



<https://printo.it/pediatric-rheumatology/TW/intro>

## International Consortium for Antinuclear Antibodies (SPA-ERA)

Introduction

### 2. Objectives

#### 2.1 Background

Approximately 16% of patients with systemic sclerosis (SSc) have antinuclear antibodies (ANA) detectable by indirect immunofluorescence (IIF) on HEp-2 cells. The presence of ANA is associated with more severe disease, including higher risk of interstitial lung disease, renal crisis, and calcinosis. The SPA-ERA consortium aims to standardize ANA testing and reporting in SSc across different countries and laboratories.

#### 2.2 Laboratory methods

HLA-B27 is a genetic marker associated with ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and other spondyloarthropathies. In SSc, HLA-B27 is present in approximately 1% of patients, while in AS it is present in approximately 12%. The SPA-ERA consortium aims to standardize HLA-B27 testing and reporting in SSc. The consortium will use a standardized protocol for HLA-B27 testing, including a standardized questionnaire and a standardized laboratory protocol. The consortium will also aim to standardize the reporting of HLA-B27 results, including the use of a standardized format and the inclusion of relevant clinical information.

#### 2.3 Study design

The SPA-ERA consortium will conduct a multi-center, cross-sectional study of SSc patients across different countries and laboratories.

#### 2.4 Study population

The study population will include SSc patients from different countries and laboratories, including those with limited cutaneous SSc (lcSSc) and diffuse cutaneous SSc (dcSSc).

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## NSAIDs

(Naproxen) (Diclofenc) (Ibuprofen) /

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## (Sulfasalazine)

NSAIDs (Sulfasalazine) (methotrexate) (leflunomide) /

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## 2.5

(Sulfasalazine) /

