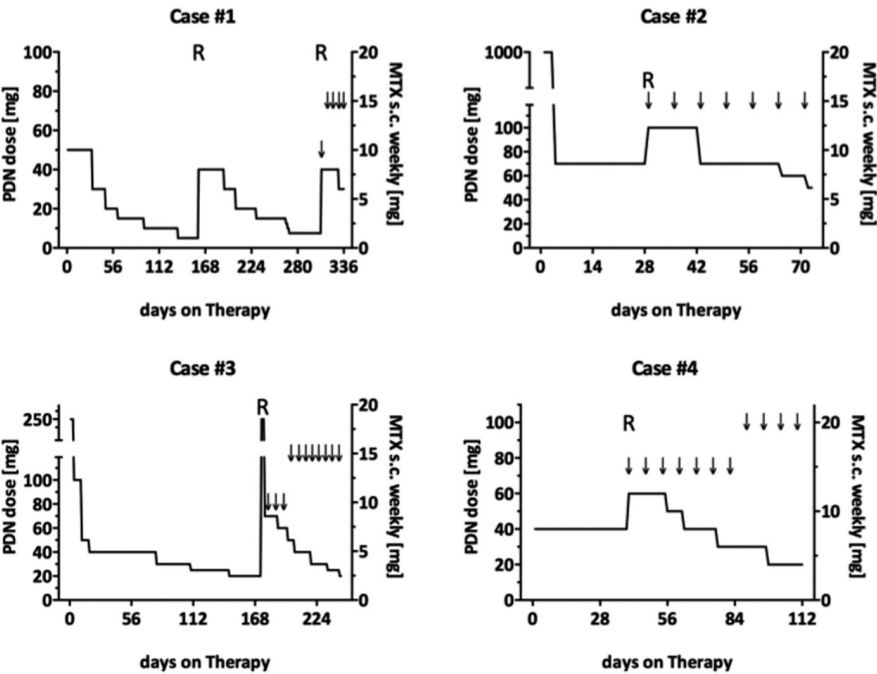
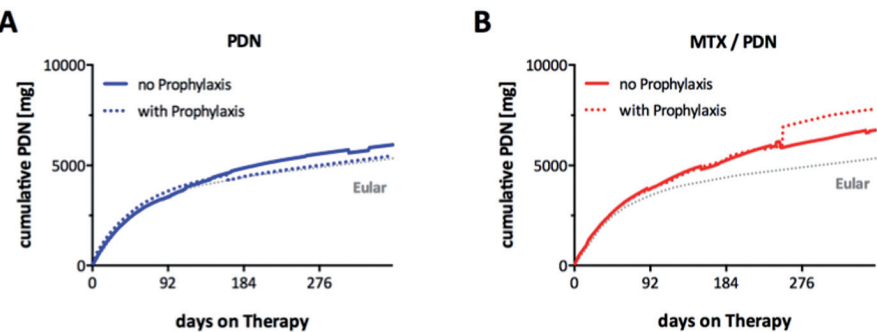


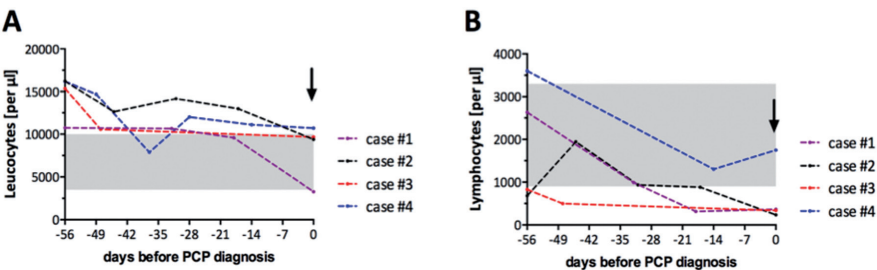
Supplementary Fig. S1. Individual cumulative PDN dose curves for each study subject. In the upper left corner the suggested PDN treatment schematic according to the EULAR guidelines (19) is shown. The y-axis indicates cumulative PDN doses [in mg], and the x-axis days on PDN treatment. PDN doses of patients on PDN monotherapy are depicted as blue lines, those from patients on MTX/ PDN as red lines, and PDN doses from the four PCP cases in the lower right corner as purple lines. PDN doses from patients on PCP prophylaxis were indicated as dashed lines in the respective color of their treatment group. Cumulative average PDN doses of the rest of the GCA patient cohort (PDN and MTX/PDN combined, n=62) are depicted as a reference in each graph (grey dotted line, geometric mean).



Supplementary Fig. S2. Individual PDN and MTX doses in the four PCP cases. Graph shows PDN doses in mg/d over time and arrows indicate dose and time point of MTX injections. R indicates refractory disease or relapse.



Supplementary Fig. S3. PCP prophylaxis was given independently of the cumulative PDN dose. Average cumulative PDN doses [in mg] over time [in days on PDN treatment] in subjects treated with PDN monotherapy (A; blue) or MXT/PDN (B; red) are shown. Coloured lines indicate the subjects on PCP prophylaxis, whereas dotted lines indicate subjects without prophylaxis. In both treatment groups we found no difference in the cumulative PDN dose in patients with compared to patients without PCP prophylaxis. The grey dotted line indicates the anticipated cumulative PDN curve if PDN can be tapered according to the EULAR guidelines (19).



Supplementary Fig. S4. Longitudinal leucocyte and lymphocyte count preceding PCP. Individual leucocyte (A) and lymphocyte (B) counts in the 8 weeks preceding PCP infection in the four cases are displayed (dotted coloured lines). If WBC were not available at day -56, the closest value before day -56 is included. Grey-shaded areas indicate normal values in our clinical lab. Arrows indicate time of PCP infection.