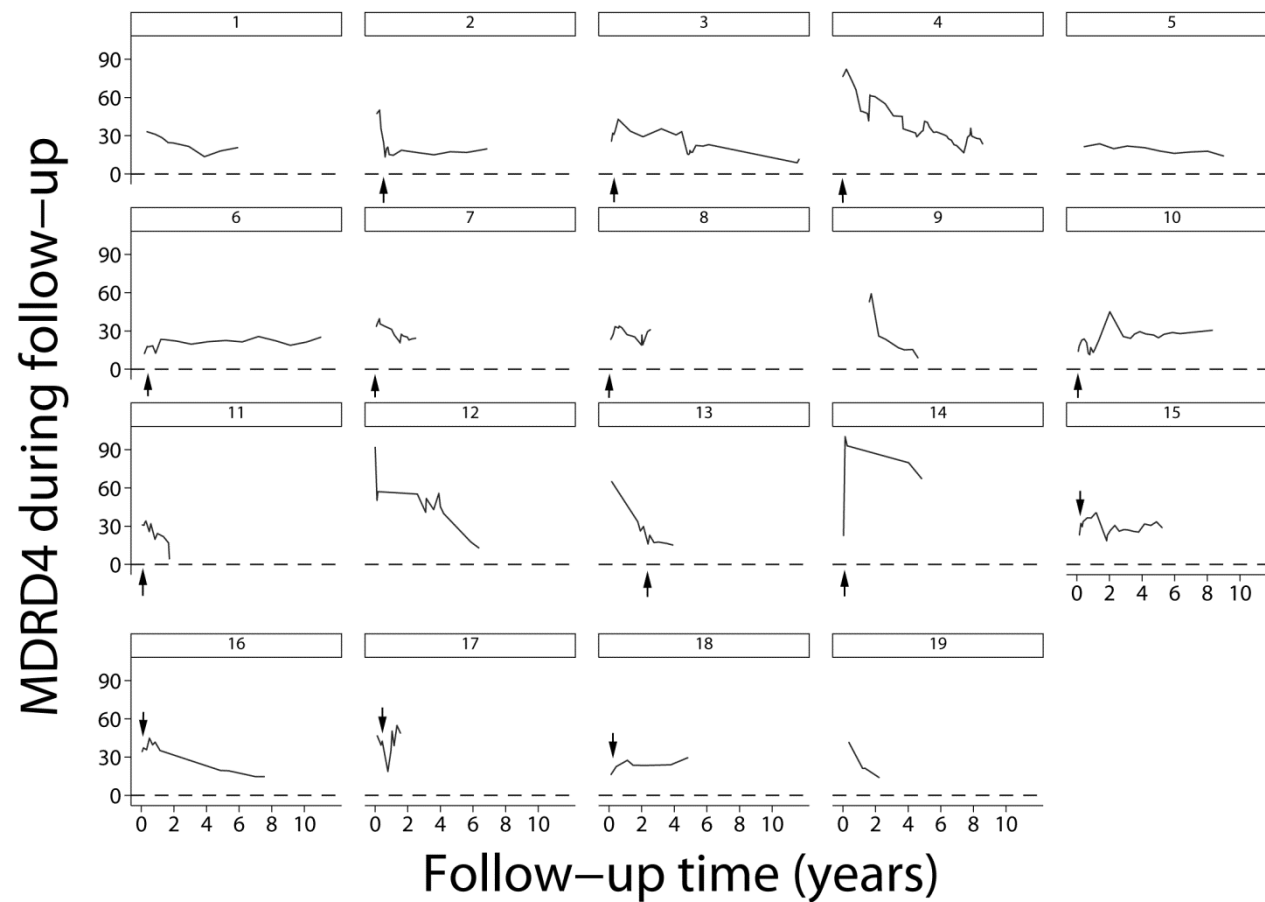


Supplementary Table S1: characteristics of patients showing severe kidney failure during follow-up.

Patient number	Gender	Age at baseline [years]	Immuno-suppressive Therapy	Remarks
1	male	65	none	Refused immunosuppression
2	male	72	CP	
3	female	67	CP	Third occurrence of relapse at end of follow-up
4	male	29	CP	Switched to azathioprine due to liver toxicity. Later switched to MMF, little effect on disease progression
5	female	66	none	
6	male	49	CP	
7	male	69	other IS	
8	male	59	other IS	
9	male	65	none	CP treatment recommended, refused due to expected adverse effects prednisone. Died due to cardiovascular causes.
10	male	64	other IS	
11	male	74	other IS	Treated with MMF, persistent proteinuria. Refused CP, died due to lymphoma.
12	female	67	none	Not treated due to significant comorbidity
13	female	40	CP	Initially refused immunosuppression, and thus delayed onset of therapy. Suspected noncompliant.
14	male	37	CP	
15	male	72	other IS	
16	male	55	other IS	MMF treatment terminated early due to infection
17	male	63	CP	
18	male	65	CP	
19	female	65	none	Suspected tubulointerstitial nephritis.
20	male	37	CP	CP treatment incomplete, switched to azathioprine, later cyclosporin both without success. Developed RRT
21	male	48	CP	Relapse after treatment with CP, later treated with MMF. Progressed to RRT.
22	male	70	none	AKI as a result of sepsis, leading to RRT
23	male	71	CP	Episode of acute kidney injury shortly after treatment was initiated. Required RRT

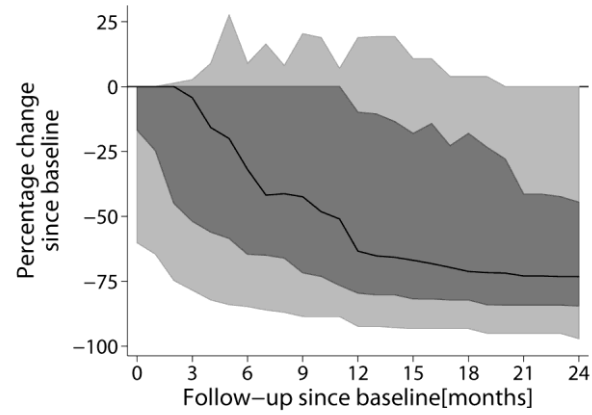
Patient number	Gender	Age [years]	Immuno-suppressive Therapy	Remarks
24	male	72	CP	Initially refused immunosuppression, required RRT.
25	male	59	CP	Therapy onset delayed due to infections. Persistent proteinuria, finally RRT
26	male	52	CP	Therapy recommended due to thrombo-embolic complication. However, therapy onset delayed. Massive proteinuria at end of follow-up. Required RRT.

CP: cyclophosphamide. IS: immunosuppression. MMF: Mycophenolate Mofetil. RRT: Renal Replacement Therapy



Supplementary figure S-1. Course of kidney function in patients who showed severe loss of kidney function but did not develop end stage kidney disease.

Patients 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16 and 19 were considered to be at high risk of requiring renal replacement therapy in the near future. The arrow heads indicate the time treatment with immunosuppressive therapy was initiated.



Supplementary Figure S2. Relative change of proteinuria since baseline in patients who achieved a spontaneous partial remission.

The solid line is the median change, the dark shaded area the inter quartile range and the light shaded area in the range between the 5th and 95th percentiles.