

**Supplementary information, Figure S2.** Gender difference in gain of body weight after HCV J399EM infection ( $TCID_{50} = 1x10^{6}/ml$ ). Body weights of wt (n = 6 for each gender) and C/O<sup>Tg</sup> (n = 6 for each gender) mice were monitored at indicated time post HCV injection. Serum HCV RNA loads were verified to ensure chronic infection in these mice (data not shown). Body weights of wt (n = 2 for each gender) and C/O<sup>Tg</sup> (n = 2 for each gender) mice post PBS injection were monitored as the control. Results were mean ± SD.