

## Supplementary information

**Supplementary Table 1.** Details of the independent patient cohort (different CLD aetiologies) that was used to determine levels of serum VCAN and FSTL1.

Variable	HCV		HCV + Steatosis		NAFLD	
	Early	Advanced	Early	Advanced	Early	Advanced
Number of patients	7	2	7	9	7	3
Mean age in years (range)	47.1 (40.3-54.5)	53.5 (50.9-56.1)	46.32 (40.5-53.7)	50 (43.7-59.7)	50.48 (44.5-54.7)	51.7 (47.3-58.5)
Number of males (% male)	5 (71)	2 (100)	7 (100)	6 (67)	2 (29)	2 (67)

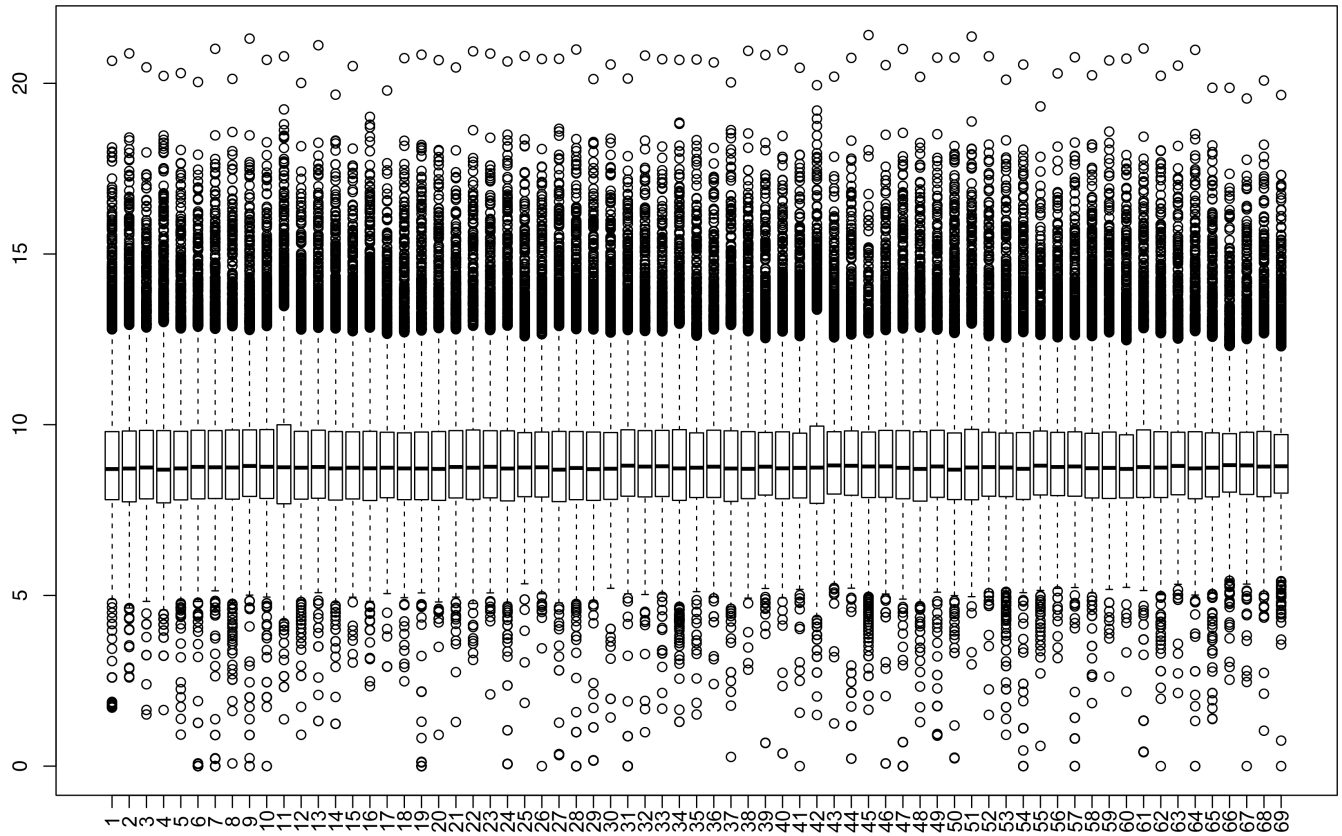
**Supplementary Table 2.** Details of the independent NAFLD patient cohort that was used to determine levels of serum FSTL1.

Variable	NAFLD	
	Early	Advanced
Number of patients	5	20
Mean age in years (range)	57.3 (50.3-64.9)	57.8 (50.5-64.7)
Number of males (% male)	4 (80)	12 (60)
Mean BMI in kg/m <sup>2</sup> (range)	39.2 (34.1 – 46.5)	39.7 (26.4 – 61.1)

**Supplementary Table 3.** List of Primers used for qPCR.

<b>Primer</b>	<b>Forward (5'-3')</b>	<b>Reverse (5'-3')</b>
h18S	TAGCGATCTCATTGCCCA	CACTACTGGAATGACCTGAAC
hHPRT	TCAGGCAGTATAATCCAAAGATGGT	AGTCTGGCTTATATCCAACACTTCG
hVCAN V0	CGTGATGGTCAAGGTTGTGC	AGAGTGGGTGGCTGTTGGAA
hVCAN V1	CCAGCCAGTTCTTCCGAGAG	CCGAAACTCTTCCCCAAAG
hVCAN V2	GCGCTTTCTACGCCACAGC	GCAGCGATCAGGTCCTGTCTT
hVCAN V3	GGAGGTGGTCTACTTGGGGTG	GCGATCAGGTCGTTTAAAGCAGT
hEHF	AGCACAGTAGATTTGTTGGACAGC	TCAGGTGACTCTGCAACAGGA
hDHRS2	ACTTCAGCAAAGTGTTTCATGGGA	GCACAGTCCTCTGACTCCCC
hCOL1A1	CCCTGGTCCTGATGGCAAAA	TCCCATCACACCAGCCTGAC
hDTNA	TGCAGAGATGAGGGCTCAAGAT	ATGACATTCCATATGTCCACCAGG
mHprt	GCAGTACAGCCCCAAAATGG	AACAAAAGTCTGGCCTGTATCCAA
mFst11	CAACCCATCCTTCAACCCTCCT	ATTCTTCCATCACAGGTCAT

## Supplementary Figures



**Figure S1. TMM normalization of RNA-sequencing read counts.** Filtered RNA read counts from 69 CLD patients were subjected to normalization using the TMM method. Data represents mean  $\pm$  interquartile range of read counts for all the patients.