

Table 2. Summary of infection risks associated with targeted synthetic DMARDs²⁶.

Drug	TBC	Herpes zóster	HBV	Other viral infections	PJP	COVID-19	Assessment prior to treatment	Assessment during treatment	Other relevant risks
PDE4 inhibitor Apremilast	No	No	No	ND	ND	ND	Tuberculosis screening not required.	No specific tests.	Mood alterations. Weight loss. Serious cardiovascular events.
JAK inhibitors Abrocitinib Baricitinib Filgotinib Tofacitinib Upadacitinib	YES	YES	YES	CMV PME EBV	YES (in the presence of other risk factors*)	ND	Prior history of infections. Vaccination status. (measles, rubella, mumps, chickenpox). HBV immunisation. Tuberculosis screening. Rule out systemic or local infection.	Suspend if active infection until resolved. Attenuated vaccines are contraindicated. Interrupt treatment 7 days prior to scheduled surgery.	VTE (DVT and PE) Haematological disorders. Serious cardiovascular events. Malignant neoplasm. ILD GI perforation.

TBC: Tuberculosis
HBV: Hepatitis B virus
PJP: *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia
PDE4: Phosphodiesterase-4
ND: Not determined
JAK: Janus kinase
CMV: Cytomegalovirus

PME: Progressive multifocal encephalopathy
EBV: Epstein-Barr virus
VTE: Venous thromboembolism
DVT: Deep vein thrombosis
PU: Pulmonary embolism
ILD: Interstitial lung disease
GI: Gastrointestinal

(*) Risk factors: prior or concomitant treatment with corticosteroids, low lymphocyte count, high-dose JAK inhibitor²⁶.