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Response to: 'Comment on editorial 'Pathogenic effector functions of ACPA: where do we stand'' by Holmdahl

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We have read with interest the comments by Dr Holmdahl¹ on our editorial entitled 'Pathogenic effector functions of ACPA: where do we stand?'² and thank him for the additional information. We fully agree with him about the importance of accuracy, reliability and reproducibility of data published in the literature. Our editorial, however, was based on information available in scientific journals and focused on methodological considerations in determining the role of anti-citrullinated protein antibodies (ACPAs) in the pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis. We are therefore unable to comment on the issues Dr Holmdahl raises concerning the awareness of the authors of the articles in question about the problems with the monoclonal ACPAs and the timing of the correction or retraction notices.³⁻⁷ We believe that these issues can best be handled in venues in which the authors can respond and provide their own perspective.

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