

SLE Classification Criteria

ANA entry criterion plus 7 weighted clinical and 3 immunologic domains for classification of systemic lupus erythematosus.

2019 EULAR/ACR Criteria
Classification Criteria for Systemic Lupus
Erythematosus
Aringer M, et al. · Arthritis Rheumatol
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FORMAT Only the highest-weighted item per domain counts. Criteria not counted if a more likely explanation exists.

1 Entry Criterion

Mandatory: ANA titer $\geq 1:80$ on HEp-2 cells (or equivalent positive test) at least once — required before applying additive criteria; if absent, do not classify as SLE.

2 Weighted Clinical & Immunologic Domains

CLINICAL DOMAINS — HIGHEST ITEM (POINTS)

DOMAIN	ITEM
Constitutional	Fever $> 38.3^{\circ}\text{C}$ 2
Hematologic	Leukopenia 3 · thrombocytopenia 4 · autoimmune hemolysis 4
Neuropsychiatric	Delirium 2 · psychosis 3 · seizure 5
Mucocutaneous	Alopecia 2 · oral ulcers 2 · subacute cutaneous/discoid lupus 4 · acute cutaneous lupus 6
Serosal	Pleural/pericardial effusion 5 · acute pericarditis 6
Musculoskeletal	Joint involvement — ≥ 2 joints with synovitis or tenderness + morning stiffness 6
Renal	Proteinuria $> 0.5\text{g}/24\text{h}$ 4 · class II/V lupus nephritis 8 · class III/IV lupus nephritis 10

IMMUNOLOGIC DOMAINS — ITEM (POINTS)

DOMAIN	ITEM
Antiphospholipid Ab	Anti-cardiolipin, anti- $\beta 2\text{GP1}$, or lupus anticoagulant 2
Complement	Low C3 OR low C4 3 ; low C3 AND low C4 4
SLE-specific Ab	Anti-dsDNA* or anti-Smith 6

*Anti-dsDNA requires $\geq 90\%$ specificity for SLE against relevant disease controls in the assay used.

3 Scoring Rules & Threshold

Domain rule — only the highest-weighted item within each domain counts; criteria need not occur simultaneously.

Attribution — a criterion counts only if no more likely explanation than SLE exists (infection must be excluded/considered first).

Threshold — classify as SLE if the entry criterion is met and total score ≥ 10 .

Performance — sensitivity 96%, specificity 93% in the validation cohort, an improvement over the ACR 1997 and SLICC 2012 criteria.