

Supplementary Text S1.

Checklist adapted from the Points to Consider for dissemination to journal editors.

1. Biopsy Procedure

-Exclusion criteria for biopsy are defined	Y	/	N
-Target joint(s) and recess are described	Y	/	N
-Intra-articular steroids in the previous 4 weeks or during the procedure are reported	Y	/	N
-Technique used (type and size of biopsy retrieval device) is described	Y	/	N
-Machine/probe for ultrasound guided biopsies, arthroscopic equipment is outlined	Y	/	N
-Adverse events are reported	Y	/	N
-Operator's experience and training	Y	/	N

2. Study design

-Inclusion criteria are described	Y	/	N
-Patient's characteristics are outlined	Y	/	N
-Treatments received by the participants are reported	Y	/	N

3. Patients' characteristics

-Disease activity measures are reported	Y	/	N
-Disease stage and duration are presented	Y	/	N
-Treatments are described	Y	/	N

4. Imaging characteristics

-Clinical aspect of the biopsied joints	Y	/	N
-US features for US guided Biopsy	Y	/	N
-Radiographic features when available	Y	/	N

5. Tissue handling

-Handling and processing methods are detailed	Y	/	N
-Numbers and size of fragments are reported	Y	/	N
-Allocation to each analytic is described	Y	/	N

6. Quality control

-Methods of GC	Y	/	N
-Results of QC	Y	/	N
-Percentage of graded tissue	Y	/	N

7. Histopathological analysis

-Representative images are presented	Y	/	N
-Scoring system is cited and citation refers to original validated scoring publication	Y	/	N
-Digital analysis software (including version numbers of platforms used) is cited	Y	/	N
-Immunohistological staining protocol (including antibody sources and clones) is reported	Y	/	N
-Area assessed and sampling strategy are detailed	Y	/	N
-Number of observers and intra- and inter-observer variability is presented	Y	/	N

8. Transcriptomics

-Methods of extraction and quantification are defined	Y	/	N
-Purity, quantity and quality of DNA/RNA are reported	Y	/	N

9. Single cell technologies

-Methods of tissue or cell preservation are detailed	Y	/	N
-Methods of tissue dissociation are presented	Y	/	N

-Percentage of viable cells is described	Y	/	N
-Percentage of mitochondrial gene expression seen in the sequenced cells and the threshold chosen for analysis is reported	Y	/	N
-If sorting is used, the strategy used and purity of sorted cells is detailed	Y	/	N