

**Supplementary table S4.** Spearman's rank correlation coefficients ( $r_s$ ) between changes in inflammatory markers and sum US scores/DAS28 from baseline to one, two, three, six and 12 months

<b>Baseline to one month</b>	<b>ΔSum GS score</b>	<b>ΔSum PD score</b>	<b>ΔDAS28</b>
ΔCalprotectin	0.29**	0.35**	0.47**
ΔS100A12	0.22*	0.17*	0.22*
ΔIL-6	0.10	0.23*	0.15
ΔVEGF	0.14	0.11	0.32**
ΔESR	0.14	0.20*	0.65**
ΔCRP	0.14	0.24*	0.41*
<b>Baseline to two months</b>	<b>ΔSum GS score</b>	<b>ΔSum PD score</b>	<b>ΔDAS28</b>
ΔCalprotectin	0.39**	0.43**	0.55**
ΔS100A12	0.17*	0.18*	0.35**
ΔIL-6	0.30**	0.33**	0.31**
ΔVEGF	0.12	0.18*	0.26*
ΔESR	0.21*	0.30**	0.60**
ΔCRP	0.32**	0.33**	0.42**
<b>Baseline to three months</b>	<b>ΔSum GS score</b>	<b>ΔSum PD score</b>	<b>ΔDAS28</b>
ΔCalprotectin	0.42**	0.46**	0.50**
ΔS100A12	0.22*	0.21*	0.31**
ΔIL-6	0.25*	0.25*	0.21*
ΔVEGF	0.07	0.10	0.22*
ΔESR	0.14	0.22*	0.55**
ΔCRP	0.20*	0.27**	0.39**
<b>Baseline to six months</b>	<b>ΔSum GS score</b>	<b>ΔSum PD score</b>	<b>ΔDAS28</b>
ΔCalprotectin	0.43**	0.45**	0.43**
ΔS100A12	0.21*	0.23*	0.24*
ΔIL-6	0.36**	0.48**	0.28**
ΔVEGF	0.07	0.11	0.17*
ΔESR	0.24*	0.22*	0.49**
ΔCRP	0.34**	0.35**	0.37**
<b>Baseline to 12 months</b>	<b>ΔSum GS score</b>	<b>ΔSum PD score</b>	<b>ΔDAS28</b>
ΔCalprotectin	0.46**	0.51**	0.46**
ΔS100A12	0.27**	0.36**	0.26*
ΔIL-6	0.32**	0.38**	0.25*
ΔVEGF	0.17*	0.22*	0.25*
ΔESR	0.36**	0.42**	0.56**
ΔCRP	0.42**	0.50**	0.47**

US = ultrasound scores, DAS28 = disease activity score of 28 joints, GS = grey scale, PD = power Doppler, VEGF = vascular endothelial growth factor, IL-6 = interleukin 6, ESR = erythrocyte sedimentation rate, CRP = C-reactive protein, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p \leq 0.001$