**Supplemental Table 1 Demographics of patients with Rheumatoid arthritis**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Age,years** | **Sex** | **Disease**  **duration,years** | **RF/CCP** | **DAS-28** | **Prednisone,≤10mg/d** | **NSAIDs** | **DMARDs** | **Associated**  **other diseases** |
| 42 | M | 3.5 | P/P | 5.2 | Not used | Used | Not used | No |
| 51 | M | 2.5 | P/N | 5.7 | Used | Used | Not used | No |
| 52 | F | 4.5 | N/P | 5.3 | Not used | Used | MTX | Diabetes |
| 53 | F | 5.5 | P/N | 6.5 | Used | Used | MTX | No |
| 38 | F | 4.5 | N/P | 6. | Not used | Used | Not used | No |
| 63 | F | 3.5 | P/P | 4.6 | Not used | Used | Not used | Hypertension |
| 59 | F | 6.5 | P/N | 6.3 | Used | Not used | MTX+HCQ | No |
| 47 | F | 4.0 | P/P | 6.4 | Not used | Not used | MTX+SSZ | No |
| 49 | F | 3.2 | N/P | 4.2 | Used | Used | MTX | Hepatitis B |
| 50 | F | 3.5 | P/N | 6.9 | Not used | Used | Not used | Diabetes |
| 61 | F | 4.0 | P/P | 7.3 | Not used | Used | Not used | No |
| 62 | F | 3.0 | P/P | 5.4 | Not used | Used | MTX | No |

Male:male; F:Famle; RF: rheumatoid factor; CCP:cyclic citrullinated peptide; P: positive; N: negative; DAS-28:disease activity score in 28 joints;

NSAIDs:nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs; DMARDs:disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs

**Supplemental Table 2 The sequences of RT-PCR primers**

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| Gene | Primer direction | Primer sequence (5' to 3') |
| β-actin | Forward | TCAAGATCATTGCTCCTCCTGAG |
|  | Reverse | ACATCTGCTGGAAGGTGGACA |
| IL-6 | Forward | ACTCACCTCTTCAGAACGAATTG |
|  | Reverse | CCATCTTTGGAAGGTTCAGGTTG |
| IL-8 | Forward | ACTGAGAGTGATTGAGAGTGGAC |
|  | Reverse | AACCCTCTGCACCCAGTTTTC |
| IL-1β | Forward | ATGATGGCTTATTACAGTGGCAA |
|  | Reverse | GTCGGAGATTCGTAGCTGGA |
| IL-17A | Forward | ACCTGAACATCCATAACCGGAATAC |
|  | Reverse | AGCGTTGATGCAGCCCAAG |
| MMP-1 | Forward | CTCTGGAGTAATGTCACACCTCT |
|  | Reverse | TGTTGGTCCACCTTTCATCTTC |
| MMP-1 | Forward | ACTGAGAGGCTCCGAGAAATG |
|  | Reverse | GAACCCCGCATCTTGGCTT |