

1 **Characterization of the small intestinal lesion in celiac disease by label-free quantitative**  
2 **mass spectrometry<sup>1</sup>**

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48 **ABSTRACT**

49 Global characterization of tissue proteomes from small amounts of biopsy material has  
50 become feasible due to advances in mass spectrometry and bioinformatics tools. In celiac  
51 disease (CD), dietary gluten induces an immune response which is accompanied by  
52 pronounced remodeling of the small intestine. Removal of gluten from the diet abrogates the  
53 immune response and the tissue architecture normalizes. In this study we have quantified  
54 differences in global protein expression of small intestinal biopsies from CD patients by  
55 analyzing formalin fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) material using liquid-chromatography  
56 mass spectrometry and label-free protein quantitation. We have compared protein expression  
57 in biopsies collected from the same patients before and after one year treatment with gluten  
58 free diet (n=10) or before and after 3-day gluten provocation (n=4). We show that differential  
59 expression of proteins in particular from mature enterocytes, neutrophils and plasma cells can  
60 distinguish untreated from treated CD mucosa, and that immunoglobulin variable region  
61 IGHV5-51 expression may serve as a CD specific marker of ongoing immune activation. In  
62 patients that had undergone gluten challenge we observed coordinated upregulation of wound  
63 response proteins including the CD autoantigen transglutaminase 2. Our study provides a  
64 global and unbiased assessment of antigen-driven changes in protein expression in the celiac  
65 intestinal mucosa.

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## 74 INTRODUCTION

75 Global transcriptome and proteome quantification of diseased versus healthy tissue are  
76 attractive strategies to gain insight into disease mechanisms and discovery of biomarkers.  
77 Next-generation sequencing technology has boosted the field of transcriptome analysis.  
78 However, the correlation between mRNA transcript levels and protein expression levels is  
79 relatively poor.<sup>1,2</sup> Thus, the importance of reliable characterization and quantification of cell  
80 and tissue proteomes are increasingly appreciated. Global, label free protein quantification by  
81 use of mass spectrometry has in the recent years emerged as a sensitive tool for detection of  
82 differential protein expression.<sup>3</sup> Also formalin fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) tissue  
83 collected for routine pathology analysis can successfully be used for mass spectrometry  
84 analysis and identification and quantification of several thousand proteins.<sup>4-6</sup>

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86 Celiac disease (CD) is a prevalent intestinal disorder that occurs in genetically susceptible  
87 individuals. The disease is driven by a CD4<sup>+</sup> T-cell response towards dietary gluten proteins.  
88 <sup>7</sup> This results in inflammation in the small intestine accompanied by tissue remodeling, villous  
89 blunting and loss of intestinal surface area. The intestinal lesion is infiltrated with immune  
90 cells, in particular intraepithelial lymphocytes and IgA<sup>+</sup> plasma cells.<sup>8-10</sup> On average 10% of  
91 the plasma cells produce autoantibodies towards transglutaminase 2 (TG2), an endogenous  
92 enzyme that catalyzes post-translational modification of gluten T-cell epitopes.<sup>11-13</sup> HLA-  
93 DQ-restricted CD4<sup>+</sup> T-cells that recognize these gluten epitopes exhibit a pro-inflammatory  
94 phenotype and secrete high amounts of IFN- $\gamma$ .<sup>14-16</sup> CD patients also have increased numbers  
95 of CD8<sup>+</sup> intraepithelial T cells that contribute to tissue destruction and intestinal remodeling  
96 as these cells, by use of NK-cell receptors, kill stressed enterocytes.<sup>17</sup>

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98 Disease severity in CD can be graded according to the degree of histological changes in the  
99 intestine, and is often sub-classified to six groups, ranging from Marsh 0 (M0) to Marsh 3C  
100 (M3C).<sup>18</sup> M0 describes the normal histology. M1 describes the same overall villous structure  
101 with long villi, short crypts but more than 25 intraepithelial lymphocytes per 100 enterocytes.  
102 M2 has the same features but with crypt hyperplasia. M3A-C describes the range from partial  
103 to sub-total to total villous atrophy. Many of these morphological changes are reversible, and  
104 removal of gluten from the diet often leads to recovery and normalization of the small  
105 intestinal architecture.<sup>19</sup>

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107 The disease specific adaptive immune response in CD is well characterized. This may be one  
108 of the reasons why few “omics” studies have been conducted on celiac intestinal tissue.<sup>20-22</sup>  
109 However, many questions still remain unanswered, and *a priori* knowledge on disease  
110 mechanisms should encourage bottom up transcriptome or proteome expression studies. Such  
111 efforts will generate data that can both support and supplement, or challenge, established  
112 knowledge. In this study we have performed an in-depth analysis of the small intestinal celiac  
113 mucosa applying a quantitative liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometric (LC-  
114 MS/MS) proteomics approach, where we have analyzed tissue from FFPE blocks collected for  
115 routine histology assessment. We have compared protein expression levels in biopsies  
116 collected from the same patients before or after dietary intervention: First we compared  
117 protein expression in biopsies collected from ten patients with untreated CD (UCD) with  
118 biopsies collected one year later after treatment with gluten free diet (GFD) (treated CD;  
119 TCD). We next analyzed tissue from four TCD patients that developed morphological  
120 changes on day 4 in response to 3-day gluten challenge. Our data showed differential  
121 expression of proteins that agree with our current understanding of CD pathogenesis and but  
122 also suggests that changes in protein expression may not always correlate with histology. We

123 identify immunoglobulin (Ig) gene family usage which may serve as a disease specific marker  
124 of immune activation. Patients subjected to 3-day gluten challenge displayed coordinated  
125 regulation of proteins indicative of acute wound response and tissue remodeling. This  
126 provides insight into the initial steps of intestinal remodeling in response to gluten in CD.

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## 129 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### 130 **Patient selection and patient material**

131 Fourteen DQ2.5+ CD patients were selected for *post-hoc* analysis from two patient cohorts  
132 previously enrolled in research projects in our lab: In the first group we compared biopsies  
133 collected from 10 CD patients at the time of diagnosis (UCD) with biopsies collected one year  
134 later following treatment with GFD (TCD) (Christophersen *et.al*; manuscript in preparation).  
135 All patients were classified as M3 at the time of diagnosis and the majority recovered to M0-1  
136 one year later (Patient P1-P10; Table 1). The second group of patients consisted of 4 TCD  
137 patients that developed histological changes in response to a three-day gluten challenge.<sup>23</sup> We  
138 analyzed biopsy material collected on day 0 before challenge and biopsies collected on day 4  
139 after challenge (Patient B-E; Table 2). Material from duodenal biopsy blocks collected for  
140 histology assessment was utilized in this study. For patients P1-P10 we report anti-TG2 IgA  
141 levels and intraepithelial lymphocytes (IEL) numbers (per 100 enterocyte) assessed at the  
142 time of diagnosis and after one year follow up (Table 1) (Christophersen *et.al*; manuscript in  
143 preparation). All patients had given informed and written consent and the use of material was  
144 approved by Regional Committee for Medical and Health Research Ethics (REK 2010/2720).

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147 **Preparation of FFPE tissue section digests**

148 Fifteen 5-micrometer-thick sections were cut from each FFPE biopsy block and collected in a  
149 tube (1.5 ml, Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany). Paraffin was removed by the following  
150 procedure. Paraffin Removal Reagent (1 ml, BiOstick, MO BIO Laboratories, Qiagen,  
151 Carlsbad, CA, USA) was added and incubated for three minutes at 55 °C with gentle agitation  
152 (350 rpm). The samples were centrifuged at 14000 x g for five minutes and the supernatant  
153 was removed. Xylene (1 ml, AnalR Normapur, VWR Chemicals, Radnor, PA, USA) was  
154 added and the previous step was repeated. Ethanol (absolute, 1 ml, AnalR Normapur, VWR  
155 Chemicals) was added and incubated for 5 minutes at room temperature with gentle agitation  
156 (350 rpm), before centrifugation as above and removal of supernatant. The purification step  
157 with ethanol was repeated, but incubation time was 1 minutes. Traces of ethanol were  
158 removed from the samples by incubation in a vacuum drier. For protein extraction the sample  
159 tissues were dissolved in 20 µl 0.2 % ProteaseMax Surfactant (trypsin enhancer, Promega,  
160 Madison, WI, USA) in 50 mM NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>3</sub> and 73.5 µl 50 mM NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>3</sub> were added. The  
161 samples were sonicated in water bath for 60 minutes and further incubated at 98 °C for 90  
162 minutes on a heating block. The samples were quickly spun down every 10<sup>th</sup> minutes to avoid  
163 liquid accumulation in the lid. The samples were slowly cooled down to room temperature  
164 and frozen at -20 °C overnight. The samples were thawed and sonicated in a water bath for 60  
165 minutes. Protein concentration was measured using DirectDetect (Millipore, Merck,  
166 Darmstadt, Germany). For trypsin digestion, the whole extracts were used (protein  
167 concentrations ranged from 20 to 37.4 µg) and lysozyme (from chicken, egg white, BioUltra  
168 lypholyzed powder, >98%, >40.000 units/mg protein) was spiked-in to a final concentration  
169 of 0.2 % (w/w). For enzymatic digestion 1 µl 1 % ProteaseMax Surfactant and 0.5 µg trypsin  
170 was added and incubated at 37 °C in a wet chamber overnight. ProteaseMax Surfactant was  
171 degraded by adding trifluoroacetic acid to a final concentration of 0.5 % and the samples were

172 vortexed and incubated for five minutes at room temperature before centrifuged for 10  
173 minutes at 14 000 x g.

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#### 175 **LC-MS/MS analysis**

176 Prior to LC-MS/MS analysis the samples were desalted by reversed phase chromatography  
177 using C18 micro columns prepared by stacking three layers of C18 Empore Extraction Disk  
178 (Varian, St. Paul, MN, USA) into 200 µl pipet tips. For samples from patients P1-P10 (Table  
179 1), reference peptides (150 fmol, MassPREP Digestion Standard Mix 1, Waters, Milford, MA,  
180 USA) were spiked-into each sample, before samples volume was adjusted to 14 µl using 0.1  
181 % formic acid. Samples were analyzed in three technical replicates on a Q Exactive hybrid  
182 quadrupole-orbitrap plus (Thermo Scientific, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA)  
183 interfaced with an EASY-nLC 1000 (Thermo Scientific). Peptides were separated on a 50 cm  
184 EASY Spray PepMap®RSLC column (C18, 2 µm, 100Å, 75 µm inner diameter, Thermo  
185 Scientific) using a 300 minutes gradient; 2-19% B in 19 minutes, 19-22%B in 156 minutes  
186 and 22-35%B in 125 minutes (solution A: water with 0.1% formic acid, solution B:  
187 acetonitrile with 0.1 % formic acid). The mass spectrometer was operated in a data-dependent  
188 mode, top 10 MS/MS scans using a MS scan range of 400-1200 *m/z*. Following parameters  
189 for MS scan were applied: resolution: 70.000 at *m/z* 200, AGC target: 3e6 and maximum IT:  
190 100ms. The MS/MS scan were performed at: resolution: 17.500, AGC target: 1e5, maximum  
191 IT: 100ms, isolation window: 2.0 *m/z*, NCE: 25, under fill ratio: 1.0%, intensity threshold:  
192 1.0e4 and dynamic exclusion: 30.0s. Samples from patient B-E (Table 2) were analyzed by  
193 similar conditions as described above behalf from that the instrument was an Q Exactive  
194 hybrid quadrupole-orbitrap (Thermo Scientific) and peptide separation was performed on a 25  
195 cm EASY Spray PepMap®RSLC column (C18, 2 µm, 100Å, 75 µm inner diameter, Thermo

196 Scientific) using a 300 minutes gradient; 2-30% B in 300 minutes. Isolation window was set  
197 to 3.0 m/z for MS/MS scans.

198

### 199 **Database search**

200 Protein identification and label-free quantitation was performed using the MaxQuant software  
201 package (version 1.5.1.2).<sup>24</sup> MS and MS/MS spectra were searched by the Andromeda search  
202 engine<sup>25</sup> against the UniProtKB FASTA database for the human proteome (85,915 entries  
203 including isoforms and canonical sequences, downloaded from www.UniProt.org, October  
204 2014) in addition to a FASTA database of spiked in proteins for patients P1-P10. The  
205 following parameters were applied: enzyme: Trypsin with no proline restriction; variable  
206 modifications: deamidation (NQ), oxidation (M), acetylation (protein N-term), Gln-pyro (Q),  
207 and pyro-Glu (E). The first search was performed with mass tolerance of 20 ppm for  
208 precursor ion and after recalibration a 6 ppm tolerance was used in the main search; mass  
209 tolerance for fragment ions was set to 20 ppm. Minimal unique peptides were set to 1 and a  
210 false discovery rate of 0.01 was used in all instances. For identification, “match between runs”  
211 was enabled, and quantification was done using the MaxQuant label free quantification  
212 algorithm with a minimum ratio count of one. Data from patient P1-P10 (Table 1) and patient  
213 B-E (Table 2) were analyzed separately. For Ig gene identifications, data from P1-P10 were  
214 searched against a FASTA database generated from amino acid sequences of human Ig  
215 families obtained from the International ImMunoGeneTics Information System (IMGT)  
216 database,<sup>26, 27</sup> and the FASTA database for spike-in proteins using the same parameters as  
217 above. All data are fully available at ProteomeXchange repository [database *Note to referees:*  
218 *data will be uploaded to the Proteome Xchange repository*]

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221 **Statistical analysis**

222 Perseus software (version 1.5.0.31) was used to perform statistical analysis of LFQ intensities.  
223 Proteins considered by MaxQuant to be possible contaminants, hits from reverse sequences  
224 (FDRs) or “only identified by site” were removed from the list of identifications for all  
225 datasets prior to statistical analysis. Protein groups identified by one peptide and quantified by  
226 one LFQ ratio were not excluded from downstream analysis. Proteins highlighted in the  
227 results and discussion were quantified by LFQ >1. Biopsies were grouped in two categories:  
228 TCD or UCD for P1-P10, or “before” and “after” for patients B-E. An imputation approach  
229 was used to replace the zero values by randomly generated values selected accordingly to the  
230 normal distribution of the data in order to simulate the distribution of low abundant proteins.  
231 <sup>28</sup> Principal component analysis was done on log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities following  
232 imputation of zero values. T-test was performed using a p-value of <0.01 as threshold for P1-  
233 P10 and p-value of <0.05 for patient B-E; S0= 0.5 and further FDR correction using a  
234 permutation-based method allowing 250 randomizations for both groups. Volcano plots were  
235 created using the same parameters. Sample hierarchical clustering was done in Perseus on t-  
236 test significant proteins using log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ values, where zero values were replaced  
237 by imputation as described above, choosing Euclidian distance for row tree generation and  
238 Speerman correlation for column tree generation. Colors indicate log<sub>2</sub> LFQ intensity. Protein  
239 intensity graphs show median values of log<sub>2</sub> LFQ intensities following imputation of zero  
240 values. For Ig gene identifications, contaminants were filtered out as above and only proteins  
241 with valid values in at least 50% of TCD or UCD groups were included. Imputation of zero  
242 values was done based on total matrix expression following log<sub>2</sub> transformation. Protein  
243 identifications from the spike-in database and two Ig protein groups assigned to open reading  
244 frames were removed prior to statistical analysis. Median values for sample triplicates were

245 used for principal component analysis and t-test comparison visualized as volcano plot (two-  
246 sample t-test,  $p < 0.05$   $S = 0.5$ ).

247

## 248 **Bioinformatic analysis**

249 Cytoscape <sup>29</sup> version 3.3.0 was used with the plug-in ClueGO <sup>30</sup> to address enrichment of  
250 Gene Ontology (GO) biological processes. The gene list corresponding to proteins with  
251 reduced or increased expression (t-test significant, from Perseus) was used. If more than one  
252 gene name was given for the identified protein group, the first gene name was selected. Some  
253 protein identifications that were not assigned to unique genes (e.g. immunoglobulin entries)  
254 were not included in enrichment analysis. Default settings were used. GO Term fusion was  
255 chosen and only pathways enriched by  $p < 0.05$  were shown. Grouping was based on kappa  
256 score with initial group size of 1 and 50% genes or terms for group merge. Networks were  
257 visualized in CytoScape and further color coded using Adobe Illustrator (CS5.1). Proteins  
258 upregulated in P1-P10 were also searched for GO Reactome pathway enrichment.

259

## 260 **Protein-protein interaction network analysis**

261 For patient P1-P10 (UCD vs TCD), a custom protein-protein interaction (PPI) network was  
262 built by selecting seed genes that were t-test significant from Perseus ( $p$ -value  $< 0.01$ ) and  
263 allowing those seed genes to generate PPI networks from an integrated database of protein  
264 interactions <sup>31</sup>. Each PPI in the network had at least one PubMed citation, was experimentally  
265 validated, and was a physical binding interaction. Only protein interaction neighbors detected  
266 in the proteomics dataset were allowed to form interactions in the PPI network generation. A  
267 filter was applied whereby only proteins annotated to the GO term “response to cytokine”  
268 (GO:0034097) were allowed to be included in the PPI network. The network was then

269 visualized and annotated using the Cytoscape version 3.3.0 and all proteins were labelled as  
270 increased or decreased in UCD vs TCD based on the fold change in expression as calculated  
271 from the t-test analysis in Perseus. Proteins present in the GO terms “response to type I  
272 interferon” (GO: 0034340), “response to interferon gamma” (GO: 0034341) or “response to  
273 tumor necrosis factor” (GO: 0034612) were color coded as indicated.

274 For patient B-E (before and after 3-day challenge) PPI analysis was performed using  
275 STRING.<sup>32</sup> T-test significant upregulated proteins (84,  $p < 0.05$ ) from Perseus were analyzed  
276 resulting in 83 nodes (proteins) and 135 edges (interactions). The network was exported and  
277 further color coded in Adobe Illustrator CS5.1. Nodes (proteins) with no edges (interactions)  
278 were removed from the network.

279

## 280 **Immunoenzyme staining and estimation of cell densities**

281 Tissue sections from FFPE biopsy blocks of 5 patients (P1, P2, P5, P6, P10; UCD and TCD)  
282 were subjected to immune-enzyme staining to enumerate CD15, MPO and calprotectin  
283 expressing cells. Three micrometer thick sections were stained using the Dako EnVision™  
284 Flex+ System (K8012; Dako, Glostrup, Denmark) and the Dako Autostainer.  
285 Deparaffinization and epitope retrieval was performed using PT-Link (Dako) and  
286 EnVision™ Flex target retrieval solution. Endogeneous peroxidase was blocked using 0.3%  
287 hydrogen peroxide for 5 min. Sections were incubated for 30min at room temperature with  
288 primary antibodies (rabbit polyclonal anti-calprotectin, 1:10000 (gift from I. Dale (Calpro,  
289 Oslo, Norway)) rabbit polyclonal anti-MPO (1:1000, A0398, Dako) or mouse monoclonal  
290 IgM anti-CD15 (1:50, clone Carb-3, Dako) followed by 15 min incubation with EnVision  
291 FLES+ rabbit or mouse linker. Sections were incubated with secondary antibodies for 30 min



292 at room temperature followed by 3,3'-diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride (DAB) for 10 min  
293 and counterstaining using hematoxylin.

294 Stained sections were scanned (Pannoramic MIDI, 3DHistech, Budapest, Hungary), exported  
295 and analyzed using the QuPath software (0.1.2)<sup>33</sup>, blinded to patient number and diagnosis.  
296 Four to 6 representative regions of lamina propria (ranging from 30000-90000  $\mu\text{m}^2$ ) were  
297 annotated per slide, spanning from the subepithelial basement membrane to the muscularis  
298 mucosae when possible. DAB positive cells were counted using the “positive cell detection  
299 tool”. Only cells that were considered highly positive were counted, and positive selections  
300 were manually verified. Reported values represent mean values from all counted regions.  
301 Representative regions of CD15 staining from two patients were exported to Image J and  
302 saved as TIF.files.

303

#### 304 **Multi-color immunofluorescence staining**

305 Three micrometer thick FFPE tissue sections of 3 patients (P6, P5 and P2) were dewaxed and  
306 subjected to antigen retrieval by heat (95°C in water bath for 20 min) using Dako antigen  
307 retrieval solution (Dako). Tissue sections were blocked for 30 min in 1.25% IgG-free BSA  
308 (Jackson ImmunoResearch, West Grove, PA, USA) at room temperature. Primary antibodies  
309 were applied over night at 4°C followed by secondary antibodies for 90 min at room  
310 temperature. The primary antibodies against CD15, MPO and calprotectin were the same as  
311 used for immunoenzyme staining. In addition, anti-CD163 (mouse monoclonal IgG<sub>1</sub>, 1:1000,  
312 clone 10D6, Dako) was used. Secondary antibodies were donkey-anti-mouse-IgM-A488 (115-  
313 545-075, Jackson ImmunoResearch), goat anti-mouse-IgG<sub>1</sub>-Cy3 and goat-anti-rabbit-A647  
314 (both Southern Biotechnology Associates). Nuclei were counterstained with 4,6-diamidino-  
315 2-phenylindole (DAPI) and slides were mounted with homemade poly(vinyl alcohol). Images

316 were acquired with an Olympus Fluoview FV1000 laser scanning confocal microscope  
317 (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) using an Olympus UPlanAPO 20/0.8 oil lens (Olympus) and the  
318 FV10-ASW V4.2 software (Olympus). Images were processed and assembled using  
319 FIJI/Image J.<sup>34,35</sup>

320

## 321 **RESULTS**

### 322 **Comparison of protein expression in UCD vs TCD mucosa**

323 We analyzed FFPE tissue sections from biopsy blocks of 10 patients with CD by LC-MS/MS,  
324 comparing biopsies collected at the time of diagnosis (UCD) with biopsies collected one year  
325 later after treatment with GFD (TCD). Proteins were quantified using the LFQ algorithm  
326 implemented in the MaxQuant software which allows for comparison of samples analyzed in  
327 individual LC-MS runs.<sup>24, 36</sup> We initially verified the normalization by spiking all samples  
328 with four different predigested proteins and one intact protein as described in Materials and  
329 Methods. The spiked-in proteins showed comparable LFQ intensities for all samples, except  
330 for patient P9 after treatment (sample 18, Supplemental Figure 1). However, total protein  
331 recovery for this sample was also extremely low (data not shown) and it was therefore  
332 removed from the dataset. We identified in total 4711 proteins (Supplemental Table 1).  
333 Principal component analysis on log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities of all proteins separated  
334 our data according to UCD or TCD except for two UCD samples (P7 and P8) that clustered as  
335 TCD (Figure 1A). From the underlying protein distribution along Component 1 (Figure 1B)  
336 we see that proteins likely deriving from neutrophils and monocytes (e.g. LTF, MPO) and  
337 proteins likely deriving from mature enterocytes (e.g. CYP3A4, LCT) drive this clustering  
338 (Figure 1B). Thus, we can distinguish samples from UCD and TCD mucosa based on the  
339 global proteome expression level. Comparing our ten UCD samples with nine TCD samples  
340 we found differential expression of 322 proteins ranging from 1.6 to 18.2-fold difference in

341 expression (two-sample t-test, FDR<0.01). We found 175 proteins with higher expression in  
342 UCD and 147 proteins with higher expression in TCD (Supplemental Table 2) as visualized  
343 by a volcano plot, where selected proteins are highlighted in red (Figure 1C). Hierarchical  
344 clustering of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities for these proteins showed grouping according  
345 to TCD or UCD (green and red bars) again with the exception of the P7 and P8 UCD samples  
346 (Figure 1D). These two patients differed from the other UCD M3 patients on the protein level,  
347 despite similar Marsh classification. In our paired material, one patient (P10) did not recover  
348 to M0-1 but remained M3B after treatment. This was reflected by longer distance from the  
349 remaining TCD M0-1 samples in the dendrogram (Figure 1D).

350

### 351 **Processes related to enterocyte function are enriched in TCD mucosa**

352 To address whether our differentially expressed proteins derive from one or more upregulated  
353 biological processes, we performed Gene Ontology (GO) biological process enrichment  
354 analysis using the ClueGO application in Cytoscape.<sup>30</sup> Analysis of 144 unique genes from the  
355 147 proteins with increased expression in TCD showed enrichment for multiple processes  
356 related to nutrient metabolism and enterocyte function (Figure 2A). Reduced expression of  
357 these proteins in UCD agrees with the histological appearance of M3 with villous blunting,  
358 crypt hyperplasia and reduced numbers of mature enterocytes. Proteins annotated to the  
359 enriched processes are listed in Supplemental Table 3. We compared log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ  
360 intensities of selected enterocyte derived proteins for all patients except P9 and found that  
361 Villin (VIL1) which is expressed in all enterocytes, increased only modestly upon treatment  
362 (TCD). In contrast we observed a clear increase in expression for enterocyte function related  
363 proteins, including CYP3A4, CYP2C9, LCT and FABP2 (Figure 2B). Thus, the biggest  
364 difference between the groups is due to difference in enterocyte maturation status rather than  
365 total enterocyte number as assessed from VIL1. Patients P7 and P8 UCD samples showed

366 high expression of enterocyte derived proteins, in particular for CYP2C9, despite  
367 classification as M3B (Figure 2B, P7 and P8; red and blue squares respectively). This likely  
368 explains why these samples failed to cluster with the other UCD patients (Figure 1A and 1D).  
369 No available clinical parameters differentiated these subjects from the remaining cohort  
370 (Table 1 and data not shown). We may speculate whether these patients initiated a gluten free  
371 diet prior to the gastroduodenal endoscopy. Reduced gluten ingestion from the time of referral  
372 to the time of endoscopy might be sufficient to induce alteration in the enterocyte status and  
373 the mucosal proteome without affecting intestinal morphology.<sup>37</sup> Patient P10, which  
374 remained M3B after treatment, also recovered some expression of enterocyte derived proteins,  
375 albeit at lower level than patients recovering to M0-1 (Figure 2B, blue circles). This suggests  
376 increased enterocyte maturation despite incomplete histological recovery. In contrast to other  
377 enterocyte derived proteins, we found ESPR1, an epithelial specific splicing regulator, to be  
378 overall higher expressed in UCD compared to TCD. Potentially, this could be due to the  
379 increased proliferation and differentiation of enterocytes in UCD. Over all, our data supports  
380 the notion that enterocyte maturation and function as assessed on the protein level can  
381 distinguish between TCD and UCD also in cases of incomplete histological recovery.

382

### 383 **Processes related to immune response and plasma cell function dominate in UCD** 384 **mucosa**

385 The 175 proteins with increased expression in UCD were assigned to 152 unique genes for  
386 GO biological process enrichment analysis (Supplemental Table 2). We found enrichment of  
387 several immune response processes such as defense responses, antigen processing and  
388 presentation and B-cell activation (Figure 3A). Processes related to ER stress and response to  
389 ER stress, were also enriched. These likely reflect the massive protein synthesis machinery

390 that operates in plasma cells, which are abundant in the celiac lesion. Proteins annotated to the  
391 enriched processes are listed in Supplemental Table 4.

392

393

#### 394 **Differentiation of UCD and TCD based on immunoglobulin gene family expression**

395 A large proportion of the plasma cells in UCD produce disease specific antibodies targeting  
396 TG2 or deamidated gluten. Antibody responses to both antigens show stereotyped and biased  
397 usage of Ig variable region genes.<sup>11, 38-40</sup> Many proteins in our dataset derived from  
398 identification of Ig fragments. Variable region Ig sequences are incompletely covered and  
399 poorly annotated in the Uniprot database. Thus, to address whether Ig gene family usage  
400 could be assessed from our data we searched against a dedicated Ig sequence database based  
401 on IMGT sequences as described in Materials and Methods. LFQ normalization was found to  
402 be equivalent to our Uniprot derived dataset (Supplemental Figure 2). Following filtering as  
403 described in Materials and Methods, we identified 42 Ig gene family members including 34  
404 variable region families (Supplemental Table 5). Principal component analysis of log<sub>2</sub>  
405 transformed LFQ intensities separated UCD from TCD samples (Figure 3B and C). The vast  
406 majority of identified Ig sequences showed increased expression in UCD compared to TCD  
407 (two-sample t-test FDR<0.05, Figure 3D). In particular three Ig variable regions separated  
408 UCD from TCD based on fold change in expression (IGKV3-15D, IGKV3-11 and IGHV5-  
409 51). Of these three Ig variable regions, we found that only IGHV5-51 decreased consistently  
410 in all patients following treatment (except for patient P7) (Figure 3E).

411

#### 412 **Increased expression of proteins derived from neutrophils in UCD mucosa.**

413 Many of proteins with the highest fold increase in UCD compared to TCD mucosa are  
414 typically produced by neutrophils (Figure 1C). ClueGo Reactome pathway enrichment

415 analysis showed that 26 of the proteins with increased expression in UCD mapped to the  
416 pathway “Neutrophil degranulation” (Figure 4A and Supplemental Table 6). Some of these  
417 proteins are, however, also produced by other cells such as monocytes/ macrophages. To  
418 address whether this protein signature derives from neutrophils or other cells, we counted  
419 neutrophils (CD15 positive cells) and cells expressing two of the differentially expressed  
420 proteins (MPO and calprotectin (heterodimer of S1008A/S1009A)) by immunoenzyme  
421 staining. We found that neutrophils were increased in UCD samples, but the degree of  
422 infiltration varied between patients (Figure 4B). Neutrophils were low or absent in TCD  
423 samples from all patients. The number of cells expressing MPO was comparable to the  
424 number of neutrophils, and was low in all TCD samples. In contrast, calprotectin staining was  
425 observed in many cells in UCD and positive cells decreased but did not disappear upon  
426 treatment (TCD). The differences in cell density agree well with the protein expression levels  
427 detected by mass spectrometry in these patients (Figure 4C). To better address which cells  
428 contribute to the protein signal we observe by mass spectrometry, we also performed co-  
429 staining of cells by immunofluorescence analyzing for expression of CD15 (neutrophils),  
430 CD163 (macrophages) and MPO or calprotectin (Figure 4C). Neutrophils showed strong  
431 staining both for MPO and calprotectin. We observed very few MPO positive cells that were  
432 not neutrophils. In contrast, calprotectin staining was observed also in other cells, including  
433 TCD samples where neutrophils were absent. Some of the calprotectin positive cells also  
434 stained weakly for CD163, indicating that these cells have a myeloid origin. From these data  
435 we conclude that many of the differentially expressed proteins detected by mass spectrometry  
436 primarily derive from neutrophils in UCD, but that some proteins, like calprotectin, can to  
437 some degree also derive from monocytes/ macrophages.

438

439

#### 440 **Response to cytokines in UCD mucosa**

441 Gluten specific effector CD4<sup>+</sup> T-cells are crucial for the pathogenesis of CD. These cells are  
442 low in total number in the celiac lesion but exert their actions through secretion of pro-  
443 inflammatory cytokines.<sup>41</sup> Cytokines themselves are rarely detected in tissue proteome  
444 studies using mass spectrometry.<sup>42</sup> Identification of cytokine involvement therefore relies on  
445 detection of downstream effects. Among the biological processes enriched in UCD mucosa  
446 we find both “interferon-gamma-mediated signaling pathway” and “type I interferon signaling  
447 pathway” (Figure 3A and Supplemental Table 4). For our ClueGo enrichment analysis we  
448 only considered the t-test significant proteins. To address if we could detect additional  
449 proteins involved in response to cytokines in our dataset, we performed a protein-protein  
450 interaction (PPI) analysis where all identified proteins were considered. The t-test significant  
451 proteins were used as seeds to build the network which was then filtered to only include  
452 proteins annotated the GO term “response to cytokine”. All proteins were categorized as up or  
453 downregulated based on their fold change in expression, irrespective of t-test significance.  
454 From this network we see that the majority of interacting proteins in our dataset that are part  
455 of response to cytokines, are found in the GO terms “response to type I interferon” (blue  
456 nodes), “response to interferon gamma” (yellow nodes) or “response to tumor necrosis factor”  
457 (purple nodes) (Figure 5A). Most of these proteins showed higher expression in UCD mucosa  
458 (red node border) compared to TCD mucosa (green node border). Several of the most  
459 differentially expressed proteins (e.g. STAT1) are shared between these cytokine responses.  
460 However, cytokine specific responses are transmitted by generation of different protein  
461 complexes: Type I interferon signaling is mediated by the trimeric complex of STAT1,  
462 STAT2 and IRF9 whereas IFN- $\gamma$  signaling is mediated by STAT1 homodimers.<sup>43</sup> From the  
463 LFQ intensities, we see that STAT1 and the IFN- $\gamma$  induced protein GBP1 were more abundant  
464 than STAT2 and IRF9, which may suggest that response to IFN- $\gamma$  dominates over response to

465 type I interferon (Figure 5B). TNF response proteins TRADD and RIPK1 are also less  
466 abundant than e.g. GBP1. Most patients showed reduced expression of these proteins  
467 following treatment, with the exception of patients P6 and P10 (red and blue circles  
468 respectively; Figure 5B). Whereas STAT1 and GBP1 expression decreased, both patients  
469 showed increased expression of STAT2, IRF9, TRADD and RIPK following treatment. P6  
470 also showed aberrantly high expression of MX1, and MX1 expression increased in both  
471 patients following treatment. Thus, from our data we can infer that our UCD patients show  
472 decreased IFN- $\gamma$  signaling following treatment. In addition, two of the patients displayed  
473 protein expression patterns indicative of an ongoing type-I interferon response, independent  
474 of dietary gluten.

475

#### 476 **Characterization of M3 mucosa in response to short term oral gluten challenge**

477 The M3 lesion of CD patients at the time of diagnosis has typically developed over time. It  
478 hence represents a state of chronic inflammation that may not provide information about the  
479 initial changes that occur upon remodeling in response to dietary gluten. Upon reintroduction  
480 of gluten, TCD patients can develop morphological changes within weeks and in some cases  
481 also within a few days.<sup>44-47</sup> Short term (3-day) oral gluten challenge is sufficient to recruit  
482 disease specific T cells to the blood on day 6 as detected by flow cytometry, and some few  
483 patients also develop clear morphological changes in the intestine on day 4 after initiation of  
484 challenge.<sup>48-50</sup> This could be considered an early stage of M3 lesion that is likely to differ  
485 from the M3 lesion of UCD patients despite identical histological classification. We analyzed  
486 biopsy material from 4 TCD patients that all developed morphological changes on day 4 in  
487 response to 3-day gluten challenge (Table 2).<sup>49</sup> Comparing biopsies collected before (day 0)  
488 and after gluten challenge (day 4) we identified in total 4474 proteins where 187 proteins  
489 were differentially expressed (88 proteins with increased expression and 99 proteins with



490 decreased expression on day 4, two-sample t-test, FDR<0.05) (Figure 6A, Supplemental  
491 Table 7 and 8). Hierarchical clustering of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities of the  
492 differentially expressed proteins showed that our samples indeed cluster as “before” or “after”  
493 gluten challenge (Figure 6B). Similar to UCD M3 mucosa, we observed reduced expression  
494 of enterocyte derived proteins and increased expression of neutrophil and monocyte derived  
495 proteins on day 4 after gluten challenge (Figure 6A). Both neutrophils and monocyte-derived  
496 cells have previously been shown to increase on day 4 in this patient cohort.<sup>51</sup> By contrast,  
497 proteins hallmarking plasma cells were not markedly increased on day 4 (data not shown).

498

499 **Short term gluten challenge induces inflammation, tissue remodeling and wound healing**  
500 **processes.**

501 GO biological process analysis of 85 unique genes from 88 proteins with increased expression  
502 day 4 showed enrichment for processes related to acute inflammation, tissue organization and  
503 remodeling (Figure 7A). This includes innate defense responses, muscle contraction and cell-  
504 substrate junction assembly (Supplemental Table 9). Notably, the majority of the proteins  
505 with increased expression after gluten challenge interact with each other as determined by  
506 STRING protein-protein interaction analysis, suggesting that they are co-regulated and part of  
507 a coordinated tissue response (Figure 7B). Most of these proteins showed increased  
508 expression in all four patients on day 4 irrespective of Marsh score on day 0, although the  
509 biggest change was observed for patients B and E, who progressed from M0-1 to M3A-B  
510 (Figure 7C). Also the CD autoantigen TG2 (TGM2) was upregulated in three of four patients  
511 in response to 3-day gluten challenge (Figure 7C). In contrast, these proteins did not decrease  
512 in response to treatment in patients P1-P10 (Figure 7C). Thus, global proteome analysis of  
513 biopsies collected shortly after gluten exposure captures the early phases of tissue remodeling  
514 in the celiac small intestine

## 515 **DISCUSSION**

516

517 This study represents the first global proteomics characterization of the celiac small intestine  
518 by use of label free quantitative mass spectrometry. We have compared changes in proteome  
519 expression following removal or reintroduction of gluten, using material from FFPE small  
520 intestinal biopsies collected for histology assessment. Our study demonstrates that such  
521 material can be used to characterize and stratify diseased tissue on the protein level. We find  
522 differential expression of proteins that corroborate known features of CD such as loss of  
523 mature enterocytes, response to cytokines and abundance of plasma cells. In several patients  
524 we also see differential expression canonical neutrophil derived proteins. We show that  
525 expression of IGHV5-51, the variable gene used by epitope 1 anti-TG2 autoantibodies,  
526 decreased in all patients in response to GFD diet. We also compared protein expression in  
527 four patients that developed morphological changes on day 4 in response to gluten challenge.  
528 Here we observed coordinated upregulation of proteins involved in tissue remodeling and  
529 wound response which shed light on processes that occur early in the intestinal recall response  
530 towards gluten.

531

532 Our data captures many of the canonical features of the immune response of the celiac lesion,  
533 in particular the abundance of plasma cells. Notwithstanding, the most differentially  
534 expressed proteins in our datasets are typically expressed by neutrophils (e.g. MPO, LTF,  
535 AZU1, S100A8, S100A9). Some of these proteins can also be expressed by monocytes/  
536 macrophages, which are increased both in UCD and in TCD in response to gluten challenge.  
537 <sup>52</sup> We verified the presence of neutrophils in our UCD samples by immunohistochemistry,  
538 and demonstrated that neutrophils express high amounts of both MPO and calprotectin.  
539 Neutrophils were close to absent in TCD patients. Thus, conceivably the dramatic change in

540 protein expression detected by mass spectrometry reflects neutrophil infiltration. Possibly,  
541 high protein content of stored neutrophil granules could facilitate detection of these proteins  
542 so that relatively few cells are required to give a strong protein signal. Previously, gene  
543 expression studies have shown increased transcript levels of several canonical neutrophil  
544 derived proteins in CD patients, and neutrophil infiltration has been reported in celiac lesions.  
545 <sup>21, 53, 54</sup> Collectively, available observations advocate further investigations into the role of  
546 neutrophils in the pathogenesis of CD.

547

548 Due to their relatively low abundance, cytokines are rarely detected by mass spectrometry  
549 analysis of total tissue digests, which is in contrast to mRNA expression studies. Therefore, an  
550 assessment of cytokines is better evaluated by expression of their downstream induced  
551 proteins. A hallmark of CD is the accumulation of pro-inflammatory gluten-reactive CD4+ T  
552 cells that produce high amounts of IFN- $\gamma$  in the intestinal lesion, in addition to cytokines  
553 such as IL-21 and TNF. <sup>15, 55</sup> These cells are likely necessary but not sufficient to cause  
554 intestinal remodeling which may also require innate cytokines such as IL-15 and type I  
555 interferons to sufficiently disrupt tissue homeostasis, and promote enterocyte killing by  
556 cytotoxic intraepithelial lymphocytes. <sup>7</sup> We observed increased expression of many proteins  
557 indicative of active cytokine signaling in UCD, in particular response to IFN- $\gamma$  but also to  
558 type I interferon and TNF. The different expression level of these proteins suggest dominance  
559 of IFN- $\gamma$  response over type I interferon, which would agree with previous studies showing  
560 lower expression levels and large patient to patient variability for type I interferon. <sup>56, 57</sup>  
561 Response to IL-15 was not detected by our approach. Notably, patients P6 and P10 displayed  
562 protein expression patterns indicative of an ongoing type-I interferon response independently  
563 of dietary gluten, and P6 showed unusually high expression of MX1 both at the time of  
564 diagnosis and following treatment.

565

566 Identification of non-invasive markers to monitor intestinal recovery and diet adherence in  
567 CD is important as it can eliminate the need for biopsy evaluation in the follow-up of patients  
568 after diagnosis. Proteins we found to have higher expression in TCD vs UCD mucosa can  
569 potentially serve as such markers. Most of these proteins derive from enterocytes. The highest  
570 fold change in expression was observed for the enzymes CYP3A4, CYP2C9 and LCT,  
571 followed by proteins involved in cellular metabolism and enterocyte structure (e.g. SCIN and  
572 ESPN which are important for microvilli formation). Enzymes are good biomarker candidates  
573 as assessment of their activity can serve as a measure of enterocyte vitality. This has already  
574 been explored in human subjects for CYP3A4 by monitoring oral bioavailability of  
575 simvastatin which is predominantly metabolized by intestinal CYP3A4.<sup>58, 59</sup> Indeed,  
576 simvastatin was found to have high oral bioavailability in UCD patients reflecting lower  
577 CYP3A4 activity.<sup>59</sup> From our data also CYP2C9 emerge as a candidate marker. Both  
578 CYP2C9 and LCT can distinguish between the majority of UCD samples and patients P7 and  
579 P8 which we found to differ from the remaining UCD patients. Analysis of expression of  
580 these enzymes can possibly be superior to CYP3A4-monitoring for stratification of UCD  
581 patients, but their expression pattern must first be verified in larger patient cohorts. Enterocyte  
582 damage can also be monitored by measuring FABP2 protein in serum and urine.<sup>60</sup> Both  
583 retrospective and prospective studies have shown correlation between serum FABP2 levels,  
584 Marsh score and response to gluten free diet in CD patients.<sup>61 37, 62</sup> We observed decreased  
585 expression of FABP2 in UCD mucosa which agrees with damage and loss of enterocytes and  
586 release of this protein into serum.

587

588 Proteins that are overexpressed in UCD may also serve a biomarkers based on their reduced  
589 expression in response to treatment. Most of the proteins we found to have higher expression

590 in UCD derive from immune response processes where a change in protein expression can be  
591 induced by stimuli other than dietary gluten. In contrast, the autoantibody-response towards  
592 TG2 is gluten dependent and highly disease-specific. We identified a number of different Ig  
593 sequences from our FFPE material. Of these, IGHV5-51 decreased unanimously following  
594 one year of treatment (except for patient P7). IGHV5-51 is the canonical heavy chain variable  
595 region used by epitope 1 anti-TG2 antibodies, which are found in all untreated CD patients.<sup>11,</sup>  
596<sup>39, 40</sup> We propose that IGHV5-51 expression could represent a disease specific measure of  
597 intestinal immune activation in CD.

598

599 Three of our 10 patients that were analyzed before and after GFD showed protein expression  
600 patterns that did not correlate with their Marsh classification. Two patients (P7 and P8) were  
601 classified as M3B at the time of diagnosis (UCD) but were more similar to TCD patients on  
602 the protein level. One patient (P10) showed increased expression of several enterocyte derived  
603 proteins such as CYP3A4 following treatment, despite classification as M3B. Discrepancy  
604 between protein expression and histology has previously been noted. In agreement with our  
605 observations for P10, CYP3A4 function was reported to increase following treatment despite  
606 incomplete normalization of histology.<sup>59</sup> This argues that histology alone may be insufficient  
607 to assess enterocyte vitality in CD. Our global proteomics analysis supports the assessment of  
608 enterocyte vitality as measure for intestinal status and recovery in CD. However, further  
609 studies should be conducted to evaluate the correlation between enterocyte protein expression,  
610 treatment status and tissue histology.

611

612 The 4 analyzed TCD patients that developed morphological changes on day 4 after gluten  
613 challenge displayed coordinated increase in expression of proteins that reflect rapid tissue  
614 remodeling. This expression pattern was not observed in our first patient group where we

615 compared UCD with TCD mucosa. Thus, these proteins likely reflect processes that occur  
616 soon after gluten challenge. Intriguingly, TG2 expression increased clearly in two of four  
617 patients on day 4 after challenge. Further studies are required to determine whether similar  
618 changes in protein expression occur in TCD patients that develop less pronounced  
619 morphological changes in response to gluten challenge.

620

621 The use of FFPE tissue material has become increasingly popular in particular for  
622 characterization of neoplastic tissue and tumor biomarker discovery but also immune  
623 mediated diseases. Such studies are often challenging due to heterogeneity of the patient  
624 material and limited knowledge about the underlying pathology. CD represents in this respect  
625 a unique, immune-mediated disease: we have substantial knowledge on the pathological  
626 adaptive immune processes and we can also control exposure to the antigen (gluten) that  
627 drives the tissue inflammation. The use of label-free quantification of protein expression  
628 allows for streamlined and simple sample work-up, which reduces potential experimental  
629 biases and other technical challenges that often arises from traditional label-based quantitative  
630 mass spectrometry approaches. We here show as proof-of-concept that label-free  
631 quantification of proteins from FFPE tissue sections by use of mass spectrometry allows for  
632 accurate characterization of the celiac intestine. By use of archival biopsy material and careful  
633 design of patient groups, this methodology represents a potent tool to decipher specific  
634 questions and the missing details of disease pathogenesis.

635

636

637

638

639

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645

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841

842 **TABLES**

843 **Table 1 Characteristics of CD patient before and after treatment**

Patient	Age/sex	Marsh score		Serology (anti TG2 IgA)		IEL (per 100 EC)	
		UCD	TCD	UCD	TCD	UCD	TCD
P1	45/M	3B	1	3.3	<1	46.3	27.0
P2	22/F	3C	0	16.6	1.5	26.7	21.7
P3	23/F	3C	0	3.8	<1	36.3	15.7
P4	56/F	3C	1	4.8	<1	48.0	33.0
P5	54/F	3B	1	11	1.2	65.0	31.3
P6	44/M	3B	1	2.2	1.1	53.7	25.7
P7	58/M	3B	0	3.1	<1	38.3	15.7
P8	28/F	3B	1	23	<1	53.0	31.0
P9	38/F	3B	3A	7.8	1.6	45.0	28.0
P10	61/M	3C	3B	31.3	<1	18.7	28.3

844

845

846 **Table 2 Characteristics of CD patients subject to 3 day gluten challenge**

Patient	Age/ sex	Marsh score d0 before gluten challenge	Marsh score d4 after 3 day gluten challenge
B	47/F	1	3A
C	31/F	3A	3B
D	59/F	2	3A
E	53/F	0	3B

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850 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

851 **Figure 1. Differential protein expression in UCD versus TCD mucosa.** A) Principal  
852 component analysis (PCA) of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities of all identified proteins.  
853 UCD samples are shown as open circles and TCD samples as black filled circles. Technical  
854 replicates group together. B) Scatter plot of all proteins loaded for principal component  
855 analysis, where selected proteins that contribute strongly to separation of TCD and UCD are  
856 highlighted in red. C) Differentially expressed proteins in UCD (M3) compared to TCD (M0-  
857 1) mucosa visualized as volcano plot (two-sample t-test, FDR<0.01). The line defining the  
858 outliers is limited by the p-value in the y axis and the S0 value (0.5) in the x-axis. Selected  
859 proteins with strong differential expression are indicated in red. D) Hierarchical clustering of  
860 log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities of differentially expressed proteins separates UCD and  
861 TCD. (Yellow = 32, Blue = 18).

862

863 **Figure 2. Proteins involved in nutrient metabolism and enterocyte function show**  
864 **reduced expression in UCD mucosa and increased expression in TCD mucosa.** A) GO  
865 biological process enrichment analysis of proteins significantly upregulated in TCD mucosa.  
866 Each pathway is shown as a node and node size reflects enrichment p-value. Groups are  
867 formed based on the number of shared proteins between the pathways (>50%). For most  
868 groups the GO term with the lowest p-value is shown in bold. Nodes with split colors indicate  
869 processes that fit to several groups. Edges indicate that proteins are shared between the  
870 processes (nodes). B) Comparison of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities for selected proteins  
871 before (UCD) or after (TCD) GFD for all patients except P9.

872

873 **Figure 3. Increased expression of plasma cell related processes and immunoglobulins in**  
874 **UCD mucosa.** A) GO biological process enrichment analysis of proteins significantly



875 increased UCD (M3) mucosa. Of 143 annotated genes, 88 are represented in enriched  
876 biological processes. These can broadly be divided into immune response processes, and  
877 protein synthesis and ER stress. B) Principal component analysis of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ  
878 intensities of identified Ig family members from MaxQuant search against dedicated Ig  
879 database. UCD samples are shown as open circles and TCD samples as black filled circles.  
880 Median of technical replicates are used. C) Scatter plot of all proteins loaded for principal  
881 component analysis. Proteins identified from one, or more than one peptide, are shown as  
882 open or filled circles respectively. The gene name of the leading razor protein is shown. D)  
883 Differential expression of Igs in UCD (M3) compared to TCD (M0-1) mucosa visualized as  
884 volcano plot (two-sample t-test, FDR<0.05, S0= 0.5). Proteins identified by one or more than  
885 one peptide are shown as open or filled (grey and red) circles respectively. Selected proteins  
886 are shown in red. Allotypes are indicated for IGHV3-15\*02 and \*08 as both were identified  
887 from two unique peptides of comparable quality (data not shown). E) Comparison of log<sub>2</sub>  
888 transformed LFQ intensities for selected Igs before (UCD) or after GFD (TCD). Patient P7 is  
889 shown in red.

890

891 **Figure 4 Increase of neutrophils and monocyte-derived cells in UCD mucosa is reflected**  
892 **in the proteome expression profile.**

893 A) Twenty-six of the significantly increased proteins in UCD mucosa map to the GO  
894 Reactome pathway “Neutrophil degranulation”. B) Density of CD15, MPO and calprotectin  
895 positive cells in the duodenal lamina propria of 5 patients comparing UCD and TCD samples.  
896 Data points represent mean counts for individual patients and box plots denotes minimum,  
897 maximum and median values in the group. C) LFQ intensity values for MPO and calprotectin  
898 (S1008A and S1009A) for the same patients as shown in B). Datapoints represent values from  
899 individual patients and box plot denotes minimum, maximum and median values in the group.

900 D) Representative images showing immunofluorescence co-staining for CD15, CD163 and  
901 calprotectin or MPO. Merged images were pseudo-colored in Image J and single channel  
902 images are shown in grayscale. Arrowheads denote single or double positive cells,  
903 representing neutrophils (green) and monocyte derived cells (white).

904

905 **Figure 5. Protein-protein interaction analysis reveals dominant cytokine responses.** A)  
906 Protein interaction network filtered on response to cytokine as described in Materials and  
907 Methods. All identified proteins were considered for PPI analysis and filtered based on  
908 “response to cytokine”. T-test significant proteins are shown as large nodes and node border  
909 indicate higher expression in UCD (red) or in TCD (green). Nodes were further colored  
910 according to presence in three selected GO terms, other proteins are colored grey. B)  
911 Comparison of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities for selected proteins central to the cytokine  
912 responses.

913

914 **Figure 6. Differential protein expression in TCD patients before and after 3-day gluten**  
915 **challenge** A) Differentially expressed proteins in mucosa of TCD patients before (d0) or after  
916 3-day gluten challenge (d4) visualized by volcano plot (two-sample t-test, FDR<0.05, S0 =  
917 0.5). Selected proteins are shown in red. B) Hierarchical clustering of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ  
918 intensities of differentially expressed proteins will group samples as before or after gluten  
919 challenge. (Yellow = 32, Blue = 18).

920

921 **Figure 7. Proteins involved in tissue remodeling are upregulated in response to gluten**  
922 **challenge.** A) GO biological process enrichment analysis of proteins significantly upregulated  
923 following 3-day gluten challenge. B) STRING protein-protein interaction analysis of  
924 significantly upregulated proteins resulted in 135 protein-protein interaction (edges). Selected

925 proteins are manually color coded to show occurrence in enriched GO biological process as  
926 shown in A) in addition to the GO term “Wound healing”. Transglutaminase 2 (TGM2) is  
927 indicated in yellow. C) Comparison of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities for selected proteins  
928 involved in tissue remodeling and the autoantigen TGM2 for patients before and after 3-day  
929 challenge, and patients P1-P8 and P10 UCD versus TCD.

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### 935 **SI Figure 1 Verification of LFQ normalization**

936 Comparison of LFQ intensities of spiked proteins and peptides for samples P1-P10 where s18  
937 is P9 after GFD (TCD).

938

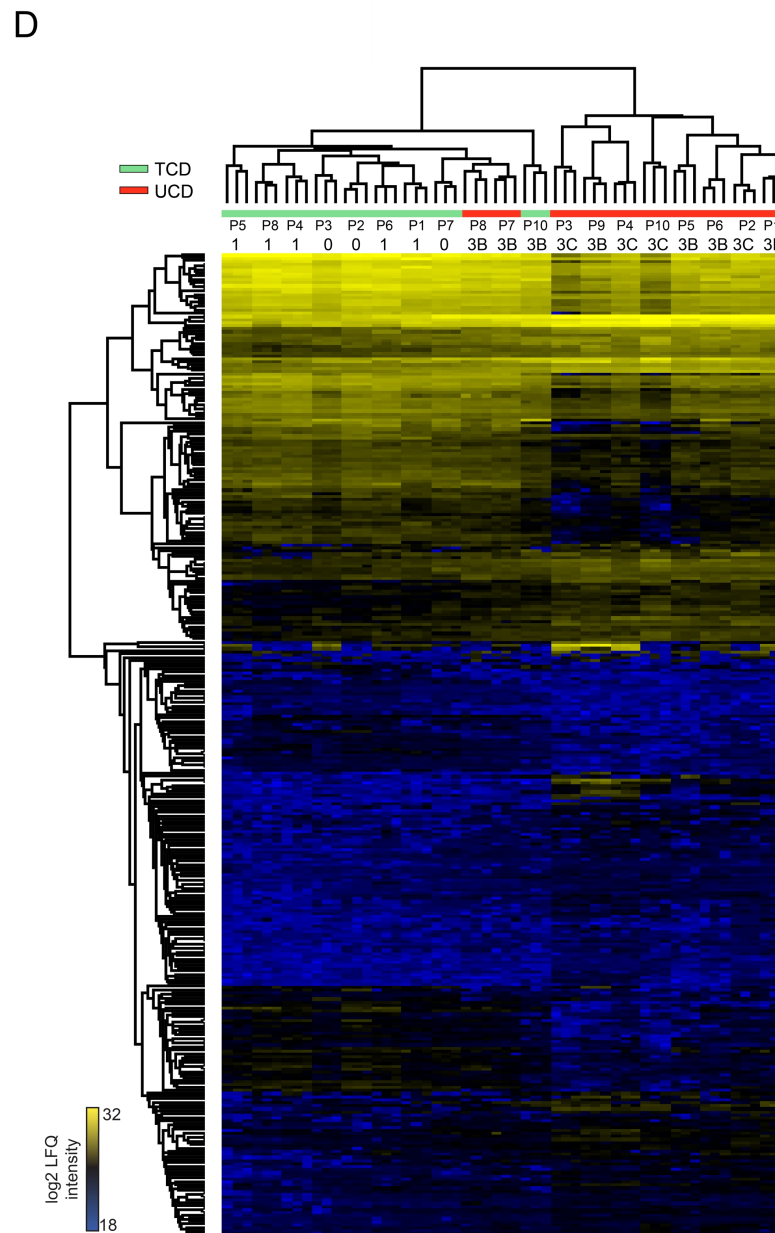
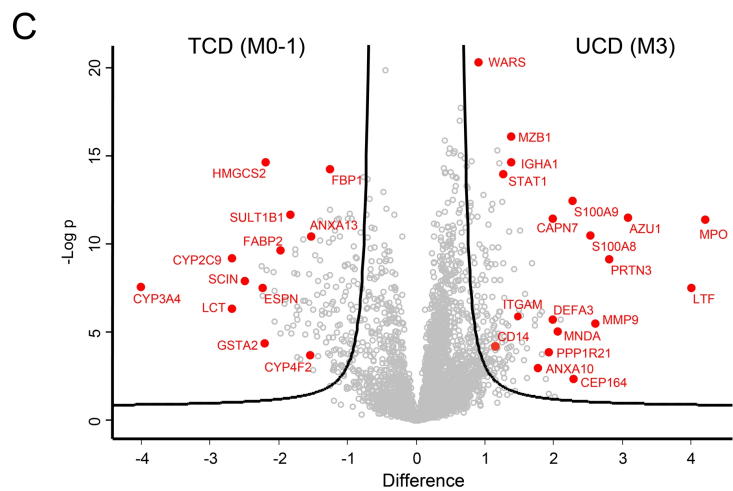
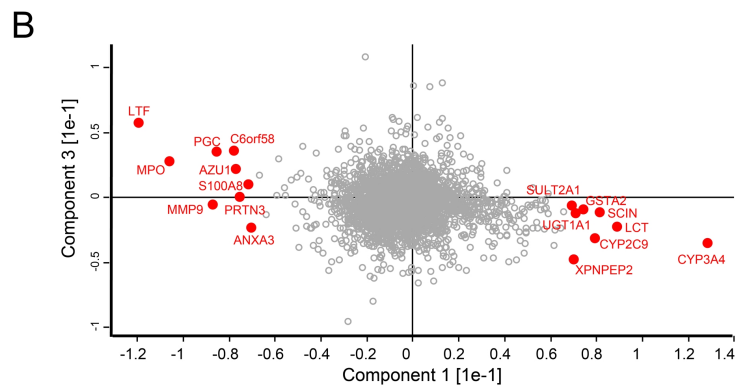
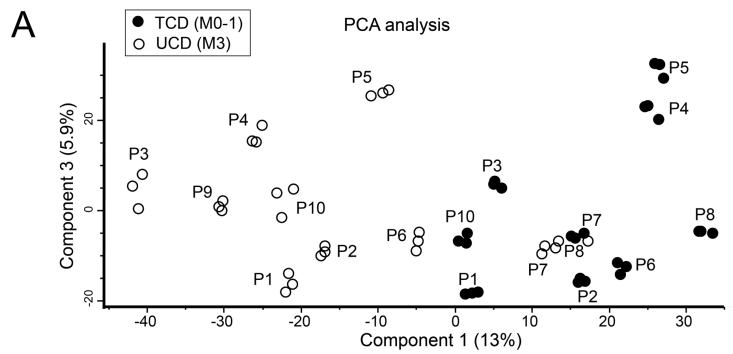
### 939 **SI Figure 2 Comparison of LFQ normalization from human (UniProt) or Ig database** 940 **searches**

941 Comparison of log<sub>2</sub> transformed LFQ intensities of Ig constant region identifications that are  
942 shared between the databases (A) and spiked proteins (B).

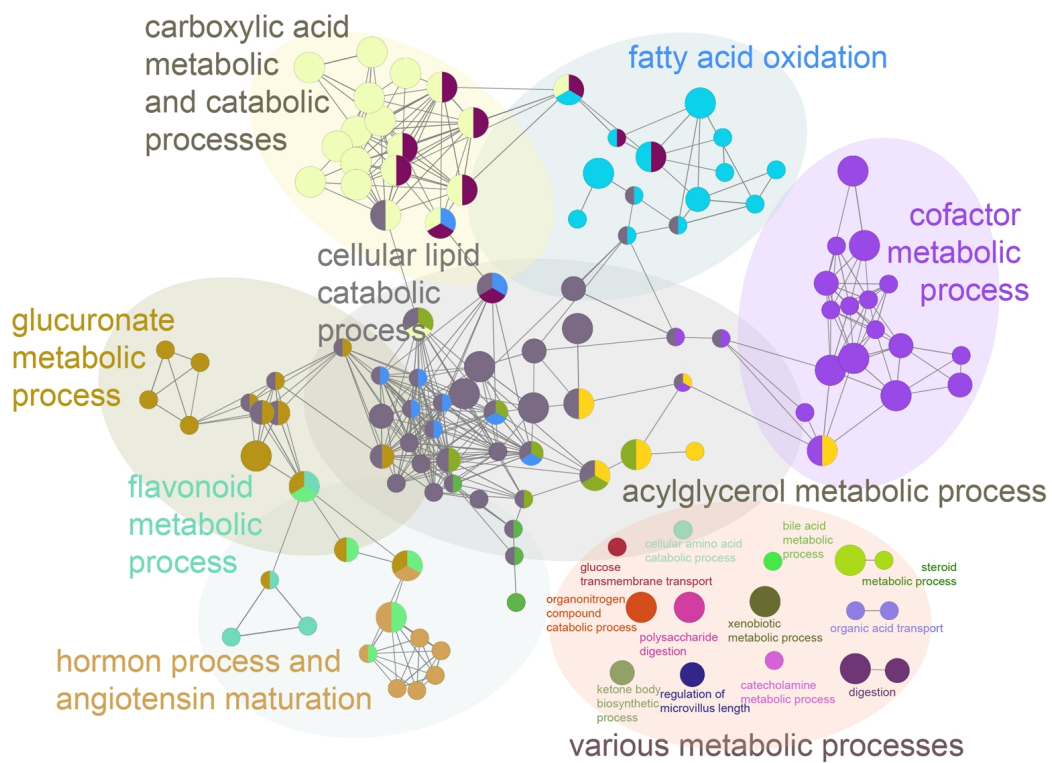
943

### 944 **SI Figure 3 Neutrophil infiltration in UCD compared to TCD**

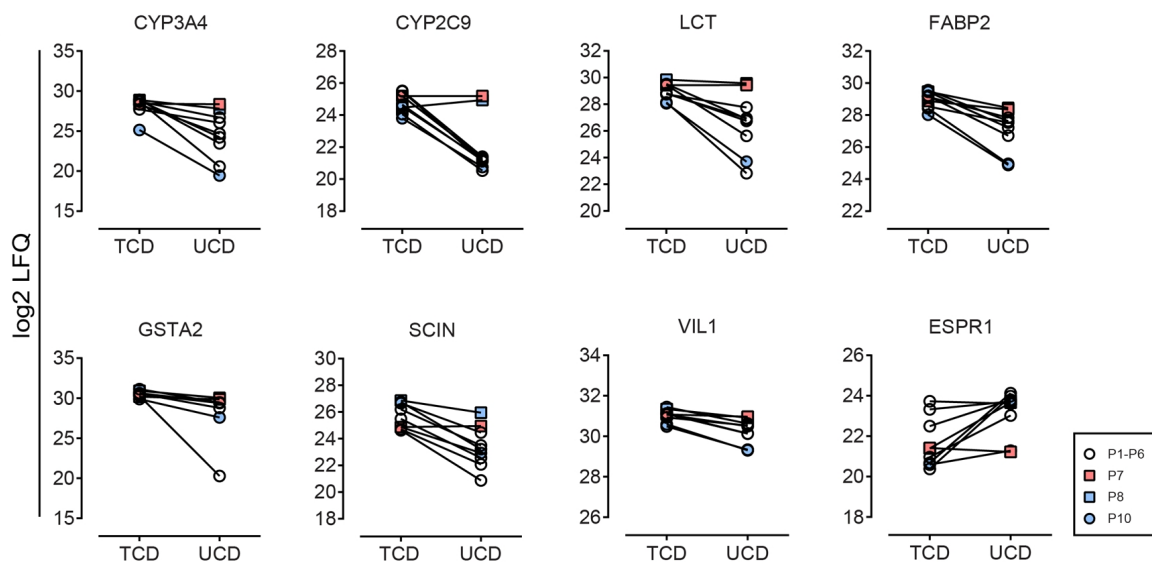
945 Selected regions from two patients showing CD15 staining used for neutrophil density  
946 assessment in Figure 4B. CD15 is a carbohydrate that also can be expressed by enterocytes  
947 and goblet cells, giving rise to epithelial cell staining.



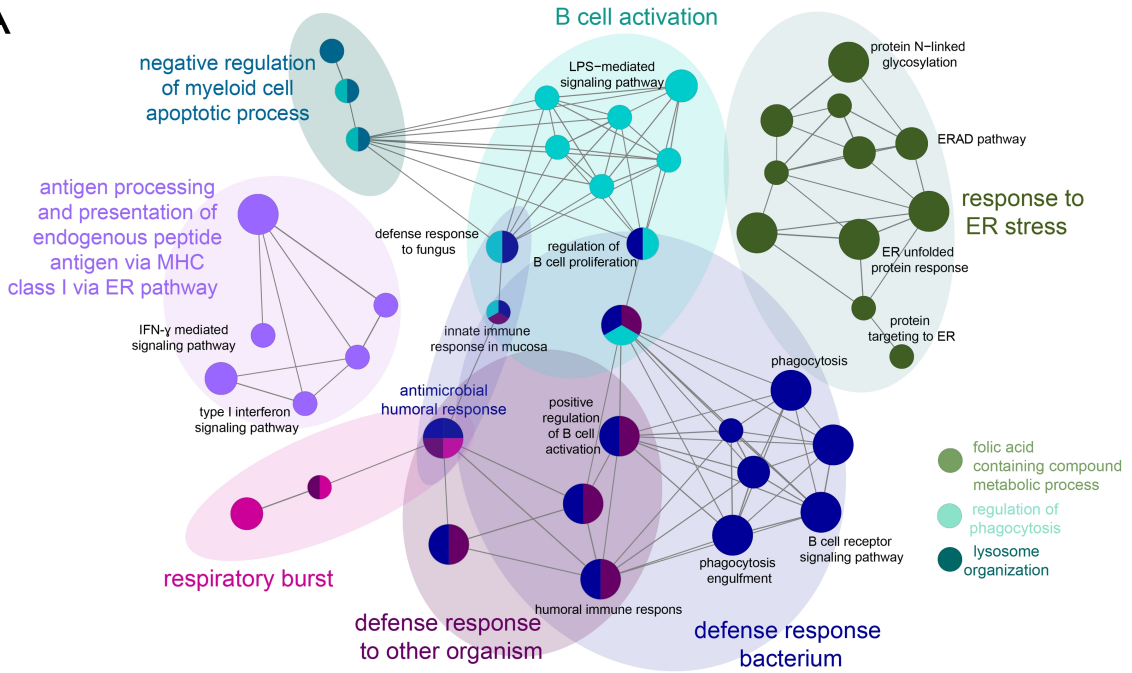
**A**



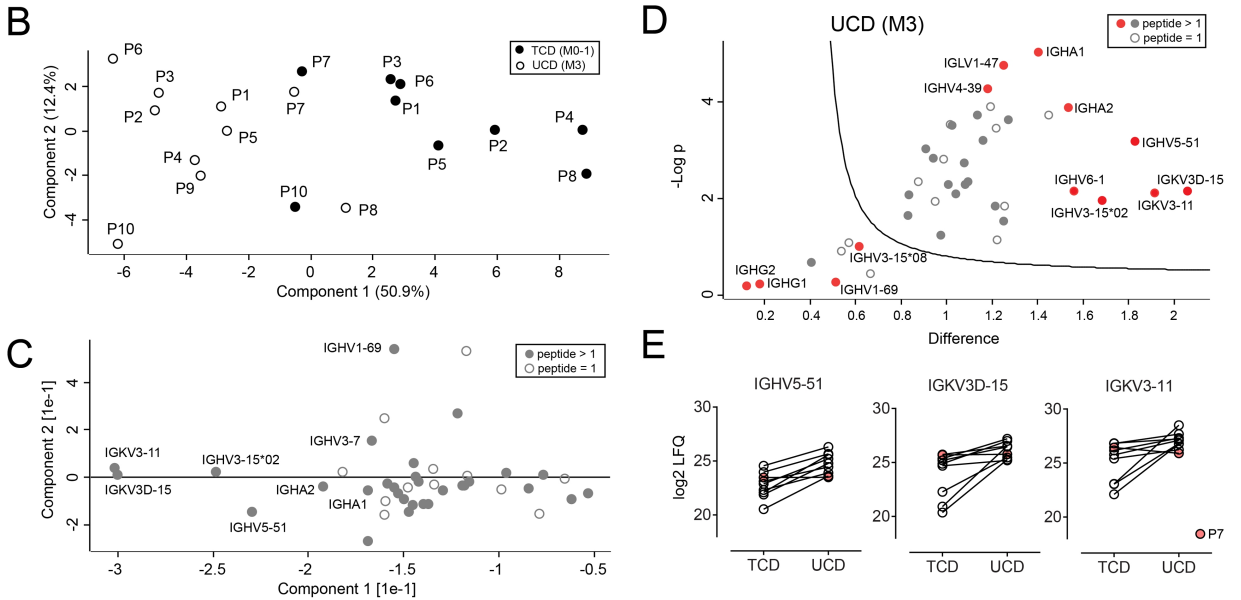
**B**



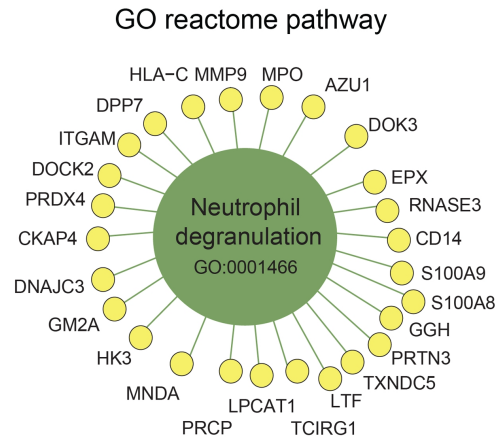
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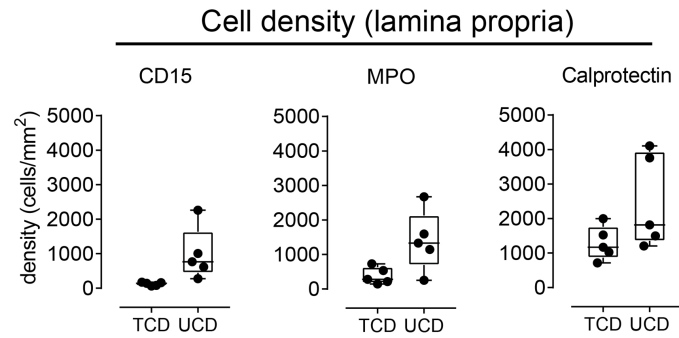
**Immunoglobulin gene family identifications**



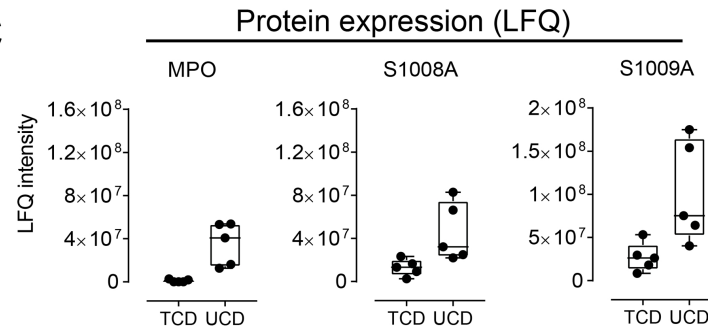
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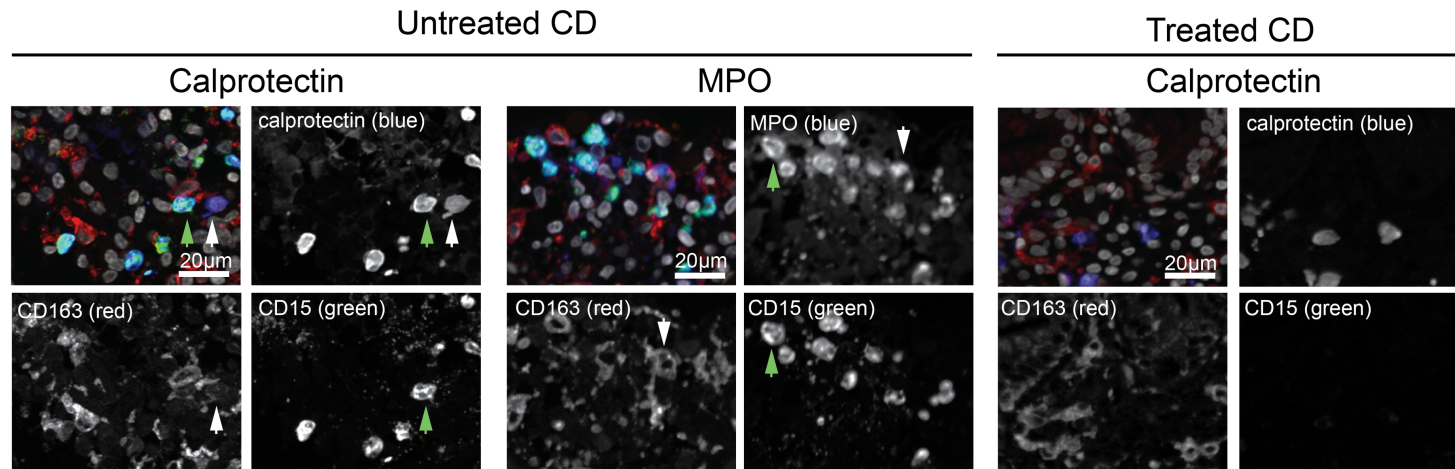
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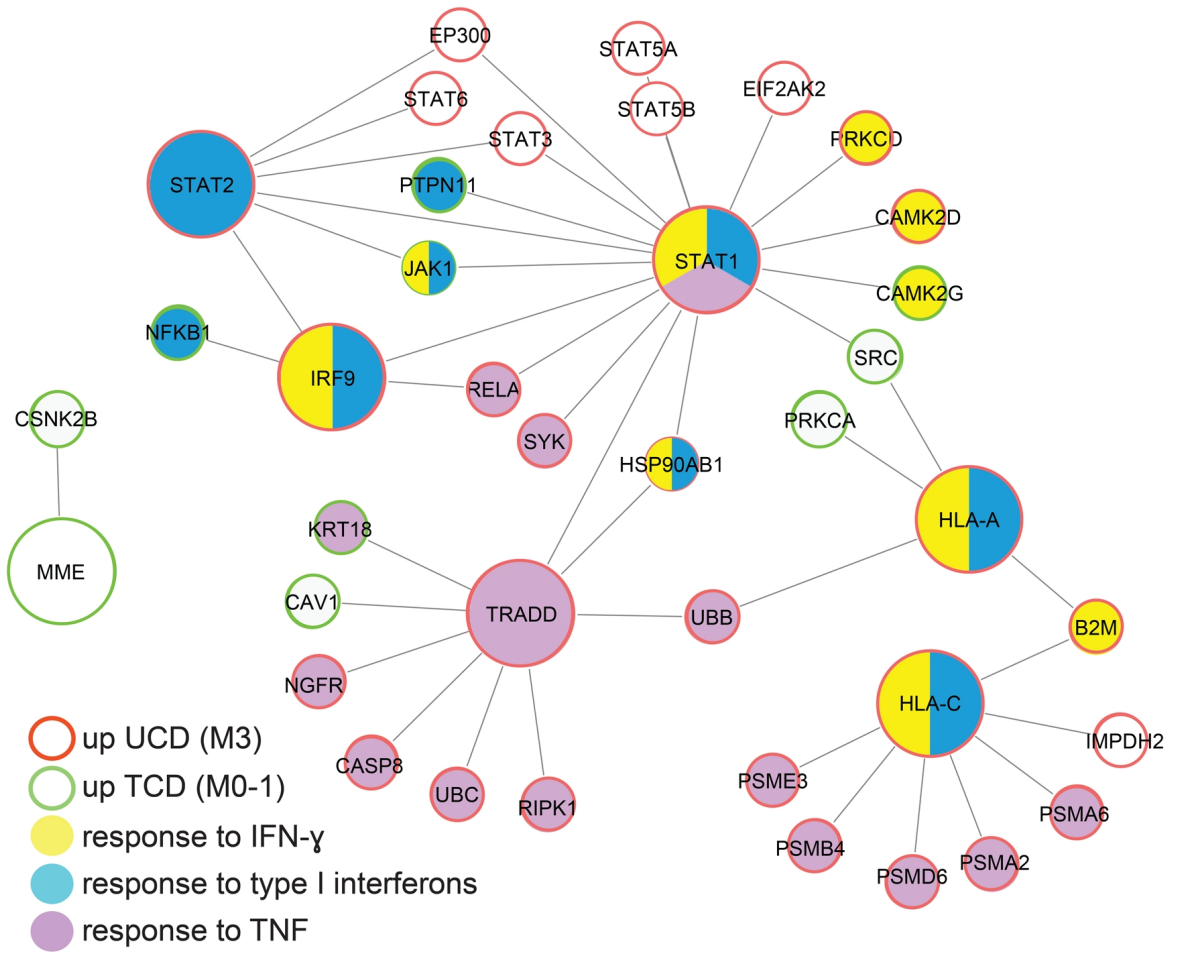
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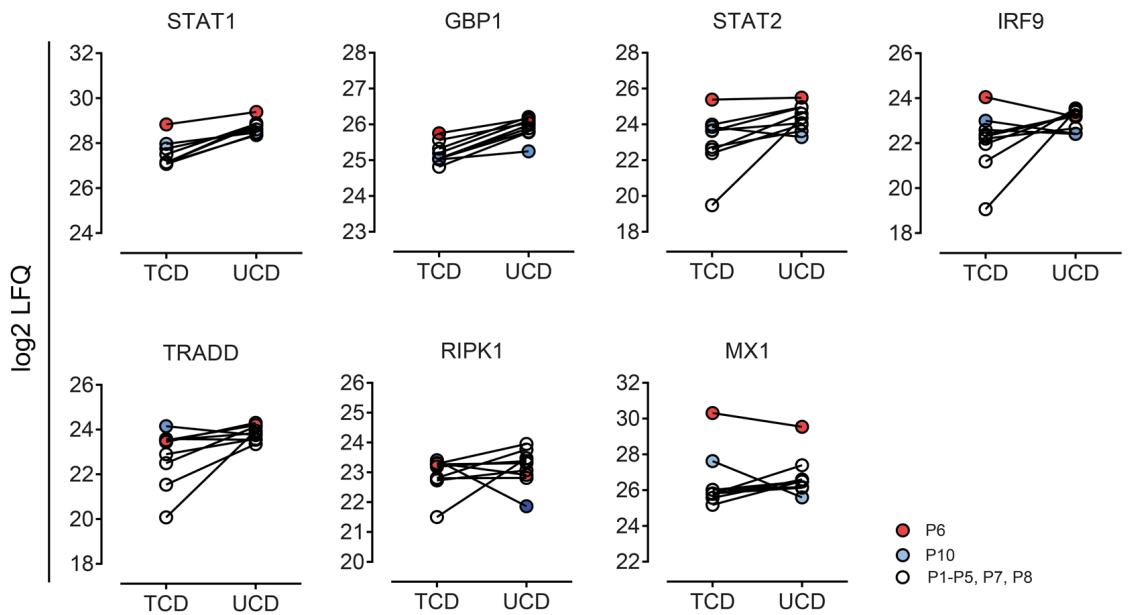
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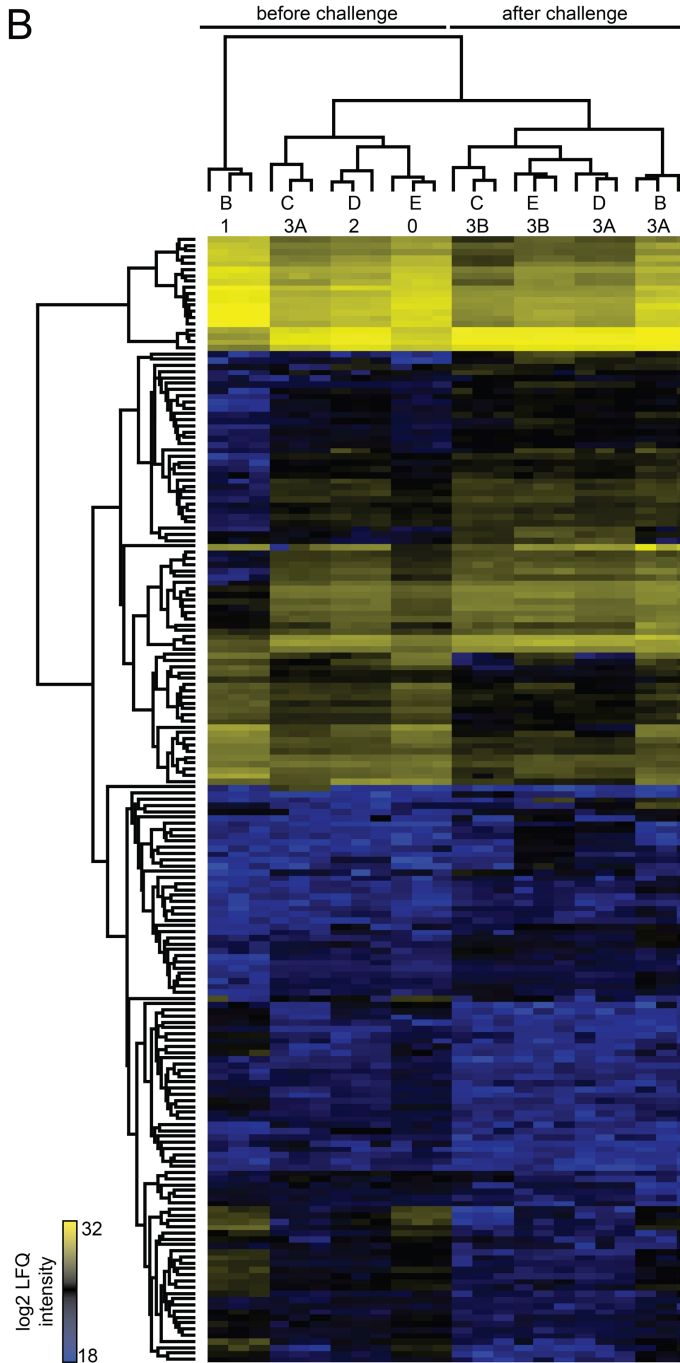
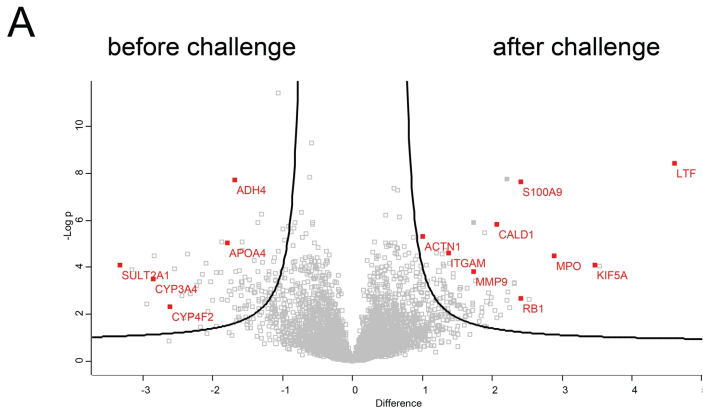
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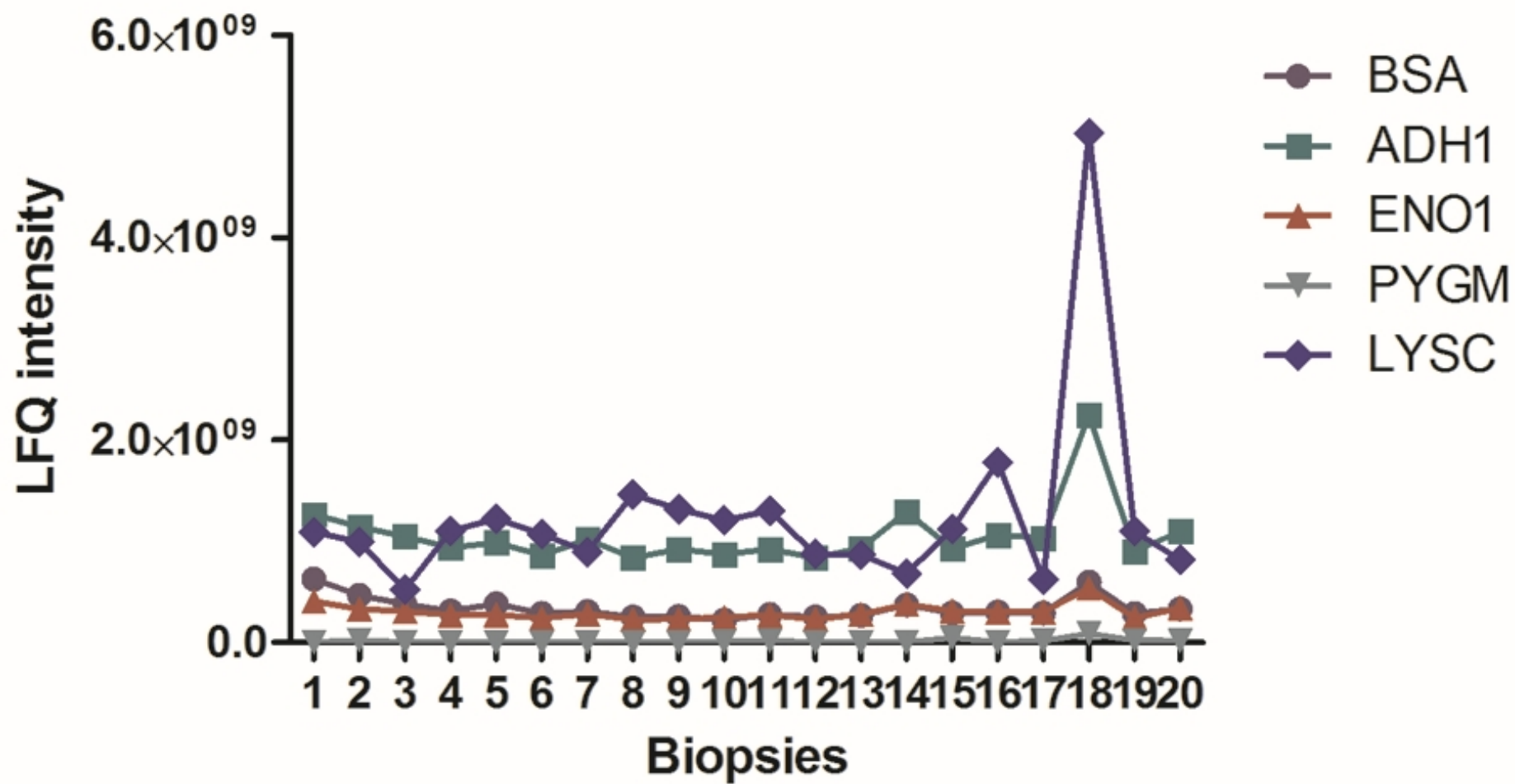
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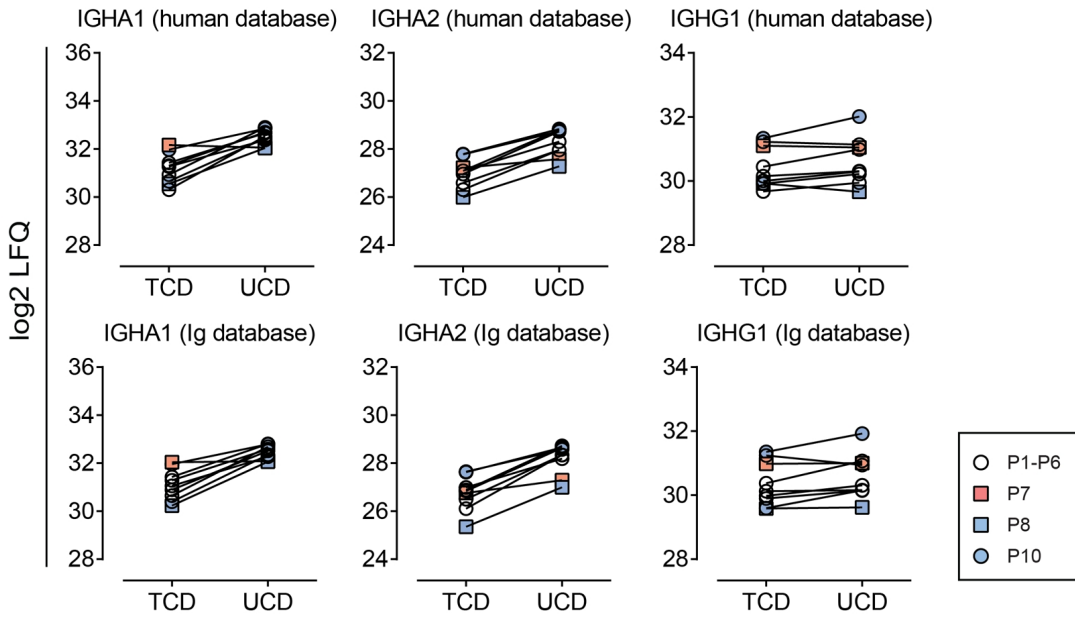




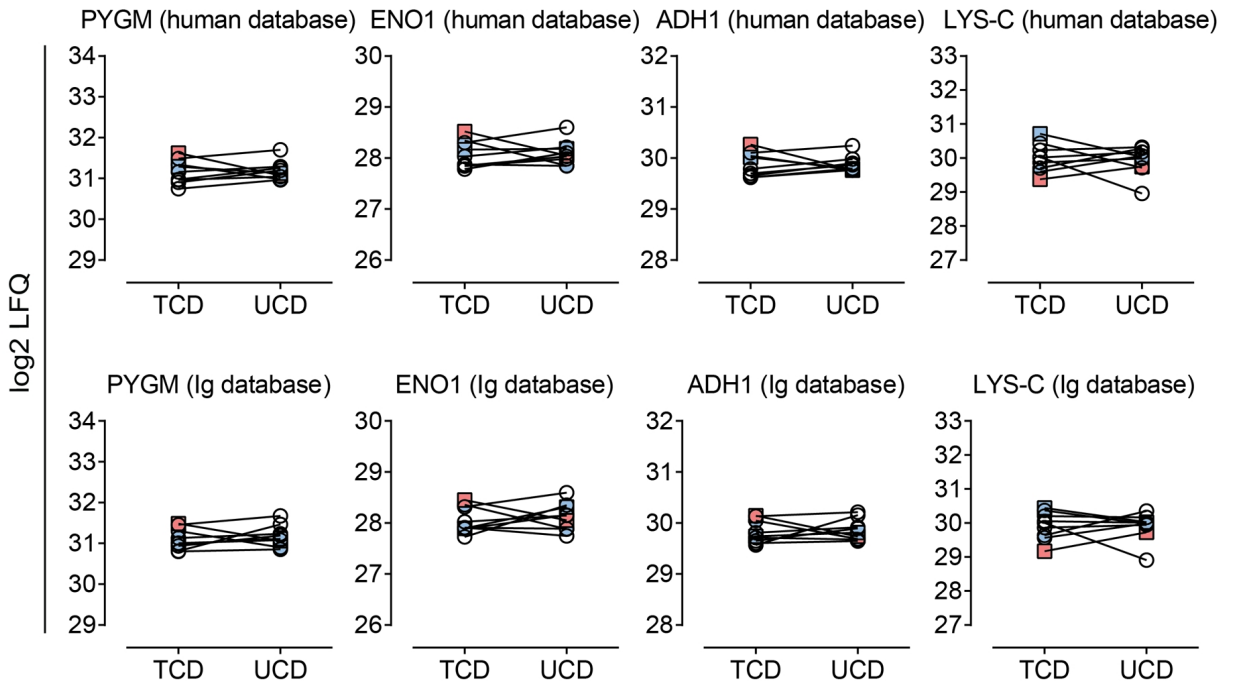




# Immunoglobulins



# Spike-in proteins

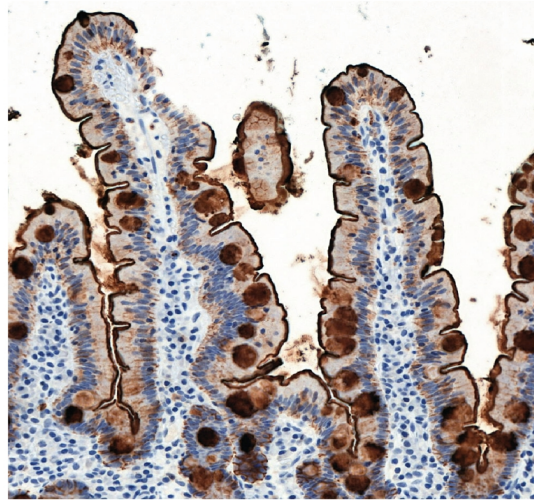
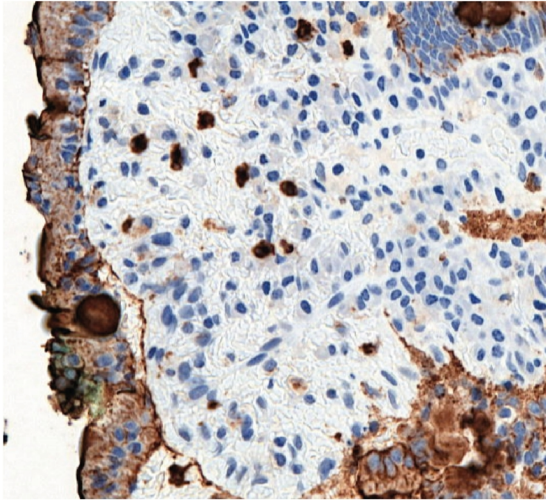


CD15 staining

UCD

TCD

P1



P6

