

**File 1 Online supplement****Collection of nailfold videocapillaroscopy (NVC) images**

Nailfold videocapillaroscopy (NVC) was performed using a videocapillaroscope (Videocap software 9.07; DS Medica, Milan, Italy) equipped with a 200x optical probe, which provides a 1.57 mm visual field. NVC was performed on all patients after they had been in a comfortable temperature of 22–25°C for 20 minutes. A drop of immersion oil was applied to the nailfold to maximize the translucency of the keratin layer, and the second through the fifth fingers of both hands were examined.

During NVC examination, the most representative images of capillaroscopic scleroderma pattern were saved for each finger, at least 1 image per finger. All images were captured, coded, stored, and analyzed without knowledge of clinical history of the patients.

The use of videocapillaroscope allows a real-time control of image quality and the possibility to save several pictures. Only patients with amputation of all fingers were excluded from the study, in patients with only some amputations, CSURI were calculated on the remaining fingers.