

Supplementary Table S1. Characteristics of study populations with overlapping ages.

	NC	SLE untreated with belimumab	SLE treated with belimumab
Sample size	89	85	27
Age (mean±SD)	32.08±5.21	34.40±5.51	33.37±5.01

Supplementary Table S2. Heterogeneity of peripheral lymphocyte subsets in SLE patients treated/untreated with belimumab with overlapping ages.

	NC (n=89)	SLE untreated with belimumab (n=85)	SLE treated with belimumab (n=27)
CD3 ⁺ T (%)	71.50±6.72	82.19±7.59****	82.12±8.06****
CD3 ⁺ CD4 ⁺ T (%)	36.28±5.96	35.88±6.61	36.20±8.65
CD3 ⁺ CD8 ⁺ T (%)	29.79±5.94	41.88±10.98****	42.22±8.42****
CD3 ⁺ CD4 ⁺ T/ CD3 ⁺ CD8 ⁺ T (%)	1.28±0.42	0.96±0.35****	0.91±0.36****
CD19 ⁺ B	12.10±3.67	12.91±7.35	5.33±2.49 ****, ΔΔΔΔ
CD16 ⁺ CD56 ⁺ NK (%)	15.01±6.65	8.20±5.92****	7.80±6.70****

Compared with NC group, **** $p < 0.0001$ (Kruskal-Wallis test); Compared with NC group, **** $p < 0.0001$ (Kruskal-Wallis test); Compared with SLE un-treated with the belimumab group, ΔΔΔΔ $p < 0.0001$ (Kruskal-Wallis test).