

Advantage Hers: Additional Information & Resources



Overview: Advantage Hers, Caroline Wozniacki & UCB

UCB is proud to be working with world-renowned tennis champion Caroline Wozniacki on the Advantage Hers campaign, to equip and empower women around the world living with chronic inflammatory diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis, axial spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis and psoriasis, to take more active and informed roles in shared decision-making about their care.

Grand Slam winner Caroline Wozniacki is the highest-ranking female athlete known to have been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis whilst still playing professional tennis.

UCB is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of innovative medicines and solutions to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases in immunology and neurology.

Overview: Chronic Inflammatory Diseases

As part of the Advantage Hers campaign, UCB remains committed to improving the standard of care for women with chronic inflammatory diseases around the world and equipping them with information to help them become their own care self-advocates. See below for information about these conditions – we encourage you to speak to your specialist about any further questions you have.

Chronic inflammation is long-term inflammation – when the immune system recognizes and removes harmful stimuli – lasting anywhere from several months to years.¹

Symptoms of chronic inflammation can include body pain, constant fatigue, gastrointestinal complications and frequent infections, as well as emotional burdens including depression, anxiety and stress.¹

There are many chronic inflammatory diseases, but Advantage Hers is focused particularly on rheumatoid arthritis, axial spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis and psoriasis. Collectively, these diseases affect more than **180 million** people worldwide,^{2,3,4} approximately half of which are women.^{5,6,7} See below for more information about each of these conditions:

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a progressive disease, which causes chronic inflammation of the joints.⁸ It generally affects the smaller joints in the body in the hands and feet.⁸ However, the systemic nature of the condition means that it can also affect the body as a whole.⁸ RA is one of a group of conditions classified as autoimmune diseases, where the immune system attacks the body's own tissues, specifically the synovium, the tissue that surrounds joints.⁸

Global Prevalence:

- Rheumatoid arthritis affects approximately **23.7 million** people worldwide and is believed to affect between 0.3% and 1% of the world's population.^{2,9}

Axial spondyloarthritis

Axial Spondyloarthritis (axSpA) is a chronic inflammatory disease causing low back pain, stiffness and fatigue.¹⁰ The disease typically starts in early adulthood, a critical period in terms of education and beginning a career path.¹⁰

Global Prevalence:

- It is estimated that axial spondyloarthritis affects approximately more than **1.7 million** people globally.⁴

Psoriatic arthritis

Psoriatic arthritis (PsA) is a chronic inflammatory disease. It causes inflammation, swelling, and pain in the joints, as well as swollen fingers and toes, splitting fingernails and toenails that often peel away from the nail bed and eye pain or redness.¹¹

Global Prevalence:

- Psoriatic arthritis affects between **12.5** and **37.5 million** people globally.³

Psoriasis

Psoriasis (PsO) is a common, chronic inflammatory disease with symptoms that mostly affect the skin. Common symptoms include cracked, red patches of skin covered with silvery scales, severe itching and pitted or ridged nails.¹²

Global Prevalence:

- Psoriasis affects **125 million** people worldwide, which is approximately 2-3% of the world's population.³
- Approximately 30% of patients with psoriasis may also develop psoriatic arthritis.³

Overview: Chronic inflammatory diseases



COVID-19 environment

While the profound impact of chronic inflammatory diseases around the world is the driving force behind the launch of Advantage Hers, we recognize that these are challenging and uncertain times in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has impacted all our lives, and places tremendous strain on healthcare systems and society at large.

Since the start of the crisis, UCB has taken measures to protect our colleagues around the world, stand by patients, help our communities and take part in the global response to the pandemic. We know that it is our responsibility to help where we can make an impact.

UCB actions during the COVID-19 pandemic

Ensuring our employees are safe and supported	Keeping patients at the heart	Helping our local communities	Joining force on global response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety measures and well-being programs • Guarantee of job compensation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued supply of our medicines • Financial assistance for qualified patients to maintain access to our medicines • Medical communication adapted to COVID-19 context 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerated payments to our most vulnerable suppliers • Active contribution to increase local COVID-19 diagnostic testing capabilities • Donations in kind (hydroalcoholic gel, protective materials) and employee volunteering • 1.5M€ available to local teams for direct help to their communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to COVID-19 research projects worldwide • Setting up a UCB Global Fund to understand and address long-term effect of COVID-19 on vulnerable populations' health

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