

## **THIS IS ONLY FOR INJECTABLE BIOLOGICS**

### **ALL ORAL MEDICATIONS NEED TO BE RUN BY PROVIDER BEFORE GIVING ADVICE ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS**

- ✓ *Most biologics have only a small increased risk of respiratory infections, and THEY ARE ACTUALLY TESTING these biologic medications as a treatment for Coronavirus with promising results.*
- ✓ *Biologics stay in your system for many weeks anyway, so stopping it now is not going to get it out of your system.*
- ✓ *The American Academy of Dermatology has issued a statement and does not generally recommend stopping your medication, either.*
- ✓ *That being said, patients 65 and older may choose to pause their treatment out of an abundance of caution, if they really feel strongly about it. Social distancing can also reduce your risk without discontinuing your therapy.*
- ✓ *Most pts do well for a while before flaring (the biologic stays in their system), and most patients recover their response upon restarting, although 1 out of 5 patients develop immunity/medicine stops working upon reinitiation, and their disease may flare up while stopping.*
- ✓ *We are not issuing work letters or time-off for patients on biologics, except TNF inhibitors or Ustekinumab in certain high-risk situations and if had contact with someone with known, proven COVID-19.*
- ✓ *Of course, if you develop ANY suspicious symptoms, discontinue your medication and you may restart 14 days after recovery.*



**THE GRENZ ZONE<sup>SM</sup>**

DISSECTING DERMATOLOGY  
DIFFERENTLY