Comparison of the study groups with entire RA and SpA patients in terms of demographic data, disease-related features, TST and QFT-GIT results, and LTBI treatment rates

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Rheumatoid Arthritis** | |  | **Spondyloarthritis** | |  |
|  | **Study Group**  **(n=206)** | **Total**  **(n=2690)** | **p** | **Study Group**  **(n=392)** | **Total**  **(n=4995)** | **p** |
| **Female sex, %** | 77.7 | 79.3 | 0.602 | 39.3 | 43.8 | 0.086 |
| **Age, years** | 49±15 | 53±14 | **0.002** | 43±11 | 43±12 | 0.348 |
| **Education status, %**  Primary or lower  Higher education | 45.2  54.8 | 53  47 | **0.043** | 22.4  77.6 | 25.2  74.8 | 0.222 |
| **Smoking status, %**  Never smoked  Ex-smoker  Active smoker | 64.4  17.3  18.3 | 58.9  17.9  23.2 | 0.260 | 41.7  17.1  41.2 | 39.8  19.4  40.8 | 0.514 |
| **Disease duration, years** | 11.8±8 | 12±8 | 0.718 | 8.7±6 | 9±7 | 0.675 |
| **Systemic steroid use, %** | 54.9 | 64 | **0.012** | 18.6 | 23.9 | **0.019** |
| **cDMARD use, %**  Methotrexate  Hydroxychloroquine  Sulfasalazine  Leflunomide | 83.5  66.5  45.1  53.4  36.9 | 82  70.5  58  45.9  45.9 | 0.600  0.252  **0.001**  **0.045**  **0.017** | 62.5  22.7  9.7  55.4  4.6 | 66  27.9  11.6  58.1  6.9 | 0.164  **0.026**  0.265  0.301  0.085 |
| **TST, mm** | 5.7±5.8 | 6.7±6.9 | 0.164 | 9.3±6.4 | 10.2±7 | **0.015** |
| **TST, %**  =0 mm  ≥5 mm  ≥10 mm  ≥15 mm | 28.6  44.2  18.4  7.8 | 28.8  47.9  28.3  11.7 | 0.970  0.384  **0.008**  0.164 | 11  69.1  39.3  15.3 | 11.5  72.7  45.4  18.6 | 0.782  0.156  **0.027**  0.120 |
| **QFT-GIT, %**  Positive  Negative  Indeterminate | 9.7  89.8  0.5 | 10.8  88.8  0.4 | 0.250 | 15.1  84.9  - | 17.8  82.1  0.1 | 0.194 |
| **LTBI treatment, %** | 44.7 | 45.8 | 0.672 | 60.2 | 58.4 | 0.529 |

Continuous variables were given as means ± standard deviations. n= number; RA = rheumatoid arthritis; SpA = spondyloarthritis; cDMARD = conventional disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug; TST = tuberculin skin test; QFT-GIT = Quantiferon®-TB Gold In-Tube; LTBI = latent tuberculosis infection