



Fig. S1. CONSORT (Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials) diagram of patient flow. Exclusion criteria most often applied were the occurrence of other atopic diseases (asthma and rhinitis; $n=49$) or somatic or psychiatric diseases ($n=45$). The other exclusion criteria applied to only a minority of potential participants ($n < 19$). Seventy persons refused participation because of time constraints. Twenty-eight patients with mild to severe AD assessed by the SCORAD (Severity Scoring of Atopic Dermatitis) (40, 41) finished the study. CAR: cortisol awakening response.