

First we would like to thank the reviewers for their instructional comments that significantly improved and strengthened the manuscript.

Reviewer 1:

This work examines the role for ER-stress and the target gene TXNIP in Muller cells and mice after high fat diet. This largely descriptive work defines increased ER-stress gene expression in vivo and in vitro. This effect is blocked by the ER-stress inhibitor 4-PBA. A mechanistic link between TXNIP and inflammation is defined via activation of NLRP3 and IL1B. This work might define an important mechanism for TXNIP in retinal damage accompanying diabetes.

*We thank the reviewer for the encouraging and instructional comments*

Minor concerns:

1. The mice strain used was listed as C57BL/J. Should this be C57BL6/J.  
*6-8 weeks old male C57BL6/J mice*
2. The source and catalog # of the mice used for the study should be defined.  
*Stock 000664, Jackson Laboratory, ME, USA*
3. The diet used for this study should be defined. ie what was the catalog# and supplier for the normal diet and High fat diet.  
*F2685 Bioserv, Frenchtown, NJ, USA*
4. More details on how 4-PBA was delivered should be provided. ie route of administration, and what was the vehicle.  
*PBA was dissolved in DMSO/PBS and administered via oral gavage 5 days/week*

Reviewer 2:

This is a well-designed and conducted study. Major references are cited, and figures are of good quality.

*We thank the reviewer for most encouraging comments*

Reviewer 3:

The manuscript is an excellent overview of the ER-stress study.

*We thank the reviewer for most encouraging comments*