Author’s response to reviews

Title: Uric acid induced hepatocytes lipid accumulation through regulation of miR-149-5p/FGF21 axis

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Version: 2 Date: 15 Jan 2020

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Prof. Conrado M Fernandez Rodriguez,

Thank you very much for your email dated 11 January 2020, and the valuable comments of the editors. Based on the comments, we have made corresponding extensive modification on the original manuscript. Here, we attached the revised manuscript in which the changes made to the text filled with yellow so that they may be easily identified. A list of answering the comments from the editor was also enclosed. We hope that the revised manuscript is acceptable for publication. Thank you!

Yours Sincerely,
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Replies to Editor:
Comment 1: Thank you for addressing most of reviewers objections. This version clarifies better the

Response: Thank you very much for this valuable comment and suggestion! We have discussed and cited the studies suggested in the revised manuscript on Page ??

Page 17, line 11-20: Our previous studies have shown that SUA levels are significantly elevated in NAFLD patients, and that elevated SUA levels are associated with increased risk of incident NAFLD [9, 23]. Other large population-based cohort studies also found that high SUA levels are positively associated with risk of NAFLD [24, 25]. Histological studies have demonstrated that the SUA levels were significantly associated with histological disease severity of NAFLD [26-28]. Moreover, uric acid-lowering therapy by allopurinol significantly alleviated HFD-induced hepatic steatosis in an animal model of NAFLD [29]. These studies suggested that high uric acid may be a cause for the development of NAFLD, while its underlying molecular mechanism remains unclear.

Page 27-28: Reference 24-29 was added.

Comment 2: Reference 27 seems incomplete.
Reply: Thanks for pointing out our errors and deficiencies. We have completed the reference in the revised manuscript on Page 29.