Table I. Baseline characterization according to gender at disease onset

Characteristics	Total	Male	Female	Statistical test (males *vs* females)	P value
Number of Patients	94	19	75	-	-
Caucasian, n (%)	86 (91)	18 (95)	68 (91)	Chi-square Test (CST)	0.57
Age (y) bDMARD started, median (IQR)	56 (47 – 62)	59 (54 – 66)	55 (47 – 61)	Mann-Whitney-U – test (MWU)	0.191
Disease duration (y) from time of diagnosis to first bDMARD, median (IQR)	4 (1 - 9)	4 (1 - 8)	3 (1 - 9)	MWU	0.633
Either or anti-CCP/RF positive, n (%)	76 (81)	16 (84)	60 (80)	Fisher´s Exact Test (FET)	0.513
Anti-CCP/RF negative, n (%)	18 (19)	3 (16)	15 (20)	FET	0.513
Methotrexate, n (%)	82 (87)	16 (84)	66 (88)	FET	0.448
Methotrexate mg/day, median (IQR)	20 (15 – 20)	15 (12.5 – 20)	20 (15 – 20)	MWU	0.658
Prednisolone, n (%)	62 (66)	11 (58)	51 (68)	FET	0.589
Prednisolone equivalent mg/day, median (IQR)	10 (5 – 12)	10 (10 – 15)	10 (5 – 10)	MWU	0.826
Pre-bDMARD DAS 28 – ESR, median (IQR), n	5,31 (4,51 – 6,29) n=76	5,41 (4,53 – 5,87) n=13	5,31 (4,53 – 6,48) n=60	MWU	0.235
Pre-bDMARD HAQ, median (IQR)	2 (1,47 – 2,53) n=33	2,07 (1,54 – 2,78) n=8	2 (1,5 – 2,5) n=25	MWU	0.216
Initial bDMARD:					
Infliximab, n (%)	3 (3)	-	3 (4)	FET	0.38
Etanercept, n (%)	55 (59)	12 (63)	43 (57)	CST	0.65
Adalimumab, n (%)	14 (15)	4 (21)	10 (13)	FET	0.40
Golimumab, n (%)	2 (2)	-	2 (3)	FET	0.47
Tocilizumab, n (%)	14 (15)	3 (16)	11 (15)	FET	0.9
Rituximab, n (%)	6 (6)	-	6 (8)	FET	0.2
Comorbidities:					
Benign Tumors n (%)	4 (4)	2 (11)	2 (3)	FET	0.181
Dyslipidemia, n (%)	48 (51)	9 (47)	39 (52)	FET	0.8
Arterial hypertension, n (%)	39 (41)	6 (32)	33 (44)	FET	0.436
Chronic anxiety/depression disorder, n (%)	18 (19)	3 (16)	15 (20)	FET	1.00
Active smoking, n (%)	12 (16)	3 (16)	9 (12)	FET	0.703
Obesity, n (%)	9 (10)	4 (21)	5 (7)	FET	0.078
Charlson Comorbidity Index at time bDMARD started, median (IQR)	2 (2 -3)	3 (3 – 4)	2 (1 – 3)	MWU	0.101
Estimated 10-year survival at the time bDMARD started, median (IQR)	90 (77 – 90)	77 (53 – 77)	90 (77 – 96)	MWU	0.101

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Table II. Recall characterization according to gender

Characteristics at Recall	Total	Male (M)	Female (F)	Statistical test (M vs F)	P value
Number of Patients (%)	77	14 (18)	63 (82)	-	-
Age (y), median (IQR)	63 (55 – 71)	69 (58 – 77)	62 (55 – 68)	MWU	0.053
Caucasian, n (%)	71 (92)	14 (100)	57 (90)	FET	0.585
Anti-CCP, n (%)	56 (73)	11 (79)	45 (72)	FET	0.746
Anti-RF, n (%)	57 (74)	9 (64)	48 (76)	FET	0.501
Either or anti-CCP/RF positive, n (%)	61 (79)	11 (79)	50 (79)	FET	1.000
Anti-CCP/RF negative, n (%)	16 (21)	3 (21)	13 (21)	FET	1.000
Age (y) bDMARD started, median (IQR)	56 (49 – 61)	59 (53 – 68)	55 (49 – 61)	MWU	0.256
Disease duration (y) from diagnosis to recall, median (IQR)	12 (7 – 18)	14 (11 – 17)	12 (6 – 18)	MWU	0.275
Disease duration (y) from diagnosis to first bDMARD, median (IQR)	4 (1 – 9)	5 (2 – 9)	4 (1 – 9)	MWU	0.811
Duration of follow-up from onset of bDMARD to recall, median (IQR)	7 (4 – 9)	7 (3 – 9)	9 (7 – 9)	MWU	0.079
On bDMARD at recall, n (%)	61 (79)	8 (57)	53 (84)	FET	0.062
Last bDMARD:					
Etanercept, n (%)	31 (51)	4 (50)	27 (51)	FET	0.96
Adalimumab, n (%)	5 (8)	1 (12)	4 (7)	FET	0.63
Tocilizumab, n (%)	15 (25)	2 (25)	13 (25)	FET	0.98
Infliximab, n (%)	1 (1,5)	0	1 (2)	FET	0.7
Rituximab, n (%)	6 (10)	1 (12)	5 (9)	FET	0.79
Golimumab, n (%)	2 (3)	0	2 (4)	FET	0.58
Abatacept, n (%)	1 (1,5)	0	1 (2)	FET	0.70
Retained original bDMARD, n (%)	46 (75)	6 (75)	40 (75)	FET	1.00
Compliance with bDMARD over the past year (n=56)	45 (80)	6 (85)	39 (80)	FET	0.70
Had discontinued bDMARD by recall, n (%)	16 (21)	6 (43)	10 (16)	FET	0.062
1. Primary failure to bDMARD	2 (13)	1 (17)	1 (10)	FET	0.457
2. Secondary failure to bDMARD	2 (13)	1 (17)	1 (10)	FET	0.333
3. Infection	6 (38)	2 (33)	4 (40)	FET	0.298
4. Neoplastic disease	1 (6)	1 (17)	0 (0)	FET	0.182
5. Remission	3 (19)	1 (17)	2 (20)	FET	0.457
6. Other	2 (13)	0 (0)	2 (20)	FET	1.000
Switched bDMARD, n (%)*	22 (29)	4 (29)	18 (29)	FET	1.000
1. Once	14 (64)	2 (14)	12 (19)	FET	1.000
2. Twice	6 (27)	1 (7)	5 (8)	FET	1.000
3. Thrice	1 (5)	1 (7)	0 (0)	FET	0.182
4. Fourth	1 (5)	0 (0)	1 (2)	FET	1.000
*5 patients switched and stopped					
Prior to bDMARD:					
Pre bDMARD DAS 28 – ESR, median (IQR) n=72	5.060 (4.500 - 5.998)	5.105 (4.595 – 5.800)	5.060 (4.500 – 6.195)	MWU	0.933
Pre bDMARD HAQ, median (IQR) n=27	2.000 (1.440 – 2.490)	2.375 (1.723 – 2.840)	1.938 (1.410 – 2.380)	MWU	0.494
Methotrexate, n (%)	73 (95)	14 (100)	59 (94)	FET	1.000
Metotrexate dose mg/week, median (IQR)	20 (13 – 20)	14 (13 – 20)	20 (15 – 20)	MWU	0.220
Steroids, n (%)	57 (74)	9 (64)	48 (76)	FET	0.501
Prednisolone equivalent mg, median (IQR); dose not known in 6 females and 2 males	10 (5 – 10)	10 (5 – 10)	8 (5 – 10)	MWU	0.564

Recall:

Recall DAS 28 – ESR, median (IQR) n=72	3.200 (2.390 – 3.950)	2.76 (1.765 – 3.905)	3.2 (2.580 – 3.920)	MWU	0.568
Recall HAQ, median (IQR) n=77	1.250 (0.500 – 1.810)	1.120 (0.500 – 1.470)	1.310 (0.500 – 1.870)	MWU	0.447
Methotrexate, n (%)	17 (22)	3 (21)	14 (22)	FET	1.000
Metotrexate dose mg/week, median (IQR)	15 (10 – 20)	15 (11 – 15)	15 (11 – 20)	MWU	0.400
Steroids, n (% of 77)	23 (30)	3 (21)	20 (36)	FET	0.535
Prednisolone equivalent mg/day, median (IQR)	5 (5 – 10)	5 (5 – 8)	5 (5 – 11)	MWU	1.00
Steroids plus bDMARD, n (% of 61)	16 (26)	1 (12)	15 (28)	FET	0.668
Steroids having discontinued bDMARD, n (% of 16)	7 (43)	2 (33)	5 (50)	FET	0.633
Deformities, n (%) – 54 patients evaluated	22 (41)	6/10 (60)	16/44 (36)	FET	0.285
Deformities/patient, median (IQR)**	0.5 (0 – 2.25)	3 (0 – 7)	0 (0 - 2)	MWU	1.00
Dyslipidemia, n (%)	41 (53)	7 (50)	34 (54)	FET	1.00
Arterial hypertension, n (%)	33 (43)	7 (50)	26 (41)	FET	0.566
Chronic anxiety/depression disorder, n (%)	14 (18)	0	14 (22)	FET	0.061
Active smoking, n (%)	11 (14)	0	11 (17)	FET	0.199
Obesity, n (%)	8 (10)	0	8 (13)	FET	0.338
Charlson comorbidity index at the time bDMARD started, median (IQR)	2 (2 -3)	3 (2.25 – 4.00)	2 (2 – 3)	MWU	0.019
% Estimated 10 year survival at the time bDMARD started, median (IQR)	90 (77 – 90)	77 (53 - 86,75)	90 (77 – 90)	MWU	0.019
EQ-5D 3L (n=76)					
Mobility, mean (SD)	1,72 (0.51)	1.79 (0.58)	1.70 (0.49)	T-test	0.595
Personal Care, mean (SD)	1,65 (0.58)	1.5 (0.65)	1.69 (0.56)	T-test	0.277
Usual Activities, mean (SD)	1,76 (0.59)	1.64 (0.63)	1.79 (0.58)	T-test	0.399
Pain and Unwell, mean (SD)	1,97 (0.57)	1.71 (0.61)	2.03 (0.55)	T-test	0.058
Anxiety and Depression, mean (SD)	1,72 (0.72)	1.64 (0.63)	1.74 (0.72)	T-test	0.646
EQ-5D 3L Visual Analogue Scale (VAS), mean (SD)	60,64 (22.07)	62.93 (24.21)	60.11 (21.91)	T-test	0.672
EQ-5D 3L score –Portuguese tariff, mean (SD)	0,45 (0.3)	0.51 (0.39)	0.43 (0.28)	T-test	0.410

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Table III. Pearson correlations between SF-36 and EQ-5D-3L parameters

		EQ-5D 3L - VAS	EQ-5D 3L tariff – adjusted for Portugal	PCS	MCS
EQ-5D 3L - VAS	Pearson Correlation	1	,713[**]	,469[**]	,427[**]
	Sig. (2-tailed)		,000	,002	,005
	N	75	71	42	42
EQ-5D 3L tariff – adjusted for Portugal	Pearson Correlation	,713[**]	1	,424[**]	,499[**]
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000		,005	,001
	N	71	73	42	42
PCS	Pearson Correlation	,469[**]	,424[**]	1	-,096
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,002	,005		,535
	N	42	42	44	44
MCS	Pearson Correlation	,427[**]	,499[**]	-,096	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,005	,001	,535	
	N	42	42	44	44

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed); *Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed); Effect size Evans (1996): 00-0,19 "very weak"; 0,20-0,39 "weak"; 0,40-0,59 "moderate"; 0,60-0,79 "strong"; · 0,80-1.0 "very strong".

Table IV. Clinical parameters such as recall age, disease activity, functional status, EQ-5D Pt tariff, number of deformities, PCS and MCS with respect to professional situation, schooling and marital status

		Age (years)	DAS28num	HAQ	EQ_5D Pt tariff	Number of deformities	PCS	MCS
Professional Situation								
Employed	Mean	55,380	3,230	0,872	0,544	0,640	41,115	49,789
	N	21	21	21	19	14	14	14
	Std. Deviation	10,670	1,249	0,634	0,265	0,929	9,109	10,896
Unemployed	Mean	57,500	4,100	1,246	0,296	2,400	40,983	44,793
	N	8	7	8	7	5	3	3
	Std. Deviation	6,908	1,754	0,632	0,169	4,336	4,216	14,711
Retired	Mean	67,680	3,340	1,000	0,422	3,700	35,736	46,902
	N	37	33	37	36	23	21	21
	Std. Deviation	9,062	1,320	0,748	0,332	6,609	10,737	11,525
Homemaker	Mean	62,830	2,720	0,998	0,420	2,500	40,833	26,045
	N	6	6	6	6	2	2	2
	Std. Deviation	6,940	1,135	0,809	0,237	3,536	0,491	6,662
Schooling								
University Degree or Professional Equivalent	Mean	63,230	3,290	0,978	0,558	1,360	43,708	42,932
	N	13	13	13	12	11	7	7
	Std. Deviation	12,370	0,901	0,639	0,276	2,541	13,715	12,121
No University Degree	Mean	62,140	3,280	1,239	0,418	2,820	36,613	47,583
	N	63	58	63	60	34	36	36
	Std. Deviation	10,171	1,450	0,747	0,295	5,681	8,341	11,588
Marital Status								
Single	Mean	51,770	2,940	1,199	0,378	2,750	34,808	49,709
	N	13	13	13	11	8	6	6
	Std. Deviation	9,722	1,425	0,743	0,267	5,825	4,183	13,895
Married	Mean	63,630	3,540	1,150	0,443	2,040	38,657	46,309
	N	43	40	43	42	26	22	22
	Std. Deviation	9,991	1,430	0,733	0,307	2,891	11,099	11,319
Divorced	Mean	62,920	3,240	1,428	0,431	5,330	35,250	49,074
	N	11	9	11	10	6	8	8
	Std. Deviation	5,862	1,383	0,795	0,223	11,219	7,045	12,519
Widow	Mean	70,780	2,670	1,110	0,518	0,800	40,391	43,412
	N	9	9	9	9	5	7	7
	Std. Deviation	7,293	0,584	0,702	0,361	0,837	10,552	11,382

Table V. Comparison of patients who died with recall cohort

Characteristics	Died	Recall	Statistical test (dead *vs* alive)	P value
Number of Patients	6	77		
Age (y) patient, median (IQR)	66 (61 – 67)	63 (55 – 71)	MWU	0.398
Caucasian, n (%)	6 (100)	71 (92)	FET	1.000
Anti-CCP, n (%)	4 (67)	56 (73)	FET	0.667
Anti-RF, n (%)	5 (83)	57 (74)	FET	1.000
Either or anti-CCP/RF positive, n (%)	6 (100)	61 (79)	FET	0.591
Age (y) bDMARD started, median (IQR)	61 (57 – 64)	56 (49 – 61)	MWU	0.190
Disease duration (y) from diagnosis, median (IQR)	16 (8 – 21)	12 (7 – 18)	MWU	0.342
Disease duration (y) from diagnosis to bDMARD, median (IQR)	7 (3 – 11)	4 (1 – 9)	MWU	0.321
Duration of follow-up from onset of bDMARD, median (IQR)	5 (3 – 6)	7 (4 – 10)	MWU	0.331
Had discontinued bDMARD, n (%)	4 (67)	16 (21)	FET	0.028
Comorbidities:				
Active smoking, n (%)	1 (17)	1 (14)	FET	1.00
Dyslipidemia, n (%)	5 (83)	41 (53)	FET	0.218
Arterial hypertension, n (%)	4 (67)	33 (43)	FET	0.4
Obesity, n (%)	0	8 (10)	FET	1.00
Chronic anxiety/depression disorder, n (%)	1 (17)	14 (18)	FET	1.00
Charlson comorbidity index at the time bDMARD started, median (IQR)	4 (3 – 5)	2 (2 – 3)	MWU	0.006
% Estimated 10-year survival at time bDMARD started, median (IQR)	65 (29 – 77)	90 (77 - 90)	MWU	0.006