

Table 5 Mean serum levels of selected markers in subgroups of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) at baseline and after 3 and 6 months

Marker	Active SLE with flare-ups (n = 10)	Active SLE with remission (n = 8)	Inactive SLE (n = 4)
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)
Anti-dsDNA (IU/mL)			
Baseline	71.5 (67.6)**	86.3 (55.1)**	33.2 (35.3)
3 months	86.1 (67.3)**	52.3 (56.8)	29.9 (25.8)
6 months	68.2 (51.9)**	32.4 (51.2)** ^{ab}	24.1 (11.5)
C3 (g/L)			
Baseline	0.63 (0.17)	0.54 (0.14)	0.72 (0.22)
3 months	0.62 (0.15)	0.59 (0.19)	0.76 (0.19)
6 months	0.57 (0.19)	0.60 (0.16)	0.69 (0.20)
C4 (g/L)			
Baseline	0.16 (0.07)	0.15 (0.08)	0.19 (0.08)
3 months	0.15 (0.06)	0.17 (0.06)	0.16 (0.06)
6 months	0.13 (0.05)	0.16 (0.07)	0.16 (0.05)
Neopterin (nmol/mL)			
Baseline	14.1 (8.3)**	13.9 (9.4)**	10.5 (8.4)
3 months	13.3 (8.7)**	12.7 (7.6)	10.8 (9.6)
6 months	12.8 (7.2)**	10.2 (6.1)**	8.7 (6.7)
sICAM-1 (ng/mL)			
Baseline	724 (236)	662 (173)	529 (252)
3 months	628 (152)	636 (152)	538 (156)
6 months	645 (273)	611 (139)	501 (134)
sVCAM-1 (ng/mL)			
Baseline	2105 (312)**	1722 (426)	1564 (385)
3 months	1662 (325)**	1347 (374)	1456 (491)
6 months	1265 (296)** ^{ab}	961 (463)** ^{ab}	1057 (269)** ^{ab}

**P < 0.05 versus inactive subgroup; *P < 0.05 versus baseline measurement.

SD = standard deviation; anti-dsDNA = antibodies to double-stranded DNA; C3 and C4 = complement components 3 and 4; sICAM-1 = soluble intercellular adhesion molecule; sVCAM-1 = soluble vascular cell adhesion molecule.