

Supplementary table 1: Baseline characteristics of included patients

	N=473
Age (years), mean (SD)	54.3 (13.6)
Sex (female), n(%)	317 (67%)
Body Mass Index (kg/m³), mean (SD)	25.9 (4.1)
Ever smoker, n(%)	166 (35%)
Symptom duration (weeks), median (IQR)	23.7 (13.9-52.7)
DAS, mean (SD)	4.4 (0.9)
ESR (mm/h), mean (SD)	40.8 (27.7)
CRP (mg/l), mean (SD)	37.8 (43.3)
Patient global assessment (0-100mm VAS), mean (SD)	51.9 (20.0)
Swollen joint count, median (IQR)	13.0 (10.0-19.0)
Tender joint count, median (IQR)	13.0 (9.0-18.0)
Anti-Citrullinated Peptide Antibodies (positive), n(%)	276 (62%)
Rheumatoid Factor (positive), n(%)	308 (65%)
HAQ score (0-3), median(IQR)	1.4 (1.0-1.9)