



The prognostic role of matrix metalloproteinase-7 in scleroderma-associated interstitial lung disease

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Matrix metalloproteinase-7 level is associated with worse baseline pulmonary function and worse transplant-free survival in scleroderma interstitial lung disease <https://bit.ly/3zZhja7>

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To the Editor:

Systemic sclerosis (SSc) has the highest mortality rate amongst rheumatologic diseases [1]. It is characterised by endothelial dysfunction resulting in a small vessel vasculopathy leading to inflammation and fibrosis of skin and internal organs, including the lungs [1]. Pulmonary manifestations of SSc (pulmonary hypertension and interstitial lung disease (ILD)) account for the majority of deaths in these patients, and ILD alone accounts for a third of the mortality observed in SSc patients [2].