

**Supplementary file**

**Suppl. Table S1.** Demographic, laboratory features and ECG parameters of controls and RA patients in the sample with electrolytes.

|                            | Controls<br>n=236 | RA<br>n=154 | <i>p</i> -value |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Age, years                 | 60.4 ± 9.3        | 60.7 ± 9.7  | 0.77            |
| Female, n(%)               | 157 (66.5)        | 124 (80.5)  | 0.003           |
| Hypertension, n(%)         | 77 (32.6)         | 62 (40.3)   | 0.12            |
| Dyslipidemia, n(%)         | 65 (27.5)         | 40 (26)     | 0.73            |
| Diabetes, n(%)             | 18 (7.6)          | 9 (5.8)     | 0.49            |
| Current smoker, n(%)       | 40 (16.9)         | 34 (22.1)   | 0.20            |
| Serum potassium, mEq/L     | 4.3 ± 0.5         | 4.2 ± 0.4   | 0.03            |
| Serum calcium, mg/dl       | 9.2 ± 0.5         | 9.2 ± 0.4   | 0.98            |
| Hypokalaemia, n(%)*        | 12 (5.1)          | 10 (6.5)    | 0.55            |
| Hypocalcaemia, n(%)*       | 33 (14)           | 19 (12.8)   | 0.71            |
| Heart rate, bpm            | 75 ± 12           | 70 ± 10     | <0.001          |
| QTc, msec                  | 408 ± 29          | 418 ± 30    | <0.001          |
| Prolonged QTc, n(%)        | 17 (7.2)          | 15 (9.7)    | 0.37            |
| Marked QTc prolongation, % | 5 (2.1)           | 6 (3.9)     | 0.30            |
| QTd, msec                  | 38.1 ± 15.8       | 47.9 ± 24.9 | <0.001          |
| Prolonged QTd, %           | 51 (21.6)         | 63 (40.9)   | <0.001          |

Values are mean ± SD.

bpm, beat per minute; Marked QTc prolongation, QTc ≥500 msec; msec, milliseconds; Prolonged QTc, QTc ≥450 msec in males and ≥460 msec in females; Prolonged QTd, QTd ≥60 msec.

**Suppl. Table S2.** Rheumatoid arthritis specific risk factors for prolonged QTd interval.

| Risk factor      | OR (95%CI)       | <i>p</i> -value |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| DAS-28           | 0.98 (0.86-1.10) | 0.76            |
| HAQ              | 0.89 (0.70-1.14) | 0.38            |
| ACPA             | 1.00 (0.69-1.45) | 0.98            |
| RF               | 0.87 (0.60-1.27) | 0.49            |
| CRP              | 0.99 (0.96-1.02) | 0.78            |
| ESR              | 0.99 (0.98-1.00) | 0.13            |
| Disease duration | 1.00 (0.99-1.00) | 0.33            |
| Steroid use      | 0.96 (0.69-1.35) | 0.83            |
| DMARDs use       | 0.93 (0.63-1.37) | 0.73            |
| TNFi use         | 1.04 (0.71-1.50) | 0.83            |
| Tocilizumab use  | 0.62 (0.31-1.26) | 0.19            |

Odds ratio (OR) is based on the risk of the dependent variable (prolonged QTd), given the presence of the independent variable. 95%CI: 95% confidence interval; DAS-28: Disease Activity Score 28-joints; HAQ: Health Assessment Questionnaire; ACPA: anti citrullinated peptide antibodies positivity; RF: rheumatoid factor; CRP: C-reactive protein; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; DMARDs: disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs; TNFi: tumour necrosis factor alpha inhibitors.