

Online Resource 3. The reliability between local clinical findings and serum C-reactive protein levels over the course in patients with initially elevated serum C-reactive protein levels ($n = 23$)

Variables	Elevated CRP level	Normal CRP level	Kappa statistic
Local inflammation			
3 months after the initiation of treatment ($n = 18$) ^a			0.31
Resolved	7	7	
Not resolved	4	0	
6 months after the initiation of treatment ($n = 17$) ^b			0.07
Resolved	10	6	
Not resolved	1	0	
12 months after the initiation of treatment ($n = 12$) ^c			0
Resolved	8	4	
Not resolved	0	0	
Wound closure			
3 months after the initiation of treatment ($n = 18$) ^a			0.06
Achieved	1	1	
Not achieved	10	6	
6 months after the initiation of treatment ($n = 17$) ^b			0.06
Achieved	3	2	
Not achieved	8	4	
12 months after the initiation of treatment ($n = 12$) ^c			0
Achieved	4	2	
Not achieved	4	2	

Note:

Abbreviations: CRP, C-reactive protein

^aData pertinent to 18 patients were available at 3 months post-treatment initiation, after excluding three who died and two who were transferred to other hospitals.

^bData pertinent to 17 patients were available at 6 months post-treatment initiation, after

- 15 excluding three who died and three who were transferred to other hospitals.
- 16 ‘Data pertinent to 12 patients were available at 12 months post-treatment initiation, after
- 17 excluding four who died and seven who were transferred to other hospitals.
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