CONCLUSION

- The combination of ATCAGC allele frequencies of non-HLA genes (padi4_89A, padi4_90T, PTPN22C, CTLA4A, STAT4G & CD244C) and HLA-DRB1 SE (*01, *04, *10 & *14) alleles in the presence of autoantibodies (RF and anti-CCP) confers the highest susceptibility to RA in our Indian population.

- The HLA-DRB1 *07, *08, *11, *13 and *15 alleles and non-HLA gene ACCGGC is significantly reduced and confer protection against RA disease.

- The contribution of the studied clinical and genetic markers has suggested the combined predictive value for RA and leads to an extended knowledge on the pathogenesis of RA disease.