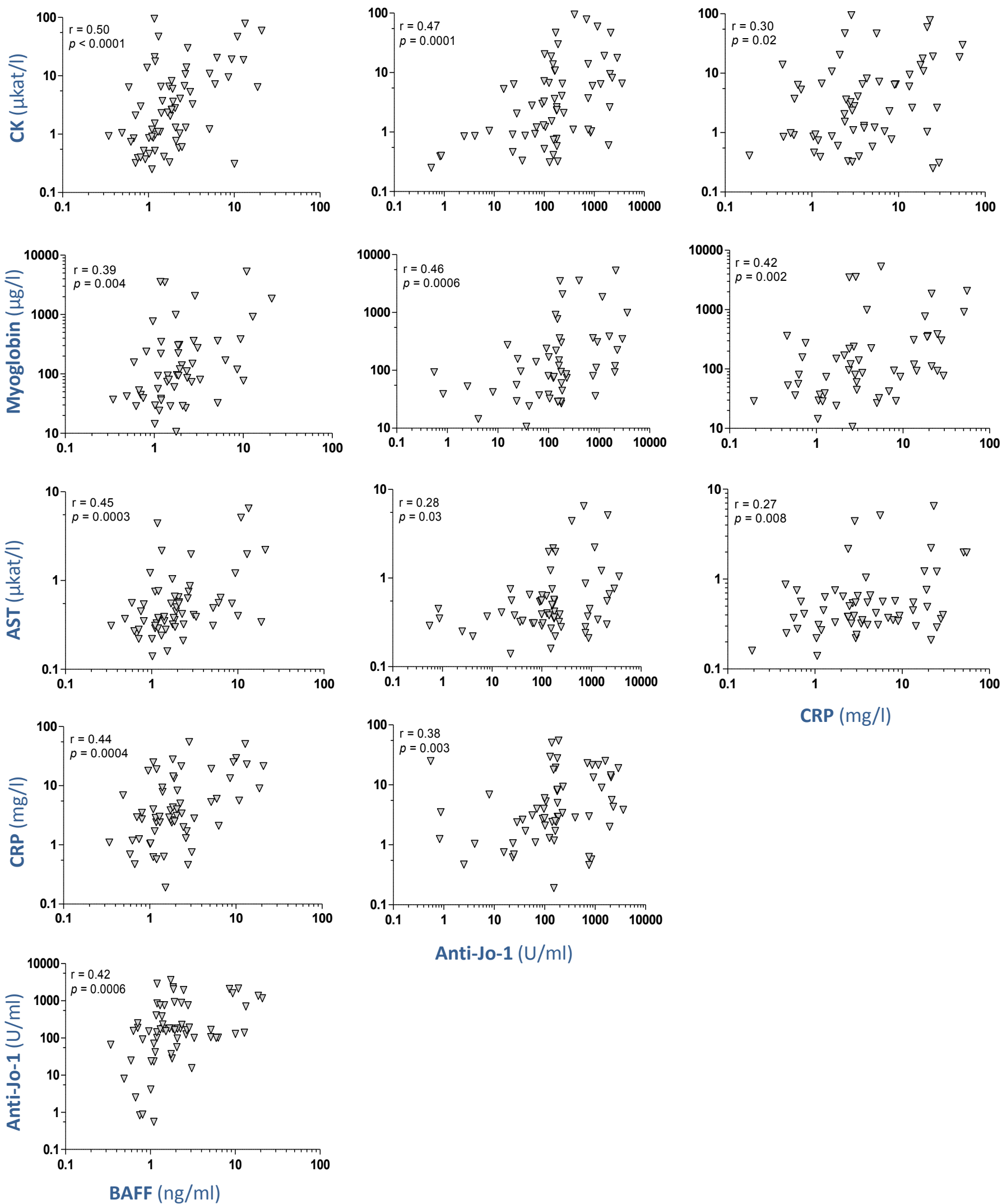




**Additional file 4:** The scatter plots of source cross-sectional data for correlational analysis presented in Table 2. The values of levels of BAFF, anti-Jo-1 antibodies and CRP in serum are plotted in columns against the serum levels of markers of muscle impairment (CK, myoglobin and AST) and CRP in rows. Based on the non-normal distribution, the logarithmically transformed data are plotted. Statistics are:  $r$  = Spearman’s correlation coefficient;  $p$  = p-value