**Supplementary Table S1.** Baseline and follow-up characteristics of MTX dose escalation patients stratified by achievement of 3V-remission.

| | 3V-remission achieved n=63 | 3V-remission not achieved n=130 | *p*-value |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Characteristics at baseline (T-1)** | | | |
| Age at diagnosis (years) | 57 (51-68) | 52 (43-63) | **0.016** |
| Sex (F) | 46/63 (73.0) | 106/130 (81.5) | 0.192 |
| Positive RF | 38/63 (60.3) | 80/130 (61.5) | 0.876 |
| Positive ACPA | 33/63 (52.4) | 75/130 (57.7) | 0.537 |
| ANA ≥1:160 | 9/63 (14.3) | 36/130 (27.7) | **0.046** |
| Joint erosions | 8/63 (12.7) | 33/130 (25.4) | 0.06 |
| MTX weekly dose (mg) | 10 (7.5-10) | 10 (7.5-10) | 0.137 |
| CRP (mg/dl) | 0.9 (0.34-2.7) | 1.5 (0.4-3.9) | 0.096 |
| ESR (mm/h) | 26 (16-49) | 35 (17-51) | 0.197 |
| TJC | 4 (2-12) | 5 (2-11) | 0.443 |
| SJC | 3 (1-10) | 2 (1-10) | 0.693 |
| **Characteristics at the moment of treatment change (T0)** | | | |
| MTX dose | 15 (15-15) | 15 (15-15) | 0.094 |
| CRP (mg/dl) | 0.7 (0.3-1.3) | 1.4 (0.6-3.7) | **<0.001** |
| ESR (mm/h) | 26 (14-37) | 26 (16-41) | 0.581 |
| TJC | 2 (1-10) | 3 (1-10) | 0.499 |
| SJC | 2 (0-5) | 2 (0-5) | 0.595 |
| **Characteristics 6 months after MTX escalation (T1)** | | | |
| CRP (mg/dl) | 0.3 (0.1-0.5) | 1.2 (0.4-3.0) | **<0.001** |
| ESR (mm/h) | 20 (11-29) | 27 (14-43) | **0.003** |
| TJC | 0 (0-0) | 2 (0-4) | **<0.001** |
| SJC | 0 (0-0) | 3 (1-4) | **<0.001** |

Data are shown as median (interquartile range) or number (percentage).
MTX: methotrexate; CRP: C-reactive protein; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; TJC: tender joint count; SJC: swollen joint count; b/tsDMARD: biologic/targeted synthetic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug.