Supplementary file

Table I. Demographic, clinical and laboratory features of RA patients and HCs.

	RA n–71	HCs n–60	*p*-value
Age, yrs	56 (17)	46 (15)	0.0001
Female sex, n (%)	37 (61.7)	59 (83.1)	0.01
HAQ (0.3)	1 (1.37)	-	-
DAS-28	3.32 (2.32)		
CRP, mg/dL	0.5 (1)		
ESR, mm/h	18 (28)		
Steroids use, n (%)	31 (43,7)		
DMARDs, n (%)	43 (60.6)		
Anti-TNF, n (%)	22 (31)		
Tocilizumab, n (%)	12 (16.9)		

Non normally distributed data are expressed as median (IQR). HAQ: Health Assessment Questionnaire; DAS-28: Disease Activity Score-28; CRP: C-reactive protein; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; DMARDs: disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs; anti-TNF: anti-tumour necrosis factor alpha.

Table II. Relationship between positivity to antibodies against $IRF5_{424-434}$, $BOLF1_{305-320}$ and MAP_4027_{18-32} peptides and systemic inflammation in RA.

	High ESR	Low ESR	OR (95% CI)	High CRP	Low CRP	OR (95% CI)
IRF5 positivity, n (%)	27 (84.4)	21 (58.3)	3.857 (1.207-12.325)*	24 (75)	22 (62)	NS
BOLF1 positivity, n (%)	23 (71.9)	16 (44.4)	3.194 (1.160-8,796)*	21 (65.6)	17 (48.6)	NS
MAP_4027 positivity, n (%)	7 (21.9)	5 (13.9)	NS	8 (25)	4 (11.4)	NS

A multivariate logistic analysis with backward logistic regression method has been performed to evaluate relationship between Abs positivity and systemic inflammation; odds ratio (OR) is based on the risk of the dependent variable (high ESR and high CRP), given the presence of the independent variable (Abs positivity to $IRF5_{424-434}$, $BOLF1_{305-320}$ and MAP_4027_{18-32}). 95% CI, 95% confidence interval. *p<0.05; NS= not significant.

Table III. Linear regression analysis of $IRF5_{424-434}$, $BOLF1_{305-320}$ and MAP_4027_{18-32} predictors in RA.

	Univariate linear regression B coefficient (95% CI)	Multivariate linear regression B coefficient (95% CI)	R^2	R^2c
BOLF1 AU/ml				
ESR, mm/h	0.003 (0.000-0.005)*	Not selected		
CRP, mg/dL	0.062 (0.01-0.122)*	0.065 (0.004-0.126)*	0.07	0.05
IRF5 AU/ml				
ESR, mm/h	0.002 (0.000-0.005)*	Not selected		
CRP, mg/dL	0.085 (0.036-0.134)‡	0.087 (0.038-0.136)‡	0.16	0.15
MAP 4027 AU/ml				
ESR, mm/h	NS			
CRP, mg/dL	0.064 (0.014-1.114)*			

Univariate regression analysis was performed including indipendent variables showing significant association (*p*<0.05) with the dependent variable (BOLF1 AU/ml, IRF5 AU/ml or MAP_4027 AU/ml) at the bivariate correlation analysis. A linear regression for multiple variables (stepwise method) was performed by including into the models variables that show a significant association (*p*<0.05) with the dependent variable (BOLF1 AU/ml, IRF5 AU/ml or MAP_4027 AU/ml) at the univariate regression analysis. *p<0.05; ‡<0.01; NS= not significant.