

**Supplemental Table S1. Corticosteroids treatment regimen in selected studies**

First author	Corticosteroid regimen
Myoren (21)	Prednisolone 30 mg/d for 4 weeks, tapered to 5 - 10 mg over 6 months
Chapelon-Abric (37)	Prednisolone 0,25 - 1,5 mg/kg/d for 6 - 8 weeks, tapered (in case of response) to less than 10 mg/d
Chapelon-Abric (38)	Prednisolone 1 mg/kg/d, tapered (in case of complete or partial response) to less than 10 mg/d over several months
Zhou (30)	Prednisone 20 - 40 mg/d, tapered every 6-8 weeks based on individual response until 5 - 10 mg/d
Orii (39)	Prednisolone 30 mg/d for 4 weeks, tapered to 10 mg/d within 8 weeks, maintenance dose of 10 mg/d
Takaya (19)	Prednisone 30 - 40 mg/d, tapered to 5 - 10 mg/d over a period of 6 to 12 months
Nagai (17)	Prednisolone initial dose was $29,5 \pm 4,0$ mg, no protocol provided
Nagai (18)	Prednisolone 30 mg/d, tapered to 5 mg/d
Kato (40)	Prednisolone 30 - 40 mg/d, tapered by 5 mg every 4 weeks until a maintenance dose of 4 - 10 mg/d
Padala (27)	Prednisone 30 - 40 mg/d, one month at least, then tapered based on individual responsiveness
Takaya (20)	Prednisone 30 - 40 mg/d, tapered over a period of 6 - 12 months to maintenance dose of 5 - 10 mg/d
Chiu (41)	Prednisolone 60 mg/d for 2 months, tapered gradually to maintenance dose of 10 mg/d
Yazaki (22)	Two groups : high dose ( $\geq 40$ mg/d, $n=30$ , average dose $54 \pm 9$ mg/d) and low dose ( $\leq 30$ mg/d, average dose $29 \pm 9$ mg/d), tapered to a maintenance dose of 5-15 mg/d
Yodogawa (28)	Prednisone 30 mg/d, tapered over 6 months to maintenance dosage of 5 - 10 mg/d
Takaya (42)	Prednisone 30 - 40 mg/d, tapered over a period of 6-12 months to maintenance dose of 5 - 10 mg/d
Naruse (43)	30 mg/d for 4 weeks, tapered by 5 mg/d every 2 - 4 weeks, until maintenance dose of 5 - 10 mg/d
Yalagudri (11)	Prednisolone 1 mg/kg/d, maximum 60 mg/d, for 8 weeks, tapered over a period of 3 - 4 months before stopping
Segawa (44)	30 mg/d for 4 weeks, tapered by 5 mg/d every 2 weeks, until 20 mg/d during hospitalization, then tapered by 5 mg every 2 - 4 weeks until maintenance dose of 5-10 mg/d
Ballul (10)	Prednisone 60 (20 - 100) mg/d
Nagai (31)	Prednisolone 30 - 60 mg/d as initial dose
Kandolin (45)	Prednisone 0,5- 1 mg/kg/d, tapered over 6 months to 10 - 20 mg/d. Slowly discontinued after 12 months, if LV function was stable