

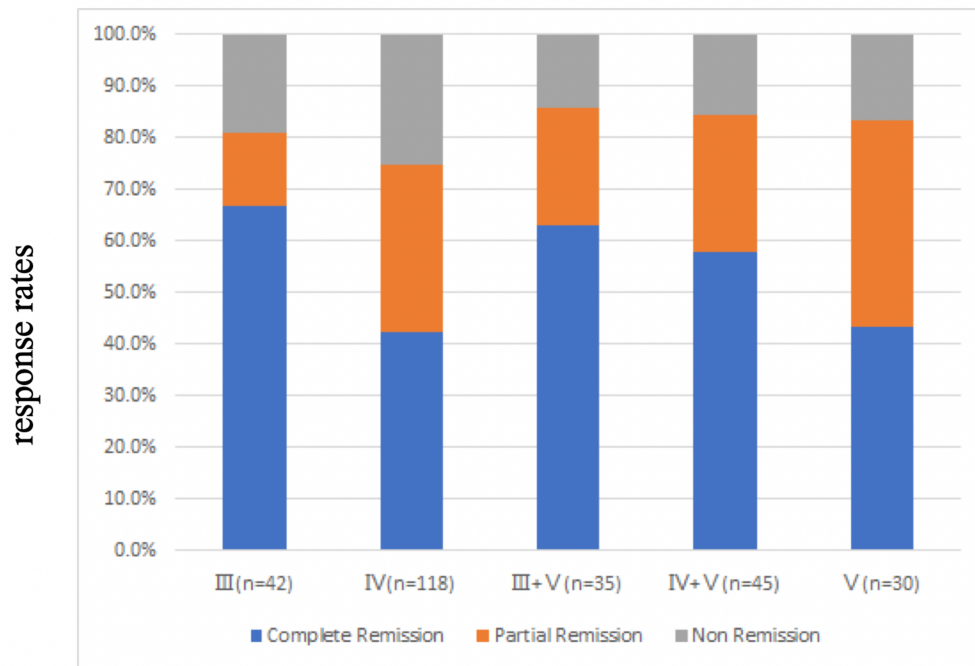
## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL FOR

### **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 <sup>2</sup>	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%)
<sup>§</sup> 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).

<sup>§</sup>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 <sup>2</sup> (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