# Blood Journal 29 January 2019

Editorial Office

2021 L St. NW, Suite 900

Washington, DC, 20036-4929 USA

T: 202-776-0548

Email: [editorial@hematology.org](mailto:editorial@hematology.org)

Email: [coates.blood@hematology.org](mailto:coates.blood@hematology.org)

Dear Dr. Coates,

Thank you very much for offering the opportunity to revise our manuscript entitled “A Gene-Based Recessive Diplotype Exome Scan Discovers *FGF6*, a Novel Hepcidin-Regulating Iron Metabolism Gene.” On behalf of all the authors, I would like to express our gratitude to the two reviewers for their careful and thoughtful evaluation of our manuscript. We have substantially revised the manuscript, addressing the substantive issues noted in these reviews. We have provided additional description of the genetic analyses and performed additional analyses. Additional language on the compliance to human subjects regulations are included. Notably, we have performed several additional experiments to assess the role of FGF-6 in iron metabolism. After following the suggestions of the reviewers, we strongly believe the resulting manuscript is dramatically improved and offers additional scientific support of FGF-6 playing a role in iron metabolism and iron overload. Changes to the manuscript are denoted in red.

Sincerely,

cid:image002.jpg@01D0512D.1C082B60

Steven J. Schrodi, Ph.D.

Principal Investigator

Laboratory of Immunopathology Genomics and Theoretical Genetics

Center for Precision Medicine Research

Marshfield Clinic Research Institute

1000 North Oak Avenue -- MLR

Marshfield, WI  54449

Tel: (715) 221-6443

Email: [schrodi.steven@mcrf.mfldclin.edu](mailto:schrodi.steven@mcrf.mfldclin.edu)

Faculty, Computation and Informatics in Biology and Medicine

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Email: [schrodi@wisc.edu](mailto:schrodi@wisc.edu)