

## BIOLOGICS VS TRADITIONAL DRUGS



Biologics are medical products, serums, or vaccines derived from animal products or other biological sources and used to treat or prevent disease.

The difference between traditional drugs and biologics is that drugs are processed through the synthesis of various chemicals, while biologics are manufactured with DNA from living organisms.

Protein-based biologics and devices are used to treat a variety of conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, Crohn's disease, and multiple sclerosis, as well as several forms of cancer.

Biologics are generally expensive, in part because of the cutting-edge technology that is required to manufacture them.

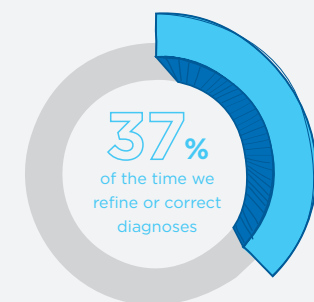
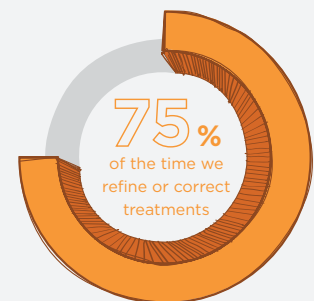
They are, however, effective, and in some cases can be more effective than traditional treatments. Examples of biological products include:

- Vaccines
- Blood and blood products for transfusions
- Allergenic extracts, which are used for both diagnosis and treatment
- Human cells and tissues used for transplantation (for example, tendons, ligaments and bone)
- Gene therapies
- Cellular therapies
- Tests to screen potential blood donors for infectious agents such as HIV

Because biologics are used for diagnosis as well as treatment, your physician is the best source of information on whether biologics are an appropriate option for you.



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