

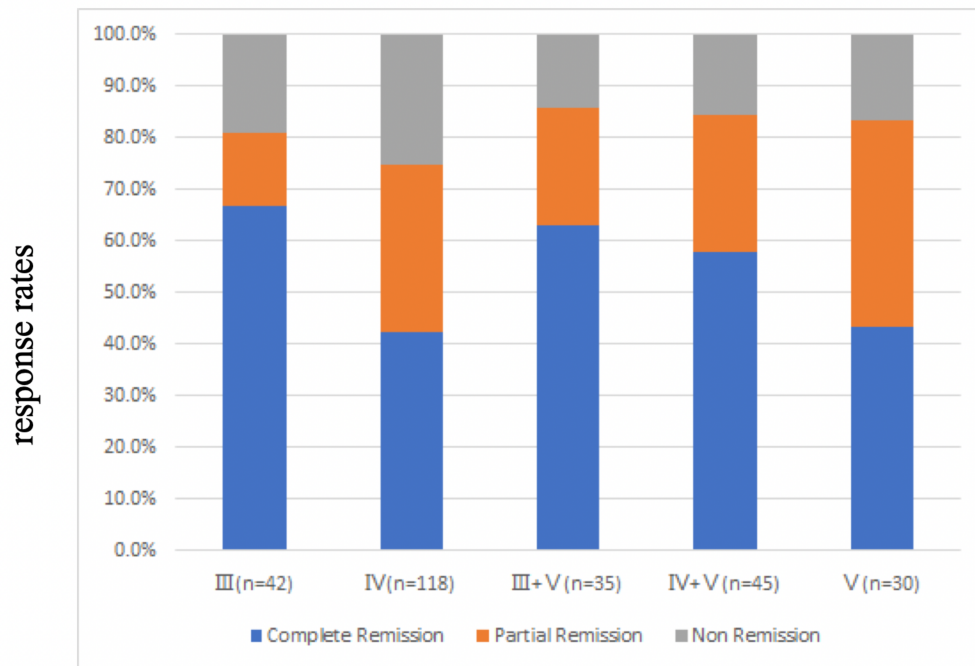
SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL FOR

Leflunomide Versus Azathioprine for Maintenance Therapy of Lupus Nephritis: A Prospective, Multicenter, Randomized Trial and Long-term Follow-up

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The supplemental material includes:

- 1) Supplementary Figure 1
- 2) Supplementary Table 1-2



Supplementary Figure 1. Kidney response rates after induction therapy based on initial kidney biopsy class. Those who achieved complete remission and partial remission were enrolled in the maintenance therapy.

Supplementary Table 1. Demographic and Disease Characteristics of the Patients at Baseline of Induction Therapy.

Characteristics	Total n=270	*215 patients who enrolled maintenance therapy	
		Leflunomide Group n=108	Azathioprine Group n=107
Age - yr	32.4±10.4	30.8±9.1	33.2±10.9
Female sex - no. (%)	236 (87.4%)	98 (90.7%)	92 (86.0%)
Duration of lupus nephritis - months	16.3±33.7	12.8±28.0	14.7±31.0
Organ involvement — no. (%)			
Mucocutaneous involvement	101 (37.4%)	34 (31.5%)	42 (39.3%)
Musculoskeletal involvement	82 (30.4%)	26 (24.1%)	37 (34.6%)
Serositis	36 (13.3%)	12 (11.1%)	14 (13.1%)
Leukopenia and/or Thrombocytopenia	50 (18.5%)	22 (20.4%)	15 (14.0%)
Anemia	116 (43.0%)	46 (42.6%)	42 (39.3%)
Fasting blood glucose (mmol/L)	4.8±1.1	4.9±0.8	4.8±1.1
Systolic BP (mmHg)	131.3±18.2	128.6±17.4	133.0±18.8
Diastolic BP (mmHg)	83.3±12.6	82.0±12.3	83.2±11.4
Hypertension — no. of patients (%)	81 (30.0%)	29 (26.9%)	31 (29.0%)
Kidney-biopsy class — no. of patients (%)			
III or III + V	77 (28.5%)	33 (30.6%)	29 (27.1%)
IV or IV + V	163 (60.4%)	67 (62.0%)	62 (57.9%)
V only	30 (11.1%)	8 (7.4%)	16 (15.0%)
#Kidney biopsy activity index score	6.9±3.7	6.9±3.5	6.3±3.6
#Kidney biopsy chronicity index score	2.1±1.9	1.8±1.5	2.3±2.2
Urinary protein — mg/24 hr	3072±2274	3216±2468	3037±2269
Active urine sediment — no. of patients (%)	167 (61.9%)	65 (60.2%)	65 (60.7%)

Serum albumin — g/L	29.4±7.4	29.8±7.5	29.9±7.8
Serum creatinine — µmol/L	69.6±31.6	69.5±26.7	64.7±28.3
Estimated GFR — mL/minute/1.73m ²	132.5±46.0	128.5±44.0	133.5±41.0
Serum C3 — mg/dL	528±265	529±268	538±290
Serum C4 — mg/dL	112.7±94.0	99.2±75.6	114.1±89.7
Anti-dsDNA antibody positive — no. of patients (%)	199 (73.7%)	86 (79.6%)	77 (72.0%)
SLEDAI score	12.20±4.47	12.22±4.32	12.18±4.65
ACEI/ARB use — no. (%)	73 (27.0%)	31 (28.7%)	26 (24.3%)
[§] Other kinds of antihypertensive medications — no. (%)	24 (8.9%)	9 (8.3%)	8 (7.5%)

*baseline characteristics at the beginning of induction phase in 215 patients who achieved clinical response in the induction phase and enrolled in the maintenance therapy.

#the kidney biopsy activity index score and chronicity index score were calculated based on 236 available data (94 diagnostic biopsies in LEF group and 94 in AZA group, respectively).

[§]Other kinds of antihypertensive medications included: calcium channel blocker, β receptor blocker and diuretic.

Supplementary Table 2. Secondary endpoints over the 3-year study.

Characteristics	Baseline		6 months		12 months		24months		36 months	
	LEF	AZA	LEF	AZA	LEF	AZA	LEF	AZA	LEF	AZA
	(n=108)	(n=107)	(n=96)	(n=95)	(n=93)	(n=89)	(n=80)	(n=75)	(n=72)	(n=65)
24h proteinuria, g (mean ± SD)	0.542±0.5	0.451±0.4	0.370±0.4	0.364±0.3	0.329±0.3	0.274±0.2	0.240±0.2	0.149±0.1	0.245±0.2	0.240±0.3
Serum albumin, g/L (mean ± SD)	41.1±3.8	41.5±4.1	42.3±4.1	43.9±4.2	44.7±3.3	46.1±3.6	43.8±3.3	44.8±3.5	43.6±6.4	47.2±4.6
Serum creatinine, µmol/L (mean ± SD)	67.2±20.8	66.8±19.0	62.7±17.0	67.2±20.1	65.4±26.0	66.2±19.1	63.0±15.3	60.4±14.2	60.0±14.6	61.4±13.4
eGFR, mL/minute/1.73m ² (mean ± SD)	132.6±44.0	132.7±38.3	140.8±42.7	134.4±36.6	143.3±46.8	137.2±35.7	140.2±39.6	145.3±36.6	144.0±36.2	140.3±32.0
Serum C3, mg/dL (mean ± SD)	848±236	891±203	862±286	891±295	881±211	1003±211	849±257	890±226	859±262	930±180
Serum C4, mg/dL (mean ± SD)	180±103	194±70	208±106	226±205	214±174	178±81	188±76	240±238	181±75	188±74
Anti-dsDNA antibodies (+, %)	41.7%	40.6%	43.5%	38.5%	47.4%	50.0%	42.9%	11.1%	25.0%	33.3%
Anti-dsDNA antibodies, IU/mL (mean ± SD)	26.1±54.4	14.8±21.4	11.9±11.2	14.7±34.0	11.0±12.7	15.7±16.1	5.0±4.6	9.7±13.0	23.7±44.2	23.3±28.0
SLEDAI (mean ± SD)	2.4±3.0	2.1±3.0	2.2±2.0	2.0±2.8	1.9±1.7	1.7±1.0	1.7±0.9	1.5±0.8	1.7±1.4	1.6±1.0