Supplementary File II: Comparison of characteristics at baseline in patients and dropouts

Variables	Patients (n=56)	n	Dropouts (n=34)	n	P
Women, n, (%)	43 (76.8)	56	23 (67.7)	34	0.34
Age, mean (SD) yrs	60.2 (10.3)	56	57.6 (11.4)	32	0.14
Disease duration	7.7 (7.7)	54	8.3 (6.4)	30	0.14
Limited systemic sclerosis (lSSc), n (%)	26 (48.2)	54	16 (53.3)	30	0.65
Raynaud's phenomenon, n (%)	55 (98.2)	56	33 (97.0)	34	0.36
mRodnan Skin Score, median (25th-75th percentile)	8 (6-13)	55	9 (8-12)	29	0.34
- Score on hands	2 (1-3)	55	2 (1-3)	29	0.27
- Score on fingers	4 (3-4)	55	4 (3-4)	29	0.55
mRodnan Skin Score, 1yr median (25th-75th percentile)	8 (5.5-12)	52	9 (7-16)	31	0.19
- Score on hands	1 (1-2.5)	52	2 (1-3)	31	0.39
- Score on fingers	3 (2-4)	52	4 (3-4)	31	0.03
Arthrosis, n (%)	28 (52.8)	53	13 (50.0)	26	0.81
Arthritis, n (%)	6 (12.0)	50	1 (4.2)	24	0.28
HAMIS, median (25th-75th percentile)	10.0 (6.0-17.0)	56	11.0 (7.0-16.0)	32	0.68
Fingertips to proximal palmar crease, median (25th-75th percentile)	15.5 (10.0-20.2)	56	13.9 (9.3-26.9)	31	0.92
Fingertips to distal palmar crease, median (25th-75th percentile)	7.4 (3.7-14.0)	55	6.4 (4.1-9.8)	32	0.41
SF-36 physical health scale, median (25th-75th percentile)	37.2 (30.4-46.1)	56	36.1 (30.4-40.4)	28	0.54
SF-36 mental health scale, median (25th-75th percentile)	51.6 (42.6-59.3)	56	52.5 (45.9-58.9)	28	0.94