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Traditional cardiovascular risk factors or inflammation: Which factors accelerate atherosclerosis in arthritis patients?

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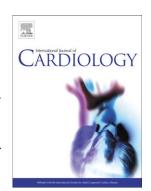
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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

# Traditional cardiovascular risk factors or inflammation: which factors accelerate atherosclerosis in arthritis patients?

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#### **Abbreviations:**

ACE: angiotensin converting enzyme

AS: ankylosing spondylitis

ASDAS-CRP: ankylosing spondylitis disease activity score

BMI: body mass index cDC: carotid distensibility

cIMT: carotid intima-media thickness

COX: cyclooxygenase CRP: C-reactive protein

CVDs: cardiovascular diseases CVEs: cardiovascular events

DAS28-CRP: disease activity score 28

DMARD: disease modifying anti-rheumatic drug

ESR: erythrocyte sedimentation rate

EULAR: European League Against Rheumatism NSAIDs: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

PsA: psoriatic arthritis RA: rheumatoid arthritis SBP: systolic blood pressure

SD: standard deviation

SEM: standard error of the mean US: ultrasound examination

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