RESULTS
The mean SAP concentration in fat of controls was 0.31 ng/mg fat tissue with a 95% confidence interval (95% CI) ranging from 0.04 to 2.48 ng/mg fat tissue. No correlation was present between SAA concentration of blood and SAP concentration of fat tissue (Figure 1).

Patients with amyloidosis had higher SAP concentrations (p<0.0001) than controls: mean SAP 1.40 ng/mg fat tissue (95% CI: 0.04 - 37.5 ng/mg fat tissue). SAP values above the upper reference limit (>2.48 ng/mg fat tissue) were present in 44 patients (46%) (Figure 2).

The ANOVA test showed a linear trend (p<0.0001) between the mean SAP concentration and Congo red (CR) scores: mean SAP 0.44, 0.70, 1.0, 3.5, and 4.9 for CR 0, 1+, 2+, 3+, and 4+ respectively (Figure 3). The amyloidosis patients with SAP values above the upper reference limit increased from 0% for CR 0 to 16%, 33%, 64%, and 83% for CR 1+, 2+, 3+, and 4+ respectively.

In the group of 18 AA patients the concentrations of SAP and amyloid A protein in fat tissue correlated well (r 0.88, p<0.0001) (Figure 4).

CONCLUSIONS
- The SAP concentration of fat tissue differs between patients with amyloidosis and controls, although with considerable overlap
- There is a good concordance between the SAP concentration and the amount of amyloid in fat tissue

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