Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

*J Investig Med*

***Supplementary table 1*** Baseline variables of rheumatoid arthritis patients.

|  | Total (n=108) | Included patients (n=61) | Excluded patients (n=47) | *P* value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age, mean ± SD (years) | 57.79±12.81 | 57.51±12.02 | 58.15±13.89 | 0.798 |
| Women, no. (%) | 86 (80) | 50 (82) | 36 (77) | 0.492 |
| Disease duration (years), mean ± SD | 6.91±5.84 | 6.50±5.37 | 7.44±6.42 | 0.411 |
| ESR (mm/h), mean ± SD | 45.42±30.59 | 45.84±32.16 | 44.87±28.76 | 0.872 |
| CRP (mg/dl), mean ± SD | 29.44±33.95 | 30.67±35.49 | 27.84±32.15 | 0.669 |
| RF positive, no. (%) | 81 (75) | 45(74) | 36 (77) | 0.737 |
| ACCP positive, no. (%) | 81 (75) | 45(74) | 36 (77) | 0.737 |
| DAS28, mean ± SD | 5.55±1.75 | 5.51±1.91 | 5.60±1.53 | 0.795 |
| Treatments |  |  |  |  |
| bDMARDs, no. (%) | 28(26) | 15 (25) | 13 (28) | 0.718 |
| cDMARDs, no. (%) | 91 (84) | 51 (84) | 40 (85) | 0.832 |
| NSAIDs, no. (%) | 33 (31) | 17 (28) | 16 (34) | 0.490 |
| Corticosteroids | 36 (33) | 19 (31) | 17 (36) | 0.583 |

Supplemental material

BMJ Publishing Group Limited (BMJ) disclaims all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this supplemental material which has been supplied by the author(s)

*J Investig Med*

ESR, Erythrocyte sedimentation rate; CRP, C-reactive protein; RF, Rheumatoid factor; ACCP, Anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide; DAS28, Disease activity score of 28 joints; cDMARDs, conventional disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs; bDMARDs, biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs; NSAIDs, nonsteroid anti-inflammatory drugs.

There was no significant difference in age, gender, duration of disease, ESR, CRP, DAS28, RF positive rate, ACCP positive rate and treatments between the included patients and excluded patients.