

Supplementary table S1. Metabolic parameters for the axillary lymph nodes and 12 joints at baseline and 6 months

	Baseline						6 months					
	SUV _{max}		MAV (mL)		TLG (g)		SUV _{max}		MAV (mL)		TLG (g)	
	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L
Lymph node	2.01 (1.56)	1.99 (1.19)	5.69 (6.98)	6.42 (5.89)	8.24 (12.15)	8.62 (9.66)	1.14*** (1.00)	1.13*** (0.82)	3.03*** (3.63)	4.44*** (4.53)	2.92*** (4.80)	4.00*** (6.54)
Shoulder	2.11 (1.05)	2.23 (1.18)	45.29 (19.17)	46.15 (17.86)	46.26 (19.08)	54.16 (39.83)	1.73** (0.46)	1.87* (0.79)	42.31 (14.32)	43.00 (14.33)	39.94** (17.64)	44.03** (22.44)
Elbow	2.10 (1.12)	2.13 (1.23)	40.98 (16.05)	49.58 (24.80)	44.99 (31.05)	56.99 (44.35)	1.64*** (0.78)	1.67** (0.86)	41.52 (12.93)	44.44* (18.75)	38.18* (20.05)	44.44*** (32.63)
Wrist	2.59 (1.42)	2.60 (1.43)	34.27 (16.76)	33.27 (19.17)	47.17 (32.54)	45.93 (32.30)	2.01*** (1.28)	1.84*** (0.84)	30.92* (13.53)	33.15 (15.07)	33.31*** (19.02)	34.62*** (21.93)
Hip	1.69 (0.57)	1.67 (0.79)	30.73 (13.79)	32.17 (10.38)	30.04 (26.44)	29.60 (17.74)	1.64 (0.67)	1.62 (0.55)	27.45 (9.75)	29.02* (8.79)	24.70 (12.74)	26.22 (13.72)
Knee	2.95 (1.79)	2.45 (1.42)	79.17 (53.14)	77.07 (52.84)	116.07 (109.50)	98.32 (96.54)	2.02*** (0.98)	1.72*** (0.67)	85.36 (47.56)	81.72 (43.75)	94.94 (83.68)	74.85 (56.61)
Ankle	2.00 (1.07)	2.09 (1.31)	44.80 (25.82)	42.82 (27.96)	47.54 (43.73)	47.48 (53.50)	1.60*** (0.76)	1.68** (0.87)	41.14 (16.84)	37.97 (15.03)	34.99** (21.85)	33.36** (18.83)

R: right; L: left; SUV_{max}: maximum standardized uptake value; MAV: metabolic active volume; TLG: total lesion glycolysis; the data are expressed as mean ± standard deviation. The means for each parameter were calculated before and after 6 months of treatment. Wilcoxon's signed rank test were used to compare the metabolic parameters before and after treatment. * $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.005$; *** $P < 0.001$.

Supplementary table S2. Correlations between the changes in the metabolic parameters of the axillary LNs and ipsilateral lower limb joints

	Ipsilateral LN		
	$\Delta\text{SUV}_{\text{max}}$	ΔMAV	ΔTLG
Hip joints			
$\Delta\text{SUV}_{\text{max}}$	0.094		
ΔMAV		0.234	
ΔTLG			0.066
Knee joints			
$\Delta\text{SUV}_{\text{max}}$	0.300*		
ΔMAV		0.086	
ΔTLG			0.161
Ankle joints			
$\Delta\text{SUV}_{\text{max}}$	0.349**		
ΔMAV		0.030	
ΔTLG			0.189

Δ : differences in values before and after treatment; LN: lymph node; SUV_{max} : maximum standardized uptake value; MAV: metabolic active volume; TLG: total lesion glycolysis.

Spearman's correlation coefficients were used to assess the correlations. * $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.005$;

*** $P < 0.001$.

Supplementary table S3. Correlations between the metabolic parameters for the 12 joints and the clinical evaluations of the disease activity

Joints	ΔDAS28-ESR	ΔDAS28-CRP	ΔESR	ΔCRP	ΔMMP-3
Δ SUV _{max}	0.516***	0.601***	0.411**	0.483***	0.450***
Δ MAV	-0.276*	-0.235	-0.067	-0.118	-0.033
Δ TLG	0.214	0.278*	0.369**	0.307*	0.329*

Δ : differences in the values before and after treatment; LN: lymph node; SUV_{max}: maximum standardized uptake value; MAV: metabolic active volume; TLG: total lesion glycolysis; CRP: C-reactive protein; ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate; MMP-3: matrix metalloproteinase-3; DAS28: Disease Activity Score in 28 joints. Spearman's correlation coefficients were used to assess the correlations. * $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.005$; *** $P < 0.001$