

**Supplementary Table 4. Details of patients who flared within 52 weeks of glucocorticoid discontinuation**

Prior severe organ involvement	Age	Sex	SLE organ manifestation	Ab profile	Duration of SLE until GC discontinuation (days)	Treatment regimen at GC discontinuation	Date of first flare after GC discontinuation (days)	Flare details
(-)	38	F	Mucocutaneous, joint, hematologic	ANA80 (speckled homo) anti-dsDNA Ab	3326	Tac, SASP	301	Fever, arthritis, leukocytopenia, thrombocytopenia: mPSL 30 mg/day, finally discontinued 251 days after the first flare
(-)	72	F	Joint, serositis	ANA > 2560 (speckled homo) anti-dsDNA Ab, LAC	3249	Tac, MTX	315	Arthritis: increased MTX
(-)	43	F	Mucocutaneous, joint, hematologic	ANA 40, LAC, CL, CLβ2GPI	2343	HCQ, MZR	282	Thrombocytopenia: restarted PSL 30 mg every other day
(-)	59	F	Mucocutaneous, joint	ANA 1280 (speckled homo) anti-dsDNA Ab, anti-RNP Ab	1999	MTX	304	Arthritis: started IGU

(+)	24	F	Mucocutaneous, joint, renal	ANA 640 (speckled homo), anti-dsDNA Ab, anti-RNP Ab, anti-Sm Ab, anti-SSA Ab, anti-SSB ab, CL $\beta$ 2GPI	2349	HCQ, Tac	280	Flare of lupus nephritis: restarted PSL 25 mg/day and added Tac. Finally, tapered PSL to 2.5 mg/day
(+)	30	F	Serositis	ANA 2560 (speckled), anti-RNP Ab	650	Tac	313	Myopathy: started PSL 40 mg/day. Finally tapered PSL to 6 mg/day
(+)	89	F	Joint, renal	ANA > 2560 (homo, nucleolar), anti-dsDNA Ab, anti-RNP Ab, anti-Sm Ab, anti-SSA Ab, LAC, anti-CL Ab	4851	Tac, MMF	70	Proteinuria: started BEL
(+)	53	F	Joint, renal, serositis	ANA 1280 (speckled homo) anti-RNP Ab, anti-Sm Ab, anti-SSA Ab	7263	HCQ, Tac	112	Arthritis: restarted PSL 5 mg/day and started IGU

(+)	24	F	Mucocutaneous, joint, hematologic	ANA 160 (speckled homo nucleolar), anti-dsDNA Ab, anti-SSA Ab	1881	Tac	259	Leukocytopenia: restarted PSL 5 mg/day
(+)	47	F	Mucocutaneous, renal, hematologic	ANA 80 (homo), anti-dsDNA Ab, anti-RNP Ab, anti-SSA Ab	7532	HCQ	195	Hair loss: started MZR
(+)	50	F	Mucocutaneous, joint, renal, hematologic	ANA 640 (homo), anti-dsDNA Ab, anti-SSA Ab, LAC	3995	IGU	322	Arthritis: started PSL 5 mg/day
(+)	31	F	Mucocutaneous, joint, hematologic	ANA 2560 (speckled) anti-dsDNA Ab, anti-Ro/SSA Ab	4367	HCQ, CyA	287	Arthritis: started BLM

Ab = antibody; ANA = anti-nuclear antibody; anti-CL = anti-cardiolipin; anti-CL $\beta$ 2GPI = anti-cardiolipin $\beta$ 2GPI; anti-dsDNA = anti-ds DNA; anti-RNP = anti-RNP; BEL =

belimumab; BMI = body mass index; F = female; GC = glucocorticoid; HCQ = hydroxychloroquine; IGU = iguratimod; LAC = lupus anticoagulant; MMF = mycophenolate mofetil;

mPSL = methylprednisolone; MZR = mizoribine; PSL = prednisolone; RF = rheumatoid factor; SLE = systemic lupus erythematosus; TAC = tacrolimus.