

Response to: 'Obesity and comorbidity are independently associated with a failure to achieve remission in patients with established rheumatoid arthritis' by Ellerby *et al*

We thank Ellerby *et al*¹ for their interest in our manuscript addressing the effect of obesity on the prognosis of rheumatoid arthritis (RA), and for sharing their own data. We are happy to see Ellerby and colleagues' findings in the later phase of RA to be in accordance with our own findings in early RA,² and to confirm findings by Ajeganova *et al*³ who have shown a similar effect of obesity in patients with longstanding RA. We are, as Ellerby and colleagues are, also very interested in the underlying biological mechanism for these findings. Further, we look forward to upcoming initiatives to clinically study whether this link between obesity and decreased chance of good response and remission can be countered by a voluntary weight decrease during the disease course.

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