

Additional file 5

Characteristics of the serum samples in the subset

	Cases (<i>n</i> =20)	Controls (<i>n</i> =20)	P-value
Serum sample storage duration* (years)			
Mean (SD)	11.5 (1.1)	11.5 (1.1)	0.965 [§]
Hours in refrigerator[†]			
Median (IQR)	21 (19-22)	22 (18-22)	0.978 [#]
Days at -86 °C[‡]			
Median (IQR)	9 (5-21)	9 (5-21)	0.755 [#]

SD: Standard Deviation; IQR: Inter Quartile Range; * Until date of experiment; [†] Between collection and centrifugation; [‡] Between centrifugation and storage at liquid nitrogen; [§] Independent samples T test; [#] Mann-Whitney U test.