

# Polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis Consensus Treatment Plan **Option 2: EARLY COMBINATION**

# VISIT 1 (BASELINE)

- Physician Global Assessment (PGA)\*
- Begin conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (csDMARD)\*\* and biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (bDMARD)\*\*\* treatment
- Optional prednisone: Use lowest possible dose and taper quickly (see tapering algorithms)
- Optional intra-articular steroid injection(s) (IAS)

Option for unscheduled visit earlier than 3 months if patient has no response or is worsened at 1-2 months to proceed to increased therapy.

#### VISIT 2 AT THRFF MONTHS

Should be off prednisone if possible.

Patient much better, off prednisone, AND PGA ≤2\*\*\*\*

Continue visit 1 treatment

Patient not much better, PGA >2, and/or still on prednisone

- Consider increase (if not at max) or change csDMARD or change bDMARD
- Consider optional IAS

## VISIT 3 AT SIX MONTHS

Patient much better, off prednisone, AND PGA ≤2

Continue visit 2 treatment

Patient not much better, PGA >2, and/or still on prednisone

- Strongly consider increase (if not at max) or change csDMARD or change bDMARD
- Consider optional IAS

Optional reassessment at 9 months if treatment change at visit 3.

### **VISIT 4 AT TWELVE MONTHS**

Patient much better, off prednisone, AND PGA ≤2

Continue visit 3 treatment or consider tapering csDMARD

Patient not much better, PGA >2, and/or still on prednisone

- Recommend increase (if not at max) or change csDMARD or change bDMARD
- Consider optional IAS

<sup>\*</sup> PGA is based on a visual analog scale of 0-10 assessing JIA disease activity.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Conventional synthetic DMARD: Methotrexate, sulfasalazine, or leflunomide.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Biologic DMARD: Any inhibitor of TNF, T cell costimulation, IL6, or B cells.

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