

Supplementary Data

This appendix has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

Supplemental Table S1. Characteristics of study population at the time of diagnosis according to therapeutic outcome at the end of follow-up.

Population*	No treatment withdrawal or experienced relapse n=100	Treatment withdrawal and no further relapse n=103	p-value
Sex			0.80
Men	23 (23%)	28 (28%)	
Women	77 (77%)	82 (72%)	
Age, years, median [IQR]	74 [67-79]	73 [68-80]	0.48
Medical history			
Dyslipidemia	29 (29%)	26 (25%)	0.67
Cardiovascular event	11 (11%)	13 (13%)	0.95
Hypertension	43 (43%)	46 (45%)	0.92
Diabetes	15 (15%)	5 (5%)	0.03
Smoking	19 (19%)	20 (19%)	1
Osteoporosis	11 (11%)	12 (12%)	1
Clinical symptoms			
Asthenia/fever	66 (66%)	76 (74%)	0.29
Headache	66 (66%)	86 (83%)	<0.01
Ocular symptoms	15 (15%)	20 (19%)	0.52
Joint pain	42 (42%)	40 (39%)	0.34
Biology, median [IQR]			
ESR, mm	81 [55-104] ^a	77 [56-95] ^b	0.54
CRP level, mg/l	64 [30-100] ^c	69 [38-127] ^d	0.22
Positive temporal artery biopsy	66 (66%)	62 (60%)	0.48
Aortitis	41 (41%)	33 (32%)	0.18

IQR: interquartile range; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; CRP: c-reactive protein.

*Data available for 203 patients. ^aData available for 54 patients; ^bData available for 66 patients; ^cData available for 94 patients; ^ddata available for 98 patients.

Supplemental Table 2. Subgroup analysis of patients by number of side effects (SEs) (<2 or ≥ 2).

	<2 SEs n=154	≥2 SEs n=49	OR (95% CI)
Age, years			
50 – 64 years	34 (22%)	5 (12%)	reference
65 - 74 years	54 (35%)	13 (28%)	1.64 [0.54; 5.01]
≥ 75 years	66 (43%)	31 (60%)	3.19 [1.41; 8.95]
Sex			
men	41 (27%)	10 (20%)	0.71 [0.33; 1.55]
women	113 (73%)	39 (80%)	1.42 [0.65; 3.10]
Treatment length (n=203 patients)			
<2 years	85 (57%)	13 (27%)	0.31 [0.15; 0.64]
≥2 years	63 (43%)	31 (73%)	3.22 [1.56; 6.65]
CRP level (n=191 patients)			
<50 mg/l	54 (38%)	18 (38%)	1.03 [0.52; 2.03]
≥50 mg/l	90 (62%)	29 (62%)	0.97 [0.49; 1.91]
Aortitis detected			
Yes	58 (38%)	16 (33%)	0.80 [0.41; 1.58]
No or undetermined	96 (72%)	33 (67%)	1.25 [0.63; 2.47]
Temporal artery biopsy			
Positive	102 (66%)	30 (61%)	0.80 [0.41; 1.56]
Negative or not done	52 (34%)	19 (39%)	1.24 [0.64; 2.41]

OR: odds ratio; CI: confidence interval.