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### **Conflict of Interest Statement**

Vasily Isakov has received research/grant support from MSD, has served as a board member and or consultant for Abbvie, Vertex, Roche, Novartis, Janssen, and Bristol-Myers Squibb; has served on speakers' bureaus for Bristol-Myers Squibb, Janssen, Roche, and Novartis; and has received travel funding from Bristol-Myers Squibb and MSD Russia. Vladimir Chulanov has served on advisory boards for Roche, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Janssen, Novartis, and MSD Russia; has received research grants from Bristol-Myers Squibb; and has served on speakers' bureaus for Bristol-Myers Squibb, Roche, Janssen, Novartis, Gilead, AbbVie, and MSD. Pavel Ogurtsov has served on advisory boards for Schering-Plough and delivered lectures on behalf of Abbott, Solvay, PRO.MED.CS Praha a.s., and Veropharm. Igor Nikitin has nothing to disclose. Ekaterina Lukyanova, Jianmin Long, Janice Wahl, and Frans A. Helmond are current employees of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ, USA.

On behalf of the authors:



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