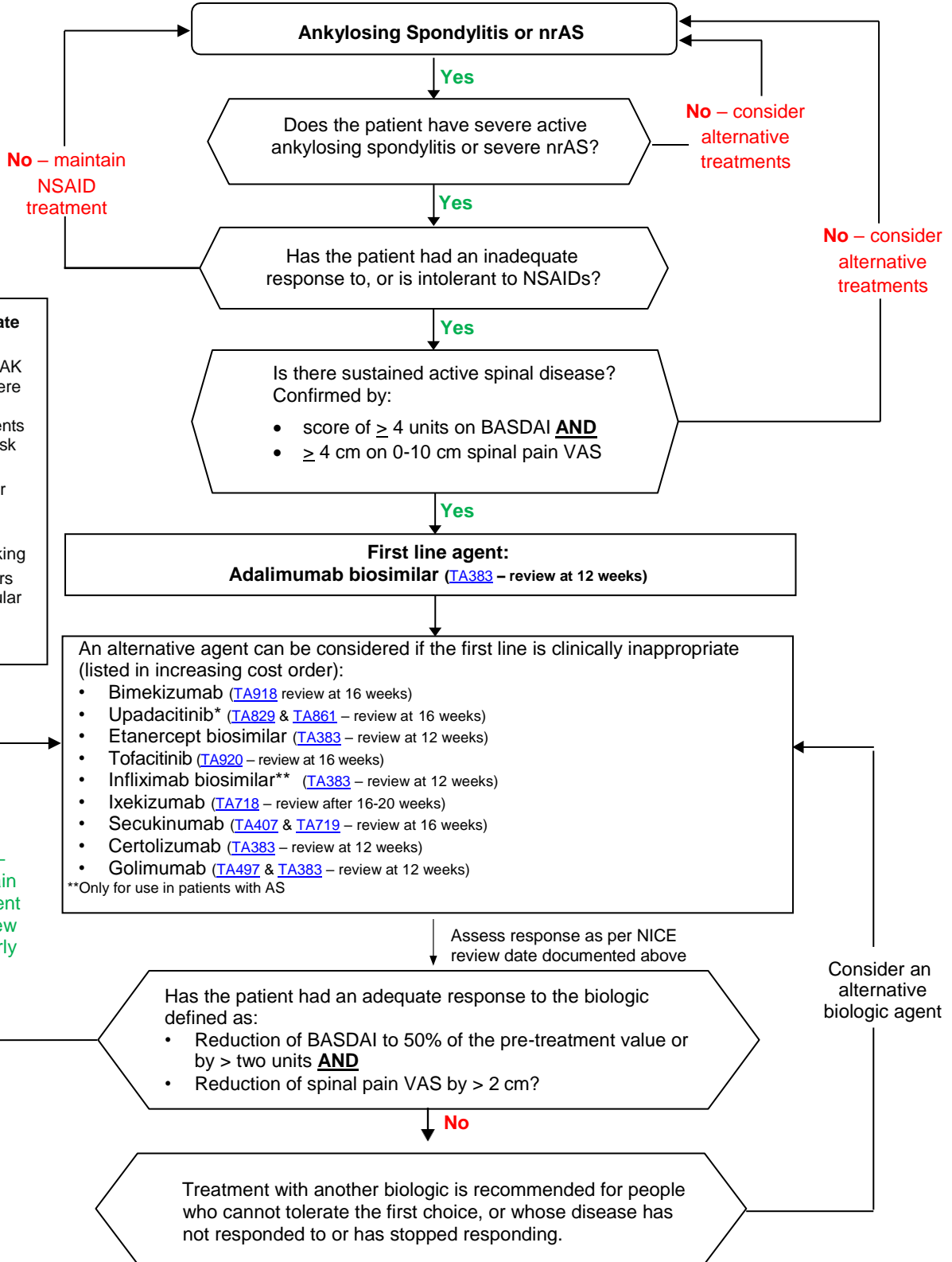




**Nottinghamshire commissioning guidance for the treatment of Ankylosing Spondylitis (AS) and non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (nrAS)**

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



**\*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 & 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).