

**Supplementary Table 2. Demographic and clinical characteristics of SLE patients before and after 4 weeks of treatment.**

	Before (n=11)	After (n=11)
Age, years	31 ± 10	31 ± 10
Female/Male	11/0	11/0
SLEDAI score	15 ± 3	11 ± 3***
Anti-dsDNA , IU/mL <sup>a</sup>	367.4 ± 408.1	106.1 ± 108.5 **
Globulin, g/L	24.3 ± 5.5	25.4 ± 6.2
Albumin, g/L	22.0 ± 6.2	26.2 ± 5.2***
Serum C3, g/L	0.36 ± 0.16	0.57 ± 0.23*
WBC, 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	4.53 ± 1.90	6.39 ± 1.93**
Lymphocyte, 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	0.64 ± 0.42	0.97 ± 0.33***
Platelet, 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	129.5 ± 62.4	167.6 ± 60.3**
Urinary proteins, g/24h	4.3 ± 4.2	2.6 ± 2.4 *
Microscopic hematuria, RBC/HPF	20 ± 14	13 ± 10**

**Note:** All data are expressed as mean ± SD, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$  vs. values before treatment. <sup>a</sup> Normal reference range of anti-dsDNA is 0-12 IU/ml. All 11 patients received prednisone and hydroxychloroquine for treatment. Two patients received additional immunosuppressants. One was treated with mycophenolate and cyclosporin A. The other received cyclophosphamide.