

**Supplementary Table.** Characteristics of the whole population with PMR (n=123).

|   |                |  |
|---|----------------|--|
| Baseline characteristics  |                |  |
| Age (years), mean $\pm$ SD  | 70.7 $\pm$ 8.8 |  |
| Sex, female   | 82 (67)        |  |
| Symptoms duration (weeks), median [95%CI]                           | 12 [5; 20]     |  |
| Shoulder pain   | 121 (98)       |  |
| Pelvis girdle pain  | 88 (72)        |  |
| Neck pain   | 48 (39)        |  |
| Peripheral involvement  | 58 (47)        |  |
| Constitutional symptoms   | 38 (31)        |  |
| Symptoms suggesting LVV   | 20 (16)        |  |
| CRP (mg/l) at PET/CT analysis, median [IQR]                         | 32 [10; 70]    |  |
| Patients with CST use   | 37 (30)        |  |
| Dosage of CSTs (mg/day), mean $\pm$ SD                              | 16.5 $\pm$ 15  |  |
| FDG-PET/CT characteristics  |                |  |
| Sites with significant FDG uptake (0-16), mean $\pm$ SD             | 9.5 $\pm$ 4.5  |  |
| Total SUVmax score, median [95%CI]                                  | 3.6 [3.1; 4.2] |  |
| Highest SUVmax, median [95%CI]                                      | 4.9 [4.1; 5.8] |  |
| Sites with significant FDG uptake (score $\geq$ 2) at patient level |                |  |
| Acromioclavicular joint   | 45 (47)        |  |
| Sternoclavicular joint  | 80 (65)        |  |
| Shoulders   | 100 (81)       |  |
| Cervical interspinous process                                       | 46 (37)        |  |
| Lumbar interspinous process   | 89 (72)        |  |
| Hips  | 94 (76)        |  |
| Great trochanter  | 90 (73)        |  |
| Symphysis pubis   | 69 (56)        |  |
| Ischial tuberosity  | 100 (81)       |  |
| Hand  | 49/105 (47)    |  |
| LVV   | 17 (14)        |  |
| Grade LVV, median [IQR]   | 3.9 [3.4; 4.5] |  |

Data are n (%) patients unless indicated.

PMR: polymyalgia rheumatica; IQR: interquartile range; SUV: standardised uptake value; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; CRP: C-reactive protein; LVV: large-vessel vasculitis; FDG PET/CT: fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography/computed tomography; SUV: standardised uptake value; CST: corticosteroids.