### Table 3: Correlations between low back pain intensity (NRS) and cytokines

| Cytokine      | Correlation coefficients, *r* | p-values  |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| IL-1β         | 0.09                          | 0.30      |
| IL-2          | 0.25                          | 0.004     |
| IL-4          | 0.20                          | 0.03      |
| IL-6          | 0.41                          | <0.001    |
| IL-8          | 0.15                          | 0.09      |
| IL-10         | 0.25                          | 0.005     |
| IL-16         | 0.49                          | <0.001    |
| IFN-γ         | 0.23                          | 0.008     |
| TNF-α         | 0.19                          | 0.03      |
| MIF           | 0.38                          | <0.001    |
| GM-CSF        | 0.11                          | 0.23      |
| CCL1          | 0.24                          | 0.006     |
| CCL2          | 0.18                          | 0.04      |
| CCL3          | 0.18                          | 0.04      |
| CCL7          | 0.20                          | 0.03      |
| CCL8          | 0.20                          | 0.02      |
| CCL11         | 0.22                          | 0.01      |
| CCL13         | 0.06                          | 0.53      |
| CCL15         | 0.23                          | 0.01      |
| CCL17         | 0.22                          | 0.02      |
| CCL19         | 0.30                          | 0.001     |
| CCL20         | 0.41                          | <0.001    |
| Cytokine | Correlation | p-value |
|----------|-------------|---------|
| CCL21    | 0.23        | 0.009   |
| CCL22    | **0.41**    | **<0.001** |
| CCL23    | 0.24        | 0.008   |
| CCL24    | 0.06        | 0.50    |
| CCL25    | 0.27        | 0.002   |
| CCL26    | **0.31**    | **<0.001** |
| CCL27    | **0.45**    | **<0.001** |
| CXCL1    | 0.08        | 0.37    |
| CXCL2    | 0.05        | 0.59    |
| CXCL6    | 0.18        | 0.05    |
| CXCL9    | 0.10        | 0.24    |
| CXCL10   | 0.13        | 0.15    |
| CXCL11   | 0.07        | 0.46    |
| CXCL12   | 0.20        | 0.03    |
| CXCL13   | **0.32**    | **<0.001** |
| CXCL16   | 0.20        | 0.03    |
| CX3CL1   | **0.44**    | **<0.001** |

1. NRS = numerical rating scale.
2. Correlations between low back pain intensity and cytokines. Significant p-values after correction for multiple comparisons are in bold.