### Assessing Axial SpA (including AS)

#### Assessment Pathway

- **Patient with back pain completes a screening questionnaire**
  - **BASDAI**
  - **HLA-B27**
  - **Cronh's disease/ulcerative colitis**
  - **Good response to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)**
  - **Uveitis**
  - **Dactylitis**
  - **Psoriasis**

#### Inflammatory back pain assessment

- **Age at onset < 40 years**
- **Insidious onset**
- **Improvement with exercise**
- **No improvement with rest**
- **Pain at night (with improvement upon getting up)**

The criteria are fulfilled if at least four out of five parameters are present.

#### Assessment of SpondyloArthritis International Society (ASAS) Classification Criteria for axial SpA

In patients with ≥ 3 months back pain and age at onset < 45

- **Sacroiliitis on imaging**
  - HLA-B27
  - ≥ 2 other SpA features

#### SpA Features

- **Inflammatory back pain (IBP)**
- **Arthritis**
- **Heel enthesitis**
- **Uveitis**
- **Dactylitis**
- **Psoriasis**

#### Sacroiliitis on imaging

- Active (acute) inflammation on MRI highly suggestive of sacroiliitis associated with SpA or definite radiographic sacroiliitis according to mNASS.

Please note while MRI evidence of sacroiliitis is not classified as an ASAS SpA feature this is still a feature of the disease and therefore can be referred to as an axial SpA feature.

#### Assessments to be performed at every visit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Very severe</th>
<th>Impossible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. How severe is your morning stiffness?</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. How long does your morning stiffness last from the time you wake up?</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. How long does your morning stiffness last from the time you wake up?</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. How severe is your pain when you sit or stand for more than 30 minutes?</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. How severe is your pain when you sit or stand for more than 30 minutes?</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. How long does your pain last?</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Performing the BASMI

**There are five clinical measurements that reflect axial mobility:**

- **Tragus to wall**
- **Lateral lumbar flexion**
- **Lumbar flexion (Modified Schober's test)**
- **Cervical rotation**
- **Intermalleolar distance.**

#### Talking AS

Talking AS is an interactive online tool designed to enable the patient to record their BASMI and spinal pain scores online for healthcare practitioners to monitor.

**Talking AS** is available by AbbVie in association with Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath.