

SUPPLEMENTARY DATA S1

Data S1. Patients exposure outcome (PEO) framework for eligibility of research question.

The PEO question format is used for qualitative research questions. Questions based on this format identify three concepts: (1) Population, (2) Exposure, and (3) Outcome(s).

Questions are outlined below:

- In Systemic Sclerosis (SSc) patients (P), which is the prevalence (O) of BAL execution (E)?
- In Systemic Sclerosis (SSc) patients with secondary interstitial lung disease (ILD) (P), which is the prevalence (O) of BAL execution (E)?
- Which diagnostic criteria (O) were used in SSc-ILD patients (P), to define the presence of alveolitis at BAL (E)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), which is the prevalence (O) of alveolitis features at BAL (E)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) determines lung functional test alteration (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL(E) determines FVC or FEV1 decrease (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) determines DLCO decrease (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) is associated to previous immunosuppressive treatment (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) determines worsening on prognosis (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) determines radiological progression of lesions in follow up (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) determines clinical worsening (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) determines progressive functional deterioration (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) determines death for respiratory failure (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) is treated with specific therapy (O)?
- In SSc-ILD patients (P), the presence of positive BAL (E) is treated with immunosuppressive therapy (O)?