

Table 1 Distribution of characteristics of RA patients using a biological agents(s)

Defined RA cases with biologics			‡Early (n=410)		‡Late (n=411)		<i>p</i> value
N=821		RA patients, n (%)	n	%	n	%	
Gender	Female	603 (73.45)	288	70.24	315	76.64	0.04*
	Male	218 (26.55)	122	29.76	96	23.36	
Age group†	Age <45	233 (28.38)	112	27.32	121	29.44	0.38
	45<= Age < 65	435 (52.98)	214	52.2	221	53.77	
	>=65	153 (18.64)	84	20.49	69	16.79	
Income (New-Taiwan-Dollar)	0	209 (25.46)	99	24.15	110	26.76	0.58
	1<=income< 15840	100 (12.18)	47	11.46	53	12.9	
	15840<=income< 25000	362 (44.09)	183	44.63	179	43.55	
	income >= 25000	150 (18.27)	81	19.76	69	16.79	
Residence	city	255 (31.06)	123	30	132	32.12	0.80
		324 (39.46)	161	39.27	163	39.66	
		144 (17.54)	77	18.78	67	16.3	
	country	98 (11.94)	49	11.95	49	11.92	
Biologics	Etanercept	437 (53.23)	231	56.34	206	50.12	0.22
	Adalimumab	227 (27.65)	100	24.39	127	30.9	
	Rituximab	145 (17.66)	74	18.05	71	17.27	
	Golimumab	4 (0.49)	1	0.24	3	0.73	
	Tocilizumab	8 (0.97)	4	0.98	4	0.97	
Viral Hepatitis B§	No	782 (95.25)	390	95.12	392	95.38	0.86
	Yes	39 (4.75)	20	4.88	19	4.62	
Hepatitis C§	No	772 (94.03)	380	92.68	392	95.38	0.10
	Yes	49 (5.97)	30	7.32	19	4.62	
Chronic kidney disease¶	No	780 (95.01)	384	93.66	396	96.35	0.08
	Yes	41 (4.99)	26	6.34	15	3.65	
Heart FailureⓂ	No	761 (92.69)	378	92.2	383	93.19	0.58
	Yes	60 (7.31)	32	7.8	28	6.81	

†Age group: RA index age \* , p <0.05

‡Use biologics year: (first biologics date- RA index date)/365

Early: use biologics year < 2.24

Late: use biologics year  $\geq$  2.24

§Viral Hepatitis B: ICD9: 070.30

§Hepatitis C: ICD9:070.41, 070.44, 070.51, 070.54, V02.62

¶Chronic kidney disease: ICD9:585

▣Heart Failure: ICD9:428