**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Peroxiredoxin 2: A potential biomarker for early diagnosis of Hepatitis B Virus related liver fibrosis identified by proteomic analysis of the plasma

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Dear Editor,

Submitted is the second revised manuscript of MS-1024691504299574 “Peroxiredoxin 2: A potential biomarker for early diagnosis of Hepatitis B Virus related liver fibrosis identified by proteomic analysis of the plasma” together with supplementary documents.

We have spelled out 25 as twenty-five at the beginning of a sentence on page 13 according to Pro. Jianjun Shen’s report.

Concerning the comments from Referee 1 regarding our response to Referee 2, we have revised our paper in the following aspects:

1) After re-checking the pI of peroxiredoxin 2 (P32119, human) in UniProt database, we find that the theoretical pI of the protein is 5.66. Therefore, we deleted the related discussion in the revised paper.

2) All the MS/MS data of the three peptides of peroxiredoxin 2 were shown in supplementary documents. We also included the MS/MS data of peptide 1211.71 in Figure 2.

3) We included peptide count, theoretical and observed molecular weight and isoelectric point of each protein in Table 2. Since our study focused on the differential protein expression among different stages of liver fibrosis, we did not simply compare the protein spot intensity ratio between patient and control. Instead, we used one-way ANOVA analysis to assess differences in protein expression among all groups. Therefore, we prefer not to include protein spot intensity ratio between patient and control subject in Table 2.

4) We mentioned the dye swap experiment in both the “Materials and Methods” and “Results”.

All the changes made were highlighted in the revised paper. We hope that the responses could satisfy the raised comments, and the according revision could have improved the paper and will make it acceptable for publication at *BMC Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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