



**Supplementary Fig. S1.** The percentage of steroid free patients\*

\*All p-values are *versus* baseline

**Supplementary Table S1.** The differences in the number of patients under steroid treatment.

	Baseline-3rd month	Baseline-6th month	Baseline-12t month	Baseline-18th month	Baseline-24th month
p	0.524	0.055	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
	3rd month -6th month	3rd month -12t month	3rd month -18th month	3rd month -24th month	
p	0.255	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	
	6th month -12t month	6th month-18th month	6th month -24th month		
p	0.015	<0.001	<0.001		
	12t month -18th month	12t month -24th month			
p	0.001	0.001			
	18th month-24th month				
p	0.855				