

**Table 1.** Basal cortisol (nmol/l) levels in patients and controls.

| Basal cortisol levels<br>at zero time of  | AS<br>(n=13) | Controls<br>(n=8) | P value |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------|
| LDT                                       | 556±204      | 572±199           | 0.770   |
| SDT                                       | 524±169      | 520±182           | 0.885   |
| ITT                                       | 418±232      | 424±194           | 0.717   |
| Average value of basal<br>cortisol levels | 499±134      | 505±165           | 0.940   |

AS; Ankylosing spondylitis, LDT; Low-dose ACTH test, SDT; Standard-dose ACTH test, ITT; Insulin tolerance test  
Results are expressed as mean ± S.D.