Comment on the paper by Kapsala et al.

Sirs,
We read with the article by Kapsala et al., entitled: “From first symptoms to diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus: mapping the journey of patients in an observational study” and found it of some interest (1), however, we would like to point out a problem we found when reading this communication in detail.

On page 78, under Outcomes (bottom right) the authors indicate that 1 out of 6 patients at diagnosis had irreversible organ damage, mostly attributed to neuropsychiatric manifestations and thrombotic events. This is incorrect, since the SLICC Damage Index or SDI is 0 at diagnosis and damage can only accumulate thenceforward (2). Of course, this may have affected the subsequent data presented.

We think this clarification is in order.

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References