

Table S1. Glucocorticoid-sparing effect of tocilizumab compared to standard glucocorticoid treatment in a starting dosage of 0.3 mg/kg/day or 15 mg/day

	Theoretical mean dosage over the 12-week period [mg]	Actual mean dosage over the 12-week period [mg]	<i>p</i> value
Starting dosage: 0.3 mg/kg/day^[a]			
W12, mg/day	14.3 [10.0-15.2]	12.0 [9.5-12.5]	
W16, mg/day	11.8 [10.0-12.7]	9.2 [8.0-10.0]	
W20, mg/day	10.0 [9.0-10.2]	7.2 [7.0-8.0]	
W24, mg/day	10.0 [9.0-10.0]	6.0 [6.0-7.0]	
Cumulative dosage at W24, mg	2705.3 [2158.8-2848.4]	808.5 [673.3-866.3]	<0.001*
Starting dosage: 15 mg/day 0^[b]			
W12, mg/day	9.0 [9.0-9.0]	12.0 [9.5-12.5]	
W16, mg/day	9.0 [9.0-9.0]	9.2 [8.0-10.0]	
W20, mg/day	8.0 [8.0-8.0]	7.2 [7.0-8.0]	
W24, mg/day	8.0 [8.0-8.0]	6.0 [6.0-7.0]	
Cumulative dosage at W24, mg	1704.5 [1694.0-1736.0]	808.5 [673.3-866.3]	<0.001*

The data are median [interquartile range].

W, week

^(a)Theoretical prednisone dosage computed based on the British Society of Rheumatology recommendation that polymyalgia rheumatic be treated with prednisone 0.3 mg/kg/week for 3 weeks followed by a 2.5-mg taper every 3 weeks down to 10 mg/day then by a 1-mg taper every 6 weeks down to nothing.

^(b)Theoretical prednisone dosage based on the British Society of Rheumatology recommendation that polymyalgia rheumatic be treated with prednisone 15 mg/day irrespective of body weight for 3 weeks followed by a 2.5-mg taper every 3 weeks down to 10 mg/day then by a 1-mg taper every 6 weeks down to nothing. A sensitivity analysis was done, based on a prednisone dosage of 15 mg/day irrespective of body weight.

* p was computed using the Wilcoxon signed-rank test for paired data.