

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary Table 1. Comparison of the characteristics of the 613 newly diagnosed patients included in the analysis, with those of 1252 patients contemporaneously recruited to the BOX study, but without a serum sample collected within 3 months of diagnosis. * $p < 0.05$ or ** $p < 0.001$ subgroup significantly different from whole BOX study.

Factor	Patients with serum samples suitable for IAA	Patients with diagnosis serum samples	Other cases in BOX
n	423	613	1252
Median age, years (range)	10.4 *(0.7 to 20.7)	10.9 ** (0.7 to 20.8)	10.0 (0.4 to 21.0)
Minimum date of diagnosis	Nov-1985	Jul-1985	Jan-1985
Maximum date of diagnosis	Feb-2002	Feb-2002	Feb-2002
Gender, male, n (%)	237 (56.0)	345 (56.3)	689 (55.0)
HLA Class II, n (%)			
<i>DR3-DQ2/DR4-DQ8</i>	147 (34.8)	225 (36.7)	251 (32.7)
<i>DR4-DQ8/DR4-DQ8</i>	24 (5.7)	30 (4.9)*	59 (7.7)
<i>DR3-DQ2/DR3-DQ2</i>	30 (7.1)	49 (8.0)	67 (8.7)
<i>DR4-DQ8/X</i>	107 (25.3)	143 (23.3)	169 (22.1)
<i>DR3-DQ2/X</i>	70 (16.5)	98 (16.0)	133 (17.3)
<i>X/X</i>	45 (10.6)	68 (11.1)	89 (11.6)
Total	423	613	770