely stop their biologic treatment and stay in remission. As a patient myself, I am always grateful when in remission, but also worry about the effects of staying on a biologic long-term due to health and cost concerns. In short, this study answers the question, “If I stop the medication, will I stay in remission?” You are eligible for this study if you take both Anti-TNF drugs and DMARDS and have been in remission for at least 6 months. If you sign up, you will keep taking your DMARD drug, but stop your Anti-TNF drug. During this time, you will be closely monitored, and if there are any signs that you are going to have a flare, you will be able to leave the study immediately and resume your Anti-TNF drug. Just to review Anti-TNF drugs include: Enbrel, Humira, or Remicade; and DMARDs include: Methotrexate, Plaquenil, Azulfadine, Azoran, cyclosporine, or injectable or oral gold.

The results of this study will be very useful as findings will help doctors understand which people can safely stop their biologics and which ones cannot. A special part of this study is that patients were involved in its design, in collaboration with doctors and researchers. A special committee, called COMPACT (Committee of Patients, Caregivers and Other Stakeholders) was formed, and we are RA patients and family members. Our purpose is to provide feedback on study recruitment, to interact with other RA patients on the study through our website, and to help with making sure that study results are made available to participants and other people with RA.

If you are interested in being a part of this study, please tell your provider and they can help you sign up. If you have any questions about the study, feel free to call our study manager, Denny Dinkov at (315) 557-8171 or by email [dz@georgetown.edu](mailto:dz@georgetown.edu)

Thanks!

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COMPACT member