

Supplementary Table S1. Characterisation of the study participants.

| Characteristic | Discovery | | Validation | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| | SS | con | SS | con |
| Age (year) | 53.0 ± 12.9 | 50.4 ± 12.3 | 52.9 ± 12.5 | 50.23 ± 10.9 |
| Male | 8 | 11 | 12 | 12 |
| Female | 80 | 106 | 117 | 119 |
| Anti SS-A/Ro antibody positivity | 56/88 | – | 81/129 | – |
| Anti SS-B/La antibody positivity | 15/88 | – | 26/129 | – |
| ANA positivity | 64/88 | – | 66/129 | – |
| Ro-52 positivity | 46/88 | – | 64/129 | – |
| RF positivity | 48/88 | – | 80/129 | – |
| ESR > 20 mm/H | 50/88 | – | 55/129 | – |
| CRP (mg/L) > 8 (mg/L) | 10/88 | – | 14/129 | – |
| IgG (g/L) < 7.5 or > 15.6 | 66/88 | – | 98/129 | – |
| IgA (g/L) < 0.82 or > 4.53 | 37/88 | – | 46/129 | – |
| IgM (g/L) < 0.46 or > 3.04 | 24/88 | – | 34/129 | – |

Results are expressed as the means ± standard deviation.

RF: rheumatoid factor; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; CRP: C-reactive protein; IgG: immunoglobulin G; IgA: immunoglobulin A; IgM: immunoglobulin M.