During a 12 months follow-up, 55 flares were enregistered, including 11 cases of severe flares, with a SLEDAI increase from 3 to 17 points. So, the total incidence of flares was 0.53 patient/year and the incidence for severe flares was 0.10 patient/year. In order to assess the risk of flares, we have studied several potential risk factors, as shown in the table.

### Conclusions

The incidence of flare in a 12 months period was 53.9%, including 10.8% of severe flares. Low Hb and lymphocytopenia are at risk for flares and antiphospholipid syndrome and pulmonary involvement were the main clinical risk factors in our cohort.

### Methods

This prospective observational study included UCLA cohort patients started on new immunosuppressive agents. Plasma samples were taken at baseline and 12 weeks. HDL cohort patients started mycophenolate mofetil (MMF), 18 azathioprine (AZA), and 25 hydroxychloroquine (HCQ). In MMF treated subjects, HDL function (p=0.009, paired t-test) and sTWEAK (p=0.05) significantly improved after 12 weeks, while leptin and homocysteine did not significantly change. In HCQ treated subjects, HDL function improved (p=0.05). In the AZA group there were no significant changes in any of the biomarkers. Overall, the mean number of PREDICTS biomarkers at week 12 significantly decreased in the MMF group (p=0.03).

### Results

Homocysteine was measured in the UCLA clinical labs. A substrate incubated with LDL and patient HDL. Antioxidant function was measured by changes in fluorescence intensity of a substrate incubated with LDL and patient HDL.

Plasma samples were taken at baseline and 12 weeks. HDL cohort patients started mycophenolate mofetil (MMF), 18 azathioprine (AZA), and 25 hydroxychloroquine (HCQ). In MMF treated subjects, HDL function (p=0.009, paired t-test) and sTWEAK (p=0.05) significantly improved after 12 weeks, while leptin and homocysteine did not significantly change. In HCQ treated subjects, HDL function improved (p=0.05). In the AZA group there were no significant changes in any of the biomarkers. Overall, the mean number of PREDICTS biomarkers at week 12 significantly decreased in the MMF group (p=0.03).