

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