Author’s response to reviews

Title: Multi-level transcriptome sequencing identifies COL1A1 as a candidate marker in human heart failure progression

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We appreciate the valuable comments of the reviewers very much. Each of these comments has been taken into account in the revised manuscript and also discussed in our response letter. In this second revision, we substantially expanded the heart failure validation cohort (from 89 to 139) to support our finding according to Reviewer#1 comment. The new result is consistent with, but even better than, that in the previous version of the manuscript. This heart failure cohort was the largest one we could get at this stage, and we believe the largest such kind of cohort in the field for this validation purpose. In addition, we re-analyzed the pathway enrichment analysis using the background geneset only from our study, in response to the comment of Reviewer #3. Our new result is still similar. All those changes in the manuscript were labeled in red, except figures, tables and supplementary figures/tables. Our point-to-point response to the reviewers’ comments were also described in the “Response to reviewers” file.
Thank you very much!