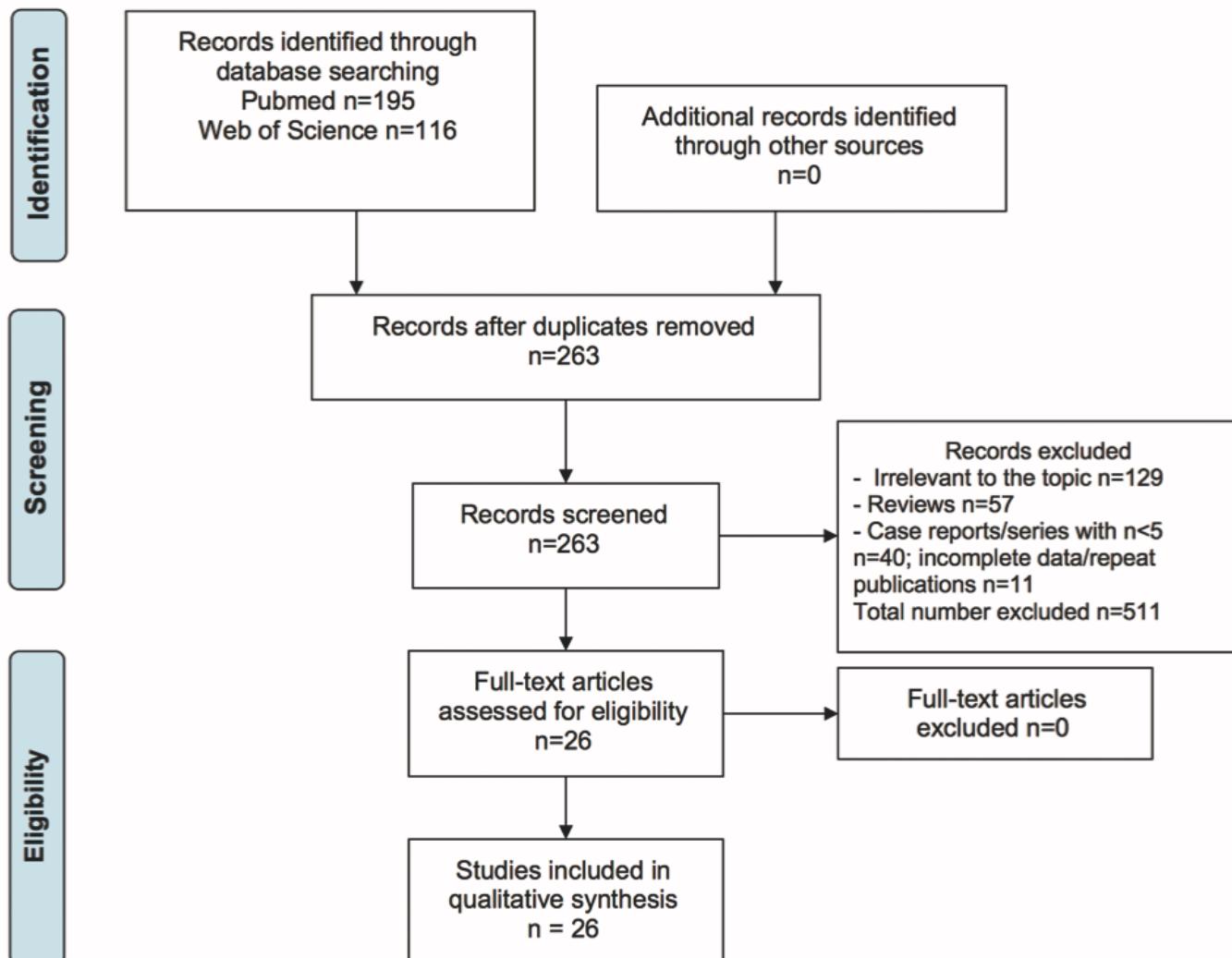




## PRISMA 2009 Flow Diagram – anti-HMGCR-associated immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy



From: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(6): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1000097

For more information, visit [www.prisma-statement.org](http://www.prisma-statement.org).

Supplementary Fig. S1. PRISMA flow chart of literature search.

Supplementary file S2. Search strategy for the literature review and data extraction.

Query Pubmed/MEDLINE  
(SINAM OR Statin-induced myopathy AND/OR HMG-Coa myopathy AND/OR HMGCR myopathy AND/OR necrotizing myositis AND/OR immune mediated necrotizing myopathy AND/OR autoimmune mediated necrotizing myopathy AND/OR (statin AND myositis)) AND ((humans[Filter]) AND (english[Filter] OR german[Filter]))

Query Web of Science  
TS=(HMGCR AND myopathy)

Refined by: DOCUMENT TYPES: (ARTICLE OR MEETING ABSTRACT OR EARLY ACCESS OR LETTER) AND LANGUAGES: (ENGLISH)  
Timespan: All years.  
Indexes: SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI.

**Supplementary Table S1.** Literature review of reports of anti-HMGCR antibody associated necrotising myositis.  
For incomplete datasets, characteristics are indicated in relation to the available number of the criterion (e.g., 5/20 = 5 out of 20).

| First author | Year | N  | Type        | Statin exposure                     | Age (years)   | Sex          | CK levels (U/L)   | Clinical features   | Histology  | Therapeutic regimen   | Outcome/additional insights  | Ref  |
|--------------|------|----|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|---|---|--|---|--|------|
| Mammen       | 2011 | 45 | MC RA of BS | 30 (66%)<br>(24/26 >50 ys)          | Non-statin<br>37 ± 17 vs.<br>statin 59 ± 9            | n.a.         | Non-statin<br>13392 ± 8839<br>vs. statin<br>7881 ± 5875 | Prox. weakness<br>95.6%<br>MUP in EMG<br>97.3%  | 40/40 NM;<br>8 inflammatory<br>infiltrates,<br>1 rimmed vacuoles   | n.a.  | Race: Non-statin<br>46.7%<br>vs. statin 86.7%<br>white   | (1)  |
| Werner       | 2012 | 55 | RA          | 40                                  | 24 - 72   | 35 f 20 m    | 3675 ± 3649<br>(51)                                     | Symmetrical<br>prox. weakness<br>(52)   | 53/55; NM (38);<br>endomysial/<br>perivascular<br>inflammation,<br>necrosis (10),<br>necrosis w/<br>vacuoles (2);<br>mild myofiber<br>necrosis (2);<br>normal (1)  | GC<br>Heterogenous:<br>AZA, MMF, MTX,<br>IVIG, tacrolimus   | <b>Overall greater<br/>benefit for statin-<br/>exposed patients</b><br>Arm abduction<br>strength ↑<br>Hip flexion<br>strength ↑<br>CK ↓<br>anti-HMGCR<br>level ↓   | (2)  |
| Drouot       | 2014 | 37 | MC RA of BS | 15 (40%)                            | 44 ± 19   | 25 f 12 m    | 6974 ± 4970   | Unspecified<br>muscle<br>weakness 92%   | 37/37 NM,<br>10 w/ perivascular<br>inflammatory<br>infiltrates   | n.a.  | n.a.   | (3)  |
| Allenbach    | 2014 | 45 | MC RA of BS | 20 (44.4%)<br>10 Atorva<br>4 Rosuva | Non-statin<br>36.6 ± 21.7<br>vs. statin<br>64.4 ± 6.8 | 33 f 22 m    | 6941 ± 8802   | Prox. weakness<br>97.7%,<br>myalgia 53.3%,<br>dysphagia<br>26.7%, atrophy<br>22.2%, weight<br>loss 20%,<br>arthralgia<br>11.1%, RP 11.1%                      | 42/43 NM   | 39 received therapy:<br>GC (37), MTX (20),<br>AZA (10), MMF (6),<br>CsA (2), CYC (2),<br>IVIG (17), RTX (9),<br>PLEX (2).<br>Treatment<br>34.1 ± 40.8 months  | 3 African, 1 Asian<br>5 patients with<br>cancer after Dx<br>of NM<br>(2 months – 19y)<br>1 patient died due<br>to aspiration<br>pneumonia<br>No information on<br>overall outcome  | (4)  |
| Limaye       | 2015 | 19 | MC RA of BS | 16/17<br>(2 n.a.)                   | Mean 70<br>(55 – 89)                                  | 8 f<br>11 m  | n.a.  | Prox. weakness<br>n.a., diabetes<br>mellitus (8),<br>AHT (11),<br>malignancy (5),<br>ischemic heart<br>disease (3)  | PM (8), IBM (6),<br>idiopathic (2),<br>NM (2), DM (1),<br>other (1)  | n.a.  | <b>DR11+ and<br/>statin-use<br/>association (9/10<br/>anti-HMGCR<br/>antibody positive)</b>  | (5)  |
| Klein        | 2015 | 15 | RA          | 15                                  | 55 – 67 (11)  | 7 f<br>4 m   | 24 - 211<br>μkat/l (11);<br>6960 U/L                    | Decreased<br>MMT-8 (11/11;<br>62.5 - 91.3%),<br>myalgia (4/11)  | NM (11), PM (4)  | n.a.  | Most patient<br>characteristics<br>available for NM<br>(11 patients)   | (6)  |
| Ge           | 2015 | 22 | RA          | 3                                   | 41.1 ± 14.4   | 16 f<br>6 m  | 2539 ± 3048<br>(18/21)                                  | 6/20 Subacute<br>onset (<12m),<br>14/20<br>progressive<br>onset (>12m),<br>myalgia (14/20),<br>Dysphagia (10/20)<br>Anti-Jo-1 and<br>ILD in 3/22              | 12/22; NM (8),<br>significant<br>inflammation +<br>necrotic<br>myofibers (2),<br>inflammatory<br>cell infiltration<br>(2)  | 11/22 available:<br>GC (63.1 mg qd)<br>and/or other<br>immunosuppressants   | RA of 405 Chinese<br>IIM patients<br>70% progressive<br>onset >12m<br><b>No correlation<br/>between antibody<br/>level and disease<br/>activity</b><br>Strength<br>improvement,<br>CK ↓, Follow-up<br>median 9m<br>(2.5 – 24m) | (7)  |
| Watanabe     | 2016 | 8  | RA of BS    | 3/8<br>Atorvastatin                 | Mean 66<br>(49-79)                                    | 3 f<br>5 m   | 7738<br>(3028 – 10452)                                  | Symmetrical<br>prox. weakness<br>(≥II/V)<br>MUP in EMG (7)  | NM   | Immunotherapy (7)<br>+ IVIG (4)   | Improvement and<br>no relapse after<br>2 ys., CK ↓ (7)   | (8)  |
| Ashton       | 2016 | 14 | SC RA       | 12                                  | Statin 65<br>(53-78);<br>non-statin 44<br>(37-51)     | 8 f<br>6 m   | 7189<br>(1000 - 17000)                                  | Symmetrical<br>prox. weakness<br>(≥II/V, hip<br>flexion MRC<br>non-statin 3-;<br>statin 4-),<br>myalgia (4),<br>dysphagia (5)                                 | 13/14; NM (13),<br>mild perivascular<br>inflammatory cell<br>infiltrates (3),<br>mild endomysial<br>inflammation (4),<br>MHC-I pos. (10),<br>MAC pos. (2)  | GC (13), MTX (10),<br>IVIG (5), RTX (5),<br>AZA (5), MMF (1)  | Average therapy<br>7m in non-statin,<br>32m in statin-users<br>Complete<br>remission (4),<br>ongoing<br>immunotherapy (9),<br>ongoing<br>symptoms (5)  | (9)  |
| Kadoya       | 2016 | 33 | SC RA       | 7 (21%)                             | Statin 71 ± 8;<br>non-statin<br>56 ± 16               | 23 f<br>10 m | 9761 ± 8131   | Severe muscle<br>weakness MRC<br>≤III (25),<br>myalgia (14),<br>dysphagia (8),<br>skin rash (5),<br>arthralgia (2),<br>ILD (1);<br>asymptomatic<br>CKemia (4) | 32/33; NM (21),<br>NSM (9), DM (2);<br>moderate/severe<br>necrosis/<br>regeneration (31),<br>absent/mild<br>inflammation (23),<br>moderate/severe<br>inflammation (8),<br>MHC-I pos. (16),<br>C5b-9 deposition<br>on sarcolemma (23) | Non-cancer<br>(10/18); CS (10),<br>IVIG (4), MTX (7),<br>AZA (3), TAC (2),<br>CYC (1)<br>Cancer prior<br>myopathy (3);<br>CS (3), IVIG (3),<br>MTX (1)<br>Cancer+ (12);<br>GC (12), IVIG (5),<br>MTX (1), CYC (2) | <b>Cancer<br/>association and<br/>poor prognosis:</b><br>12/33 patients<br>with cancer,<br>detection within<br>1.3 ys. of myopathy<br>diagnosis.<br>Mortality rate<br>9/12 during max.<br>3ys follow-up                        | (10) |

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| First author      | Year | N   | Type      | Statin exposure   | Age (years)            | Sex          | CK levels (U/L)  | Clinical features   | Histology   | Therapeutic regimen   | Outcome/additional insights   | Ref  |
|-------------------|------|-----|-----------|---|------------------------|--------------|--|---|---|---|---|------|
| Kennedy           | 2016 | 9   | MC RA, CR | 7<br>4 Atorva<br>5 Simva<br>(1.5 – 12ys)                        | Mean 67.8<br>(56 - 81) | 4 f<br>5 m   | 10500<br>(4200 – 21800)  | Weakness prox.<br>limbs (6/9),<br>prox. legs (3/9)<br>MUP in<br>EMG (4/4)<br>Dysphagia (1)  | 8/8 NM  | GC (9), MTX (3),<br>IVIG (1), AZA (1),<br>CYC (1)   | Est. incidence in<br>New Zealand<br>1.7/million/year<br>and 1/90.000<br>statin-users<br>Outcome n.a.  | (11) |
| Alvarado-Cardenas | 2016 | 23  | RA        | 14/17<br>10 Simva<br>4 Atorva                                   | 63 ±18                 | 7 f<br>7 m   | 6391<br>(Q1-Q3<br>6428–9596)                                       | Prox. weakness<br>(14/14), myalgia<br>(7/14)  | 15/17 NM,<br>1 PM, 1 DM   | 14/17: 14 GC,<br>8 IVIG, 8 AZA,<br>4 MTX, 1 MMF   | Clinical data<br>available for<br>statin-users (14):<br>12/14 complete<br>response, 2 partial<br>response   | (12) |
| Liang             | 2016 | 9   | RA        | 0   | 10m – 13ys             | 5 f<br>4 m   | Mean 6617<br>(918 – 10891)   | 4 subacute<br>(<6m),<br>5 chronic onsets<br>Prox. weakness (8),<br>fatigue + skin<br>rash (2),<br>myalgia (2)   | 9 NM  | GC (9), MTX (5),<br>IVIG (5), MMF (2),<br>CsA (1), AZA (1),<br>CYC (1)                      | Paediatric cohort,<br>initial diagnosis<br>IM (4), muscular<br>I dystrophy (5).<br>Strength<br>improvement and<br>CK ↓ (8 of whom<br>4 GC monotherapy),<br>Persisting<br>weakness and<br>CK- elevation (1)                            | (13) |
| Shovman           | 2017 | 12  | RA        | 12  | n.a.                   | n.a.         | 2700 - 12200   | Prox. weakness<br>(12)<br>MUP in EMG  | 12 NM   | n.a.  | Comparison of<br>ELISA and CIA<br>for the detection<br>of anti-HMGCR<br>antibodies  | (14) |
| Kishi             | 2017 | 5   | MC RA     | 0   | 8.1 (7 – 12)           | 3 f<br>2 m   | 435 - 30300  | Severe prox.<br>and distal<br>weakness (5),<br>falling episodes (5),<br>muscle atrophy (5),<br>Myalgia (2),<br>arthralgia (5),<br>contractures (5),<br>skin rash (3),<br>arthritis (2),<br>dysphagia (3),<br>weight loss (4),<br>fever (2),<br>adenopathy (2) | 2/5 (patients<br>without DM-rash);<br>NM (2),<br>MHC-I pos. (2) | GC (5), MTX (5),<br>IVIG (4),<br>CYC/AZA/MMF/<br>CsA (3),<br>RTX/ABA/<br>TNF (2)            | <b>Paediatric cohort:</b><br>DRB1*07:01 in<br>juvenile anti-<br>HMGCR-<br>myopathy (5/5).<br>Partial response:<br>chronic (4),<br>polycyclic (1)<br>course;<br>mild/moderate<br>weakness (3),<br>CK↑ (2),<br>wheelchair use<br>(2/5)  | (15) |
| Tiniakou          | 2017 | 104 | SC RA     | 80  | 55<br>(52.4 – 57.6)    | 63 f<br>44 m | Mean 4146<br>in black<br>patients,<br>2161 in<br>white<br>patients | Prox. weakness<br>(100/104),<br>27% dysphagia<br>(28/104), 6%<br>cancer-associated<br>myositis (6/104),<br>5% skin<br>involvement,<br>4% ILD  | 77% NM  | 74% GC, 50%<br>MTX, 39% IVIG,<br>23% AZA, 18%<br>MMF, 15% RTX                               | <b>Younger patients<br/>with more severe<br/>weakness, higher<br/>CK. Better<br/>strength<br/>improvement in<br/>older patients.</b><br>65% normal<br>strength within<br>4ys, one third<br>refractory disease<br>>2ys                 | (16) |
| Troyanov          | 2017 | 12  | MC RA     | 12 Atorva<br>20 mg (6)<br>40 mg (5)<br>80 mg (1)<br>Mean 38.8 m | 66 (43 - 81)           | 6 f<br>6 m   | Mean<br>7661   | Prox. weakness<br>onset <12m (9),<br>myalgia (8),<br>dysphagia (3),<br>myopathic<br>EMG (9)   | 12 NM   | 12/12; GC (11),<br>Long-term GC (2),<br>MTX (10),<br>IVIG (8), AZA (2),<br>MMF (2) ABA (1)  | Evaluation of<br><b>Atorva+,<br/>anti-HMGCR+<br/>myositis.</b><br>Exclusion of DM,<br>CTD, overlap abs<br>and non-responder.<br>Follow-up >3ys:<br>Tapering of GC<br>and normal/near-<br>normal strength (8),<br>absence of dysphagia | (17) |
| Jiao              | 2018 | 21  | SC<br>RA  | 0   | (6 – 67)               | 14 f<br>7 m  | 7968.6±4408.7  | Prox. weakness<br>(20), neck flexion<br>weakness (19),<br>MRC <III (12),<br>myalgia (10),<br>muscle atrophy<br>(9), skin rash (8),<br>dysphagia (4),<br>weight loss (4);<br>Myopathic<br>EMG (18/18)  | 21 NM, 15 with<br>lymphocytic<br>infiltration                   | GC (20), IVIG (3),<br>MTX (6), AZA (7),<br>CYC (3) TAC (2),<br>HCQ (2), RTX (2),<br>LEF (1) | Analysis of<br>statin-naïve<br>patients. Higher<br>CK, poorer response<br>to treatment, more<br>recurrent weakness<br>in <50 years-old  | (18) |

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| First author | Year | N  | Type  | Statin exposure | Age (years)                                    | Sex                    | CK levels (U/L)  | Clinical features   | Histology  | Therapeutic regimen   | Outcome/additional insights  | Ref  |
|--------------|------|----|-------|-----------------|--|------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|------|
| Huang        | 2018 | 12 | SC RA | 0               | 43.1 (±13.9)                                   | 6 f<br>6 m             | 6617.2 (±8407.2)                                       | Prox. weakness (8), myalgia (5), dysphagia (3), arthralgia, ILD (5: 4 MDA5, 1 JO-1)                               | 6; NM (5), sole enlarged capillaries (1)   | GC + immuno-suppressants  | No statin-exposure detected in this Chinese cohort; Anti-MDA5-positivity and ILD (4). Good response to GC + immunosuppressant (10). 1 cancer, 2 died.  | (19) |
| Waters       | 2018 | 17 | SC RA | 8               | 65 (46-79)                                     | 10 f<br>7 m<br>Truncal | 6344 (807-11815)                                       | Prox. weakness (15/16)<br>RTX (2)<br>weakness (9/16), mean MMT-8 68 (52-80)                                       | 8 NM   | GC+IVIG+MTX and/or AZA (8),   | Report of truncal weakness.<br>Strength ↑, CK ↓ but worse functional assessment Karnofsky Performance Status   | (20) |
| Mohassel     | 2019 | 6  | SC RA | 0               | 33 (12-48)                                     | 3 f<br>3 m             | 9500 (1200 – 23000)                                    | Prox. weakness (6), Impaired walking (2) or to standing up from the ground (2), wheelchair use (1), dysphagia (1) | 6;<br>Necrosis/<br>regeneration (n.a.), atrophy, fiber size variability, and increased internalized nuclei (n.a.). MHC-I-pos. (6)                                  | IVIG (6),<br>GC pulses (1)  | Anti-HMGCR myopathy mimics limb-girdle dystrophy.<br>Strength ↑, CK ↓ (6). Walking instead of wheelchair-use (1)   | (21) |
| Lim          | 2019 | 17 | MC RA | 11              | Statin 63 (54–74)<br>Non-statin 57xULN (52–65) | 7 f<br>4 m             | Statin 64 x ULN (6–114)<br>Non-statin 90 x ULN (4–176) | Prox. weakness (17), dysphagia (6)  | n.a.   | GC mono (3)<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> line (MTX/AZA and/or MMF): 10<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> line (RTX/IVIG and/or CYC): 4   | Normal strength (5), slight to moderate disability (9), severe disability (2 statin-naïve), 1 cancer   | (22) |
| Liang        | 2019 | 5  | SC RA | 1               | (4.5 – 69)                                     | 5 f                    | Mean 3502 (1430 – 6175)                                | Acute onset and rapid progressive weakness (3)<br>weakness (5): Gowers' sign (4), bedridden (1)                   | 4; NM + MHC-I-pos. and MAC depositions (4)   | GC (5),<br>MTX/RTX (2),<br>MTX/IVIG (1),<br>MTX (1), AZA (1),<br>HCQ (1), PLEX (1)  | 3 paediatric patients with slight to moderate disability.<br>Normalization of strength and CK (1), impaired strength (1)   | (23) |
| Aggarwal     | 2020 | 23 | SC RA | 18              | 72 (23 – 83)                                   | 14 f<br>9 m            | 8515 ±3303   | Weakness (17), myalgia/cramps (4)   | 23 NM  | GC (23), MTX (20), IVIG (5), MMF (5), AZA (5), TAC (4), RTX (2), CYC(1), LEF (1)  | Normalization of strength and CK (14), partial improvement of CK or strength (7)   | (24) |
| Meyer        | 2020 | 55 | MC RA | 55<br>46 Atorva | 67.7 (44–86.1)                                 | 25 f<br>30 m           | 5000 (554–23000)                                       | Prox. weakness (46), Myalgia (21), dysphagia (16). 0 malignancy   | 54/55; necrosis/regeneration (49), isolated sarcolemmal/capillary MAC deposition (4), normal (1). MHC-I pos. (26/51), Sarcolemmal/capillary MAC deposition (38/42) | GC free (14):<br>MTX (14) + AZA (3) + GC (4):<br>GC/SSI (19)<br>GC/SSI/IVIG (22);<br>MTX (25), AZA (3), MMF (7), ABA (1), MTX/AZA (2), MTX/MMF (2), MMF/ABA (1) | GC-free maintenance in >50% of statin-induced HMGCR myopathy after GC/IVIG/SSI or IVIG/SSI induction<br>Normal strength after GC-based treatment 28/41<br>Normal strength after GC-free treatment in 13/14. Better Outcome in early treatment. | (25) |
| Treppo       | 2020 | 16 | MC RA | 13<br>12 Atorva | 72.4 ±10.3                                     | 7 f<br>9 m             | 5691 (359-13171)                                       | Prox. weakness (15), myalgia (10), dysphagia (7), myopathic EMG (14/14)   | 10/16; NM (9), inflammatory cell infiltrates (1)   | GC/MTX/IVIG (11),<br>GC/IVIG (2)<br>GC mono (2), no therapy (1)   | Remission in all patients after 24 months  | (26) |

CK: creatine kinase; CR: case report; CS: case series; IVIG: intravenous immunoglobulins; MC: multi-centre; MMT-8: eight muscle manual muscle-test; MTX: methotrexate; MMF: mycophenolate mofetil; MUP: myopathic motor unit potentials; n.a.: not available; NM: necrotising myopathy; NSM: non-specific myositis; RA: retrospective analysis; y(s): year(s); SC: single-centre.

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