

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary Table S1: Baseline characteristics of study participants

Baseline characteristics	Total group	Arthritis	No arthritis	p-value ^a
	(N=263)	(N=69)	(N=194)	
Age, mean (SD)	50 (12)	49 (11)	51 (12)	0.582
Gender, male, n (%)	62 (24)	19 (28)	43 (22)	0.317
Tender joint count at physical examination, median (IQR)	0 (0-2)	0 (0-4)	0 (0-2)	0.143
Visual analogue scale pain	30 (10-55)	40 (15-57)	30 (7-50)	0.465
Morning stiffness ≥ 1 hour, n (%)	41 (16)	16 (23)	25 (13)	0.022
Smoking, yes, n (%)	77 (29)	26 (38)	51 (26)	0.025
Alcohol use, yes, n (%)	173 (66)	39 (57)	134 (69)	0.113
Caucasian, yes ^b , n (%)	171 (65)	41 (59)	130 (67)	0.436
	(out of N=230)	(out of N=58)	(out of N=172)	
RA in family history, yes, n (%)	89 (34)	29 (42)	60 (31)	0.169
Duration of symptoms before inclusion, months, median (IQR)	15 (9-36)	12 (6-36)	15 (9-36)	0.920
Symptoms in upper and lower extremities before inclusion, yes, n (%)	122 (46)	37 (54)	85 (44)	0.203
Intermittent joint symptoms in the past, yes, n (%)	80 (30)	35 (51)	45 (23)	<0.001
Number of ACPA and RF, median (range)	4 (2-8)	4 (2-8)	3 (2-5)	<0.001
Measurements ^b				
ACPA positive, n (%)	166 (63)	64 (93)	102 (53)	<0.001
RF positive, n (%)	159 (60)	37 (54)	122 (63)	0.283
ACPA and RF positive, n (%)	62 (24)	32 (46)	30 (16)	<0.001
ACPA levels in total group, median (IQR)	9 (0-50)	29 (12-103)	6 (0-27)	0.003
RF levels in total group, median (IQR)	40 (11-80)	30 (10-70)	43 (11-81)	0.529
ACPA levels amongst ACPA positives, median (IQR)	28 (5-1000)	31 (7-1000)	22 (5-615)	0.441
RF levels amongst RF positives, median (IQR)	70 (30-1192)	68 (30-881)	71 (30-1192)	0.666

^aAll p-values obtained from Cox proportional hazard analyses. ^bIn this variable (merely informative, not used in the models) 33 missing values occurred, all other covariates were completely measured.