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Royal College of Nursing and NHS England briefing on biologics

Ailsa, NRAS Patient Champion and Clare, NRAS CEO have been working for a number of years with NHS England (NHSE) to represent the patient voice in regard to the introduction of biosimilar medicines and switching programmes in RA.

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In the last 12 months, we have also been working on the NHSE Adalimumab Patient Working Panel regarding the introduction of Humira biosimilars (4 came to market end 2019). It has come to our notice that not all specialist nurses and allied health professionals are aware of or have seen the NHSE Briefing on Best Value Biological Medicines for Specialist Nurses which sits on the [Specialist Pharmacy Service website](#). We have also contributed to a toolkit of resources for health professionals including a template letter to inform patients about switching to a biosimilar, and an article which went into our Winter 2018 Members' magazine these resources can be downloaded from the SPS website and the NRAS website [here](#).

We are keen to hear from health professionals and patients about experiences (good and bad) of switching and being switched.

We shall shortly be updating our own position statement on biosimilars.

Medicines in rheumatoid arthritis

We believe it is essential that people living with RA understand why certain medicines are used, when they are used and how they work to manage the condition.

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