

**Additional file 5:** Remission and medication in Mixed Connective Tissue Disease patients, N = 104. Patients with SLEDAI-2K = 0 and EUSTAR activity index  $\geq 2.5$  were first selected, then excluded if using medication not compatible with remission and finally sub grouped in remission on and off therapy.

MCTD patients, N (%)	T1	T2	Extended	Durable
<b>SLEDAI-2K = 0 and ACR/EUSTAR activity index &lt; 2.5</b>	<b>34 (33)</b>	<b>59 (57)</b>	<b>38 (37)</b>	<b>17 (16)</b>
<b>On medications not compatible with remission:</b>	<b>5 (15)</b>	<b>11 (19)</b>	<b>7 (18)</b>	<b>4 (24)</b>
Oral corticosteroids > 5 mg daily	5 (15)	9 (15)	3 (8)	2 (12)
Methylprednisolone intravenously	0	0	2 (5)	1 (6)
Iloprost	0	1 (2)	1 (3)	1 (6)
Endothelin receptor antagonist (bosentan)	0	1 (2)	1 (3)	1 (6)
Rituximab	0	1 (2)	1 (3)	0
Cyclophosphamide	0	0	2 (6)	1 (6)
<b>Total remission: (On and off therapy)</b>	<b>29 (28)</b>	<b>48 (46)</b>	<b>31 (30)</b>	<b>13 (13)</b>
PhGA, median (Q1 – Q3)	NA	13 (8 - 25)	10 (5 - 21)	8 (4 - 12)
<b>On therapy</b>	<b>6 (6)</b>	<b>18 (17)</b>	<b>11 (11)</b>	<b>3 (3)</b>
Oral steroids $\leq 5$ mg daily	6 (100)	12 (67)	8 (73)	2 (67)
AZA	1 (17)	3 (17)	3 (27)	0
MTX	2 (33)	5 (28)	3 (27)	1 (33)
MMF	0	2 (11)	1 (10)	0
<b>Off therapy</b>	<b>23 (22)</b>	<b>30 (29)</b>	<b>20 (19)</b>	<b>10 (10)</b>
HCQ	6 (26)	9 (30)	6 (30)	1 (10)
Proton pump inhibitors	6 (26)	9 (30)	4 (20)	0
Calcium channel blockers	6 (26)	6 (20)	4 (20)	2 (20)
NSAIDs	4 (17)	6 (20)	4 (20)	2 (20)

PGA – Physicians Global Assessment (0-100 mm), HCQ – Hydroxychloroquine, MTX –methotrexate, MMF – mycophenolate, AZA – azathioprine. On therapy allowed for low-dose oral corticosteroids ( $\leq 5$  mg daily) and stable maintenance doses of azathioprine, methotrexate and mycophenolate. Off therapy allowed for hydroxychloroquine, proton pump inhibitors, calcium channel blockers and intermittent use of NSAID's.