

Response to: 'Ultrasonographic salivary gland evaluation in systemic sclerosis: is sicca syndrome secondary to an authentic overlap syndrome or another specific fibrotic manifestation of the disease?' by Coiffier *et al*

We would like to thank Coiffier and colleagues for their attention to our paper.^{1 2}

Dryness in systemic sclerosis (SSc) may result from salivary gland fibrosis secondary to the disease or Sjögren's syndrome associated with SSc, especially in patients with anticentromere antibodies, or both mechanisms. Ultrasound of the major salivary glands is a simple, rapid and non-invasive assessment tool. Correlated to biopsy, it could provide pathophysiological evidence in favour of either of these hypotheses.

We look forward to the study proposed by the authors.

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