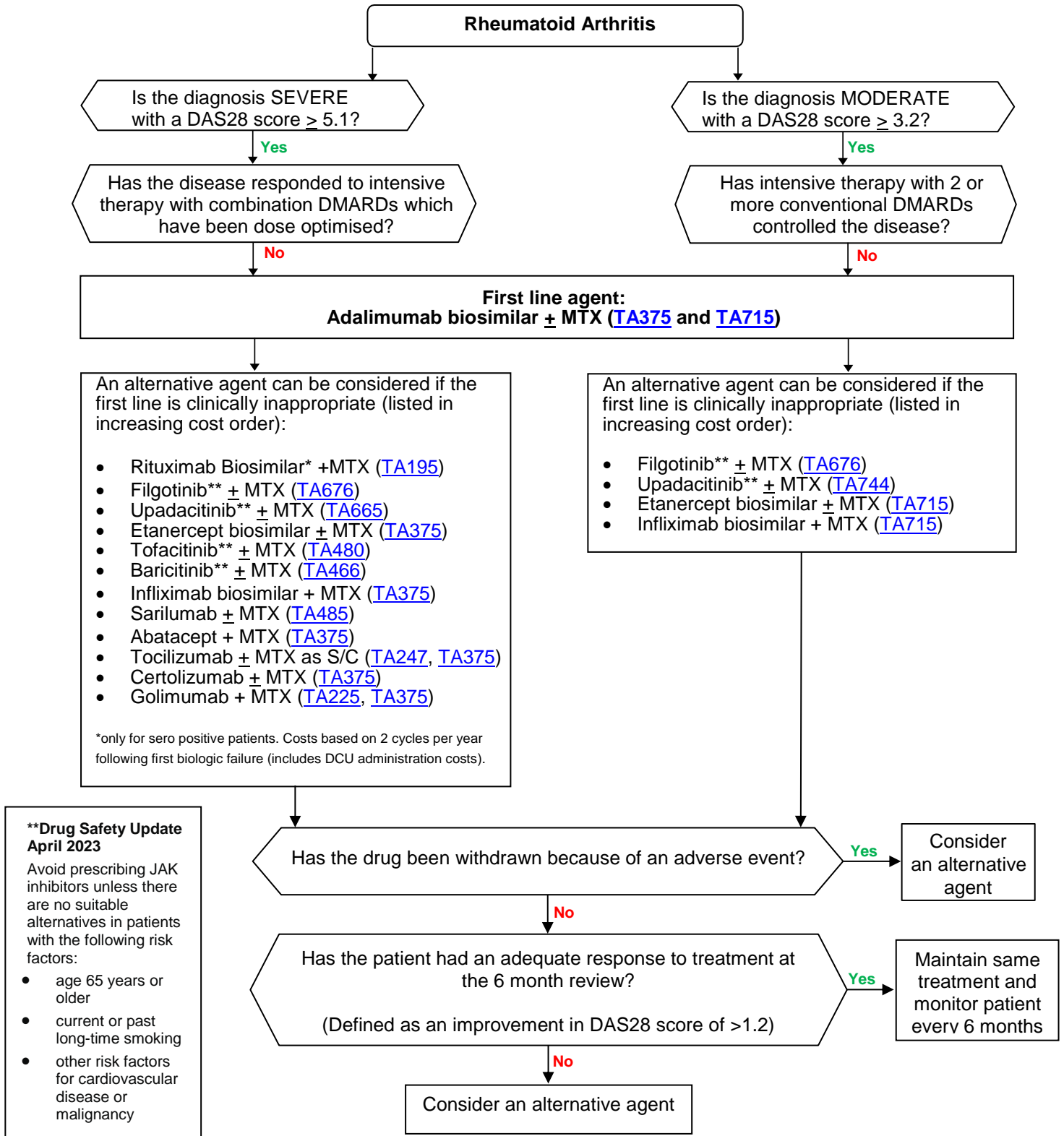




**Nottinghamshire commissioning guidance for the treatment of Moderate and Severe Rheumatoid Arthritis**

This algorithm is a tool to aid the implementation of NICE guidance for high cost medicines used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.



**\*\*Drug Safety Update April 2023**

Avoid prescribing JAK inhibitors unless there are no suitable alternatives in patients with the following risk factors:

- age 65 years or older
- current or past long-time smoking
- other risk factors for cardiovascular disease or malignancy

**Please note:** In line with the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS biologic position statement; patients newly initiated on a biologic medicine should be prescribed the most cost effective brand of that medication (such as a biosimilar where one is available).