

Fast Facts

BIOLOGICS AND BIOSIMILARS

? **WHAT are biologics and biosimilars?**

Biologics are medications that are produced from living cells, such as animal cells, bacteria, or yeast. They target specific parts of a person's immune system to treat diseases such as psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, and some cancers. People can receive biologics through an injection or an intravenous (IV) infusion.

Biosimilars are medications that are as similar as possible to existing biologics but can never be identical to biologics, since biologics are from living cells, making them large and complex molecules.

? **WHO should consider using biologics or biosimilars?**

People who have tried other treatments and found them ineffective may be good candidates for biologics or biosimilars. **Talk to your doctor** to learn about the risks, potential adverse effects, and benefits of biologics or biosimilars and determine the best treatment option for you.

? **WHY choose to use biologics or biosimilars?**

Biologics or biosimilars are additional treatment options that can provide relief to people who are experience **moderate or severe symptoms** and have not seen results from other treatment options.

? **WHEN is the right time to use biologics or biosimilars?**

A **number of factors** should be considered before using biologics or biosimilars, such as your **personal preferences**, the **severity** of your condition, and your current **health status**. If the severity of your illness has a large impact on you physically, psychologically, or socially, then you may want to consider biologics or biosimilars.