

Dear Editor:

Please find enclosed our revised manuscript entitled 'Proteomics identifies a novel role of fibrinogen-like protein 1 in Crohn's disease' for your consideration for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

We thank reviewer for his helpful and careful revisions. We appreciate the overall positive comments of the reviewer and have incorporated his suggestion, which may help us to improve the manuscript. We have addressed the reviewer's concern in the response below.

**Reviewer comments:**

**Comment:** There are no rationale behind selection of fibrinogen-like protein 1 (FGL1). Authors have discussed how CD is related to with TNFalpha however no basic information about fibrinogen-like protein 1 (FGL1) is mentioned in the introduction. Fibrinogen-like protein 1 (FGL1) has suddenly appeared in the last paragraph of the introduction "Our data showed that fibrinogen-like protein 1 (FGL1) was significantly upregulated in the plasma of CD patients, which was further verified in intestinal tissues". I think author should give a bit description about FGL1 and its relation and rationale in context to the present study.

**Response:**

(1) We have added a description about FGL1 in line 140-144.

(2) In the present study, we applied plasma proteomics to discover a potential biomarker and therapeutic target for CD. Our data showed that FGL1 was significantly upregulated in the plasma of CD patients. Given that FGL1 can regulate immune systems to induce inflammatory response and tumor immune evasion and the correlation between FGL1 and the development of CD is unknown, we further verified the expression of FGL1 in intestinal tissues of CD patients and validated its crucial role in the pathogenesis of CD *in vitro*. This rationale for selection of FGL1 is added in the introduction from line 144 to line 149. All the modifications are marked in red.

We also thank editors for their thorough and thoughtful review on our manuscript. We have gone through and made edits in format as noted under track changes of our edited document, referring to the format example for

basic study. Revised portion are marked in blue in the manuscript.

Other changes: We re-edited the formats of figure 2, 3, and 4.

We hope the revised manuscript is now suitable for publication and will be happy to provide further information or make further revisions if required. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

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