**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

**Supplementary online table.** Baseline demographics, disease and clinical characteristics of biologic-experienced patients and 24-month follow-up completers

| | n | Patients who had previously received ≥1 biologic agent (n=1009) | n | Patients with 24-month follow-up (n=232) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Age, mean (SD)** | 1009 | 56.23 (12.39) | 232 | 57.43 (11.20) |
| **Female, n (%)** | 1009 | 834 (82.7) | 232 | 188 (81.0) |
| **Weight, kg, mean (SD)** | 995 | 74.49 (17.02) | 229 | 73.18 (16.10) |
| **Disease duration, years, mean (SD)** | 1004 | 11.83 (9.25) | 230 | 11.92 (9.29) |
| **Disease duration, n (%)** | | | | |
| ≤2 years | | 102 (10.2) | | 19 (8.3) |
| 3–5 years | | 200 (19.9) | | 48 (20.9) |
| 6–10 years | | 249 (24.8) | | 60 (26.1) |
| >10 years | | 453 (45.1) | | 103 (44.8) |
| **Previously treated with biologic agents, n (%)** | 1009 | 1009 (100.0) | 232 | 232 (100.0) |
| At least one anti-TNF agent, n (%) | | 991 (98.2) | | 227 (97.8) |
| Anti-TNF only, n (%) | | 779 (79.2) | | 188 (81.0) |
| Anti-TNF and another biologic, n (%) | | 192 (19.0) | | 39 (16.8) |
| Other biologic, n (%) | | 18 (1.8) | | 5 (2.2) |
| Number of prior anti-TNF agents, mean (SD) | | 1.57 (0.68) | | 1.49 (0.68) |
| One, n (%) | | 487 (48.3) | | 127 (54.7) |
| Two, n (%) | | 410 (40.6) | | 81 (34.9) |
| Three, n (%) | | 94 (9.3) | | 19 (8.2) |
| **Tender joint count, mean (SD)** | 970 | 11.45 (7.35) | 227 | 10.37 (6.28) |
| **Swollen joint count, mean (SD)** | 979 | 7.83 (5.83) | 227 | 7.11 (5.15) |

| | n | Patients who had previously received ≥1 biologic agent (n=1009) | n | Patients with 24-month follow-up (n=232) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Patient Global Assessment (VAS 100 mm), mean (SD)** | 928 | 66.40 (20.07) | 222 | 67.05 (18.71) |
| **Physician Global Assessment (VAS 100 mm), mean (SD)** | 871 | 62.03 (19.31) | 211 | 60.61 (19.27) |
| **Patient Global Assessment of Pain (VAS 100 mm), mean (SD)** | 916 | 65.96 (20.60) | 220 | 65.31 (19.77) |
| **Patients with erosion, n (%)** | 849 | 601 (70.8) | 201 | 160 (79.6) |
| **DAS28 (ESR; calculated), mean (SD)** | 853 | 5.68 (1.22) | 182 | 5.63 (1.10) |
| **DAS28 (CRP; calculated), mean (SD)** | 829 | 5.21 (1.10) | 46 | 5.13 (0.99) |
| **CDAI (calculated), mean (SD)** | 858 | 31.81 (13.10) | 87 | 29.75 (11.04) |
| **SDAI (calculated), mean (SD)** | 774 | 34.01 (13.87) | 88 | 31.97 (11.40) |
| **HAQ-DI, mean (SD)** | 906 | 1.56 (0.67) | 219 | 1.55 (0.63) |
| **CRP mg/L, mean (SD)** | 872 | 24.23 (40.12) | 212 | 22.48 (38.10) |
| **ESR mm/hour, mean (SD)** | 903 | 35.61 (24.61) | 218 | 35.67 (22.28) |
| **Rheumatoid factor positive, n (%)** | 812 | 562 (69.2) | 196 | 153 (78.1) |
| **Anti-CCP positive, n (%)** | 725 | 472 (65.1) | 180 | 129 (71.7) |
| **Glucocorticoid dose at abatacept initiation, mg/day, median (range)** | 692 | 7.5 (1.0–250.0) | 217 | 6.0 (2.0–30.0) |

CCP, cyclic citrullinated peptide; CDAI, Clinical Disease Activity Index; CRP, C-reactive protein; DAS28, 28-joint Disease Activity Score; ESR, erythrocyte sedimentation rate; HAQ-DI, Health Assessment Questionnaire-Disability Index; SD, standard deviation; SDAI, Simplified Disease Activity Index; TNF, tumour necrosis factor α; VAS, visual analogue scale

**Supplementary online figure.** The proportion of patients on glucocorticoid dose ≤5 mg/day, >5 to ≤7.5 mg/day, >7.5 to ≤10 mg/day or >10 mg/day in combination with abatacept at initiation of abatacept treatment (analysis population and among 24-month completers only) and after 24 months of treatment