

Supplementary

Table S1. Differences of EPC frequency between RA-ILD⁺ patients and the three comparative groups (healthy controls, RA-ILD⁻ and IPF patients).

	EPC Frequency (Mean ± SD)	<i>p</i>
RA-ILD ⁺ patients vs healthy controls	0.047 ± 0.023 vs 0.019 ± 0.012	< 0.001
RA-ILD ⁺ patients vs RA-ILD ⁻ patients	0.047 ± 0.023 vs 0.030 ± 0.013	0.003
RA-ILD ⁺ patients vs IPF patients	0.047 ± 0.023 vs 0.091 ± 0.045	< 0.001

EPC: endothelial progenitor cells; RA: rheumatoid arthritis; ILD: interstitial lung disease; IPF: idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis; SD: standard deviation. Significant results are highlighted in bold.