

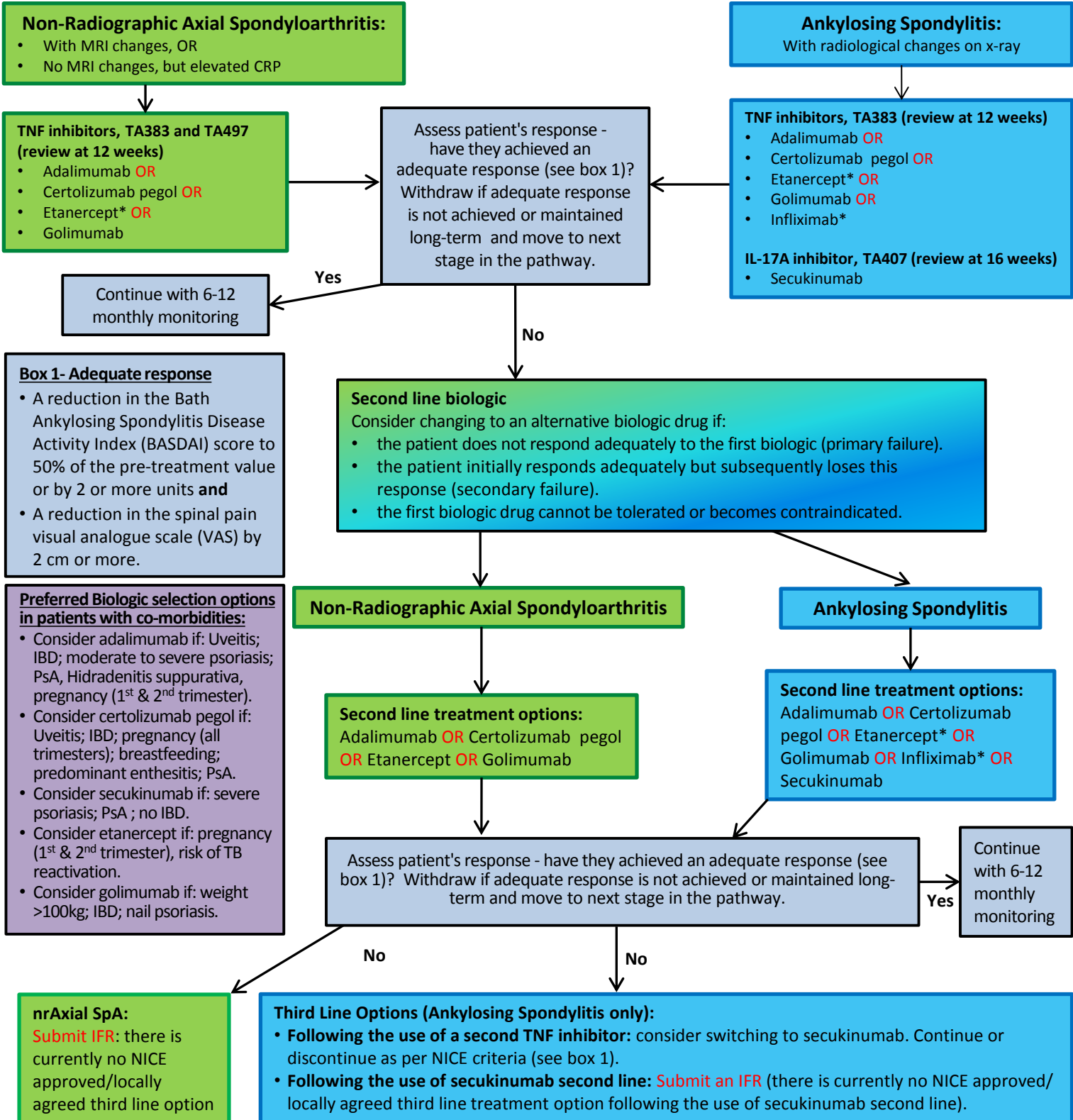
**Bedfordshire and Luton Joint Prescribing Committee**

**Biologics for the Treatment of Ankylosing Spondylitis and Non-radiographic Axial Spondyloarthritis (nrAxial SpA) AFTER failure of conventional treatment (in line with NICE TAs), March 2018.**

This algorithm is only applicable for use in patients with severe active disease (BASDAI and VAS  $\geq 4$ ) who have responded inadequately to, or who cannot tolerate, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

**Prescribing notes:**

- Prescribe by **brand name** (due to availability of biosimilars\*).
- Where possible, prescribe the least expensive agent (take into account individual patient factors e.g. presence of comorbidities, extra-articular manifestations).
- Infliximab is recommended only if treatment is started with the least expensive infliximab product.
- When using BASDAI and spinal pain VAS scores, take into account any physical, sensory or learning disabilities, or communication difficulties that could affect the responses to the questionnaires, and make any adjustments they consider appropriate.



**TREATMENT REQUESTS BEYOND THE END OF THE ALGORITHM REQUIRE CONSIDERATION VIA THE IFR ROUTE**